A new perspective

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ALBERTO
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City staff urge users to give the site a chance
by Becky Trout

Aiming for elegance, the city of Palo Alto’s new Web site has been nearly universally derided. But city staff remain convinced that with refinement, the city’s Web site, launched Aug. 2 with an investment of $240,000, will be a significant improvement over the city’s old site, which was also highly criticized.

“It will definitely be an ongoing process,” Chief Information Officer Glenn Loo said Thursday, adding that city staff are working to make sure information is available on the site.

“We knew that by introducing a new look and feel it was definitely going to be generating some comment,” Loo said. “We hoped that people would give it an opportunity ... look into the information that’s being presented and hopefully see some improvements. We feel we’ve accomplished this.”

But site visitors have faulted nearly everything about the new www.cityofpaloalto.org. Information is hard to find, the Web site is too boastful, its photos appear fake and the white-on-grey text is hard to read, users have noted.

“To be blunt, it is unacceptable,” Annette Ashton and Sheri Furman wrote in an Aug. 6 letter to the City Council. “This site is flash and form over function.”

At its Aug. 6 meeting, several council members noted they have been bombarded with negative comments about the site.

“I’ve been surprised at ... the unamnity,” Councilwoman Judy Kleinberg said. “One person did say it’s an embarrassment to our city. It’s apparently pretty awful.”

“I haven’t heard one person who has heard a good thing yet,” Vice Mayor Larry Klein said.

(continued on page 5)

City’s new Web site slammed by community
The latest site-plan design for the Plaza Alma project is more to city wishes, according to Planning and Transportation Commission members who viewed the proposal. Specifically, members are concerned about parking and pedestrian access remain.

“I can see a lot of thought and work went into this plan,” Commissioner Michael Mitrzyk said. “It addresses many of the concerns about parking and pedestrian access remain. “Since 1938”

The commissioners sympathized and mostly agreed with many of the community’s concerns.

The only issue the commission did not agree on is creating an entrance to the plaza from Emerson. Tuma, like Batties, thought any sort of pedestrian entrance would encourage shoppers to park on the residential street, as did Commissioner Paula Sandals.

“We should take into account what the neighborhood wants,” Sandals said.

But Commissioners Daniel Garber and Patrick Burt said they did not see a huge problem with including the entrance.

Like Furman, the commissioners thought the design is not user-friendly to bicyclists and pedestrians. Burt suggested turning some two-way streets within the complex into one-way, which would leave more room for bicycle and pedestrian pathways.

“One-way streets seem like they may make sense to utilize the land in other ways,” Commissioner Burt said. They suggested the planning department look into ways to address van der Wilt’s concerns.

The commissioners also emphasized maximizing open space. Vice Chair Lee Lippert suggested making the housing semi-detached, rather than fully detached, and removing some parcel lines.

Chair Karen Holman said the park areas should be looked at again. A small triangular park area in the back of the project is detached from the main park to the center of the plaza.

“The park at the back doesn’t seem to function very well,” Holman said.

At the meeting on Sept. 12 the commissioners will continue discussing the design and make a recommendation to the City Council.

In other business, Holman was re-elected chair of the commission, and Garber was voted in as vice chair.

Editorial Intern Rotem Ben-Shachar can be e-mailed at rben- shachar@paweekly.com.

The Public Agenda

PALO ALTO HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD ... The board will hold a study session on minor additions to the Main Library. Board members will also hold public hearings on windows design on 212-214 Homer Ave, and plans to add dormers on the second story at 1245 Waverly St. The board will meet Wednesday, Aug. 15, at 8 a.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave).

PALO ALTO ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD ... The board plans to discuss the project adding 45 houses at 4049 El Camino Real at the Ellis Lodge and a four-unit residential development proposed for 455 Forest Ave. It will hold a study session on the proposed Mitchell Park Library and Community Center and the public safety building on Park Boulevard. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave).

PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL ... The council plans to set the order of the November ballot. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 16, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave).
Funeral policy
(continued from page 3)
response from firefighters — some from as far as the East Coast.
“To minimize that sacrifice is just so disrespectful,” Spitaleri said of the quotation.
The situation has become a case study of how fast things can go wrong despite good intentions.
On June 18, the largest tragedy affecting working firefighters since the Twin Towers collapse of Sept.
11, 2001, occurred when a blaze killed nine South Carolina firefighters.
A firefighter asked Marinaro if the department could lower flags, and he said he would ask.
Marinaro was instructed that according to federal code only the U.S. president could order the American flag to be flown at half-mast, according to Assistant City Manager Emily Harrison.
Marinaro said he told the firefighters he didn’t have the authority to lower the flags.
But Spitaleri said the federal flag code offers an exception: U.S. Code Title 4 Section 7 allows for the flag to be lowered “in accordance with recognized customs or practices not inconsistent with law.”
Nonetheless, the issue shouldn’t have to be resolved with “all this legal jargon,” Spitaleri said. “We have to be resolved with all this.”
Then a month later, two Contra Costa County Fire Protection District firefighters died while attempting to rescue a couple trapped in a burning house.
Spitaleri said the union asked to send one of the city’s two back-up engines, staffed by off-duty personnel, to the July 27 funeral.
The department would pay for the fuel, he said.
After initially being told by City Attorney Gary Baum that sending an engine incurred too much liability, Marinaro met with Baum and other city staff members on July 29.
They decided if the engine was sent for replacement fire protection (to free Contra Costa firefighters to attend the services and procession) rather than as part of a ceremony, it would pass muster.
There also should be no overtime pay, Marinaro said he was instructed.
But when Marinaro called Contra Costa County he was told the two back-up-coverage spots for Santa Clara Valley were taken.
Then on July 25 Marinaro learned a slot opened for Palo Alto, after Milpitas Fire opted to be in the procession rather than man a station.
Three Palo Alto firefighters volunteered to leave for the duty at 4 a.m., working without pay.
Spitaleri left work that day satisfied it would all work out.
He even drafted an e-mail that evening explaining the arrangement to the firefighters.
To send it he would have had to return to the office and he needed to wake early for a pre-visit surgery the next morning.
After the surgery, Marinaro said he didn’t feel well enough to read e-mails or listen to voice messages until Sunday, two days after the funeral.
By then it was too late.
On Thursday, the day before the funeral, Palo Alto Fire Marshal Dan Firth was informed Milpitas wanted its back-up spot back, bumping Palo Alto, Marinaro said.
Firth sent out an e-mail notifying firefighters of the decision.
Marinaro said he would have pleased, except begged, to keep the city’s assignment.
When Marinaro returned to work Monday, the union — reacting swiftly — was already planning its council appearance, which was necessary because internal city processes weren’t working, Spitaleri said.
Then Benest reportedly uttered the “willy-nilly comment” to a reporter, which was picked up by Web denizens nationwide.
Marinaro told the Weekly this week he is scrambling to resolve the complex situation, which has driven a “big, big wedge in this organization.”
He said the issue set him back five years in his career-development plans for the department and has taken a personal toll.
“I never thought anybody would call me ‘ spineless,'” Marinaro said.
“I’ve got to try to heal the organization,” he said of his immediate challenge.
He is meeting daily this week with city firefighters and has already helped craft a new city policy that would apply to both fire and police departments.
A draft of the policy is awaiting review by Benest and the city attorney’s office.
Spitaleri said he is willing to work with Marinaro.
“We’ve always had a good relationship with our chief and we want to continue to do that,” Spitaleri said, adding that union leaders met with Marinaro Tuesday morning.
As for the police, Chief Lynne Johnson said that during the 30 years she has been in the department, it has regularly sent vehicles, motorcycles and personnel, some on-duty, to funerals of other officers in Northern California.
“It’s actually part of the public safety, police culture, not just here but in almost every police department in the nation,” Johnson said.
When a Palo Alto officer died 10 years ago, officers from many communities came to honor him.

