LISTENING TO NATURE
Audio tours aren't just for museums anymore  page 24

News  Menlo Park signs off on Facebook terms  Page 3
Arts  Island sounds and strings coming to Stanford  Page 29
Sports  Gunn girls double dunk Paly  Page 38
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Menlo Park signs off on Facebook terms

City to gain annual payments, community improvements

by Sandy Brundage and Barbara Wood

One by one, the public speakers at Menlo Park City Council’s Tuesday night meeting said in no uncertain terms what they thought about the proposed development agreement with social-networking giant Facebook. And what they thought was all good.

The council apparently shared those sentiments, as it voted 5-0 to approve the terms. The agreement lets Facebook go ahead with plans to employ as many as 6,600 people at its new headquarters at 1 Hacker Way, along Bayfront Expressway in Menlo Park.

Ten weeks of negotiations led to an agreement that Menlo Park Mayor Kirsten Keith said she was “very pleased” with upon its release April 12.

The terms include:

- $8.5 million total in graduated payments during the next 10 years, followed by $5 million during the subsequent four years as long as Facebook chooses to still exceed the former employee cap of 3,600 at the campus.
- Funding for bicycle and pedestrian improvements in Menlo Park and East Palo Alto, including at the intersection of Willow Road and U.S. Highway 101.
- A one-time payment to the city of $1.1 million that the city can use for any capital-improvement projects. Facebook will make an additional payment to the city if the city secures other funding for measures that are required by the Environmental Impact Report, such as roadway improvements.
- Creation of a local community fund with an initial $500,000 contribution. The fund will partner with an existing nonprofit organization and will have at least three board members appointed by Facebook, one appointed by Menlo Park and one appointed by East Palo Alto.
- Creation of a high school intern-ship program for students who live in the Ravenswood City School District boundaries with at least 10 internships each summer.
- Sponsorship of job-training pro-

(continued on page 14)

LAND USE

Palo Alto council backs ‘principles’ on Cubberley

Members also appoint commissioners, revise assumptions on retiree benefits

by Chris Kenrick

The Palo Alto City Council kicked off a community discussion on the fate of Cubberley Community Center Monday when members backed a set of principles to guide the talks.

The principles will also be considered by the Board of Education as the two bodies contemplate a future of possibly joint use of the 35-acre site at 4000 Middlefield Road, most of which is owned by the school district. Preliminary conceptual plans propose three schools — elementary, middle and high — as well as community nonprofit organizations on the land.

The principles, according to a city staff report, are intended to ensure the deliberation process is fully transparent and publicly accessible.

The 15 principles also state that the City of Palo Alto values Cubberley as a “major cultural, educational and nonprofit resource”; planning and analysis costs should be shared by the city and school district; concerns of adjacent neighborhoods should be taken into consideration; and more.

In the decades since Cubberley High School closed in 1979 due to falling enrollment, the school district has rented the campus to the city for use as a community center, garnering about $7 million a year in lease revenue for schools.

That lease is up for renewal in 2014 but, this time, school officials have indicated they may need to take back at least part of the campus because of rising school enrollment, particularly

(continued on page 10)

CRIME

Dogwood thefts proliferate with spring bloom

Flowering branches can bring big money for thieves, experts say

by Sue Dremann

The two prowlers in Jim O’Sullivan’s yard could have been burglars, but they weren’t interested in stealing what was in his house, he soon discovered. O’Sullivan spotted the men attempting to take branches from a dogwood tree on his Webster Street property in Palo Alto in broad daylight, he said.

“I heard a van pull up and looked out and saw two people get out with a tree trimmer and walk toward the property,” he said on Wednesday. “They had a piece of the tree in their hand and said, ‘Would you mind if we cut a few branches?’

“I said I would mind, and I asked them to leave,” he said of the April 12, 11 a.m. attack on his front-yard tree. “The dogwood is in full bloom, so maybe they were stealing it to sell to florists. Who knows?”

O’Sullivan is not alone. Throughout the Bay Area at this time of year, gorgeously flowering trees become cash cows for some thieves. They often come with pruning saws and shears in the middle of the night, police said. The bundles of branches can fetch a good price. Harvesting from one tree can net as much as $150, said Bill Zappettini, whose family has been in the flower business at the San Francisco Wholesale Flower Mart since 1921.

Zappettini said a bundle of branches can cost as much as $50 wholesale, depending on quality and size. Dogwoods produce showy “flowers” — actually flower bracts (modified leaves) that surround the tiny greenish-yellow flowers. They look like four fleshy petals in white or pink. The blooms measure about 2 inches in diameter. They are much sought after because they are long lasting, Zappettini said.

(continued on page 14)

(continued on page 14)

www.PaloAltoOnline.com  •  Palo Alto Weekly  •  April 20, 2012  •  Page 3
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The people who do this are ruthless.
— John Hanna, commenting on how his beautiful dogwood tree was attacked at his Crescent Park home. See story on page 3.

PLANTING THE SEED ... Before Linisantly swept the glove and a Palo Alto High School student became the toast of Big Apple, Jeremy Lin was getting his education at Mustard Seed, a preschool program at Emerson School in Palo Alto. The program, which offers training in Chinese and English, is growing in the coming years thanks to the City Council’s decision last week to approve a new Mustard Seed day care center near the Bayblades. Lin, a Harvard Univer-

oso reasonably priced family can afford to play and have fun.” The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at University Avenue and Emerson Street and will proceed down University Avenue to Heritage Park, site of a fair. The procession will feature floats, clowns, marching bands, dance groups and martial arts studios. But for all the frivolity, the event will include several reminders of the city’s status as a locus of innovation. The parade will include a “flotilla of environmentally friendly green cars,” according to the city. And the grand marshal this year is Robert N. Klein II, who authored a stem-cell initiative in 2004 and who recently served as head of the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine.

THE PRIZE ... Mary Schmich, who this week won a Pulitzer Prize for her columns in the Chicago Tribune, has her own Palo Alto connection. Schmich had served as an intern at the Palo Alto Weekly in the early days of the paper’s existence. Her contributions included a profile of Newman Walker, who had served as Palo Alto’s school superintendent from 1975 to 1985. Schmich had also spent time as a reporter at the Peninsula Times Tribune, the predecessor to that replaced the Palo Alto Times and closed its doors in 1993.

WATER WOES ... Palo Alto proudly boasts some of the cleanest tap water in California state, but the quality comes at a price. The city, which is one of about two dozen communities “is the perfect time to show our neighbors and Emerson Street and will begin at 10 a.m. at University Avenue and Emerson Street and will proceed down University Avenue to Heritage Park, site of a fair. The procession will feature floats, clowns, marching bands, dance groups and martial arts studios. But for all the frivolity, the event will include several reminders of the city’s status as a locus of innovation. The parade will include a “flotilla of environmentally friendly green cars,” according to the city. And the grand marshal this year is Robert N. Klein II, who authored a stem-cell initiative in 2004 and who recently served as head of the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine.

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**TECHNOLOGY**

**Imagining the future of education**

New breed of investors pursues tech’s potential to transform the classroom  

by Chris Kenrick

They are young, tech-savvy—and affluent—entrepreneurs aiming to launch successful startups under their belts. A growing number of Palo Alto and Menlo Park entrepreneurs have turned their attention to the power of technology to transform education—"ed-tech," they call it.

In venues around town, from Stanford University to the airy offices of ed-tech "incubator" Imagine K12, they’re coaching and funding a dizzying array of technology products aimed at students, teachers, parents and schools.

"We look at the issues facing K-12 today — if you go into a public school it feels like stepping back in time," said Imagine K12 partner Tim Breen, who co-founded the product of suburban Detroit public schools, Stanford’s electrical engineering department and the Harvard Business School. "We don’t claim to have all the answers, but we think we can help."

Brende — who was among the first four employees of Yahoo!, where he stayed for eight years — sorts K-12’s most nagging issues into what he calls “three buckets”: inequality, international competitiveness and declining budgets.

Admitting inequality is the toughest, he still believes technology can help in all three areas by making teachers and administrators more efficient, freeing up time for them "to do what they love, are good at and are trained for."

Brady and his two partners, startup veterans and investors Alan Louie and Geoff Ralston, provide seed funding from their own pockets, strategic advice, networking and introductions to potential investors for 10 selected ed-tech startups for up to four months at a time.

A main goal is to help startups win the next round of funding. Of the 10 companies that graduated in the first batch last September, five have garnered further investment and are all still alive, Brady said. Now finishing up with its second group, Imagine K12 has posted a May 4 deadline for online applications for its third batch of ed-tech entrepreneurs.

"We’re trying to pull engineering talent into the ed-tech space," Brady said. "If we could do the same thing today for $50,000, Brady said.

"By doing so, we’re trying to excite investors because investors get excited about smart people who are tuning the product on good ideas and get that ball rolling. It’s a bit of a chicken-and-egg thing: There hasn’t been funding because there hasn’t been great tech talent."

"We’re trying to pull this kind of investing-engineering talent ecosystem evolve where it becomes a healthy, attractive place to invest. Dollars that will result in positive change for our K-12 system."

The world has changed since the rough climate for educating invest- ing in the 1980s and 1990s, Brady said.

A fast-growing number of teachers are digital natives — welcoming technology into their classrooms—and the Internet makes it possible to market products directly to them and to parents. Though they don’t control school purse strings, teachers can pilot new products and spread the word about them.

"Teachers are extremely active on Twitter — it’s a very strong community — so the ability to get a product at least tested in a classroom has changed," he said.

"The world is flat now, and you’ll find parents less accepting of mediocre outcomes and willing to put money behind alternatives."

Another big change is the ease of entry.

Advances such as cloud computing have driven down the cost of a startup — where launching Yahoo! cost $1 million, entrepreneurs could do the same thing today for $50,000, Brady said.

"Frankly, with a lot to commend the potential to make money is a great way to encourage tech startups for up to four months at a time."

For now, she said, "the overall focus is on the social impact and the social return on investment. The potential to make money is there, but the trajectory is longer."

Imagine K12’s current batch of companies includes Remind101, which enables teachers to communicate safely with students outside the classroom, as well as startups in the areas of special-education communication (Goalbook); teacher observation (TutorCloud); math and grammar games (BrainNook); data collection (Eduvent); teacher productivity (ClassConnect); recording and uploading lessons (Edurecations) and behavior management (Class Dojo). Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can be emailed at ckenrick@pawEEKLY.com.

**TRANSPORTATION**

Approved high-speed-rail analysis sets stage for more lawsuits

Peninsula cities remain concerned about ridership numbers, description of system in revised environmental study

by Gennady Sheyner

The state agency charged with building California’s high-speed rail system approved on Thursday a long-debated environmental analysis for the San Francisco-to-Los Angeles line, a voluminous document that describes the voter-approved project’s opponents immediately characterized as an invitation to more lawsuits.

The California High-Speed Rail Authority voted to “recertify” the final Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR), a high-level document that describes the voter-approved project and that designates the Pacheco Pass as the rail authority’s preferred route through the Penin- sula. The authority had previously approved the document on two occasions, but it was forced both times to re-examine the project because of legal challenges from Peninsula cities and nonprofit groups.

Now, Palo Alto, Atherton and Menlo Park are preparing for round three. Stuart Flashman, the attorney representing the Peninsula cities in two lawsuits against the rail author- ity, submitted on April 13 a notice signaling systems, and would in- clude some grade separations, but was assumed to be not fully grade separated.” It defers a fuller analysis of this option to a future study.

In approving the analysis Thurs- day, board members tried to assuage Peninsula critics by adding a proviso that specifies that future analyses will focus “solely” on the blended system. That blended approach, which was introduced by state Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, and state Assemblyman Rich Gordon, D-Menlo Park, is now ex- (continued on page 7)
Residents gear up to save Palo Alto animal shelter

Petitions, protests, yard signs to be part of campaign to keep city’s Animal Services

by Sue Dremann

Vowing not to let the City of Palo Alto shutter its animal services center, residents and animal advocates are mounting an effort to keep the shelter open, with all of the markings of a political campaign.

The city manager’s office is recommending closure of the shelter at 3281 E. Bayshore Road, which includes a spay-and-neuter clinic, and outsourcing animal services. The City of Mountain View, which has contracted with Palo Alto Animal Services since 1993, announced in November that it is switching to Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority. That move will leave Palo Alto with $450,000 less for its program.

But opponents say Palo Alto’s services are crucial to care of local animals — not only family pets but wildlife and strays — and to the well-being of residents. Palo Alto’s is the only shelter between Santa Clara and San Mateo, they said.

Since the city’s announcement on March 26, residents and animal-rescue advocates have started at least two petitions. Coming soon: yard signs and buttons and a grassroots effort to work through neighborhood associations, said Carole Hyde, executive director of the Palo Alto Humane Society, a nonprofit organization that is not related to the city’s animal services.

“As you can imagine this is a very passionate issue,” she said Wednesday.

Calling themselves Save Our Shelter (SOS) and, alternatively, Save Our Animal Shelter, the activists have thus far gathered more than 250 signatures on two online petitions. They also have a Facebook page.

Hyde said the Palo Alto Humane Society is also writing a position paper to explore alternatives to the closure.

When Mountain View’s contract ends this November, Palo Alto would have to absorb the lost revenue or pass some of the shared costs to Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, which contract with Palo Alto. The latter option could force the cities to leave the partnership, Palo Alto officials fear.

Animal Services operates on an annual budget of $1.8 million. It brings in about $1.1 million in annual revenues. Mountain View’s departure would raise Palo Alto’s share of the facility’s cost from $700,000 to about $1.1 million annually. Outsourcing animal services would bring down the city’s net costs to about $500,000, according to staff estimates.

The city is also considering using the animal-shelter land for an auto dealership. The U.S. Highway 101 frontage is coveted by auto dealers, which could add to the city’s coffers.

But Hyde and others said there are ways to recoup the lost revenue and keep the city’s animal program, whose reputation has made Palo Alto a destination for those seeking high-quality services.

The Palo Alto Humane Society currently spends $35,000 at the animal-services center, but it could spend $100,000 annually through its spay-and-neuter underwriting program. If the city were to expand the hours and accept feral animals for treatment, the Humane Society and other rescue groups could bring it more business, she said.

“That’s a lot of lost revenue. It seems a shame for the city to lose that income,” she said. Regarding the possible outsourcing, Hyde said there are perils for taking already-stressed animals long distances for treatment and surgery, and the distance will also burden residents.

“The proximity of a shelter is very important. It’s a blow to residents of Palo Alto and other cities,” she said.

Barron Park resident Doug Moran, who runs the neighborhood email list, said he makes notifying neighbors about lost or stray animals a priority, and he understands what the loss would mean in human terms.

“I see how stressful it is to lose a cat or dog. I see other people spend lots of time when animals get lost,” he said.

Friends of his spent two weeks looking for a lost pet, going from shelter to shelter every day. He said he couldn’t imagine how difficult that would be if people could only go to Santa Clara. The city should consider what is a reasonable level of service for its residents, he said.

“The outsourcing seems entirely focused on money,” he said, adding that there should be other ways to save money.

“I just see so many pointless consultant studies that don’t seem to have any result. Are we making proper choices? There are a lot of inefficiencies,” he said.

“Over the years, I have occasion-ally seen consultants that brought real value, but too often the consultants did little more than produce reports that were high on flash and low on content,” he said, citing studies that cost between $50,000 and $200,000.

