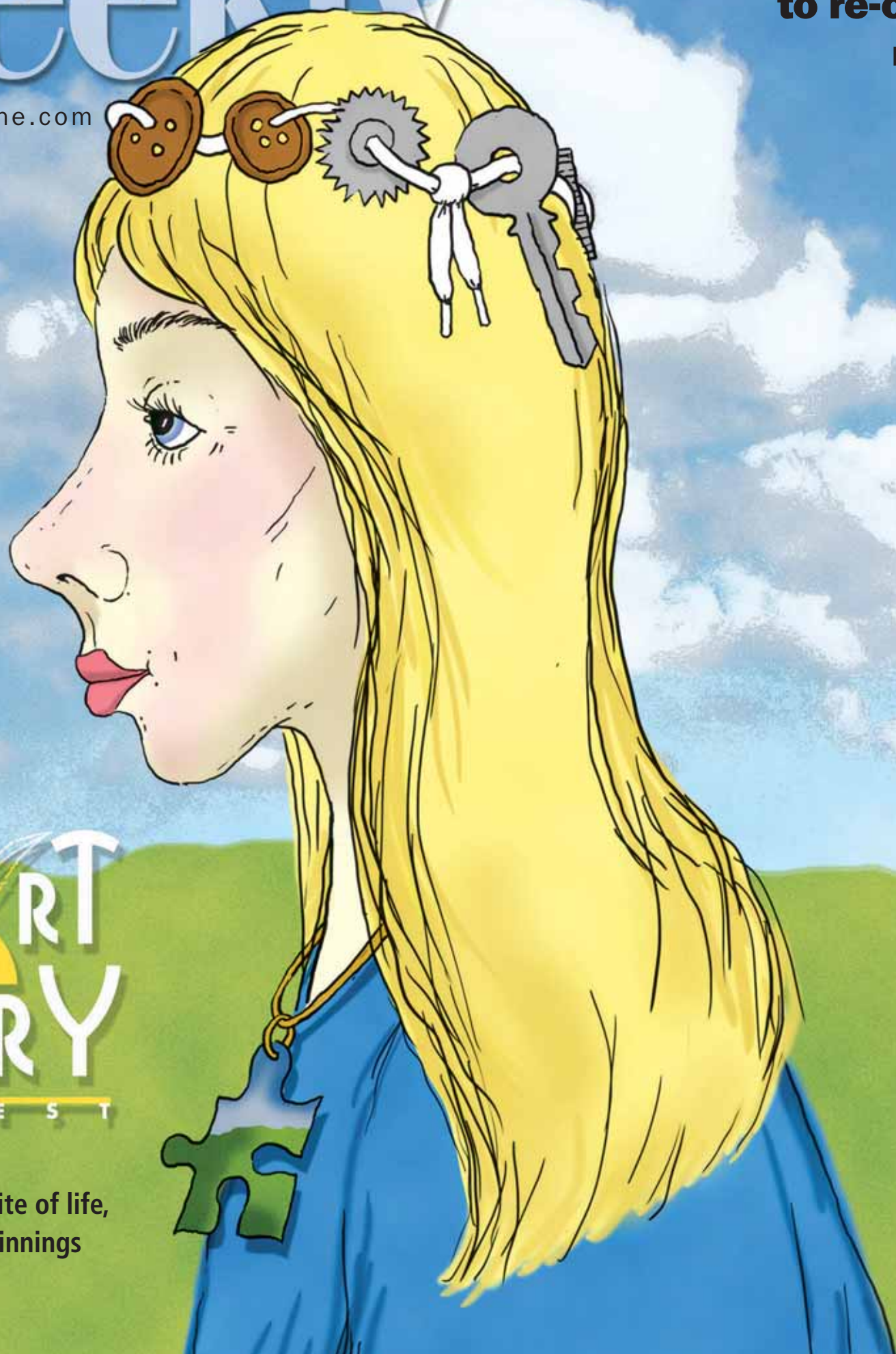


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“I quickly realized I was in the right place when I came to Stanford. My experience with Dr. Fernandez-Becker has been nothing but positive. I feel like she cares about me personally as a patient.”

—David

Patient finds relief in treatment for inflamed esophagus

For David the simple act of eating had become a fear-inducing experience. David suffers from eosinophilic esophagitis, a chronic allergic immune condition that causes his esophagus to become inflamed. At any given moment, the tube that sends food from his mouth to his stomach can swell, making swallowing difficult and extremely painful. When the inflammation is most severe, food gets lodged in his esophagus. The only remedy is an emergency endoscopy.

“Once you’ve had a couple of these episodes, there’s always this fear when you’re eating that you’re going to have another episode,” said David. “You get to a point where you’re very careful about what you eat and how well you chew. But even then, you never know when it’s going to happen again.”

“Eosinophilic esophagitis is a chronic inflammatory disease,” said Fernandez-Becker, MD, PhD, Clinical Assistant Professor, Gastroenterology & Hepatology at Stanford Health Care. Inflammation causes the esophagus to become stiffer and narrower over time, and some patients develop scar tissue, which leads to food blockages.

According to David, managing his condition for the past 10 years has been a series of trial and error, working with multiple doctors unsuccessfully to resolve the issue. His general practitioner suggested he see Dr. Fernandez-Becker at Stanford Health Care because of her extensive experience treating this condition.

“My experience with Dr. Fernandez-Becker has been nothing but positive,” said David, who began his care at Stanford in 2012. “The first time I came here, I quickly realized I was in the right place,” he said. “She was somebody who got it. She understood what I was going through. She had the background, and there was no question that I was in the right spot.”

In that first appointment, Dr. Fernandez-Becker and David discussed the frequency of his

swallowing difficulties and food blockages. They talked about what triggers might be at play, and considered further allergy testing or an elimination diet. To confirm the diagnosis of eosinophilic esophagitis, Dr. Fernandez-Becker adhered to an evidence-based approach, taking a tissue sample of David’s esophageal lining, examining it under a microscope for the presence of eosinophils, and then correlating those findings with his medical history and symptoms.

“The first time I came here, I quickly realized I was in the right place...”

“For a lot of these patients, I’m the fourth or fifth gastroenterologist they’ve seen, so they don’t come in completely naïve,” said Fernandez-Becker, who uses her PhD training in molecular genetics to tease out factors that may be causing the inflammation. “I have a very frank discussion with them about what’s happened before, why I think they’re having these symptoms and what the plan is for us to sort it out.”

Discovering the cause of the allergic reaction can be difficult. Allergy testing is often inconclusive, she said, which is why she also prefers having patients undergo a six-month elimination diet. But David, who travels extensively for work, worried that he wouldn’t be able to adhere to a

strict diet. Instead, Fernandez-Becker put him on a proton pump inhibitor (PPI), a medication commonly prescribed for patients with acid reflux. The medication has been found to help some patients with eosinophilic esophagitis.

“Fortunately for me, the proton pump inhibitor seems to have helped manage it,” said David, who has only had two food blockages since going on the medication more than five years ago.

Because the condition is chronic, and requires constant management, Becker follows patients like David for years. “Every time I meet a new patient, it’s a great journey,” she said. “I get to know them as a person, which is a real privilege. They feel like family.”

“I feel like she cares about me personally as a patient,” said David. “When I’m there, I have her undivided attention. She knows me, she knows my history and she remembers it all.”

Today, David’s quality of life is improved and his condition is mostly under control. “I’m no longer walking around all the time concerned that this is going to happen again,” he said. “It’s something that Dr. Fernandez-Becker and I are managing together right now.”



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Upfront

Local news, information and analysis

Historic President Hotel sold to developer

Score of residents must vacate downtown Palo Alto building by November

by Linda Taaffe

The one-time fashionable President Hotel, whose iconic rooftop sign defined Palo Alto's downtown skyline during its heyday, will once again open its doors to hotel guests for the first time in 50 years.

Chicago-based development

company AJ Capital has purchased the six-story Spanish Colonial apartment complex at 488 University Ave. for an undisclosed price. The company plans to renovate and reopen it in 2020 as the Graduate Palo Alto hotel, which will include 100 guestrooms, a

lobby coffee shop, street-level retail and the restoration of its original rooftop garden, according to a June 13 company press release.

Scores of residents living at the President Hotel Apartments, as it's currently known, received notice Tuesday, June 12, that they will have to move out of the building by Nov. 12. They had heard rumors for the past few weeks that the 75-apartment complex had been sold, but they had not

received official confirmation until letters from AJ Capital were placed under their doors Tuesday afternoon.

Iqbal Serang, who lives in a studio apartment two stories below his daughter and former wife, has lived in the building for 30 years. An architect, he also leases the sixth-floor penthouse for his office.

He was in shock over his impending eviction.

"There's just this feeling of helplessness," he said.

Neighbor Diane Boxill also moved into the building 30 years ago and has remained ever since. Boxill, an undergraduate student at Stanford University at the time, said the price was right and it was close to school. When the building manager offered her use of a large closet on the third floor as part of

(continued on page 9)



Lucy Shen, right, a software engineer at Intuit, and Maya Medina, left, an East Palo Alto middle school student, assemble their display board on K-pop bands and music at the Mountain View company, as fellow Spark mentors and mentees put together their final projects to present earlier this month.

YOUTH

Fanning the spark

From K-pop to robotics, tech mentors help at-risk kids pursue their interests

by Elena Kadvany

When Maya Medina, a seventh-grader from East Palo Alto, met Lucy Shen, a 23-year-old software engineer at Intuit in Mountain View, they quickly bonded over an unlikely interest: K-pop, the South Korean music genre.

For Maya, it's more of an obsession, and she was happily surprised to find an adult who had already watched YouTube videos of her favorite band and with whom she could discuss her dreams of becoming a K-pop artist.

The two were brought together through Spark, a Bay Area nonprofit that pairs working professionals with low-income middle school students of color who are at risk of disengaging with school. During a semester-long mentorship program, the students visit

local companies once a week to work on a project of their choice with a mentor with whom they have been carefully matched.

By allowing students to explore their interests with an adult, from K-pop to architecture to robotics, Spark works to expose the students to self-discovery, experiential learning and future career opportunities.

Redwood City middle-school teachers Chris Balme and Melia Dicker founded Spark in 2004 after becoming alarmed at the gap between some of their students and the companies and industries all around them that were nonetheless inaccessible.

"They saw their students being disengaged and not interested in learning, and more importantly, they saw students

that had no connection to what the future held for them — what possibilities existed, what opportunities were right here in their backyard," said Jennifer Rider, Spark's executive director. "They came up with this idea to partner with companies and businesses in the area and show students what existed. That would change their thinking and engage them in their learning process."

Last year, the nonprofit launched its first district-wide partnership in the Bay Area with the Ravenswood City School District, where 50 students were served this year. The local volunteer mentors mostly come from tech companies — including Google, Facebook, Salesforce,

(continued on page 8)

ELECTION 2018

Battle over health care costs hits Palo Alto

City Council reluctantly places SEIU initiative on November ballot

by Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto City Hall became an unlikely frontier in a broader battle over health care costs Monday night, when a crowd of medical professionals packed into the council chambers to debate the merits of a citizen initiative that would limit how much local hospitals can charge patients.

Dozens of supporters and opponents of the initiative held competing signs and sounded off to the City Council about the measure, which is being spearheaded by the Service Employees International Union - United Healthcare Workers West (SEIU-UHW) and which would prohibit Stanford Health Care and other local medical providers from charging patients more than 115 percent of the "reasonable cost of direct patient care."

Earlier this month, the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters confirmed that the petition had received more than 2,430 signatures, enough to qualify for the November ballot. A similar initiative is slated to appear on the city of Livermore's ballot, and another that qualified in Emeryville is on hold as the city is challenging the legality of a union proposal.

The battle between the union and Stanford Health Care — the main target of the campaign — has placed Palo Alto officials smack in the middle of a battle they didn't signed up for. On Monday, the Palo Alto council met in a closed session to consider whether to file its own legal challenge to the union proposal. Though the council didn't take

any action, staff and council members indicated later in the meeting that they have major reservations about the proposal, which would require the Administrative Services Department to take on the unfamiliar role of health care regulator.

City Manager James Keene noted that the city didn't get any advance notice from the union about the petition, much less a request for feedback. This, he said, is unusual given the huge impact the health care initiative would have on City Hall.

"We're not equipped to handle this," Keene said. "We need to recognize that this has been dropped on us, really."


Despite its concerns, the council voted unanimously to certify the results of the initiative petition, setting the stage for the November vote. It also requested that staff prepare an "objective and fact-based analysis" on the effect of the measure on Palo Alto residents. The council is scheduled to consider the staff report in August, after its summer recess.

Vice Mayor Eric Filseth said the measure appears to constitute a "very large unfunded mandate" by requiring the city to regulate health care. The city, he said, has neither the expertise nor the bandwidth to fulfill this mandate. Paying for this function would require the city to potentially use revenues that are currently used for things like fixing pot holes and providing fire services.

Before its vote Monday, the

(continued on page 8)

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Palo Alto will conduct a Public Hearing at its Special Meeting on Monday, June 25, 2018, at 5:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California, to consider adoption of a resolution determining the calculation of the appropriations limit for Fiscal Year 2019. The calculation of the limit and the supporting documentation are available for review in the City's Office of Management & Budget, 4th floor, 250 Hamilton Ave, Palo Alto, California. There is a charge of \$0.15 per page for copying documentation.

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ I had to throw myself against the cement wall to escape injury.”
— Vic Befera, co-founder of Pedestrian Safety, on cyclists using California Avenue tunnel. See story on page 7.

Around Town



BENZ IN THE BAYLANDS ... A new proposal to construct a Mercedes-Benz dealership in the Baylands is about to start making its way through Palo Alto's approval process. The application from **Holman Automotive** (no relation to Councilwoman **Karen Holman**) calls for a roughly 84,000-square-foot building, which includes a 21,000-square-foot showroom, according to development plans filed with the city at 1730 Embarcadero Road, former site of **Ming's Restaurant**. It would go up next to the existing Audi dealership, City Manager **James Keene** said. This will be the second time in two years that the council is being asked to consider a new Mercedes dealership on the Baylands site. In June 2015, the council considered and rejected a dealership proposed by the firm Fletcher Jones, with some members raising questions about the building's density and compatibility with the nature preserve.

A PATH FORWARD ... Palo Alto's sluggish quest to redevelop the sprawling but dilapidating **Cubberley Community Center** on Middlefield Road could get a boost next week, when the City Council and the **Palo Alto Unified School District Board of Education** are scheduled to hire a firm to lead the long-awaited planning effort. If both bodies approve the contract, **Concordia LLC** will take charge of the community effort to plan for the 35-acre site, of which 27 acres are owned by the school district (which leases it to the city) and eight acres are owned by the city. If the contract is approved, Concordia will recruit and train "community fellows (who will) become part of the team and will help guide the process, drive participation and ensure productive conversations," according to a report from the Community Services Department. The planning process won't be easy or cheap. The city and the school district plan to spend more than \$600,000 on the planning effort and accompanying

environmental reviews (the contract with Concordia is for up to \$565,972), with the cost split between the two governing bodies. The city and the school district had only received two bids for the service (Concordia's bid was more than \$400,000 less than the other one, according to staff), but officials are confident that the group can get the job done. They pointed to the firm's work on the Emeryville Center of Community Life and its "successful community engagement experience." The city and the school board have been talking about redeveloping Cubberley for at least seven years and progress has been hard to come by (during last month's budget review hearings, Councilman **Greg Scharff** spoke for many when he said he was frustrated with the slow pace). But if the contract is approved, Concordia will have to hit the ground running to meet the city's and school district's goal of coming up with a master plan for the entire site by Dec. 31, 2019.

SINGING TO THE TOP ... Palo Alto's **iSing Silicon Valley** girls choir won the grand prize at the eighth **International Robert Schumann Choral Competition** held in Germany last weekend. iSing won first prize in both the **Chamber Choirs of Equal Voices** and **Sacred Choral A Cappella** categories and ultimately claimed the competition's grand prize. "Now we know that Silicon Valley isn't just about Facebook," competition founder **Ralf Eisenbeiss** said, after iSing's victory. Now in its fifth season, iSing Silicon Valley trains 250 local young female singers in musicianship as well as community involvement and leadership. iSing also recently won **Chorus America's 2018 Dale Warland Singers Commission Award**, for a work to be written by Grammy-nominated composer **Adam Schoenberg**, setting excerpts from Holocaust survivor **Elie Wiesel's** memoir, "Night." As part of its current European tour, iSing visited the **Terezin Concentration Camp**, to deepen their understanding of the new work, which will be premiered in spring 2019, according to a press release. This week, iSing was scheduled to offer a joint concert with **Prazska Kantilena** in **Prague** and will perform at the **Kaasgrabenkirche** in **Vienna**. ■

TRANSPORTATION

Whizzing cyclists are putting pedestrians on edge

New group advocates for improvements to California Avenue tunnel

by Sue Dremann

A city effort to make the tunnel under the train tracks at Palo Alto's California Avenue accessible to motorized wheelchairs and bicycle trailers has left pedestrians cursing cyclists and feeling anxious about using the underpass.

A set of "maze" gates used to force bicyclists to dismount and walk through the tunnel. Now on either end of the underpass are a pair of gates jutting out diagonally from the walls and separated by about five feet, which cyclists easily ride around. Signs directing people to "Walk bikes" are posted at the underpass entrances, and by city municipal code cyclists ought to comply.

Vic Befera, who uses the underpass daily, said he was nearly knocked down by a pack of bicyclists in early May.

"I had to throw myself against the cement wall to escape injury. I could feel their clothing brush against me. The city is not enforcing walking bikes," he said.

Befera has been so bothered by the frequent near-misses that he and other Palo Alto residents have formed a group — Pedestrian Safety, or P.S. — to make the underpass safer.

Joan Meyn, another member of the group, agreed the situation with cyclists has gotten out of hand.

"They pay no attention to us — especially us senior citizens," she said.

Group members say they aren't against bicyclists and don't see them as the enemy.

"I remember the first bike I got when I was 12 years old. It had a front light and an electric horn and big, balloon tires. It was the thrill of my life," said Befera, recalling the joy of riding a bike with a girl by his side and the wind going through his hair. "I have no quarrel with bikes and bicycling. The only thing is, I think there is a flaw in our enforcement."

Bicycling should be encouraged, but the city should fix the tunnel so it is safe for all users and enforce its laws, he said.

"The only money they've spent is on the fanciful fish," he said, noting the colorful marine-life-themed mural on the walls.

While Befera can jump out of the way of a zooming cyclist, he said he's mostly worried for the young children who use the tunnel to get to the playground at Jerry Bowden Park, which is

adjacent to the tunnel's eastern end.

Befera and Meyn also noted the tunnel is dark and people don't know whether they are on a potential collision course with others.

At Befera's prodding, the city recently replaced some of the burned-out light bulbs. Palo Alto police spokesman Capt. Zach Perron said the city plans to replace all of the bulbs with brighter lights. The police department is also stepping up patrols in the area when staffing permits, he said.