Web site
(continued from page 3)
But council members John Barton and Jack Morton defended the site.
“Folks worked extremely hard and thoughtfully on this. They recognize it’s not going to be perfect,” Barton said.
He encouraged visitors to give their feedback by clicking on the comment form or “missing link” link at the bottom of each page.
“I think we need to give it some time. As with any Web site, those holes will be filled eventually,” Morton said.
Councillman Ben Beecham acknowledged that some criticisms of the site are valid. He said that users who think the font is too small, can simply adjust their Internet browsers.
The new Web site has large photos, some taken by city staff such as the shot of a child and adult fishing at Foothills Park. But most are stock photos that appear staged.
The Home page, which features a slim jogger’s bare belly, has generated much comment.
“How could anyone think that was an appropriate choice?” a Midtown resident going by the name of “Dis- appointed” wrote on the Weekly’s online forum, TownSquare.
Marinaro had received comments about the photo.
“This is definitely up for consideration should it be unacceptable to the community,” he said.
The floppy-eared dog on the Animal Services page, a favorite within City Hall, would be tricky to dislike.
But the Recycling Program page, which shows two young boys — one white, one Hispanic — grinning while holding a recycling bin in the “Visiting Palo Alto” page, which features two middle-aged women, thrilled to have spotted something behind a window, have both been criticized for being over-the-top.
“And those are the demented women ‘shopping’ in the Visiting section? Does anyone in real life act like that about a store?”, asked College Terrace resident “Joyce” in a TownSquare entry.
The text on the site has a pronounced public-relations tinge, residents have noted.
Site visitors are called customers.

Rinconada
(continued from page 3)
shortages are caused because local teens find pool jobs unglamorous, Alaee said that Palo Alto teens who opted not to work simply were not interested.
“What we experience in Palo Alto is that the kids have many priorities in their life, and recreation seems to be No. 1, then work and sports. It’s a balancing act to make sure that as an employer we fit within the priorities of the young adults in this city,”
Alaee said.
“Recruitment and retention is a challenge across the aquatic industry” due to training requirements, including “basic life guarding, CPR, first aid, back-boarding, and teaching to give kids swim lessons,” he added.
And although Sunday’s daylong closure was criticized on Town Square as being poorly planned to take place on a “prime-time weekend,” Sunday is one of the pool’s less busy days, Alaee said.
On weekdays, because of summer camp and swim seasons, we might see about 500 swimmers in a day.
On weekends, the number is about a couple hundred,” Alaee said.
Was it not ideal, but it was the least bad option,” Losch said.
Alaee recommended that pool users call the 24-hour hotline at 650-463-8700 or return a comment card or phone the police.

Staff Writer Becky Trout can be e-mailed at btrout@pawek.com.

MEMORIAL SERVICES
George Hirzel, a resident of Menlo Park, died July 25. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, August 25, at 1 p.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church.

Stanford Blood Center’s Annual Musical Blood Drive!
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Upfront

Palo Alto Weekly • Friday, August 10, 2007 • Page 5
**News Digest**

**Portola Valley arson suspect released**

A man arrested after a series of grass fires in Portola Valley on Saturday was released from custody Tuesday after prosecutors found insufficient evidence to charge him with arson, San Mateo County Chief Deputy District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe said.

Donald Ray Williams, 45, of East Palo Alto, had been held in county jail in Redwood City on $200,000 bail and was to be charged Tuesday with four felony counts of arson. “At this point, the evidence did not warrant the filing of criminal charges and the investigation will be ongoing,” Wagstaffe said.

San Mateo County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Williams on Saturday afternoon after he was seen running near one of the small fires near the Portola Valley-East Palo Alto border.

The fires were found burning at about 1:30 p.m. near Arastradero and Alpine roads.

Williams was picked up running along Arastradero, within a half-mile of one of the fires, according to Woodside Fire Protection District Battalion Chief Dan Ghiorso.

The fires were controlled by 3 p.m. and only burned about an acre of grassland in total, Ghiorso said.

More than 50 firefighters from six fire agencies responded to the fires.

“The investigation does indicate that we have an arson, it’s just a matter of proving who is responsible for it,” Wagstaffe said. —Bay City News Service

**Downtown assault leaves man, 21, unconscious**

A late-night fight in downtown Palo Alto Saturday left a 21-year-old Menlo Park man unconscious and two 21-year-old suspects in Santa Clara County jail, arrested on charges of assault.

The condition of the victim is not currently available, according to Police Sgt. Sandra Brown. He was taken to Stanford Hospital with possible bleeding of the brain and potential nose and skull fractures shortly after the 2 a.m. incident. Oscar Tostado of San Mateo and Davin Castro of Fremont were arrested following the 15- to 20-second melee.

Brown said the fight broke out after a group of young adult males approached a group of women standing in Lytton Plaza. The women were accompanied by a group of men, who told police they did not confront the other males because it appeared the women could handle the situation.

Something sparked the melee, when the victim was reportedly kicked and punched repeatedly in the face.

When officers approached the crowd shortly thereafter, Tostado fled down an alley toward Hamilton Avenue, Brown said. An officer called out for him to stop, and when he did not the officer chased after him, forcing Tostado to the ground, Brown said.

Tostado was identified by witnesses and charged with felony assault and resisting arrest.

Castro was later identified as a suspect and arrested on a misdemeanor assault charge.

Brown said she did not know if the two suspects had criminal records or if they were using drugs or alcohol. —Becky Trout

**Georgie Gleim wins Athena Award**

Georgie Gleim, the second-generation owner of Gleim’s jewelers in downtown Palo Alto and a decades-long community leader, has been named the 2007 winner of the Athena Award by the Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce.

The award, to be presented at a luncheon Sept. 12 at the Garden Court Hotel, recognizes contributions by women in Palo Alto. Gleim operates the jewelry store that was founded decades ago by her father, Arthur Gleim.

Gleim and her husband, George Schumann — who also works in the store — reside in Palo Alto with their dog, Stuff. Gleim’s hobby is gardening and caring for her horse, now a “big, expensive pet.” —Jay Thorwaldson
It’s a family joke that photographer Patricia McClung does her best work “just before she gets arrested.” That’s because she takes copious pictures in public spaces such as Paddington Station in London and the Time Warner Center in New York. In this time of terrorism fears, anxious guards often tell her to stop. But McClung is simply collecting images for her richly layered photographic collages. One collage can include 300 to 400 overlapping views of the same place, assembled digitally to bring together the many angles, corners and moments she’s witnessed there.

“Sometimes I get just a straight shot that I couldn’t improve on,” she said. “But usually, for me to reflect on an experience, I need more than one image.” McClung’s kaleidoscopic perspective can bring even more energy to the bustling urban spaces she favors. For instance, in “Grand Central Station,” one of her photos now on exhibit at Stanford Art Spaces, the floor pulses with patchwork movement, and several people in the crowd are pictured more than once in different places, as if they’ve traveled across the collage. The layered images of the huge American flags hanging overhead make the Stars and Stripes seem to flutter.

Surprisingly, in this iconic location, McClung was given free rein to take photos. Nervous about being asked to put her camera away, she had approached a security guard and explained that she was a professional photographer and would be taking quite a few photos of the station. The answer came back in a New York minute: “Lady, I don’t care what you do.”

