Ohlone's calm in eye of the storm
School Principal Susan Charles the focus of Mandarin immersion, management debates
Section 2

Upfront Palo Alto police to be armed with Tasers Page 3
Health & Fitness Heartbeats and drumbeats at Children's Hospital Page 41
Sports Palo Alto High teams win three of four league titles Page 45
A cable sale so big it’s making history.

And yes, we have a channel for that.

Call now to get our best deal of the year on Digital Cable with ON DEMAND.

With a FREE DVR for 12 Months!

- ON DEMAND—Tons of free movies and shows that are ready whenever you are.
- 45 channels of commercial-free music—Blues, World, Jazz, Classical and Alternative...24/7.
- Digital Video Recorder (DVR) is the easiest way to record your favorite shows. And watch them when it’s convenient for you.

Hurry! Sale ends May 31st.

Call Today
1-800-COMCAST

Comcast Digital Cable with ON DEMAND $19.99 a month thru the end of the year
Free installation PLUS a free DVR for 12 months!

Offer available to new residential customers or former residential customers whose accounts are in good standing and who have not had Comcast Cable service during the last 60 days (and is not available to former Comcast customers with unpaid balances), located in Comcast wired and serviceable areas. After promotional period standard rates and equipment charges apply. Certain services are available separately or as part of other levels of service. $19.99 a month through the end of 2007 applies to Enhanced Digital Cable only. Basic service subscription is required to receive other services or levels of service of video programming. Offer of free installation limited to standard installation to one existing cable outlet. Additional installation fees may apply. Pricing, programming, channel location and packaging may change. ON DEMAND requires subscription to a qualifying digital cable package and ON DEMAND selections subject to charge indicated at time of purchase. ON DEMAND programs are subject to change. After 12 months, a DVR monthly service fee of $6.99 applies. Subscribing to Digital Video Recorder (DVR) service may require a deposit or credit check. DVR installation fees apply. Not all services available in all areas. Certain restrictions apply. May not be combined with other discounts or offers. Call Comcast for restrictions, minimum requirements, and details about service and prices. Prices do not include applicable taxes or franchise fees. Use subject to Comcast Cable Agreement terms and conditions. ©2007 Comcast. All rights reserved. All other trademarks are property of their respective owners. Offer expires 5/31/07. Customer must be installed by 6/15/07.
Palo Alto police to carry Tasers

Council OKs stun guns on 5-4 vote, use permitted in situations where a gun can be drawn

by Becky Trout

Palo Alto's long-awaited decision on the acquisition of Tasers came down Monday night to a single vote by Councilwoman LaDoris Cordell. After a moment of hesitation, she agreed to a compromise broadening the criteria for firing the stun guns, forming a slim majority and giving the Police Department permission to arm officers with Tasers.

Cordell joined Vice Mayor Larry Klein and council members John Barton, Bern Beecham and Jack Morton on a compromise, conceived by Klein, which will allow officers to use a Taser whenever they are permitted to draw a gun.

Cordell had wanted to restrict Taser use to times when an officer would be permitted to use deadly force, or actually fire a gun, but without her vote, the department would have been left without Tasers.

An officer can only fire a gun when someone’s life is in danger. Police Chief Lynne Johnson protested Cordell’s proposal because an officer could choose to use a Taser but then be injured or killed by a gun or other weapon, she said.

The council’s vote leaves city staff with latitude to set a specific policy; there are no guidelines right now that specify when drawing a gun is appropriate, Johnson said.

Firearms can be drawn when an officer is entering a dark area, rounding a corner or approaching a fight in which weapons are used, according to Johnson and Assistant City Attorney Donald Larkin.

Larkin pledged to craft a policy that “makes sense” and accords with the council’s intent.

(continued on page 10)

SCHOOLS

Duveneck softens policy to ‘No rough touching’

New rules at elementary school were causing a stir

by Molly Tanenbaum

Springing forward

Students from Addison Elementary School make a dash down University Avenue during the 85th annual May Fête Children’s Parade on Saturday. The local event is the oldest and largest of its kind in Northern California. See additional photos on page 12.

Palo Alto Weekly • Wednesday, May 9, 2007 • Page 3
LOST ALTON VAULT & SAFE DEPOSIT CO.

A private depository
Safe deposit boxes of all sizes
Strict and total confidentiality
Secured and ample parking
For your own sake we should have your business.
Visit our facilities and judge for yourself.
Data bank for important and confidential records.

121 First Street, Palo Alto, CA 94302
Tel: 650-949-5891 www.lostaltosvault.com

IF IT’S NOT IN THIS VAULT, IT’S NOT SAFE.

WE ARE #1!
There is No #2
BELIEVE IT!

STUG

RED FLOWER SENTO BENTO

Authentic Japanese Flower oils
and herbs blend in this exhilarating
and revitalizing treatment. 90 minutes
Only $114.75 (regularly $125.00)
for the Month of May

RETAIL SPECIAL
15% off all Red Flower Sente Products.
for the Month of May

Gift cards available for any denomination
In person, by phone, or online.

Watercourse Way
Bathscape Way
286 Chalk Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301
650.462.2000
www.watercoursetw.com

SUBSCRIBE!
Support your local newspaper by becoming
a paid subscriber. $30 per year for
residents of our circulation area: $60 for
businesses and residents of other areas.

Name: _______________________________
Address: _______________________________
City: __________________________________

Create lasting memories with
unique gifts for Mother’s Day

Lotions • Soaps • Aromatherapy
Jewelry • Art Glass • Candles
Clocks • Handbags • Scarves
Handmade Cards for Mom

University Art
the annex
Downtown Palo Alto
Ramona and Hamilton • (650) 328-3500

Weekly

Tqfdjbmt!hppe!voujm!Nbz!42-!3118
6ISITOURFACILITIESANDJUDGEFORYOURSELF
&ORYOUROWNSAKEWESHOULDHAVEYOURBUSINESS

Weekly is available on the Internet via Palo Alto
Embarcadero Publishing Co. All rights reserved.
Currently receiving the paper, you may request free
delivery by calling 326-8210. POSTMASTER: Send
all subscription notices to Palo Alto Weekly, 703 High Street, Palo Alto, CA 94302.

Streets Team and the Business Im-
event to talk about the presence
related complications. “It formed two years ago.
and the community in general that
dug deep to fund it.
But that may have been the easy part.
Another collaborative effort is go-
ing to next month to try to end
on downtown Palo Alto streets.
panhandling to try to get them the
services they need to get off the street.
It’s an ambitious effort that will
take cooperation from police, the
courts, and the community to
and the office of general circu-
tion for Santa Clara County. The Palo Alto Weekly
is delivered free to homes in Palo Alto, Menlo Park,
Atherton, Portola Valley, East Palo Alto, to faculty
and staff households on the Stanford campus and
to porters of Los Altos Hills. If you are not cur-
rently receiving the paper, you may request free
delivery by calling 326-8210. POSTMASTER: Send
adres changes to Palo Alto Weekly, P.O. Box
1635, Palo Alto, CA 94302. Copyright 2003 by
Embarcadero Publishing Co. All rights reserved.
Reproduction without permission is strictly prohib-
ited. Printed by SPOR, Redwood City. The Palo Alto
Weekly is available on the Internet via Palo Alto

Our Tow
by Don Kazak

Trying to end panhandling

The Palo Alto community real-
alized a long-desired goal of
doing something meaningful
about the problem of homeless
people when the Opportunity Cen-
ter opened last September.

The tenants in the 89 apartments
include about 25 people who were
formerly known to Eileen Richard-
don of the Downtown Streets Teams
as people who lived on the street.
The Opportunity Center, which
includes two drop-in centers, was
a collaboration of the Community
Working Group, the City of Palo
Alto and the community in general

Pulse
Transitions
Spectrum
Movies
Sports
Classified

INDEX
23
24
26
31
45
54

... Transitions... Sports...

Palo Alto Weekly

Creating a long-desired goal of
something meaningful about the
problem of homeless people when
the Opportunity Center opened last
September, the tenants in the 89
apartments included about 25 people
who were formerly known to Eileen
Richardson as people who lived on
the street. The Opportunity Center,
which includes two drop-in centers,
was a collaboration of the Community
Working Group, the City of Palo Alto
and the community in general that
dug deep to fund it.
But that may have been the easy part.
Another collaborative effort is going
to next month to try to end panhandling
on downtown Palo Alto streets.
The effort will include reaching out
to those who panhandle to try to get
them the services they need to get off
the street.
It’s an ambitious effort that will
take cooperation from police, the
courts, the district attorney and
social service agencies.
About 75 downtown business
owners and others attended an April
10 forum to talk about the presence
of homeless people on downtown streets.
The business owners didn’t
like them sitting in doorways and
sometimes bothering shoppers with
what Mayor Yoriko Kishimoto calls
“aggressive panhandling.”
“People wouldn’t panhandle if it
wasn’t rewarding,” she said.
Richardson, who coordinates
the work of a dozen formerly un-housed
persons on the streets team, doesn’t
like panhandling for another rea-
son.
“Giving to homeless people is
killing them,” she said. “We lost
three over the holidays to alcohol-
related complications.”
She predicted some will resist the
effort.
“But I truly believe that help is
out there and anyone who wants it

City officials may sit next to pan-
handlers on University Avenue, try-
ning to dissuade people from giving
them money, Richardson said.
The mayor or city manager sitting in
front of Walgreen’s? It could happen.
The effort to end panhandling
will involve police in a program called
“restorative policing,” patterned on
a program begun by the San Rafael
Police Department in 1999.
“We use law enforcement to help
restore people back to the commu-
nity,” said San Rafael Officer Joe Fay,
who is also a psychologist. “We use
arrests as an opportunity for change.
We can’t fix these people but we can
got in touch with people who can help.
We focus on the people who are the
cause for calls for service.”

Instead of going to jail or being
put on probation for violating a law,
a street person will be asked, “Do
you want to do something differ-
ent?” That means the police are
close touch with mental health
programs and detox programs for
substance and alcohol abusers, he
said.
And it works.
“We have gotten them off the
street and said of chronically
mentally ill homeless persons who
used to get drunk in downtown San
Rafael,” said Richardson.
But it takes a lot of work. The San
Rafael police have two officers
assigned full time to the effort, along
with a full-time Marin County sher-
iff’s deputy.
Palo Alto Police Capt. Dennis
Burns envisions a similar effort.
“We’re trying to identify the
problematic panhandlers,” he said.
It will take “high-intensity case
management” to work, he added.
Who’s going to do the case man-
agement? Eileen Richardson smiled
and raised her hand, also mention-
ing two others who work for social
service agencies.
“Don’t honestly know everyone in
town, 175 homeless people,” she
said.
Senior Staff Writer Don Ka-
zak can be e-mailed at dkazak@
pawekly.com.

