Palo Alto considers airport takeover
Page 3

Veterinary innovations
Local animal doctors use evolving techniques and technologies to care for their patients
Page 17

Arts Peninsula ukulele jams draw singing crowds Page 23
Sports Another Stanford football showdown Page 36
Home Backyard chickens thrive in town Pages 41
ARRANGING YOUR RETIREMENT TO REFLECT YOUR VALUES, YOUR NEEDS AND THE IMPACT YOU SEEK TO HAVE IN THE WORLD

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New report claims city could profit by taking airport operations from Santa Clara County

by Gennady Sheyney

A fter a brief layover, Palo Alto’s divisive debate about the future of the municipal airport is scheduled to take off later this month, when city officials debate what to do with the small and bustling Baylands facility. The future of the Palo Alto Airport has split the local community in recent years, with some residents and council members calling for abolishing of the aged 102-acre facility and others urging more investment in the airport. Santa Clara County has been managing the airport since 1967 under a 50-year lease. But county officials have been looking to lessen their role in the municipal airport since at least 2006, when they approved a business plan limiting the county’s investment in the facility to only the most essential projects. The county estimated the costs of running the airport exceeded the facility’s revenues by about $600,000 between 1997 and 2009. A new study, however, suggests that with a modest investment, a city-run airport could bring a long-term windfall to the city.

The analysis by the Kentucky-based firm R.A. Wiedemann & Associates estimates the city could realize a profit of $13.5 million from Palo Alto Airport by 2037 if it were to take over operations before 2012. But to get to this point, the city would have to endure a deficit of $129,200 for the years 2012-17. The report, which the council commissioned last year, largely backs up persistent claims from airport proponents that the busy facility could be a robust revenue generator. But it also stresses that any profits the city makes from the airport would have to stay in the airport. Federal Aviation Administration regulations prohibit transfer of airport revenues to other municipal uses.

“In short, the City of Palo Alto ... (continued on page 6)

Superfund: Pollution spikes despite cleanup

Palo Alto site cleanup due to leaky tank has generally lowered toxic contamination except for some areas

by Sue Dremann

D espite nearly three decades of clean-up efforts at a central Palo Alto Superfund site, groundwater contamination from a leaky underground chemical tank has dramatically concentrated in some small areas, according to a new five-year study.

The underground contamination from the “Hewlett-Packard 620-640 Page Mill Road Superfund Site” is detailed in a five-year review released Sept. 30 by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Francisco Bay Region. It is the third five-year study of the site, the report states.

In addition to the increased concentration in a few areas, inspectors have also noted a slow decrease in contamination in other areas of the site, the report states.

The contaminated plume emanates from the former HP site and combines with contamination from two other locations: the former Varian Medical Systems, Inc., facility at 601 California Ave. and the former HP facility at 395 Page Mill Road.

The plume, which contains heavy metals and toxic chemicals known as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), has affected groundwater under parts of Stanford Research Park, the Palo Alto Mayfield soccer complex, Palo Alto Square, Fry’s Electronics and the Palo Alto Courthouse, among numerous other businesses.

The plume extends 1,500 feet northeast under Oregon Expressway and runs from the HP 620-640 Page Mill Road site northward in a finger

(continued on page 6)

Palo Alto Weekly • October 8, 2010 • Page 3
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**ENVIRONMENT**

**Weekly building gets LEED gold rating**

Public invited to open house this Sunday on Cambridge Avenue

by the Palo Alto Weekly staff

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T he Palo Alto Weekly’s 10,000-square-foot headquarters building at 450 Cambridge Ave. has been awarded LEED Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council, realizing a dream hatched more than four years ago to build Palo Alto’s first such facility and to be a model for future commercial “green” development.

The public is invited to tour the three-story building and enjoy refreshments at an open house Sunday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., coinciding with the “To Life! Festival,” a Jewish cultural street event taking place that day on California Avenue.

LEED, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is the nation’s pre-eminent program for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.

The Weekly achieved the Gold-level certification due to green design and construction features that substantially reduced energy and water use, utilized local and sustainable building materials and provided amenities for employees that make for a healthier and more comfortable work environment.

In addition to using the most efficient heating and air conditioning on the market, the building has eight different climate zones, uses motion detectors for lighting and is designed to maximize passive solar heating in the winter. Carbon-dioxide sensors constantly measure the quality of the air and when the air is stale automatically signal the heating and air-conditioning system to bring in and circulate fresh air from the outside.

The building features an open office space plan that allows natural light from expansive windows to reach almost every employee.

An underground Roman drain system diverts all surface and roof rainwater away from the city’s storm-drain system into an underground gravel-filled reservoir and is absorbed into the aquifer.

“We wanted to use this project as an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to sustainability and to create a building that will be healthy and comfortable for our employees, as well as a model for future developers,” said Bill Johnson, Weekly publisher and president of Embarcadero Media, the company he formed in 1979 to start the paper.

Johnson credited the vision of Palo Alto developer Jim Baer, who managed the construction, for the inspiration to maximize green features. The building was the first LEED project for both Baer and the general contractor, Cody-Brock of San Carlos, as well as many of the subcontractors.

Interior design was by Rise Krag of Menlo Park; lighting design was done by Rita Koltai of Palo Alto. The project architect was the Hagman Group of San Jose.

“We jointly made the decision as a display of leadership,” said Baer, owner of Premier Properties Management and a longtime environmentalist. “We should all be on that learning edge of what sustainable buildings means. If not us, who?”

“Building operations are nearly 40 percent of the solution to the global climate-change challenge,” said Rick Fedrizzi, president, CEO and founding chair of the U.S. Green Building Council. “While climate change is a global problem, innovative companies like Embarcadero Media are addressing it through local solutions.”

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San Antonio site

(continued from page 3)

“One of our biggest challenges is providing enough capacity for all of our students. This could be part of that solution.

“I don’t know exactly what we envision. It would have to be discussed with the perspective of all kinds of competing needs here,” he said.

“We’re looking at enrolling another 200-plus kids this year,”

Palo Alto K-12 enrollment currently is 11,880 students, with new official figures for 2010-2011 due at this week.

About 271 additional students showed up this fall, according to preliminary estimates, with the vast majority of those — 218 — at the elementary level.

Ever since a post-Baby Boom nadir in 1989-1990 when student headcount was 7,452, Palo Alto school enrollment has been on a steady upward trajectory.


The district is building for anticipated growth in a $376 million bond-financed construction program — now underway — that will touch every campus.

New, two-story classroom buildings are planned for many sites, including Gunn and Palo Alto high schools, JLS Middle School and Ohlone and Fairmeadow elementary schools.

“Our commitment in our bond program is to have the capacity for the kids that are coming here, and it doesn’t seem to be slowing down,” Skelly said.

In a talk before neighbors assembled at the Greendell Community Center Wednesday night, SummerHill's Kamangar described plans for 26 single-family homes to be built under the new “village residential” zoning category.

The new homes, each with a two-car garage, would be built on a loop road with two access points to the frontage road along San Antonio. The private road — 12 feet from curb to curb with parking on one side — would comply with Palo Alto’s new private-street ordinance.

The parcel’s current zoning — R1 — allows six or seven homes per acre. A “village residential” designation would permit eight to 12 homes per acre, and Summerhill’s current plans are for 8.75 homes per acre, Kamangar said.

Traffic impacts from the new homes would be less than one-tenth of the traffic currently generated by the child care center, with its large buses, 400 children and 30 employees, Kamangar said.

In addition to Greendell School to its rear, the site is bounded by Eichler-style homes on Ferne Avenue and apartments on Byron Street.

Summerhill, the residential subsidiary of real estate broker and investment advisor Marcus & Millichap, has a long history of building in the Palo Alto area.

Recent projects have included the former downtown site of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation roughly bounded by Waverly Street, Homer Avenue, Bryant Street and Channing Avenue; Redwood Gate on the Palo Alto Elks Club site; and Lane Woods, across from the Sunset magazine campus in Menlo Park.

-- Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can be e-mailed at ckenrick@paweekly.com.
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$ PROTECTING WEALTH & ASSETS IN TROUBLE TIMES
$ MANAGING YOUR MONEY TO YOUR ADVANTAGE
$ WHAT TO DO RIGHT NOW & FINANCIAL PLANNING
$ HOW TO CHOOSE A TOP-NOTCH ADVISOR
$ TURNING THE MOST COMMON FINANCIAL MISTAKES INTO PROFIT
$ HOW TO PROPERLY INTEGRATE YOUR IRAs & 401(k)s
$ ECONOMIC HEDGING & ASSET ALLOCATION
$ HOW TO INVEST FOR/N RETIREMENT
$ AND MUCH, MUCH MORE

ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Steve Lewis is President of Lewis & Mathews Investment Management in Menlo Park. He is a college professor, investment counselor, Value Line award winner, financial author and has appeared on national radio and television. He is a past officer of the S.C. International Association of Financial planners and served on the National Academy Advisory Board. He has written for Money magazine and Dow Jones Barron’s.

Jim Curran is a veteran of over 25 Years on Wall Street. He is President of Curran & Lewis Investment Management, Inc., in Menlo Park, a Wealth Manager Magazine Top Wealth Management firm. He is Chief Portfolio Manager, and specializes in investment advice for individual investors, companies, and their officers. He is an accomplished and dynamic college and business lecturer.

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Superfund (continued from page 3)

to California Avenue under the former Varian Variate. It flows east along Grant Avenue to Alma Street and the Oregon Expressway underpass, then south along Portage and Lambert Avenues, just shy of Matadero Canal, according to report maps. The site contains contaminants in the soil including arsenic, gallium, trichloroethene (TCE), trichloroethane (TCA), 1,1 dichloroethene (DCE), tetrachloroethene (PCE) 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene and phenol. It was added to the federal Superfund site list in 1994. The Regional Water Board approved decommissioning groundwater monitoring and extraction wells at the former Mayfield School on El Camino in 2005. That site was redeveloped by Stanford University into the Stanford/Palo Alto Community Playing Fields soccer complex in 2006.

Inspectors have seen a slow decrease in toxic levels in many areas within the plume area. During the last five years, 880 pounds of VOCs were removed from the 620-640 Page Mill site. In the off-property study area, which included the Oregon Expressway underpass area, 1,267 pounds of VOCs were removed.

But because contamination levels have risen dramatically in some areas, Water Quality Control Regional Water Board inspectors want more monitoring and a water analysis of the extent of the contamination and if some areas are emitting vapors from underground.

Vapor barriers have been tried, but their effectiveness is still not completely known, according to the report. In the Stanford Research Park, HP installed a vapor barrier under portions of the replacement building in 1994 and added a grated entrance to an underground parking area for increased ventilation. The current occupant, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich and Rosati, took indoor air samples in 2009 and found volatile organic compounds on the first floor at one location. None were detected on the second floor. Wilson Sonsini plans to conduct more indoor sampling to confirm its findings at the end of 2010, according to the report.