Perron said officers will focus initially on educating bicyclists. It will be up to officers to decide whether to ticket violators.

Perron said it isn't illegal to ride through when no one else is in the tunnel, however.

Given its central location in the city, the tunnel is well-used, according to the city's 2012 Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan. The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority also identified the North California bike lane, which includes the undercrossing, to be of "countywide significance" because it links the California Avenue business district to parts east, including Jordan Middle School, and is part of



A cyclist riding east through the California Avenue underpass encounters pedestrians and children on scooters on June 14. Though there are "Walk Bikes" signs posted at the tunnel, some cyclists choose to keep riding.

the larger Bay to Ridge Trail.

Members of Pedestrian Safety would like to see the aged tunnel replaced with one similar to the Homer Avenue undercrossing, which is well-lit, spacious and has designated lanes for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The idea of improving or rebuilding the tunnel is nothing new. The city's 2012 bike plan recommends rebuilding or retrofitting the tunnel, which it estimated would cost \$2 million to \$5 million. At a minimum, the improvements would include ramps for better pedestrian access. Other projects, pending feasibility and funding, would include widening the tunnel with separate pathways for pedestrians and bicyclists. But existing underground utilities would force a

much deeper and more expensive tunnel to be dug than similar tunnels, the plan noted.

Restoring the earlier configuration of railings in the tunnel is not feasible because the changes were made to ensure the underpass is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

City Chief Transportation Official Joshua Mello was not available for comment.

While the tunnel modifications aren't expected any time soon, Perron said that during the next school year the city will highlight the underpass regulations as part of an education campaign through the Safe Routes to Schools program. ■

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

TRANSPORTATION

Residents sound off on Ross Road changes

Palo Alto officials vow to improve public outreach after outpouring of criticism

by Gennady Sheyner

After installing a host of "traffic calming" measures aimed at promoting bicycling on Ross Road, Palo Alto officials are now facing an equally tough task: calming the residents who are frustrated and enraged by the rapid transformation of their streets.

And if the Tuesday City Council meeting was any indication, they have plenty of work to do on that front.

More than 100 residents packed into the Mitchell Park Community Center on Tuesday evening to hear a presentation on the recent changes, which some have called a welcome boost for the city's bike-boulevard network and which others characterized as an accident waiting to happen. About 50 gave their opinions, which ranged from applause to anger.

For the City Council, the new bike projects are a point of pride

and the culmination of years of planning and significant investment. In 2012, the council unanimously approved the Bike and Pedestrian Transportation Plan, which aims to transform Palo Alto into one of the nation's most bike-friendly cities. It also approved \$20 million toward implementing the plan, which includes projects on Bryant Street, Greer Road, Homer Avenue, Moreno Avenue and other streets.

No project, however, has generated the kind of outpouring of concern like the one on Ross Road, which is part of a 7.1-mile plan that includes medians, curb extensions, slotted speed humps, three raised crosswalks, five raised intersections and 11 roundabouts, including a prominent one on Ross and East Meadow Drive. These changes constitute the \$9.6-million first phase of a project known as the Neighborhood Traffic Safety and Bicycle

Boulevard plan.

As the Tuesday meeting demonstrated, the project defies neutrality. More than 1,000 people have signed a petition started by resident George Jacquette, calling the improvements "unsafe and unhelpful."

"In pursuit of traffic calming, the changes have created dangerous interactions between cars and bikes," the petition states.

Many residents on Tuesday blasted the project for forcing drivers and cyclists to share space, often — they alleged — to the detriment of the latter's safety. One resident, Rita Gold, described the project as the worst decision the council had made in the past 35 years.

Terry Martin, an engineer, also minced no words, calling the project "an incredible waste of money" and "an epitome of incompetence."

"It's made my neighborhood



Concrete fixtures newly installed on Ross Road in south Palo Alto push both cars and bicycles into the same lane. The design is intended to slow traffic and make it safer for cyclists.

less livable and has negatively impacted the safety of friends and family and so forth," Martin said.

But others consider the Ross Road project a welcome boost to the city's transportation network. Bruce and Christine Moision, who live in the area and who frequently bike, both said they welcome the recent changes. Bruce Moision called the Ross Road project "an improvement to safety." Bill Higgins, who lives on Louis Road, agreed and applauded city leaders.

"My biggest regret about the Ross Road project is that it's not the Louis Road bicycle

boulevard," Higgins said. "I'd like those traffic-calming elements on my street."

Yesh Galon, who lives on Ross Road, encouraged others in the audience — including the council — to keep an open mind.

"One of my biggest concerns was that there would be a knee-jerk reaction to rip this out," Galon said. "Let's wait and see."

For the council, the Tuesday meeting was largely an opportunity to listen to their constituents. Early in the meeting, city leaders gave an overview of the city's bike

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Health

(continued from page 5)

council heard from dozens of speakers — proponents who urged placement of the issue on the ballot and opponents who urged the council to legally oppose the SEIU proposal. The crowd included executives from Stanford Health Care, Palo Alto Medical Foundation and other local providers, all of whom opposed the initiative; and graduate students and union supporters, who spoke in its favor.

David Entwistle, president and CEO of Stanford Health Care, argued that the initiative is “inherently against the best interest of Palo Alto and its residents” and that it will have “far-reaching negative consequences.” If it succeeds, it could cut into the revenues of local health care providers, requiring them to cut back on services and potentially relocate, he argued.

“We recognize that health care is costly. We are working to bring

the costs down, but this initiative doesn’t help that,” Entwistle said. “It will just reduce the ability of health care programs and services by drastically underfunding them.”

Union supporters rejected this logic and alleged Stanford charges exorbitant rates and provides substandard care. While Stanford’s attorneys argued that the initiative is unconstitutional — largely because it forces the city to regulate an area that is normally reserved for federal and state agencies — Declen Walsh, research analyst at SEIU-UHW, claimed that Stanford’s assertions are baseless.

Walsh also asserted that the city would recover the costs of enforcing the new rules through fines.

“The council should let the people decide whether they want to lead on affordable, quality health care rather than allow Stanford to pre-empt that decision,” Walsh said. ■

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

Spark

(continued from page 5)

Adobe, Paypal and Apple.

This year, Spark served 279 middle schoolers from cities including East Palo Alto, San Jose and Oakland. The nonprofit also works in Los Angeles, Chicago and Philadelphia and has the ambitious goal of serving 10,000 students annually by 2026.

Spark purposefully works with school districts where “students lack the social capital or opportunities,” Rider said. Eighty-six percent of students Spark serves are low-income and 94 percent are students of color. The nonprofit’s staff works with principals and teachers to identify middle school students who are showing signs of disengagement — absences from school, failing grades or behavioral issues — and tries to shift their trajectory before they get to high school, when they’ll be at risk of dropping out.

“The path to dropping out starts far before ninth grade,” Rider said.

While there are numerous support programs and dollars invested in early childhood education and in high school, middle school “becomes those forgotten years,” she said.

Knowing that these students need support beyond middle school to succeed long-term, Spark offers workshops and guidance to help eighth-graders transition to high school. Once there, Spark students have access to a texting platform through which the nonprofit shares tips, study habits and other reminders. Spark also trains school counselors to support this particular demographic of students.

On a recent afternoon at Intuit in Mountain View, mentors and students sat together in a conference room, putting together final presentations for the projects they had worked on together for weeks. In one corner, Maya and Shen were gluing pictures of Maya’s favorite K-pop group, the seven-member boy band BTS, to a large poster-board.

Spark works to match students and mentors with overlapping interests. A software engineer by trade, Shen is as obsessed with anime as Maya is with K-pop. She’s an avid “YouTuber” with a channel devoted to musical covers and pursues multimedia projects as a hobby. She helped Maya practice and then film a dance cover of a BTS song, which Maya presented at a science-fair style event Spark held at the end of the semester.

While they bonded over their interests, the relationship went beyond “a surface-level, ‘we like the same things’ sort of relationship,” Shen said.

Shen saw herself in Maya, a soft-spoken pre-teen who attends Cesar Chavez & Green Oaks Academy. As a middle school student in Fremont, Shen dreamed of becoming a songwriter, film director and producer. She received encouragement from adults at the time to pursue her dreams, but she didn’t feel like anyone helped her take concrete steps toward doing so.

“It’s easy to pay lip service to these dreams, but the harder part is taking that huge goal and breaking it down into digestible pieces and taking it one step at a time,” Shen said. “I wanted to demonstrate to her what that process would be like so she could apply

those skills and learnings to whatever she wants to do in the future.”

Shen encouraged Maya to audition for a local K-pop company and to research the pros and cons of pursuing a career in the entertainment industry. Before their project, Maya had mostly sung by herself, in private, and was unaware that local K-pop groups exist.

Spark does have an impact, according to internal and external data. Close to 80 percent of Spark students show growth in classroom engagement at a time when average student engagement drops significantly and 92 percent are on track to graduate, compared to 68 percent of their peers. The nonprofit conducts surveys of teachers, students and mentors before, during and after the program. Spark also has access to school district data on behavior, attendance, grades and promotion rates. For the first time this year, the nonprofit has full access, so it will be able to track students through college, Rider said.

Harder to measure but obvious in all of the mentor-mentee pairs working at Intuit that afternoon were the bonds between people who might otherwise have nothing in common.

Student Lisbeth Morales and Intuit product manager Lucy Wagner built a robot together. Called a “doodle bot,” the small robot is a paper cup with four Sharpie pens taped to its sides. Powered by a portable battery they built, the robot leaves abstract doodles in its wake as it moves across a piece of paper.

For Lisbeth, who dreams of potential careers in engineering, surgery or photography, the best part about Spark is “that we get to meet more people. You get to experience how adults work.”

In another room, eighth-grader Francisco Rosales, who’s interested in structural architecture, designed his dream house with Kenna Hasson, a designer at Intuit. Francisco drew blueprints and built different iterations of the house using a computer game, The Sims. Hasson brought Intuit’s design philosophy — “go broad to go narrow” — to the process, documented via a flipbook-style presentation that shows the progression of the house design.

Shen, meanwhile, said she’s seen Maya become more confident and self-assured over the course of the program.

“A lot of these dreams and lofty goals and ambitions are shadowed by a certain amount of anxiety and fear of failure. Maya especially had a lot of self-doubt about her ability to be a performer, her talents in those fields,” she said. “I just really wanted her to learn that it’s not about your talent. ... (Like) so many things in life, it’s about how much work you put into it.”

For Maya’s part, she said she most appreciated Spark for the simple fact of “being able to be with someone that might understand you.” ■

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

Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL ... The council plans to meet in a closed session to discuss the status of the city’s labor negotiations with the Service Employees International Union, Local 521; the Utilities Management and Professional Association of Palo Alto; the Palo Alto Police Officers’ Association, the Palo Alto Fire Chiefs’ Association and Employee Organization; the International Association of Fire Fighters, Local 1319; and the Palo Alto Police Managers’ Association; and to consider potential litigation involving the initiative measure Palo Alto Accountable and Affordable Health Care Initiative. Then, in a regular session, the council plans to approve the city budget for Fiscal Year 2019. The closed session will begin at 5 p.m. on Monday, June 18. Regular meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

CITY COUNCIL ... The council plans to hold a special meeting to further refine the city’s options for grade separation at the four rail crossings and to consider a community engagement plan. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 19, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ... The board will discuss an update on social-emotional learning; A-G eligibility for the class of 2017; a proposed community relations resolution; a proposed state bill on immigration and citizenship status in schools; and the Public Records Act; and vote on the 2018-19 district budget, a bond measure and term-limits measure for the November 2018 ballot and a cost share agreement with the city for the Cubberley Community Center master plan, among other items. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 19, at the district office, 25 Churchill Ave.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD ... The board plans to consider approving the site-and-design review for 3406 Hillview Ave., a proposal to demolish a 62,500-square-foot research-and-development building and construct a new 82,040-square-foot, two-story office and research-of-development building; review plans for a 50-foot-tall parking garage with 325 parking spaces at 375 Hamilton Ave.; and consider a request for exterior façade improvements for a Shake Shack restaurant at Stanford Shopping Center. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 21, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

CITY/SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to meet at 8 a.m. on Thursday, June 21, in the Community Meeting Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave. The agenda was not available by press time.

COUNCIL POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to hear status updates for recent audits of the city’s green purchasing practices; parking funds; the Community Services Department fee schedule; the cross bore inspection contract; and the accuracy of the water-meter billing. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 21, in the Community Meeting Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

CityView

A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

City Council (June 11)

Utilities: The council approved a 6 percent increase to the city’s electric rate, a 3 percent change to the water rate and a 10 percent increase to the wastewater rate.

Public Safety Building: The council approved the Final Environmental Impact Report for the proposed public safety building and garage at 250 Sherman Ave. and 350 Sherman Ave.

Office cap: The council directed staff to commission an analysis of the citizen initiative that would reduce from 1.7 million square feet to 850,000 square feet the amount of allowed office and research-and-development construction between 2015 and 2030.

Health Initiative: The council certified the results of a citizen petition that would place a measure capping how much health care institutions can charge on the November ballot.

City Council (June 12)

Bike Plan: The council held a special meeting to solicit resident input about its new bicycle boulevards. **Action:** None

Council Rail Committee (June 13)

Churchill: The committee agreed to eliminate from consideration design options at the Churchill Avenue grade crossing that would involve raising the rail tracks over Churchill or vice versa.

Planning and Transportation Commission (June 13)

Traffic: The commission held a study session on traffic safety and system monitoring projects.

2515 El Camino: The commission approved the subdivision application for the proposed development at 2515-85 El Camino Real.

Board of Education Policy Review Committee (June 14)

Policies: The committee discussed policies on suicide prevention, nutrition, work permits and access to district records. **Action:** None

Historic Resources Board (June 14)

874 Boyce Ave.: The board held a study session to discuss 874 Boyce Ave. **Action:** None

President Hotel

(continued from page 5)

the deal, she signed the lease.

She said it was never her intention to stay, but life in the building grew on her: from the communal potlucks and views of the city's rooftops that are reminiscent of France to the many times when a former neighbor would let her use his apartment — which had a larger kitchen — to cook dinner when she entertained.

"That's what tends to happen here," said Boxill, who now lives in a larger corner studio on the third floor, where she gives piano lessons.

"What is the justification for giving up 75 (housing) units? Many of my students walk or bike to lessons. Relocation risks my livelihood," she said on Tuesday.

Built in 1929, the property includes 70 studio apartments and five one-bedroom units of between 250 and 800 square feet on the upper five stories. Rents for the mostly month-to-month leases are relatively low for Palo Alto but are not included in the city's affordable housing count. They range from \$1,200 to \$2,400, according to a sign posted at the building. Median rent in Palo Alto stands at \$2,520 for a one-bedroom apartment, according to apartmentlist.com.

Pemo Theodore has lived at the President for three years and said fellow residents don't want to leave. Some of them have lived there for as long as 37 years.

"Everyone is devastated," Theodore said.

According to the letter of notice, AJ Capital "did not have the contractual authorization" to communicate with anyone other than city officials about the property prior to closing escrow on Tuesday.

Timothy G. Franzen, president of Graduate Hotels, a division of

AJ Capital Partners, stated in the letter that the firm does understand the predicament the conversion presents.

"We appreciate that being forced to move can have the potential for numerous burdens and difficulties, so we are committed to providing each of you with the time and resources to mitigate any hardships that may raise," Franzen wrote.

The company will provide each residential unit \$3,000 to assist with moving-related expenses and is working with "a local relocation expert to provide customized services" to households that may require additional help.

"It will cost me more than that just to move my two pianos out of the building," Boxill said, referring to the baby grand piano in the center of her studio and an upright in a large closet that she uses as an additional room.

City Manager Jim Keene publicly acknowledged the building's sale at the City Council meeting on Monday night.

"The big concern would be the displacement of 75 units, given the city's current housing shortage," Keene said. City staff has been encouraging the property owner to provide "generous relocation packages" to the residents.

Chris Dressel, president of University President Associates LLC, which had owned the property since 1996, said the building was never listed on the market. He decided to sell after a representative of AJ Capital approached him about purchasing it.

The complex is not fully leased; of the 75 units, 58 are occupied, Dressel confirmed. Residents said apartments were not filled as they had become vacant as they in recent months.

The Graduate Hotels division is a collection of boutique hotels that AJ Capital has developed in college towns across the country. The collection includes 12



Adam Pardee

Diane Boxill sits next to her baby grand piano inside her corner apartment of the President Hotel Apartment in Palo Alto on June 12.

operating hotels and another five under development, according to the company's website. Fast Company ranked the hotel collection No. 50 on its 2018 World's Most Innovative Companies list.

The company is a "passionate steward of historic properties," Franzen wrote in his notice to the residents. The renovation will touch all guestrooms, corridors and the lobby, while preserving the building's façade and interior historic elements, the company press release states.

Designed by noted Palo Alto architect Birge Clark, the original hotel boasted a lush rooftop garden, a tiled entryway with an ornate wrought-iron grille, a lobby with beams on the ceiling and a grand spiral staircase that climbed all the way to the top floor.

Each guest room had a private bath and featured in-room radio service, allowing guests to choose between channels as they showered, shaved or relaxed in their suites, according to

PaloAltoHistory.org.

Keene said Monday that the renovation would include seismic upgrades, new elevators and other improvements.

The property is listed as a Category 2 resource on the city's Historic Inventory. Keene said the city's Architectural Review Board and Historic Resources Board are expected to review the conversion plans later this year. He also noted that the hotel use is allowed by right at the downtown location.

The building currently includes six shops on the first floor: the President Barbershop, several eateries and a clothing boutique. None of the merchants would comment this week on the building sale or their fates.

Residents have approached a law firm to make sure their rights are looked after, Theodore said.

"The reality is we probably won't be able to do anything about (the eviction), but from my point of view, I'm going to do as much as I can until I hit the wall.

"There's no way all of us can get accommodations in Palo Alto, and there's no way for us to find what we're paying here to live in one room," said Theodore, whose monthly rent for her studio is \$1,900.

Theodore described her

neighbors as a quirky mix of eccentric entrepreneurs, artists, retired people, single mothers and political players who, like herself, were drawn to the "funky feel" of living in the old former hotel, where the rooms are tiny, the building creaks and sometimes the apartments can be stiflingly hot in the summer.

She said the building's oddities have brought them closer together. Since some units don't have full kitchens, neighbors hold regular communal dinners on the rooftop garden. And those people with larger kitchens are always happy to provide their neighbors extra freezer space to store ice cream or an oven to prepare meals when they entertain. It's not uncommon to find soup or other goodies left outside your door, she added.

"It really is the most amazing community, and none of us will be able to reproduce this anywhere else we go." ■

Associate Editor Linda Taaffe can be emailed at ltaaffe@paweekly.com.