City: ___________________________________
Hundred-year-old Palo Alto Bread site to be restored

Property owners to cash in on city's incentives for historic redevelopment

by Molly Tanenbaum

Before Palo Altans could buy sourdough batards at Whole Foods and fresh croissants at the Pasticc Oven, there was Palo Alto Bread.

Sold a century ago, Palo Alto Bread was a popular product of Thompson’s Bakery. It was baked on Homer Avenue in a building constructed in 1907. As the business boomed, the baked goods were later distributed through the adjacent store, built in 1925.

That white stucco building at Homer and Emerson Street, which later became home to a warehouse facility and then a janitorial-supply store, still has the words “Thompson’s Bakery” and “Palo Alto Bread” on its facade.

But on the inside, water damage, peeling plaster and broken windows have put both buildings in states of disrepair.

Thanks to the property owners, the Kruss family, and to special historic-restoration incentives in Palo Alto, the old bakery buildings will soon receive a freshening-up for future tenants.

“I’m excited to see this project go on and see it be a part of Palo Alto’s history,” said Kacey Parker, a member of the Kruss family.

The Krusses bought the pair of buildings in 1962 to operate Richco, a janitorial-supply store. Both sites have played a significant role in the Kruss family’s lives.

“My kids grew up playing in these buildings,” said Parker, who now lives in Hawaii. “I’d like to memorialize the buildings for future generations.

His daughter, Kim Brosling, who lives in Soquel, remembers climbing around the boxes in the store, and she also remembers how her grandfather, Richard Kruss, used to say he wanted a business that sold items people needed to buy over and over again.

For nearly 40 years, Richco supplied the Palo Alto area with “paper, chemicals, janitorial supplies and equipment,” said Parker’s mother, Lorraine Kruss, 88, who handled all the bookkeeping for the store and lives in Menlo Park.

“There’s nothing more expendable than toilet tissue,” she quipped.

In 1976, Parker’s brother Jerry Kruss opened up a locksmith business next door to Richco, which he still runs today.

“There’s a personal connection (of the family) to the property,” said Michael Garavaglia, a San Francisco-based preservation architect who prepared historic structure reports for both buildings last fall.

“That does tend to create more of a stewardship mentality as opposed to, ‘How much money can we make from this thing?’”

Last week, at the start of Historic Preservation Month, Palo Alto’s Historic Resources Board approved plans to restore 210 and 212 Homer to enhance the nostalgic flavor of the block’s historic commercial row.

“These are really choice buildings, and we appreciate so much the custodianship of these buildings,” board member Beth Bunnenberg said.

The cornflower-blue building from 1907, originally the bakery storefront, houses a shop called The Parlor and is the second-oldest intact storefront in Palo Alto, according to a city staff report by Palo Alto Historic Preservation Planner Dennis Backlund.

The oldest storefront is 540 Emerson St. at University Avenue, which dates to 1904.

The white stucco, steel-frame 1925 building is vacant.

Both buildings are in need of repairs. The 1907 site needs seismic-safety upgrades; the other has an out-of-date water-hydraulic freight elevator that requires an operator.

The elevator needs to be replaced by a passenger elevator that can accommodate wheelchair users.

Historic restoration is not cheap, but the Kruss family will be able to cash in on an economic incentive from the city to help pay for the work.

Both buildings are on Palo Alto’s historic-resource list for the South of Forest Avenue area plan, so the property owners will receive valuable “transferable development rights.”

The rights include allowing an additional 2,500 square feet to be added per building, plus exemption from requirements to provide parking spaces — or an in-lieu fee — for the additional square footage.

Parker plans to sell the development rights to another property owner or developer and use the proceeds to fund the building restoration. The hope is that the project will pay for itself.

He joked that he could hold a raffle — or auction off the square-footage rights on eBay.

With this economic incentive to owners of historic buildings, the city holds on to its older, smaller buildings that a developer or property owner might otherwise want to tear down.

“It reinforces the idea that incentives work for historic preservation,” board member Martin Bernstein said.

When the rehabilitation of both buildings is complete later on this year, the Kruss family will seek tenants for the ground floor of the vacant 1925 building and for upstairs offices.

Project architect Lee Lippert said a “very exciting prospective tenant” has already expressed interest in the ground floor, though he would not reveal the type of business it would be.

Could it be more Palo Alto Bread?

Staff Writer Molly Tanenbaum can be e-mailed at mtanenbaum@pawEEKLY.com.
simple... color

In simply beautiful pendants and earrings. See the possibilities at our special Mother’s Day Show

Thursday, May 10 - Sunday, May 13
An Expanded Collection and Special Pricing

Gleim the Jewelers
322 University Ave., Palo Alto • (650) 323-1331 250 Main Street, Los Altos • (650) 949-1122
Stanford Shopping Center • (650) 325-3533 gleimjewelers.com

Around Town

KLEINBERG’S NEW JOB... Councilwoman Judy Kleinberg has parlayed her expertise in disaster preparedness into a new position with Google.org’s new start-up INSTEDD (which will soon have a new name, Kleinberg told The San Jose Mercury News). She left her position as a vice president with Joint Venture Silicon Valley on April 13 to join the branch office of Larry Brilliant, physician and entrepreneur, which aims to prevent, control and lessen potential disasters such as an epidemic, famine or climate change by marrying technology with the know-how of governments, nonprofits and other organizations. Kleinberg will coordinate the effort from a California Avenue office. She’s already so busy she didn’t have time to return calls.

FARMER’S MARKET TIME... Summer must really be close, because Saturday, May 12 marks the opening of the 26-year-old Farmer’s Market on Gilman Street, behind the Palo Alto Post Office downtown. Early risers can get the market moving at 8 a.m., but slug-a-bugs have till noon to buy their fresh produce.

SHOOTING TO SUCCESS... Those who got a glimpse of the 2007 calendar featuring members of the Downtown Streets Team know that Megan Richardson — daughter of team director Eileen Richardson — is a talented photographer. So it should come as no surprise that she’s been nominated in two categories for an Evvy, described by her doting mother as the largest student-run awards show in the United States. Sponsored by Emerson College, the May 12 awards show will be on TV in Boston, but here in Palo Alto, you can tune into a live web cast at www.evvy-awards.org/26/. Check the site for times.

BETTERING THE BAYLANDS... A lot is happening in the Baylands. The City of Palo Alto recently extended its partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey to sample sediment, clam contamination and ecosystem diversity in the Baylands. Data collection began in 1974 and has shown “dramatic decreases” in pollutant levels in clams, according to spokesman Mark Schwartz. Five new members were recently added. Steven Block, a professor of sciences, studies applied physics and biology. His research uses “optical tweezers” to study biological molecules. Karen Cook, a professor of sociology, directs the Institute for Research in the Social Sciences. Educated at Stanford, Cook researches social networks, bargaining, social justice and trust. Michael Fayer, a professor of chemistry, uses lasers to study molecular processes, structure and interactions. David Laitin, professor of political science, researches how language and religion connect nations with a state. W.E. Moerner, professor of chemistry, researches physical chemistry, biophysics, nanophotonics and nanoparticle trapping.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

History isn’t just about the good parts; it isn’t just about the things we would like to remember. It’s about everything.

— Historic Review Board member Susan Haviland, on a proposal to save only the façade of a historic building on University Avenue. See page 9.
Palo Alto man, 73, bikes across country

Berndt's journey is captured with video, blogging, memories

by Becky Trout

Palo Alto's Martin Berndt braved 120-degree temperatures, aggressive dogs and three mountain ranges on his cross-country bike adventure last summer.

Not bad for being on the brink of his 73rd birthday.

Berndt's age gave him pause, but he didn't let it hold him back from a journey he'd been thinking about for some time.

"I was hoping I could still do it," Berndt said.

Tall and fit, Berndt has a neat silver beard, glasses and a slight accent from his childhood in Argentina, where he grew up with his 11 siblings.

The retired Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC) engineer recounted his adventure recently at Trinity Lutheran Church, the congregation he has been a member of since the 1960s. The trip was chronicled on a blog by journalist Bill Cook.

Berndt commuted for years to SLAC by bike and he's a veteran of week-long trips, but a 48-day trek across the country — from Washington's Puget Sound to the foot of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. — was new to him.

The ride celebrated the 30th anniversary of a historic 1976 cross-country race organized by Adventure Cyclist, a bicycle touring nonprofit.

And he almost missed the chance to go.

Following the suggestion of his wife, Heidi, Berndt applied for the trip in fall 2005 only to find it was already full. So it was a bit of a surprise when he got a call in May 2006, just weeks before the June 22 departure, notifying him of an empty spot.

He grabbed it — and threw himself into a last-minute training regimen.

With only a few weeks of preparation, Berndt packed his bike for the flight and flew to Seattle, where the riders dipped their rear wheels in Puget Sound.

Just three days in, one of the cyclists was killed by a car. Berndt called it a "freak accident." It occurred in eastern Washington state, on a rarely traveled road, he said.

The biker was riding a recumbent, a bike that sits low to the ground.

"We never got the whole story," Berndt said.

The experience was sobering, and unifying. No one dropped out at that time, Berndt said.

Another biker was later hit by a car but recovered.

Berndt himself had to make a trip to the hospital after he was bitten by a dog. (On a) boring Saturday morning in Minnesota, what better thing is a dog to do than chase cyclists?" Berndt asked.

The trip was "supported," meaning riders did not have to carry their gear and could grab a ride if they weren't feeling great that day.

"I'm no Superman when it comes to bicycle riding," Berndt said, noting he averaged about 13.5 miles per hour.

He didn't miss any of the 40 riding days but admits he missed a few miles in Pennsylvania by sneaking off the trail to check out the Frank Lloyd Wright–designed house, Fallingwater.

Overall, the trip didn't allow much time for sightseeing, with bikers taking off half an hour before dawn each day and biking about 88 miles a day.

They camped nearly every night.

"I slept like a baby," Berndt said.

The toughest riding was in hilly Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, he said. The site where Flight 93 crashed on Sept. 11, 2001, was perhaps the most moving sight, Berndt said.

His 73rd birthday party — organized by his family and replete with Argentine wine and a cake — was also a memorable day, he said.

Berndt, an engineer, amused himself on the long days by playing with Argentinean wine and a cake — was also a memorable day, he said.

Berndt, an engineer, amused himself on the long days by playing with Argentinean wine and a cake — was also a memorable day, he said.

He spent 260 hours sitting on the bike when he felt confident.

"I didn't want to crash," he said.

He spent 260 hours sitting in the saddle. "Boy, do you sure get sore," he said.

He had three flat tires overall and encountered a top ambient temperature of 120 degrees in the Badlands of South Dakota.

Wife Heidi met him in D.C.

"I just think he's such an inspiration for everybody," fellow Trinity Lutheran member Norma Hesterman said. She followed the blog avidly while during the ride.

Heidi tracked Berndt's progress on a large map of America, placing a pin to mark his current location so she could answer her grandchildren's query: "Where is Opa?"