There’s a wealth of other urban places in the current Stanford exhibit, which also includes paintings and prints by Arturo Bolanos and watercolor paintings by Claire Iris Schencke. McClung has aimed her (continued on next page)
So, you want to be a news hound?

If you like seeking out news and finding facts, and you have good writing skills, you could be a candidate for a news reporting internship at the Almanac, the hometown newspaper of Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley and Woodside.

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Perspective (continued from previous page)
camera at the Staten Island Ferry Station, Union Station in Washington, D.C., a Beijing escalator and the San Francisco Ferry Building, among others.

One collage, titled “Hong Kong Shopping Center Girls,” is particularly lovely, as the same two girls cover over and over inside a busy world of glassy squares.

To create her collages, McClung spends lots of time wandering around in one location with her digital camera, a Nikon D200. Then, armed with Adobe Photoshop, she chooses her strongest images and does whatever cropping or altering she deems necessary.

Piecing these images into a collage onscreen is an intuitive process that McClung likens to painting. Her eye may be caught by the geometry or light patterns of a combination of photos. Overall, she says she seeks to “recreate my composite memory of a place.”

McClung’s work has a less urban, more peaceful side, too. She also does fine art photography, and makes collages and takes single shots of landscapes. Starting this month, she’s showing landscapes of Napa and North Carolina in a group exhibit at the Center for Nursing Excellence at Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital.

The tranquility of this work is reflected in McClung’s serene home studio in Portola Valley, a room with greenhouse-like windows and a computer with an enormous monitor. A flower garden outside displays a spectrum of pinks, and a rolled-up yoga mat rests under a window. McClung and her family moved here last year after 12 years in Palo Alto.

Being a full-time photographer is still new to McClung; she previously worked for 25 years with university libraries, shooting photos as a hobby and as gifts for friends. Then her husband gave her a new digital camera, which proved both inspiring and daunting.

“The whole computer thing was bigger than I was, so I took classes at FootHill,” she said.

McClung has now studied photography for some time at FootHill and De Anza colleges, and is a candidate this fall for a FootHill degree in photography (to go with her bachelor’s and master’s degrees). Over the last four years, she’s been transitioning into the life of a full-time photographer, exhibiting and selling photos. In 2006, her San Francisco photo collage “Waiting for the Train” took first place in the Manipulated Images category of the Palo Alto Weekly’s photo contest. It was the first contest she ever entered.

The classes at FootHill seem to have made the greatest impact on McClung. She speaks with warmth and enthusiasm about the instructors, who include Kathryn Dunlevie of Palo Alto and Biggitte Carnochan of Portola Valley. She and her friends may go out photographing together, critique each other’s work or attend each other’s exhibits.

What: Photograph collages by Patricia McClung, on exhibit at Stanford Art Spaces with paintings and prints by Arturo Bolidos and watercolor paintings by Claire Iris Schenker.

Where: Stanford Art Spaces, at the Center for Integrated Systems at 420 Via Palou, Stanford University.

When: Weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., through Sept. 13.

Cost: Free

Info: For Stanford Art Spaces information, go to cis.stanford.edu/~margros or call 650-725-3622. Patricia McClung’s Web site is at www.patriciamclung.com.
Capturing the American West

Stanford exhibit brings the work of pioneering Yosemite photographers into focus

by Elizabeth Obreza

If you think backpacking in Yosemite would be difficult, consider doing it with a horse-drawn wagon full of photo apparatus, 18-by-20-inch glass negatives and assistants who need convincing to follow you into dangerous and unexplored terrain.

This was the load that the first photographers of the Yosemite Valley carried with them, according to Nancy Ferguson, curatorial assistant at Stanford University’s Cantor Arts Center. Ferguson assisted curator Betsy Fryberger in creating the exhibit, “Yosemite’s Structure and Textures: Photographs by Eadweard Muybridge, Carleton Watkins, Ansel Adams and Others,” which features photos entirely from the Stanford collection. It runs through Oct. 28.

Ferguson said she’s impressed that photographers requiring so much physical exertion to capture, particularly for photographers working in the 19th century, could still embody such tranquility.

For example, Muybridge and his 1867 crew may have shed blood, sweat and tears venturing to the “Summit of the Lower Yo-semite Fall” to photograph the edge of a behemoth cliff that makes the evergreen trees in the valley below look like pipe cleaners. However, the artist still expresses the perspective of a child peaking around a corner while playing a game of hide and seek.

One portion of “Structure and Textures” is set up to reflect the geography of the Yosemite Valley, with photos of El Capitan, Three Brothers, Yosemite Falls, Mirror Lake and Half Dome parallel to the “Structure and Textures” of Yosemite, the Ahwahneechee Native American tribe had called it home for at least 10,000 years. Intra-tribal wars as well as battles between indigenous and foreign inhabitants of the valley forced most Native American tribes to relocate to reservations.

Just outside of the exhibit are modern representations of the valley in 20th-century media. A TV plays advertisements for Yosemite from the 1940s, and a binder is full of recent newspaper articles about the national park.

The most unexpected interactive feature of “Structure and Textures” is the stereoscope, a handheld device invented in 1833 to create three-dimensional views of drawings and later, photographs. Holding the exhibit’s binocular-like stereoscope to the eyes affords a sky-to-ground view of Yosemite’s riverside cliff Tutokanula, or The Great Chief, photographed by Muybridge.

According to Ferguson, the stereo view photographs were like the TV of the late 19th and early 20th centuries for middle-class Americans. She said stereo views introduced Yosemite to the rest of the United States.

Photographers of Yosemite such as Watkins and Muybridge found that their stereo views were more popular than the larger photos they took using mammoth glass plate negatives.

While the exhibit highlights the “Structure and Textures” of Yosemite, it also shows the technological development of photography. The photographers’ side-by-side prints of Vernal Fall show that Muybridge, Watkins and Fiske were contemporaries while Adams reached his artistic peak decades after they died.

According to Ferguson, Adams’ camera and printing processes were much faster — and technologically advanced — than those of the first Yosemite photographers. This can be seen in each photographer’s different technological capability to capture the fluidity of Vernal Fall and the definition of the clouds above Half Dome, she said.

Adams’ photograph of Vernal Fall, for example, shows nuances in the water’s trajectory. He clearly distinguished between the falling water and the mist below whereas the other photographers’ images align similar shading and texture to the fall’s water, mist and sky.

The dense and massive gray sky absorbs nearly all traces of cloud formation in Watkins’ photo of Half Dome. Adams’ “Winter Half Dome,” however, would not feel entirely natural or balanced without showing remnants of the weather system that likely brought the blanket of fresh snow to the ground.

Ferguson said that technology and modern context are likely the reasons Adams’ Yosemite work has surpassed his predecessors’ in fame. Though Adams studied with Fiske — who studied with Watkins — Adams captured the Yosemite that most people imagine.

(continued on next page)
As McClung grows as a digital photographer, she has to keep abreast of technology. Self-described as “technically challenged,” she is still surprised to find herself specializing in a digital medium. Still, she says the technology of digital photography is getting easier and easier as more people use it. She herself doesn’t use a lot of equipment: She owns only two lenses and doesn’t carry a tripod. In low-light situations, where moving the camera could cause blurring, she says, “I’ve learned not to breathe.”

McClung prints her photo collages large, so that viewers will be enticed to get up close and see all the stories inside. But she understands that even with clear details of faces and buildings, “people can get disoriented by collages.” Therefore, she always gives her pieces straightforward titles so viewers will know exactly where they are, such as “West 42nd Street (NYC).”