The study determined the potential vapor-intrusion areas should be re-evaluated within 18 months.

The Superfund site has been the subject of litigation. After the City Council approved a development at 195 Page Mill, Palo Alto residents Bob Moss and Tom Jordan filed suit, contesting the adequacy of the city’s environmental review.

In October 2007, Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Leslie Nichols agreed the city and developer Harold Hobohm had not adequately examined the project’s environmental risks, specifically regarding vapors from groundwater contaminated with trichloroethylene and reversed the council’s approval.

HP is required to submit its next five-year report to the water board by Feb. 1, 2015, inspectors said. Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be e-mailed at sdremann@pawweekly.com.

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Airport (continued from page 3)

could not earn any money from the Airport to use elsewhere, “the report states. “All money made at the facility would have to be reinvested in the Airport.”

The report recommends that the city immediately lease and either take over airport operations by 2012 or hand over airport management to a third party. The firm estimated that the city could claim a $17.8 million profit by 2037 if it allowed a third-party operator to manage the Airport — an option that would lower the city’s financial risk but also limit local control over the facility’s day-to-day operations.

If Palo Alto officials were to decide to take over airport operations from the county by 2012, the city would have to hire an airport manager to manage the facility — an option that would lower the city’s financial risk but also limit local control over the facility’s day-to-day operations.

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Embarcadero Shell station robbed at gunpoint

The Shell gas station on Embarcadero Road off Highway 101 in Palo Alto was robbed at gunpoint early Wednesday morning, Palo Alto police Lt. Sandra Brown said.

Brown said a man wearing a stocking cap approached the teller, bragged a handgun and demanded cash. The suspect fled with an unknown amount of money. Brown said there was a “communication barrier” between the suspect and the teller, who didn’t speak much English.

The suspect is described as a black male, about 5 feet 4 inches tall, weighing approximately 120 pounds, and wearing a gray sweatshirt and a stocking cap.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to call Palo Alto police at 650-329-2413 or by e-mailing the department’s anonymous tip line at paloalto@tipnow.org.

— Jocelyn Dong

Conlon, Gordon vie for Assembly seat

Democrat Rich Gordon and Republican Greg Conlon, rivals for the California State Assembly District 21, agree upon one thing — that they disagree on most everything, except perhaps high-speed rail.

Gordon, a three-term San Mateo County supervisor, and Conlon, a former president of the California Public Utilities Commission, are vying for the seat currently held by Assemblyman Ira Ruskin in the left-leaning district. Libertarian Ray M. Bell, Jr. is also running.

The district encompasses all or part of 13 cities in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, including San Carlos, Redwood City, Atherton, Portola Valley, Woodside, Menlo Park, East Palo Alto, Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno and the Almaden Valley of San Jose.

Conlon paints himself as a fiscally minded conservative with diverse life experience who is interested in job growth, a balanced budget, reform of the state pension system, improving schools and a high-speed rail system that is done well — or not done at all.

Gordon describes himself as an innovative public servant, working both in the nonprofit and public sectors, including two terms on the San Mateo County Board of Education and most recently chairing the statewide City, County, Schools Partnership. He advocates government reform, economic growth through government incentives and regulation, increased school funding and environmental vigilance, among other issues.

— Tyler Hanley

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October 24, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.
November 21, 2010 at 11:00 a.m.
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NEWS DIGEST

Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital offers classes and seminars designed to foster good health and enhance the lives of parents and children.

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We will offer an overview of pregnancy for the newly pregnant or soon-to-be pregnant couple. The program will cover the physical and emotional changes of pregnancy, comfort measures for pregnancy, fetal development and growth, pregnancy testing, life changes and much more. This is a free seminar however space is limited.

- Tuesday, November 9: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

CHILD CPR & FIRST AID

Designed for parents and care-givers of children 1 year of age to adolescence, this class will cover cardio-pulmonary resuscitation techniques, choking and first aid for common childhood injuries.

- Saturday, November 13: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

FETAL AND MATERNAL HEALTH

As part of the Packard Children’s Anniversary Lecture Series please join us for tea and a special presentation by Dr. Susan Hintz, Medical Director, Packard Center for Fetal and Maternal Health, and learn more about this unique offering of comprehensive services and support for complex fetal patients, expectant mothers and families. To reserve a space for this free lecture, please visit our online calendar.

- Sunday, November 14: 3:00 pm

PEDIATRIC WEIGHT CONTROL PROGRAM

Join us for a family-based, behavioral and educational weight management program that promotes healthy eating and exercise habits for overweight children and their families. More than 80% of children achieve long-term weight loss through this program – and parents lose weight too!

- New sessions begin soon. For more information call (650) 725–4424.

Call (650) 723-4600 or visit www.calendar.lpch.org to register or obtain more information on the times, locations and fees for these and other courses.
Online This Week

These and other news stories were posted on Palo Alto Online throughout the week. For longer versions, go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com/news or click on “News” in the left, green column.

Debate: Is Measure R for safety or a ‘power grab’?
Supporters and opponents of Measure R clashed Wednesday night over whether the Palo Alto initiative would ensure adequate fire protection for local residents or give the firefighters union unfair powers over the city’s budget. (Posted Oct. 7 at 9:21 a.m.)

Judge nixes M-A plans for night football
A San Mateo County judge, in a preliminary injunction issued Tuesday (Oct. 5), agreed with a group of Atherton neighbors of Menlo-Atherton High School who sued to prevent use of the lights for night football games. (Posted Oct. 7 at 8:47 a.m.)

Palo Alto students buck trends on commuting
As Palo Alto schools marked “Walk & Roll Day” celebrating human-powered transportation, parent volunteers say Palo Alto students are bucking a national trend of being driven to school. (Posted Oct. 6 at 9:45 a.m.)

Droid theft in Palo Alto draws police, helicopter
Palo Alto police were out in force Tuesday night — including the use of a Santa Clara County sheriff’s helicopter — to hunt down the thief of a Droid smartphone. (Posted Oct. 6 at 9:34 a.m.)

Opponents of firefighter measure raise $58,000
A coalition of former Palo Alto mayors has raised more than $58,000 to defeat a ballot measure that would lock in firefighter staffing levels, campaign finance data shows. (Posted Oct. 6 at 9:19 a.m.)

Governor announces new organ-donation law
Seven months after saying “I’ll be back,” California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger returned to Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital for the ceremonial signing of the organ-donation legislation he had lobbied for in March. (Posted Oct. 6 at 9:18 a.m.)

Two robbed in East Palo Alto Tuesday night
East Palo Alto police were left with few leads after a pair of men robbed two people in a residential neighborhood Tuesday night, police said. The two victims were approached by two unknown men in the 200 block of Azalia Drive at 10:09 p.m., police Sgt. David Carson said. (Posted Oct. 6 at 6:17 a.m.)

Victor Frost charges to be swapped for new ones
Palo Alto panhandler Victor Frost will face new charges in the city’s continuing case against him for allegedly flouting the “sit-lie ordinance,” according to the city attorney’s office. (Posted Oct. 5 at 9:34 a.m.)

71 Palo Alto students National Merit semifinalists
Thirty seniors from Gunn High School and 28 seniors from Palo Alto High School have been named as semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship competition. An additional 108 students from Palo and Gunn were named “commended students.” At Castilleja School, 13 girls were named semifinalists and 17 commended students. (Posted Oct. 5 at 9:07 a.m.)

Palo Alto won’t limit housing sizes in foothills
Faced with ferocious neighborhood opposition, Palo Alto officials decided Monday to scrap a proposal to limit housing sizes in the foothills. (Posted Oct. 4 at 11:37 p.m.)

Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton sue rail authority
Palo Alto, Atherton and Menlo Park launched a fresh lawsuit Thursday against the California High-Speed Rail Authority, claiming the state agency violated state laws when it approved a comprehensive study evaluating the Bay Area-to-Central Valley segment of the 800-mile high-speed rail system. (Posted Oct. 4 at 6:30 p.m.)

Palo Alto seeks to reclaim bike-friendly reputation
Palo Alto, once a pioneer in bicycle programs and bike-friendly infrastructure, has fallen slightly behind cities such as Portland and Seattle, according to a transportation planner who is charged with helping Palo Alto retake the lead. (Posted Oct. 1 at 3:06 p.m.)

Palo Alto fund awards $300,000 in local grants
Supporters and founders of the Palo Alto Community Fund looked back on 31 years of grant-making in Palo Alto and looked forward to a major expansion of its funding capabilities Thursday evening (Sept. 30). (Posted Oct. 1 at 9:54 a.m.)

Palo Alto cop identified in 2009 DUI arrest
A Palo Alto police officer has been identified in a 2009 arrest for driving under the influence after he rolled his SUV on U.S. Highway 101, according to court documents. (Posted Oct. 1 at 9:56 a.m.)
City Council (Oct. 4)
Open space: The council voted not to set maximum house sizes in the open space (OS) district in the foothills. 
Yes: Unanimous

Concept plans: The council discussed the status of the city’s two concept plans. The plans, which the city is developing for the neighborhoods around East Meadow Circle/Fabian Way and California Avenue, seek to change the city’s land-use plan for these neighborhoods. The plans are part of the city’s update to its Comprehensive Plan. 
Action: None

Finance Committee (Oct. 5)
Audit report: The committee discussed a report from the City Auditor’s Office about the status of prior audit recommendations. The committee recommended changes in the report’s format and requested an updated report in six months. 
Yes: Unanimous

Historic Resources Board (Oct. 6)
405 Lincoln Ave.: The board approved, with conditions, an Environmental Impact Report for a proposal to demolish an existing building at 405 Lincoln Ave. and build a three-story home in the city’s Professorville neighborhood. The board recommended a project alternative that would include, rather than demolish, the existing building. 
Yes: Bernstein, Bower, Di Cicco, Kohler, Malin Dan: Absent: Loukianoff, Abstained: Bunnerberg

Utilities Advisory Commission (Oct. 7)
Water studies: The commission discussed a recently completed Water Utility Benchmark Study and the rate structure for water and wastewater collection. 
Action: None

Gas utility: The commission approved an “Implementation plan” for the Utility Department’s Gas Utility Long-Term Plan. 
Yes: Unanimous

High-Speed Rail Committee (Oct. 8)
High-speed rail: The committee discussed eminent domain and California High-Speed Rail Authority’s correspondence with Caltrain about a proposal to build the high-speed rail in phases. 
Action: None

Architectural Review Board (Oct. 8)
College Terrace Centre: The board approved, with conditions, a proposal by Carrasco and Associates on behalf of the Clara Chilcote Trust for a mixed-use development at 2180 El Camino Real. Board members asked the applicant for more details about landscaping around a transformer and indicated they’d like to see shorter fences near the residential porches in the development. 
Yes: Low, Wasserman, Young 
Absents: Malone Pitoniard 
Abstained: Lee

Public Agenda
A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week
CITY COUNCIL ... The council has no meetings scheduled this week.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ... The board plans to hear official K-12 enrollment figures for 2010-11; a report on high school academic achievement results; and an update on the pilot Springboard to Kindergarten program. The agenda for a 5 p.m. closed session includes an item about the school district’s interest in acquiring the Peninsula Day Care Center site at 525 San Antonio Road. The public session is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, in the board room of school district headquarters (25 Churchill Ave.).

POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss Project Safety Net, the community initiative to promote youth well-being. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ... The commission plans to discuss modifications to the city’s green-building code to reflect the state’s CALGreen building code changes. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 13, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

Medical Disaster Preparedness
Definition: A disaster is a man made or natural emergency/event that disrupts a community’s normal function, and causes concern for the safety, property and lives of its citizens. A disaster is an event that exceeds the capabilities and resources of the community to respond.

During this program, Daniel Huie, MD, will introduce practical principles of medical disaster preparedness and provide available resources for disaster preparation. You will learn how to be individually prepared for a disaster and what community and government resources are available to you.

Dr. Daniel Huie is a board certified in Family Medicine and has additional clinical interests in preventive, emergency and wilderness medicine. He is a reserve police officer and tactical officer for the Hillsborough Police Department and the Medical Director for the North Central San Mateo Regional SWAT medics. Dr. Huie completed his medical education at Loyola University’s Stritch School of Medicine in Chicago and medical training at O’Connor Hospital in San Jose, CA. Prior to joining Menlo Medical Clinic, he was in private practice for over ten years.

Thursday, October 21
6:30pm – 7:30pm
321 Middlefield Rd., Suite 260
Menlo Park, CA 94025

To register for this event, visit menloclinic.com/prepare or call 650.721.1411. Seating is limited.

The Aesthetics Research Center is participating in a research study for crow’s feet and forehead lines. We’re looking for women, age 30-70, with slight to deep wrinkles.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Contact Stephanie at 800.442.0989 or email research@aestheticsresearchcenter.com

The Aesthetics Research Center
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Pulse
A weekly compendium of vital statistics

Palto Alto
Sept. 28-Oct. 4

Violence related
Battery 
Domestic violence 
Threat related
Chokes for up
Grand theft 
Identity theft 
Petty theft 
Residential burglaries 
Shoplifting 

Vehicle related
Abandoned auto. 
Drinking without license 
Hit and run 
Lost/stolen plates 

Shoplifting 

Menlo Park
Sept. 28-Oct. 4

Violence related
Battery 
Domestic violence 
Threat related
Fraud 
Petty theft 
Residential burglaries 
Shoplifting 

Vehicle related
Abandoned auto. 
Auto recovery 
Auto theft 
Driving without license 
Hit and run 
Lost property 

Miscellaneous 

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Page 10 • October 8, 2010 • Palo Alto Weekly
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Palo Alto Weekly Open House 10am-1pm
To Life! Jewish Cultural Street Festival 11am-5pm
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- You reduce your carbon footprint by not driving outside the community to shop.
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Transitions

Social, environmental advocate Mary Davey dies

Mary Davey, who divided her energies between supporting environmental and social causes, died Saturday evening at Kaiser Hospital in Redwood City, surrounded by family, following a heart-related illness.

Davey was the current president of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Board of Directors, and she had been involved in the formation of the district in 1972 — she has called it her favorite accomplishment.

“It’s a forever kind of thing,” she said of the district’s acquisitions, now approaching 60,000 acres, in an interview with the Weekly in May, 2007, when she was recognized with a lifetime achievement award by the Avenidas senior organization.

Her involvements included serving as director Midpeninsula Citizens for Fair Housing; assistant to the executive director of Economic and Social Opportunities; chief executive officer of Advocates for Women, Santa Clara County; executive officer of Advocates in Redwood City; executive director of Peninsula Executive Offices housing advisor; president and CEO of Peninsula Volunteers, Inc. and Planned Parenthood Santa Clara County; interim executive director of Palo Alto Red Cross; executive director of City of Palo Alto Alcoholic Beverage Control; and a board member of Hidden Villa. She served as mayor of Los Altos Hills in 1966, but her advocacy of fair housing caused her to be recalled from the Town Council in 1973.

She and her husband, Jack Davey, a retired engineer, also were world travelers, visiting 64 countries — including witnessing the effects of displacement of 1.5 million people in China to build a dam on the Yangtze River.

Davey was a native of Columbus, Ohio. An avid reader, she was an English and government major in college. She married Jack, then in the U.S. Air Force, during the Korean War and the couple moved to Baltimore, Md. — where she ran into pervasive housing discrimination against Jews and racial minorities and first became active in fair housing advocacy. She served on the city’s first Human Relations Commission, and helped open up the schools to persons of color. They moved to Los Altos Hills in 1961.

In addition to Jack, Davey is survived by Kit Davey & Tom Podoll of Redwood City; John P. Davey III & M.J. of Atherton; Curt Davey & Cheryl of Missoula, Mt.; and four grandchildren. Memorial services are pending.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Donal B. Duncan
A memorial service for Donal B. Duncan will be held Saturday, Oct. 16, at 11 a.m. at Valley Presbyterian Church, 945 Portola Road, Portola Valley 94028. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made on behalf of the area’s low income seniors, died Monday, September 27, 2010 at Stanford Hospital, following a short illness.

Christopher Clay Chandler
Christopher Clay Chandler passed away away on September 30, 2010. His family and friends fondly remember Chris as a loving and caring man with a great sense of humor. Born May 12, 1946, at Hoover (Stanford Hospital), Chris was raised in Woodside. He is a graduate of Woodside High School. Most recently, Chris owned his own event planning business, ROI International. Previous employers include Saga and National Semiconductor. Chris loved horseback riding, gardening, trains, walking, and playing with the family’s dog, Cammie. His memory lives on through his family: his wife, Jan; his daughters, Courtney, Brita and Tyler; his sons, Helene Williams and Tony Lillie; and his brother, Geoff Chandler. A celebration of husband, father, brother, and friend will be held on Sunday, October 10th, 5:00 p.m., at the Menlo School Athletic Center, 50 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton. The community is welcome to attend. The family requests guests wear flip flops and no black clothing to honor his life and wonderful spirit. In lieu of flowers or donations, the Chandlers request that trees be planted in his memory. Please email the family pictures of planted trees and their locations to: chandlerfamilytrees@gmail.com.

Jane West
Jane West, a devoted and well-known Menlo Park civic and community leader who worked tirelessly on behalf of the area’s low income seniors, died Monday, September 27, 2010 at Stanford Hospital, following a short illness.

A fifth generation Californian, Jane was born in 1918 in Sacramento, California to Francis E. and Edward T. Rooney. She graduated cum laude from the University of California at Berkeley, married James Joubert in 1939 and moved to the Menlo Park area in 1949. James and Jane had two daughters, Mary Jane and Katherine Jill Joubert. Following the death of her first husband in 1955, she married Cecil O. West in 1960 and was married for 30 years until his death in 1990.

Soon after her arrival in Menlo Park, Jane became a model of civic and community leadership. She was a beloved member of the Peninsula Volunteers, one of the nation’s leading organizations in the provision of services designed to support the welfare of senior members of the community, serving in various capacities including as the Director of the Annual Giving Campaigns. A member since 1956, she was awarded every possible honor from the Peninsula Volunteers including the Beth Kuechler Award in 2002 and the inaugural PVI Diamond Award, which she received in 2007 for her outstanding contributions to the organization. In 1995, the remodeled Little House Great Room was renamed The Jane West Room in her honor.

In addition to her tireless work on behalf of the Peninsula Volunteers, Jane served for 16 years on the Menlo Park Housing Commission, served on the Girl Scout Council and on the St. Raymond Catholic Church council. She was a member of the Sierra Club of Palo Alto, the Palo Alto JCC Auxiliary to Stanford Convalescent Home, and the Woodside-Atherton Auxiliary for Stanford Children’s Hospital. Jane was the recipient of numerous awards and recognition, including the 1995 Golden Acorn Award, presented by the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the Menlo Park community. That same year she was a nominee for the San Mateo County Women’s Hall of Fame. Jane is survived by her brother, Edward T. Rooney of Sacramento, daughter Katherine Jill McCalister of San Antonio, Texas, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. A memorial mass will be held on Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Raymond Catholic Church, 1100 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, CA, 94025. A reception will follow at 1:00 p.m. at the Menlo Circus Club, 190 Park Lane, Atherton, CA, 94027. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to the Peninsula Volunteers, Inc., The Jane West Memorial Fund for Annual Giving, 800 Middle Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025 or St. Raymond Catholic Church, 1100 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025.
Rich Gordon ready for state Assembly

Longtime San Mateo County supervisor has the experience and knowledge necessary to do the best job of helping heal California's fiscal ills.

Virtually every observer of California's politics and budget process agrees that the state is in a dysfunctional mess, although perceived reasons may differ. Yet a common thread seems to be emerging: A conclusion that we need people in Sacramento who are able to work with others to get things done in spite of areas in which they disagree.

This choice is sitting on the doorstep of voters in the 21st Assembly District race for the termed-out seat of current Assemblyman Ira Ruskin, who has done a creditable job of representing the area and addressing issues constructively.

The leading candidates are Democrat Rich Gordon, a longtime member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, and Republican Greg Conlon, a retired accountant and lawyer who served eight years on the state Public Utilities Commission. Voters face a clear choice between Gordon and Conlon: Both acknowledge they diametrically disagree on most issues. It is Conlon's third bid for state or federal office, following a 2002 bid for state treasurer and a 2008 bid for U.S. Congress. His main themes are job creation and opposition to surface or elevated high-speed-rail lines on the Peninsula.

But Gordon clearly has the edge in hands-on, real-world elected office and statewide leadership roles.

In addition to his 12-year track record of addressing problems and building coalitions as a county supervisor, Gordon has statewide connections through his leadership of the county supervisors' association. And he has direct community-level experience as director of the nonprofit Youth & Family Assistance. He has a solid environmental record, and puts a high priority on reforming state government, including repealing the two-thirds requirement for approving the budget, easing term limits, creating open primaries and tightening the initiative process — intended to help rebuild a “more moderate” middle in state politics.

Gordon's consensus-building style has won support across the political spectrum from people who have been impressed by his ability to reach out to adversaries and craft solutions to difficult problems. Although he has had union support he supports reform of the public-employee pension system and the two-tier system for retirement benefits currently in place in San Mateo County.

Gordon is highly knowledgeable about high-speed rail and advocates a new oversight structure for the governing board, with greater transparency and local representation.

He has the knowledge and experience to be immediately effective in Sacramento, just what will be needed to help heal California's crippling problems. Vote for Rich Gordon for Assembly.

County's Measure A will quietly help children

One of the quietest ballot measures for Santa Clara County residents is Measure A, a modest annual $29 parcel tax that would assure continuance of an innovative health-insurance program for children and adolescents.