"He's incredible," daughter Esther Berndt said. "I'm very thankful for his health."

With luck, Berndt hopes to bike next from Vancouver to Tijuana.

Cook's blog is available at http://washingtonbureau.typepad.com/bikeblog.

Staff Writer Becky Trout can be e-mailed at btrout@paweekly.com.
Stanford Continuing Studies presents:

An Evening Lecture by
Master Photographer Linda Connor

Stanford Continuing Studies is pleased to welcome Linda Connor, whose distinguished career as a photographer is matched by her contributions to the photographic community in the Bay Area. A professor at the San Francisco Art Institute since 1969, she has had more than 60 individual exhibits in the US, Europe, and Japan and has been included in more than 30 major group exhibitions. In 2002, she founded PhotoAlliance. This evening lecture is free and open to the public, and will precede a daylong, hands-on master class, in which students will have a rare opportunity to study in a small group with one of the most well regarded and experienced photographers practicing in the Bay Area today.

Friday, May 11
7:00 pm
Annenberg Auditorium, Cummings Art Building
Stanford University
Free and Open to the public

For more information on the workshop please visit csp.stanford.edu

---

ON THE WEB: The latest local news headlines at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

News Digest

Harrison drops appeal of discipline

In a two-sentence statement, Assistant City Manager Emily Harrison has withdrawn her appeal of her three-week suspension, according to Melanie Poturica, an attorney managing Harrison’s case for Palo Alto.

Harrison said she learned of the withdrawal May 3 via a voice mail from Jeremy Pasternak, Harrison’s San Francisco attorney. Poturica said she hasn’t seen the statement but doesn’t think it gives a reason for the move.

Harrison appealed her three-week suspension without pay on April 5 or 6. She also has filed a claim for “unknown/accruing” damages. Claims are generally the first step toward filing a lawsuit against the city.

Poturica said Monday she believes the claim is still valid. Neither Harrision nor Pasternak have returned numerous calls from the Weekly.

—Becky Trout

Longtime Palo Alto barber dies

Hal Lesser, known as Hal of London, died May 4 after a long illness. He had been a barber in Palo Alto and Mountain View for 37 years.

His first Hal of London barber shop was in downtown Palo Alto on Ramona Street. He later moved his shop to Mountain View and had been in a shop on El Camino Way in Palo Alto for more than the last decade.

Funeral services were held Monday. He was 79 years old.

Lesser was a native of England and his barbershop had mementos of the Queen. He had lived in New Orleans before coming to the Bay Area.

His shop also had a chessboard set up, waiting for a game. Lesser would sometimes speak to the City Council on issues important to him.

His family included his wife, two surviving sons in California, two daughters in New Orleans, a granddaughter and two grandsons.

—Don Kazak

Police arrest driver after wild midnight chase

Palo Alto police arrested a driver shortly after midnight Saturday after first chasing his car and then breaking off pursuit because of high speed.

But the driver’s recklessness caught up to him.

Officers continued to follow in the direction the driver was going, saw debris strewn across the road along with a crashed car, and then saw the car they had been chasing also stopped, with no driver inside, Sgt. Sandra Brown said.

A witness told officers that the driver had fled on foot, and they were later able to locate and arrest him.

Juan Ruiz, 22, of San Carlos, was charged with felony hit-and-run.

The chase started when officers saw Ruiz, driving without headlights at Hamilton Avenue, turn the wrong way onto High Street, a one-way street.

Brown said. Ruiz failed to yield to officers after turning onto El Camino Real, Brown said, and police broke off the chase south of California Avenue because of Ruiz’s “reckless driving and high speeds.”

Officers continued south on El Camino and saw a wrecked Toyota across the center divide, with the car Ruiz was driving a few hundred feet away. Two people in the Toyota received significant injuries and were taken to Stanford Hospital. A small dog in their car was injured and taken to a veterinarian.

Ruiz was finally located on foot trying to get a ride at Page Mill Road and Junipero Sierra Boulevard, where he was arrested. He had minor arm and leg injuries.

—Don Kazak

Wells Fargo to buy local bank group

Wells Fargo & Co. will purchase Greater Bay Bancorp, which has 41 banks in the Bay Area, including Mid-Peninsula Bank in Palo Alto.

The transaction, announced Thursday, is expected to be completed later this year. Wells Fargo will pay Greater Bay Bancorp approximately $1.5 billion in the transaction. East Palo Alto-based Greater Bay Bancorp has $7.4 billion in assets. Its shareholders will receive Wells Fargo stock.

—Don Kazak
“I’m still not used to not having Albertson’s around. In the evening, you could just dash out to the store to get milk or bread,” said Hazel Prince, 79, as she ate a $2 lunch at the East Palo Alto Senior Center recently.

“We definitely need a supermarket. I have to go to Safeway (in Midtown, Palo Alto), and I can’t drive at night. It’s very limited. The shuttle would take us to Albertson’s. Now we have to get there the best way we can,” added 73-year-old Bertha Price.

The senior center’s free shuttle bus does take seniors shopping, but carrying a week’s worth of groceries is burdensome for seniors, some of whom walk with canes. Senior Center Receptionist and Administrator Roxanne Corona said.

“It’s very tedious,” she added.

Some residents rely on family, neighbors or carpools for rides to larger stores, traveling as far as Redwood City for discounts at FoodsCo, Costco or Grocery Outlet. Residents without a ride are stuck, they said.

“My mom and dad don’t have cars. It’s very hard on them. It’s inconvenient, so they come to the corner store. They charge more here for the convenience,” said Martha Reed.

Reed estimated half of her pay goes toward groceries — costing nearly $250 per month for her family of four children, while other residents estimated they spend $75 a week to feed a family of five. Buying only at the small stores causes some residents to do without, they said.

“Sometimes, you are prevented from buying certain things. You can’t afford it,” Jose Mattias said.

“You limit yourself. You can’t buy noodles or meat every day,” Maritza Garcia added.

Mattias and Garcia are adult students in an English as a Second Language (ESL) class run by the nonprofit Nuestra Casa. They recently focused on healthy eating as part of their acculturation studies.

The students began to compare grocery offerings with that of other cities.

“It had us asking why things cost so much more in East Palo Alto than on the other side of the freeway,” Garcia said.

That’s not only at small stores, they added.

“Six bottles of water at Walgreens cost $2; at Home Depot, they cost $5,” Mattias said.

Essentials such as water, meat, milk and juice cost considerably more, the students said.

Lack of access to a supermarket can impede healthy eating. Mattias added, since small markets’ offerings are more limited.

Local stores also carry a preponderance of sugary items, such as orange punch, and little in the way of healthy alternatives, the students said. Advertised as orange juice, the orange drinks contain only 5 percent real juice, they said. Real orange juice is hard to come by.

However, the small markets do stock many specialty items familiar to the city’s diverse ethnic groups, East Palo Alto City Councilwoman Patricia Foster said.

The stores carry foods such as chicken feet, banana leaves and tapioca.

“They are neighborhood stores. They have (more of) what you find in your homeland. Even if a large store attempts to service ethnic groups, there are some special things the small stores will only carry,” Foster noted.

Despite years of residents’ advocacy for bringing a grocery store to East Palo Alto, no grocery store is planned for the city at this time.

It was hoped that development planned for the 6-acre parcel purchased by Barry Swenson Builder at Bay Road and University Avenue would include a grocery store, but the city hit a snag with the builder’s proposal for a 10-story structure, according to Foster.

Despite years of residents’ advocacy for bringing a grocery store to East Palo Alto, no grocery store is planned for the city at this time. It was hoped that development planned for the 6-acre parcel purchased by Barry Swenson Builder at Bay Road and University Avenue would include a grocery store, but the city hit a snag with the builder’s proposal for a 10-story structure, according to Foster.

“I’m not optimistic. It will probably happen, but not for a very long time,” she said.

Swenson did not return phone calls.

Even if a large grocery store is built in the city, people will still come to smaller stores for the convenience. Countrytime Market Store Manager Sammy Abrahim said. Smaller stores also offer something people can’t put a price on: They are more in touch with the community, he said.

But sometimes, if not everything, counts for much, he conceded.

“People go by the name — such as ‘Safeway’ or ‘Albertson’s’ — and decide not to go there and the store will suffer,” he noted.

■ Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be e-mailed at sdremann@pawEEKLY.com.

When it comes to preserving a historic building, is saving just the façade enough?

That question caused dissention during a preliminary review of a historic rehabilitation project on two buildings on University Avenue with the Architectural Review Board and the Historic Resources Board last week.

The two buildings, 317 and 323 University Ave., currently house the Modallian Rug Gallery and were designed by famed Palo Alto architect Birge Clark.

One building, 323, dates from 1925 and is considered historic. Its flat-fronted neighbor at 317 is from the 1940s and is not on the city’s list of historic buildings.

The proposed project, by architect Ken Hayes, would demolish 317 University and all but the front 13 feet of 323 University, keeping the historic façade intact with its row of narrow, arched windows and shallow, sloped tile roof — and build a new, three-story, 45-foot-tall building.

The second and third stories would be recessed from the street so as not to detract from the historic building.

“We feel it takes a backseat to what happens at the street edge,” Hayes said.

While Architectural Review Board (ARB) members focused on the attractiveness of the new structure proposed for 317 University and of the three-story, mixed-use addition behind it, Historic Resources Board (HRB) members were concerned about whether or not the project constituted historic rehabilitation of 323 University.

The Historic Resources Board was highly critical of the preliminary proposal, feeling that most of the 1925 building would be lost except the façade. By doing so, “you end up having a Hollywood stage front,” HRB Chair Michael Makinen said.

“It seems like the historic façade is being swallowed up by this presentation,” Makinen’s fellow board member Martin Bernstein added.

In addition, the building’s long, narrow interior and mezzanine would disappear if the two ground floors became merged.

“It’s going to be an extremely difficult problem,” HRB member Zoe Wong-Van Haren said.

To the rescue

Lisa Konie (left) introduces Jet, a 5-year-old Red-shouldered Hawk, to the public at Wildlife Rescue Day at Mitchell Park on Saturday afternoon. Below, Zoe Wong-Van Haren and her mother, Nerissa, hold Yankee, a 16-year-old eagle snare during the festivities. Wildlife Rescue takes in about 1,800 injured wild animals each year from Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View. The group is able to rehabilitate and release more than half of them.
Council (continued from page 3)

The vote displaced an earlier move by council members Peter Drekmeyer and Dena Mossar to hold off on purchasing Tasers until independent studies prove them safe.

Most research on Tasers has been funded by manufacturer Taser International, the Taser Task Force learned. After four hours of meetings, the nine-member Task Force recommended acquiring the weapons, with a tight governing policy, on a 7-2 vote.

Councilwoman Judy Kleinberg said she believed someone merely exercising bad judgment, such as a teenage boy running from the police, could be shocked. There are just so many unknowns. Equally unknown for me is the why. I just can’t get my head around the why,” Mossar said.