“I find that it’s just comforting,” she said.

Perspective
(continued from page 8)

Still, Muybridge, Watkins and Fiske left their marks on Yosemite. The exhibit explains that Watkins’ photos of the valley encouraged President Abraham Lincoln and Congress to protect Yosemite by making it a national park. Yosemite’s Mt. Watkins was named in his honor.

Muybridge, who is most famous for his Stanford studies of animals in motion, learned much about motion photography by capturing Yosemite’s rapid waterfalls. And Fiske photographed the human activity at Yosemite that Watkins and Muybridge deliberately avoided.

Technological capabilities and fame aside, each photographer featured in “Yosemite’s Structure and Textures” undoubtedly photographed the valley to glorify what Ferguson called “a stunning piece of beauty in the American West.”


Where: Stanford University’s Arrillaga Auditorium in the Cummings Art Building

When: Aug. 15, Aug. 22 and Oct. 18 at 7 p.m.

Cost: Free

Info: Go to museum.stanford.edu or call 650-723-4177.
The live concert and multimedia performance “Tango La Melodia” comes to the Bus Barn Theatre in Los Altos this weekend.

Theater
‘Tango La Melodia’
It takes two to tango, but three to drive the sultry plot of the multimedia production “Tango La Melodia.” Lead artists Brent Bishop and Paige and Carly Patterson collaborate to create a combination of music, dance, film, and drama, incorporating jazz. Overall, they aim for the effect of a 1920s speakeasy.

Performances will be held at Bus Barn Theatre, located at 97 Hillview Ave., in Los Altos, on Aug. 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 8 p.m. Admission is $25. Call 650-941-0551 or go to www.busbarn.org to learn more.

Art
Tuareg silversmiths
Being Tuareg is an art, especially for Tuareg silversmiths and brothers Salah and Ousman Saidi. As part of “The Art of Being Tuareg,” an exhibit of the art and culture of the semi-nomadic Tuareg people of West Africa, the two will visit Stanford University to demonstrate their craft.

They’re scheduled to work in the museum gallery — or in the courtyard, while using a torch — of the Cantor Arts Center from 11 a.m. through 5 p.m. (except for lunch and other breaks). Demonstration dates are Aug. 16-19, Aug. 22-26 and Aug. 29-Sept. 1.

The Cantor Arts Center is located at Lomita Drive and Museum Way on Stanford’s campus. For more information about the exhibit, see museum.stanford.edu or call 650-723-4177.

Music
The Sippy Cups
Even though their rocking-out skills might not rival their parents’, children old enough to drink juice from a sippy cup are also old enough to enjoy rock music. The success of the Sippy Cups’ combination of pop-rock with juggling unicyclists is living proof.

The Sippy Cups — whose songs include “Little House of Jello” and “How to Build a Dog” — will perform on Aug. 12 at 1 and 4 p.m. at the Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, located at 500 Castro St.

Adult tickets are $18 and child tickets are $12. Infant admission is free. For more information, go to www.thesippycups.com or call 415-335-4422.

Film
‘When I Came Home’
Many devastating war stories aren’t set on the battlefield. “When I Came Home,” a documentary film following the transformation of homeless Iraq war veteran Herold Noel, deals with the difficulty many returning veterans have in getting benefits and other help from veterans’ agencies.

The Peninsula Peace and Justice Center will screen “When I Came Home,” which was directed by Dan Lohaus, on Aug. 14. The 7:30 p.m. showing will be in Fellowship Hall of First Baptist Church, located at 305 N. California Ave., in Palo Alto.

The suggested contribution is $5 to $10. See www.peaceandjustice.org or call 650-326-8837.
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  Range: $5.00-13.00

- Hobee's 856-6124
  4224 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
  Also at Town & Country Village, Palo Alto 327-4111

**BurmeSE**

- Green Elephant Gourmet (650) 494-7391
  Burmese & Chinese Cuisine
  3950 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto
  (Charleston Shopping Center)

  **Chinese**

- Chef Chu's (650) 948-2696
  1067 N. San Antonio Rd. on the corner of El Camino, Los Altos

- Jing Jing 328-6885
  443 Emerson St., Palo Alto
  Authentic Szechwan, Hunan Food To Go, Delivery

  **European**

- Chez Zucca 327-0132
  541 Bryant St., Palo Alto
  Lunch M-F 11:30am-2:00pm
  Dinner Sun-Wed 5-10pm; Th-Sat 5-11pm
  Brunch Sun 11:30am-3:30pm
  Now serving our Spring Menu

**French**

- Chez TJ 364-7666
  938 Vila St., Mountain View
  Dinner Sun-Wed 5-10pm; Th-Sat 5-11pm

**Indian**

- Cafe Bombay 948-9483
  4546 El Camino, Los Altos
  at San Antonio
  Lunch, Dinner, Buffets every day

- Darbar Indian Cuisine 321-6688
  129 Lytton, Downtown Palo Alto
  Lunch Buffet M-F 11am-2pm

- Janta Indian Restaurant 622-5903
  369 Lytton Ave., Downtown Palo Alto
  Lunch Buffet M-F

**Italian**

- Oregano's 941-3800
  4546 El Camino, Los Altos
  Gourmet Pasta, Pizza, Banquet Rooms

**Japanese & Sushi**

- Fuji Sushi 494-3933
  4119 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
  Open 7 days a week

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  260 S. California Ave., Palo Alto
  650-321-6464
  Lunch: Tue-Fri, Dinner: Tue-Sun
  Take-out, Banquet facility, Belly dancing
  www.illusionssuperclub.com

**Mexican**

- Fiesta Del Mar 965-9354
  1006 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View
  Mexican Cuisine & Cantina

- Fiesta Del Mar Too 967-3525
  735 Vila Street, Mountain View
  Open Weeknights to 11pm, Weekends to 12pm

- Palo Alto Sol 328-8840
  408 California Ave., Palo Alto
  Huge menu • Homestyle Recipes

**Pizza**

- Pizza My Heart 327-9400
  220 University Ave., Palo Alto
  Range: $1.50-16.50

- Pizza Chicago 424-9400
  4115 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
  This is the best pizza in town

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- Trader Vic's 849-9800
  4269 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
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  Brunch Sun 10:30am - 2pm
  Dinner Mon-Thurs 5-10pm; Fri-Sat 5-11pm;
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**Seafood**

- Cook's Seafood 325-0604
  751 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
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**Thai**

- Thai Pho Restaurant 323-7700
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- Indochine 853-1238
  Thai & Vietnamese Cuisine
  www.indochinehaut.com
  2710 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto
  Midtown Shopping Center

- Krung Siam 322-5900
  423 University Ave., Palo Alto
  King of Krung Siam 960-7077

**Search a complete listing of local restaurant reviews by location or type of food on PaloAltoOnline.com**

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**Restaurant of the week**

**Palo Alto Sol**

*“Indulge yourself to experience the flavor of the pueblan baroque cuisine in an elegant and contemporary Mexican setting. We invite you to experience the surprising, delicate and masterful blend of our flavors.”* —Mountain View Voice

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Open
Lunch: Mon-Fri, 11am-2pm
Dinner: Mon-Sun, 5pm-9pm
Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Taqueria El Grullense

This Palo Alto restaurant packs in both regulars and first-time customers during lunch hour.

A quick search yields 25 restaurants named El Grullense within driving distance. Who is El Grullense, a man or a multinational corporate chain, and what does he want with us?