News of this sale was originally posted on PaloAltoOnline.com on June 12. To stay up-to-date on Palo Alto happenings, sign up for Express, the daily email news digest, at PaloAltoOnline.com/express.



Courtesy Palo Alto Historical Association

The "Hotel President" sign adorns the six-story hotel on Palo Alto's University Avenue in 1941, as horses walk down the street during the Dedication Day Parade. The hotel opened in 1929 and was named after then-President Herbert Hoover, one of the first students to attend Stanford University.



Adam Pardee

The lobby and ground-floor stairwell of President Hotel Apartments in Palo Alto harken back to another era. The building was designed by Palo Alto architect Birge Clark and opened 89 years ago.

Ross Road

(continued from page 7)

program and acknowledged that they could've done a better job in conducting outreach and getting people used to the new changes.

"As we implement these changes, the main thing we want to share is that we're listening and adapting as we go," Deputy City Manager Rob de Geus told the standing-room-only crowd.

Some changes have already been made. In March, the council hit the brakes on those phases of the bike project that are not already under construction (contractors proceeded with several pending projects, including a roundabout on Ross and Moreno roads; raised intersections on Louis Road at Moreno and Amarillo avenues; and a new crosswalk at Colorado Avenue and Sandra Place). And in April and May, the city's contractor made a series of temporary markings and mock-ups to give residents a sense of planned changes, including a roundabout on Greer Road and Amarillo.

Yet a new report from the office of City Manager James Keene makes the case that the best way to win support for projects like the one on Ross Road is to give them more time. It typically takes about six months to a year, the report states, for residents to adapt to significant street changes.

"Recently, as construction has wrapped up along Ross Road, staff has heard more community members expressing support for the Project and bike boulevards," the report states.

Now, officials hope that they can apply the lessons learned on Ross Road to future components of the ambitious project. Early

next year, the city plans to extend the Bryant Street bike boulevard to San Antonio Road and pursue various improvements on Stanford Avenue, between El Camino Real and Park Boulevard; on Park Boulevard, between Castilleja Avenue and West Meadow Drive; and on Donald Drive and Maybell Avenue, between Georgia Avenue and El Camino.

"I think it's really important that we are attempting to knit and connect together some sort of network that allows for travel across our city," Keene told the assembled crowd Tuesday. "Of course, it's not something that can be done in one point in time, or even within a one-decade period."

After hearing all the comments, council members readily acknowledged that the project had some shortcomings. Councilwoman Karen Holman criticized the quality of the work on some parts of the corridor, while Councilman Greg Scharff urged staff to make sure that improving bike safety does not entail making conditions more stressful for drivers.

And just about everyone agreed that the city needs to do a better job communicating. Councilman Tom DuBois conceded that, when it came to the Ross Road project, the city "clearly got this wrong in communication, design and execution."

"We heard you tonight," DuBois said. "We can do better. We will." ■

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gshyner@paweekly.com.



TALK ABOUT IT
PaloAltoOnline.com

A lively conversation on this topic is happening on Town Square, the community discussion forum. Go to PaloAltoOnline.com/square to see what others are saying.

News Digest

Council advances plan for new police HQ, garage

After more than two decades of shattered hopes and frustrating setbacks, Palo Alto officials took a big step Monday night toward constructing a new police headquarters when they approved a zone change that will make the project possible.

The City Council voted 8-0, with Councilman Greg Tanaka absent, to approve the environmental analysis and make the required zone changes for the long-awaited public-safety building, which will be constructed in conjunction with a four-story garage. The two new public facilities will occupy city-owned lots at 250 and 350 Sherman Ave., in the California Avenue Business District.

The council's vote sets the stage for construction on Sherman Avenue to commence this fall. The plan calls for first moving ahead with the 636-space garage, a six-level structure with two underground stories, before commencing with the police building. Both projects are expected to be up by fall 2021.

In moving ahead with the two projects, the council largely shared enthusiasm for the new public-safety building. The garage, on the other hand, received a more mixed review.

"We are about to sink \$50 million into a concrete building to house cars for a problem (that exists) for two hours per day," Councilman Adrian Fine said.

Fine called the project a "quintessential giveaway" in that it takes public funds and uses it to build a structure that allows people to park for free. To address this situation, Fine proposed instituting "dynamic pricing" at the new California Avenue garage, with rates changing based on demand. His proposal advanced by a 5-4 vote, with Vice Mayor Eric Filseth and council members Lydia Kou, Greg Scharff and Tom DuBois dissenting. ■

—Gennady Sheyner

City seeks to ease concerns about property takings

Seeking to ease concerns from residents in the Old Palo Alto and Southgate neighborhoods about property seizures, Palo Alto officials are preparing to abandon the idea of raising or lowering the rail corridor near the Churchill Avenue crossing. The council's Rail Committee on Wednesday agreed that the "hybrid" option, which calls for both raising the rail corridor and lowering Churchill, should be eliminated from the city's menu of 10 alternatives for "grade separation" — the reconfiguration of railway tracks so that rail and surface streets would not intersect. In addition, the committee voted to eliminate what's known as the "reverse hybrid" option at Churchill, which entails elevating the road and lowering the tracks.

Both of these options generated a wave of opposition, with hundreds of residents signing a petition urging the council not to consider the two options. A recent analysis by city staff and consultants concluded that the hybrid option would require acquisition of 14 to 22 properties; the reverse hybrid would require full or partial taking of more than 40 properties.

The Rail Committee issued its recommendation to eliminate the two Churchill options by a 3-1 vote, with Councilwoman Lydia Kou dissenting (Kou also favored elimination of options at Churchill; opposition was based on a separate part of the motion).

The committee also agreed not to consider expanding lanes at the Embarcadero Road underpass as part of the grade-separation project.

The Rail Committee's vote makes it very likely that the council will eliminate these options from its menu of finalists on June 19, when it holds a special meeting to discuss grade separations.

Councilman Greg Scharff, who made the motion to eliminate the two Churchill options from consideration, said he was very moved by appeals from residents about eminent domain "hanging over (their) heads."

"It hangs over people's lives and it causes angst and we need to take that off the table," Scharff said. ■

—Gennady Sheyner

School board member criticizes legal spending

Palo Alto Unified school board member Todd Collins slammed district staff last week for spending more than had been budgeted on legal services without securing board approval, which he said amounted to a "failure of financial control."

Staff asked the school board on June 5 to approve a \$435,000 increase for contracts with two law firms for this school year — the third such request staff have made this year to address rising legal costs, mainly related to compliance with federal civil-rights law Title IX and special education. Last June, the board unanimously approved a \$640,000 increase for legal services (\$290,000 of which were one-time costs) and two months later, an additional \$400,000.

The board ultimately approved the latest budget increase, with Collins dissenting.

"We should never, ever be in a situation where we are requesting budget allocations for items that if the answer for the board is 'no,' then we'll be in default on bills for services already rendered," Collins said.

The increases cover \$175,000 for Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud and Romo, brought on in 2016 to assist primarily in special-education matters; \$125,000 to Cozen O'Connor, a national firm the board brought in last year to investigate the district's handling of a student sexual assault reported at Palo Alto High School; and \$135,000 for outside investigators.

The district spent just under \$2 million on legal services this year. Staff attribute the sharp increase — up from \$997,000 spent last year and \$386,000 the year before that — to an increase in special-education litigation, a resolution agreement with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights and Title IX investigations.

The district estimates next year's total legal costs at about \$1.2 million. ■

Twilight tour: Friday 5-8pm
Open House:
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Artist rendering, not to scale

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Pulse

A weekly compendium of vital statistics

POLICE CALLS

Palo Alto

June 6-June 12

Violence related

Assault with a deadly weapon	1
Battery	1
Domestic violence	2
Elder abuse	1
Family violence	1

Theft related

Commercial burglaries	1
Grand theft	3
Identity theft	2
Petty theft	2
Residential burglaries	1

Vehicle related

Auto burglary	3
Auto recovery	1
Driving with suspended license	1
Hit and run	4
Lost/stolen plates	1
Misc. traffic	2
Vehicle accident/minor injury	5

Alcohol or drug related

Driving under the influence	1
Drunk in public	5
Possession of drugs	3
Possession of paraphernalia	2
Under influence of drugs	2

Miscellaneous

Accident property damage	3
Casualty/fall	1
Disturbance	1
Found property	3
Lost property	1
Misc. penal code violation	6
Missing person	2
Possession of stolen property	1
Psychiatric subject	6
Stored vehicle	2
Vandalism	2
Warrant/other agency	6

Menlo Park

June 6-June 12

Violence related

Assault	1
Shoot at occupied dwelling	1

Theft related

Commercial burglaries	3
Fraud	3
Grand theft	1
Petty theft	3
Theft	2

Vehicle related

Auto burglary	5
Auto theft	1
Driving with suspended license	5
Hit and run	4
Vehicle accident/misc. injury	1
Vehicle accident/no injury	4
Vehicle tow	3

Alcohol or drug related

Drunk in public	2
Possession of drugs	3

Miscellaneous

Disturbance	2
Fire call	1
Info case	1
Lost property	1

Missing person	2
Outside assistance	1
Psychiatric subject	3
Stored vehicle	1
Suspicious person	1
Warrant arrest	1

VIOLENT CRIMES

Palo Alto

Emerson Street, 6/6, 7:22 p.m.; assault with deadly weapon.

Waverley Street, 6/7, 8:20 a.m.; battery/simple.

Heron Way, 6/7, 9:28 p.m.; domestic violence/battery.

San Antonio Road, 6/7, 11:11 p.m.; family violence/misc.

Encina Avenue, 6/8, 10:40 a.m.; elder abuse/physical.

Arastradero Road, 6/9, 1:11 a.m.; domestic violence/battery.

Menlo Park

Manhattan Avenue, 6/7, 10:24 p.m.; shoot at occupied dwelling.

Hacker Way, 6/10, 1:11 p.m.; assault.

Learn the Guitar this Summer

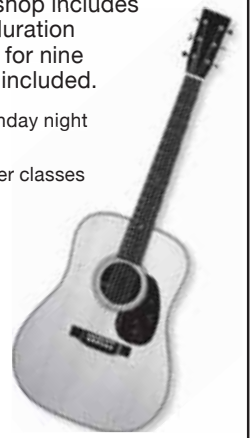
Carol McComb's "Starting to Play" workshop includes the FREE use of a Loaner Guitar for the duration of the classes. *Regular cost is just \$180 for nine weeks of group lessons, and all music is included.

*"Starting to Play" meets for one hour each Monday night for nine weeks beginning **June 18th**.

For more information about this and Carol's other classes at Gryphon, visit www.carolmccomb.com and click on "group classes."



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Last year Palo Alto businesswomen **Jenny Dearborn**, Senior Vice President and Chief Learning Officer at SAP received the ATHENA AWARD, and **Anissa Leong**, Corporate Affairs Officer at HP Enterprise, received the ATHENA EMERGING PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD.

Nomination Deadline: Sunday, June 30th, 2018

Please submit your nominations to
Iris Chen at iris@paloaltochamber.com

Questions: 650.324.3121



ATHENA
INTERNATIONAL

Edwin Kimball Walters

December 31, 1951 – May 23, 2018

Edwin Kimball (Kim) Walters passed away peacefully at home in Palo Alto on May 23, 2018.

Born in Columbia, South Carolina, to the late Edwin Leon and Lillie Hill Walters on December 31, 1951, he moved to Johnson City, Tennessee, as an infant. Kim graduated from University High in 1969 and remained in close touch with his classmates after their 45th reunion. He earned his BS and MBA degrees from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Kim never forgot the friendships he made while living in Reese Hall on campus and the Clinch Towers apartments. He would value, nurture, and maintain these friendships his entire life.

Kim joined Arcata Corporation's Book Group in Kingsport, Tennessee. He was soon offered a financial position at Arcata's headquarters in Menlo Park, California, where he met his wife, Karen. Together they enjoyed many road trips visiting family and friends from coast to coast. Described as a Renaissance Man, Kim could carry on conversations about a wide range of topics from music, art, science, business and, of course, The Vols. He developed his own business model application incorporating all his years of experience with his unique vision.

Kim is survived by his wife Karen, his daughter Adrienne (Andrew) Reitz and son Marshall of Palo Alto. A celebration of life service will be held at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple, 2751 Louis Road, Palo Alto, on Friday, June 22nd at 2 pm. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Muttville Senior Dog Rescue, P.O. Box 410207, 255 Alabama Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. You may donate online at: <https://raisedonors.com/muttville/tribute-donation>



PAID OBITUARY



CITY OF
**PALO
ALTO**

CITY OF PALO ALTO PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING

250 HAMILTON AVENUE,
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

JUNE 27, 2018 AT 6:00PM

Public Hearing:

1. PUBLIC HEARING / QUASI-JUDICIAL. 999 Alma Street [18PLN-00060]: Request for a Hearing on the Director's Tentative Approval of a Conditional Use Permit for a Commercial Recreation (Gym) Use in an Existing Building on the Site. The project includes a request to begin operations at 5:00 AM and end at 11:00PM. The South of Forest Area Coordinated Area Plan Permits by-Right Hours of Operation from 6:00AM to 11PM. Environmental Assessment: Exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per Guidelines Section 15301. Zone District: RT-35 (SOFA II). For More Information Contact the Project Planner Graham Owen at Graham.Owen@CityofPaloAlto.org.

The Planning and Transportation Commission is live streamed online at <http://midpenmedia.org/category/government/city-of-palo-alto> and available on via cablecast on government access channel 26. The complete agenda with accompanying reports is available online at <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/boards/ptc/default.asp>. For Additional Information Contact Yolanda Cervantes at Yolanda.Cervantes@cityofpaloalto.org or at 650.329.2404.

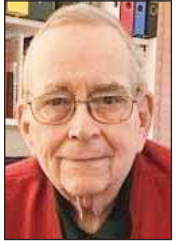
Transitions

*Births, marriages
and deaths*

Alexander Thomas 'Tom' Ovenshine

Alexander Thomas "Tom" Ovenshine, a longtime Palo Alto resident, died of heart and kidney failure on June 2. He was 82.

A native of Long Island, he was born and raised in Rockville Centre, New York. After high school, he went on to attend Yale University,



where he majored in geology. He continued to study geology after his undergraduate education, eventually receiving his master's and doctorate degree in geology from Virginia Tech and UCLA, respectively. After completing his doctorate degree, the United States Geological Survey in Menlo Park hired him to be a field geologist. He moved to Palo Alto with his wife, Elinor Hyle, in 1965. He spent his summers in Alaska doing research on the geological relationship between earthquakes and glaciers. The USGS named him Alaska branch chief in 1976, when he was 39. In 1980, he transferred to the USGS headquarters in Reston, Virginia to head the organization's international geology division. While in this position, he traveled to Japan, China and various countries in the Middle East to promote awareness of geology's importance. In 1995, he moved back to Palo Alto, where he continued to work for the USGS. He found joy in volunteering for his sons' Boy Scout troop, an engagement through which he designed and built a play structure for a park in East Palo Alto.

He is survived by his wife Elinor Hyle Ovenshine of Palo Alto, children Gordon Ovenshine of Mars, Pennsylvania; Sally Ovenshine Dockter of Charlottesville, Virginia; and John Ovenshine of Palo Alto and eight grandchildren. ■

SUBMITTING TRANSITIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Palo Alto Weekly's Transitions page is devoted to births, weddings, anniversaries and deaths of local residents.

Obituaries for local residents are a free editorial service. The best way to submit an obituary is through our Lasting Memories website, at PaloAltoOnline.com/obituaries.

Paid obituaries can be arranged through our advertising department by emailing ads@paweekly.com.

Announcements of a local resident's recent wedding, anniversary or birth are also a free editorial service. Send announcements to editor@paweekly.com or P.O. Box 1610, Palo Alto 94302, or fax to 650-223-7526.

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Refugee

Part of our Shorts Program
Friday, June 29 @ 7PM



The Driver Is Red

Part of our Shorts Program
Friday, June 29 @ 7PM

3 nights of award-winning films and conversations with the filmmakers at the Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center
555 Middlefield Road, Atherton, CA windriderbayarea.org

On life, loss and new beginnings

Short Story Contest authors unleash their creativity to uncover truths in worlds both strange and familiar

In a stroke of serendipity, the first-place winners of this year's Palo Alto Weekly Short Story Contest all tackled one of life's most inevitable human experiences: loss. From the death of a family member to the perplexity of dearly loved items gone missing, the authors explore the ripple effects of sudden absence — the choices that people must make, the emotional hurdles they confront, the relationships they turn to as they try to move forward.

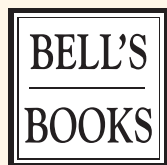
Other themes emerged in the works chosen by the contest's esteemed panel of judges, themselves celebrated authors, for second and third place. Writers imagined stories of revenge, unexpected kinship, true friendship and freedom. They sketched out detailed worlds: In one, relentless machine beings stamp out the remnants of human expression; in another, a high-powered San Francisco stock broker navigates the world

he created for himself. One story — set in a school that could be in Anytown, USA — eerily mirrors recent news headlines. But no matter the stories' settings, the authors have skillfully guided their characters past fear and ultimately toward love, truth and courage.

The Palo Alto Weekly would like to thank the talented writers who submitted work to the contest, now in its 32nd year; the readers, Danielle Truppi and Sharon Levin, who selected the top entries in each category for the judges to consider; the judges for the Adult and Young Adult categories, Debbie Duncan, Nancy Packer and Tom Parker; and the Teen category judges, Nancy Etchemendy, Marjorie Sayer and Caryn Huberman Yacowitz. The Weekly also would like to thank the contest co-sponsors, Bell's Books of Palo Alto, Kepler's Books of Menlo Park and Linden Tree Books of Los Altos. ■

Thank You

The following businesses co-sponsored the 32nd Annual Short Story Contest, providing prizes for winners in all categories.



536 Emerson St., Palo Alto



1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park



265 State St., Los Altos



Short Story Contest winners

Teen, 12 to 14 years old

First Place: "New Houses" by Jerry Xia

Second Place: "The Last Act" by Tina Zeng

Third Place: "A Funeral for a Butterfly" by Asha Kularni

Young Adult, 15 to 17 years old

First Place: "The Queen of Lost Things" by Christina O'Konski

Second Place: "The Hands and the Mouth" by yves.

Third Place: "Just Another Monday" by Benjamin Stein

Adult, 18 years and older

First Place: "Worm Farm" by Patricia Fewer

Second Place: "Chutes and Ladders" by Craig Evans

Third Place: "Leopard Swing Coat" by Shanna May Bengtson

Read all of the winning stories at PaloAltoOnline.com/short_story

Judges for the Adult and Young Adult categories

Tom Parker

A well-known, local fiction-writing teacher and coach, memoirist, co-author and developmental editor, Tom Parker is an O. Henry Prize-winning short-story writer and author of the novels "Anna, Ann, Annie" and "Small Business." His work has appeared in Harper's and has been reviewed in The New Yorker. He has taught at Stanford, the University of California, Berkeley, and Foothill and Cañada community colleges. His website is tomparkerwrites.com.