Tasers are necessary to protect officers and give them an option that doesn’t require physical contact with an aggressor, Johnson said. Palo Alto police had to use force that resulted in injury eight times in 2006, Johnson said, but she could not say how many of those incidents could have been improved by the use of a Taser.

Several council members noted that Tasers will never be proven safe and that delaying the issue again — the Human Resources Commission debated Tasers nearly three years ago — would be ditching their responsibility to make tough decisions for the city.

Since the council and public trust officers with guns, they should also trust them to use Tasers appropriately, Burt said.

Barton said he entered the meeting leaning slightly toward voting against Tasers, partially because he has been concerned about the need for them in Palo Alto.

Klein said the choice is not between shocking someone with a weapon and resolving the matter peacefully. The use of clubs or pepper spray isn’t “pretty” either, she said.

Tasers deploy two prongs up to 25 feet, sending an incapacitating shock through a target.

Campaign (continued from page 3)

Arthur Keller, a first-term planning commissioner, is also considering a run.

“I would be a positive influence on the City Council,” Keller said. He just isn’t sure he has enough time for his position with Minerva Consulting, a tech and sustainability firm he runs with his wife, and the council.

Realtor Dan Dykwel — who organized the Black and White Ball with his wife, Sunny, and served on the Blue Ribbon Task Force on police headquarters — said he will know within a week whether he will form a committee to run for council.

Dykwel is also a member of the facilities-review committee for the Palo Alto Unified School District. Skip Justman, a real estate attorney and 40-year Palo Alto resident, said he will make a decision by the end of July. Justman ran for the City Council in 1979, 2003 and 2005.

Karen Holman, chair of the Planning and Transportation Commission and a council candidate in 2006, said her planning consulting business is too busy to allow her to run for the council this year.

Other names that are being mentioned by insiders include Debbie Mytelts, Midtown resident and environmental activist; Rick Ferguson, an engineer, attorney and former head of the Utilities Advisory Commission; and Jon Foster, a co-leader of the schools’ Measure A campaign who is also involved in the Alma Plaza debate.

But Burt, 55, is the only one who has formed a committee and kicked off fundraising efforts.

He’s starting with a powerful committee with honorary members Supervisor Liz Kniss, Mayor Yoriko Kihara and Councilwoman Judy Kleinberg.

He’s lived in Palo Alto for 27 years and served on the Planning and Transportation Commission, including two stints as chair, for nine years.

Burt said he’s eager to explore ways of streamlining Palo Alto’s management structure while boosting its infrastructure and commitment to the youth and seniors.

“Lobbying and protecting” is how he is interested in how we can do a better job with limited resources,” Burt said.

Burt said he advocates for “sensible land use” that reconciles the interests of disparate groups.

Burt is a Santa Clara Valley native whose grandparents rented the same Harriet Street house he now lives in. He graduated from U.C. Santa Barbara with a degree in English and is married to Sally Bemus and has two children, Jordan, 13, and Riley, 10.

Burt is the president of Acteron Corporation, a San Carlos high-tech company, and has served on various boards to promote corporate environmental responsibility, he said.

Burt said he expects to decline contributions from organizations or businesses “who have a strong personal financial interest in decisions of the City Council.”

The period to file for candidacy extends from July 16 to August 10, City Clerk Donna Rogers said. Staff Writer Becky Trout can be e-mailed at btrout@paweekly.com.
A Heartfelt Thanks to Our Employees, Medical Staff and Volunteers.

Their dedication makes all the difference.

Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital and Stanford Hospital & Clinics want to honor the devoted men and women who bring their expertise and compassion with them every day. In doing so, they provide our patients with the excellent care for which we are renowned. It is with great pride that we salute the efforts of the employees, medical staff and volunteers of our institutions. Their contributions are invaluable.
SPAGO LEAVING TOWN . . .

Spago, the high-end downtown Palo Alto restaurant known for its fine food and high prices, is pulling out of Palo Alto at the end of May to concentrate on other directions, such as alliances with luxury hotels, the Wolfgang Puck chain of restaurants announced Friday. Call it a delayed victim of the 2001 dotcom bust, perhaps, when empty tables replaced waiting lines. Spago management dropped a big hint of changing directions last January — reported in Shop Talk — when it announced it would not do its annual gourmet Passover Seder; personally prepared by Puck and always sold out for the six years it has been presented. No word yet on the fate of other Spagos in Beverly Hills, Las Vegas and Maui. The Palo Alto Spago has about 50 employees, some of whom may be able to transfer to the dozen or so other restaurants owned by Puck, including the award-winning Postrio in San Francisco. The impending departure has started a flurry of talk and phone calls about a replacement restaurant for the historic building, which dates from 1927 when it was built to house the Tinney & Sons Mortuary. Tinney later combined with Roll & Haagpood, and the building began a new life as a restaurant when it was remodeled to become The Gatehouse in 1974. After a 20-year run during which it became a community fixture, The Gatehouse gave way to Stars restaurant in 1985, owned by a group of 80 Silicon Valley investors who put in about $2 million in upgrades. But after a couple of bumpy years, the investors switched horses, or celebrity chefs, and teamed up with Wolfgang Puck, with a major redesign of the interior by architect Adam Tinany. “Money poured in,” General Manager and partner Alex Riesnek told a Weekly food reviewer last year, until the bust of 2001 left empty tables. “It was more than 20 years ago that CP&W took over two storefronts in one building. One of the storefronts was the paint side, the other the wallpaper/drapery side. Now it is back to the original plan — everything sits vacant until a new tenant can be found.

HOT MANGO PICKLE . . .

Sounds like a condiment or a restaurant or a non-sequitor. Wrong on all counts. It’s Bry-ant Street’s latest offering in the home-decor market. Opened last month, downtown’s newest boutique is located at 334 California Ave., the former site of Draper’s. California Paint and Wallpaper, 360 California Ave., halved itself. It was more than $2 million in upgrades. But after a couple of bumpy years, the investors switched horses, or celebrity chefs, and teamed up with Wolfgang Puck, with a major redesign of the interior by architect Adam Tinany. “Money poured in,” General Manager and partner Alex Riesnek told a Weekly food reviewer last year, until the bust of 2001 left empty tables. “It was more than 20 years ago that CP&W took over two storefronts in one building. One of the storefronts was the paint side, the other the wall- paper/drapery side. Now it is back to the original plan — everything sits vacant until a new tenant can be found.

CALIFORNIA PAINT SHRINKS . . .

More changes are taking place just down the street from the Draper’s site. California Paint and Wallpaper, 360 California Ave., halved itself. It was more than 20 years ago that CP&W took over two storefronts in one building. One of the storefronts was the paint side, the other the wall- paper/drapery side. Now it is back to the original plan — everything sits vacant until a new tenant can be found.

Preservation (continued from page 9)

one,” HRB member Susan Havi- land said.

The Architectural Review Board focused on how the new façade at 317 University — which Hayes designed with a row of narrow windows reflecting its neighbor — would fit in with the 1925 façade. Those board members lauded Hayes’ preservation efforts on 323 University.

“The original building is a façade,” he said.

But Haviland challenged the notion that only the charming building elements, or as she called it, “the pretty piece in the front,” should be saved in the name of historic pres- ervation.

“History isn’t just about the good parts; it’s not just about the things we would like to remember. It’s about everything,” she said.

The two buildings are owned by Barry Real Estate. The older building used to house David Keeble’s photography store while Barry Family Shoes sold footwear in the 1940s building next door, Palo Alto Historic Preservation Planner Den- nis Backlund said.

Utilizing a 2,500-square-foot bonus given to historic-preservation projects as well as purchased transfer-of-development rights, the finished product could be 15,000 square feet if approved as proposed.

The ability to use the historic preservation square-footage bonus could depend on the HRB’s opinion of whether or not 323 University is truly being preserved. Hayes said he is not sure yet whether the Medallion Rug Gallery would stay in the buildings after the project is complete.

The two buildings are owned by Barry Real Estate. The older building used to house David Keeble’s photography store while Barry Family Shoes sold footwear in the 1940s building next door, Palo Alto Historic Preservation Planner Dennis Backlund said.

Utilizing a 2,500-square-foot bonus given to historic-preservation projects as well as purchased transfer-of-development rights, the finished product could be 15,000 square feet if approved as proposed.

The ability to use the historic preservation square-footage bonus could depend on the HRB’s opinion of whether or not 323 University is truly being preserved. Hayes said he is not sure yet whether the Medallion Rug Gallery would stay in the buildings after the project is complete.
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.

LOS ALTOS HILLS – Exquisitely designed 5bd/4.5ba Tudor home with incredible view of mountains, green belt and vineyards. Pool, 2 koi ponds, hot tub, gazebo, 2 fountains. 2 offices, wine cellar, exercise room and more. $6,495,000

Teresa Budzich
650.543.1044
tbudzich@apr.com

LOS ALTOS HILLS – Set on mostly level 1.96+/-acres. This custom built home offers stunning architectural details and immaculately modern design. Superior craftsmanship and luxurious amenities. $4,995,000

Jenny Teng
650.543.1023
jteng@apr.com

PORTOLA VALLEY – Remodeled 6200+/-sf estate located on 2.6+/-acre private setting. 5 bedrooms, library, possible 6-car tandem garage, tennis court. Very usable lot. Only 5 minutes to I-280. $4,250,000

Connie Linton
650.543.1037
clinton@apr.com

LOS ALTOS HILLS – Build your dream home on this private and serene 8.5+/-acre lot. There is an existing 2bd/2ba ranch style home to live in while you build and then could be used as guest cottage. $3,995,000

Alan Dunckel
650.543.1074
adunckel@apr.com

LOS ALTOS HILLS – From the moment one enters this light-filled 5bd/2.5ba home there is a sense of quiet charm and relaxation. Open flowing floor plan has ample formal and informal spaces and a secluded garden setting. $3,695,000

Pamela Culp
650.543.1051
pculp@apr.com

LOS ALTOS HILLS – Set on mostly level 1.96+/-acres. This custom built home offers stunning architectural details and immaculately modern design. Superior craftsmanship and luxurious amenities. $4,995,000

Scott and Shary Symon
650.543.1125
650.543.1079
smsymon@apr.com
ssymon@apr.com

PALO ALTO – Nearly 5000+/-sf home on an 18,295+/-sf lot. 6bd/5ba. Wonderful great room, separate dining room. Large living room and 3-car garage. Totally remodeled. Gunn High School. Call for Price

Scott and Shary Symon
650.543.1125
650.543.1079
smsymon@apr.com
ssymon@apr.com

OPEN SUNDAY

COMING SOON

APR COUNTRIES | Santa Clara | San Mateo | San Francisco | Alameda | Contra Costa | Monterey | Santa Cruz

apr.com | PALO ALTO OFFICE 578 University Avenue 650.323.1111
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.