Just to satisfy our hunger for homey, fast Mexican-American staples. A few signature items:

• Excellent carnitas, crisp strings and tender shreds of pork.
• Cold cantaloupe juice that tastes fresher than most cantaloupes.
• Fluffy tamales stuffed with perfect roasted chicken.

As long as most Palo Altans can remember, this flat, formerly turquise building on El Camino Real was Señor Taco. In October 2004, it became Taqueria El Grullense and turned a pale peach color. It also became a real restaurant, with a tile floor, counters and comfortable indoor tables. The memory of Señor Taco is preserved in painted tiles near the entry.

Palo Alto owner Gustavo Perez is the brother-in-law of Juan Gamez, whose family started frying carnitas in an abandoned A&W in Redwood City after getting too many parking tickets with their taco trucks. Juan’s father, Rafael Gamez, started the Northern California business nearly 30 years ago, but the originals are in Los Angeles. The newest in our area is El Grullense Grill in downtown Mountain View, with a menu that includes grilled chicken breast, steak and a full bar. You’ll also see signs of El Grullense in San Jose, Salinas and Stockton.

Many people think the bird on those signs is a flamingo. It’s a grullo, a crane, as in the restaurant’s name. And for anybody like my husband who thought the name had something to do with grilling, oops again. The founder came from the town of El Grullo, in the state of Jalisco, Mexico. He is El Grullense.

Fans say El Grullense reminds them of beloved taquerias in their Southwestern hometowns. Others find the fare too greasy. We found the al pastor burrito ($4.99), spit-roasted pork with pineapple, guilty, drenching its flour tortilla.

Otherwise, El Grullense does very well or better. And good luck finding other big menus this cheap and satisfying in Palo Alto.

Hard to beat for Mexican food that’s fast, cheap and good

by Sheila Himmel

A signature meal at El Grullense: carnitas and cantaloupe juice.

For $1.25 each, two small corn tortillas embrace tender beef tongue, crisp carnitas and many other meats. Besides the usual, El Grullense carries variety meats, like beef tripe. And for vegetarians: salad, tacos, burritos and tortas.

The immaculate condiment bar, protected by glass, carries green, red and fresca salsas as well as fresh cucumbers, radishes and hot pickled carrots with jalapeños. Wedges of ripe avocado surround a generous mound of fresh buy shrimp in the shrimp ceviche tostada ($4.50).

On the tamale plate ($9.99), you can get two of the same or one pork and one chicken — both meats tender and juicy — in a light cornmeal sleeping bag. Plates like this come with a smidgen of shredded lettuce, fluffly rice and sticky refried beans. The beans had an unfortunate burned tinge.

The menu goes on and on, from breakfast burrito to goat soup and menudo (on weekends) and... The must-have drink is cantaloupe juice. All the juices come in three sizes, starting with a 16-ounce “small” ($1.75). Order the very sweet horchata or tamarind juice and you’re going to say, “Oops, I could’ve had a cantaloupe juice.”

Tell us your take on this taqueria. Post your own restaurant review at www.PaloAltoOnline.com/ restaurants.

NOW SERVING

Following are condensed versions, in alphabetical order, of longer restaurant reviews published in the Weekly over the past several years. This week’s reviews begin where the list ended one week ago.

Regal Bagels, 570 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (650) 960-1118

Located in Valley Park Plaza, this small bagel shop serves different types of bagels, as well as pastries and coffee. Mon.-Fri. 5:45 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat. 6:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Sun. 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

Restaurant Dos Hornados, 2483 Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View (650) 968-3003

This small restaurant serves traditional Mexican dishes all day. Delivery also available for orders of $25 or more. Daily 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

Ricky’s Ice Cream, 3466 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto (650) 493-6553

Homemade ice cream and sorbet. Featured in July 2002 Gourmet Magazine as one of the 12 best places in America to eat an ice cream cone. Sun.-Thu. 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

Ristorante Don Giovanni, 235 Castro St., Mountain View (650) 961-9749

A reliable bet for a good dinner and a relaxing evening out. The menu is sprawling and the three or four daily specials are frequently imaginative, with a pasta of the day, a risotto, one or two fish dishes and sometimes veal on a mosquite wood-burning grill. Lunch: Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Sat.-Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; Dinner: Mon.-Thurs. 5-10 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. 5-11 p.m. [Reviewed July 1, 2005]

Robali, 496 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto (650) 325-1994

Lamb, chicken and tidtles highlight this small but authentic menu. Mon.-Fri. 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat.-noon-5 p.m. [Reviewed Dec. 16, 1996]

Rejex Gourmet Wraps, 60 Town & Country Village, Palo Alto (650) 324-9277

Wide assortment of wraps, including Thai, Tex-Mex, Italian, Hawaiian and seafood. Convenient locations, lots of parking. Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. [Reviewed Jan. 10, 1996]

Rosen & Crow, The, 547 Emerson St., Palo Alto (650) 327-8083

Casual British pub with award-winning fish and chips, as well as burgers, sandwiches, and salads. Over 20 beers available on tap. Patio dining available in the summer. Mon.-Sun. 11:30 a.m.-2 a.m. (food service until 9 p.m.) [Reviewed Sept. 12, 2003]

Rudy’s Pub, 127 University Ave., Palo Alto (650) 329-0922

Offering both a sports bar element and a dance floor, Rudy’s is embraced by Stanford students and locals alike. Restaurant fare at the adjacent Elbo is “German-European”; the atmosphere can be seedy on the weekends. Lunch: 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.; Dinner: 5:30 p.m.-9 p.m.; bar open from 11:30 a.m.-2 a.m.

Satara, 454 California Ave., Palo Alto (650) 324-1503

Mexican-food favorites: burritos, tacos, quesadillas, fajitas, etc. The Calabasas (zucchini burrito with black beans) is a more unusual choice, as are zucchini tacos. Daily 11 a.m.-9 p.m. [Reviewed Jan. 8, 1999]

Satkar, 333 University Ave., Palo Alto (650) 322-7687

This is a great place for office workers to grab a light, quick lunch. Winning soups include New England clam chowder and chicken, shiitake and bok choy. Pre-made sandwiches and salads are also available, but these additions do not shine the way the soups generally do. Mon.-Fri. 7 a.m.-3 p.m. [Reviewed Dec. 17, 2004]

Satkar, 233 State St., Los Altos (650) 947-8729

In addition to a full menu, Satkar offers an all-you-can-eat buffet, which includes many of its signature dishes, such as chicken tikka, chicken masala, bangar baharta (baked eggplant in curry sauce) and tandori lamb. Mon.-Sat. 11:35 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 5-10 p.m.; Sun. 5-9:30 p.m. [Reviewed Jan. 8, 1999]

(continued on next page)
Real Estate Matters

SHARE THE LOVE

Have you ever heard of the “home staging” profession? These individuals assist sellers with presenting their home in a fashion that will increase the likelihood of a full price offer. While the value added by such professionals is often worth the investment, many sellers can put the basics into action themselves, and enjoy the same benefits.

There are several “quick fixes” that stagers commonly recommend.

First, the dirty work. You’ve got to clean your windows, but don’t forget about washing all the screens to let in as much sparkling sunlight as possible. In tiled bathrooms, clean and regroove the floors. You know what they say about cleanliness.

Second, create space in two ways. In the kitchen, roll away any movable utility carts and clear clutter off the countertops and the refrigerator. In the rest of the home, move the furniture one to two feet away from the walls to create the illusion of more space.