The county's Healthy Kids program — part of the Children's Health Initiative of 2001 — was the first in the nation to provide universal health insurance coverage for children up to age 19 in families that make less than 300 percent of the federal poverty level. It covers health and vision care, and has resulted in an increase in care from about 12 percent to an estimated 97 percent of eligible children.

The program in the past decade has provided access to care for about 37,000 children, and helped many thousands more get connected to state and federal health programs. It has been funded largely through private grants and donations, but the economic slump has sharply reduced those sources. The parcel tax would be for 10 years, providing dependable funding. Revenues would be in a special account monitored by a “Citizens Oversight Committee,” with annual reports.

The Healthy Kids program leverages an estimated $24 million annually in state and federal funding that comes to Santa Clara County, and it benefits school attendance. Opposition is only from a usual taxpayers' association leader and a Libertarian who generally oppose any new taxes for anything.

Vote YES on Measure A for Santa Clara County’s children.

Thanks to Mary Davey

Editor

I read the article about Mary Davey's passing and felt compelled to share one story of how she touched my life.

When I started a new job at the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, I provided staff support to an organization Mary had long been a member of called the Housing Action Coalition. This group was one example of Mary's excellent ability to successfully bridge constituencies that often are not on the same side, in this case environmentalism and housing development.

After a few months in my new role, Mary sent me a handwritten note, unprompted, that welcomed me to the new role saying she was extremely impressed with me.

This note had a huge impact on me mainly by bolstering my confidence as a young female professional struggling to find my way in this new position.

Mary didn't have to write that note and most people don't. It touched me deeply that someone would take the time to notice me, notice I may have needed a boost and then actually followed through. (Most of us only follow through when we have something to complain about.)

I still have Mary's note tucked away with my collection of special things. And, of course, how her simple act of kindness impacted me, I try to do the same by sending handwritten notes when I see someone who ought to be commended, recognized or otherwise in need of some positive reinforcement. Although I know her death is not about me, I truly regret that I never had the opportunity to tell her that.

Mary's positive perspective was contagious and inspiring and she has many incredible and lasting accomplishments to show for it. Thank you Mary! Shiloh Ballard Colony Park Circle San Jose

Middle College works

Editor

I read with interest the column by Elizabeth Lee concerning the lack of alternative high schools.

There is an alternative for high school students in the Palo Alto/Los Altos/Mountain View schools and that is Foothill Middle College.

This wonderful program serves juniors and seniors who are not getting what they need in traditional high schools.

The state core curriculum is followed for social sciences and English, then students have a choice of the panorama of courses taught at Foothill Community College.

A wonderful benefit is that each quarter course taken at the college is worth a full year of high school credit, and many students are able to graduate with college credits.

But most importantly, the students are valued for their individual gifts by the core high school teachers in this program. It was a place where my son, now a college freshman, thrived and found a sense of belonging that eluded him at Paly.

I don't know if Foothill Middle College would have worked for Ms. Lee or her son, but it's great that there is an alternative for those who want it.

Pamela Economos DeSoto Drive Palo Alto


Guest Opinion

Superman? We really need more Clark Kents

by Peter Fortenbaugh

Waiting for Superman,” the new documentary that dramatizes the state of American education, tells a central truth: Too many of our children are failing in school. As a Palo Alto resident, I am fortunate to be able to send my own children to an outstanding public school where academic success is the norm. But as the executive director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula, where I’ve worked for the past eight years, I see first hand the issues raised in the movie. At BGCP we work daily with 1,400 students to help them understand the importance of education. We help them select the right schools, including private and charter schools. We collaborate directly with five school districts and two community colleges. We see some of our members thriving at large public schools — and we see too many who are not. Our community here in Silicon Valley isn’t an urban center such as the ones in the movie. But in some of our neighborhoods — right in the technology heart of this country — two-thirds of our kids are not graduating from high school.

“Waiting for Superman” dramatically illustrates this crisis. Are we as a society willing to let this continue? We can begin to fix our local education system without the cape and tights — as everyday Clark Kents — by getting involved, changing structures and increasing funding.

I know from personal experience that teachers and administrators want the best for their students and that they work hard to help them. This is not a good guys vs. bad guys scenario. But as long as we see this as someone else’s problem or fault, real change will be elusive.

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I know from personal experience that teachers and administrators want the best for their students and that they work hard to help them. This is not a good guys vs. bad guys scenario. But as long as we see this as someone else’s problem or fault, real change will be elusive.

Charter schools have also demonstrated the power of parent volunteers. And there are many people in our community who would help kids other than their own — if they just knew how.

At BGCP we engage over 300 volunteers to mentor and tutor our members. We need to open our schools to engage community volunteers with activities like reading, tutoring, recreation, homework, being a teacher’s aide — not to take the place of certified teachers but to supplement them.

We must prepare children to succeed by investing in preschool, after-school, summer and mentoring programs. The school drop-outs I see face challenges outside of school that are more daunting than any algebra equation. To succeed academically, all students need to feel safe, have a sense of belonging and have positive relationships with caring adults. They need positive role models who help them understand why school matters.

We must prepare children to succeed by investing in preschool, after-school, summer and mentoring programs. The school drop-outs I see face challenges outside of school that are more daunting than any algebra equation. To succeed academically, all students need to feel safe, have a sense of belonging and have positive relationships with caring adults. They need positive role models who help them understand why school matters.

We need proactive school boards — the true heroes are public-school board members. They are the ones who set expectations and demand action. They select the superintendent and negotiate with teachers. They can cooperate with charter schools and replicate good ideas across all schools. They can influence the community to get involved.

If you can’t personally serve, help the best candidates get elected. Locally, we need a unified K-12 district. In our highest drop-out communities, we have separate K-8 and high school districts. The lower schools claim the high schools are failing and the high schools say the kids arrive too far behind to catch up.

Both perspectives have some truth, and a unified district will stop the finger-pointing and create accountability.

Schools should be neighborhood-based. Many of our students we serve commute one to two hours a day to high school. They often feel disconnected and isolated in their new environments. They lose precious study time on a bus. What message are we sending our children when we don’t even provide a local school for them?

We need to increase funding for many schools. Yes inefficiencies exist and money doesn’t solve all problems. But if money isn’t important to improving education, why do Hillsborough parents contribute $2,000 per child per year? Why do private schools spend double what public schools do per child? Why do charter schools raise additional funds?

“Waiting for Superman” has done a great service by highlighting the education crisis. Now it’s time for us Clark Kents to get into the act and make sure something happens in our school or district. Peter Fortenbaugh is a Palo Alto resident and parent, and executive director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula. He can be e-mailed at peter@bgcp.org.
Real Estate Matters

THE LONG & SHORT OF IT

Markets go up, markets go down. Sometimes we see it coming, sometimes we don’t. It all depends on what both consumers and businesses are buying, and when. How can we tell if and when real estate will recover?

We need to ignore short-term fluctuations, but pay attention to long-term forecasts instead. Consider that homeownership increases by roughly 1 million each year. There are 4 million births, 2 million deaths, 1 million new immigrants, 2 million weddings and 1 million divorces each year. All of those events spur people to buy or sell.

Crunch the numbers, and you’ll see that we can expect roughly 60 million home sales in the next decade. Regardless of the subprime mortgage debacle, and the ensuing foreclosure crisis, real estate will remain on the rails, an unstoppable freight train barreling towards homeownership.

Just as surely as the market sees recovery, buyers and sellers still need representation in these transactions. A recent survey by the National Association of Realtors reveals that 80% of buyers and sellers would recommend their agent to family and friends. That’s a loud signal of the value of representation.

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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A German shepherd named Rocky lay still on a metal examination table under anesthesia as he was being prepped for orthopedic surgery by two veterinary technicians.

The surgery for Rocky’s broken femoral bone, costing about $3,500, is being funded in part by the group German Shepherd Rescue, in part by a woman who just met Rocky a few days prior to the surgery, and in part by Adobe Animal Hospital in Los Altos.

“There’s a lot of love for these animals,” said David Roos, who founded Adobe in 1964.

Adobe Animal Hospital recently opened a brand-new, high-tech facility, which includes 15 exam rooms, two ultrasound machines, five surgical tables, a three-station dental room and a 24-hour ICU. It is one of many veterinary-care providers in the area using medical techniques and treatments previously

(continued on page 19)
Top, Mid-Peninsula Animal Hospital’s Cynthia Easton applies an electrical current to acupuncture needles in Baer, a black Labrador retriever mix, while owner Leslie Tyler watches. Above, Chops, a beagle mix with hip dysplasia, receives laser treatment at Scout’s House to reduce inflammation and pain. At right, Debbie Eldredge of Scout’s House assists greyhound Sadie in the underwater treadmill, which allows for gentle exercise.
Cover Story

Innovations (continued from page 17)

reserved for human patients. Others — such as Scout’s House, a rehabilitation center for animals, and Mid-Peninsula Animal Hospital, both in Menlo Park — use methods including underwater rehabilitative exercise and acupuncture.

Before Adobe got its movable hydraulic exam tables, the vets had to lift and carry the animals everywhere, said veterinarian Brian Maxwell as he hunched over, demonstrating the strain the vets’ backs used to incur.

The new digital X-ray machines that Adobe uses are extremely convenient compared to the old slow-developing X-rays, said Summer Holmstrand-Irmiter, Adobe’s practice manager. “The images from X-rays pop up on a computer screen in just 5 seconds,” she said.

Maxwell gazed at an image on the screen of a dog’s leg after an orthopedic surgery in which several metal rods were put into the leg to hold the bone in place. “We do things that look weird,” he said.

As Clara waited by the pharmacy window with the Greens, she wagged her tail happily, despite having metal rods protruding from her hind leg. In a dental room, one dog getting a teeth cleaning had a red inflatable blanket over him to keep him warm while he was under anesthesia.

But veterinary hospitals are not the only animal caregivers using special gadgets. Scout’s House uses an underwater treadmill to improve dogs’ mobility. The center focuses on joint range, muscle atrophy, posture, reflexes and movement of the animals. Veterinarians refer their patients to Scout’s House to complement other treatments.

“People consider pets to be a part of their family and feel they deserve the same standard of care,” said Krista Niebaum, director of rehabilitation therapy.

Debbie Eldredge, canine rehabilitation therapist, stood in the clear water tank wearing thigh-high rubber boots while she assisted an old rescued racing greyhound named Sadie, who was wearing an orange doggie life jacket. The tank’s floor is a treadmill conveyor belt that runs underwater.

The underwater treadmill is used to give dogs an exercise that is easy on their joints, Niebaum said. “Dogs typically come in twice a week for six to 10 weeks. A one-hour session costs $95 to $105,” she added.

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“Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.”
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but there is something special that we are focusing on,” said Niebaum, pointing to a row of multicolored dog hurdles.

They also use trampolines, rubber balls and even little doggie ankle weights in their exercises.

Niebaum said her job is a lot like the problem-solving involved in pediatrics because the dogs cannot communicate what is wrong.

The idea of getting rehabilitation for your pet is relatively new in the vet world, she said.