Suzie Provo
650.543.1020
sprovo@apr.com

Palo Alto – Stunning custom 4bd/3ba home in prime Midtown. Over 2600+/-sf. Sunny atrium/family room, kitchen with granite counters. Solar hot water. Hardwood floors. This one is a 10.

$1,849,000

Sherry Bucolo
650.543.1060
smbuco@apr.com

Palo Alto – Stunning new construction on 8,700+/-sf lot. 5bd/4ba Craftsman-style home with quality appointments. Kitchen/FR opens to a lovely backyard.

Call for Price

Colleen Foraker
650.543.1043
cforaker@apr.com

Palo Alto – Classic 3bd/2ba California Craftsman bungalow with separate soundproof studio in prestigious Crescent Park, just a few blocks from downtown Palo Alto.

$1,699,000

Arti Miglani
650.543.1015
amiglani@apr.com

Palo Alto – Spacious upgraded Eichler. 5bd/3ba, 2450+/-sf with 8120+/-sf lot. Close to Duveneck, Lucie Stern Community Center, Rinconada Park, Eleanor Park and main library.

$1,699,000

Pamela Culp
650.543.1051
pculp@apr.com

Palo Alto – Charming 4bd/3ba Craftsman style home. Finest quality appointments. Hardwood floors in the central areas. Separate dining room and family room off the kitchen allow for both casual living and formal entertaining.

$1,695,000

Pam Page
650.543.1028
ppage@apr.com

Palo Alto – Custom built in 2001 2bd/2ba contemporary designed home. Soaring, curved paneled ceilings, high transom windows, designer hardware and fixtures. Chef’s kitchen. Close to downtown shops and restaurants.

$1,599,000
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.

Derk Brill
650.543.1117
dbrill@apr.com

Palo Alto – If you are considering selling, now is an exceptional time to do so. Contact me for an analysis and marketing plan designed to get the highest possible price for your home.

$1,595,000

Jenny Teng
650.543.1023
jteng@apr.com

Palo Alto – Located in desirable Crescent Park on charming street canopied with mature trees, this 3bd/2ba home is surrounded by a vine covered fence and lushly planted gardens. Spacious LR with FP and formal DR.

$1,595,000

Teresa Budzich
650.543.1044
tbudzich@apr.com

Palo Alto – Gorgeous, recently remodeled 4bd/2ba Eichler home showcases traditional elegance combined with modern luxury. The spacious 1825+/-sf floor plan includes lovely detailing and amenities.

$1,449,000

Melinda Wedemeyer
650.543.1109
mwedemeyer@apr.com

Palo Alto – 2bd/2ba craftsman bungalow located in Community Center. Tastefully remodeled including vaulted ceilings and skylights. Updated kitchen and baths.

Call for Price

David Chung
650.543.1058
dchung@apr.com

Caroline Ratelle
650.543.1041
cratelle@apr.com

Menlo Park – Beautifully remodeled Tuscan 2-story home in downtown. 3bd/2ba, 2,080+/-sf, gourmet kitchen and marble baths. Sold significantly over asking price with multiple offers. 2-car garage.

$1,399,000

Greg Celotti
650.543.1114
gcelotti@apr.com

Redwood City – Charming 5bd/3ba home with 3400+/-sf and remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors, near parks, schools and town on a huge 13,350+/-sf lot.

Call for Price
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.

Sandy Harris  
Nancy Mott  
650.543.1071  
650.543.1049  
sharris@apr.com  
nmott@apr.com  

$789,000

Michael Hall  
650.543.1084  
mhall@apr.com  

MOUNTAIN VIEW – 3bd/1ba home located on a quiet tree-lined street. Remodeled kitchen, separate dining room, 2-car garage. Close to downtown shops and restaurants.  
$775,000

Joanna Dolan  
650.543.1039  
jdolan@apr.com  

PALO ALTO – Gorgeous penthouse with European ambiance. 2bd/2ba totally remodeled with dramatic modern features. Warm maple hardwood floors. Sun decks on either side of LR.  
$749,000

Pamela Culp  
650.543.1051  
pculp@apr.com  

SAN MATEO – 7 years new 2bd/2.5ba townhome. Hardwood floors in all of the living areas, plush carpet on the bedroom level, crown molding, designer paint and more. Located near shopping and transportation.  
$749,000

Lisa Hartwell  
650.543.1122  
lhartwell@apr.com  

PALO ALTO – 2bd/1.5ba updated Meadow Homes townhouse. Updated kitchen and bath. Light and bright. Close to shops and restaurants. Gunn High School.  
Call for Price

Terry Rice  
650.543.1062  
trice@apr.com  

SAN CARLOS – Charming 2bd/1ba home. Separate DR, wood burning fireplace and inside laundry. Garage converted to a wonderful playroom. Large backyard. Close to transportation and shopping. Great San Carlos schools.  
Call for Price
There is a spirit that distinguishes us. Together we seek bold innovations in the way we manage technology, organize our company and advance the standards of our industry.
Palo Alto Medical Foundation
FREE Skin Cancer Screening

Saturday, May 12
8 a.m. to noon
795 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
Clark Building

The Palo Alto Medical Foundation (PAMF) is hosting a free skin cancer screening as part of skin cancer awareness month. Board-certified PAMF dermatologists will screen up to 300 patients. The event is open to the public and all ages are welcome. No appointment is necessary.

For more information about protecting your family from skin cancer, visit www.pamf.org and type “sun safety” in the search box.

Palo Alto Medical Foundation
A Sutter Health Affiliate
With You. For Life.

Palo Alto Weekly
Wednesday, May 9, 2007 • Page 23
Transitions
Births, marriages and deaths

Deaths

E
dward P. Ames, who began his
d business career selling 5
cent bags of Planters’ Peanuts
and became wealthy through
timely investments in Palo Alto real
estate, died peacefully at his modest home
on Newell Road April 30.


d was known for his gentle friendliness and often self-effacing
sense of humor during his more than half century watching Palo
Alto grow and change. In earlier
decades, Ames was active in the
business community, but in recent
years he became a major financial
supporter of biomedical research. He
was a recipient of the Lifetime
Award of Achievement award of the
Avenidas senior services agency.

The Edward P. and Dorothy
Ames Research Building at the Palo
Alto Medical Foundation is named
in recognition of his and his wife,
recognizing a multi-million-dollar
gift Ames made to help build it in
the early 1990s.

In 1987, and later became a partner
in the North Beach area of San Fran-
cisco, where he worked as a medical
sales representative.

But his interest was also general:
Ames said his support for health
research “will take care of a lot of
people in the future that might not
otherwise be able to have the health
care they need.”

Ames’ wit and humor bubbled
forth even during difficult times.
When asked about a mountain
lion loose in his neighborhood sever-
ally years ago, he replied: “Oh, it
wouldn’t take a mountain lion to
take me out. Any good-sized house-
cat could do that.”

At the time it was a vicious dog
that took him out, knocking him
down, breaking a hip and biting
him on a leg. A lengthy recovery
was set back by a second fall at
home that re-broke the hip, and
he never recovered his mobility.

Continued on next page.

Linda Mabry, award-winning writer
and longtime community activist, dies at 54

Linda A. Mabry, a writer, attorney
and community activist, died April 4
in Palo Alto. She was 54.

Born April 30, 1952, she devoted
her life to community involvement
in public and private sectors and
pursued writing, teaching others
about living with purpose, and
advocating for justice and equality
in racial issues and political causes.

She nurtured her friendships and
engaged magnanimously, with grace,
and being in nature, according to
her husband of 16 years, Dieter Folta.

She live an active life, enjoying
their dogs, Kai and Dakota, despite
battling pancreatic cancer for more
than five years.

She was a “truth seeker” in its tru-
est meaning, Folta said. She wrote
numerous articles that were pub-
lished in trade journals, newspapers
and magazines on justice and equal-
ity related to the dignity of the hu-
man person and her African-Ameri-
can heritage.

She was deeply serious about so-
cial issues, and as a successful Afri-
can American woman “always tried
to reach out to help people behind
her,” as well as speaking out against
perceived injustices, Folta said. But

despite her personal success, she
decided disillusioned due to frustra-
tions of achieving and sustaining
social progress.

Her most recent project was writ-
ing her unfinished memoir entitled,
“Falling Up to Grace.” In 2005

she was in residence at Hedge-
brooke, the writing retreat for
women writers on Whid-
bay Key in Washington,
where she was awarded
the Hobig

Linda Mabry, award-winning writer
and longtime community activist, dies at 54

Mabry was born in New York
and raised in Brussels, Belgium and
Harlem. She excelled in anything she
to which she devoted her attention,
including academic pursuits at Mount
Holyoke College and Johns Hopkins
University School of Advanced In-
ternational Studies, graduating with
a degree in international law from
Georgetown University.

She was an attorney-adviser in
the Office of Legal Adviser of the U.S.
Department of State from 1978 to
1981. She then practiced law from
1981 to 1986 at Hogan & Hartson
and Miller & Chevalier in Washing-
ton, D.C.

She moved to the Bay Area in
1986 and joined the San Francisco
law firm of Howard, Rice, Nem-
erovski, Canady, Robertson & Faith
in 1987, and later became a partner
in their corporate department. In
1993 she became associate profes-
sor at Stanford Law School, where
she remained for five years teaching
international business.

“Like working with the stu-
dents,” Folta said. But she became
increasingly concerned with a kind
of subtle discrimination that she felt
lingers pervasively and destructively
in society. She said in 2000 that no
one had ever called her or in Palo Alto
“that ever called me the N-word. We’re
much too sophisticated for that. But
it’s worse — it makes you crazy. It’s
like fighting an invisible enemy.”

In late 1998, she resigned from
the law school to protest what she felt
was discrimination against women
people of color, and joined others
in a class-action complaint
against Stanford for alleged dis-

crimination.

Folta, who is white and confined
to a wheelchair, said at a Human
Rights Commission forum that people
tend to assume Mabry was

derived from it.

Ames said his support for health
research “will take care of a lot of
people in the future that might not
otherwise be able to have the health
care they need.”

Ames’ wit and humor bubbled
forth even during difficult times.
When asked about a mountain
lion loose in his neighborhood sever-
ally years ago, he replied: “Oh, it
wouldn’t take a mountain lion to
take me out. Any good-sized house-
cat could do that.”

At the time it was a vicious dog
that took him out, knocking him
down, breaking a hip and biting
him on a leg. A lengthy recovery
was set back by a second fall at
home that re-broke the hip, and
he never recovered his mobility.

But he looked back on his life
and roots philosophically and ap-
preciatively.

He was born in San Angelo, Tex-
as, in 1908, the same year William
Cranston (father of the late U.S.
Senator Alan Cranston) opened a
real estate office in Palo Alto. But
it wasn’t until 42 years later that the
two came together in a conjunction
that did much to shape Palo Alto’s
business future as Ames, Brophy &
Cranston, a real estate development
and management firm.