Finally, impart a sense of warmth and coziness by making up beds with colorful sheets and comforters. All of these preparations should make it that much easier for the buyers to imagine how comfortable they will be in this home. Your pride of ownership will encourage them to feel the same.

Jackie Schoelerman is a Realtor with Alain Pinel Realtors and a Real Estate Specialist for Seniors. Call Jackie for real estate advice.

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MY CHOICE OF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
Loaded Mustard Chicken Caesar Salad
Shrimp & Baby Mix Greens Salad
Roasted Chicken & Avocado Sandwich w/Salad
Martin’s Hero Cold Cut Sandwich w/Salad
Papa Paul’s Tuna Melt w/Salad
Yoshi’s Seafood Vegetable Stir Fry
Capellini Napoli Pomodoro

**Lunch is on the house if your meal is not served within 15 min. from placing order.

Scents of summer into winter

Sehbal’s Cafe & Hookah Shop, 235 University Avenue (at Ramona), Palo Alto (650) 566-8860
This cafe-slash-hookah shop serves sandwiches, salads, appetizers and desserts, along with coffees and teas. Daily: 7 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fri.-Sat. 7 a.m.-1 a.m. nightly. 

TO DESIGN ELEGANT SHOWPIECES....

Your first stop to design edible showpieces. Sun.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri.-Sat. 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Also at 300 Main St. in Los Altos—(650) 948-3300, open his new eatery at 888 El Camino Real by month’s end.

Jeffrey’s Hamburgers

COOKING IT UP IN MENLO....

The former Menlo Park home of Ken’s and 3 Fish restaurants — and Henry’s Prime Steakhouse — is slated to soon house Jeffrey’s hamburgers.

Owner Serge Karanov says his new Jeffrey’s Hamburgers will be very much like the one he owns in San Mateo, only larger. It will feature the same menu, specializing in hamburgers made with meat ground on the premises, along with a range of traditional sandwiches and specialty salads.

Mr. Karanov says the décor will offer “a diners esque feel, a 1950s diner feel, but modernized, not clichéd.” He hopes to open his new eatery at 586 El Camino Real by month’s end. Call 650-322-1959.

— Reporting by the Almanac, one of the Weekly’s sister papers

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Page 14 • Friday, August 10, 2007 • Palo Alto Weekly
Claire Danes plays the enchanting Yvaine.

Stardust ★★½

(Century 16, Century 20) All hail the consummate pros of cinema. Michelle Pfeiffer and Robert De Niro gleefully chew up the scenery in this ethereal and comic fantasy that finally loses steam in the last act.

You know you’re destined for superficial sap when lovesick pup Tristan Thorne (Charlie Cox) woos the fickle Victoria (Sienna Miller) by promising to gift her with a real star. Once Tristan has set out on his celestial-seeking journey, venturing out of the realm of humans and into a supernaturally royal kingdom, the fallen star appears in the form of a beautiful and poised enchantress called Yvaine (Claire Danes).

Tristan isn’t the only one with an interest in Yvaine. A gaggle of evil witches led by eldest sister Lamia (Pfeiffer) seeks to cut out the star’s heart so they can ingest it and prolong their tenuous hold on fleeting youth.

As Tristan and Yvaine attempt the return trip home they encounter all manner of men, including the fearsome Captain Shakespeare (De Niro), a ruthless marauder who secretly loves poetry and whom malevolent kings and sorcerers are evocative of classic fairy tales.

Quite a stretch to suggest that this exaggerated passion was the incentive to turn an ordinary scribe into one of literature’s most glittering dramatists. But suggest Tirard does, with engaging references and characters that will ultimately appear in Molière’s most notorious works.

Slapstick buoyed the bouncy narrative that recaptures some of Gilliam’s “Adventures of Baron Munchausen” work and doesn’t. Floating pirate ships recall Terry Gilliam’s “Adventures of Baron Munchausen” while malevolent kings and sorcerers are evocative of classic fairy tales.

Danes and Cox are blessed with a beautiful chemistry that keeps the sparks flying even when their story is weighted down with silly scripting and a clunky climax. Not your mother’s fairy tale, but it could be yours.

Rated: PG-13 for violence and mature themes. 2 hours, 5 minutes.

— Jeanne Aufmuth

Molière ★★★

(Aquarius) Jean-Baptiste Poquelin, a.k.a. Molière, was a scabrous wit and author of the 17th century’s most renowned comic literature. Writer/director Laurent Tirard crafts a charming romp trained on the infamous satirist in his more formative years.

At his humble beginnings, Molière (Romain Duris) was an actor and a failed one at that. His less-than-memorable Illustrious Troupe teetered on the brink of bankruptcy until Molière was finally jailed by his creditors.

Historians have failed to unearth traces of Molière between jail terms and his chronicled reappearance several months later, when the troupe toured the French provinces and achieved some success. What transpired in those missing months? It’s anyone’s guess and this is Tirard’s.

Released from prison by wealthy M. Jourdain (Fabrice Luchini), the young actor is instructed to tutor Jourdain in the craft of the stage so he can impress a lovely marquise who gathers a glittering salon and who is most definitely not his wife.

The rakish Molière proceeds to fall for the man’s vivacious wife, Elmise (Laura Morante). Which plays into all manner of social snafus because Jourdain has passed Molière off as Monsieur Tartuffe, a lowly pauper priest.

It’s a comedy of errors, a trompe l’oeil of social skill as Molière seeks to consummate his perfect love while living a messy lie.


— Jeanne Aufmuth

To view the trailers for "Molière" and "Stardust" go to Palo Alto Online at http://www.PaloAltoOnline.com/
"MOLIÈRE" IS A GORGEOUS ROMANTIC DRAMA.
ONE OF THE BEST FILMS OF THE YEAR.
—Jeffrey Lyons, NBC REEL TALK

CALL

"MOLIÈRE" IS A GORGEOUS ROMANTIC DRAMA.

HOW OFTEN IS A MOVIE THIS LOVED?... ONCE

Forget everything you think you know about the movie musical. With ONCE, writer-director John Carney deconstructs it and reinvents it as something wholly new, inspired and alive. This small film is a huge—brilliantly simply because it doesn’t try so hard to be brilliant—and it’s one of the year’s best.”
—Christy Lemire

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“JACKIE & CHRIS HAVE NEVER BEEN FUNNIER.”

AND

“WILD, FUNNY AND AND

Rescue Dawn (PG) ★★
Century 16: 11:30 a.m.; 12:05, 1:45, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:30, 7:05, 8:05, 9:30 & 10:30 p.m.

The Bourne Ultimatum (PG-13) ★★★

El Cantante (R) ★★★
Century 12: 12:40, 4, 7:15 & 10:15 p.m.

Hairspray (PG) ★★★★
Century 12: 12:45, 3:45, 7:10 & 9:55 p.m.
Century 20: 11:45 a.m.; 2:30, 5:45, 7:35 & 10:10 p.m.

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG-13) ★★★
Century 12: 12:30, 3:35, 7 & 10:05 p.m.
Century 12: 12:20, 3:30, 7:30 & 10:30 p.m.

Hot Rod (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)
Century 12: 12:40, 2:55, 5:10 & 7:50 p.m.
Century 12: 12:10, 1, 2:40, 3:50, 5:20, 6:30, 7:40, 9 & 10:20 p.m.

I Know Who Killed Me (R) ★★
Century 20: 4:05 & 10:25 p.m.

I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry (PG-13) ★★★
Century 12: 1:15, 4:20, 7:15 & 10:10 p.m.