Nancy Packer

Nancy Packer is professor emerita of English at Stanford University, where she taught in the Creative Writing Program. Her short stories have appeared in such journals as Harper's, Yale Review and Sewanee Review and been included in several "O. Henry Prize Stories" collections and "The Best American Short Stories." Sixty of her stories have been collected and published in five volumes; "Old Ladies" is her most recent collection.



Debbie Duncan

Debbie Duncan has been reviewing children's books for the Palo Alto Weekly since 1997. She is the author of the Benjamin Franklin Award-winning picture book "When Molly Was in the Hospital," as well as a book for parents, "Joy of Reading." She also contributes to the Perspectives series of commentaries on KQED radio. When she isn't reading books to find the best to share with Weekly readers, she's writing her own middle-grade novel or hanging out on Twitter, @debbieduncan.



Judges for the Teen category

Caryn Huberman Yacowitz

Caryn Huberman Yacowitz writes fiction and nonfiction books for children and plays for both children and adults. Her newest picture book, "I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Dreidel," a Chanukah book with an art history spin, is a Junior Library Guild Selection. "Jeans! The Musical," co-created with Diane Claerbout and Enid Davis, celebrates those famous pants and the pioneers who invented them. Her website is carynyacowitz.com.



Marjorie Sayer

Marjorie Sayer writes books with a multicultural and interdisciplinary perspective. Her middle-grade novel, "The Girl Mechanic of Wanzhou," is a winner of the Scholastic Asia Book Award. Her nonfiction for adults has appeared in O'Reilly Media, and her recreational math books have been used in clubs throughout the country. She enjoys bicycle travel, her family and the friendship of her cats. She blogs about her interests at marjoriesayer.com.



Nancy Etchemendy

Nancy Etchemendy's novels, short fiction and poetry have appeared regularly for the past 40 years, both in the U.S. and abroad. Her work has earned a number of awards, including three Bram Stoker Awards and an International Horror Guild Award. "Cat in Glass and Other Tales of the Unnatural," her collection of short dark fantasy, was named an ALA Best Book for Young Adults. She lives and works in Palo Alto, where she leads a somewhat schizophrenic life, alternating between unkempt, introverted writer and gracious (she prays) wife of a Stanford University professor.





About Jerry Xia

Jerry Xia is not unlike many 12-year-olds. He has myriad academic interests — robotics and physics included — and a few sports he's trying out, like track and field and tennis. Jerry, however, has taken the growing pains that characterize the teen years and translated those events into a variety of short stories about his life and those he's observed.

"I just write how I think I want it to be. I try to express that feeling," Jerry said. "Don't worry about the end result."

Jerry sees writing as a free expression, not a process to agonize over.

"New Houses," Jerry's first-place short story, is about his move to Palo Alto from Los Altos in summer 2016. Jerry didn't know what to expect from the move, nor could he anticipate how his life could change.

"I always imagined that I had to leave all of my friends behind, all of my stuff behind," Jerry said. "I would take some stuff, but I would have to clean everything out and throw away all the stuff I didn't need anymore."

He turned this fear into "New Houses," in which a family must deal with saying goodbye to not just a house, but a past lifetime. Jerry has now settled into his new house, but his short story deals directly with a pervasive sense of loss.

Jerry began writing in fifth grade, when he was encouraged by his teachers to write in his free time. Writing was a "a good way to put down my ideas on paper," and it was also a welcome change from the focus on technique that had been part of Jerry's school curriculum previously. He enjoys the process of translating his feelings into writing.

He did not even consider "New Houses" one of his better pieces, and he has a variety of other subjects that he is exploring. "Garage Junk," a new short story, is about a spider in a garage. Jerry also said he is working on a story about flowers.

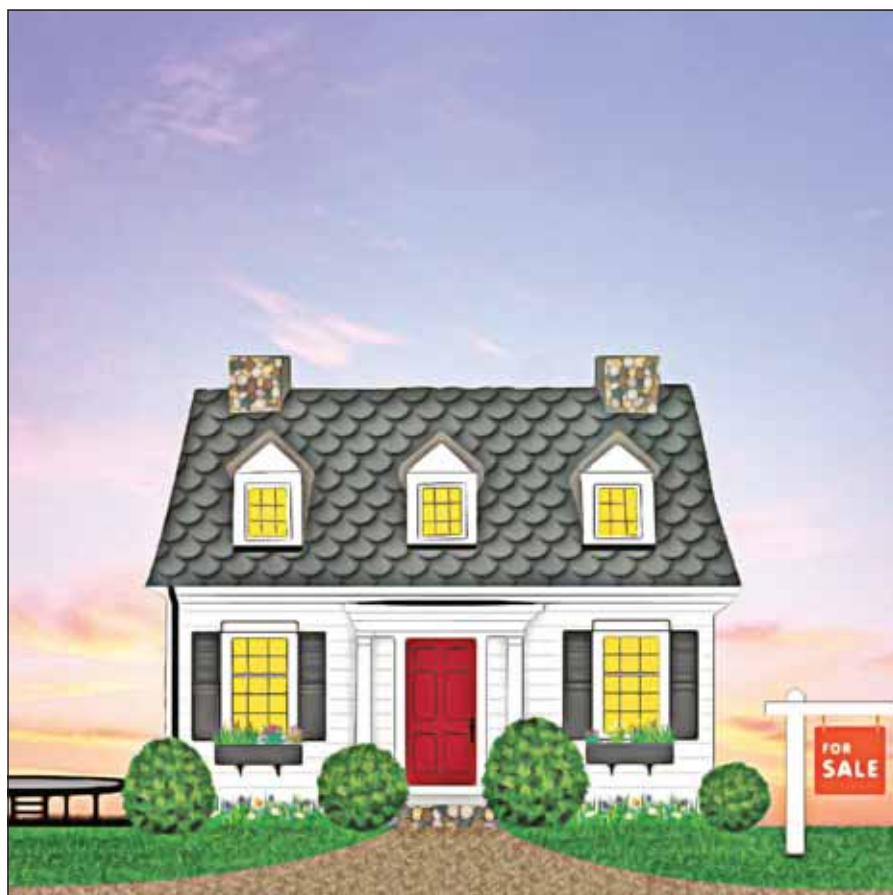
Jerry wants to pursue other interests like robotics as he progresses through middle school; he hopes to continue writing as an enjoyable activity, not something done under pressure.

"I think it'll continue to be a hobby and something that I do to relax," Jerry said. "It's something I want to do for fun."

— Tara Madhav

Judges' comments

"New Houses" is an eloquent portrait of grief from a young person's point of view. Themes of loss and concerned affection are effectively woven throughout. There's just enough humor to highlight the difficult emotions the writer explores in this well-crafted story.



New Houses

by Jerry Xia

We were standing in front of a perfectly good house. It was a modern, Cape Cod style with clean white walls and a trampoline in the back. It even came with a new washer and dryer and a massive refrigerator. It had a balcony that overlooked the lake nearby. "This is perfect, Mom," I said, standing in the gravel driveway looking at the house. She was frowning at the front door.

"Why is it red?" she asked the real estate agent, who looked as if she wanted to leave us there in the driveway and speed away, but she had invested so many months into us that we were a sunken cost that she couldn't give up now.

"A coat of paint or a new replacement could fix it," the agent replied.

"I just don't know. I just don't know."

This is how Mom had been since Dad died and we sold the house. Whenever we found a home that was in our price range and nice, Mom would say, "The grass is too brown," or, "The mailbox looks lopsided," or "The window has a stain in it." All these things could be easily fixed.

Our agent was a middle-aged mother of three who had wasted six months' worth of gas and all her patience driving us around the countryside. I kept waiting for her to say, "You are terrible people, wasting all of my time and finding excuses for everything!" But she never did. The woman was a Prius-driving saint. Besides, we had been looking for houses for so long that Grandma was starting to get impatient.

"I want my living room back! When are you going to find a house?" she would say.

"Mom, this is a great place. It's right next to a park with a lake where we could relax, and it has all new furniture. They're selling it with all that new furniture. I think we'll never find a house as good as this," I attempted to persuade her. I knew because we had been looking for six months and this was clearly the best one.

My mom looked at me with eyes that told me that another house was out there, a different house, one that would make her feel

as if she was full again. But the truth was, we missed our old house. I missed the basement where Dad and I used to build model aircraft, and the backyard where we used to grow tomato plants, and the living room where Dad's big leather chair sat next to the bookshelves. I missed the garage where Dad kept the photo albums and where he used to clean his shotgun. In my bedroom there, I had a closet large enough to fit all of my clothes and had a small door inside opening into a set of stairs leading to a nook in the attic where I would read and hide away.

We hopped back into the car, and the agent drove us to the next house. It was awful with paint peeling off of the walls and mold filling every crevice. The kitchen window had a view of the garage and the refrigerator was strangely placed in the laundry room. We spent all of two seconds before we drove to the next one. Meanwhile, I kept telling my mom, "The Cape Cod house, the Cape Cod house." The next house was positioned in between two rivers — one in the front yard and one in the backyard.

The agent said, "I'm pretty sure you'll need to have flood insurance for this house." The next house smelled as if it had housed nothing but animals for 50 years and all of them had died in the living room. The final house was perfect, but I walked into the living room and looked out and saw the cliff that dropped 400 feet.

"The Cape Cod house probably won't be on the market for too long," the agent said. "Your son seems to like it. We could put in an offer and tie it down before someone else gets it, and we could always back out during the due diligence period if you change your mind."

My mom was sitting in the passenger seat and her dark hair looked wavy and indecisive.

"I still think that we could find a better house somewhere else. There are so many options out there," she said, but I knew that she meant we would never find the perfect house.

That's when the agent turned a corner and then another corner and brought us smack in front of our old house. Looking at it was like looking at something that had been stolen from us. It was our house. It looked small from the outside, but it wasn't small. It was painted white with a brick chimney and had four windows in the front with a garage door.

My mom told the agent, "Stop!"

As the car abruptly slid to a stop, we both stepped out of the car and stood in the street in front of our old house. The grass had grown long, and somebody had put an ugly chair by the front door and a kid's tricycle was overturned and lying in the driveway. Looking at the house made me feel as if I jumped into ice water. I hadn't been back the house since we moved away. I looked over at my mom and she was standing there, staring up at the window to the master bedroom. We stood there for a full minute, looking at the house and saying nothing, and I think the real estate agent must have thought that we wanted to buy our house again.

"This one's not for sale," she said. Without a word, my mom and I both reluctantly stepped back into the car, looking at the house through the window before the agent drove away.

That evening, my mom, my grandma, and I sat at the dining table eating what my grandma had prepared. The meal consisted of mashed potatoes with gravy, steamed vegetables, a pot of rice, and tomato soup.

As we ate, I told my mom, "Mom, we should buy the Cape Cod house. You haven't made a decision in so long, and it seems like the perfect house for us."

My mom stared at me for a full minute before responding, "I think there will be a better house somewhere else. Besides, the Cape Cod house has a terribly red front door."

I knew that my mom always found silly excuses to reject each house that she visited. I was tired of living in my grandma's apartment for six months. I was tired of driving around every day to try and find a house. I was tired of my mom complaining about each house.

"Mom, I think we need to buy this house. The red front door can be easily fixed, and everything else is perfect," I told her.

"The Cape Cod house is nothing special," my mom said. "I think there are plenty of houses out there that are as good, or even better. Those houses might not have any problems with them."

"You know we are never going to find a house as faultless as this one is. We need to buy it before it is sold."

My mom stared at me as if to judge whether I was being honest about the house, and finally relented.

"I think it's time to make a decision."

My mom and I bought the house at a final price of \$1.5 million. Two weeks later, we stood in the driveway, all of our suitcases and bags around us.

"Well, that's the last of them," my grandma said as she lifted the final suitcase out of the trunk and set it on the driveway. My mom stood there, on the driveway, with the bags in her hands and the suitcases behind her, staring at the front door. Before the sale, our agent had replaced the front door with a large, white wooden door.

"Come on, Mom!" I shouted. I ran towards the front door, eager to go into the house, but still, my mom stood there, staring at the front door.

"Are you ever going to go in?" my grandma asked. There was no reply from my mom. My mom's eyes were staring upwards at the front door hopefully as if waiting for something to happen, as if not quite ready yet to enter the house. ■



Illustration by Paul Lewellen

The Queen of Lost Things

by Christina O'Konski

She appeared like an ancient memory, half-washed away by the tides of time, faded and yet brighter than you knew she could have been.

Her dress was made of everything. Bits of fabric from shirts and dresses and scarves, pieces of clothing that had caught on thorns or ornate fences and torn away, lost forever. As I looked closer, I spied socks with no mates, half-finished knitted hats, lone squares from patchwork quilts. Woven through her hair and her eclectic dress and wreathing her head like a crown gleamed a treasure trove of gears and coins and scraps of paper, buttons and shoelaces and plastic toys still crusted with sand.

It took me a few moments to realize who she was, but I remembered eventually. We have all met the Queen of Lost Things. But, of course, we must always forget her again. For how can she be the protector of all that is lost and forgotten if she is not one and the same?

I found her the way we all do: by becoming one of her own. I stood by the side of the road under a dappled-green canopy of trees, looking at a map that was much too big and intricate, struggling to find where I was, and where I was going. My car, parked nearby, was useless if I did not know which direction to drive it in.

When the back of my neck started to tingle, I turned and found her perched on a nearby rock. She smiled, her mouth a conglomeration of teeth that others had lost, whether from fisticuffs or falling or swallowing them as they ate breakfast.

As we all are, I was quite startled at first.

For, as we all do, I had forgotten how intricate and textured she was, so much so that I could not look at her all at once.

When she spoke, it was in a long-forgotten dialect that could be understood by all, as long as one didn't listen closely enough to discover that the syllables she was uttering did not match any they knew. She knew my name — for who hasn't forgotten theirs at some point or another? — and she called me by it. I knew I needn't be afraid of her, but at the same time my heart was pounding a bit harder than necessary.

She was covered in dust — for what lost thing isn't? — and her eyes were every color whose name has long been forgotten. She laughed at my shock, as she does at everybody's, never seeming to tire of the same old joke. And then, as I realized I had been expecting her to, she patted a spot on the rock beside her. I sat and lost all sense of time as she regaled me with her stories of all the places she'd been to and all the things she'd found. She was a magnet for anything lost, and, she remarked, what didn't come to her she would seek out, even if she didn't really mean to.

Unlike most, I did not just allow her stories to sweep over me, becoming so lost in her words that I forgot everything else. I pulled back just enough from her endless tales to remark upon her pendant. It was a single puzzle piece, lined with gold and hanging on a fine chain around her neck. I wondered aloud why such a simple thing held such a place of honor. The puzzle piece did not even contain a discernible image. It was green and black and blue and grey, a texture that could have been the leathery

hide of a dinosaur, or ripples in water, or a tree at night.

It was then that she truly smiled, a smile so bright and good that the whole world sang. This was not just a curling of lips or a crinkling at the corner of her eyes but an expression of such pure joy that I felt it settle into a corner of my heart, where, though it would be forgotten, it would remain, glowing warmly.

She eagerly explained that the puzzle piece was so special to her because it was her purpose. In a completed puzzle, the piece was nothing special or important. It was hidden in plain sight, gracing the edges with a little more space. It was not the eagle's talons or the dragon's fire or the maiden's hair, just an added bit of texture. But, once that single piece was removed, one's eyes were drawn to where it should have been. That expendable piece was suddenly the most important one of them all.

And so it is with all things. One will only truly notice and appreciate something if it has been lost. Otherwise the world would be flat and predictable, with no hidden corners or secret passageways into which things could slip, never to be seen again, or emerge, to be greeted with relief and appreciation.

I asked her if she ever returned the things she found — fixed the broken puzzles and one-eyed stuffed animals. And oh, how her eyes sparkled. Wordlessly, she withdrew something from the endless folds of her dress. I looked down, and my eyes were greeted with an enormous, carefully organized bundle of everything I had ever lost.

Speechless — at a loss for words — I stared at all my baby teeth and lucky pennies and old T-shirts, all my shoes and stories and staring contests, all the ingenious thoughts and clever jokes and witty comebacks I'd lost hold of at just the wrong moment. All of it was there, held gently in her arms like a swaddled baby. I could have looked forever, eyes darting from treasure to treasure, hoping that I would remember even a fraction of what I was seeing.

After an endless instant, she drew the folds of her infinite cloak around her gift, and it was gone. But it truly was a gift, even if it was only mine for a short while.

Then, her gaze grew sad as she explained that some lost things can never be found again, and those that can, she could not give back to me. To do so would be to revoke her title, to renounce all that the puzzle piece around her neck meant. However, she instructed me to search carefully for my lost things in the future. For while she could not give them back directly, when she could, she tried to place them in spots where they would be found.

I hugged the Queen of Lost Things tightly, thanking her sincerely and deeply, though for what, I could not remember. Nor could I remember why I was sitting by the side of the road when my path was so clear on my map. As I walked back to my vehicle, I noticed a single sock lying on the dashboard — a perfect match for the one I had at home in a chest of drawers and was unable to wear.

As I picked it up, I could have sworn I heard a laugh that seemed as close and impossible as a just-forgotten dream, and I thought I caught a glimpse of an infinite dress twirling away through the trees. Of course, like anyone else would have, I shook my thoughts away, my lost memories drifting like cobwebs to the ground, where they would no doubt be collected once I was gone and subtly returned at a later date.

For how can someone be the Queen of Lost Things, the protector of all that is lost and forgotten, if they are not one and the same? ■



About Christina O'Konski

Christina O'Konski, a rising senior at Palo Alto High School, used to invent little stories as a kid while playing with toys. That imagination still propels her writing as a young adult.

Three years ago, when she lost a piece in a puzzle she was putting together with her family, she suddenly thought of the main character for her bittersweet, nostalgic short story, "The Queen of Lost Things."

Although the single piece seemed unimportant on its own, when the puzzle was all put together, she realized the piece, by its absence, had become the most important part of the puzzle.

"When you lose something, it matters in a different way," she said. "The satisfaction and relief of finding that thing you really needed ... that's kind of like getting visited by 'The Queen of Lost Things.'"

As a student heavily involved in community theater, O'Konski said her experience acting has been helpful for her in her own writing. She's both acted in and written school plays and has also worked with kids at the Palo Alto Children's Theatre.

"(In) acting, you are the character. ... That definitely helps as a writer — really getting into another person's head," she said enthusiastically, making her energy on stage easy to imagine. "I think acting's really good at helping you be empathetic."

Besides acting and doing puzzles, she enjoys spending her time reading, singing, playing the piano, going on hikes, and playing Dungeons & Dragons, a fantasy role-playing game. With so many different interests, she doesn't have any specific goals for her writing, although she hopes to explore it more in college.