His life was one of unexpected
turns and opportunities, many due
to his ability to make good friends.

At age 11, his family including six
brothers and sisters — relocated from
Texas to Phoenix, Ariz., where he
later attended high school and ju-

ior college. He studied liberal arts
because “I had no idea what I might
end up doing.” He took a circulation
job at the Arizona Republic news-
paper and became friends with the
circulation manager, who encour-
aged him to study journalism and

Lee used the money to help
build the Linda A. Mabry Founda-
tion, which was awarded
the Hoch-

A “Celebration of Life” memorial
service will be held Tuesday,
May 22, at 3:45 p.m. at the First Presby-
tian Church, 1140 Cowper St., Palo
Alto. A reception will follow honor-
ing her fondness for good food
and conversation.

In her memory, Folta has estab-
lished the Linda A. Mabry Founda-
tion, with a goal of funding projects
for African-American children and

early in Palo Alto. Contributions
may be made payable to the
Linda A. Mabry Fund c/o Commu-
nity Development Institute, P.O. Box
50099, East Palo Alto, CA 94303.

Thornton C. Ege

Thornton C. Ege, 74, a longtime
resident of Menlo Park, died April
25 after a brief illness.

He was born in Pittsburgh, Penn.
He served in the U.S. Army from
1952-1954 in Germany, where he
served in the North Beach area of San
Francisco, where he worked as a medical

tech for a number of years at
Bay Area hospitals.

He later settled on the Peninsula
and worked as an engineer, most
notably at Telesensory Systems, which
created the Opticon, a tool

to enable sight-impaired persons to read

books. His love of books drew him
to a new career as a book trader in
the 1980s. He managed Recycle
Books on Hamilton Avenue in Palo
Alto, which later became Renais-
sance Books. After Renaissance
Books closed, he opened his own
online book selling, buying and
trading company, Thornton’s books,
which he operated from his home.

He also had a side business repair-
ing computers.

He is survived by his son, Michael
Ege of San Francisco; his brother,
Dave Ege of Kansas City, Mo.; his
sister, Lindy Estep of North Caro-

lina; his niece, Nancy Ege of Port-
land, Ore.

A celebration of his life was held
on May 5.

Flora Finney

Flora “Flo” McClain Finney, 89, a
longtime resident of Palo Alto, died
April 18.

She was born in 1918. Her moth-
er, Carrie, was one of six Guthrie
sisters from Trinity County, Calif.,
who came to the Bay Area after
their parents’ deaths.

Growing up in Oakland, she
studied at the University of Califor-

nia, Berkeley, and earned a bachelor’s
degree in economics in 1939. In
1948 she earned a master’s degree
in social welfare.

At about the same time, she met
her husband, Ben Finney, a clinical
psychologist. He had served in the
Army Air Corps during World War
II and met her through friends after

(continued on next page)

Page 24 • Wednesday, May 9, 2007 • Palo Alto Weekly
Transitions

Deaths
(continued from previous page)

returning to the Bay Area. They met again at the U. C. Berkeley student counseling service and were married in 1948.

They moved to Palo Alto in 1950. As gardeners and members of the Palo Alto Garden Club, their Heather Lane house appeared in a feature article in the San Francisco Chronicle’s home section. She was deeply involved in many community activities. She joined the League of Women Voters and was active in such issues as planning, recreation, child care, affordable housing, and the school district. In 1963 she and Ben moved to Seale Avenue.

In 1960 she began a distinguished career in medical social work at the Stanford University Department of Family, Community and Preventative Medicine. She was a lecturer in social work from 1966 to 1983. From 1966 to 1967 she was director of a committee to make recommendations for the Department of Allied Medical Sciences and served again with Leona McGann as co-director from 1981 to 1982.

She remained active, even after retiring in 1982. In 2003, she and McGann completed a landmark 180-page history of social work at the Stanford University School of Medicine. In 2005, Lane Ceremony honored her and her colleagues with an exhibit on social work at Stanford.

She was an avid bridge player. She and Ben traveled widely and collected Oriental art and books on art. She was hospitable, outspoken and had a knack for storytelling, especially when it came to recounting family history.

She is survived by her husband of 60 years, Ben of Palo Alto; brother, David McClain and sister-in-law, Peggy McClain; three nieces and several cousins.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, May 20, at 10 a.m. at the Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. Memorial donations may be made to any one of her favorite causes; the Palo Alto Library, the American Cancer Society, or the Stanford Medical Center.

Mona Graham Hubenthal
Mona Graham Hubenthal, 97, a resident of Lytton Gardens, died April 28.

She moved to Palo Alto a little less than two years ago to be close to her family.

Prior to moving to California she made her home in Lewiston, Idaho for 57 years. She helped start the YWCA in Lewiston, was executive director of the Community Action Agency during the 1960s and was appointed to the Governor’s Manpower Commission by Idaho Gov. Cecil Andrus.

She was born and raised on a farm family in Rocktownan Township in northern Illinois. She met her late husband, Homer, while working at the Wisconsin Power and Light Company in Madison, WI. She fought for women’s rights and social justice all her life. Her social and community activism earned her a Woman of the Year award from Washington State University in 2002. She was an avid gardener. She loved nothing more than a good cup of tea and a good conversation with friends loved ones recalled. She had a firm sense of right and wrong and a graciousness that won people to her point of view.

She is survived by two sons, Gra- ham Hubenthal of Stanford, Wash. and Mahlon Hubenthal of Palo Alto; three grandchildren who live in the Seattle area; three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren who live locally.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. at the Hollywood Cemetery in Corona del Mar, CA. Contributions may be made to organizations of the donor’s choice.

Elizabeth Peabody
Elizabeth Beach Peabody, 93, a lifelong resident of Palo Alto, died April 30.

She was born Feb. 21, 1914, in Vergennes, Vt. She was married for 64 years to Prentice B. “Pete” Peabody of Palo Alto.

She served for 10 years as a do- cent at the Palo Alto Art Center and for 20 years as a docent at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. She was fascinated with Japanese and Asian art, and studied under Professor Jim Cahlil at U.C. Berkeley in order to extend her involvement with the museum.

Making trips to Japan to collect art “became quite a compulsion with her,” said her husband, Pete Peabody. She also served as an English tutor for Japanese students at Foothill College.

She is survived by her husband, Pete Peabody of Menlo Oaks; two daughters, Bayan Culhane of Dan- ville and Barabara Levich of Seattle, Wash.; four grandchildren and one great-grandson.

A memorial service will be held Friday, May 11, at 3 p.m. at Roller, Hapgood and Tunney, 980 Middle- field Road, Palo Alto. Memorial donations may be made to the Clark Center for Japanese Art, 15770 10th Ave., Hanford, CA 93290.

Ames (continued from previous page)

Susan Elizabeth “Sueski” Markowski Lubais
Susan Elizabeth “Sueski” Markowski Lubais entered the big sleep on May 4, 2007. Born on May 14, 1914 and died in Palo Alto, CA, on April 17, 2007. She was an active member of University Lutheran Church. Services are private.

Wendell began teaching at Stanford University in 1945 and taught dramatic literature and theater history, as well as designing and painting scenery for Stanford for 52 years.

Wendell designed costumes and settings for more than 250 productions at Stanford, as well as volunteering his creative abilities to local community theaters, notably West Bay Opera and the Palo Alto Children’s Theatre.

Recognized as a top scholar, he had scholarships for all his three degrees and knew Japanese. Wendell wrote “Kyoto in the Meiji Period” edited “The Story of the Meisenger,” and contributed to “Theatre West: Image and Impact.” His articles on drama, set design, and architecture appeared in numerous journals. He won four awards for his creativity and service, including the naming of the design room in the Stanford Drama Department in his honor.

With his wife, Charlotte, a Special Collections Librarian at the Hoover Institute at Stanford, he enjoyed a long life of independent travel throughout the world, reading, attending art exhibits, and numerous cultural events. Students enjoyed the hospitality of their home. He accepted his blindness in his later years, continuing to contribute his vast knowledge with a remarkable memory.

For more information, please go to http://home.eartlink.net/ wendell/
A badly mismanaged Mandarin debate

Fear of a charter school should not drive Palo Alto Unified School District policy

L
ike a loose thread that, when pulled, unravels a perfectly good sweater, the Palo Alto school board and district management have turned an issue that needed the greatest of special handling and sensitivity into an utter fiasco.

As the board readies for its “final” vote on Mandarin immersion (MI) May 22, members have only themselves to blame for deeply embittered feelings in the community over this issue.

After voting 3-2 in January against a carefully crafted proposal for an MI program to start this fall at Ohlone Elementary School with 40 kindergartners and first graders, two school board members — Mandy Lowell and Dana Tom — have now announced they will switch and support a program for fall of 2008.

Their explanations aren’t that they now support the MI program but that they prefer a program operated within the district to an independent charter school, which they view as inevitable if they don’t change their votes. Lowell and Tom became persuaded after learning of potential costs of a charter school — Palo Alto’s first — and after key MI supporters pledged to abandon the charter proposal if the Ohlone program were approved.

The charter-school alternative, which MI advocates always said was an option if the district didn’t approve a district program, was not even discussed by the board members when they reached their January decision to turn down the program. Nor did Superintendent Mary Frances Callan include information about charter schools in her recommendation.

Only after MI proponents announced in February that they would pursue creating a charter school did Callan and her staff research the impacts on the district.

Opponents of a district MI program argue that it would only serve a small number of families and that it gets in the way of implementing a district priority, established in 1993, of creating a foreign-language program for all elementary students. That program has not been implemented for budgetary reasons.

When Palo Alto parent Grace Mah and others five years ago began asking for an MI program (similar to the existing Spanish-immersion program created in the 1990s), a parade of failures began. First the board deflected the MI request but encouraged those involved to come back later — an action repeated at least twice.

When supporters resurfaced last year, the board unwisely accepted anonymous private donations to fund a feasibility study on a pilot program. MI, knowing full well there was no district-wide language strategy in place. When a positive report emerged, the district staff added an enthusiastic endorsement, becoming a committed advocate instead of a balanced provider of information.

Late last year, the staff recommended that the program be launched at Ohlone Elementary School, one of two existing “choice” schools in the district — a rather brilliant idea that should have removed early fears that the program could displace students from existing neighborhood schools.

But despite the strong staff recommendation the board voted 3-2 in late January to reject MI — while once again encouraging MI supporters to come back, say, next year.

The charter-school costs and implications should have been addressed head-on, prior to the board’s January vote. Compounding the staff failure was the failure of the board to recognize the gaping hole and insist on getting such information.

Finally, the upcoming board vote creates a terrible precedent. The take-home message is that a small but determined group can sway district policy just by waving a charter-school petition.

Although we would urge them to do so, it is impossible to imagine Lowell or Tom changing their positions yet again, so the board will likely vote 4-1 to approve the MI program at Ohlone.