Knocked Up (R)
Century 16: 1:15 & 7:30 p.m.

Live Free or Die Hard (PG-13) ★★
Century 12: 2:20, 5:25 & 8:25 p.m.

Moliere (PG-13) ★★★
Aquarius: 1:34, 6:45 & 9:30 p.m.

No Reservations (PG) ★★★★★
Century 12: 11:45 a.m.; 2:15, 4:45, 7:45 & 9:55 p.m.
Century 20: 11:20 a.m.; 12:15, 150, 2:40, 5:15, 6:30, 9:30 & 10:25 p.m.

Ocean’s Thirteen (PG-13) ★★★
Century 12: 4:40 & 10:35 p.m.

Once (PG-13) ★★★★★
Century 12: 215 & 9:45 p.m.

Pirates of the Caribbean: At World’s End (PG-13) ★★
Century 20: 2:15 & 9:35 p.m.

Ratatouille (G) ★★★
Century 16: 11:35 a.m.; 2:15, 5:05, 7:40 & 10:20 p.m.
Century 20: 11:10 a.m.; 2, 4:50, 7:40 & 10:20 p.m.

Rescue Dawn (PG-13) ★★
Century 20: 11:40 a.m. CineArts at Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 4:20, 7:15 and 10:10 p.m.

Rush Hour 3 (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)
Century 12: 11:30 a.m.; 12:15, 1, 1:45, 2:30, 3:15, 4, 4:45, 5:30, 7:10, 7:55, 8:45, 9:40 and 10:20 p.m.

Sicko (PG-13)
Century 12: 11:10 a.m. & 5:45 p.m.

The Simpsons Movie (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)
Century 14: 12:05, 2:20, 4:30, 7, 9:15 & 10 p.m.
Century 12: 12:30, 140, 2:45, 4:20, 5:30, 7:10, 8:15 & 10:15 p.m.

Skinwalkers (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)
Century 12: 12:05, 2:45, 5:20 & 8:05 p.m.

Star Dust (PG-13) ★★★
Century 12: 10:15, 4, 7:15 & 10:10 p.m.

Transformers (PG-13) ★★★
Century 16: 11:55 a.m., 3:15, 6:55 & 10:10 p.m.
Century 12: 130, 4:40 & 8 p.m.

Underdog (PG) (Not Reviewed)
Century 12: 12:20, 2:35, 4:40, 6:50 & 9 p.m.

’ll Skip it ★★★ Some redeeming qualities. ★★★ A good bet. ★★★★★ Outstanding
Aquarius: 4:30 Emerson St., Palo Alto (266-9260)
Century Cinema 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (960-O970)
Century Park 12: 557 E. Bayshore Blvd., Redwood City (385-9000)
Century 20 Downtown: 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City (396-3456)

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

ON THE WEB: The most up-to-date movie listings at www.PaloAltoOnline.com
I’ll Be Seeing You (1944) A prisoner released on parole (Ginger Rogers) meets a soldier (Joseph Cotten) on a train. Fri. at 7:30 p.m.

The Sky’s the Limit (1943) Fred Astaire plays a Flying Tiger on leave during World War II. Fri. at 5:50 & 9:05 p.m.

Casablanca (1942) This Oscar-winning World War II romance stars Ingrid Bergman and Humphrey Bogart. Sat-Tue. at 7:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun. also at 3:50 p.m.

In a Lonely Place (1950) Humphrey Bogart plays a writer accused of murdering his neighbor (Gloria Grahame) provides an alibi. Sat.-Tue. at 6:45 & 9:25 p.m.

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix — S.T. (Reviewed July 20, 2007) Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, some suggestive content and moments never lose their relevance. Campy loyal Death Eaters. Fans of the novel will and others are meeting secretly to study Umbridge takes over Hogwarts’ Defense professors, prepares for war. But the fueled their lives at Hogwarts School of the Goblet of Fire,” Harry, Hermione and death of a classmate in “Harry Potter and (Century 16, Century 12) Following the For Theatres and Showtimes: 3:50 p.m. Oscar-winning World War II

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1970s. The major advantage of silicone hydrogels of the soft lenses introduced during the early 1970s. This is that they allow up to six times more oxygen to reach the eye. This is important since oxygen-starved eyes are vulnerable to corneal swelling and infection. Silicon hydrogels are healthier and more comfortable because they breathe better and dehydrate less.

Today’s contact lenses can be an exciting alternative to glasses, giving the wearer a glass-free look and hassle-free wear all day long. Select from hard, soft, and colored contacts. When you visit MENLO OPTICAL, we like to ask questions about your lifestyle and your likes and dislikes. You will find our prices to be most competitive to others in our community, while finding our service to be excellent. Call us at 322-3900, or visit us at 1386 University Drive, on the corner of Park Grove Avenue and University Drive.

P.S. Some silicone hydrogels are so breathable they are the only contacts approved by the FDA for 30-day wear.

Mark Schmidt is an American Board of Optometry and National Contact Lens Examiners Certified Optician licensed by the Medical Board of California. He can be easily reached at Menlo Optical, 1386 University Drive, Menlo Park, 650-322-3900.

TODAY’S CONTACTS

Some people who wear contact lenses report that they experience so much discomfort that they discontinue their use. If you have experienced this problem in the past, you should know that today’s contact lenses are safer and more comfortable than they were even a decade ago. During that time, lens manufacturers have introduced silicone hydrogel lenses, which are an improved version of the soft lenses introduced during the early 1970s. The major advantage of silicone hydrogels is that they allow up to six times more oxygen to reach the eye. This is important since oxygen-starved eyes are vulnerable to corneal swelling and infection. Silicon hydrogels are healthier and more comfortable because they breathe better and dehydrate less.

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TODAY’S CONTACTS
Goings On

The best of what’s happening on the Midpeninsula

Auditions
Peninsula Women’s Chorus Auditions
Experienced singers are invited to audition with a choir of 50 women performing classical and contemporary music. Auditions are held in August by appointment only. All voice parts are needed. www.pwchorus.org

Benefits
Chefs Who Care One-cul event at Cafe Bombay, Dinner buffet, open seating. 50 percent of the proceeds benefit Community Services Agency’s Food & Nutrition Center which minimizes food insecurity for over 4,000 residents in the community. Aug. 13 & 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m. $24. Cafe Bombay, 4546 El Camino Real, Los Altos. Call 650-968-0636.

Community Events

Coffee with Council Candidate Sid Espinosa Sid will be in Midtown. Stop by and share a coffee with the candidate. Sat., Aug. 11, noon-1:30 p.m. No host coffee. Palo Alto Cafe.

Free E-Waste Recycling Event All California businesses & residents are welcome. Aug. 11-12, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. IKEA, 1700 E. Bayshore Road, East Palo Alto. Call 650-832-9839. www.unwaste.com

Menlo Park Goes Green Block Party Learn how to go green at home. Demonstrations, live music and local food. Street is closed to car traffic and this will be a bike-friendly event with bike corral provided. Wed., Aug. 15, 5:30-9:30 p.m. Free. Santa Cruz Ave. between El Camino and Midwood, Menlo Park. Call 650-968-0836.

PA High School Flea Market All proceeds go to the Palo Alto High School Community Service Programs, 50 Embarkeradero Road, Palo Alto. Free.

Concerts
City of Mountain View Summer Sounds Joe Sharino Band at Civic Center Plaza


Music Department. Sat., Aug. 11, 9 a.m.-noon. Free. Cubberley Community Center which minimizes food insecurity for over 4,000 residents in the community. Aug. 13 & 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m. $24. Cafe Bombay, 4546 El Camino Real, Los Altos. Call 650-968-0636.