A shelter’s distance from Palo Alto could jeopardize animals’ lives, he said. People who aren’t able to travel a long distance daily to find a lost pet at a shelter might find their family pet has been euthanized because it wasn’t claimed in a few days, he said.

The quality of life in Palo Alto could change if local services go away. People who take in strays might think twice about driving an animal to Santa Clara.

“People would have to take time off from work to do it” or opt not to do it at all, he said.

Resident Nancy Hamilton said there are many services the city will suddenly find itself without if animal services were to close. One evening she saw Animal Control Officer William Warrior come to the South Peninsula Veterinary Emergency Clinic with an injured bobcat on the end of a pole.

Questions remain about how wildlife services, including nuisances, will be handled, she said.

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.
t the City of Palo Alto’s fund-
ing for planning and admin-
istration and for public ser-
ices may be reduced next year in
response to a decrease in federal
funding.
During the City Council Finance
Committee’s meeting Tuesday
night, April 17, members recom-
mended the city adopt a plan that
includes reducing funding for pub-
lic-service agencies such as Project
Sentinel, Invision Opportunity
Center and the Palo Alto Housing
Corporation.

The committee voted 3-1 to rec-
ommend the plan, with Council-
man Pat Burt dissenting. Burt said
he’d want to look for funds in the
general budget to help cover the
lost money.

Palo Alto receives annual allo-
cations from the U.S. Department
of Housing and Urban Develop-
ment under the Community De-
velopment Block Grant Program.
The city will receive an estimated
$429,304 from the program for the
fiscal year of 2013 — a 29 percent
decrease from last year’s $606,566.
The drop is the result of the comple-
tion of the 2010 Census, which is
used as the basis for the alloca-
tions.

Federal regulations require that
the funds benefit low- and very-
low-income persons, aid in pre-
venting slums or blight, and meet
other urgent community-develop-
ment needs. Much of the funds are
allocated as grants to nonprofits
with goals of improving commu-
nity conditions.

The federal funds along with
money reallocated from past pro-
grams with unspent loans, loan
repayments and income from cur-
rent and future programs make
up the $719,677 in estimated total
funds available to allocate.

High speed rail (continued from page 5)
ected to be the focus on a segment-
specific environmental review that
includes more technical and design
details than the document approved
Thursday.

“I know the issue of the blended
approach is a hot topic, obviously,” Hartnett said. “That’s probably a
closer call than some of the other
issues, but I think that it’s been dealt
with the best it can at the program-
level, based upon the stage of
where it is.”

“There is substantially more work
that will have to be done with that
as the second-tier level,” he said,
referring to the segment-specific
study.
The board’s recent decision to
pursue the blended system is in
many ways an overturing to the Pen-
insula communities where oppo-
sition to high-speed rail has been
most heated. But while the blended
system is far more popular than the
four-track alternative, the project
continues to attract heavy scrutiny
from both opponents and indepen-
dent analysts. Earlier this year, the
nonpartisan Legislative Analyst’s
Office recommended that state
officials withhold construction fund-
ing from the project, which now
has an estimated price tag of
$68.4 billion. The office also rec-
ommended “some minimum fund-
ing” to continue planning efforts
for high-speed rail.

Though California voters ap-
proved a $99.5 billion bond for
high-speed rail in 2008, funding re-
 mains a major concern. Gov.
Jerry Brown has requested in his
2012-13 budget $5.9 billion for
high-speed rail, which would be
launched in Central Valley. This
includes $2.6 billion in state bond
funds and $3.3 billion in federal
funding. The Legislative Ana-
lyst’s Office argued in the report
that the current plan leaves most
questions about funding the proj-
cet unanswered.

Palo Alto Unified School District

Notice is hereby given that proposals will be received by the Palo Alto
Unified School District for multiple summer work bid packages. Description
of the projects/work is as follows:

• Fairmeadow Elementary School: New Rotatable Building
Installation
• Palo Alto High School: Walkway Replacement, Administration Building
Painting and Exterior Repair, Administration Building Window Replacement, Main Parking Lot LED Installation
• District Office: Fire Alarm Replacement

Mandatory Job Walk: there will be a pre-bid conference and site visit for
each project.

Bid Submission: Proposals must be received at the District Facilities
Office, Building “D”.

PREVAILING WAGE LAWS: The successful Bidder must comply with all
prevailing wage laws applicable to the Project, and related requirements
contained in the Contract Documents.

Palo Alto Unified School District will maintain a Labor Compliance Program
(LCP) for the duration of this project. In bidding this project, the contractor
waivers he/she is aware and will follow the Public Works Chapter of the
California Labor Code comprised of labor code sections 1720 – 1861. A
copy of the Districts LCP is available for review at 25 Churchill Avenue,
Building D, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

1. A pre-job conference shall be conducted with the contractor or
subcontractors to discuss federal and state labor law requirements
applicable to the contract.
2. Project contractors and subcontracts shall maintain and furnish to
the District, at a designated time, a certified copy of each payroll
with a statement of compliance signed under penalty of perjury.
3. The District shall review and, if appropriate, audit payroll records
to verify compliance with the Public Works Chapter of the Labor Code.
4. The District shall withhold contract payments if payroll records are
delinquent or inadequate.
5. The District shall withhold contract payments as described in the
LCP, including applicable penalties when the District and Labor
Commissioner establish that underpayment of other violations has
occurred.

Bidders may examine Bidding Documents at Facilities Office, Building “D”.

For more details on obtaining plans and specifications, the mandatory
job walk, bid submission, prevailing wage laws, or the summer work bid
packages, please contact:
Palo Alto Unified School District
25 Churchill Avenue, Building D
Palo Alto, CA 94306-1099
Attn: Ron Smith
Phone: (650) 329-3927
Fax: (650) 327-3588

PUBLIC SERVICES

Palo Alto housing, service agencies could see drop in funding

Sharp decrease in federal dollars means less community-development funding
by Eric Van Susteren

City planner Consuelo Hernan-
dez said the community-develop-
ment money represents a small
portion of the nonprofits’ budgets, but Philip Dah, program director for
Invision Opportunity Center, said funding reductions would have a
significant impact on the center’s work with homeless people.

“It’s been evident that the
services we provide are not seen
or considered to be essential,” he said.
“A $12,000 or $15,000 (grant) is a
small portion of our budget, but
without it we wouldn’t be able to
serve the people of Palo Alto.”

The Opportunity Center, which
received $50,000 in the 2011-12 fiscal year, would be one of the
agencies that stands to lose the
most from funding reductions.
The plan cuts program funding for
2012-13 to $37,175.

Federal regulations state that of
the city’s entitlement grant and
program income, only 15 percent
— $95,600 — may be used on public
services such as the Opportunity
Center. The recommendation allo-
cates the reduced funding propor-
tionally among five agencies: In-
vision, Project Sentinel, YWCA,
Palo Alto Housing Corporation
and Catholic Charities.

Similarly, only 20 percent of the
funds and program revenue may
be spent on planning and admin-
istration. That formula shrinks
the $133,311 allocated to administra-
tion last year to $97,861 this year.

The remaining $552,215 is to be
used on other projects — work-
force development for the Down-
town Streets Team, new windows
for the Cal Park Apartments
and a heating, ventilation and air-
conditioning system for Avenidas,
an organization serving seniors.

The City Council will review the
committee’s recommendations at
a public hearing scheduled for
May 7.

In other business, the committee
recommended a plan that would
increase residential refuse rates
without increasing commercial re-
fuse rates. The increases would be
phased in over a maximum period of
three years.

The plan would increase the
fixed cost for street sweeping from
$4.62 to $6.66, while adding a
$1.07 fixed rate for household
hazardous-waste service and a
$2.17 fixed rate for the city’s an-
nual clean-up day.

Under the new plan, rates for
micronic and 32-gallon trashcans
would rise by $3.17 and $4.06 re-
spectively — a 15 and 11 percent
increase. Rates for 128-gallon,
96-gallon and 64-gallon trashcans
would each increase by $5.28, a 7,
5 and 4 percent increase respec-
tively.

The public-works department
estimates the increases will gener-
ate $850,000 in incremental revenues
next year. The rate increase was
based on a recent refuse cost-of-
service study, which showed a pro-
table imbalance between commer-
cial and residential ratepayers.

Editorial Assistant Eric Van
Susteren can be emailed at eric-
vansusteren@paweekly.com.

uidloalto#!
-0

Rohne

Building “D”

www.PaloAltoOnline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • April 20, 2012 • Page 7
COMMUNITY MEETING

Safer Routes to School for Addison

Review and comment on Draft of Walk and Roll Map and Route Improvements

Tuesday, April 24, 6:30-8:00 PM

Addison Elementary, 650 Addison Ave.

The Palo Alto Safe Routes to School program is documenting suggested routes to school and identifying opportunities for engineering improvements and enforcement which, when combined with safety education and promotion activities, will encourage more families to choose alternatives to driving to school solo.

More info: Contact Sylvia.Star-Lack
transportation@cityofpaloalto.org or 329-2156

OPENING DAY

SATURDAY MAY 12

Gilman Street
@Hamilton Avenue
8:00am to Noon

WWW.PAFARMERSMARKET.ORG

SAFEST ROUTES TO SCHOOL

COMING SOON!

FRUITS VEGGIES EGGS AND MORE!

VINTAGE VEHICLES AND FAMILY FESTIVAL

Antique Car Show

Saturday May 5, 10am to 2:30pm

At the Palo Alto May Pete Fair

Antique Cars and Motorcycles Museum open house and activities

Underwritten by:

Cody Anderson Wasney, Architects
Cvengros Family = Friends of MOAH
Towne Ford, Redwood City
Kim & Charlie Pack = Avidbank

Guido Biersch = Black Tie Transportation
Mathews-Carlson Body Works = Mathews Family
Steve Moore & Kathleen Justice Moore
Motion Pro = Bev & Jim Nelson
Don & Judy Nusbaum = Palo Alto Hardware
William Reller = Staples, Menlo Park

Picturing tolerance

Palo Alto High School students Xavier Sherer, left, Ana Sofia Amieva-Wang and Jordan Bautista take a closer look at the 9-foot by 18-foot cyanotype banner, “Picturing Tolerance/Intolerance,” which was created by photography students in conjunction with the National Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust on April 18. Paly students held a special event at school to discuss the project and talk about what they had read about the Holocaust.

Upfront

East Palo Alto Best Buy store to close

Company plans 50 shutdowns nationwide

by Sue Dremann and Bay City News Service

Electronics retailer Best Buy announced the locations of 42 of its big-box store closures Saturday, April 14, including East Palo Alto and Pittsburg. Five other California stores will also shut down.

The 45,000-square-foot East Palo Alto store, located at 1751 E. Bayshore Road, is part of the Ravenswood 101 Retail Center, which also includes IKEA. When Best Buy opened in November 2000, along with the now-departed EXPO Design Center, it was hailed for creating 150 jobs and boosting sales-tax revenue by $250,000 a year.

Now, it is expected to close permanently by May 12.

Officials said employees were notified about the closures Saturday morning, as were store customers.

East Palo Alto City Councilman Carlos Romero said the closure announcement doesn’t come as a surprise. As the city’s economic-development team ran its annual financial reviews over the past few years, “the handwriting was on the wall.” He said Best Buy let the city know a couple of months ago the store would close.

Mayor Laura Martinez said store officials are working with employees at soon-to-be shuttered locations to find positions within the Best Buy company or could offer severance packages. Best Buy still operates a store in Mountain View, on Charleston Road, which opened in 2006. The electronics store announced at the end of March its plans to close 50 stores nationwide by the end of 2012. Two stores in Kansas City, Mo., and Scottsdale, Ariz., closed earlier this year and five other stores in Minnesota’s Twin Cities and one in San Antonio, Texas, were notified of their impending closures in March.

Three additional locations are expected to permanently close later this summer.

‘The handwriting was on the wall.’

—Carlos Romero, city councilman, East Palo Alto

busy shopping centers in the area, drawing shoppers regionally, Romero and Martinez said. In 2010, the center ranked as the third-largest revenue generator in the state for a regional center of its size, at about $900,000 feet, Romero said.

City leaders think the center has a solid retail mix that will continue to attract shoppers. With IKEA as part of the draw, Ravenswood 101 is considered a regional power center, he said. The center has a Home Depot, Office Depot, Nordstrom Rack, Sports Authority, San Mateo Credit Union, Mi Pueblo Market and a variety of eateries.

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WE’RE WORKING WITH HOMEOWNERS IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE IN CALIFORNIA

Providing solutions for homeowners in need of assistance remains a critical focus for Bank of America. We want to give as many customers as possible the chance to stay in their homes. That’s why we’re reaching out to homeowners in the nation’s hardest-hit communities, meeting with them face-to-face and working with them over the phone.

Since 2009, Bank of America has held customer outreach events in California and across the country. Through these events and other outreach efforts, we’ve helped modify over one million mortgages nationwide since 2008.

To learn more about options available, or to find an event or Customer Assistance Center in your area, please visit bankofamerica.com/homeloanhelp

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Facebook
(continued from page 3)
grams and events.
• Housing assistance through potential investments in low-income housing tax credits and will support a housing project in Menlo Park, by either investing in the project, committing to leasing units or allowing the developer to market the project to Facebook employees.
• Cooperation to underground electrical transmission lines.
• Help in closing the Bay Trail Gap and possibly paying some of the costs of the project.
• Participation in the Caltrans Adopt-a-Highway program for five years.
• Continuation of the Facebook program with local businesses for at least three years. It will try to use local vendors for on-campus goods and services and will use the Menlo Gateway hotel if that project is developed.
• Promotion of local volunteer opportunities for Facebook employees.
• Exploration of the creation of a Willow Road business-improvement district and contribution of seed funding of up to $50,000.
• When performing work that might affect the baylands, Facebook will hire an environmental consultant.
• Cooperation with the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge and adoption of various policies to protect the local wildlife and ecosystem.
• Maintenance and improvement of nearby levees.
• Commitment to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold certification for the energy efficiency of every building on the campus.
• A vehicle trip cap of 15,000 per day, with no more than 2,600 during each commute period. The periods are from 7 to 9 a.m. and from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Exceeding the trip cap carries stiff daily penalties of $500 to $100,000 depending on the number of violations, according to a table provided in the staff report.

“That table was kinda scary to me,” admitted David Ebersman, Facebook’s chief financial officer during the meeting. “I hadn’t seen it presented that way before.”

Since East Palo Alto would also be impacted by traffic, the agreement includes a clause that splits the trip cap fines between Menlo Park and the neighboring city at a percentage to be determined in the future.

Councilman Rich Cline, who along with Keith sat on the negotiations subcommittee, said he was grateful for Facebook’s willingness to collaborate.

“You back up the brand with what you do.”

—Rich Cline, city councilman, Menlo Park

The agreement between the city of Menlo Park and Facebook allows the company to employ up to 6,600 people at its new headquarters at 1 Hacker Way, along Bayfront Expressway.

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Facebook headquarters in Menlo Park

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Children sue father in death of Woodside mother

Three children of former Woodside resident Parima Parineh have initiated a wrongful-death lawsuit against their father, Pooroushasb “Peter” Parineh, who is now in jail on charges of having killed their mother.

The three are her son Austiag Hormoz Parineh, her daughter Austiaj Parineh and her son Khashayar Parineh.

Parineh, who is now in jail on charges of having killed their mother, stated he was bleeding from his head and mouth.