We are confident the program can be integrated successfully into the district and that over the long run could become another gem in the district’s offerings.

But administrators present and past board members botched this issue and inflicted incalculable ill will among important elements of the community. The only bright side, dim as it seems now, is that a new superintendent and new board members can heal the wounds and get the district re-focused on its priorities, including implementing of foreign-language instruction in elementary schools.

Repairing relations will not come easy.

School board should wait

Editorial

Ten representatives of Palo Alto Chinese Education (PACE) have addressed a letter to the Palo Alto Unified School District Board of Education, pledging to forego pursuit of a Mandarin-immersion charter school if certain conditions are met for a program choice.

I beseech the board to declare a moratorium on decisions involving major new programs until after the new superintendent and business manager are in place and have had the chance to look at our district with a fresh perspective, not as yet constrained by loyalty or concerned with legacy.

Regardless of the cost of a charter school, if that should indeed come to pass, the price of ceding authority given by the electorate for governance of our school district to a small special-interest group is far higher.

Lynn Morton Magill Cork Oak Way Palo Alto

Bubble kids?

Editor, Palo Alto Unified School District

My memories from my years as a Duveneck Dragon are uniformly fond — school plays, student council, and countless hours spent enjoying the company of my friends inside and (especially) outside of the classroom.

We hugged, held hands, wrestled and tackled each other. No one died and when someone’s feelings were hurt there was almost always an apology.

I’m no developmental expert, but it seems to me that this new “hands-off” policy, though limited in scope to the end of the school year, is perhaps an ill-conceived overreaction.

Is Duveneck a dangerous place for kids? I haven’t read about red-top melees, but here’s some old news: children have a lot of energy. They are developing social skills through trial and error and observation.

I’m all for teachers setting the right example for students through positive re-enforcement of good behavior and discipline of bad behavior, but a school full of bubble boys and bubble girls is just ... weird.

Leave the children be.

Jonah King
Los Angeles Duveneck, Class of 1991

Questions for PPJC

Editor, Palo Alto Unified School District

Thank you so much for allowing this debate with the Peninsula Peace and Justice Center (PPJC). Director Paul George claims that his speakers were engaged in political analysis as opposed to sup-

bombers?

4) Why is it OK to have a Mosque in Haifa or Tel-Aviv but it’s not OK to have a synagogue in Gaza or the West Bank?

5) If tiny Israel can resettle the 900,000 Jews expelled from Mus-

lim lands, why can’t the 22 Arab Muslim nations resettle the Pales-

tinian Arab refugees in their vast lands?

Some of us want justice for both Jews and Muslims — not just for Muslims — but I think we all hope for peace in the region.

Sheree Roth
Palo Alto

Peace and terrorism

Editor, Palo Alto Weekly

Paul George (May 4) denied that he and two speakers at his organi-

zation in August supported Hezbollah. He cannot deny that they continuously criticized Israel and did not have any criticism of the terrorism by Hezbollah, Hamas, Fatah and other organizations.

This attitude has the effect of condoning terrorism, which vio-

(continued on page 28)
**Guest Opinion**

**A memorable day with the imprisoned and the dead**

by Max Minowitz and Jacob Savage

Jake: It was the sweet smell of death that stayed with us — in memory and actually — at the end of the day that Max and I were “arrested” at Gunn High School for driving under the influence.

The arrests and subsequent tour of the Santa Clara County Jail and county morgue were all part of a new police cadet program just launched by the Palo Alto Police Department — which is holding its first graduation tonight (May 9).

Not all our fellow students knew that our being pulled over, tested, cuffed and taken away were part of the program, however. I spent days explaining to friends that I did not need help getting bailed out, and even spent days explaining to friends that I did not need help getting bailed out, and even actually — at the end of the day that Max and I were “arrested” at Gunn High School for driving under the influence.

The arrests and subsequent tour of the Santa Clara County Jail and county morgue were all part of a new police cadet program just launched by the Palo Alto Police Department — which is holding its first graduation tonight (May 9).

Not all our fellow students knew that our being pulled over, tested, cuffed and taken away were part of the program, however. I spent days explaining to friends that I did not need help getting bailed out, and even spent days explaining to friends that I did not need help getting bailed out, and even actually — at the end of the day that Max and I were “arrested” at Gunn High School for driving under the influence.

We pulled into Gunn’s parking lot, but before we could park, Jacob was stopped and asked to get out of the car by police Agent Dan Ryan. He brusquely asked Jacob if he had had a drink lately. Jacob denied having an alcoholic drink that morning, but Ryan suspected otherwise and gave Jacob a series of sobriety tests — which Jacob “failed.”

Both: As we were being driven out of the school, students and teachers stared in awe, not realizing that we were part of a staged DUI arrest, partly as an assignment for the Oracle, Gunn’s student newspaper, on the procedures in arresting drunk drivers, and partly because we are police cadets, along with six other area high school students.

The Student Police Academy was launched in February. Cadets meet once a week for two hours, and are educated (both in class and with hands-on activities) by officers on various aspects of law enforcement. We also do volunteer work for the department, and have our own handsome police uniforms.

Following our arrest, we (with two other Gunn students who report for The Oracle) went to the Santa Clara County Main Jail in San Jose — not to be booked but for an extensive tour. At the jail, we sat down in a classroom with four other cadets and about 25 high-school journalists from around the Bay Area.

We learned there are more than 1,400 prisoners in the jail and that more than 80 percent of their offenses related to alcohol or drugs.

―I don’t know if we would have jobs if it wasn’t for drugs and alcohol,‖ Mark Cursi, the jail’s public information officer, said — a comment that was funny but also depressing.

Corsi and other officers escorted us into the main part of the jail.

As we walked down the corridors we saw inmates crying, sleeping, laughing and yelling. We came to a store in the jail where the prisoners shop. It did not have any high-definition televisions in stock, but it did have small radios, packets of noodle soup, Doritos and other snacks.

Across the hallway was a barber shop, where prisoners can get their hair cut and even styled into such arrangements as cornrows or dreadlocks.

After the tour the group convened in a nearby parking lot, where San Jose police officers showed us the most wrecked car we had ever seen. The car had been driven by a drunk and high 19-year-old man. It had crashed into another car, killing the other driver.

Our group and some officers from various Bay Area departments next had some fun trying on the “drunken goggles.” With everything distorted and blurry, we could see clearly how the wrecked car got that way.

After a lunch of pizza, sodas and cookies, the group met with five experts for a press conference — two DUI-arrest specialist officers; a trauma and surgical care physician from Stanford Hospital; a vice president of an insurance company; and a Santa Clara County deputy district attorney. They outlined both the dangers of drinking and driving and the severe legal and economic consequences.

But the most memorable part of our trip was the visit to the morgue. We saw a slide show of what several drunk drivers’ bodies looked like after they had been in deadly car accidents — gruesome pictures and a powerful lesson. We learned that 90 percent of deadly crashes involve a drunk driver.

Then came our encounter with the dead. There was a sweet, eerie smell of death along with a creepy atmosphere as we entered the room-sized freezer in which a dozen uncovered dead bodies rested. Some students gagged at the smell.

Each traumatizing step we took gave us a look at a different pale body. The bodies were so stiff, it was as if we were walking through a wax museum. Even driving back to Palo Alto, we could still smell that patrid odor.

It was a day we won’t forget. Max Minowitz is a sophomore and Jacob Savage is a senior at Gunn High School. Jacob is the son of Weekly Shop Talk columnist Daryl Savage. He can be e-mailed at egavas629@yahoo.com and Max can be e-mailed at maxminow@gmail.com.

---

**Streetwise**

**What do you think about the recent ‘no touch’ policy that was put in place at Duveneck Elementary School?**

Question and interviews by Thea Lamkin-Carugh. Photographs by Sam Teney. Outside Addison Elementary School in Palo Alto.

Susan Paul

Homemaker

Kingsley Avenue, Palo Alto

“I don’t think it’s crazy. I think it’s reasonable, and it’s not forever — only for the next six weeks.”

Eveli Mayfield

Student

Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto

“It’s sort of crazy, but it can also be kind of cool. Some kids, you know, can hurt each other by ‘accident.’”

Elle Billman

Student

Lincoln Avenue, Palo Alto

“I think it’s a good idea. I guess. So less kids can get hurt.”

Gabriela Rossner

Student

Webster Street, Palo Alto

“I think it’s all right. But sometimes it could be hard, if you’re handing something to your friend, not to touch them.”

Katie Stevens

Nurse

Addison Avenue, Palo Alto

“Oh my gosh, good luck putting that into place.”

---

**Check out Town Square!**

Hundreds of local topics are being discussed by local residents on Town Square, a reader forum sponsored by the Weekly on our community website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com. Post your own comments, ask questions, read Diana Diamond’s blog or just stay up on what people are talking about around town!
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Government Code Section 66016 that the City Council of the City of Palo Alto will hold a Public Hearing at its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 21, 2007, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto to consider the adoption of an ordinance establishing a Citywide Transportation Impact Fee and amending the Palo Alto Municipal Code, Title 16 (Building Regulations) by adding Chapter 16.59 - Citywide Transportation Impact Fee.

DONNA J. ROGERS
City Clerk

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Palo Alto City Council will consider a request for proposals for sublease of a portion of the City-leased property located at 95 University Avenue, Palo Alto, also known as the University Avenue Depot, at a public hearing to be held on Monday, June 4, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Civic Center at 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto. Terms of the sublease include a 5-year term and requirements that the subtenant provide a cafe service, janitorial service to the depot and public access to the Depot restrooms. Any interested person may appear and be heard at the public hearing. For additional information, contact Bill Fellman, Manager, Real Property, City of Palo Alto, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, Ca. 94301 (650) 329-2472, bill.fellman@cityofpaloalto.org.

CONCEPTIONAL SPACE PLAN

A TYPICAL OFFICE SUITE
475 Whisman, Suite 300
- 1251 SQUARE FEET
- LOBBY & CONFERENCE ROOM
- 2 PVT OFFICES 1 CONFERENCE RM
- SPACE FOR 3 WORKSTATIONS
- KITCHENETTE W/SINK & FRIDGE
- BREAK AREA & BATHROOM
- CARPETING AND DROPPED CEILING
- FULLY AIR CONDITIONED

$512,374 AS SHOWN
(Furniture, work stations, office equipment not included)

Design Your Own Space Plan!

Contact Exclusive Agents
KEVIN CUNNINGHAM  650.688.8521  kcunningham@ccarey.com
RICK BELL  650.982.8428  rbell@ccarey.com

www.TheVineyardMV.com
Board of Contributors
Developing the corporate/community connection

by Jeff Blum

Palo Alto's boards and commissions and nonprofit community organizations (such as the Palo Alto YMCA) could use more involvement from corporate bigwigs.

Get a few more of these well-connected people serving on our boards and commissions or linking us to the corporate culture and we will be in Fat City instead of lean times.