Palo Alto High School Flea Market

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Twilight Concert Series

The first round.
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STANFORD FOOTBALL

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This fresh
Carr’s father attended California, although Jordan never seriously considered attending the East Bay university, although he sent in an application. Having grown up in Palo Alto and Portola Valley, his heart belonged to Stanford from his earliest memories.

“Stanford, to everybody in the Bay Area, represents the pinnacle of athletics and academics,” Carr said. “I’ve lived here all my life. This is exciting.”

While his father has acquiesced to supporting “only Stanford football,” Carr hopes to become part of the turnaround under Harbaugh and defensive end coach D.J. Durkin.

Carr didn’t think he had much chance at attending Stanford, and never gave it much thought growing up.

“As I got older it seemed unrealistic,” he said. “I got good grades but not ‘perfect’ grades. It seemed like someone else could do it; not me. Until I was told I was admitted, I didn’t think I’d make it.”

And his musical taste for Sinatra and Earth, Wind and Fire? “Why not,” he says, throwing up his arms. “I’ve got to keep it classy. I have a broad range of tastes.”

Ostrander called his collection of Frank Thomas baseball cards his most prized possession. As a youngster, he would collect as many Thomas cards as possible; all of them showing him in a Chicago White Sox uniform.

“Just of him I must have close to 200,” Ostrander said. “I have a huge collection in a shoebox somewhere. I just hope my mom hasn’t thrown them out.”

Ostrander’s football card may be worth something some day, but for now he’s looking to lead the Cardinal back to respectability after five consecutive losing seasons. Stanford has never had six consecutive losing seasons.

“Our team has responded to his energy,” Ostrander said of Harbaugh. “I’ve already noticed a difference. He has so much experience and knows the ins and outs of the game that I try to soak up everything I can from him.”

While Ostrander may be a starter for the first time, he’s gained a lot of experience as Trent Edwards’ backup the past three years. He’s played in 22 games, starting seven, and thrown for 2,361 yards with eight touchdowns. He’s thrown for more than 200 yards in four games.

Ostrander started the final five games of last season, which included the Cardinal’s lone win at Washington.

“Trent Edwards’ back-up the past three years. He’s played in 22 games, starting seven, and thrown for 2,361 yards with eight touchdowns. He’s thrown for more than 200 yards in four games.

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He’ll be working with his third offensive system this season.

“I feel more comfortable with this offense than any other,” Ostrander said. “I think I’m pretty mechanically sound and my mental preparation as far as learning the offense is good. I know what methods work for me.”

“This is a little different system after being with so many offenses,” Ostrander continued. “I like this system. It will show complicated offensive looks but maintain the same principals.”

Stanford football (continued from page 21)
Tennis

(continued from page 21)

decision to second-seeded Catherine Nguyen in Thursday’s championship match. She breezed through the first set and then began experiencing stomach cramps.

For Wong, winning became his M.O. as he picked perfect times to charge the net against Srikant and also used long volleys to keep his opponent off balance.

Srikant was forced into a lot of mistakes as he was both verbally and mentally frustrated. “I felt like my approach shot and my net game were working well,” Wong said. “If he gets a bit frustrated, it’s a huge hurt.”

After each of them held serve in the first four games of the first set, Wong held his third serve and up 3-2 after winning on deuce number two.

The next point went to a fourth deuce and Wong was able to break his opponent for the first time and went up 4-2.

He cruised from there. Wong went through Devashish Joshi of Sunnyvale and Nico Luardi of Diablo to reach the quarterfinals.

Palo Alto’s David Plotkin also reached the quarterfinals of the 16-Under, beating the other Michael Chang, 6-3, 6-4. He lost to Ian Clark, 7-6, 6-3.

There was another impressive show being put on in the 18 and under division and amazingly enough it was by a 15-year-old.

Baramee Wongbanchai has been in Palo Alto for less than a year now since coming over from Thailand, where he was one of the top players in his age group.

Being an unknown, he was not seeded but that did not stop him from making Thursday’s semifinals.

He started with a win over Taylor Burwell of Menlo Park then topped fourth-seeded Alec Solow in Wednesday’s quarterfinal match, winning by 6-0, 6-0 scores.

Later that afternoon, he showed down with top-seeded and eventual champion Naveen Dixit of Los Altos in the semifinals and lost, 6-3, 6-3.

Wongbanchai came back to win the third-place match, 6-1, 6-2, over Pala Alto’s Rajeev Herekar.

Portola Valley’s Erin Troedson reached the quarterfinals in the girls’ 18-Under.

Clifton Wolak of Palo Alto won a match in the boys 14 and under division as he advanced to the round of 16 with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Moses Kauz of Kelseyville.

Emma Marti of Palo Alto made a big splash in the girls 14 and under division as she reached the semifinals.

She upset the third seed, Giannini Ong of Cupertino, 6-3, 6-2, before falling to the top seed just one match short of the finals.

Kayla Emmerson of Portola Valley and Mira Khanna both won a match in this class.

In the boys 12 and under class, Anjun Narayen reached the quarterfinals with a 6-1, 6-2 win over Max Eagle of Menlo Park and then a 6-3, 7-5 over Neil Kogali of Mountain View.

Pierre Germa of Palo Alto won his first round match in the boys 12 and under.

Paullette Wolak of Palo Alto won a pair of matches in the girls 12 and under, reaching the semifinals. She beat Niharika Bedekar of Saratoga 6-1, 6-4 and then topped Kaeede Ishikawa of Foster City, 4-6, 7-5 then 7-6 in a 10-1 tiebreak.

Isabelle Thompson of Portola Valley also won a match in this class, beating Emily Kohrs of Half Moon Bay. Thompson also reached the finals in doubles, teaming with Sadie Foti of Emerald Hills.

Both Jack Katzman and Matt Liston of Menlo Park took part in the boys 10 and under division and were knocked out in the first round.

Samantha Andrew of Menlo Park made a very good run in the girls 10 and under, reaching the semifinals. She beat Katya Tabachnik of San Francisco 6-4, 6-1 in the first round than beat Jensen Barrett of Saratoga 6-2, 6-3.

Anjali Herekar of Palo Alto also took part in the girls 10 and under, losing her first match.

In boys doubles, Narayen and Spencer Simonides (Palo Alto) reached the semifinals in the 12 and under division.

In the boys 16 and under class, Plotkin and Max Glenn (Menlo Park), and Dan Schwartz and Ishan Bhadkamkar of Palo Alto each reached Wednesday’s semifinals.

The counties of San Mateo and Santa Clara have always stood for imagination and innovation. So when it came to dreaming up ways to better serve the region, we imagined a new way forward for ourselves.

The new Silicon Valley Community Foundation opened its doors in January, following the merger of Peninsula Community Foundation and Community Foundation Silicon Valley.

The new foundation combines more than $1.7 billion in assets with a priceless portfolio of expertise and experience – in turn creating a catalyst for change greater than the sum of its parts. Imagine that.
“Hot August Days” Open House
Saturday, August 11 • 2:00 to 4:30 pm

Please join us at SUNRISE OF PALO ALTO as we welcome Mid Peninsula Old Time Auto Club. Vintage automobiles will be on display as you mingle with other guests, our friendly staff and fantastic residents. Enjoy live musical entertainment, champagne and light refreshments. Enter the raffle for a chance to win a fabulous gift basket and other give-aways. Be sure to take a tour while you’re here for this fun event!

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