"I'm ... figuring out what I wanna do with my life. I love writing ... I love nature a lot, and it'd be cool if I could combine both of those things," she said. "I want to stay open ... be ready for unexpected stuff to happen."

She advises fellow writers to be fearless in sharing their own work and to write stories they would want to read.

"Get your story out there. Don't feel like what you have to say isn't important," she said.

— Christine Lee

Judge's comment

Move over, tooth fairy and Santa Claus, and make room for the Queen of Lost Things. She is the keeper of an eclectic assortment of things lost and forgotten, from a single puzzle piece and missing socks, to witty comebacks and staring contests. "The Queen of Lost Things" is an imaginative story about a lucky lost traveler that is wonderfully told and worth remembering.

— Debbie Duncan



About Patricia Fewer

Patricia Fewer has never been someone who sticks to a single path: Fewer has been a Peace Corps volunteer, a campaign worker for a presidential candidate, a volunteer bus driver, a substitute teacher and a textbook editor.

"Sometimes I just fall into things with people I know, or someone suggests something," she said.

Growing up in the Haight-Ashbury neighborhood of San Francisco as the oldest of six children, Fewer said she "really wanted to get out in the world, not stay home and help my mother."

Her adventurous attitude has taken her to many places and into many professions, and it has also given her an impetus to keep track of the things she's come across. Fewer has long loved to experience the lives of others, both through reading and observation.

"I've always just read and I've always kept notecards. If I think something is pretty terrific, I just write it down," she said.

When it came time to retire, Fewer was at a loss for what to do. She remembers standing at the kitchen sink, looking out the window and pondering that question. Fewer decided to return to her notecards and begin writing, devoting herself to her short stories.

For Fewer, writing isn't an agonizing process — it's an opportunity to bring together her diverse and entertaining life experiences.

"For me, (writing is) joyful. It just flows. I have a film in my head, and I don't ever make outlines," she said, adding that neither does she keep a schedule nor impose writing deadlines on herself.

Fewer's first-place story, "Worm Farm," is based on her cousin's actual farm, which was destroyed in a rain-storm. Her own experience raising three children was the inspiration for her story "You've Gone and Done It, Ivy," which won third place in the Short Story Contest in 2016.

Fewer advises new writers to be keen observers and create a database of quotes, people and events for inspiration. She keeps a plastic box filled with index cards on categories like family and humor and always has a notebook in her bag.

Fewer said she's still passionate about her writing and plans to continue drafting short stories.

"I'm going to keep working. I'm very stimulated. I'm wired," she said.

— Tara Madhav

Judge's comment

In this gentle and delightful story, nothing and everything happens, as the reader is carried along by the current of this skilled writer's subtle, evocative prose, passing from one major area of concern to another: accepting loss, confronting old age, anticipating childbirth, facing displacement, going to the mall, and contemplating a not altogether friendly future.

— Tom Parker



Illustration by Rosanna Kinnipuu

Worm Farm

by Patricia Fewer

Hannah jumped the curb and skated down the empty street, straight down the middle, her arms pumping, her knees slightly bent. The skeletons of new homes, replacing acres of fruit trees, stretched along either side of her. Three months earlier, when her mother-in-law had died, leafless trees stood in long rows. Today, a Sunday afternoon, her iPod played Tom Waits singing about his wild youth and the wife who was dragging him down. Hannah propelled herself forward, crouched low, and glided past the rose bushes and "Worms for Sale" sign and on down her father-in-law's driveway. The concrete ended at the back of the two-story white-shingled house, and she stopped.

Her husband, Joey, was where she had left him, his bare back gleaming in the sun. She whistled at him. He waved without looking. She shaded her eyes with her hand and watched him sifting topsoil, picking out small stones and hard clods. He wiped his arm across his brow and poured peat moss into the wheelbarrow with the topsoil. The peach trees that surrounded him were in bloom.

Joey straightened around and looked at her. She grinned and shook her backside his way. He flapped his ear with one hand and she turned the iPod off. "Don't you look like something from outer space," he hollered.

Hannah looked down at her T-shirt, fanny pack, iPod, cutoffs, kneepads, red skates. "Not half bad," she thought.

"How about let's go over to the mall, Joey babe?"

"Nope." He shoveled horse manure into the mixture. "That's what teenagers do."

"I want an ice cream cone," Hannah said, sitting on the concrete and unlacing her skates. "We're on vacation."

"There's ice cream inside in the freezer." He pushed the wheelbarrow over to a coffin-like pine box and filled it halfway with the mixture.

"You're a whole lot of fun, Joey," Hannah said, standing up and hanging the skates over her shoulder.

"I'm just trying to keep you down on the farm." He opened a large Styrofoam tub and dumped a knot of earthworms into the soil, transferring worms from a crowded box into a fresh box. They slithered around, separating. Hannah grimaced at the wiggling mass. Joey placed wet burlap over the top of the mixture and closed the box.

"When I skate out of your life, you'll be kicking yourself for not going with me to the mall."

He threw a clod of dirt at her leg, followed with, "I love ya, Hannah."

She turned her iPod back on, and Tom Waits was singing about a sick little dog he had to live with. She looked at the stacked, filled pine boxes and went in the back screen door of the house, turning her iPod off.

Old Joe sat at the vinyl-covered kitchen table. He was playing solitaire and drinking hot water with fresh lemon. "I never knew a woman dressed like you, Hannah," he said

smiling, his face unshaven.

"I guess you never go to the mall either," said Hannah, putting her skates and kneepads in the broom closet by the National Geographic magazines.

"What's that?" Old Joe asked. He turned up cards from the top of the stack.

Hannah held the freezer door open, fanning herself. "Just kidding, Joe. Want some ice cream?" Her earphones hung around her neck.

"No, not me. Joey got that for you." He drank from his tall glass.

"I'm happy to share, Joe." Hannah served herself two scoops of fudge ripple ice cream and sat across from him.

"Got time for gin rummy, Hannah?"

"Time?" Hannah said, eating fast. "I've got lots of time."

Old Joe took up his solitaire layout, watched Hannah watching him riffle-shuffle, and spread. They each drew a card. "My deal," Old Joe said. Hannah cut the cards and Old Joe dealt out ten each. They screened their hands from each other.

"This is the life, Hannah, wouldn't you say. Cards and ice cream." Old Joe fanned his hand. Hannah scraped her bowl and put it aside.

"Good combination, Joe," said Hannah.

"The wife and I always played cards." He licked his thumb to separate two cards.

Hannah squinted over her hand. "I'm sorry. It must be awful lonely for you, Joe."

Old Joe drummed his fingers. "Your play, Hannah."

Joey stomped his feet before coming through the screen door into the kitchen. He washed at the sink, lathering his hands and rubbing the soap up his arms to his elbows. "Hannah, we can do some harvesting first thing tomorrow, okay?" He dried himself with the towel hanging from the refrigerator door handle. Then he poured himself a glass of iced tea.

"Pour one for me, too, will you, Joey?" Hannah said.

He put his down in front of her and filled another glass.

"Harvesting, Hannah," he said close to her ear.

"I knew it was coming. I'll be ready to separate parents from babies."

The day after the funeral, they had worked with Old Joe, emptying pine boxes, one at a time on plastic sheets, removing worms by hand from the compost, packaging 500 adult worms per container for market. Then it was a short drive to town to the Bait and Tackle Shop. Their biggest customer.

"The best possible livestock," Old Joe had said then. "They don't make noise, don't bite, and require little care."

Hannah remembered them slithering and curling around her fingers as she tried to figure out if they were long enough to be called adults.

Now Joey turned a wood chair around and sat in it backwards. Hannah put her socked foot on top of Joey's shoe and picked up the top card from the stack.

"Have you brought it up?" Joey asked Hannah quietly, leaning towards her. She looked at him blankly with her mouth open.

"All right, all right," Joey muttered. In a louder voice, he said, "We've got to talk more about what we're going to do here."

"Not good etiquette, talking during cards, Joey," said Old Joe. He winked at Hannah who was still looking at Joey.

"I think, Dad, you're not going to like being here anymore when these new houses start filling up. You're going to have cars coming and going and kids on skateboards

(continued on next page)

Worm Farm

(continued from previous page)

and women with strollers. People will be barbecuing and probably stealing your peaches.”

Old Joe laughed and discarded a card face down. “There are more than enough peaches for me.”

Hannah tapped her foot up and down on Joey’s.

“We don’t think it’s good for you to be alone in this big house, Dad,” continued Joey.

“But, this is my house. You are not to worry about me,” Old Joe said, putting down his cards. “I have lived here since your mother and I married. I planted the trees out back.” He rubbed his face with one stubby hand, starting at the forehead, going over the eyes, nose, and mouth, and stopped on his chest.

“This is my life, Joey. When I die, the developers can have it all, but not before.” He pummeled his chest with his fist.

“Dad, think of this.” Joey leaned in closer to the table. “Sell the place and go in with Hannah and me on a duplex. Our apartment is too small, but we could be right next door to each other in a duplex. We’ll plant fruit trees and move the worm business.”

“No good, Joey. Not for me,” and Old Joe looked off out the screen door.

“You can help raise your grandchild, Joe,” said Hannah.

“What?” asked Joey, letting the chair fall back.

“It could be, Joey. I’m not sure,” said Hannah.

“It could be? And you’re out on skates?”

Old Joe laughed out loud. “Now you’re talking sense. Get me some water from the stove, Joey, and squeeze my lemon in.” He reached across the table and held Hannah’s hand. “I wish Joey’s mother was here to hear this. She’d be pleased.”

“So, you’ll move with us, Joe?” asked Hannah, holding his hand with both of hers.

“No, no, if I leave here, I will die faster.” Old Joe looked at the glass Joey offered. “Put another squeeze in there, Joey.”

“Don’t talk like that, Joe,” said Hannah. She scraped together some toast crumbs from breakfast with the side of her cards.

“What makes more sense is that you kids move here with me instead of paying out money somewhere else,” Old Joe continued.

“And do what, Dad? Our jobs are in the city,” said Joey, cutting a lemon in half at the sink. “I want to know what you know, Hannah, about our baby,” he added.

“Joey, really, I haven’t been to a doctor yet. It is just a feeling.” She blushed.

“You kids could do here what you could do somewhere else in a duplex,” Old Joe continued. “And we could put up peaches together.”

“Hannah likes cities, Dad,” said Joey. “I promised her when we got married that I wouldn’t be a farmer.”

“Joey, don’t put the blame on me.” Hannah swirled her tea in the glass. “You’re the one with nightmares of worms crawling out of boxes during the night and taking over the neighborhood.”

“Hannah,” Joey said, sputtering. “That was private information.”

“Never mind, Joey. I have been lying awake with the same thoughts and gone out to the boxes with a flashlight,” said Old Joe, laughing.

“But you think so, that you might be.” Joey coaxed her.

“I’ve never been before so I can’t be positive.”

“You either keep a spotlight on the boxes at night, so they think the sun is out, or you keep the lids closed. That way they won’t get out.”

Hannah laughed softly. “If you’d take me to the mall, I could get a test kit and tell you.”

“It’s no life for a baby living in an apartment,” said Old Joe.

“You still trying to get to the mall?” Joey asked her, cocking his head. He stood behind her chair, kissed the top of her head, and put both his hands on her belly.

“You smell like lemon,” she said.

Old Joe pushed himself away from the table. “If you two are going to live here, you have to learn card-playing etiquette.” ■



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Arts & Entertainment

A weekly guide to music, theater, art, culture, books and more, edited by Karla Kane



Barcelona-based trumpeter, singer and composer Andrea Motis will perform as part of this year's Stanford Jazz Festival.

Summertime is golden for live jazz on the Peninsula.

The 28-year-old jazz series at **Filoli Historic House & Garden** in Woodside is the first program of the season, with a concert by pianist Justin Kauflin on June 17. The Sunday-afternoon series has five more dates through Sept. 16.

Kauflin was featured in the 2014 documentary "Keep On Keepin' On," which examined his relationship with his mentor, the late trumpeter and NEA Jazz Master Clark Terry. In addition to being championed by Quincy Jones, he's also gigged as a member of double bassist/vocalist Katie Thiroux's trio, including a date in March in Half Moon Bay at Bach Dancing & Dynamite (which, incidentally, has its own summer series every Sunday at 4:30 p.m. through July 29 except for July 1).

Another notable pianist headlines Filoli on July 22. Los Angeles native Josh Nelson and his quintet. Lately the Southern Californian has been commuting regularly for gigs in Northern California from as far north as Fort Bragg down to Saratoga. He frequently plays with tenor saxophonist and onetime Stanford graduate student Anton Schwartz as well as local drummer Lorca Hart, whom he called one of his best friends.

"In some ways, I've got more things going up on the Bay," said Nelson, with a chuckle. "It seems like there are more venues up

there, including house concerts and festivals."

Nelson's résumé is flush with the names of jazz greats, having been in bands led by tenor saxophonist/composer Benny Golson, double bassist/arranger/big band leader John Clayton and drummer/vibraphonist Joe Chambers. But he's earned a reputation as a superb accompanist for vocalists.

"I really cut my teeth with two singers," he said. "I was Sara Gazarek's music director, arranger and pianist from 2004 until recently. And I was Natalie Cole's last touring pianist and played with her for about six years.

"I'm probably known more as a singer's pianist," he added. "I'm trying to flip that so that I'm equally known as a leader, though

I love playing with singers."

For his bandleading debut at Filoli, Nelson will showcase material from his latest album, "The Sky Remains." He's played there as a member of Schwartz's group and says he enjoys the idyllic setting.

Portola Vineyards in Portola Valley also has a Sunday summer series that spans five shows between June 24 and Aug. 19. These feature the likes of the San Diego-based pianist Danny Green and his trio with strings and local favorites Charged Particles, who close out the run in late August with an Eastside College Preparatory School benefit performance.

The dean of summer jazz is the **Stanford Jazz Festival**, which is in its 37th year and boasts 31

concerts between June 22 and Aug. 4.

As has been the case in recent years, the Stanford Jazz Festival and Workshop features concerts at the front and back end of its season at Bing Concert Hall.

On June 23, Berkeley resident Joshua Redman leads a rare date with his veteran quartet that features pianist Aaron Goldberg, double bassist Reuben Rogers and drummer Gregory Hutchinson.

The festival closes on Aug. 4 with Spanish trumpeter and vocalist Andrea Motis' quintet playing first with trombonist Wycliffe Gordon as a special guest and then the SJW 50/50 Orchestra, directed by Joan Chamorro. Motis made her regional debut at last year's festival, and the fledgling SJW 50/50 Orchestra is a group comprised of women and men in equal numbers.

"Andrea's specialty is romantic selections from the Great American Songbook," said Jim Nadel, Stanford Jazz Workshop and Festival's founder and artistic director. "She sings in English and plays really melodic trumpet solos.

"I'm really happy how it came together," he continued. "From July 15 on, everyone performing is also here to teach at the Stanford Jazz Workshop. So you get these really interesting combos happening."

He used half of the Aug. 1 concert as an example, with saxophonist Melissa Aldana, guitarist Camila Meza, bassist Yunior Terry and percussionist Tupac Mantilla all



Jazz pianist Justin Kauflin will kick off Filoli's summer jazz series.

SUMMER JAZZ EVENTS

What: Filoli's 2018 Summer Jazz Series.
Where: Filoli Historic House & Garden, 86 Cañada Road, Woodside.
When: June 17, July 8, July 22, Aug. 5, Aug. 19, Sept. 16; 1:30 p.m.
Cost: \$75/\$65 for Filoli members or series pass for \$425/\$365 for Filoli members.
Info: Go to filoli.org/jazz.

What: Stanford Shopping Center 32nd Annual Summer Jazz Series.
Where: Stanford Shopping Center, 660 Stanford Shopping Center, Palo Alto.
When: Thursdays, June 21-August 23; 6 p.m.
Cost: Free.
Info: Go to sfjazz.org/stanford/.

What: Stanford Jazz Festival 2018.
Where: Various venues on the Stanford University campus.
When: June 22 through Aug. 4.
Cost: \$8-\$98.
Info: Go to stanfordjazz.org/stanford-jazz-festival-2018.

What: 2018 Portola Vineyards Summer Jazz.
Where: Portola Vineyards, 850 Los Trancos Road, Portola Valley.
When: various Sundays, June 24-August 19; 6 p.m.
Cost: \$12-\$50.
Info: Go to portolavineyards.com/phone/summer-jazz.html.

playing together for the first time.

Presented by SFJAZZ at the courtyard between Crate & Barrel and Nordstrom, the free **Stanford Shopping Jazz Series** is in its 32nd year. It starts on June 21 and is held on consecutive Thursdays at 6 p.m. through Aug. 23.

Faculty from Stanford Jazz Workshop will make the short trek from campus on June 28. Saxophonists Kristen Strom and Andrew Speight, trumpeter Erik Jakobson, pianist Ben Stolorow, bassist John Wiitala and drummer Hamir Atwal make up the top-notch Faculty All-Stars sextet.

Moscow, Russia, native and Bay Area resident Masha Campagne shares her cultivated jazz and Brazilian sound at the posh shopping center on August 9. In addition to reinterpreting selections from both songbooks, she's likely to draw on her own self-penned work.

The outdoor setting and nearby food and drink shops at Stanford Shopping Center make for a casual yet musically substantial evening. And as with the other series, parking is free. ■

Freelance writer Yoshi Kato can be emailed at yoshiyoungblood@earthlink.net.

READ MORE ONLINE
PaloAltoOnline.com

For Arts & Entertainment Editor Karla Kane's interview with musician Rebecca Schiffman, who's performing live on KZSU, go to PaloAltoOnline.com/arts.

THEATER REVIEW

Un-American activities

'Finks' sheds light on dark Hollywood history

by John Orr

Joe Gilford's script for "Finks," his slightly fictionalized story of what his parents (comics and activists Jack Gilford and Madeline Lee Gilford) experienced during the Hollywood blacklistings of the 1950s, does a clever thing. Rather than just subject his audience to the grim history of how the communist-and-deviant-hunting House Un-American Activities Committee ruined hundreds of entertainment careers, Gilford shows us the entertainment.

So, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley audiences get to hear some jokes from Mickey Dobbs (Jim Stanek), who is loosely based on Jack Gilford, and see him do a hilarious pantomime of a theater-goer bothered by a buzzing insect, based on a bit that Gilford actually did. And they get to see some lovely dancing (choreographed by Dottie Lester-White) from Leo Ash Evens. Evens plays Bobby Gerard, who is based on Jerome Robbins.

"Finks" opens on Andrea Bechert's handsome, huge set with the dais of HUAC in the center, a modest recreation of the club Café Society in New York at audience left and another space at audience right that is used later.

We hear the HUAC sergeant at arms call a hearing to order, and Robert Sicular, as Rep. Walter,

begin his political babble, just as comic Mickey is starting his routine at Café Society.

Mickey does a very good Jimmy Durante imitation, and Walter starts interrogating such "finks" as Elia Kazan, Budd Schulberg and Martin Berkeley.