We need the creativity, ingenuity and — to be blunt about it — the connections of these high-powered corporate leaders to help us tap into corporate financial, public relations and human resources.

Imagine the success the next YMCA fundraising drive could have if some CEOs, CFOs or corporate presidents made a few quick calls to their pals. Consider the media tools Silicon Valley executives could provide to rally our citizenry around a pressing city issue.

The benefits to our city commissions and nonprofit boards of having more corporate involvement could be endless. And there is precedent: HP co-founder David Packard, one of the truly wealthy of his time, served for years on the Palo Alto school board. We have in Palo Alto a rich tradition of rich persons not only giving of their dollars but of their personal time and leadership abilities to community organizations. They found it deeply rewarding to themselves as well.

Perhaps I could locate corporate stars by joining the Chamber of Commerce and networking there. However, between work, my crazy exercise routine, family commitments and my admittedly minimal social life there really is not a lot of time left for me to devote.

So I've thought of another way for me to make the corporate bigwig connection: Write an open letter to one of our famous residents from the corporate world. I'll obscure his identity so as not to embarrass him.

My letter will be so persuasive he will promptly reply (by e-mail at the bottom of this column, perhaps) or forward my message to his well-connected corporate friends. Let me know if you think this works:

Dear Mr. J.:

We do not know one another, although we have a small connection through the Palo Alto Children's Theatre.

Speaking of the Children's Theatre, which is a center for creativity, I admire the tremendous creativity of your company's A Computer and P-Flims. I think of myself as a pretty creative guy, but given what you have done with those companies, I pale in comparison.

I am not trying to flatter you to extract something from you, although if it works, who am I to knock it?

I serve on the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission and the Palo Alto YMCA Board of Directors. I joke that I became involved with the Y Board because of the wonderful food they provide at their meetings. It harkens back to my college days. My impoverished classmates and I would go to Pathmark Supermarket late at night because they provided free coffee and donuts. Fond memories — but I digress.

I write because I have a proposition for you: Would you like to serve on one of our boards or commissions or invite some of your corporate friends to do so? Michael Eisner, of whom you may not be very fond these days, would not qualify, since he does not reside in Palo Alto.

I imagine that you serve on many corporate boards. However, like all of us creative people, you probably look for something new and different to get those brainwaves flying faster and more efficiently. By serving on one of our boards and commissions you and/or your corporate friends can develop those thinking-outside-the-box brainwaves even more by addressing problems you may not encounter working strictly in the corporate culture.

You can help us too, by offering different perspectives on how we can better meet the needs of a diverse population, which you have so ably done with your variety of beautifully designed and trendy products.

Our population may be broader than your target demographic, however. It includes the very wealthy, the homeless, immigrants, the disabled, and minorities. Perhaps you can offer creative insight to help us grow our city and broader community without sacrificing the passion and connectedness that makes our region such a special place.

I would love to chat with you some time over tea (I hate coffee). I will not suggest that we meet at Pathmark, however, since none of those supermarkets are around here, to my knowledge. And I don't know if Happy Donuts ever gives out free samples.

I will pay for the tea, if that helps. My e-mail address, again, is written below.

Please feel free to invite your corporate friends to join us. I am a firm believer in that old adage the more the merrier.

Ciao.

Jeff Blum

P.S.: I bought my daughter one of your laptops when she went to college. She is very happy with it. Oh, and our family has several of those tiny music machines you make.

Palo Alto's Jeff Blum, a family law attorney practicing in Redwood City, is a member of the Palo Alto Human Relations Commission and on the Board of Directors of the Palo Alto YMCA. He can be e-mailed at Blumesq@aol.com.

Monday 5.14.07 @ 7:30pm
Cubberley Auditorium
Free & Open to the Public
**Weekend Preview**

County today and tomorrow, with artists opening their studios for public tours in Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, Mountain View and other cities. Local sites include Palo Alto Studios at 4030 Transport St, Pacific Art League at 668 Ramona St. in Palo Alto, and Gallery 9 at 143 Main St. in Los Altos. Hours vary, but run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in many places. For a complete list, go to www.svos.org.

**Gary Coleman** (whose pictured work is titled “Stanford Sunset”) is one of the eight artists hosting an open studio at the Pacific Art League this Saturday and Sunday as part of Silicon Valley Open Studios. SVOS concentrates on studios in northern Santa Clara County this weekend.

**Thursday**

* A Swedish handicraft exhibit is in the Palo Alto City Hall lobby until May 22 to mark 20 years of sister-city ties between Palo Alto and Linkoping, Sweden. City Hall is at 250 Hamilton Ave., with lobby hours Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 650-856-0912.

* “Jekyll & Hyde,” a musical based on the 1886 Robert Louis Stevenson novella, is on stage at the Lucie Stern Theatre at 1305 Middlefield Road in Palo Alto, presented by Palo Alto Players. Show times are 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sundays, through May 13. Tickets are $26-$30. Call 650-329-0891 or go to www.paplayers.org.

* “The Gingerbread Lady,” a Neil Simon play about a woman battling alcoholism, is at the Dragon Theatre through May. Shows are Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2, at 555 Archive St. in Palo Alto. Tickets are $10-$25, go to www.dragonproductions.net.

**Friday**

* The Ives Quartet collaborates with pianist Paul Hersh on Dvorak’s “Piano Quintet in A Major, Op. 81” as part of its Spring Concert Series. The quartet will also play music by Quincy Porter and Beethoven. The concert starts at 8 p.m. at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church at 600 Colorado Ave. in Palo Alto. Tickets are $25 for adults, $20 for seniors, $15 for students and free for children 12 and younger. Call 650-224-7849 or go to ivesquartet.org.

**Saturday**

* Stained-glass art

An exhibit pays tribute to the stained-glass creations of the late Palo Alto artist Judy Miller.

* Kids’ illustrations

Dragons, polar bears, a man in a tractor plane, and other fantastic creatures live in the illustrations of Palo Alto artist Kristin Abbott.

* Movies

Reviews of “Georgia Rule” and “The Ex.”

**Correction**

Last week’s Weekend Preview listed incorrect exhibit hours for the Animal Art Show; a show of student art from the German International School of Silicon Valley. The show runs through May at the Animal Art Gallery at 520 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park, open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Go to www.keplers.com.

**COMING UP IN FRIDAY’S WEEKEND EDITION**

**Stained-glass art**

An exhibit pays tribute to the stained-glass creations of the late Palo Alto artist Judy Miller.

**Correction**

Last week’s Weekend Preview listed incorrect exhibit hours for the Animal Art Show; a show of student art from the German International School of Silicon Valley. The show runs through May at the Animal Art Gallery at 520 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park, open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Go to www.keplers.com.
Note: Screenings are for Wednesday through Thursday only.

Black Book (R) ** Century 20: 11:45 a.m.; 4:40, 7:35 & 10:25 p.m. Century 12: 1, 4, 7, 10 & 10:10 p.m.


The Namesake (PG-13) *** Century 20: 1:30, 4:15, 7:40 & 10:25 p.m. Century 16: 1, 4, 7 & 10 p.m.


Perfect Stranger (R) *** Century 12: 12:20, 3:25, 6 & 8:40 p.m.


Vacancy (R) (Not Reviewed) Century 12: 11:45 a.m.; 1:45, 4:35, 7:20 & 10:30 p.m.

The Valet (PG-13) ** Aquarius: 2:30, 4:45, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m.


★★ Skip it ★★ Some redeeming qualities ★★★ A good bet ★★★★ Outstanding

Aquarius: 430 Emerson St., Palo Alto (266-5940)
Century Cinema 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (960-0970)
Century Park 12: 557 E. Bayshore Blvd., Redwood City (365-9000)
Century 20 Downtown: 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City (389-3458)

CinéArts at Palo Alto Square: 2000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (400-3458)
CinéArts at Palo Alto Square: 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (400-3458)

For show times, plot synopses, trailers and more information about films playing, go to Palo Alto Online at http://www.PaloAltoOnline.com/

MOVIE TIMES

KGO’s Len Tillem & Michael Gilfix

ASSET PROTECTION FOR YOUR FAMILY

Tuesday, June 5, 2007
2:30-4:30 pm or 6:30-8:30 pm

Crowne Plaza Cabaña
Mediterranean Room, 4290 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94306

• Family Protection Trusts to Protect Assets you leave your children from Divorce, Lawsuits and Tax
• Medi-Cal to pay Nursing Home Costs
• Special Needs Trusts for Disabled Kids
• Protect Residence from Medi-Cal Claims
• The essential Living Trust

Free Seminar! Seating is limited!
Register online at www.gilfix.com
OR Call 650-493-8070 or 408-971-7292

Palo Alto Weekly • Wednesday, May 9, 2007 • Page 31
Gracious architecture in sought after Allied Arts area. Light-filled and spacious this 4 BR, 3.5 BA home offers an open floor plan, detailed woodwork and abundant natural light. Featuring a full basement and amazing outdoor living this 3 year new home is truly a gem. Close proximity to local parks, Stanford, and acclaimed Menlo Park schools. JAMI AKAMI $2,995,000

San Francisco... 2 Bedroom / 2 Bath cozy SF Downtown Condo close proximity to local parks, Stanford, and acclaimed Menlo Park schools. JULIA Y. KIADA $2,375,000

Los Altos... Best value with Los Altos Schools! 3 BR / 2 BA, 3 years new inside. New granite kitchens, baths, lights, windows and doors. Lush gardens offer lots of privacy with beautiful views. CAREY MITCHELL $1,399,000

Palo Alto. A true, 1920's, Arts & Crafts Vernacular, 3 BR / 2 BA retreat with guest suite tucked away at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac. Separate dining room, hardwood floors, bright and spacious Master bedroom. Exquisitely flowing floorplan all leading out to the charming backyard with large deck and garden for entertaining. NINO GAETANO $2,835,000

Palo Alto... A rose-covered cottage, this bright and spacious 2 BR, 2 BA home offers a romantic retreat just moments from downtown Palo Alto. Floating floor-to-ceiling windows spread throughout, opening up to stylish covered patio. Freely crafted vintage details include hardwood flooring and true divided light windows, while the updated kitchen and baths are finished with crisp white cabinetry and marble tile. GINNA ARNOLD LAZAR $778,000

Palo Alto. This Brand New Home is located at the old site of “Hyatt Mickey’s” by Hydraulic Rickey’s, surrounded by Heritage Trees. Boasting a large, comfortable great room, gourmet kitchen with granite and rustic cabinetry, beautiful wood flooring, high ceilings with tall picture windows. Exceptional area, located close to Brown’s, Terman, and California Distinguished Gunn High School. C. HENDRICKS & L. LEONG $1,799,000

Coming Soon!!

MONICA YEUNG ARIMA COMING SOON

PALO ALTO

COMING SOON!!

PORTOLA VALLEY

SAN JOSE

SUNNYVALE

WOODSIDE

MENLO PARK

MOUNTAIN VIEW