“It’s not in vets’ thought process yet. The vet world is still getting there,” she said. “Some people think that because we didn’t use rehab for dogs before, and the dogs still recovered, we don’t need it now.”

Pet owners are increasingly interested in alternative medicines for their pets as well. That’s why the Mid-Peninsula Animal Hospital in Menlo Park has a certified veterinary acupuncturist, Cynthia Easton said.

Easton said people are interested in alternative herbal medicines because they are much less expensive and generally have little or no side-effects.

“A lot of people like that it’s a natural product. (The) idea is that it works more because it’s not synthetic,” Easton said.

People are also increasingly aware of what they are putting into their systems and are thus increasingly drawn to herbal medicines instead of pharmaceuticals, she added. Their preferences extend to their pets as well.

“People are interested in it because they want it for themselves, too,” she said.

Staff Photographer Veronica Weber can be reached at vweber@paweekly.com and Editorial Intern Sally Schilling can be reached at sschilling@embarcaderopublishing.com.
It takes all kinds for a ukulele jam.

You’ve got the people sitting up front with their own gleaming ukes and digital clip-on tuners. They know all the songs. They can play while looking up.

Then there are the newbies, their brows furrowed as they construct a G7 chord on a borrowed instrument. To sing and strum at the same time in “(How Much Is) That Doggie In The Window,” that’s like a small victory.

The nice thing about these evening jams at Dana Street Roasting Company in Mountain View is that both ends of the spectrum are equally welcome. So far, Ukulele Club Silicon Valley has held only a handful of these second-Monday-of-the-month jams at the cafe, but there are plenty of regulars who greet each other with grins, strum in synchronicity and sing with harmony.

Meanwhile, club founder Dave Fichtner also makes ample room for beginners. He offers loaner ukuleles and intro group lessons at 6:30, before the jam starts in earnest at 7. His wife, Lynn Bent, helps by holding up pieces of paper with each chord written large.

“Who’s here for a uke lesson? Do you need a uke?” Fichtner calls out on a recent Monday as a crowd gathers. “Anyone need their ukulele tuned?”

All the while, another Dave — club regular Dave Wenrick, in a Hawaiian shirt and lei — is handing out lyric sheets with chords for simple two-chord tunes:

“Down in the Valley,” “Clementine.” Before long, even the first-timers are matching finger to fret.

Fichtner circulates, demonstrating chords and something called “the New York strum.”

“It’s not magic,” he reassures a teenager. “Any fingers you want to use you can use.”

Everyone seems engaged, even though it’s dinner time for many. A man in a flannel shirt deftly switches between strumming and sipping soup. Fichtner beams at the newcomers. “This is just your first night — you’ve already played a bunch of songs!”

He also has a tip to pass along, one he learned when he first dropped by a ukulele jam-boree. It was about two years ago, and he was visiting the Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz with no idea how to play. The club president showed him how to construct the easiest chords, then gave him a piece of advice, which Fichtner reiterates now: “Play C and sing loud. This is the chord that goes with everything.”

During a break in tonight’s jam, Fichtner admits the uke is the only instrument that he’s ever had success with, but it’s worked for him. He started Ukulele Club Silicon Valley earlier this year, and now holds weekly jams in his Ladera home along with the Dana Street evenings.

There are a lot of ukes in that Ladera home now, his wife says. Maybe about 16. Or maybe more, Fichtner says sheepishly. “I keep a uke in the car, so I can always pull one out wherever I want.”

(continued on page 24)
For Nick Chaput, the amicable owner of the Dana Street Roasting Company, the ukulele jams are part of the cafe’s community. Sometimes 60 to 80 people show up and the place really gets rocking, he says. Chaput met Fichtner in a dog park. They got to talking, and before long Chaput had agreed to host the club one night a month. He says it fits in perfectly with the cafe’s other live music and the general cast of interesting characters who come in and out the door. “This is like theater every day and I’m the producer,” he says, grinning.

Sometimes it’s a bittersweet production. One night Chaput was in the back and heard the club start singing and playing “Puff the Magic Dragon.” He admits he got a little choked up. “It sent me back to age 6. It just really touched me.”

It doesn’t take long after 7 p.m. tonight to get the jam going strong. The crowd has grown from about 15 players to upwards of 35. Yellow binders of sheet music have been widely disseminated even to those without instruments, making the night a combination uke and jam sing-along. The whole place is singing, even Chaput’s mother sitting in the back with a sandwich.

“Maxwell’s Silver Hammer” is also popular, so you just never know.

During “Goodnight, Irene,” someone busts out a blue, star-shaped tambourine, and in “Goodnight Sweetheart” a group of women get some nice vocal harmony going. Dave Wenrick gets up to lead “Maxwell’s Silver Hammer,” but after a while laughingly admits, “I don’t know how all these chords go at the end,” and turns the room back over to Fichtner.

All the while, John Kaay is playing smoothly in the back of the room, occasionally consulting the song sheets that he downloaded through the club’s Yahoo group. He doesn’t seem to know anyone here yet, but he’s clearly not a beginner.

Tonight Kaay is playing a Kamaka ukulele from Hawaii, probably from the mid-’70s, purchased on eBay and repaired at Gryphon. It’s a soprano uke, smaller than concert, tenor and baritone ukuleles. Of all the stringed instruments in all the world, what makes the uke stand out? “It’s a great instrument to sing with,” Kaay says. And, of course, it has only four strings to keep track of. “You don’t have to worry about playing a melody line and a harmony line.”

What: Ukulele Club of Silicon Valley hosts regular jams/sing-alongs for musicians of all levels.
Where: Dana Street Roasting Company, 744 W. Dana St., Mountain View
When: The second Monday of the month, with a group beginner lesson at 6:30 p.m. and jamming from 7 to 9 p.m.
Cost: Free
Info: For more about the club, go to groups.yahoo.com and then search for the UkeJam group. Dave Fichtner also hosts Monday jams from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at his Ladera home; e-mail him at davefichtner@yahoo.com.
Autumnal art
Palo Alto Art Center’s full shows create drama with careful use of light
by Rebecca Wallace

A gritty photo essay about miners in South Wales wouldn’t seem to have much in common with brightly colored paintings from Haiti. It’s the light that links them.

At the Palo Alto Art Center, both collections are arranged in darkened rooms with judicious use of light. The effect is dramatic, almost theatrical.

In the small Haitian exhibition, a single light trained on each canvas makes the jewel-box hues pop. The strength of the colors is fitting, as this is a show about the resilience of local culture and the enduring belief in Vodou practice. Symbols and shapes, traditional objects and practices figure prominently in the art. A Vodou priestess stirs a ritual ingredient in a tall bowl in Carlos Jean Baptiste’s 1999 acrylic “Mambo” ("priestess"). Glossy, ethereal light seems to illuminate her skin, headscarf and peach-colored dress.

In Gerard Valcin’s 1975 acrylic on canvas “Leve Zombi,” a ring of worshippers in white dresses and headscarf and peach-colored dress. (“priestess”). Glossy, ethereal light seems to illuminate her skin, headscarf and peach-colored dress.

In the neighboring gallery, color is nearly absent, but light and dark are just as key. Bay Area photographer Colette Campbell-Jones explores the South Wales mining community where her husband was raised, using a hybrid photographic process. Cut-out photos and digital files combine in a “collage of photographic fragments” as she describes it in an artist’s statement, “resulting in the construction of a new or altered reality.”

The installation is as theatrical as the Haitian exhibition, but it’s like comparing Mamet to “Mama.” This room is as grim as its neighbor is vibrant. Inside the dim gallery, a visitor steps inside a wrap-around wall of photos: men with hardhats, eyes bright in grumpy faces; forbidding rock formations; lamps held in strong hands; spiky mining equipment.

During a recent heat wave, the world inside the installation felt confined and stuffy. That was likely nothing compared to what the miners, cogs in the business, went through. As Campbell-Jones describes it, the oral histories she collected during her project “reveal the terror of being literally consumed by the earth underground and simultaneously by the frightful economic machinery above.”

Still, these men formed communities and kept their humanity in these dark conditions. The installation includes an image of one miner washing another’s back in a shower. Someone has also drawn a whimsical chalk figure on a mine wall. Art abides, even underground.

Autumnal art
Palo Alto Art Center’s full shows create drama with careful use of light
by Rebecca Wallace

S tefan Kirkeby bought his first photograph for $15 when he was in middle school. Art runs in the family. His mother is Paula Kirkeby, owner of the Palo Alto fine-arts press Smith Anderson Editions, and she brought him to that first exhibition.

Today Kirkeby is himself a photographer, and director of Smith Anderson North in Marin County. He also hasn’t stopped collecting. Many of his prized possessions are now showcased with those of three other Bay Area art professionals in a Palo Alto Art Center show called “In Focus: Collecting Photography.”

The collections offer a diverse slice of the photographic universe and a broad look at silver prints — what an exhibit press release calls “the fast-disappearing genre of black-and-white film photography.”

By the show’s entrance are very fast-disappearing genre of black-and-white film photography.

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By the show’s entrance are very fast-disappearing genre of black-and-white film photography. A resource for special events and ongoing religious services. To inquire about or make space reservations for Inspirations, please contact Blanca Loz at 223-6596 or email byoc@paweekly.com

“Five Spoons” by David Goldes.

Four photography collectors show their prized possessions
by Rebecca Wallace

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470 Cambridge Avenue (close to campus and market)
“Wesley United Methodist
(650) 327-2092 • www.wesleychurchhp.org

Infos:
Cost: Free
When: Through Dec. 12, open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursdays from 7 to 9 p.m.; and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m.

Where: 1130 Newell Road, Palo Alto

What: Fall exhibitions at the Palo Alto Art Center of Haitian paintings, mining photos and Bay Area photo collections (see separate story below).

Inspirations
A resource for special events and ongoing religious services. To inquire about or make space reservations for Inspirations, please contact Blanca Loz at 223-6596 or email byoc@paweekly.com

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Rev. David Howell preaching

We Tell Our Children

Finding Home
Rev. Joanne Sanders

Featuring music by the Memorial Choir and University Organist, Dr. Robert How Morgan

http://religiouslife.stanford.edu

Inspirations
A resource for special events and ongoing religious services. To inquire about or make space reservations for Inspirations, please contact Blanca Loz at 223-6596 or email byoc@paweekly.com

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Concerned about our Nation’s direction?

Learn about important issues from prominent speakers.

The Conservative Forum of Silicon Valley

Meets the first Tuesday of every month - IFES Hall, 432 Senter Road, Mountain View, CA

Doors open at 6:15 PM - Program begins at 7:00 PM
First-Time Guests and Members - FREE - Returning Guests - $10.00

The Conservative Forum of Silicon Valley
www.theconservativeforum.com

Doctor and Patient: Lost in Translation

Pauline W. Chen, MD

Pauline W. Chen is associate professor of surgery and an author of Health care is a Human Right: Influences on Mortality. She has a special interest in surgery for abdominal wall defects, including mycotic and incisional hernias. A graduate of the University of California, the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Southern California, she has been named a fellow in the National Academy of Medicine, the National Academy of Sciences, and the Royal College of Surgeons of England. She has been named a fellow in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Society for Academic Medicine.