The show's only woman, Donna Vivino, is a force of nature as performer/organizer Natalie Meltzer, who sets out to win Mickey's love. "I'm laying out lines like railroad tracks!" she says. "Connect the dots!"

Mickey and all their entertainer friends are worried about being caught up in the Red Scare, and they have reason to be. If their names appear in the magazine Red Channels or in a bad way in Walter Winchell's column, club owners may cut their contracts and advertisers might start boycotting their TV shows.

Bobby has two issues: He did attend some meetings of leftist performers and he's gay, which in the 1950s was very dangerous.

Natalie, who has been Bobby's "beard" and sometimes his lover, tries to buck him up. Evens has a grim role to play, because while Bobby staves off HUAC for a while, when he's blackmailed for his homosexuality, he's forced to start naming names, including Mickey and Natalie's.

Mickey is kind of a fraidy cat in

this show, who has to be coerced by Natalie not only into loving her, but performing at meetings of left-leaning actors and otherwise speaking up and fighting the good fight.

In real life, Gilford explained, both his parents were firmly committed to causes such as civil rights.

"Mickey's conflict about what he would actually do in the end is about the furthest I went to fictionalize for dramatic purposes," Joe Gilford said in a program feature by Syche Phillips. "In real life, there was never any doubt as to my father's intentions."

But Mickey's fears and doubts work beautifully in this play, such as when he is heartbroken when a blacklisted friend dies, and for what he does when he is finally dragged before HUAC.

Most of the eight actors in this production are very well known from San Francisco Bay Area stages. Richard Frederick, who does a great Lee J. Cobb impression, has been in a number of TheatreWorks shows, including "Emma." Gabriel Marin, who is very moving as actor and artist Fred Lang, was in "Superior Donuts" at TheatreWorks. Robert Sicular, who moves from celebrity sycophant to attack dog as Rep. Walter, has stood out on every major local stage.

Despite the script calling for a black character, there appear to be no African-American people in this show. Café Society was the first really integrated club in New York. Jack Gilford actually shared a dressing room there with Billie Holiday. He dated Lena Horne. To not have a black actor



Donna Vivino as Natalie, left, and Leo Ash Evens as Bobby dance in "Finks," presented by TheatreWorks Silicon Valley.

seems a shocking omission.

Cathleen Edwards nicely evokes the 1950s with her costume design. Steven B. Mannhardt does his usual excellent work with lighting design, no small achievement, with three main areas of the stage to light for different purposes. Sound designer Jake Rodriguez handily provides the sounds of unseen court reporters, TV soundtracks and ringing phone.

The one odd thing was a loud crackling sound and strange flashing lights. I had to hear and see that four times before I understood it was supposed to be photojournalists with old-fashioned flash bulbs. At first I thought a spotlight was shorting out.

Giovanna Sardelli, who directed the New York premiere of this play in 2013, also directed this production, the California premiere. In her notes for the program, she wrote, "In 2013, I felt pretty confident that America had

recovered its sense of decency — that history wouldn't repeat itself. In 2018, I'm frightened that I no longer feel that way. 'Finks' reminds us of what is at stake and how ordinary people must stand for decency. It provides us guidance for these uncertain times, when performers like Jack Gilford fought to do what they did best: keep us laughing." ■

Freelance writer John Orr can be emailed at johnorr@regardingarts.com.

What: "Finks."
Where: Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.
When: Through July 1 (see online for complete performance schedule).
Cost: \$40-\$100 (discounts available).
Info: theatreworks.org/201718-season/201718-season/finks/.

A tuneful tradition

Palo Alto World Music Day turns 10

by Karla Kane

Each Father's Day, University Avenue is closed to traffic and the streets of Palo Alto are alive with the sound of music of all sorts. The annual tradition, World Music Day, is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, with musical festivities happening on Sunday, June 17, between 3 and 7:30 p.m.

As in years past, around 50 musical artists and ensembles will perform on the street corners and plazas of downtown. Jazz, blues, classical, pop, rock, Klezmer, Greek, Balkan and Indian music, plus choral and dance groups and more will be represented. The performances are mostly acoustic, with some acts utilizing battery-powered amplifiers, and the musicians participating all do so for free.

Rebecca Roudman of the San Francisco-based blues and bluegrass group Dirty Cello has taken part several times and plans to do so again this year. She said she enjoys the convergence of such a diverse blend of music in one event,

as well as the friendly, casual atmosphere, which allows listeners to come and go as they please.

The festival "is a lot more informal than we're used to, and one funny thing that happened was a very young girl who was watching saw our set list flopping around in the wind. She hopped up, snatched it and crumpled it up and took it away, leaving us to wing it the rest of the show," Roudman recalled.

"We don't live in Palo Alto, so a fun thing we like to do is pick a different spot near the festival to have a celebratory dinner after each show," she told the Weekly.

Palo Alto resident Claude Ezran was inspired to create the local event after taking part in France's Fête de la Musique, which has since spread to more than 700 cities and 120 countries, as well as across the United States (often under the name Make Music). Ezran first proposed the idea when joining the city's Human Relations Commission a decade ago, gaining the support of former Weekly editor Jay Thorwaldson

(the Weekly is a media sponsor of the event) and the Palo Alto Recreation Foundation along the way. A team of dedicated volunteers helps coordinate the day's happenings.

Ezran is proud that Palo Alto World Music Day has stood the test of time.

"The friendships I have formed with many of the musicians is what is most precious for me. Many of them come year after year despite the fact that they are not paid," he said. "They love the event and the fact that is above all a celebration of their art." ■

Arts & Entertainment Editor Karla Kane can be emailed at kkane@pawebly.com.

What: Palo Alto World Music Day
Where: University Avenue (between Webster and High streets).
When: Sunday, June 17, 3-7:30 p.m.
Cost: Free.
Info: Go to pamusicday.org.

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Eating Out

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Natalia Nazarova

Venga Empanadas serves more than a dozen varieties of Argentine empanadas.

By Dale F. Bentson

I hadn't been an empanada fan, always finding them to be chewy pastry with scant filling, but the Chilean version was a revelation. The pastry was the perfect flaky container for marvelous meats, cheeses and vegetables.

Eight of us were barreling down a back road in central Chile singing "Why, why, why, Delilah?" at the tops of our lungs after a day of wine tasting in the Maipo Valley. We were heading back to our hotel when our tour guide, Oscar, suggested we stop for take-out empanadas.

He knew the perfect place. It was like a roadside McDonald's except they made and sold only empanadas. The place was jammed and there were three men in the parking lot directing cars to available spaces. Oscar came back with a heaping box of the most heavenly empanadas.

Like pasta in Italy and burgers in America, every region of Latin America has its own best-in-the-world recipes for making empanadas. Brazil has pastéis, Mexico pastes Pachuqueños, Ecuador empanadas de viento and Argentina the mouthwatering Mendocinas (empanadas from the Mendoza region), and every region of Argentina has its own variation.

I had been to Venga Empanadas in San Francisco's Mission District and was delighted when a second location opened late last year on Main Street in Redwood City. Argentine empanadas are baked, not fried, and Venga offers at least 18

varieties, both meat and veggie, along with a half-dozen homemade soups, crisp salads, desserts and Argentine specialty foods.

The three principals of the restaurant bring a variety of experience. Paula Capovilla is from Patagonia; Alicia Jimenez is from Mexico City; and Pablo Romano is from Argentina.

Romano said that in his younger days, he owned a campground/boat rental operation near the Atlantic coast. Nearby, he ran a roadside parrilla, a traditional Argentine iron barbecue grill. He is also an artist, graphic designer and musician.

It's that broad range of experience and entrepreneurial spirit that often coalesces into something delightful — in this case, empanadas, although the original founder of Venga, Manuel Godino, has moved on.

My favorite empanadas at the new Redwood City outpost were the Argentine beef (\$3.95) made with beef, onions, red bell pepper and hard-boiled egg. The savory aji gallina (\$3.95) with chicken, onions, yellow bell pepper, tomatoes, parsley, cumin, saffron, chile flakes and cayenne pepper was spicy but not hot.

There are plenty of options for vegetarians, too. The California veggie (\$3.95) was filled with spinach, Napa cabbage, carrots, mushrooms, raisins and almonds. The three-cheese-and-walnut empanada (\$3.95) with mozzarella, blue and Monterey jack cheeses; onions; and caramelized walnuts was both creamy and crunchy.

On a cool day, the hearty vegan white bean soup came with white

beans, onions, peppers, celery, mushrooms and tomatoes. The cold chunky tomato gazpacho soup is a must on warm summer days. All soups cost \$6.25 for 16 oz. (enough for two).

The products at Venga on Main Street are made in a commissary five blocks away rather than trucked down from San Francisco. Not making products on the premises, though, can be problematic when particular flavors run low. One suggestion is to order ahead for pickup or take potluck when you arrive. Every empanada I tried was warmed to order, the soft and tender ingredients tucked inside a crisp, flaky coat.

If you dine at the restaurant, seating is limited, but there is wine, beer and sangria as a consolation and maybe you could sing, "Why, why, why, Delilah." ■

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

Venga Empanadas, 822 Main St., Redwood City; 650-549-8932; vengaempanadas.com

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Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Book Club (PG-13) Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Deadpool 2 (R) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Disobedience (R) Aquarius Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
First Reformed (R) *1/2**
Aquarius Theatre: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Hearts Beat Loud (PG-13) Guild Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
Hereditary (R) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Hotel Artemis (R) Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Incredibles 2 (PG) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Ocean's 8 (PG-13) **1/2 Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
RBG (PG) Palo Alto Square: Fri. - Sun.
Singin' in the Rain (1952) (G) Stanford Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
Solo: A Star Wars Story (PG-13) **1/2
Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Superfly (R) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Tag (R) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
Upgrade (R) Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
Won't You Be My Neighbor? (PG-13)
Century 20: Fri. - Sun. Palo Alto Square: Fri. - Sun.

Aquarius: 430 Emerson St., Palo Alto
(For recorded listings: 327-3241) tinyurl.com/Aquariuspa
Century Cinema 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View
tinyurl.com/Century16
Century 20 Downtown: 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City
tinyurl.com/Century20
CineArts at Palo Alto Square: 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
(For information: 493-0128) tinyurl.com/Pasquare
Guild: 949 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
(For recorded listings: 566-8367) tinyurl.com/Guildmp
Stanford Theatre: 221 University Ave., Palo Alto
(For recorded listings: 324-3700) Stanfordtheatre.org



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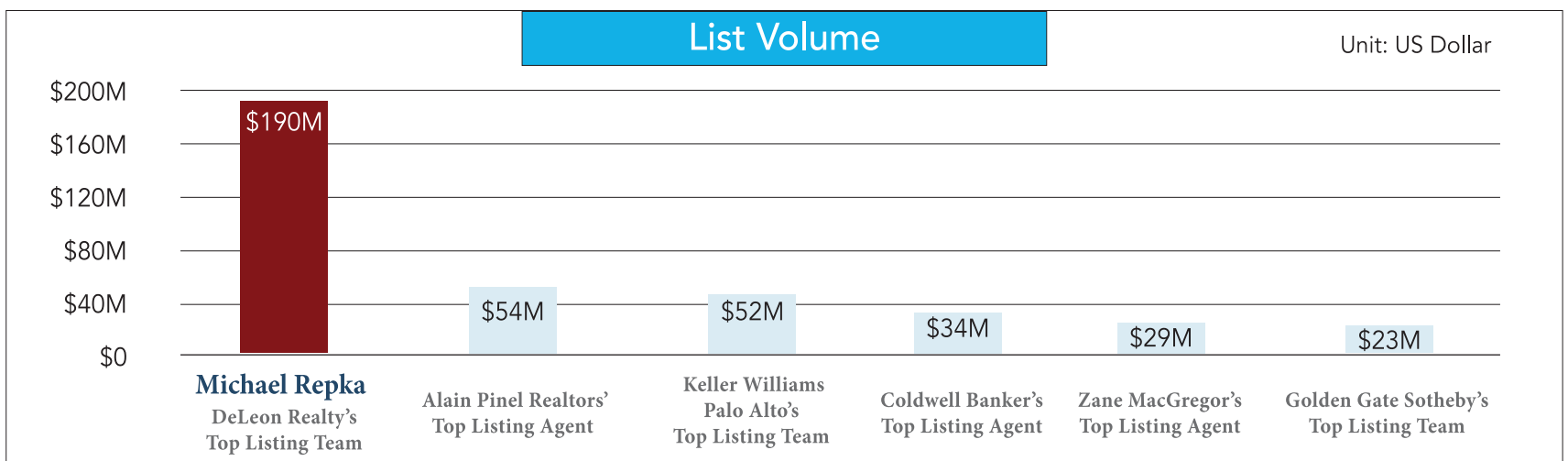
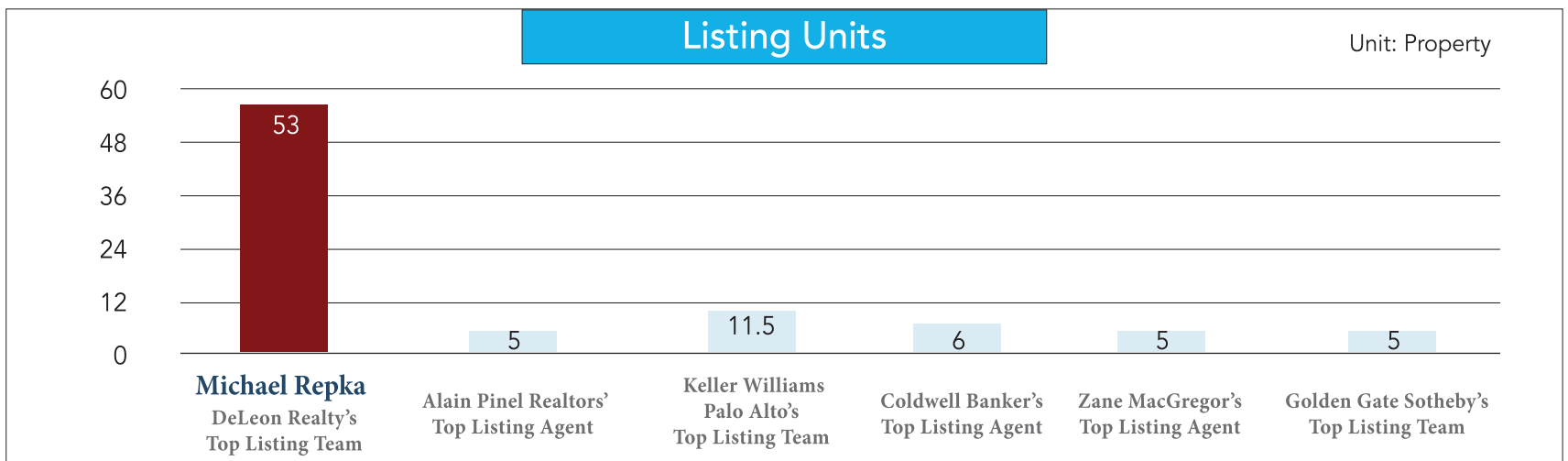
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Top Listing Agent or Team at the Brokerage	 Michael Repka	 Top Agent	 Top Team	 Top Agent	 Top Agent	 Top Team
Listing Units	53	5	11.5	6	5	5
List Volume	\$190,038,188	\$53,895,000	\$52,045,000	\$34,441,000	\$28,973,770	\$22,715,000
Sale Price to List Price Ratio	114.3%	99.1%	100.5%	99.6%	98.8%	104.3%



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A weekly guide to home, garden and real estate news, edited by Elizabeth Lorenz

Home Front

SUCCESS WITH SUCCULENTS

... If you'd like to try adding succulents to your garden, come to a class sponsored by UC Master Gardeners of Santa Clara County, "Gardening with Succulents," on **Thursday, June 21** from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The class will introduce people to these diverse, low-water plants and how to care for them. The class will be taught by Master Gardener Kathleen Heckler at Rinconada Library, 1213 Newell Road in Palo Alto. For more information on master gardener events, go to mgsantaclara.ucanr.edu and click on the events tab.

PROPANE CYLINDER EXCHANGE

... Through the end of June, the city of Palo Alto is hosting a 1-pound **propane-cylinder exchange program** for residents to reduce the waste created by single-use canisters. First, fill out the program voucher you should have received in a previous utility bill. Bring your voucher as well as your empty, single-use disposable 1-pound propane cylinder to the HHW Station and exchange it for a full, refillable cylinder. There is a limit of one free reusable cylinder per household while supplies last. Vouchers expire June 30. For more information, go to cityofpaloalto.org/RFYF.

PARTY WITH NO TRASH ...

If you're planning a neighborhood gathering, you can borrow a "**Zero Waste Party Pack**" — complete table settings for 24 people — including plates, bowls, tumblers, utensils and cloth napkins, from your local block leader. Connect with a Zero Waste Block Leader at cityofpaloalto.org/zwbl. For more information, email zerowaste@cityofpaloalto.org or call 650-496-5910.

VACATION WATCH ...

If you live in Atherton and are leaving home for a period of time this summer (or any time), you can file an online "**Vacation and Business Trip Home Check Request**" form for the Atherton Police Department to watch over your home. Go to www.ci.atherton.ca.us, click on the Police tab and then click on the Form circle to find the form.

Send notices of news and events related to real estate, interior design, home improvement and gardening to Home Front, Palo Alto Weekly, P.O. Box 1610, Palo Alto, CA 94302, or email elorenz@pawebly.com. Deadline is one week before publication.

READ MORE ONLINE
PaloAltoOnline.com

There are more real estate features online. Go to PaloAltoOnline.com/real_estate.



Far left, apples like this attract codling moths, who lay their eggs on developing apples. When the worm (like this one) hatches, it tunnels into the apple near the stem and heads down to the core. Top: once you pick your apples, there may or may not still be a worm inside, or it may have exited out the "blossom" end of the apple. Cut off the apple "cheeks" and enjoy. Near left, a magnification of codling moth eggs and larvae that are laid on tiny developing apples. Once the worms leave the apples, they head for the tree trunk to make cocoons.

If you are blessed with fruit trees in your yard but are less comfortable about the bugs that might also be enjoying your harvest, relax.

"A lot of it has to do with how squeamish people are," said University of California Master Gardener Candace Simpson, who teaches an annual class on beneficial garden bugs in Palo Alto.

Apple trees, for example, attract codling moths, who lay their eggs on tiny developing apples. As soon as the apple has formed and the egg hatches, the worm tunnels into the apple somewhere near the stem and heads down to the core.

If you've read this far, you are probably brave enough to take Simpson's next piece of advice: When the apple is mature enough to pick, now that you are prepared for what to expect, cut into it, leaving a decent margin around the stem and core, and use the clean parts you've cut off for eating, baking or cider. There may or may not still be a worm inside, or it may have exited out the "blossom" end of the apple, leaving some brown stuff behind. It's now heading to its next developmental phase, making a cocoon on the trunk of the tree and turning into a tiny moth.