Palo Alto Fire Battalion Chief Chris Woodard said the man was taken to Stanford University Medical Center. Emergency personnel were called to the scene at 7:56 a.m. City dispatch communications at that time indicated he was bleeding from his head and mouth.

Ortiz said Cal/OSHA’s Foster City district office was notified about the accident at 9:24 a.m. She said there were no witnesses, and it is not known if he wore protection at the time of the fall.

— Sue Dremann

Worker falls from steel structure at Paly

A construction worker sustained traumatic injuries after falling from a steel structure at Palo Alto High School Tuesday morning, April 17, a spokeswoman for the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) has confirmed.

The 24-year-old employee of Cold Steel Erectors Inc. of San Lorenzo, Calif., was spreading steel decking on the second floor of a classroom structure that is under construction when the accident occurred, Cal/OSHA spokeswoman Patricia Ortiz said. She said she could not provide the worker’s name.

The man fell 13 feet, 8 inches onto the concrete floor and sustained a broken hip and a facial bone fracture. He will require surgery, she said.

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— Sue Dremann

Police recover stolen property from vehicle stop

Police arrested three men for residential burglary after an officer discovered stolen property during a vehicle stop Friday, April 13, at 2:08 p.m. — less than 25 minutes after the property was reported stolen from a nearby residence.

Hector Jose Sandoval of Hayward, Gilbert Garcia of East Palo Alto and Israel Aguilar of East Palo Alto were each arrested for residential burglary, possession of stolen property, conspiracy and possession of burglary tools. The first three charges are felonies; only the charge of possession of burglary tools is a misdemeanor.

Police recovered property that had been stolen earlier that day at a house in the 2400 block of Agnes Way. Police stated that the estimated value of the recovered stolen property is between $10,000 and $15,000.

An officer stopped the vehicle at the intersection of Oregon Expressway and Middlefield Road for a vehicle code violation and detained the vehicle’s three occupants after smelling marijuana. One of the men was on a searchable probation for theft and domestic violence in Alameda County.

The officer conducted a probation search and discovered tools commonly used for burglary, possession of stolen property, conspiracy and possession of burglary tools. The first three charges are felonies; only the charge of possession of burglary tools is a misdemeanor.

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— Eric Van Susteren

Children sue father in death of Woodside mother

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The three are her son Austiag Hormoz Parineh, her daughter Austiaj Parineh and her son Khashayar Parineh.

The April 11 complaint filed in San Mateo County Superior Court alleges that Pooroushasb Parineh “willfully and maliciously fired two gun shots to the head of Parima” at their Woodside mansion on Fox Hill Drive on April 13, 2010.

The children further allege in the complaint that their father acted out of a motive to cash in on life-insurance policies that would have paid out with Parima Parineh’s death.

Pooroushasb Parineh has been in county jail on a no-bail status on charges of premeditated murder for financial gain since his arrest in Sunnyvale on June 17, 2010.

— David Boyce
Upfront

Microsoft Store opens at Stanford Shopping Center
The new Microsoft Store is holding its grand opening at Stanford Shopping Center April 19, and San Francisco 49ers legend Jerry Rice will be on hand to help celebrate the occasion. (Posted April 19 at 9:44 p.m.)

Bicycle thefts on rise in Palo Alto
Numerous bicycle thefts have been reported throughout Palo Alto since March 28, police said Wednesday. “The thefts have been trending upward again — definitely,” Sgt. Brian Philip said. (Posted April 18 at 4:21 p.m.)

Mistaken ID in Mountain View bike robbery arrest?
The family of a man accused of assaulting a Red Rock employee and trying to steal his bike are insisting that Mountain View police arrested the wrong guy. (Posted April 18 at 4:25 p.m.)

Stanford group offers online parenting class
Raising balanced children in a fast-paced world is the theme of an online parenting class launched this month by a Stanford University-based organization. (Posted April 18 at 9:11 a.m.)

Google scales back Mountain View bridge project
After prodding from conservationists, Mountain View-based Google is redesigning its bridge project over Stevens Creek, one of the most hotly contested infrastructure projects in recent memory. (Posted April 18 at 8:29 a.m.)

Noisy nights for Caltrain neighbors through May
Caltrain has announced that nighttime training of new train engineers may disrupt the sleep of nearby residents for several weeks. The training started on April 11 and runs through May 24. (Posted April 17 at 8:38 a.m.)

VIDEO: A conversation with Phil Jaber
Phil Jaber, founder of Philz Coffee, talks about his history in the Bay Area and the challenges and triumphs of opening the popular string of coffee shops. Philz Coffee has nine Bay Area locations, including two in Palo Alto and one in Menlo Park. (Posted April 15 at 8:33 a.m.)

Vehicle struck by express train in Menlo Park
A mother and daughter were transported to a hospital on Friday evening, April 13, after their Saab was struck by an express train in Menlo Park, a Caltrain spokeswoman said. (Posted April 14 at 2:14 p.m.)

Lightning knocks out power to SLAC
A lightning bolt struck a main electrical-transmission line to the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory Thursday night, April 12, shutting down the linear accelerator and causing nearly 1,600 employees to stay home on Friday, a SLAC spokesman has confirmed. (Posted April 13 at 4:01 p.m.)

More than 700 lightning strikes hit during storm
The storm that struck Thursday night, April 12, triggered more than 700 lightning strikes around the Bay Area, set new records for rainfall and left thousands without power, officials said. (Posted April 13 at 1:34 p.m.)

Man shot in East Palo Alto Thursday night
A man was injured in a shooting in East Palo Alto on Thursday night, April 12, police said. (Posted April 13 at 8:06 a.m.)

High-speed-rail authority OKs new business plan
Calling it a “huge step” for boosting California’s transportation network, the state agency charged with building the controversial high-speed-rail line approved on Thursday a business plan for the San Francisco-to-Los Angeles system. (Posted April 12 at 5:30 p.m.)

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.

Looking for something to do?
Check out the Weekly’s Community Calendar for the Midpeninsula.
Instantly find out what events are going on in your city!
Go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com/calendar
A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

City Council (April 16)
Cubberley: The council approved a set of guiding principles for discussing the future of Cubberley Community Center. **Yes:** Burt, Holman, Klein, Price, Scharr, Schmid, Shepherd, **Absent:** Espinosa

Medicaid: The council approved the retiree medical report with changes to the amortization method. **Yes:** Burt, Espinosa, Holman, Klein, Scharr, Shepherd, **Yeh No:** Schmid **Absent:** Espinosa

City Council Finance Committee (April 17)
Grants: The committee recommended reducing by 29 percent the city’s Community Development Block Grant funding for fiscal year 2013. **Yes:** Price, Scharr, Shepherd  **No:** Burt

Refuse Rate: The committee recommended a flat-rate increase to the residential refuse rate and no changes to the commercial rate. **Yes:** Unanimous

Historic Resources Board (April 18)
433 Melville: The board approved the proposed renovation, alteration and addition to 433 Melville Ave. **Yes:** Unanimous

Council Finance Committee (April 18)
Water: The committee recommended raising the water rates by 15 percent, which would boost the utility’s revenues by $4.7 million. **Yes:** Unanimous

Architectural Review Board (April 19)
Cogswell Plaza: The board discussed the preliminary design for Cogswell Plaza, including new landscaping and removal of turf area. **Action:** None

PUBLIC AGENDA

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

**CITY COUNCIL** ... The council plans to meet in closed session to discuss labor negotiations with the police union. The council also plans to discuss the Communications and Power Industries amortization study and consider ways to reduce risk level from CPI’s hazardous materials in Barron Park. The council also plans to amend the gas utility’s long-term objectives, strategies and implementation plan; and approve the use of $2.3 million in park-development fees for improvements at El Camino Park. The closed session will begin at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 23. Regular meeting will follow in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

**BOARD OF EDUCATION** ... The board will discuss transition plans for the school district’s adoption of a new calendar for 2012-13, which will move the school start date earlier in August and end the first semester before the December holidays. The board will hear a report on college attendance by socio-economically disadvantaged Palo Alto high school graduates, as well as an update on the disproportionate number of minorities in special education. The board will discuss “guiding principles” and architectural scenarios for upcoming discussions with the City Council regarding the future of Cubberley Community Center. Following a closed session for legal matters, the public session of the board will begin at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, in the boardroom of school district headquarters (25 Churchill Ave.).

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION** ... The commission plans to discuss the long-range plan for Rinconada Park, and the supply and demand of athletic fields. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 24, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

**PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION** ... The commission plans to discuss the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority Bus Rapid Transit Plan; hold a public hearing on the draft density bonus ordinance; and hear an update on the Sustainable Communities Strategy Draft preferred scenario. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, April 25, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

**COUNCIL RAIL COMMITTEE** ... The committee plans to discuss the California High-Speed Rail Authority’s 2012 business plan and the revised final program EIR. The committee also plans to discuss the Rail Corridor Task Force report laying out the community’s vision for the Caltrain corridor. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 26, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

**LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION** ... The commission plans to hear a presentation from OCLC WorldShare and review the Community Services Element of the revised Comprehensive Plan. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 26, in the Downtown Library (270 Forest Ave.).
Cubberley
(continued from page 3)

in the southern part of town.
A San Francisco architect drew several conceptual plans for a future Cubberley. Several of them showed a new school building with a large gymnasium, auditorium, and library. However, officials stressed that these sketches are only conceptual and that plans are subject to change. As of now, it seems that the plan is moving forward, but the actual design may change in the future.

I have no problem with sharing, as long as it’s thoughtful — a fence or something would be OK.

—Bob Moss, resident, Palo Alto

People need to be vigilant when their dogwood is blooming. It really needs some kind of neighborhood watch.

—John Hanna, resident, Palo Alto

 uptown dogwood that was attacked at his former home in the 1400 block of Hamilton Avenue. “People need to be vigilant when their dogwood is blooming. It really needs some kind of neighborhood watch.”

Hanna said his azaleas have been recently targeted, and some thieves also go after hydrangeas, which have large, beautiful blooms. One resident suggested painting the branches in a way that could identify them if they are stolen, he said.

Zappettini said most residents probably don’t realize there is a value to many materials routinely pruned from their gardens. Most probably don’t realize there is a value to many materials routinely pruned from their gardens. Most probably don’t realize there is a value to many materials routinely pruned from their gardens.

The People need to be vigilent watch. The People need to be vigilent watch.

The People need to be vigilent watch. The People need to be vigilent watch. The People need to be vigilent watch. The

Inspirations
a guide to the spiritual community

First Congregational Church, UCC
1958 Louis Road, Palo Alto • 650-385-6655 • www.tccpa.org
Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
Church School at 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. This Sunday: A Story With No Ending
Rev. David Howell preaching

Coming Soon: Danger Dan, Adventure Man
April 27 & 29 at 7:00 pm
Featuring over 80 children and youth

“arrested,” he said.

Council members also chose three of six applicants for vacancies on Palo Alto’s Public Art Commission, including re-appointment of Richard Ambrose, director of the Pacific Art League and a resident of El Cerrito. The other two applicants appointed were architect Vikki Tohok, who lives in Redwood City, and Palo Alto resident Patricia Walsh, who has worked in public art in Massachusetts and more recently in San Jose.

For three spots on the Human Relations Commission, the council re-appointed incumbents Ray Bacchetti and Theresa Chen and also appointed a new member, lawyer and mediator Diane Morin, who was raised in Italy and came to the United States at the age of 18 for college.

Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can be emailed at ckenrick@paweekly.com.

Upfront

City Arborist Dave Dockter said pruning trees in the spring is not generally a good idea. Springtime is when most trees are putting out new growth, flowering and setting fruit. Every cut causes the tree to expend energy to seal over the wound. Some thinn-barked trees such as fruitless mulberry have difficulty controlling sap bleeding, he said.

Cherry trees, another popular flowering tree for thieves, is a worse bleeder than dogwood, he said. But dogwood is a slower grower and is shaded to respond to wounds and to callus over. The cuts leave a tree vulnerable to fungus and disease, he said.

O’Sullivan has set up a motion-detecting camera to protect his property. “I look at this as similar to copper theft. It’s kind of the same thing. They are stealing valuable landscape. It really needs to be addressed.

“I was surprised at how brazen some people are. They look like landscapers and wouldn’t be questioned,” he said.

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.
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<tr>
<th><strong>POLICE CALLS</strong></th>
<th><strong>April 12-18</strong></th>
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<td>4/15, 4:37 p.m.; child abuse/physical.</td>
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Lessons learned from car-train accident

Culture of defensiveness and secrecy reflects poorly on city and disrespects the public’s right to know

No one has suggested that the death of Judith Goldblatt on the train tracks at Charleston Road a year ago was anything other than a tragic accident, in spite of the secretive and evasive handling of the case by Palo Alto and other officials.

Goldblatt, visiting local relatives and driving a rental car, apparently drove onto the tracks without realizing there were cars ahead blocking her path. (To read the Weekly’s investigative article on the accident, published April 13, go to www.PaloAltoOnline and search for “Goldblatt’s error in judgment for stopping on the tracks.”)

Almost immediately after the horrific accident last April 15 public concerns were raised over the safety of Palo Alto’s four grade-level railroad crossings, the placement and timing settings of traffic signals and the operation of the Charleston-Alma traffic signal in particular.

Nearby residents reported that trains had been slowed after the accident as a precaution when passing through that crossing, leading the Weekly to begin asking questions of authorities.

The Weekly learned that Caltrain engineers had detected problems with the “pre-emption” signaling at the Charleston crossing after the accident, causing potential inconsistent behavior of the traffic signals controlling the flow of traffic on Alma and Charleston. (When a train is approaching a signal, it triggers the traffic lights to sequence to red along Alma Street so that there is time for traffic crossing the tracks to move to safety before the train passes.)

Despite the clear public-safety concerns being raised, what became a year-long investigation of the accident by the Weekly ran into resistance almost from the beginning.

Palo Alto and Caltrain officials referred inquiries to the San Mateo County Sheriff’s office, which functions as transit police for Caltrain and is responsible for investigating any Caltrain-involved accidents. For months Sheriff’s detectives would not comment and said their investigation was not complete.

Palo Alto City Attorney Molly Stump told the Weekly that on the day of the accident the Sheriff’s office took charge of the scene and the investigation and that the Palo Alto police played no role.

At first Palo Alto officials denied they had conducted any investigation, yet now reference a “supplemental” investigation done by the police but which they refuse to release. City Manager Jim Keene doesn’t even acknowledge there was a Palo Alto investigation, saying that doing an independent investigation would have “muddled” the official inquiry being done by transit authorities.

And city Planning Director Curtis Williams, responsible for the city’s transportation division, has in the last few weeks made statements contradicting the Sheriff’s investigators. Williams stated no cars were blocking Goldblatt’s exit from the track at the time of the collision, while the transit police investigator Victor Lopez said he concluded that all traffic lanes were occupied and no escape route was available.

California law requires accident investigation reports to be released to anyone involved in the accident, but does not mandate their release to the general public. Despite repeated requests, both the Palo Alto City Attorney and the San Mateo County Counsel have invoked the legal exemption in the Public Records Act and refused to provide the reports, even with redactions of any sensitive or confidential information, such as the names of witnesses or photographs from the scene.

Other documents and emails obtained by the Weekly through multiple Public Records Act requests confirmed that shortly after the Goldblatt accident meetings were held between Caltrain and the city about malfunction concerns, timing changes were made to the signals and the entire traffic-signal controller was replaced.