20th Annual Jonathan J. King Lectureship
Monday October 11, 2010 5:30 pm
Li Ka Shing Center: Paul Berg Hall
Stanford School of Medicine

A great computer scientist introduced her as a galileo of innovation. Jonathan J. King was a great advocate and a deep connoisseur of the dignity of individuals. Starting his career in 1893, 20th century, the teaching of all is to encourage the compassion and care of all patients.

Music

Punch Brothers

Not many bands these days take their names from Mark Twain, but it makes sense when your muse is that high, lonesome Americana sound known as bluegrass. The musicians of Punch Brothers took their names from a Twain story called “Punch Brothers, Punch!”

Led by mandolin player and lead singer Chris Thile, who played in the band Nickel Creek for many years, Punch Brothers is coming to town on Friday, Oct. 15, for an 8 p.m. gig at Stanford University’s Dinkelspiel Auditorium.

Presented by Stanford Lively Arts, the concert will include songs from the band’s new album, “Antifogmatic,” as well as the mixture of bluegrass, classical and rock that the band prides itself on. (By the way, the band’s website notes that antifogmatic is “an old term for a bracing beverage, generally rum or whiskey, that a person would have before going out to work in rough weather to stave off any ill effects.”)

Tickets are $42/$38 for adults and $10 for Stanford students. For more information, go to livelyarts.stanford.edu or call 650-725-ARTS.

Festivals

‘To Life!’

Chefs from The Kitchen Table restaurant will create a four-course kosher meal before an audience. Bruce Bierman and the Klezmasters will lead a session of Yiddish dance and klezmer music. Kids will learn to stage Jewish stories and skits.

These are among the activities planned for the “To Life!” Jewish street festival this Sunday, Oct. 10, on Palo Alto’s California Avenue from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The event of food, art music and dance is back after a one-year hiatus, presented by the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center.

Two stages will host performances, while 50-some artists will show and sell their work in booths. The “tents of community” will house various Jewish and other nonprofit groups. And sumo wrestlers will be on hand.

Sumo wrestlers? But of course. Several champs will give a demonstration at “To Life!” at 12:10 p.m.; they’re in town for an Oct. 9 screening of the film “A Matter of Size” at the Silicon Valley Jewish Film Festival. (The screening is at De Anza College; information is at svjff.org.)

For a full “To Life!” schedule, go to paloaltojcc.org/tolife or call 650-223-8606.

Japan Tsuchiura Festival

When folks from your sister city are in town, it’s high time for a celebration.

This Sunday, Oct. 10, Kappore dancers, a Zen master and other people from Palo Alto’s sister city of Tsuchiura, Japan, are in town, taking part in the Japan Tsuchiura Festival in the Lucie Stern Community Center. The day of activities runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes dance and taiko-drumming performances; origami and chopstick demonstrations; bonsai, ink-painting and game booths; and tea ceremonies.

The event is co-sponsored by the city of Palo Alto and by Neighbors Abroad. It aims to not only honor the sister-city relationship but also share Japanese culture with attendees.

Other activities will include demonstrations of Japanese martial arts, archery and fencing, as well as Zen meditation sessions.

The Lucie Stern center is at 1305 Midfield Road in Palo Alto. For more information, go to neighborhoodsbroad.org/ JapanFestival/ or call 650-561-9771.

Art

‘Portraits of Initiates’

While paintings on display at the Palo Alto Art Center (see page 25) look at the venerable religion in Japan, the new photo exhibition at Stanford’s Cantor Arts Center focuses on the religion in the Republic of Benin in Africa, where many of the traditions originated.

Opening Oct. 13, the Cantor center show is titled “Vodoun/Vodounou: Portraits of Initiates” and features 25 diptychs by the Belgian photographer Jean-Dominique Burton. The diptychs pair images of practitioners and of their shrines. (Vodounou is initiates of the religion, which can also be spelled “Vodo,” “Vodan” and other ways.)

Burton took his black-and-white portrayals and portraits of shrines in the Republic of Benin, where the religion was born. The Cantor show also includes a documentary video, “VODOO, de l’Origine,” directed by Samuel Lampae and featuring some of the initiates Burton photographed.

A blessing of the exhibition by Bay Area practitioners is planned for Oct. 13 at 5 p.m., with accompanying films and other performances planned later. The show will be open through March 20.

The museum is off Palm Drive at Museum Way, open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays until 8. Admission is free. Go to museum.stanford.edu or call 650-723-4177.

‘East Meets West’

The advent of the printing press meant more than just the faster transmission of words. Prints made images available to more people, opening up their minds to a wider world of different cultures and ideas.

Starting Oct. 15, Lyons Limited Antique Prints in Palo Alto is exhibiting a collection of graphics and maps from the early meetings between East and West. In the show, called “East Meets West: The Opening of the Orient,” the
Dear President Obama,

It is clear that after nine years of futile war, a solid and growing majority of United States citizens want this war ended. Listen to our plea.

The conflict in Afghanistan is not, in fact, a struggle between Hamid Karzai’s government and a Taliban/terrorist insurgency. It is a civil war among various Afghan factions competing for power. Our continued presence there does nothing to advance our own security or that of the Afghan people.

The high number of civilian casualties in Afghanistan is morally indefensible and serves as an effective recruiting device for Al Qaeda and the Taliban, exactly the opposite of what is needed to confront fundamentalist radicalism.

The U.S. has lost nearly 1,300 young people and over 5,000 have been wounded. Many thousands more will carry the scars of war for the rest of their lives. The people of Afghanistan have paid an even dearer price in lives lost.

The war is costing U.S. taxpayers $100 billion a year. With our economy still in turmoil and with millions of our fellow citizens unemployed, we can ill-afford to continue this occupation.

Mr. President, you have said that the war in Afghanistan is aimed at destroying Al Qaeda, yet your own intelligence experts say that there are less than 400 active Al Qaeda members in the region, most of whom are in Pakistan, not Afghanistan. What is needed now, as before, is robust intelligence and police effort to contain Al Qaeda, not further war.

The presence of tens of thousands of additional U.S. soldiers has only resulted in more combat, more deaths (civilian and military), increased support for the Taliban and decreased support for the Karzai government.

Many proponents of the war cite the need to protect women’s rights and an emerging democracy as reasons to stay. In fact, the government of Hamid Karzai is deeply corrupt, the recent elections were anything but democratic, and the government has shown very little real interest in the rights of women, much less demonstrated any capacity to protect them.

Mr. President, our country is marking the ninth year since the invasion of Afghanistan. We urge you to end our longest war.

Get us out of Afghanistan.
EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENTS

NOW PLAYING

“AN AMERICAN LANDMARK.
IT GETS YOU DRUNK ON MOVIES AGAIN.
PETER TRAVIES.

“AN IMAGINATIVE, HEARTBREAKING
WORK OF ART THAT BLEW ME AWAY.
—ROGER EBERT, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

“SUMPTUOUSLY GORGEOUS AND FILLED
WITH STERLING PERFORMANCES.
CHRISTY LEMIRE.

NEVER LET ME GO

“A comic roundelay of amorous ambitions and delusions.
It’s terribly touching, as well as entertaining. Allen treats
the pervasive folly with bemused affection, as if to say
it’s a cosmic joke on a domestic scale.”
—JOE MORGENSTERN.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

‘CRITICS’ PICK! ’
Allen brilliantly
grapples with sex,
death and other hokum.”
—TIME OUT NEW YORK

MOVIE TIMES

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<td>Alpha and Omega (PG) (Not Reviewed)</td>
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<td>Case 39 (R) (Not Reviewed)</td>
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<td>11:10 a.m.; 1:50, 4:35, 7:40 &amp; 10:15 p.m.</td>
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<td>Easy A (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)</td>
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<td>Heartbreaker (PG) ***</td>
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<td>It’s Kind of a Funny Story (PG-13) ***</td>
<td>Century 16</td>
<td>1:30 a.m.; 2:15, 4:55, 7:50 &amp; 10:35 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackass 3 (R) (Not Reviewed)</td>
<td>Century 16</td>
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| Legend of the Guardians: The Ols of the
Woman (PG) (Not Reviewed)                   | Century 16    | In 3D at 11:20 a.m.; 145, 4:15, 7 & 9:25 p.m. |
| Life As We Know It (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)  | Century 16    | 1:10 a.m.; 1:40, 4:30, 7:20 & 10:50 p.m.   |
| Moe’s Last Dance (PG) **                    | Aquarius Theatre | 1:5 & 6 p.m.          |
| My Soul To Take (R) (Not Reviewed)         | Century 16    | 11:25 a.m.; 2:05, 4:50, & 10:40 p.m.       |
| Never Let Me Go (R) ***                     | Aquarius Theatre | 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:30 p.m.          |
| Red (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)                  | Century 20    | In 3D at 11:15 a.m.; 1:50, 4:25, 7 & 9:35 p.m. |
| Secretariat (PG) ***                        | Century 16    | In 3D; 12:15, 2:10, 3:30, 5:10, 7, 8:20 & 10:05 p.m. |
| The Social Network (PG-13) ***             | Century 20    | In 3D at 11:15 a.m.; 12:40, 2, 3:35, 4:50, 6:25, 7:40, 9:20 & 10:30 p.m. |
| The Town (R) ***                            | Century 16    | In 3D; noon, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 7:10, 8:30, 9:20 & 10 p.m. |
| Waiting for Superman (PG) (Not Reviewed)   | Century 20    | 1:15, 2:10, 3:15, 4:05, 5, 6:10, 6:50, 7:50, 9:05 & 10:40 p.m. |
| You Again (PG) (Not Reviewed)               | Century 16    | 12:40, 2:45, 4:45 & 7:45 p.m.          |
| You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger (R) ***  | Guild Theatre | 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:30 p.m.          |

OPENINGS

Secretariat ★★★½
(Century 16, Century 20)

*(To the tune of “Mister Ed”)*

“We’ve had us a film about a horse.

“Seasick” got Oscar nods, of course.

So another race horse on us they’ll force: “Secretariat”!

Directed by him that wrote “Braveheart”

But written by somebody else, with “heart”.

Disney schmaltz, more “pop” than art — “Secretariat”!

Diane Lane’s the dame, the horse
she’ll claim as Penny Chenery.

For eccentrics kitch, John Malkovich, a trainer with espirt!’
It’s Kind of a Funny Story

(Century 16, Century 20) There’s nothing funny about teenage stress, depression and suicidal thoughts. Grinding hard work, intense competition among high-performing students, the pressures of applying to prestigious schools — all while negotiating unsure turf with peers and parents — can be overwhelming.