"So this is the good news about codling moths: You can cut off what I call the cheeks of the apple," she said.

Apples can also be hand-thinned, once they start to grow. If you see two apples growing in a pair, remove one so that all of the apples on the tree are no more than about five inches apart. This allows the remaining apples to grow larger and prevents moths from burrowing into the apples in the weak spots where they are touching each other.

Stone-fruit trees like apricot or peach or cherry don't have problems with codling moths. Instead, peach trees can be afflicted with "peach leaf curl," which is a fungus that affects nectarine as well as peach trees. This can be prevented in the fall after the fruit tree's

Beneficial bugs

Fruit trees and insects can co-exist. Can you?

by Elizabeth Lorenz

leaves have fallen, by spraying a copper-based fungicide which is OK even for organic farms. It's always important to pick up all fallen fruit and pick old fruit off your trees so as not to attract the wrong pests, including rodents. If you don't pick up fallen apples, for example, you could be supplying three more generations of codling moths with homes.

If your stone-fruit tree already has peach-leaf curl, it will still produce a harvest. It's really important, Simpson said, *not* to remove the affected leaves but instead to leave them. It's a "stressor" on the tree to take those leaves off and the trees have evolved to cope with the fungus while they're growing fruit. Plum trees get a similar affliction caused by a specific type of aphid.

"A lot of people get distressed because of the plum aphid," Simpson said, because it causes the tree's leaves to roll up tightly. But, she said, not to worry. "Those aren't harmful to the tree. The tree has evolved" to be able to cope.

If you want to supply your yard with ladybugs, a predator of aphids, that can help, especially if you have small blooming flowers like yarrow or alyssum for the ladybugs to thrive on in between aphid feasts. But ladybugs need

prey or they won't stick around.

Another solution is to remove excess debris and fruit on the ground underneath the trees so as not to attract ants, which actually protect and nurture aphids. Ladybugs won't help with plum aphids, by the way, since there is no way for them to get at the bugs rolled tightly in the leaves.

If fruit trees are not allowed to grow too big it's easier to manage the harvest, and the trees might produce higher quality, if fewer, individual pieces of fruit.

Apricot and cherry trees get another fungal disease which can actually be mistakenly spread by pruning shears. The general advice is not to prune these until July, when there is generally a six-week rain-free period to allow the fungus (called *Eutypa*) to spread.

Earwigs are great for eating up and shredding things that fall and need to decompose in the garden. They also eat some species of aphids. Their ferocious-looking pincers really are not harmful, and if you don't like them, the Old Farmer's Almanac advises to lay one-foot sections of garden hose in your garden overnight and dump out the earwigs that crawl into the hose pieces into a bucket of soapy water. You can spread petroleum jelly around plant stems to keep earwigs from feasting on them.

According to the University of California's Integrated Pest Management agency, you can attract beneficial predators to keep things like aphids in check. Bugs like lady beetles (ladybugs), lacewings, paper wasps and soldier beetles often pollinate flowers as well as eating pests. One note: praying mantids eat good bugs as well as bad, so adding them to your yard may not be a great option for pest management.

"It's a balance," Simpson said. "You have to tolerate some (pests) in order to have a system where they don't get out of control." ■

Elizabeth Lorenz is the Home and Real Estate Editor at the Palo Alto Weekly. She can be emailed at elorenz@embarcaderopublishing.com.



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OPEN SAT & SUN 1:30-4:30



SAN FRANCISCO \$1,700,000

101 Bache Street | 3bd/2ba
Dorothy Liu | 650.492.0859
License # 01777158
OPEN SAT & SUN 1:00-5:00



REDWOOD CITY \$1,348,000

835 9th Avenue | 3bd/2ba
Darlene Pyllkkanen | 650.868.2291
License # 01115594
BY APPOINTMENT



REDWOOD CITY \$1,329,000

1703 Roosevelt Avenue | 3bd/2ba
Stephanie Nash | 650.995.3820
License # 01104524
OPEN SATURDAY 12:00-2:00



SAN MATEO \$1,249,000

3623 Pacific Boulevard | 3bd/2ba
Kevin Ames | 650.995.6534
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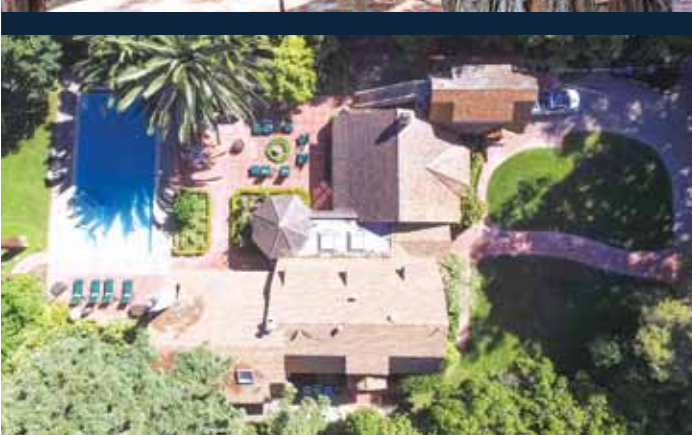
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Square footage, acreage, and other information herein, has been received from one or more of a variety of different sources. Such information has not been verified by Alain Pinel Realtors®. If important to buyers, buyers should conduct their own investigation.

Open Saturday & Sunday 1:30 – 4:30pm



1171 Valparaiso Ave., Menlo Park

Offered at \$4,948,000

4 bed | 3.5 bath + guest house

One of a kind downtown Menlo Park gated estate with guest house (for 5th bedroom)! Huge 1/2-acre+ (.554-acre) lot that is very deep (255'), 4,000 sq. ft. living area, shared well for irrigation, 4bd 3.5ba main house, a rare guest suite/guest house with kitchen and full bathroom, sparkling pool with gorgeous brick patio & built in BBQ area, back lawn with tree-house and swings set in a small redwood grove, separate office above 1-car garage and 2-car garage in rear of property. Flexible floor-plan allows for huge downstairs bedroom to be used as a family room. The entire home has been remodeled, rebuilt or added on to in the past few decades. There are a total of 4-fireplaces: 1-LR, 1-Kitchen, 1-MBR (all wood-burning) & 1-gas in office above garage. This property feeds to west Menlo Park schools and is opposite SHP and Menlo School. Only blocks from downtown Menlo Park shops and restaurants and the Circus Club. This property is a 10!

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OPEN HOUSE
SAT/SUN
1:30-4:30



1144 CHANNING AVENUE, PALO ALTO

Offered at \$3,195,000

Traditional-style home with contemporary flair and an open, flexible floor plan in highly desired Community Center. Expansive kitchen/family room with vaulted ceilings and a separate living room with wood burning fireplace. Unique detached two-car garage equipped with a magnificently spacious artist studio with a bath above. Eleanor Pardee Park, Rinconada Park, the Children's Library, Jr. Museum & Zoo, Lucie Stern Center, Main Library, Palo Alto Art Center, the list goes on...

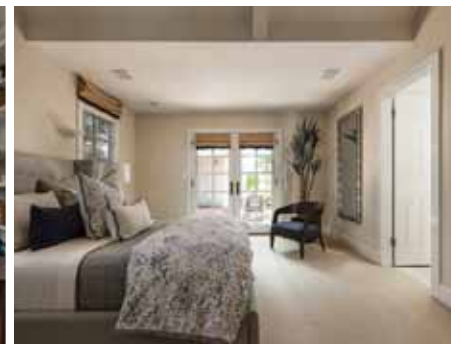
Main House

- Three bedrooms, 2 full baths
- Master suite with walk-in closet
- Living room with wood burning fireplace
- Recessed lighting
- Open kitchen with generous island
- Stainless steel appliances
- Kitchen/family room with built-ins
- Dual-pane windows
- Partial Basement
- Living space – 1,930 sq. ft.

Garage & Artist Studio

- 2-car garage
- Full bath
- Terra cotta tile flooring
- Window seat
- Laundry room
- Storage closets
- Studio – 324 sq. ft.

- Mature, professionally designed landscaping and private rear patio
- Lot size – 7,732 sq. ft.
- Excellent Palo Alto Schools: Duveneck Elementary, Jordan Middle, Palo Alto High



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OPEN HOUSE
Sun 1-4

New Listing



136 OTIS AVENUE, WOODSIDE

A sunny, creekside 4 bed / 2 bath home on a private street. Features inviting wraparound decks, hardwood floors, and a level yard. A serene escape within walking distance to downtown Woodside and award-winning Woodside Elementary School.
www.136otis.com **OFFERED AT \$2,195,000**



OPEN HOUSE
Sun 1-4

Reduced



163 OTIS AVENUE, WOODSIDE

Privacy abounds in this 2,170 sq. ft. 4 bed, 3 bath home on 11,625 sq ft lot complete with a tiered landscape and gazebo. Located at the end of Otis Ave surrounded by mature oaks and open space. This Additional .75 acre available.
www.163otis.com **OFFERED AT \$2,895,000**



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EXPLORE OUR MAPS, HOMES FOR SALE, OPEN HOMES, VIRTUAL TOURS, PHOTOS, PRIOR SALE INFO, NEIGHBORHOOD GUIDES ON www.PaloAltoOnline.com/real_estate

UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL TIMES ARE 1:30-4:30 PM

ATHERTON

3 Bedrooms
81 Lloyd Dr **\$1,688,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-5 Deleon Realty 543-8500

5 Bedrooms
40 Selby Ln **\$5,200,000**
 Sat/Sun Coldwell Banker 324-4456

CUPERTINO

1 Bedroom - Condominium
20488 Stevens Creek Blvd #1708 **\$888,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-5 Intero Real Estate Services (408) 342-3000

EAST PALO ALTO

3 Bedrooms
1219 Jervis Av **\$919,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 324-4456

LOS ALTOS

4 Bedrooms
682 Coral Ct **\$4,288,000**
 Sat/Sun Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 941-4300

219 Portola Ct **\$3,298,000**
 Sat/Sun Intero Real Estate Services 947-4700

5 Bedrooms
290 Quinhill Rd **\$6,495,000**
 Sun Sereno Group 947-2900

LOS ALTOS HILLS

4 Bedrooms
27760 Edgerton Rd **\$6,700,000**
 Sun Intero Real Estate Services 947-4700

5 Bedrooms
25851 Vinedo Ln **\$4,400,000**
 Sun 2-4 Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 941-4300

6 Bedrooms
25721 La Lanne Ct **\$8,348,000**
 Sat Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 941-4300

MENLO PARK

2 Bedrooms - Condominium
1230 Sharon Park Dr #64 **\$1,650,000**
 Sun 2-4 Pacific Union International 314-7200

3 Bedrooms
927 Continental Dr **\$4,995,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 324-4456

4 Bedrooms
1171 Valparaiso Av **\$4,948,000**
 Sat/Sun Coldwell Banker 851-2666

19 Shasta Ln **\$3,750,000**
 Sat/Sun Alain Pinel Realtors 462-1111

485 9th Av **\$2,495,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-5 Intero Real Estate Services 947-4700

2098 Manzanita Av **\$3,798,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker 324-4456

5 Bedrooms
1180 Cloud Av **\$4,488,000**
 Sun 2-4 Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 847-1141

785 Berkeley Av **\$7,500,000**
 Sun Pacific Union International 314-7200

MOUNTAIN VIEW

2 Bedrooms - Condominium
400 Ortega Av #116 **\$875,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Intero Real Estate Services 947-4700

183 Del Medio Av #302 **\$895,000**
 Sun 1-4 Sereno Group 947-2900

3 Bedrooms
992 Boranda Av **\$1,995,000**
 Sun 1-4 Sereno Group 947-2900

6 Bedrooms
2481 Porterfield Ct **\$3,380,000**
 Sat/Sun 1-4 Lazar Homes 302-6666

PALO ALTO

2 Bedrooms
2722 Louis Rd **\$1,998,000**
 Sat/Sun Coldwell Banker 325-6161

3 Bedrooms
352 Stanford Av **\$2,975,000**
 Sat/Sun Intero Real Estate Services 947-4700

1144 Channing Av **\$3,195,000**
 Sat/Sun Sereno Group 323-1900

753 Maplewood Pl **\$2,888,000**
 Sat/Sun Zane MacGregor 324-9900

352 Stanford Av **\$2,985,000**
 Sat 1:30-4:30/Sun 1-4 Intero Real Estate Services 543-7740

4 Bedrooms
158 Tennyson Av **\$2,995,000**
 Sat/Sun Alain Pinel Realtors 462-1111

633 Channing Av **\$2,850,000**
 Sat/Sun Alain Pinel Realtors 462-1111

1084 Fife Av **\$3,998,000**
 Sat/Sun Sereno Group 947-2900

5 Bedrooms
161 Bryant St **\$6,395,000**
 Sat Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 847-1141

PORTOLA VALLEY

4 Bedrooms
10 Franciscan Rdg **\$3,798,000**
 Sat/Sun Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 644-3474

136 Los Trancos Cir **\$2,998,000**
 Sun 2-4 Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 847-1141

5 Bedrooms
1305 Westridge Dr **\$6,595,000**
 Sun 2-4 Golden Gate Sotheby's International Realty 644-3474

707 Westridge Dr **\$13,500,000**
 Sun Coldwell Banker 324-4456

REDWOOD CITY

3 Bedrooms
1703 Roosevelt Av **\$1,329,000**
 Sat 12-2 Alain Pinel Realtors 529-1111

15 Winston Way **\$1,699,000**
 Sat 1-4 Sereno Group 947-2900

SAN JOSE

4 Bedrooms - Condominium
1053 Dewberry Pl #404 **\$1,380,000**
 Sat/Sun 1:30-5 Coldwell Banker 325-6161

SUNNYVALE

3 Bedrooms
1130 Strawberry Ct **\$1,888,000**
 Sun Miles McCormick 400-1001

4 Bedrooms
1350 S Bernardo Av **\$1,988,000**
 Sat/Sun 1:30-5 Intero Real Estate Services 947-4700

WOODSIDE

4 Bedrooms
136 Otis Av **\$2,195,000**
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 529-1111

163 Otis Av **\$2,895,000**
 Sun 1-4 Alain Pinel Realtors 529-1111

1307 Portola Rd **\$3,850,000**
 Sat/Sun Coldwell Banker 324-4456

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High ceilings, crown moldings, and hardwood floors are among the interior appointments. Sunlight streams through the large windows and skylights for a light-infused and cheery interior. Public spaces include living and dining rooms and a family room that could also be the 4th bedroom.

The home features 4 bedrooms, all with walk-in closets and one with an enclosed sunroom overlooking the sweet courtyard garden. One of the bedrooms has an adjoining office or sitting room. All the upstairs bedrooms look out on trees. An added bonus is the elevator connecting the main and second levels. The house also has purchased solar panels.

The flexible-use finished basement can accommodate a den, hobby area, and wine cellar as well as providing ample room for storage.



Living Area: 2,298 sq. ft. (Per appraisal by R. T. Roche & Associates, unverified)

Lot Size: 4,788 sq. ft. (Per County records, unverified)

New price \$ 2,850,000

www.633Channing.com

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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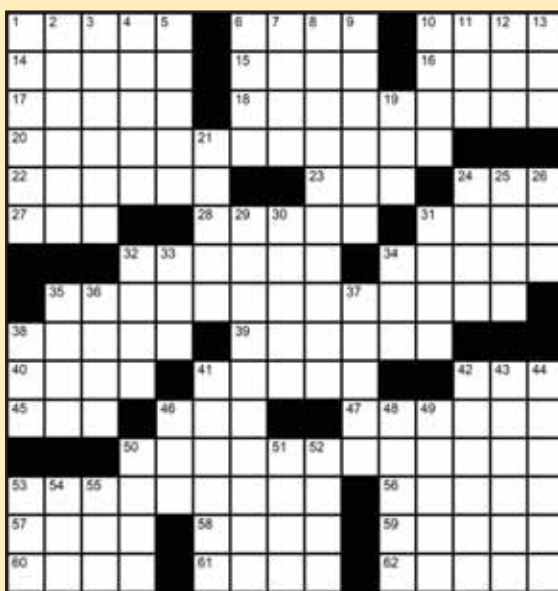
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Classified Deadlines:

NOON, WEDNESDAY

"Title"—subhead. Artist



Answers on page 41.

- Across**
- 1 Came up
 - 6 Minor argument
 - 10 Die spots
 - 14 Cholesterol drug with the generic version Simvastatin
 - 15 Animal in two constellations
 - 16 Mental concoction
 - 17 One-eighty
 - 18 Boxing Day baby, astrologically
 - 20 Defunct newspaper from North Carolina's state capital
 - 22 Pencil end
 - 23 ___ el hanout (North African spice mix)
 - 24 Distorted
 - 27 Leb. neighbor
 - 28 Greek column style
 - 31 You, to Shakespeare
 - 32 Crankcase component for engine fluids
 - 34 Get a little froggy?

- 35 Certain Winter Olympics squad, as spelled in some countries
- 38 City with a Witch Museum
- 39 The great outdoors
- 40 "Toy Story" kid
- 41 Try to buy
- 42 Work at a grocery store, perhaps
- 45 Music collection often stored in a tower
- 46 Directional suffix
- 47 Place to change before swimming
- 50 Compare pros and cons
- 53 Easy swimming target, slangly
- 56 Word before paper or metal
- 57 Charismatic glow
- 58 Reverberation
- 59 City between Jacksonville and Tampa
- 60 Seasonal employee
- 61 Put a halt to

This week's SUDOKU



Answers on page 41.