But for months following the accident city officials declined to comment, other than to state that there was nothing in the investigative reports that suggested any cause for the accident other than Judith Goldblatt’s error in judgment for stopping on the tracks.

While the exact circumstances that day will never be known, the city owed the community a complete and thorough report, and recommendations on how traffic controls at our railroad grade crossing might be improved to increase safety.

Instead, either paralyzed by liability concerns or simply insensitive to legitimate public concerns, the city made a horrible tragedy worse by not being forthcoming.

At a time when most attention has been focused on the risks associated with the Caltrain tracks running through the community and the dangers of grade crossings, the public deserves much more from its city officials.

Creating ghettos

Palo Alto’s housing element sure sounds like we are creating ghettos. Making sure that “those people” live “over there,” not in our neighborhoods — not only ghettos, but in high-rise tenements.

Housing Element calling out: “designated locations,” “smaller apartments” and “protecting existing neighborhoods.” It appears the like Meririan Webster’s definition “... a quarter of a city in which members of a minority group live especially because of the social, legal, or economic pressure.”

The only real solution is to understand that ALL of Palo Alto is going to have to change. All neighborhoods are going to get denser. All neighborhoods are going to have to accommodate more elderly, lower income, non-vehicle owning residents. All neighborhoods are going to have to move back to a mixed-use model. All neighborhoods are going to have to move away from one single-family-housing unit per lot.

Marc Fleischmann

Wellsbury Way

Kudos to Oskar

Editor,

Kudos to “Oskar and the Last Straw” at the Escondido Elementary School. I had the privilege and the pleasure of attending a performance of this most concise and touching piece of writing. With echoes of Mr. Fred Rogers and Sesame Street, it delivered a great lesson about how to fight the stress and overload that our kids face. And it did so in a subtle, cheerful, non-didactic way perfectly designed for such young pupils.

Hundreds of little ones were rapt and engaged by the plight of Oskar, as he “unpacked” some of the pressures their world imposes on them. At the end, during the “Q and A” it was remarkable how much the children had retained about the strategies between “Coping Cat” and “No More Choices Bear.”

I was thinking, if only their parents could’ve been there too (they were most likely working and multi-tasking) to hear these timeless messages about “doing one thing at a time” and “prioritizing” and learning these time- tested techniques of problem-solving.

We are so very fortunate to have such an amazing company called TheatreWorks in our town that has the vision and commitment to using its very special way of reaching people of all ages in such a preemptively mentally healthy way. Strengthening and re-enforcing what we already have in our DNA is heartening.

Thanks to all involved in Oskar. Keep up the wonderful work and those positive messages, which we are never too old to learn.

Susan Weisberg

Mayfield Avenue
Guest Opinion

With rules, we can squeeze bikes into car territory

by Mac Clayton

When my son Nick was in Jordan Middle School, he got a traffic ticket while riding his bike. Approaching an intersection he crossed to the left side of the street to use a crosswalk on that side. The policeman told him he was supposed to ride on the right side of the road and wasn’t supposed to bike in a crosswalk. To “pay” his ticket, Nick had to take a bike safety course. I think he had to do community service, too.

I was stunned, and, I admit, a little incensed. For one thing, he was taking the route I had suggested would be the safest. But it was wrong. We had just moved to town and all started biking and I didn’t understand the rules as well as I thought I did. I didn’t even understand what was best for Nick’s safety.

Now, 10 years later, we all bike more than we drive. I had to threaten the boys to get them to take the automobile driver’s test before they went to college. I use my car so little I bought a trickle charger for it. And, though I had just moved to town and all started biking, I didn’t understand the rules as well as I thought I did.

I did. I didn’t even understand what was best for Nick’s safety.

Provoking driver animosity is not bright. It’s a little like throwing stones at a rhino.

Palo Alto is a good city for bicyclists. The City Council has recently adopted a new plan to improve bike safety in major corridors. But the danger continues on ordinary streets, where kids on every block come out of their homes to bike to school during the morning commute, and where those of us long past school age bike for health, ecology and serenity and share the road with construction workers, gardeners and moms and dads running errands.

Bikes and cars alike are obligated to obey the rules of the road.

The street is not a level playing field, though. Cars have big lanes all to themselves. More often than not, bikes have to scurry along between parked cars and vehicles overtaking them from behind, choosing between the risk of being “doored” and the hazard of being clipped (or worse) from the rear.

It would be great, for bikers and drivers, if we could ban all on-street parking to open up more space for bikes and cars to travel together safely. Or perhaps widely restrict parking to one side of the street during the day, as we now do on some streets. People have to have places to park cars, though, so that dream is not practical. But there are a few things we can do that are both economical and easy to implement:

❖ Prohibit parking at intersections within 20 or 30 feet of the corner. Paint the curbs red and enforce the rule. This would open up visibility for bikers and drivers alike. It’s called “daylighting,” and it would be a good idea even if no one biked. I remember teaching my sons to drive. They would stop at the white stripe at stop signs. From there, because of parked cars they wouldn’t be able to see cross traffic, so the game was creep, creep, creep, sprint. It never felt very safe, even in a car.

❖ Aggressively ticket cyclists who break the rules. Not only is it dangerous to blow through stop signs, it annoys the heck out of drivers. Provoking driver animosity is not bright. It’s a little like throwing stones at a rhino. More careful compliance with traffic laws by cyclists would keep them safer and result in their being better respected by those with whom they share the road.

❖ Set the speed limit on residential streets at 20 miles per hour and enforce it. In addition to cars, our streets are teeming with bikers, walkers and kids doing all manner of things. Twenty miles per hour gives us all a bigger margin for error, a better opportunity to avoid the careless child biking home from school, and a better chance to get out of the way of an inattentive driver. What’s the hurry? You’re just going to have to stop in a block or two anyway.

We’re long past the point of debating whether cycling is a good thing for the community and its residents. Bikes are quiet and burn no hydrocarbons. They take up no parking spaces. They give our children (and their parents) independence. In addition to providing exercise for the body, they are good for the soul. Anyone who has been out on a bike on a sunny day with the wind blowing in your face has felt the exhilarating rush of flying with ET in your basket across the face of the moon.

Our community was built for cars. Safely squeezing an increasingly large bicycling crowd onto the roads is tough. To make it work, we need the good will of drivers and cyclists alike. A bucket of red paint for curbs at intersections, lower speed limits and active traffic enforcement for both bikers and drivers would be a big help too.

Mac Clayton is a former lawyer and businessman turned writer. He has published fiction and is writing a novel.

Streetwise

Do you think the downtown area can accommodate the Lytton Gateway project?

Asked on Loma Verde Avenue, Midfield Road, Waverley Street and Cambridge Avenue, Palo Alto. Interviews and photographs by Junesung Lee.

Scottie Zimmerman
Writer
Waverley Street
“I vote against it. I wish they’d put in a grassy park and benches instead. I can’t believe we still have the need for more buildings and development.”

Kate Gibbons
Stay-at-home mom
Loma Verde Avenue
“It certainly sounds too dense of a project. Palo Alto’s biggest consideration should be for the people and the residents.”

Mary Lou Lathrop
Self-employed
Cambridge Avenue
“I’m against it. It’s too dense of a project because of parking.”

Deolinda Avila
Retired
Barron Park
“Only if they’re looking to resolve the parking issues and seek some plan on fixing parking; if not, I’m against it.”

John Morris
Community volunteer
Evergreen Park
“Current city ordinances are there for a reason and should be respected. Parking is a real issue as well. Development shouldn’t occur at the expense of the residents.”

Check out Town Square!

Hundreds of local topics are being discussed by local residents on Town Square, a reader forum sponsored by the Weekly on our community website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com. Post your own comments, ask questions, read the Editor’s blog or just stay up on what people are talking about around town!
It is time for residential parking permits in Palo Alto

by Sally-Ann Rudd

Fellow Palo Altans, it's time we take this issue of residential permit parking and settle it once and for all. I live in Downtown North. My house is on a small lot (5,500 sq. ft.), it was built in 1967 and has a single-car garage and no driveway. We have two children. I drive a minivan. My husband drives a Honda Civic. He parks in the garage, and I park on the street. I am very happy in my little house, except for one thing. If I move my car I lose my parking space. It is not actively managed spillover parking into the public street. I don't get it back until around 5 p.m. when the daytime parkers go home.

When I had babies, not being able to park outside my house was a very painful experience. I had to figure out how to get two tiny children in and out of the house and my groceries. Which did I leave in the car, the babies or the ice cream, while I sprinted back and forth to the house?

When my mother came to visit, in a wheelchair, it was beyond inconvenient. I started calling the police for the people who parked overhanging the curb cut to my garage. When we have contractors come to the house to fix things, I have to give them precise directions about arriving early in the morning. Not being able to park outside your own little house can make things very difficult. So why can't we have residential permit parking?

Unlike neighboring cities, Palo Alto does not actively manage spillover parking into residential areas.

This has come about because Palo Alto's zoning requires a "minimum" parking level for new developments of four parking spaces for every 1,000 sq ft. In theory, this provides adequate on-site parking for employees so spillover parking shouldn't be a problem. You give "the theory" at the start of that sentence, right?

Within the Downtown Parking District, where use changes don't require providing additional parking spaces, there are a little more than 5,000 spaces. If all the existing buildings had four spaces per 1,000 sq ft, there would be an additional 5,000 spaces required to meet those minimum ratios. So clearly, there's a numerical parking deficiency in our city even if new developments are adequately parked.

But downtown Palo Alto has changed a lot in recent years. The ratios don't take into account concentration of non-resident parking into a 200-seat restaurant. They don't take into account a start-up that rips all the cubicles out of an office and puts up large tables with workstations, which can fit in the workmen's village land. They don't take into account replacing a two-story building with a three-story building with an extra layer of office space. They don't take into account "in-lieu" parking fees, while developers within the Downtown Parking District can pay fees instead of building actual parking spaces. Unfortunately, you can't park a real car in a virtual space.

Things have changed a lot but Palo Alto doesn't have the space for more parking. Therefore, the residential neighborhoods are taking the brunt of the spillover.

In 2009, College Terrace was given a Residential Permit Parking (RPP) program. It was funded by Stanford University, which gave the City $100,000 to protect the neighboring residential area. Stanford did this because they committed to a "parking cap and no new car trips" policy in their General Use Plan and capping parking is an effective way of encouraging people to find alternative ways of getting to work. It is one of a number of Transport Demand Management (TDM) approaches they use. Palo Alto has committed to increasing the density of development projects around transit hubs, which makes perfect sense. Our city is fortunate to have a bus station and train station in the same place. The Marguerite shuttle serves Stanford. The Palo Alto shuttle serves some areas of Palo Alto.

What our city has not done is implement the kind of forward-thinking, visionary TDM programs that Stanford and surrounding communities have adopted, and resident permit parking is one of these.

If you introduce permit parking, you have a real tool you can use to encourage people to use transit and other ways to get around. You can use public transit, they can bike, they can start rideshare and car-share programs.

More importantly, you can reduce the parking requirements for development. This means you can have more space for people, less water pumped from the aquifer for deep garage constructions, you can make construction costs cheaper for developers and that might just encourage cheaper downtown rents and more diversity in our downtown. You will get fewer car trips, less air pollution, more trees and fewer accidents. People will find new ways to get around. This is a real place we all want to live and work in, right?

But you can't reduce the parking requirements for development until you protect residential areas from spillover parking. Without taking non-resident cars from the neighborhoods, it is not a real reduction in parking supply and it's not fair to the people who live there.

The most common objection to resident permit parking is that it will affect the "economic vibrancy" of downtown Palo Alto. Most of the people who park in my neighborhood work in restaurants or retail. They arrive around 10 a.m. and they leave around 5 p.m. when the color zone parking restrictions down town come to an end. I don't think they're buying their workout gear at lululemon, I think they are working at lululemon. For these workers, long-term parking permits are not an option, and they may come from areas where public transit is not available. It would be a lot more convenient for me if the people who were shopping at lululemon or eating at Cheesecake Factory were parked outside my house, because they would circulate. The workers are there for hours. I would like to see a resident permit parking program that allowed some workers to continue using the neighborhood. I'd like to see them take responsibility for ensuring the others have somewhere to park if they really can't use alternative transport. Satellite parking is an option, or giving up some two-hour spaces and making them long-term.

Many other cities have permit parking programs without sacrificing economic vibrancy. Berkeley comes to mind, so does San Francisco. No one's ever turned down a job at Stanford because they can't drive to work.

No one expects to drive to work in San Francisco. Why? Because long ago San Francisco companies require developers to provide parking, implemented resident permit parking and those two measures spurred the development of a comprehensive public transit system that works really well. It is time Palo Alto did the same.

Sally-Ann Rudd has lived in a small house in Downtown North since 1995 with her husband, children and two cats.
Lee Domenik

A memorial service is pending for Lee Domenik, a 2007 graduate of Palo Alto High School, who died April 9 in Cambodia, where he had been working as an English teacher. He was 23.

Born in Santa Cruz, he moved as a small child with his family to Japan. He began his schooling when the family moved to Singapore, and continued in Highland Park, Texas.

After the family moved to Palo Alto, he finished elementary school at Addison and went on to Jordan Middle School and Palo Alto High School, where he worked on the school newspaper, The Campanile.

He also loved to play tennis, his father said. He started college at Duke University, later transferring to the University of San Francisco, where he was studying chemistry but was taking some time off, his father said. He was an enthusiastic sailor and had sailed with his family in the Mediterranean, Caribbean and south Pacific. On a family trip to Vietnam and Cambodia, he visited a dam project in a remote area of Vietnam and became interested in the impact of such projects on local populations. He intended to return to make a documentary film about dams in Laos, but instead decided to stay in Phnom Penh, where he got a job teaching English and volunteer in an orphanage.

He is survived by his parents, Steve and Christine Domenik of Apts., Calif.; his brother, Jack, of San Francisco, Calif.; his grandparents, Barbara Domenik of Davis, Calif., and Peter and Athena Rockkas of Fresno, Calif.; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Robert Donald Scoren

Robert Donald Scoren, a Woodside resident for nearly 50 years, died March 22.

A native of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, he completed his studies in dentistry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in San Francisco in 1956 and established his practice in downtown San Francisco. Three years later, he joined the Legal Aid Society to represent indigent clients in the Bay Area. He first worked on criminal cases and then on appeals for the society. In 1983, he started a private practice, mainly taking clients who could not afford to pay him much, if anything. He retired from full-time law practice in 2001.

He is survived by his wife; their daughter, Kimberly Osborne; two sons, Kyle of Seattle, Wash., and Matthew of New York City, N.Y.; a sister, Caroline Lehman of San Jose, Calif.; and a granddaughter.

Bonnie M. Stafford

Bonnie M. Stafford of Woodside, Calif., daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and aunt — died April 10.

She and her twin brother Stu- art were born in San Francisco on Feb.10, 1924, and graduated from Lowell High School class of 1942. She was active in several local organizations, including Woodside Landscaping Committee, Woodside/ Atherton Garden Club, Cantor Arts, and was a volunteer at Sequoia Hospital. She played tennis, gard- ened and kept many friends.