In “It’s Kind of a Funny Story,” the writing-directing team of Ryan Fleck and Anna Boden (“Half Nelson”) addresses these serious issues through Craig (Keir Gilchrist, Showtime’s “United States of Tara”) of his best friend (Thomas Mann); and, despite a looming deadline, he hasn’t even started filling out the application for summer session at Manhattan’s exclusive Executive Pre-Professional High School. But Craig knows one thing: He needs help. Now.

The kind-of-a-funny story starts when the sensitive teen admits himself into a psychiatric hospital. Because the youth ward is undergoing renovation, Craig and other patients his age are placed with the adults — lovable eccentrics more in the mold of “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest” than “Girl, Interrupted.” The crazy thing is that Craig doesn’t feel crazy at all among these loony characters. He wants to go home.

A five-day-stay requirement gives the narrative enough time to develop a dual track of insights about growing up and getting medical treatment. Craig makes friends with the affable Bobby (Zach Galifianakis of “Dinner for Schmucks”) and develops a crush on Noelle (Emma Roberts of “Nancy Drew”) — both of whom bring humor and humanity to the screen.

But the film offers simplistic solutions in suggesting that problems can be cured in less than a week, and that a well-intentioned teenage boy with some cash, courtesy of his parents, can accomplish what medical professionals (including Viola Davis) cannot.

Attempts at light-hearted stylization are a mixed bag, too. The directors’ effective use of Guy Ritchie-like freeze frames, sometimes followed by quick montages of images connected by voice-over, amusingly get us into Craig’s head.

Of course, anyone who reads the book knows the story veers in the wrong direction, but there are moments when the director successfully taps into the director’s effective use of Guy Ritchie-like freeze frames, sometimes followed by quick montages of images connected by voice-over, amusingly get us into Craig’s head.

Though Failure flirts, a Triple Crown spurt for Secretariat! The flick serves sports “history” and talked like real people do! It’s so good in so many of its ways! It’s so good in so many of its ways!
After 62 years, Kirk’s is still serving up great burgers with a no-frills attitude

by Dale F. Benton

Kirk’s Steakburgers is a quasi-fast-food haven smack dab in the middle of Town & Country Village’s tony new eateries. It’s old style, cool style, without constructing a make-believe Happy Days vignette to entice the public.

No, Kirk’s is the real deal. It has been since 1948 when Bill Sincere and his wife, “Kirk,” both New York transplants, opened for business just south of here on El Camino Real, near Arastradero Road. Sincere found a butcher to grind meat to his specifications, then grilled the beef over charcoal and served burgers, hot dogs, milkshakes and potato chips — and that was it. There were lines around the corner every day.

Twenty years later, Kirk’s moved over to California Avenue. In 1996, John Withers bought the business from Sincere’s son. In 2002, he moved Kirk’s to Town & Country after the landlord terminated his lease.

“The restaurant business is not for sissies,” Withers said. “I had been in the electronics business and wanted less travel and more family time. I settled for less travel.”

“I didn’t want to be in the restaurant business,” he added. “I wanted to be in the Kirk’s business. Over the years, we’ve survived everything, including my own apprenticeship.”

Withers soon added french fries, chicken sandwiches, flavored shakes, salads and sides, and a few other menu items.

“Bill Sincere was irascibly tough, adamant about his menu,” Withers said. “‘Want fries?’ he once scowled, ‘Go somewhere else.’”

Withers added: “The most important thing is the food; no one can be successful without good food. That is why Kirk’s is successful. It’s comfort food, tasty and distinctive. We use a special blend of cuts of beef.”

The burgers are pleasing, dense and juicy, and are made to order. My first visit, fool that I was, I ordered Kirk’s Big Griller ($8), a half-pound heavyweight burger topped with grilled onions and Swiss cheese. I added a medium-sized side of steak fries ($2.99) and a soda. It was 24 hours before I was remotely hungry again.

On subsequent visits, I skipped breakfast, or lunch, and made sure I didn’t over-order. I avoided Kirk’s Big Tripler with three cheeses ($8.60). Kirk’s doesn’t cheat on portions, and I had other dinners to attend that week.

Most of the steakburgers are available with single or double patties. The smallest burger on the menu is a third-pound steakburger for $5.25. The biggest is the double Big Kirk ($12.30) — definitely not for the faint of heart or those with mature-adult cholesterol levels.

Kirk’s Big Melt ($9.50) is a belt-buster burger on rye, blanketed with grilled onions and topped with three cheeses. I could have added additional cheese, grilled onions, bacon, mushrooms, pineapple or chili ($5.75-$1.60) but thought better of it.

Kirk’s also offers kid-sized portions: $3.45 for a steakburger, $3.75 with cheese. There are frankfurters and variations ($4.95-$5.55), grilled cheese ($4.10) and grilled cheese with bacon ($5.10).

The Clubber ($8.35) is a tender marinated breast of chicken amped up with Swiss cheese and strips of bacon on a thick tender bun. What’s not to like? Life is tastier with bacon.

I admired the steak fries: thick-cut, fried to perfection, non-greasy and begging for salt and ketchup. There are also garlic fries, chili-cheese fries, bacon-cheese fries, garlic-onion strings and a combo of onion strings and fries. My onion strings were heavy with grease and tasty, but not for the health-conscious.

The milkshakes are dense, ponderous affairs, the way they should be made but usually aren’t any more. A good milkshake takes time to consume, with a little loud sipping through the straw, followed by a couple of spoonfuls of ice cream skimmed off the top. Repeat exercise until ice cream melts and straw is all that is necessary. Never share.

Kirk’s shakes come in America’s favorite flavors: vanilla, strawberry and chocolate, with regular and child’s sizes. ($2.70-$3.90). Ten Torani-flavored shakes broaden the options.

One day I compared the root beer float ($3.10) with a Torani root beer-flavored shake ($4.10). Not much difference in flavor or consistency. The root beer float, though, was a half-cup of vanilla ice cream with an additional empty cup. The counterperson instructed me to fill the empty cup with root beer from the serve-yourself soda dispensary and mix my own float. It took three trips to the soda bar to balance out the ice cream with root beer.

Besides the large portions, there is a condiment island in the middle of one of the two small dining areas, loaded with lettuce, onions, tomatoes, relishes, mustards and ketchup-ups, etc. There are stacks of sorely needed extra napkins, too.

Decor-wise, not much to report. Photos on the forest-green walls of
Shoptalk

by Daryl Savage

MIDTOWN GOES MODERN...
Midtown is on the cusp of getting what some might consider an architectural transformation, and it’s going into the unlikely location of the former Arco Gas Station at 3965 Middlefield Road. “It’s a fresh new look for Midtown. Lots of glass, rooftop terraces and a glass-enclosed atrium,” said Ken Hayes, whose company, Hayes Group Architects, is the creative force behind the modern building. The structure is surrounded on three sides by the Winter Lodge property. “It’s like a little island,” Hayes said. The construction, which began three weeks ago, is expected to be completed next March. The 7,000-square-foot, two-story building is zoned for first-floor retail, which means possibilities for a new tenant include a restaurant, a retail store or a service-oriented business, such as a bank. The second floor is zoned for commercial space. Plans for the building call for a public space in the front, featuring benches, tables and umbrellas.

WINE ON TAP ... The latest trend in wine has hit Palo Alto. It’s wine on tap. Think beer on tap, but it’s wine that gets poured out of spigots. St. Michael’s Alley at 140 Homer Ave. is among the first Palo Alto restaurants to tap into the new fad, said Joey Picci, a bartender and host at St. Michael’s. “It’s more than just wine on tap,” he said, pointing to a hand-carved, hand-stained, black-walnut dispenser, artfully designed by restaurant owner Mike Sabina. “Mike takes great pride in his bar. He made the wine dispenser out of the same black walnut that the rest of the bar is made from,” Picci said. The restaurant goes through a keg every two weeks and each keg holds the equivalent of 63 bottles, said Picci, who listed his favorite aspects of wine on tap. “It’s faster. I can pour four glasses out of the tap faster than I can pour one glass from a bottle of wine. All I do is pull a little lever.” And it significantly reduces the amount of waste and overhead. “We save by not having bottles or corks or labels. And since we run our kegs through nitrogen, the wine is always fresh,” he said. “It’s the future.”

JUNGLE ON THE MOVE ... Jungle Digital, a Palo Alto mainstay for nearly 25 years at 542 High St., scaled down this summer and moved to 530 Emerson St., next to Mac’s Smoke Shop. “It’s about half the space; some of the services have changed; but we’re still the same company,” said Adam Mason, who co-owns Jungle with Dang Le. “We weren’t utilizing a lot of the old space and there is a recession, so it just made sense to move. It also feels better to be right in the middle of downtown instead of on the outskirts,” Mason said, adding that Jungle is now the only print shop downtown. Jungle has had a wild history. It started in 1986 as Zebra Copy, when black-and-white printing was the norm. “We changed the name from Zebra to Jungle when we added color printing,” Mason said. Since then, Jungle has been an eclectic entity. In its heyday, it had a staffed coffee bar that served lattes to customers; there were on-the-job rollerblading employees; and it was open at night for area artists and musicians to perform. “Unfortunately, that’s one of the casualties of moving to a smaller space. Now we just want to get down to business,” Mason said. ■

Heard a rumor about your favorite store or business moving out, or in, down the block or across town? Daryl Savage will check it out. She can be e-mailed at shoptalk@pawweekly.com.

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Kirk’s (continued from page 30)

various Little League and Stanford teams; a couple of booths, tables and chairs; bar your own table — there are no roller skating carhops. When my number was called, I fetched my order from the pickup counter. The place wasn’t built for lingering. But after more than 60 years, Kirk’s is still here, and it has three locations, including Santa Clara and Campbell. Kirk’s isn’t a return to Happy Days; rather, the happy daze comes from the superior burgers, shakes and fries.
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Hobee's 856-6124
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NORMALIZING CANCER ... Sue Glader, a Mill Valley writer, will be reading from her children's book, "Nowhere Hair," on Sunday, Oct. 17, at 7:30 p.m. at Books Inc., Town & Country Village, Palo Alto, with 20 percent of sales that evening going to the Palo Alto nonprofit Breast Cancer Connections. Glader said she wrote the book to help people talk to their children about cancer, after her own bout with breast cancer at 33. Information: www.nowherehair.com.

SUBS ... Carol Gilbert, a Palo Alto resident, recently self-published an illustrated children's (continued on next page)

No more Mr. Nice Guy

Stanford professor Jeffrey Pfeffer explores the personal qualities that help people achieve power — and the issues surrounding that quest.

by Jocelyn Dong

"Power: Why some people have it and others don't," by Jeffrey Pfeffer; HarperBusiness, New York; 273 pp.; $27.99

A month earlier, Rudy Crew was a rock star. Taking the helm of the troubled, $4.5 billion Miami-Dade County school district in 2004, Crew improved student academic performance and built new classrooms to ease overcrowding. In spring 2008, he was named National Superintendent of the Year by the American Association of School Administrators.