- 62 Pied ___ ("Silicon Valley" company)
- Down**
- 1 Sky-blue shades
 - 2 Hub traffic circle
 - 3 Eye-related
 - 4 Tender spots
 - 5 Basement apartment resident at 123 Sesame Street
 - 6 "No ___ luck!"
 - 7 Backside before a fall?
 - 8 Having as a goal
 - 9 Airport runway
 - 10 "___ or it didn't happen!"
 - 11 Altar-ed statement?
 - 12 Part of MPG
 - 13 ___ Jacinto
 - 19 -y, pluralized
 - 21 Bobby Flay's milieu
 - 24 Exclamation often misspelled with the second letter at the end
 - 25 Be nomadic
 - 26 ___ it up
 - 29 Show starter

- 30 Water nymph, in mythology
 - 31 Yew, for example
 - 32 Mind
 - 33 Philosopher's suffix
 - 34 Midpoint, for short
 - 35 Group in the pit
 - 36 Carmaker Ransom
 - 37 Intuition
 - 38 Alveolus, e.g.
 - 41 Pays off
 - 42 Undeserved reputation
 - 43 "Hurry up!" in Spanish
 - 44 He brought the frankincense
 - 46 Startled sound
 - 48 Storyteller with morals
 - 49 Italian lawn bowling
 - 50 Make a present presentable?
 - 51 "___! Cherry-O" (kids' board game)
 - 52 Corvette roof option
 - 53 Took a load off
 - 54 Shade
 - 55 Robotic factory piece
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995 Fictitious Name Statement

SUNSHINE CAFE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: FBN642567
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Sunshine Cafe, located at 1001 Murphy Ranch, Milpitas CA 95035, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
GUADALUPE GARCIA
165 S. Bernardo Ave. #38
Sunnyvale, CA 94086
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 05/22/2018. This statement was filed with the County

Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on May 22, 2018.
(PAW June 1, 8, 15, 22, 2018)

BEST WESTERN PLUS RIVIERA
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 642929
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Best Western Plus Riviera, located at 15 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, CA 94025, San Mateo County and a current Fictitious Business Name Statement is on file at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office of said County.
This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
BW RIVIERA LLC
953 Industrial Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94303
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1/01/2011.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on May 30, 2018.
(PAW June 15, 22, 29; July 6, 2018)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
BEN A. BARRES
Case No: 18PR183604
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of BEN A. BARRES, BEN ARTHUR BARRES, BARBARA ANN BARRES, BARBARA A. BARRES.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: LIVIA ARGANO in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. The Petition for Probate requests that: LIVIA ARGANO be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on August 9, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: 12 of the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, located at 191 N. First St., San Jose, CA, 95113.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Robert K. Roskoph
Crist, Biorn, Shepherd & Roskoph
2479 East Bayshore Road, Suite 155
Palo Alto, CA 94303
(650)321-5000
(PAW June 1, 8, 15, 2018)
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. CA-16-734587-BF Order No.: 5917923 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 4/3/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held

by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor(s): JOHN H. WHARTON, AN UNMARRIED MAN
Recorded: 4/11/2007 as Instrument No. 19378233 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of SANTA CLARA County, California; Date of Sale: 6/29/2018 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: At the Gated North Market Street entrance of the Superior Courthouse, 191 N. First Street, San Jose, CA 95113 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$766,466.47
The purported property address is: 3419 CORK OAK WAY, PALO ALTO, CA 94303 Assessor's Parcel No.: 127-48-023
NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. **NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:** The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 916-939-0772 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site http://www.qualityloan.com, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-16-734587-BF. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: Quality Loan Service Corporation 411 Ivy Street San Diego, CA 92101 619-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 916-939-0772 Or Login to: http://www.qualityloan.com Reinstatement Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 Quality Loan Service Corp. TS No.: CA-16-734587-BF IDSPub #0141250 6/8/2018 6/15/2018 6/22/2018
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
MOHINDER P. CHAWLA
Case No.: 18PR183621
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MOHINDER P. CHAWLA. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: AJAY CHAWLA in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. The Petition for Probate requests that: AJAY CHAWLA be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of

the decedent.
The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on August 31, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: 12 of the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, located at 191 N. First St., San Jose, CA, 95113.
If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58 (b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Abraham R. Zuckerman
Zuckerman & McQuiller

One Embarcadero Center,
Suite 2480
San Francisco, CA 94111
(415) 392-1980
(PAW Jun. 15, 22, 29, 2018)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE (U.C.C. §6104, 6105)
ESCROW #: 0126011564-PC
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to creditors of the within named seller that a bulk sale is about to be made of the assets described below.
The names and business address of the Seller(s) is/are: Tastee Inc.
2105 Old Middlefield Way, Suite C,
Mountain View, CA 94043
The location in California of the Chief Executive Office of the seller is: same as above
As listed by the seller, all other business names and addresses used by the seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the buyer are: None
The names and business address of the Buyer(s) is/are: Arvind Sabherwal and Kiran Shinde
2105 Old Middlefield Way, Suite C,
Mountain View, CA 94043
The assets to be sold are described in general as: All stock in trade, furniture, fixtures, equipment and other property And are located at: 2105 Old Middlefield Way, Suite C, Mountain View, CA 94043
The business name used by the Seller(s) at those locations is: Little Chef Asian Kitchen
The anticipated date of the bulk sale is: July 3, 2018
At the office of Old Republic Title Company @ 1000 Burnett Avenue, Suite 400, Concord, CA 94520.
The bulk sale IS subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2. If so subject, the name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is as follows: Old Republic Title Company @ 1000 Burnett Avenue, Suite 400, Concord, CA 94520 or E-Fax to 925-265-9040 or Fax: 925-363-2276.
The last day for filing claims shall be July 2, 2018 which is the business day before the sale date specified herein.
Dated: 6/2/2018
Buyer(s):
/S/ Arvind Sabherwal
/S/ Kiran Shinde
6/15/18
CNS-3142817#
PALO ALTO WEEKLY

Answers to this week's puzzles, which can be found on page 40.

A	R	O	S	E	S	P	A	T	P	I	P	S			
Z	O	C	O	R	U	R	S	A	I	D	E	A			
U	T	U	R	N	C	A	P	R	I	C	O	R	N		
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8	1	5	3	7	9	6	4	2						
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6	7	3	4	9	1	2	5	8						
5	4	8	6	3	2	9	7	1						
2	9	1	5	8	7	3	6	4						

Sports Shorts

NATIONAL HONORS . . . Stanford track and field coach **Zeb Sion**, whose throwers scored 31 points at the NCAA Championships, was named NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Women's Assistant Coach of the Year by the USTFCCA. Stanford's throwers would have placed ninth as a team at the NCAA Championships. No team in NCAA women's championship meet history had scored as many points across all four throwing events in 20 years. All four of Sion's women's throwers earned podium finishes, earned first-team All-America honors, and scored for a Stanford team that placed third, tying its highest finish ever, with 51 points . . . Stanford pitchers **Kris Bubic** and **Jack Little** earned All-America status from the the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association. Little was named to the first team and Bubic was a third team pick. Little is also a finalist for the NCBWA's Stopper of the Year. The winner will be announced Saturday in Omaha as will the Coach of the Year.

SOCCER MILESTONE . . . Stanford grad **Christen Press** started her first match of the year, in her 100th career appearance with the U.S. women's national soccer team, and recorded both assists in a 2-1 victory over China in an international friendly Tuesday in Cleveland. Press became the 37th female player in U.S. history to reach the milestone, joining former Cardinal teammate **Kelley O'Hara**, who was the 36th player. The victory gave the USA (7-0-1) a two-game sweep of China, which has already qualified for next year's FIFA Women's World Cup . . . Stanford commit **Maya Doms** scored in the 76th minute, helping The United States U-17 women's national soccer team the title of the Concacaf Women's U-17 Championships at IMG Academy in Bradenton, Fla. Menlo School junior **Sophia Jones** was played a major role for the Americans.

OAKS REPORT . . . Menlo-Atherton High grad **Atlee Frechette** is stepping down from her post as men's volleyball coach at Menlo College to focus on the family business. Frechette spent four years coaching the women's volleyball team, winning two conference titles and earning the Coach of the Year honors in 2014. Last fall, she accepted the challenge of building a men's volleyball program at Menlo from scratch . . . Track and field coach **Dan Noel** also announced he is stepping down from his position at Menlo to pursue a law degree at UCLA.

ON THE AIR

Friday

USGA golf: U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills GC, N.Y., 1:30 p.m., KTVU

Saturday

USGA golf: U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills GC, N.Y., 8 a.m., KTVU

Sunday

USGA golf: U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills GC, N.Y., 7 a.m., KTVU

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Menlo-Atherton's Daniel Heimuli has spent part of his summer driving through corn fields and visiting the campuses of schools who have offered him football scholarships.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

M-A player has time to make the right decision

Bears' linebacker Heimuli weighing his options from 25 scholarship offers

Glenn Reeves

Menlo-Atherton football coach Adhir Ravipati and star recruit Daniel Heimuli were driving across the great Midwest when the phone call came. They were on their way from the University of Illinois to Iowa State on a recruiting trip by car that previously included visits to Ole Miss, TCU and defending national champion Alabama.

They were going to wrap up their trip with visits to the Cyclones in Ames, and to the Nebraska Cornhuskers before heading home.

"We're driving through nothing but corn fields, so this is a good

time to talk," Ravipati said.

Welcome to the world of Menlo-Atherton linebacker Daniel Heimuli, soon-to-be high school senior, who has received 25 full-ride scholarship offers from a who's-who of college football powers.

"It's a life-changing experience to be in this position," said Heimuli, after being handed the phone by his coach. "To be in this position I'm very humbled and grateful."

Ravipati and Heimuli began the trip with visits to TCU and Ole Miss. Then after a flight into Birmingham, they drove to Tuscaloosa to visit the facilities of the Crimson Tide.

They got a taste of how intently college football is followed in that part of the country.

"That morning at breakfast a mom and her kids came up to us and asked if they could take a picture with Daniel," Ravipati recounted. "I'm not sure if that would happen in Palo Alto."

Then, after a drive to the campus, they met Nick Saban.

"A real eye-opening experience," Ravipati said. "You could tell very quickly why they're the best program in the country. Amazing to see what they do to develop players."

It's also amazing how far Heimuli has come in one year.

He played on the M-A frosh-soph team as a sophomore before being called up to the varsity for the Central Coast Section playoffs. Not just to stand on the sidelines and soak in the atmosphere, but to play. And in the 2016 CCS Open Division I championship game against Milpitas, Heimuli was a force at inside linebacker in a 17-0 victory.

"We didn't want to rush Daniel," Ravipati said. "I thought he could line up and contribute in the playoffs. But I'm not going to say I thought he'd have six sacks and 20 tackles, like he did."

(continued on next page)

USA VOLLEYBALL

American men host fourth weekend of VNL

The U.S. meets Serbia, Poland and Iran over the weekend

Rick Eymmer

Stanford grads Erik Shoji and Kawika Shoji will join the rest of the United States' men's national volleyball team in the Chicago area as part of the FIVB Volleyball Nations League preliminary round this weekend.

The Americans (7-2) enter play against Serbia (6-3) on Friday in fourth place in the VNL and need to finish among the top five to earn a spot in the Final Round, which is scheduled for July 4-8 in Lille, France.

The U.S. will also play Poland (8-1) on Saturday and Iran (3-6) on Sunday.

The United States and Serbia (including Yugoslavia and Serbia and Montenegro) have met 24 times at world level major competitions, with the United States winning 10 of those matches. The U.S. won the last encounter, in the group stages of the 2017 World League.

Serbia is playing in the U.S. for the fifth time, with the Americans winning three of the past four, including the last meeting during the 2014 World League.

Benjamin Patch is the United States' top scorer with 100 points, which ranks him 12th overall. He's also 11th in hitting percentage at .503. Erik Shoji is one of



Stanford grad Erik Shoji is one of the top liberos in the world.

the top liberos in the world. He's 10th overall with a 10.37 efficiency rating in receiving.

Micah Christenson ranks fifth in digs with an 0.89 average per set.

The U.S. had four players in double figures in beating host

Canada, 23-25, 25-13, 25-19, 25-20, on Sunday in its last Volleyball Nations League match in Ottawa.

The U.S. led in kills (53-43), blocks (14-3) and aces (6-3) and scored 25 points on Canada's errors while committing 28. ■

First-year Gunn coach sees the possibilities

Miller pleasantly surprised by response

Glenn Reeves

There's no question that Jason Miller finds himself in a different situation as the newly-hired football coach at Gunn than he did at previous head coaching stops in Southern California at Inglewood, Verbum Dei and Dominguez. "Socio-economically it's different," Miller said. "But kids are kids. We've got some talent. Numbers are an issue, but they've been an issue whenever I've been. They're an issue up and down the Peninsula."

Having players miss summer workouts due to trips to Europe, college trips and foreign-exchange trips is a new experience for Miller, but he says he likes the response he's received.



Jason Miller

"I've been pleasantly surprised," he said. "The guys that are here have bought in. They're working out in the weight room more consistently than they ever have. People who have been around the program say they see an improvement in terms of commitment."

Gunn has won Central Coast Section championships in boys and girls swimming in the last three years, but success in football is a more distant memory. The Titans have had one winning season the last 15 years.

Miller had a good amount of success running a double-wing offense at his previous coaching stops. Gunn, with its lack of previous football success, presents a unique challenge. ■

M-A football

(continued from previous page)

Throughout his junior season, his first full season on varsity, the scholarship offers started pouring in for Heimuli.

"In that Milpitas game I weighed about 185, 190," Heimuli said. "My junior season I reached my goal of 220. I got stronger, stayed in the weight room all season, and still got faster. I developed as a player and as a person. I would like to thank coach Adhir, defensive coordinator Spencer Ryan, and my father (Tui Heimuli)."

In the spring, Heimuli took time off from the whirlwind recruiting process his meteoric rise on the football field occasioned

and played right field for the M-A baseball team.

"Daniel and I have been laughing about this for a while," Ravipati said. "His freshman and sophomore years I would tell him he's going to be a big-time football player in college and he would say to me, no, he was going to play college baseball. That just shows what a good athlete he is and how hard he works in the weight room."

Alabama's roster, like it always has, is populated primarily by players from the fertile recruiting area of the Deep South. But now the Crimson Tide, like the rest of the college world, has become aware of the Polynesian mother lode of talent out West. Freshman quarterback Tua Tagovailoa came

off the bench to lead 'Bama to a comeback victory over Georgia in the national championship game. Earlier this offseason, College of San Mateo defensive lineman Vita Musika, formerly of Milpitas High, signed with the Tide.

So now Heimuli has options to accept offers from virtually all the heavyweights of college football. He has received offers from 10 of 12 Pac-12 schools in addition to the Big 12, Big Ten and Southeast Conference schools he visited. He still has not visited LSU and Notre Dame, a couple of other big-time programs still under consideration.

Heimuli said, he would sit down with Ravipati after arriving home and put together a list, narrowing down his 25 offers to 10 finalists. ■

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NOTICE OF HEARING ON REPORT AND ASSESSMENT FOR WEED ABATEMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on May 18, 2018, the Fire Chief of the City of Palo Alto filed with the City Clerk of said city a report and assessment on abatement of weeds within said city, a copy of which is posted on the bulletin board at the entrance to the City Hall.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that on June 25, 2018 at the hour of 5:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter in the Council Chambers of said City Hall, said report and assessment list will be presented to the City Council of said City for consideration and confirmation, and that any and all persons interested, having any objections to said report and assessment list, or to any matter of thing contained therein, may appear at said time and place and be heard.

BETH D. MINOR
City Clerk

PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL

CIVIC CENTER, 250 HAMILTON AVENUE
 BROADCAST LIVE ON KZSU, FM 90.1
 CABLECAST LIVE ON GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL 26

THIS IS A SUMMARY OF COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS. THE AGENDA WITH COMPLETE TITLES INCLUDING LEGAL DOCUMENTATION CAN BE VIEWED AT THE BELOW WEBPAGE:

<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/agendas/default.asp>

AGENDA-SPECIAL MEETING-COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JUNE 18, 2018 AT 5:00 PM

Closed Session

1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS, Employee Organizations: 1) Utilities Management and Professional Association of Palo Alto (UMPAPA); 2) Service Employees International Union, (SEIU) Local 521; 3) Service Employees International Union, (SEIU) Local 521, Hourly Unit; 4) Palo Alto Police Officers' Association (PAPOA); 5) Palo Alto Fire Chiefs' Association (FCA) and Employee Organization: 6) International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), Local 1319; 7) Palo Alto Police Managers' Association (PAPMA)

Consent Calendar

3. Recommendation That the City Council Accept Audit Status Updates on Contract Oversight of Trenching Installation and Electric Substructure, Inventory Management, and Utility Metering
4. Recommendation That the City Council Accept the Status Updates of the Cash Handling, Travel Expense Audit, the Cable Franchise and PEG Fees Audit and the Payments Audit
5. Adoption of a Resolution Summarily Vacating Public Utility Easements at 333 West Charleston Road and 4202 Ruthelma Avenue
6. Adoption of a Resolution Summarily Vacating Public Utility Easement at 405 Curtner Avenue
7. Adoption of a Resolution Vacating Public Utility Easement at 4301-4329 El Camino Real
8. Approval of Contract Amendment Number 4 With Cypress Security, Inc. Increasing the Amount by \$330,000 for a Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$3,662,216, and Extend the Term of the Agreement to September 30, 2018 for Guard Monitoring Services at Palo Alto Caltrain Locations
9. Approval of Three General Services Contracts for Approximately \$2.0 Million per Year in Annual Expenses in the Wastewater Treatment Enterprise Fund: 1) Contract With Denali Water Solutions, LLC for Sludge Hauling Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,181,000 for a 3-Year Term; 2) Contract With Lystek International Limited in an Amount Not to Exceed \$3,649,000; and 3) Contract With Synagro-WWT, Inc. in an Amount Not to Exceed \$3,415,000, Both for Offsite Sludge Treatment Services for a 5-Year Term
10. Approval of Amendment Number 5 with C&S Engineers, Inc. Contract Number C15155208A in the Amount of \$119,227 for Construction Administration Services on the Airport Apron Reconstruction, Capital Improvement Program Project AP-16000
11. Adoption of an Updated Salary Schedule and Revised Compensation Plan for Unrepresented Limited Hourly Employees Effective July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2021
12. Approval of an Agreement with Concordia LLC for 18 Months in the Amount not to Exceed \$565,972 for Cubberley Community Center Master Plan and Visioning; Approval of a Cost Share Agreement with the Palo Alto Unified School District for up to \$332,986; and Approve Budget Amendments to Fund the Master Plan
13. Approval of Contract C18172547 with Integrated Design 360 for Development and Support of Sustainability Implementation Plan, Green Building Program, Deconstruction and Source Separation Program, Dewatering Monitoring Program and Utilities On-call Services Through June 30, 2019 for a Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$606,291

Action Items

14. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2019, Including Adoption of Operating and Capital Budgets and Municipal Fee Schedule

AGENDA-SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING-CHAMBERS
JUNE 19, 2018 AT 6:00 PM

Action Item

1. Rail Discussion

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The City School Liaison Committee will have a meeting on Thursday, June 21, 2018 at the Palo Alto Unified School District Offices at 8:00 A.M.

The Policy and Services Committee will have a meeting on Thursday, June 21, 2019 in the Community Meeting Room at 6:00 P.M. to discuss: 1) Staff Recommendation That the Policy and Services Committee Recommend the City Council Accept the Green Purchasing Audit Status Update; 2) Staff Recommendation That the Policy and Services Committee Recommend the City Council Accept the Status Update on the Audit of Parking Funds and Approve Consolidation of Residential Parking Funds; 3) Staff Recommendation That the Policy and Services Committee Recommend the City Council Accept the Status Update of the Community Services Department Fee Schedule Audit; 4) Staff Recommendation That the Policy and Services Committee Recommend the City Council Accept the Status Update on the Cross Bore Inspection Contract Audit; 5) Staff Recommendation That the Policy and Services Committee Recommend the City Council Accept the Status Update on the Accuracy of Water Meter Billing Audit; and 6) Auditor's Office Quarterly Report as of March 31, 2018

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