She is survived by her son, Jeff of Ashland, Ore.; daughter and son- in-law, Abby and Peter Bentley of Grass Valley, Calif.; grandson, Cedar of Ashland, Ore.; granddaugh- ters, Amra Stafford of Phoenix, Ariz., and Senna North of Medford, Ore.; niece and husband, Libby McPherson-Mann and Bob Mann, of Woodside, Calif.; niece, Sandra McPherson of San Francisco; great- nephew, Griffin; and numerous other nieces and nephews in addition to many loving friends.

The family prefers donations to the American Cancer Society or Pathways Hospice.

Private services will be held for the family. A celebration of her life for close friends and family will be held later this year.

Patricia O’Neill Cone

Patricia O’Neill Cone, 82, Palo Alto, California, died peacefully in Scottsdale, AZ, after a long illness. Preceded in death by her husband Donald Cone; parents Clement and Dorothy O’Neill of St. Paul, MN, and Wilmette, IL; sisters Kathleen O’Neill, and Colleen (the late Emil) Wahlund; and brothers Clement (Jean) O’Neill and John O’Neill.

Survived by loving sisters Dorothy (Norman) Miller and Sheila (Pat) O’Neill plus many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews. A pioneer and Renaissance woman, Pat held high-level positions at Stanford Research Institute, traveled the world, and played a virtuoso game of golf. Her generosity and care for the family of Colleen and Emil Wahlund exemplify her compassionate and philanthropic nature.
by Karla Kane

Creativity can sometimes seem like an elusive, mysterious quality that some blessed people are born with and others lack. And don't our imaginations begin to dry up after childhood? Not so, says Stanford professor Tina Seelig, whose new book, “InGenius: A Crash Course On Creativity,” was released this week.

“Creativity appears to most people to be something magical and unattainable, rather than the natural result of a clear set of formal processes,” she states. However, “There is a concrete set of methods and tools that can be used to enhance your imagination, and by embracing these approaches your creativity naturally increases.”

Though the phrases “concrete set of methods” and “creativity” side-by-side may seem incompatible, the author suggests practical ways to nurture the potential creativity lurking in everyone.

Seelig describes her model for fostering and encouraging an entrepreneurial mindset for people of all ages as viable and scalable, and as a way to nurture the potential creativity lurking in everyone.

Seelig explains that adults tend to discourage such thinking, by strict, specific instructions and rules. However, “There is a concrete set of formal processes,” she states. After all, a large part of creativity is experimentation, and after many failures, she says, is to think of the results of experiments as always unknown beforehand. Being willing to try, fail and learn from experiences is key. Traditional businesses tend to discourage such thinking, and when managers give employees strict, specific instructions and rules to follow, willingness to experiment and even curiosity itself dwindles. The key to becoming comfortable with failures, she says, is to think “like a scientist” — looking at failures not as reasons to quit but as data that can be analyzed and learned from. Seelig offers the example of the popular iPhone-app company Instagram, which allows users to snap, edit and share photos instantly. The company founders originally created a location-posting app, which did not prove successful. Only through trial and error did they come up with a winning formula.

“InGenius” is full of interesting examples of creative companies and people, methods they've used to foster creativity, and the creative solutions they've come up with. Some of them are serious (such as a new treatment for tumors), some silly. I liked the solution Swedish thinkers designed when faced with the problem of littering in a park. They created the “World’s Biggest Rubbish Bin,” which, when trash is placed in it, emits a sound effect indicating the piece of garbage is falling to ridiculous depths. The public has found the invention to be so much fun that they now actively seek out and deposit litter from around the park.

The value of fun and positivity in the workplace, according to Seelig, should not be underestimated. When employee morale is high, creativity also increases. Seelig gives the example of the whimsical atmosphere at animated-film company Pixar. And while a playful atmosphere may seem more appropriate for a company that produces children’s movies than at more “serious” firms, Seelig argues that every office can benefit from some levity.

“When you play, you are having fun.”
a great time. When you have a great time you feel better about yourself and your work. And when you feel better you are much more creative and deliver more,” she writes.

Some of Seelig’s information seem less-than-groundbreaking (Mary Poppins, after all, taught us to make a job a game with a “Spoonful of Sugar” years ago), and the book can sometimes get bogged down in buzzwords, especially when explaining the setup of the Innovation Engine. Some cynics who’ve gone through torturous “ice breaker” games or cringe-worthy corporate retreats may roll their eyes but it’s a generally breezy and engaging read.

I can personally attest to the usefulness of at least one tidbit from “InGenius” — a mention of the Web application “WrittenKitten!” which helps writers with motivation and productivity by showing them a new photo of a kitten every time they complete a few hundred words. Since reading about and trying this application I’ve written nearly 1,000 words, have viewed several adorable cats and my review is now nearly done. Success!

If the book inspires readers (and reviewers) to flex their creative muscles it can only be a positive thing, especially for those feeling stifled in a humdrum, unsupportive work environment. “InGenius” could be inspirational reading for a worker, professor or boss looking to spice up the office and get some new ideas brewing — or at least have a little fun trying.

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Coming Soon!
Saturday, May 5, 2012 @ 10 a.m.
University Ave. Downtown Palo Alto

Come support the children and youth of our community “at play” at the annual May Fête Parade. We’ll celebrate play in all its joyful facets — dance, games, sports, music and playacting!

May Fête Fair... at Heritage Park from 10am-1pm.
The Fair is NEW this year and is being organized by the Palo Alto Recreation Foundation and the Kiwanis Club of Palo Alto. Features include:
• An array of fun children’s activities
• A performance stage featuring local groups
• Lots of great food, picnic space, and more!

In addition, The Museum of American Heritage, just across the street from the park, will be hosting their Annual Vintage Vehicle & Family Festival with lots of activities from 10am-2:30pm.

Thanks to our general category and lead sponsors
Hobee’s • Palo Alto Sport Shop & Toy World
Insurance by Allied Brokers • Plan Toys • University Art
Stanford Park Nannies • Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford

For parade information, please call 650-463-4921.
Or visit us online at www.cityofpaloalto.org/recreation

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Reversing Anatomy Remakes Shoulders

The pain in Carol Driesen’s left shoulder started out as the kind of garden variety arthritis ache that many people usually begin to notice sometime in their 50s. Driesen tried a variety of arthritis medications with little effect. Then came the day when she decided to do something more. “I was taking a class, sitting at a desk, not doing anything physical and still practically whimping from the pain,” she said.

First, she tried arthritis medication, a minimally invasive procedure to smooth the roughened edges of bone within her left shoulder joint. Finding little relief from that procedure, she took the next step, a full replacement, in 2000. A year after that surgery, after not only was there again some limitation of movement, but she lost much of her shoulder’s range of motion. Driesen grew up “just figured if I had to make do with it.”

Driesen did her best to make do. She is right-handed, after several years, however, she noticed that her increasing dependency on that right hand was a downside. The pain in the shoulder increased, too. Not wanting to push that shoulder too hard when she was finally decided to risk another surgery. This time, she would be certain that she would choose the most experienced orthopaedic surgeon she could find and someone who specialized in shoulder replacement. She really wanted to make sure that this time it would be done right,” she said. Even at 76, she was still active, a busy woman who often baby-sit her toddler granddaughter. She was not willing to settle for pain reduction only, she wanted function, too.

After some considered looking, she found John Costouros, MD, at Stanford Hospital & Clinics. Costouros told her what she already suspected. Her only option was a surgery very different from her original. To restore her ability to move her shoulder, she needed a reverse shoulder replacement.

“I really wanted to make sure that this time it would be done right.”

Costouros, private, Stanford Hospital & Clinics

The anatomy of the shoulder presents a special challenge for repair. The ball-shaped top of the humerus bone fits neatly into the glenoid, the curved space at the end of the scapula. A standard shoulder replacement gate a new cap on the humerus and a new lining on the curved wall in the glenoid. But the joint gains most of its mobility from a ring of ligament that surrounds and tends to call the rotator cuff. If that cuff is torn beyond repair, the standard shoulder replacement will not do little to restore the shoulder’s function or to eliminate pain.

Different Thinking

With the reverse shoulder replacement, the humerus is transformed into the new base for the socket, capped with a socket-shaped top, the curve of the glenoid becomes the new ball, implanted with a rounded platform. The deltoid muscle takes over for the rotator cuff and acts as the lever for the arm, becoming the prime mover of the shoulder joint.

Driesen’s bone loss was substantial, and her rotator cuff so damaged that the reverse shoulder procedure was her only option. Costouros also needed to take part of her pectoral bone as a graft to re-construct her glenoid so it would be stable enough to support the new implant.

It would be a complicated surgery, but Driesen had confidence in Costouros. The reverse shoulder procedure was performed in Europe for decades before it was approved for use in the United States, in 2004. Costouros did an additional fellowship in the United Kingdom with one of the field’s most prominent surgeons to gain additional experience with the reverse shoulder replacement and other innovative procedures.

“I really had the opportunity to learn from everything they’d learned over the years in Europe,” Costouros said. By the time Driesen came to see him at Stanford, he had completed more than 300 reverse shoulder surgeries. It was the prime of his career, and he had a reallist close to him, the complexity of the shoulder, it can be predisposed to stiffness. It’s important to work with a chronic pain specialist throughout the different phases of recovery, which usually take three to four months."

Even though Driesen’s recovery will continue as she builds strength in her left arm, she is happy with the improvement. “It certainly has made me more comfortable and more able to do the things I want to do,” she said.

Stanford Hospital & Clinics is known worldwide for advanced treatment of complex disorders in areas such as cardiovascular care, cancer treatment, neuroscience, surgery, and organ transplantation. It is currently ranked No. 17 in the U.S. News & World Report’s America’s Best Hospitals list and No. 5 in the Silicon Valley Metroplex area. Stanford Hospital & Clinics is internationally recognized as a pioneer in many medical specialties and is the only academic medical center in the United States as a Comprehensive Cancer Center as defined by the National Cancer Institute. Stanford Hospital & Clinics, the Stanford University School of Medicine, Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital, and Stanford Children’s Health provide exceptional care for patients of all ages. For more information, please visit http://stanfordhospital.org/.

Looking over the Shoulder

How It Works

• Honeycomb structure is simple—the ball at the top of the arm bone, or humerus, and the socket, the curved portion of the scapula, called the glenoid.

• It has the widest range of motion of any joint in the body, and so is prone to a variety of unique injuries.

• The motion of the shoulder is enabled by soft tissue structures: the circular set of muscles that form the rotator cuff provide elevation and rotation of the shoulder, and the complex set of muscles and ligaments, tendons, joint capsule; and several bursa, fluid-filled sacs that act as buffer between skin and tendons.

• Many shoulder injuries can be treated with injections of anti-inflammatory medications, physical therapy and activity modification. Surgery might be required if conservative treatment fails or will not cure the problem. Many procedures to repair the shoulder are now possible with the minimally invasive approach called arthroscopic surgery, performed through small incisions and as an outpatient procedure.

For more information about the reverse shoulder procedure at Stanford Hospital & Clinics, visit stanfordhospital.org/reverseshoulder or call 1.866.742.4871.

Join us at http://stanfordhospital.org/socialmedia. Watch the new Stanford Health Hospital Notes television ad about reverse shoulder surgery, channel 28 on Mondays at 8:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. and Fridays at 8:30 a.m.; channel 18 Tuesday and Saturday at 10:30 p.m. It can also be viewed at www.youtube.com/stanfordhospital.

Working with a physical therapist is very important, Costouros said, “because of the complexity of the shoulder, it can be predisposed to stiffness. It’s important to work with a chronic pain specialist throughout the different phases of recovery, which usually take three to four months.”

“Outcomes and longevity of shoulder implants today are far superior, enabling patients to obtain predictable pain relief and function that in past years was not possible.”

– John Costouros, MD, orthopaedic surgeon, Stanford Hospital & Clinics

Working with a physical therapist is very important, Costouros said, “because of the complexity of the shoulder, it can be predisposed to stiffness. It’s important to work with a chronic pain specialist throughout the different phases of recovery, which usually take three to four months.”

“Outcomes and longevity of shoulder implants today are far superior, enabling patients to obtain predictable pain relief and function that in past years was not possible.”

– John Costouros, MD, orthopaedic surgeon, Stanford Hospital & Clinics

On the left, Driesen’s original shoulder replacement implant; on the right, her reversed shoulder implant, with the ball shape implanted into the glenoid and a reversed socket at the top of her humerus.

Driesen’s reverse surgery, John Costouros, MD, followed a ‘conventional one of the world’s leading experts in reverse shoulder procedure. “I really had the opportunity to learn from every case that I operated on,” said the former team came to see Costouros at Stanford, he had completed every case that I operated on,” said the

Driesen’s reverse surgery, John Costouros, MD, followed a ‘conventional one of the world’s leading experts in reverse shoulder procedure. “I really had the opportunity to learn from every case that I operated on,” said the former team came to see Costouros at Stanford, he had completed every case that I operated on,” said the
The voice emanating from the iPhone was as soothing as the wind in the trees along Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

“The four plant communities we’re about to visit here at Skyline are like neighborhoods — each with its own distinctive kinds of plant species and associated wildlife,” narrator Joan Hamilton said. A slide show displayed images of red-shouldered hawks and rattlesnakes, silk tassel blossoms and wood rats as the trail wended around Alpine Pond and beyond.

BY SUE DREMANN
PHOTOGRAPHS BY VERONICA WEBER

THE MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

Background: A trail runs along the Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve. The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District has created an audio tour of the preserve. Top left: Ducks, geese and gulls line the Palo Alto duck pond, a featured stop in an audio tour produced by Redwood City-based Slow Life Games. Above left: Ohlone women used to grind acorns in holes in the sandstone along Skyline Ridge. Above right: The Daniels Nature Center stands in the background of Alpine Lake, a stop on the Skyline Ridge tour.
Duck down a tiny trail leading into the rocks off Sunny Jim Trail, the voice suggested. It leads to a slab of sandstone peppered with 3-inch-diameter holes where Native American women ground acorns in the rock mortars beside a creek.

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District audio tour is part of the latest trend in the outdoor experience. Once the purview of art and natural history museums, audio tours and digital guides bring history and science into the outdoors through smartphones, iPads and MP3 players. Local environmental organizations and open-space agencies are producing their own audio tours, which allow users to see, hear, identify and plan their hikes from pocket-sized devices. Environmental Volunteers, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and Stanford University offer audio tours of the baylands, open spaces and campus flora and fauna.

Palo Alto company EveryTrail, a travel-guide website, has had more than 1 million trip guides downloaded from the site from people in 200 countries, company founder Joost Shreve said. Audio guides are the newest wave in enjoying outdoor travel, he said.

Just about anywhere one would like to go — locally and throughout the world — can now be explored through downloadable audio and digital guides. No longer just a voice droning through foam-covered headphones, audio tours through phones and digital tablets offer maps with well-delineated trails, pop-up photos at points of interest, slide shows, narrated stories and brief texts or videos.

“It’s a way for users and parks to get interpretive messages for enriched experiences,” said Renee Fitzsimons, Open Space District docent-programs manager. The district offers a 15-part tour of Skyline Ridge and Daniels Nature Center; the latter is a destination spot, she said. For those without digital devices, the tour is also available on MP3 players that people can borrow at the center.

Strolling around Alpine Pond, wood-rat nests are like apartment buildings that also house lizards and other small creatures, according to the audio tour.

Hamilton, who narrates the tour along with district biologists and docents, operates Audio Guides to the Outdoors, a production company in Berkeley that produces the tours. Outdoor audio guides help make better connections between people and their environment, she said.