And yet, in September 2008, Crew found himself voted out by a fractious school board that was more interested in the district's racial issues than improving the school performance. Crew learned the hard way that doing a great job does not equal job security. What counts instead is power.

That's Stanford University business professor Jeffrey Pfeffer's take on Crew's fall from grace, detailed in Pfeffer's new book, "Power: Why some people have it and others don't."

While local bookstore shelves are filled with leadership texts on climbing the corporate ladder, Pfeffer provides a guidebook that is exceedingly readable, grounded in solid research and packed with leadership case studies.

"Likeability can be a useful quality," Pfeffer says, "but fear and the ability to help others accomplish their goals correlate more strongly with power. We see that power almost certainly creates likeability, but the reverse is not always true." Pfeffer says that likeability is sometimes of the utmost importance. "It's often the mountain climbers who are not as smart."

"Power: Why some people have it and others don't," by Jeffrey Pfeffer; HarperBusiness, New York; 273 pp.; $27.99

Despite the research that Pfeffer reports, there is no clear research that shows a weak relationship between personal power and likeability. Pfeffer notes that some people have it and others don't. Pfeffer offers a guidebook that is exceedingly readable, grounded in solid research and packed with leadership case studies. Pfeffer says, "Likeability can be a useful quality, but power almost certainly creates likeability, but the reverse is not always true." Pfeffer says that likeability is sometimes of the utmost importance. "It's often the mountain climbers who are not as smart."
tolerating conflict, for example, that those who can handle stress-filled situations have an advantage over others.

While Pfeffer says he wrote the book to help people take steps to improve their influence in the workplace, he wisely addresses the inherent tension between gaining power and maintaining one's codes of ethics. After all, the corporate world is filled with people who shun power skills as insincere, dishonest and morally unacceptable.

To address the quandary some feel, Pfeffer starts the book with a bracing declaration: The corporate world isn't a fair one. The workplace as it exists is one in which there is zero-sum competition for status and jobs, and rivalry is intense, he writes. This flies in the face of what most people want to believe, that "people get what they deserve"; that is, that the good people are likely to be rewarded and the bad to be punished," he writes, quoting a book review of "The Belief in a Just World."

To get readers over their reluctance to step up their game, he appeals to people's desire to be healthy and live longer, citing research that showed a fourfold greater chance of death due to heart disease among low-ranked workers than high ones. Sometimes it's a matter of career survival.

"Therefore, although self-promotion and fighting for your interests can seem unattractive, the alternative scenario is invariably much worse," Pfeffer says.

"Power and political processes in organizations are ubiquitous." Pfeffer is not advocating that everyone embark on an all-out pursuit of power. He cautions his readers to find the right work situation given their aptitude and interests.

"Although it is possible and desirable to develop your power skills, few people are comfortable changing their likes and dislikes. Yes, you can evolve and change — within limits," Pfeffer writes. Whether it is worth it to gain power is for the reader to decide. Even so, Pfeffer's "Power" contains thought-provoking insight that will challenge workers to consider how they act in the workplace and how they can increase — or at the very least not squander — the power they have.

In that sense "power," at its heart, is an empowering book.

Managing Editor Jocelyn Dong can be e-mailed at jdong@pawEEKly.com.

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING**

**of the city of Palo Alto Architectural Review Board (ARB)**

8:30 A.M., Thursday, October 21, 2010 Palo Alto Council Conference Room, 1st Floor, Civic Center, 250 Hamilton Avenue. Go to the Development Center at 285 Hamilton Avenue to review filed documents; contact Alicia Spotwood for information regarding business hours at 650-617-3168.

2452 Watson Court [10PLN-00340]: Request by Dan Obara on behalf of A&P Children Investments LLC and Stanford University Hospital for Minor Site and Design Review of three monument signs and three directional signs for a new office campus. Zone: PF(D)

Stanford University Medical Center Facilities Renewal and Replacement Project: Request by Stanford University School of Medicine on behalf of Stanford University for Preliminary Architectural Review of landscape design, circulation, and revisions at the proposed Foundations in Medicine, Building 1 facility. Environmental Assessment: An environmental impact report has been prepared. Zone: MOR

Amy French
Manager of Current Planning

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**BOOK TALK**

(continued from previous page)


BOOK KUDOS ... Rachel Loden's "Dick of the Dead," which was featured in Title Pages last fall, was a finalist for both the 2010 PEN USA Literary Award for Poetry and the California Book Award. Also among the California Book finalists, for First Fiction, was Stanford Professor Abraham Verghese, author of "Cutting for Stone."

Items for Book Talk may be e-mailed to cblicher@pawEEKly.com by the last Friday of the month.

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**BOOKSHELF**
**BOYS’ WATER POLO**

The Cardinal will face the Trojans on Friday and the Bruins on Saturday, both at 7 p.m. (KZSU, 90.1 FM). The nationally No. 1-ranked women’s soccer team hosts USC on Saturday at 5 p.m., with Castilleja next week by beating visiting Menlo Atherton in the PAL Bay Division contest on Wednesday.

**ON THE AIR**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Women’s volleyball: Stanford at USC, 7 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)</td>
<td>Stanford Atherton</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>KZSU (90.1 FM)</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Football: USF at Stanford, 5 p.m.; ABC (7); XTRA Sports (860 AM); KZSU (90.1 FM)</td>
<td>Stanford at USF</td>
<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>ABC (7); XTRA Sports (860 AM); KZSU (90.1 FM)</td>
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<td>KZSU (90.1 FM)</td>
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**M-A’s tuneup for PAL title chase is a real winner**

**by Rick Eymer**

Senior MJ O’Neill thinks the Menlo-Atherton High girls’ water polo team has gotten a lot better since losing to Castilleja at the St. Francis Alumni Invitational early in the season. “Hopefully we won’t make the same mistakes,” she said. “We lost but it wasn’t a cramping loss. It’s always great to show how we’ve improved as a team.”

The Bears set up their league showdown with Castilleja next week by beating visiting Menlo School, 10-6, in a PAL Bay Division contest on Wednesday.

“It’s nice to beat a rival school like Menlo,” M-A senior Shelby Fero said. “They’ve won a lot of CCS titles.”

Both schools are in a rebuilding mood. The Bears had to replace eight seniors who

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**GIRLS’ WATER POLO**

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**by Rick Eymer**

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**BOYS’ WATER POLO**

**Menlo’s defense helps determine big win over M-A**

**by Rick Eymer**

Nick Hale and Jack Finch didn’t do any scoring for the Menlo School boys’ water polo team Wednesday and, quite frankly, senior goalkeeper Keegan Williams doesn’t care if they ever score another goal this season. They are just as valuable, says Williams, when they’re making his life a little more comfortable.

Williams may be a little selfish about all the defense Hale and Finch provide in front of him but when they are successfully keeping the ball away from Williams, it’s the Knights who prosper.

Everything went according to plan in Menlo’s 5-1 PAL Bay Division victory over host Menlo-Atherton, settling the issue of who’s best in Atherton and, possibly, the
I n addition to their lofty ranking, the Vikings’ perfect record was at stake. That record and ranking, however, are safe following a grueling four-game victory by Paly.

“This was a very big win for earning the inside track toward the De Anza league title for 2010,” Winn said following his team’s 19-25, 25-14, 25-19, 26-26 triumph over host Harker. The Gators (1-0, 22-2) got 16 kills from Laura Rose, 12 kills from fast-improving Abby Thornburg, 23 digs and three aces from Lindsey Wang and 36 assists from Hannah Hsueh.

In Cupertino, Gunn (5-0, 17-4) improved Abby Thornburg, 23 digs and three aces from Lindsey Wang and 36 assists from Hannah Hsueh.

In Cupertino, Gunn (5-0, 17-4) continued to roll in the SCVAL El Camino Division as the first-place Titans swept the Pioneers, 25-14, 25-19, 17-25, 25-13 victory over Notre Dame-San Jose. Jesse Ebner produced 19 kills for the Ga- tors while Sarah Duschbach had 18 digs.

In Cupertino, Gunn (5-0, 17-4) continued to roll in the SCVAL El Camino Division as the first-place Titans swept the Pioneers, 25-14, 25-19, 25-22, despite having a short bench due to illness and injuries.

The Gunn offense was extremely balanced on the evening, with Kiana Choroski and Allison Doeringhaus each notching nine kills, Adrienne Thom getting eight and Molly Mc- Adam seven. Monica Cai had 33 assists while Sarah Daschbach had 18 digs.

The goal, of course, is for Stan- ford to be there again next week.
Sports

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Catherine Donahoe
Sacred Heart Prep water polo

Trina Ohms*
Palo Alto volleyball

Erin Robinson
Gunn cross country

Laura Rose
Castilleja volleyball

Lucy Tashman
Castilleja volleyball

Pippa Temple
Sacred Heart Prep water polo

Henry Ayala
Gunn football

Christoph Bono
Palo Alto football

B.J. Boyd
Palo Alto football

Anthony Cannon
Gunn football

Willy Fonua
Menlo-Atherton football

Devonte Piper
Menlo-Atherton football

Honorable mention

Jazmin Moledina
Menlo School

Had 62 kills and 29 blocks in seven matches during a 5-2 week that included a 5-0 performance and tourney title at the Menlo Invitational, where she had 43 kills, 19 blocks, 11 digs and three aces.

Josh Jackson
Gunn High

The senior rushed eight times for 156 yards and scored on runs of 41 and 63 yards, in addition to returning a kickoff 89 yards for a score as the Titans tied a school record for most single-game points in a 56-14 nonleague win.

To see video interviews of the Athletes of the Week, go to www.PASportsOnline.com
of visiting Aragon. The Gators (2-0, 7-3) also got three goals from senior Barbara Peterson and two each from Megan Costello, Camille Zubiareta and Sydney Zubiareta.

Castilleja will visit three-time defending CCS Division II champ Sacred Heart Prep in a doubleheader on Friday at 6 p.m. In the first game, Castilleja will face defending CCS Division I champ St. Francis at 4:45 p.m.

Sacre Heart Prep (4-0, 12-1) tuned up with a solid 14-3 triumph over host Valley Christian (San Jose) on Wednesday. Pippa Temple led the Gators with 15 goals. Meanwhile, Menlo will face defending CCS Division I champ St. Francis at 4-45 p.m.

Sacred Heart Prep (4-0, 12-1) tuned up with a solid 14-3 triumph over host Valley Christian (San Jose) on Wednesday. Pippa Temple led the Gators with 15 goals. Meanwhile, Menlo will face defending CCS Division I champ St. Francis at 4-45 p.m.
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9:05 PM EDUCATION ON THE BOAT- HOPE FOR TOMORROW
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9:30 PM TESFAYE
(Ethiopia)
9:45 PM THE OLD IMMIGRANT’S DANCE
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For details about UNAFF Program Schedule please check www.unaff.org and look for the UNAFF PROGRAM INSERT in Palo Alto Weekly on Friday, October 15