“The more you know about a place, the more you’re going to want to be there. All of a sudden you see things you didn’t realize used to be there,” she said.

An environmental journalist and former editor of Sierra Magazine, Hamilton developed the idea while in an art museum listening to an audio guide. She started the company in 2009, after

(continued on page 27)
Audio tours around the Bay Area and beyond

**OPPORTUNITIES**
ABOUND TO FIND TRAILS
AND LEARN LITTLE-KNOWN FACTS ABOUT HISTORY AND NATURE

Surf the Web and thousands of audio-tour offerings pop up, from trips to Europe to tours of backcountry trails. Most of the links below lead to tours of local places and are free and downloadable to smartphones.

**An Unnatural History of Golden Gate Park**
Thought-provoking, episodic tours of how the park has changed over time and its various elements today. [www.anunnaturalhistory.net](http://www.anunnaturalhistory.net)

**California State Parks Foundation**
Offers tours of a different state park each month, plus walkable neighborhoods tours (to promote transit-oriented development) and tours of major museums, such as Monterey Bay Aquarium and college campuses. [www.ca.gov/Connect/Multimedia/podcasts.html](http://www.ca.gov/Connect/Multimedia/podcasts.html)

**Environmental Volunteers**
Audio tour of Palo Alto Baylands Preserve takes users on a hike through the history and ecology of the wetlands, including the duck pond. Paced for families and students, with photographs and an interactive map. Downloadable application from the website or from iTunes. [www.evols.org](http://www.evols.org)

**EveryTrail**
Palo Alto-based travel website offers thousands of downloadable guides and opportunities for users to upload their own trips, with maps, photos and video. Many local and Bay Area trails and trips are described on the site. [www.everytrail.com](http://www.everytrail.com)

**Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District**
The district offers two audio tours: Daniels Nature Center and Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve, guided by open-space personnel and docents. Photographs, soundscapes and tales about animals, plants and people who have populated the area. [www.open space.org/naturetours](http://www.open space.org/naturetours)

**National Park Service**
Audio tours of many of America’s favorite national parks are available though the web pages of individual parks. Sites include the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park and the Badlands in South Dakota. [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)

**Rise**
These podcast/tours, still in the works, emphasize how climate change is affecting the San Francisco Bay. Taken from radio programs, they range from Bay Splendor to the San Joaquin Delta and its levees. [www.searise.org/take-a-tour](http://www.searise.org/take-a-tour)

**Stanford University Science-Art-Nature**

**Your Wetlands**
A project of San Francisco Bay Joint Venture, these tours focus on wetland habitats around the bay, from Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge to Muir Beach. [www.yourwetlands.org/audio-tours.php](http://www.yourwetlands.org/audio-tours.php)

— Sue Dremann

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**Audio Tours**

- **Tuesday, April 24**
  - 7:30 p.m., Levinton Hall
  - Stanford Humanities Center

- **Thursday, April 26**
  - 5:30 p.m., Arrillaga Auditorium
  - Stanford

**Ethics & War Series**

1. **Holy War in the Bible — and After**
   - Jewish Studies, Stanford
   - [jewishstudies.stanford.edu](http://jewishstudies.stanford.edu)

2. **Can the Good Guys Win?: Moral Dilemmas in Asymmetric War**
   - Ethics in Society, Stanford
   - [ethicsinociety.stanford.edu](http://ethicsinociety.stanford.edu)

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**Cover Story**

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**Paradise on Sale**

Rates starting at $299 per room per night valid through 6/30/12 inclusive. Rates are subject to change and based on availability. Blackout dates apply.

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**Michael Walzer**

School of Social Science
Emeritus, Institute for Advanced Study

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she realized there wasn’t anything to teach people about the outdoors, she said. She has created a tour for Save Mt. Diablo and an auto tour of the Avenue of the Giants for the Save the Redwoods League. Users can download the redwoods podcast and listen to the tour as they drive, she said.

“I try to find people who know the place best,” Hamilton said. For the Skyline Ridge tour, she interviewed Fitzsimmons, district biologist Cindy Roessler, area superintendent Brian Malone and docents Sharon Thom

Audio tour (continued from page 25)

as and Strether Smith. She does the recording outside, picking up the sounds of nature — and an occasional airplane — and adds voice-overs in her studio, she said.

Hamilton assembles interviews and creates an outline of the story she wants to tell.

“I will go to a place several times, take photos and record sounds to get an accurate soundscape,” she said. Audio tours that can be pre-downloaded to portable devices offer an advantage in remote areas, Fitzsimmons said, where streaming an audio file or calling up a phone application might not work due to variable cell-phone coverage.

The medium particularly appeals to young people, who are already plugged into their phones and iPods, Hamilton said. But audio tours could have a downside.

“There is a danger that people may put on their headphones and fail to listen to the nature around them. But that risk is worth taking because the information is there with you,” she said.

Brittany Sabol, education and training director of the nonprofit Environmental Volunteers, stands beside the mudflats at the Palo Alto Baylands, a point on the nonprofit’s audio tour. Sabol calls the tours “augmented reality.” Above: Renee Fitzsimmons, docent programs manager for the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, tests a device used for audio tours at Alpine Lake at the Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve.

Cover Story

Palo Alto area to celebrate Earth Day

Events range from film festival to garden tours

Several cities and nonprofit organizations are hosting nature and conservation activities this week and next in honor of Earth Day, April 22.

Friday, April 20

Clean Green Street Scene
4-7 p.m. at Lytton Plaza (corner of University Avenue and Emerson Street, Palo Alto)

The Downtown Business and Professional Association is hosting this event, which will feature an art walk of artwork by school children displayed at merchants throughout downtown; informational booths; demonstrations; test rides on electric bicycles; giveaways including Seventh Generation products. Participants include SunPower, Lyle Kitchen, LiveGreene, PA Bikes, EMW, Canvas, Green Citizen, Drive Less Challenge. Information at 650-223-4334.

Saturday, April 21

Earth Day Celebration at the Los Altos History Museum
Noon-4 p.m. at 51 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos

Cost: Free

Participants can experience the exhibition, “Shaped by Water: Past, Present & Future” and pick up educational materials about conserving and caring for our water resources. Children can play in the play river by Riveropolis creator. More information is at losaltoshistory.org.

EcoHome Ribbon Cutting
2-4 p.m. behind Lucie Stern Community Center (next to the Girl Scout House), 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto

Unique demonstration home filled with the latest efficient, sustainable and conserving technologies will be on view. Dozens of innovative ideas will be on display including blue-jeans insulation, recycled-glass countertops and clover-leaf solar panels. Signs will provide details about actions, costs and savings. “Ugly Lighting” contest winners will be announced. The EcoHome will continue to be available throughout the year for guided tours. Information at www.cityofpaloalto.org.

Sunday, April 22

Mary Davey plaque dedication
10:30 a.m. at entrance to Byrne Preserve (off of 27210 Altamont Road, Los Altos Hills)

Dedication of plaque in honor of the late environmental leader and activist for social causes, Mary Davey.

Earth Day Celebration & Water Lilies Reception
11 a.m.-3 p.m. at Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, 2775 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto

Cost: Free

The City of Palo Alto Earth Day event features a mini environmental fair; the debut of environmental artist Judith Selby Lang’s “Water Lilies,” her latest work for the Art Center’s On the Road program; and art and science activities, including hands-on crafts, Baylands critters and more; and tours of the Regional Water Quality Control Plant at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Information at the www.cityofpaloalto.org.

Earth Day Peace and Social Justice Fair
11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 1140 Cowper St., Palo Alto

Cost: Free

Fair-goers will find ideas for reducing their carbon footprint; learn
Audio tour

(continued from page 27)

tours deepen people’s understanding of what they’re viewing, according to those who have used the organization’s audio tour of the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, Shreve said. Produced by Redwood City-based Slow Life Games, the tour is available as an application through the iTunes store.

A trail map takes visitors from the entrance at Embarcadero Road to the ship-like Eco Center, around the duck pond, through a fern forest, mudflats, lagoon, boat dock, Lucy Evans Nature Center and the boardwalk. Users tap and map at each of eight stops. Tap on a topic in the page’s top corner and one can view photos of duck pond migrants and denizens. Or listen to a brief narration about the creatures and their habitat.

Clicking on the “play” icon for “Rockery Ruckus,” one will learn about black-crowned night herons North Face and REI. Shreve is the general manager.

EveryTrail offers thousands of digital guides, he said, but audio tours are just starting — there are currently five podcasts and 11 guides involving audio on the site. In 2010 EveryTrail announced it was supporting audio in its EveryTrail guides for iPhones and Android and started a partnership with Massachusetts-based NaturePods, which has produced seven audio tours. There are also several of European destinations and tours by the California State Parks Foundation, Shreve said.

Those interested in nature can find guided tours for Bay Area hotspots and beyond on the EveryTrail site. A detailed hike up Yosemite’s Half Dome contains text, video, photos and audio.

A guide for a drive around the Hawai’i Chain of Craters offers a large map, map stops from the top points of interest and tips, such as bringing a good supply of water and her cell phone or walking to her black SUV.

Indra Singhal has used EveryTrail since November 2007 to find trails and even follow his favorite hikers to new and interesting places, he said. “I’ve been a very early user of EveryTrail. It’s a remarkable repository for information. I use it whenever I go into a new trail,” he said.

In the early days, he tracked his trips with GPS. But with his smartphone, Singhal said, he no longer has to do the mapping. He can turn on the phone’s tracker and just upload photos along the way that sync with the locations on his map.

Whenever he is looking for a particular kind of hike, he uses EveryTrail, he said.

“The Bay Area is just jam-packed with nature trails. I don’t think you can travel all of them in a lifetime,” he said.

He also uploads his own maps and guides. Last weekend he took a trail to Black Mountain, but he wanted to start it on State Route 35 (Skyline Boulevard) rather than Page Mill Road. Nobody else had mapped it from that side, so he started recording the hike from that spot using geotagging. He added photographs along the trail route so that others would know what to expect, he said.

A link includes an enlarged topographic map with the plotted route and brief commentary about what he found along the way: breathtaking views, crossing a series of small creeks, three wooden bridges over Stevens Creek and strutting wild turkeys.

“The next guy who wants to do it, if a trail exists, with one click, can download it to a smartphone,” he said.

He has also turned a particularly strenuous hike along Limekiln Trail to Priest Rock and Kennedy Trail in the Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve into a guide, he said. It has been viewed 3,301 times.

Singhal, who has downloaded many podcasts and audio tours in museums, said he is excited by the addition of nature-related audio tours.

Shreve said he expects the industry to only grow as refinements are made. And audio tours will continue to grow in popularity, he said.

“Photos, videos and audio create a live experience,” he said. “It’s a perfect way to show off what they are doing.”

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be reached at sdremann@paloaltonews.com.

Earth Day events

(continued from page 27)

about social justice and peacemaking organizations; shop for goods from organizations doing good in the world, and enjoy free snacks and beverages from locally grown food suppliers. Available for purchase will be toys, crafts, books, art, music, DVDs, games, puzzles, jewelry. Sponsorships: by Peninsula Peace and Justice Center and First Presbyterian. More information available at 650-326-8837 and www.freepsa.org.

Los Altos Hills Earth Day Celebration

1-4 p.m. at Westwind Community Barn, 27210 Almont Road, Los Altos Hills

Cost: Free

Presentations of wild cats are scheduled for 1:30 and 3 p.m. In addition to exhibits by Los Altos Hills committees, environmental organizations and school groups, electric cars will be on display. More information is available by calling Sarah Gualtieri at 650-947-2518 or emailing sgualtieri@losaltoshills.ca.gov or visiting www.losaltoshills.ca.gov (click on “Community Calendar”).

Drive Less Challenge

April 22 through May 5

Cost: Free

The online Drive Less Challenge encourages people to try convenient, earth-friendly alternatives to car trips. Participants share stories, track their efforts and compete for prizes from local businesses. People can join as an individual or with a group. More information at www.drivelesschallenge.com.

Tuesday, April 24

Addison School Safe Routes to School Walk ‘n’ Roll Map

6:30 p.m. at Addison Elementary School Multipurpose Room, 650 Addison Ave., Palo Alto

Cost: Free

The City hosted a Walking Survey of Addison School on March 20. This community meeting will include a presentation on the findings of the walking survey and the proposed Walk ‘n’ Roll Map for Addison School.

Saturday, April 28

Migration Bird Walk

9-10:30 a.m. at SF2 trail parking area on the west side of the Dumbarton Bridge, Menlo Park

Cost: Free

The wetlands are an important stop on the Pacific Flyway, a major bird migration route. Docent Laurel Stell will explain why the birds migrate, why they stop along the San Francisco Bay and how people can spot the birds in action. Trail is easy and level. All ages and abilities welcome. Meet at the SF2 trail parking area on the west side of the Dumbarton Bridge. Presented by Don Edwards SF Bay NWR, South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. Information and directions at 510-792-0222, ext. 139, and www.southbayrestoration.org.

Sunday, April 29

Bay-Friendly Garden Tour

10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Regional, self-guided Bay-Friendly Garden Tour explores private residential gardens. Palo Alto will have 10 gardens on the tour. The host gardens represent many different styles — urban homesteads with orchards, chickens and bees; greenery installations by local experts; and drought-tolerant replacements for water-thirsty lawns. The host gardeners themselves are a diverse group that includes permaculturists, native-plant enthusiasts, wildlife gardeners, do-it-yourselfers and landscape professionals. All will be available to talk about their accomplishments and challenges. Registration at www.bayfriendlycoalition.org.

— Palo Alto Weekly staff

The Bay Area is just jam-packed with nature trails. I don’t think you can travel all of them in a lifetime.”

— Indra Singhal

Cover Story

About the cover: Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve is a 2,143-acre preserve offering panoramic views. Photo by Veronica Weber.
Keola Beamer doesn’t seem to have needed a lot of urging to enter the family business. Representing the fifth generation of musicians, he’s clearly a fervent — if laid-back — advocate for Hawaiian music.

“Once people find it, they really enjoy it. It has a beautiful inner peace or calmness to it. I think that kind of feeling is established by the rhythm and feel of the music,” the slack-key guitarist and singer/songwriter said this week in a phone interview.

“We are a culture that grew from our environment. So when we look up at the waterfalls on the island of Kauai, we notice they sort of pulse,” he said. “Or sitting at the ocean and feeling the tradewinds on your bare skin, you can feel the rhythms of Polynesia. That’s a real element in our music.”

Beamer has been releasing albums of Hawaiian music for 40 years, blending traditional folk and contemporary sounds. Recently, he’s been collaborating with the next generation, releasing an album with 20-something Hawaiian singer Raiatea Helm. The pair is scheduled to perform together at Stanford University on May 6.

Beamer and Helm will most likely perform the 2010 album’s first song, “I‘ina (Imagine),” which alternates the lyrics of the iconic John Lennon tune in English and Hawaiian. “It’s still a powerful message in the world,” Beamer said.

Fans of Hawaiian music may also know Beamer from his song “Honolulu City Lights,” which he recorded with his younger brother Kapono in the ’70s. The family tree reads like a Who’s Who of Hawaiian music, including his mother, Winona Beamer, a dancer, composer and major proponent of Hawaiian culture; and great-grandmother Helen Desha Beamer, a hula dancer and songwriter.

Plenty of insights into the culture of the islands will be available at Stanford on the weekend of Beamer’s concert. The performance is part of a campus Hawaiian celebration weekend that also concludes Stanford Lively Arts’ season.

A luau with the Stanford Hawaii Club kicks off the events at noon on May 5 in White Plaza, with free admission and plate lunches for sale.

The next day, Beamer begins a series of Sunday activities in Dinkelspiel Auditorium with an 11 a.m. workshop on playing Hawaiian slack-key guitar. At 1:30 p.m. is a panel discussion on Hawaiian music and culture led by Stanford music professor Stephen Sano, himself an accomplished slack-key guitarist. The concert follows at 2:30.

For the show, Beamer and Helm will be
ELECTIONS 2012: The Rules Have Changed!

Thursday, April 26, 7 to 9 PM
Lucie Stern Community Center – Community Room
1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto

• Learn how the June 5 Open Primary ballots for “partisan” offices will list ALL candidates (except President and County Committees) regardless of Party affiliation, with the top two vote-getters moving on to the November election regardless of party.

• Learn about the newly redrawn Legislative and Congressional Districts.

Co-sponsors: Palo Alto Weekly, Palo Alto Online, AAUW – Palo Alto Branch, Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce

NOTICE OF DRAFT MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared by the Palo Alto Department of Planning and Community Environment for the project listed below. This document will be available for review and comment during a minimum 30-day inspection period beginning April 23, 2012 through May 23, 2012 during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Development Center, 285 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

Application 12PLN-00067 will be considered at a public hearing by the Architectural Review Board on Thursday (May 24, 2012) at 8:30 a.m. in the Palo Alto City Council Chambers on the first floor of the Civic Center, located at 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

Application 12PLN-00067 involves construction of 1.27 acre site located at 4214-4220 El Camino Real. Zone District: 108,870 square feet of new floor area for one 4-story, 174 unit hotel on 4214-4220 El Camino Real [12PLN-00067]: Architectural Review Board review for the demolition of 6,292 square feet.

Curtis Williams,
Director of Planning and Community Environment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, listening assistive devices are available in the Council Chambers and Council Conference Room. Sign language interpreters will be provided upon request with 72 hours advance notice.

What: Musicians Keola Beamer and Raiatea Helm perform as part of a two-day celebration of Hawaiian music and culture at Stanford University.

Where: The concert and other events are in Dinkelspiel Auditorium, with outdoor activities in White Plaza.

When: Events run May 5–6, with the concert at 2:30 p.m. May 6.

Cost: Concert tickets are $26–$30 for adults and $10 for Stanford students. Other events are free, with reservations required to participate in the May 6 guitar workshop with Beamer.

Info: For details, go to livelyarts.stanford.edu. The box office can also be reached at 650-725-ARTS.

Hawaii

(continued from previous page)

Hawaii joined on stage by hula dancer Moanalani Beamer (the guitarist’s wife), bass player John Kolivas, keyboardist Dan DelNegro and percussionist Adrian Larroza. The program of songs will be announced from the stage.

After the concert, Moanalani Beamer concludes the day with a hula class at 4 p.m. in White Plaza.

All the events have one thing in common. Keola Beamer says: the aloha spirit.

“In Hawaiian culture, we believe that within each human is a bowl of light. We believe that the presence of light is aloha,” he said. “What I’ve tried to do in my life and music is to sort of harness the power of music, the strength of music.”

While Beamer also plays such traditional Hawaiian instruments as the nose flute, the slack-key guitar is an integral part of his sound. On his website, he describes slack key as both a sweet, rich musical style and the ways of tuning the guitar, a marriage of classical guitar and finger-picking. His custom-made double-ported guitar has a “beautiful legato tone,” he said.

Over the decades, Beamer has seen many changes in the music world. Most visible is the huge increase in recordings released because of the ease of new technology, he said. “When I recorded my first record in 1972, there were five records that came out in all of Hawaii. Maybe now there’s several hundred.”

Beamer also takes advantage of technology to make teaching slack-key guitar a big part of his active life, using Skype and iChat for faraway students.

He recalls the mid-1990s as a key time in Hawaiian music, because that was when the recordings really started being distributed nationally. The pianist George Winston, who is also a slack-key guitarist, helped drive the interest. “He’s really a champion in the minds of all of us in Hawaii,” Beamer said.

Around that time, Beamer was touring on the mainland with Daring Cat Records, and remembers being back-stage while the late slack-key guitarist Ray Kane was performing. Suddenly the concert hall went silent.

“He’s crying. For the first time in his life, people are really listening,” Beamer recalled. He added affectionately: “In the old times in Hawaii, slack key was for back porch, parties, beer-drinking and laughter. It was kind of a folk music of the Hawaiian people. For the first time, it was elevated to a concert stage, and Uncle Ray was crying.”
Jazz for the ages
Stanford Jazz marks its 40th-anniversary season
by Rebecca Wallace

Artistic Director Miho Hatori (left) and Steve Sykes (right) announce the 2012-13 season of the Stanford Jazz Workshop.

In its 40th year, the Stanford Jazz Workshop keeps spanning the decades. The coming festival season, announced this week, includes artists old and new: from tributes to Satchmo and Sinatra to a concert by the new quartet Vertical Voices Live. About 100 artists are set to perform in 38 concerts. Preview show launches the summer with San Francisco singer Kitty Margolis on June 14 at the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, and the SFW Faculty All-Stars on June 21 at the Stanford Shopping Center. The festival runs June 22 through Aug. 4 at Stanford University, with concerts, talks, jazz camp and jams.

Founder Jim Nadel still heads the workshop and festival. “It started as a gathering of friends at the Stanford Coffee House,” he said in a press release. “We would invite local musicians for jam sessions and then sit up late into the night sharing ideas about the music we loved.”

New acts this summer include Vertical Voices Live, which grew out of the 2010 album “Vertical Voices: The Music of Maria Schneider.” The recording combined the multi-tracked voices of Julia Dillison and Kerry Marsh with the rhythm section of American composer and bandleader Schneider. When the two wanted to perform live, they enlisted friends Jennifer Barnes and Greg Jasperse to help create a vocal quartet, according to the group’s website.

Now the four singers perform “wordless vocal, new composition, improvisation” and other works in addition to the album. Their Stanford Jazz concert is set for July 19 in Dinkespiel Auditorium. Other young voices include frequent Norah Jones opening act Sasha Dobson and Los Angeles singer Gretchen Parlato, sharing the bill on Aug. 1.

More established performers include drummer Peter Erskine, who played with the Stan Kenton Orchestra and will join the Ray Brown Great Big Band in a tribute to Kenton on July 1. Fellow drummer Roy Haynes, who has had a career of more than 60 years, performs July 14.

Tribute concerts will include a July 28 gig with trombonist Wycliffe Gordon, who pays homage to Louis Armstrong. Kenny Washington croons away to honor Sinatra on July 8.

Bassist Ruth Davies brings back her popular blues night with harmonica player Charlie Mussewhite on July 17.

For a full schedule and ticket prices, go to stanfordjazz.org or call 650-736-0324.

Palo Alto Unified School District

NOTICE TO SENIOR CITIZENS ABOUT PARCEL TAX EXEMPTION

DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2012

On June 5, 2001, the voters approved Measure D, a special parcel tax assessment of $295 per parcel for five years. On June 7, 2005, voters approved an increase to $493 per parcel and extended the tax through the 2010-11 tax year. On May 4, 2010, voters approved an increase to $589 for six years beginning as of July 1, 2010, with annual two percent escalation adjustments. The funds are used to attract and retain qualified and experienced teachers and school employees, maintain educational programs that enhance student achievement, and reduce the size targeted classes. A parcel is defined as any unit of land in the District that receives a separate tax bill from the Santa Clara County Tax Assessor’s Office.

An exemption is available for any senior citizen who owns and occupies as a principal residence, a parcel, and applies to the District for an exemption. For the 2012-13 tax year, a senior citizen is defined as a person 65 years of age and older by June 30, 2013. Please apply for the exemption by May 31, 2012.

If you were exempt from paying the PAUSD parcel tax for the 2011-12 tax year, you should have received an exemption renewal letter in April. To renew your exemption for the 2012-13 tax year, please sign and return the letter.

If you have any questions about the parcel tax, the Senior Citizen Exemption, or you did not receive your renewal letter, please call the PAUSD Business Office at 650-329-3980.

HOW TO APPLY FOR A SENIOR EXEMPTION

• Complete an application at 25 Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto, Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. or call the PAUSD Business Office at 650-329-3980 to have an application mailed you.

If you decide to complete the application in person, you will need to bring:

• Your Assessor’s Parcel Number (from your property tax bill)
• A copy of proof of birth date (only one of the following: driver’s license, birth certificate, passport, or Medicare card)
• A copy of proof of residence (only one of the following: driver’s license, utility bill, Social Security check, or property tax bill)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Palo Alto City Council will hold a public hearing at the regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 7, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. or as near thereafter as possible, in the Council Chambers, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, to Consider the Adoption of a Planned Community Ordinance for the Proposed Lytton Gateway project to Amend the Zoning Map of the City of Palo Alto to Change the Zoning Designations from CDC-P and CDN-P to a Planned Community (PC) to allow a mixed office and retail, four-story, 50 foot tall building (and a 70 foot tall corner tower feature) on the former Shell Station site, located at 355 and 359 Alma Street. The project includes exceptions to the daytime light and 35-foot height limit within 150 feet of residential property. * Quasi-Judicial

DONNA J. GRIDER, MMC
City Clerk

Arts & Entertainment
Worth a Look

Dance

‘Soul Project’

May 28-29 may not be as surprising as the person standing next to you in a museum gallery suddenly bursts into dance.

In the spirited, spontaneous work “Soul Project” by improvisatory choreographer David Zambrano, dancers inhabit an open space such as a church or barrel room, and the piece starts with them emerging from the audience. This spring, the project is on its debut U.S. tour, and its seven dancers will perform at the contemporary galleries at Stanford’s Cantor Arts Center in May, presented by Stanford Lively Arts.

In the three free performances set for noon, 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. (with the last one open only to Stanford students), dancers will perform to classic soul music. Zambrano’s website states that the choreography “is realized through the individual movement quest of each performer as guided by soul music. Being continuously alive. On, like a candle.” Each dance lasts the length of a song.

Reservations are required to obtain the free tickets. First-come, first-served tickets can be had at the Stanford Ticket Office at Tressider Memorial Union on campus, starting at noon on April 30. For more information, go to livelyarts.stanford.edu or call 650-725-ARTS.

Music

‘Then Sings My Soul’

Longtime jazz and blues singer Joyce Randolph delves into gospel, traditional hymns and other spiritual and sacred works this month as part of a benefit performance in Palo Alto. She’s teaming up with jazz pianist Bill Bell, the 20-year chairman of the music department at the College of Alameda.

Titled “Then Sings My Soul,” the concert benefits the Thomas Merton Center for Catholic Spiritual Development in Palo Alto, and its work with St. Elizabeth Seton Elementary School. The Palo Alto Catholic school focuses on educating underserved students from the East Palo Alto area.

Randolph has education roots as well. In the 1970s, the Stanford University graduate was the vocal-music specialist for the Menlo Park City School District. She then taught drama and college-prep English in San Jose’s East Side Union High School District until retiring in 2004.

The concert is scheduled from 4 to 6 p.m. on April 29, at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 751 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Tickets are $40, with discounts available for Merton Center members. Go to brownpapertickets.com or call 800-838-3006.

Picasso Ensemble

Another musical benefit for children’s programs — ones in Nicaragua — is scheduled for next Thursday, April 26. Bethany Lutheran Church in West Menlo Park will host an Earth Day-themed performance by the Picasso Ensemble.

The program will include pieces by Handel, Turina and Ravel, as well as more recent music by California composers Karen Linford (a faculty member at Menlo School), Henry Cowell and D’Arcy Reynolds. The piece by Reynolds is “Rediscovering Eden,” which she describes as being about “the process of humanity’s evolution from pre-industrial times to the ‘post-carbon era.’”

Choreography is provided by improvisatory choreographer David Zambrano’s “Soul Project.” By improvisatory choreographer David Zambrano’s “Soul Project.”

Art & Entertainment

Community Earth Day opening

Out on Palo Alto’s Baylands Nature Preserve, celebrating Earth Day with the Palo Alto Art Center will take the form of canoe rides and art projects, an informational mini-fair, tours of the city wastewater treatment plant, and the official opening of the art installation “Water Lilies,” by Judith Selby Lang at 2375 Embarcadero Road.

Events start at 11 a.m. on April 22 with a food truck and the free mini-fair, where representatives of the groups Acterra, ZeroWaste, Environmental Volunteers and Canopy can be on hand. Free plant tours are at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. (call 650-329-2598 to reserve a spot).

“Water Lilies” will be dedicated at noon in all its shiny, plastic glory; the Bay Area artist is hoping to call attention to issues of pollution and recycling with her floating structures of plastic bottles and mirrors. Free canoe rides amble through the water from 12:30 to 3 p.m., and gratis art projects go from 1 to 3. Visitors may also see some animal life, courtesy of the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo.

For more, go to cityofpaloalto.org or call 650-329-2366.
3RD ANNUAL
ARTS SPLASH!

OPEN HOUSE
& Student Arts Festival

Food! Friends! Fun For All Ages!

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 11AM–4PM
FREE ADMISSION

• Centennial Celebration
• Student Performances
• Villa & Grounds Tours
• Artists’ Open Studios
• Hands-on Art Workshops
• Live Music
• Beer and Wine Garden
• Spring Plant Sale
• Senator Phelan Birthday Bash

10 GOURMET FOOD TRUCKS:
Sam’s ChowderMobile, Scoops,
Little Green Cyclo, Tikka Bytes,
MoGo BBQ, No Way Jose,
Louisiana Territory, Quick Dog,
Puff Truck, Whisk on Wheels

Free parking and shuttle service from West Valley College
Limited onsite parking @ $10 per car

INFORMATION: 408.961.5858, 10am–4pm, M–F, montalvoarts.org
15400 Montalvo Road, Saratoga, California
Note Jobwalk Date & Time Change

Palo Alto Unified School District

Notice is hereby given that proposals will be received by the Palo Alto Unified School District for bid package:

Contract No. GHR-12, GUNN HIGH SCHOOL, SPANGENBERG SEATS UPHOLSTERING

DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK: The work includes, but is not limited to:
Remove seats, repair and replace upholstery to approximately 955 seats in Spangenberg Auditorium at Gunn High School, including but not limited to: remove existing foam and fabric and re-upholster with new, resilient and lubricate all seat hinges, springs and anchor repairs, replace armrests, and replace existing aisle lights to LEDs.

Bidding documents contain the full description of the work.

There will be a MANDATORY pre-bid conference and site visit at 2:00 p.m. on April 26, 2012 at Gunn High School, located at 780 Arstradger Road, Palo Alto, California, in front of the Spangenberg Theater. Please note that you are required to have a parking permit. Permits are available at the school’s Main Office.

Bid Submission: Proposals must be received at the District Facilities Office Building “D”, by 11:00 a.m. on May 3, 2012.

PREVAILING WAGE LAWS: The successful Bidder must comply with all prevailing wage laws applicable to the Project, and related requirements contained in the Contract Documents.

Palo Alto Unified School District will maintain a Labor Compliance Program (LCP) for the duration of this project. In bidding this project, the contractor warrants he/she is aware and will follow the Public Works Chapter of the California Labor Code comprised of labor code sections 1720 – 1861. A copy of the Districts LCP is available for review at 25 Churchill Avenue, Building D, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

1. A pre-job conference shall be conducted with the contractor or subcontractors to discuss federal and state labor law requirements applicable to the contract.
2. Project contractors and subcontractors shall maintain and furnish to the District, at a designated time, a certified copy of each payroll and a statement of compliance signed under penalty of perjury.
3. The District shall review and, if appropriate, audit payroll records to verify compliance with the Public Works Chapter of the Labor Code.
4. The District shall withhold contract payments if payroll records are deficient or inadequate.
5. The District shall withhold contract payments as described in the LCP, including applicable penalties when the District and Labor Commission establish that underpayment of other violations has occurred.

Bidders may examine Bidding Documents at Facilities Office, Building “D”. Bidders may purchase copies of Plans and Specifications at 25 Churchill, Bldg D, Palo Alto, CA, Phone Number (650) 329-3968.

Practically Parisian

Pastis is one of the most authentic French dining experiences around

by Dale F. Bentson

I thought I’d eaten in this pocket-sized bistro before. Was it in Montmartre, or was it near the Place des Vosges? Could it have been in Aix-en-Provence? Lyon? It really didn’t matter. Pastis Bistro, on California Avenue in Palo Alto, is an unpretentious French bistro at home anywhere.

Pastis is possibly the most authentic casual French restaurant experience in the area. The premise is simple: five salads, seven small plates, seven main plates, four desserts with nightly specials, an affordable wine list, and an enthusiastic and attentive waitstaff that infuses character and life into the restaurant.

The space is diminutive, a dozen or so tables with a few more seats streetside, weather permitting. The walls are mustardy pale with mirrors above a long banquette giving the illusion of more spacious quarters. Pendant lights dangle quietly from the ceiling. Sturdy wood framing defines the tiny bar area as well as menu boards and mirrors.

Owned by Bernard Cartal and nephew Max Roucoule, Pastis debuted in late December in the space vacated by Joanie’s Cafe. Cartal, who owns Joanie’s as well, had moved it a few doors up the street and expanded.

“There are no good French bistro in the area. We wanted to do one,” Roucoule said. “There used to be many French restaurants in Palo Alto, not so many any more.”

Ably manning the kitchen is Jose “Andre” Hernandez, who was the original chef at Cartal’s Cafe Brioche 16 years ago. He was cooking in Los Angeles when he heard Cartal was opening a French bistro and wanted to be part of it. “Much of our staff worked at Joanie’s or Cafe Brioche for years,” Roucoule added.

I had no misgivings over any dish I ordered. Portions were large, with the ingredients fresh and pacing perfect. The menu was straightforward, with relaxed, homey comfort food in the French manner. By that I mean several mussel dishesplus fish, poultry and beef. There were more green salads than one finds in similar bistros in France, but less offal.

That is, except for the salade au foie de volaille ($13). It featured warm chicken livers and crispy pancetta over a cradle of spinach dressed with shallot-champagne dressing. In France, of course, the liver would have been glorious foie gras, but no need to get into that discussion here.

Pastis makes one of my favorite salads: frisée aux lardons ($11) with poached egg in a shallot dressing. Lardons, in case you’ve forgotten, are small pieces of pork about the size of a jellybean, used to season salads and savory dishes. They are made from salt-cured pork (pancetta) and crisped accordingly. Some local restaurants substitute bacon, but it isn’t quite the same thing. The Pastis salad was mouthwatering.

We tried only one of the muscles dishes, moules gorgonzola ($14.95). It was a seemingly odd combination, shellfish and blue cheese, but the gorgonzola component was a light cream sauce with just enough pungency to give it oomph.

The coquilles St. Jacques au gratin ($11) was still bubbling in the shell-shaped plate when it was served. The bay scallops had been sautéed in white wine, butter and herbs, and topped with toasted garlic breadcrumbs. Talk about comfort food.

At lunch one day, the excellent quiche Lorraine ($11.95) came with a salad, but the waiter wisely advised I order French fries (continued on next page)
The sprightly frisée aux lardons salad is topped with a poached egg and features crispy pieces of salt-cured pork.

(continued from previous page)

after noting I had ordered a salad for starters. The quiche crust was flaky and supple with a hint of sweetness.

Of the main dishes, the delicate poached poulet à la moutarde ($17.95) was fork-tender chicken breast in a creamy grain mustard sauce with mushrooms, whipped potatoes and over baked.

Desserts were all excellent. The warm blackberry crumble ($8) was served in a top-crusted ramekin oozing with vanilla ice cream. The tarte tatin ($8), also with ice cream, was delicately sweet-tasting and syrupy, and hadn’t been over baked.

Pastis is a vibrant addition to the California Avenue corridor. It’s French all right, from the waitstaff to the decor. And the food is bus- trol-worthy: tasty, filling and well-prepared, with prices that don’t offend. Reservations are highly recommended.

ShopTalk

by Daryl Savage

STREET FOOD ON CAL AVE... Will Pacio was an unlikely candidate for a chef. He had just graduated from Stanford with a pre-med degree, but wanted to try cooking. “I knocked on the back door of The Left Bank in Menlo Park and asked if I could work there for free. They said yes. So I did six months of shucking oysters, slicing onions and plating desserts,” Pacio said. He was hooked. Pacio enrolled in culinary school, worked at several restaurants, and nearly two years ago opened Spice Kit in San Francisco. The success of the Asian street food eatery led Pacio back to Palo Alto. His second Spice Kit restaurant is set to open at 340 S. California Ave. in early June. In the former location of Culture Organic Frozen Yogurt, “I love Palo Alto. I have a lot of history here and I’m glad to be back,” he said. The 25-seat restaurant, which will specialize in organic, locally grown produce, will offer handheld street-food items. “We want to introduce people to more traditional Asian tastes, and we’re looking for foods that translate well into American flavors,” Pacio said. The restaurant will be open daily for lunch and dinner and will also serve Asian beer. Spice Kit is the second eatery in Palo Alto to offer Asian street food. Asian Box, which opened earlier this year in Town & Country Village, focuses on flavor and fresh, gluten-free ingredients with fast execution. Inspired by street stalls throughout Asia, CEO Frank Klein said, “I love Asian cuisine but have always found it challenging to find places offering fresh and authentic menus, especially in the fast-casual sector.”

STARBURKS TO OPEN DRIVE-THRU... It’s a first for Palo Alto: a drive-through Starbucks. The coffee company is poised to open its seventh outpost in the city in the former location of Jack-in-the-Box at 3685 El Camino Real. Scheduled to be completed this summer, the store will use the existing space that was previously devoted to Jumbo Jacks and curly fries. Of the six other stores in Palo Alto, one is three blocks south at 4131 El Camino Real. An employee at that location said, “We were told there wouldn’t be any competition between the two stores because the new one is a drive-through and will attract a different kind of customer,” she said.

NEW APP FOR SHORTER LINES... For those not wanting to wait for the new drive-through — and not wanting to wait at all for coffee — there’s a new app. Now in use at Philz Coffee, it eliminates standing in lines that sometimes snake out the door. Company CEO Jacob Jaber had been looking to cut down on wait times, and the app allows customers to place their orders before they arrive at Philz. Users of Tappriva enter their coffee order on their phone, and that order transmits to a screen at Philz. “So our baristas don’t have to answer the phone and people don’t have to wait in line. When we fill the order, we put it on the table, we write the customer’s name on the cup, they come in and pick it up. That’s it,” Jaber said. Tappriva is available at the downtown Palo Alto Philz, 101 Forrest Ave. Jaber hopes it will soon be accessible at the midtown location at 3181 Middlefield Road.

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. Email shoptalk@paweeekly.com.

DINE OUT

Discover the best places to eat this week!

AMERICAN

Armadillo Willy’s
941-2922
1031 N. San Antonio Road, Los Altos
www.armadillowillys.com

Cheese Steak Shop
326-1628
2305-B El Camino Real, Palo Alto

Lutticken’s
854-0291
3535 El Camino Real, Menlo Park
www.lutticken.com

INDIAN

Janta Indian Restaurant
462-5903
369 Lytton Ave.
www.jantaindianrestaurant.com

ThaiPhoon
323-7700
543 Emerson Ave, Palo Alto
www.thaiphoonrestaurant.com

STEAKHOUSE

Sundance the Steakhouse
321-6798
1921 El Camino Real, Palo Alto
www.sundancethesteakhouse.com

CHINESE

Chef Chu’s
948-2696
1067 N. San Antonio Road
www.chefchu.com

Ming’s
856-7700
1700 Embarcadero East, Palo Alto
www.mings.com

Visit us at shoppaloalto.com

Read and post reviews, explore local restaurant listings for menus, hours, directions and more at ShopPaloAlto.com/restaurants

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www.paloaltoonline.com • Palo Alto Weekly • April 20, 2012 • Page 35
Monsieur Lazhar

(Guild) School can be cruel. It’s a message on display not only in the recent headline-grabbing documentary “Bully,” but also in the humble French-Canadian drama “Monsieur Lazhar.”

Based on Evelyne de la Chenelière’s one-man play “Bashir Lazhar,” Philippe Falardeau’s feature wasn’t so humble as to miss scoring an Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Language Film. But it is a sensitive and fairly subtle work, with the deceptively simplicity of a well-honed short story. “Monsieur Lazhar” takes an interest in both its titular hero, an Algerian immigrant who comes to teach a sixth-grade class, and his emotionally troubled students.

In the film’s first scene, two students discover their teacher’s body hanging in their classroom. The shockwaves of that suicide continue to lap against the students as the life of the school goes on, though the hapless administration does only the minimum (assigning a single counselor) to address the issue.

Matters look up when Mr. Lazhar (Mohamed Said Fellag) walks into the school and volunteers his services, explaining he taught in Algiers for 19 years. He turns out to be just what the students need, and perhaps the job is just what he needs, the dual promise reflected in his name: Bashir (“bearer of good news”) Lazhar (“lucky”).

Secrets surface over the course of the film, ones held by the students and their teacher. Even as he recognizes the students need help to process their grief, he suffers in silence in his own grief process, related to his dating and immigrant statuses. The film, though, isn’t all gloom and doom; the classroom has the energetic strength in numbers of children, and Falardeau allows some comic touches from the kids and Fellag, a comedian by trade.

As depicted by the film, the cruelties inherent in the educational system include the expected results of familiar restraints (budget, stressed resources and the pressures of oversight) and inflexible school bureaucracy. There’s also the unrefined social interaction of students just learning to understand their feelings, and hurting their peers in the process. And, of course, there’s the bittersweet role of great teachers, who pass out of students’ lives as easily as they arrive, after kindling an emotional bond.

Always hanging over the film is the horrible mystery of suicide, which disproportionately affects its young witnesses. Falardeau gently depicts the searching love-hate relationship between those witnesses: class clown Simon (Émilien Néron), given to aggressive acting out, and Alice (Sophie Nélisse), who quickly takes a shine to the school’s sole male classroom instructor. The keen leading performances never hit a false note, but Néron gets the showpiece when he at last experiences an emotional breakthrough about his late teacher.

“Monsieur Lazhar” at times recalls more striking teacher movies, like “The Class” and “Dead Poets Society,” but it’s a small gem of its own, meeting its kids on their level and celebrating a teacher who cares about their present and future.

Rated PG-13 for mature thematic material, a disturbing image and brief language. One hour, 34 minutes.

— Peter Canavese

Chimpanzee ★★ 1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) The new Disneynature documentary “Chimpanzee” follows an ape named Oscar. C’mon, Disney! We’re not falling for that one ... no awards are forthcoming. Still, this G-rated outing may prove a “gateway drug” of sorts to get young kids interested in nature and science-themed documentaries, and on that level, its stylistic crimes are probably excusable. Like most docs of its ilk, “Chimpanzee” allows information to take a back seat to manufactured drama, ruthlessly constructed to maximize short attention spans.

Co-directors Alastair Fothergill and Mark Linfield took their cameras into the African jungle to capture impressive fly-on-the-tree camera footage of a baby chimp in his formative years. “Oscar” begins in the company of mother “Isha” but (spoiler alert) when a Disney-style parental tragedy separates the two, Oscar bonds with alpha male “Freddy” in what the film breathlessly brands “an astonishing turn of events.” This gender-role breakdown would seem to be as rare as the filmmakers claim, though it’s hard to trust them when they’re so desperately intent on convincing us that this is a story “full of drama, sadness and joy.”

Such claims sell short the inherent interest in how these animals live on a daily basis. Much of the footage does detail the chimps’ use of stones to prepare food; as he learns the ropes, monkey-see-monkey-do style, wee Oscar finds that every nut is a tough nut to crack. We also see the chimps snacking on fire ants and grooming, and there’s a fascinating bit showing how a chimp can swiftly make a bed in a tree. To the filmmakers’ credit, they also include a sequence in which the chimps hunt and eat monkeys, which — though discreet — may not exactly endear the chimps to kids.

“Chimpanzee” most eagerly seizes on the narrative potential of a rivalry between two groups of apes. Oscar’s group protects a nut grove that ensures its survival, but a “rival army” sets its eyes on the nut groove, and “the enemy has a formidable leader — Scar!” The narration, read by Tim Allen, would love to turn “Chimpanzee” into “The Lion King but it’s full of anthropomorphisms about “our boy Oscar.” Before you can sing a chorus of “I Wasn’t Be Like You,” former “Home Improvement” star Allen is calling rocks “power tools (grunt, grunt, grunt).”

Sometimes the commentary is downright puzzling. Following a climactic battle, Allen intones, “Teamwork has beaten brute force” (what movie is he watching?). Decide for yourself if the narration is a necessary concession for kids: It’s a take-it-or-leave-it proposition that doesn’t ring true but also doesn’t quite break “Chimpanzee.”

Rated G. One hour, 18 minutes.

— Peter Canavese
**NOW PLAYING**

The following is a sampling of movies recently reviewed in the Weekly:

**The Cabin in the Woods**

_Century 16, Century 20_  As written by Drew Goddard (Palo Alto) and directed by Whedon ("The Avengers"). "Cabin" is a post-generation "Scream," a self-referential horror film that tongue-in-cheekily deconstructs its own genre. On that level, it's a hoot. For this film it isn't quite as much fun or as scary as "Scream," it's more audacious, and that audacity, whose mission is quite well, involves a back-story that says it's ignored by those who hope we can also see in "Scream," another hilariously spoofs a horror motion picture like "The Ring." Horror cinema has a tendency to mock the audience, and drawing attention to that is not a new idea. "Cabin" presents a fresh narrative twist, and forces the audience to wonder if they should root for the slain or the slayers. Rated R for horror violence and gore, language, drug use and sexual content. One hour, 35 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed April 13)

**Damsels in Distress**

(Palo Alto Square) Whit Stillman's "Damsels in Distress" plays like a Todd Solondz movie on Prozac. The characters are quirky outsiders, but they kind of like it that way, and it's determined to be the world's funniest comic. This muddled fourth feature from writer-director Stillman, "The Last Days of Disco" tackles campus life at Seven Oaks, an East Coast prep school that's a hoot, well, not, really. Stillman follows a de facto "Youth Outreach" group that includes "Raising the campus" fashion-consciousness ("grunge"). eliminating disheartening odors, and working at suicide prevention by offering donuts, coffee and supposedly depressing art lessons. The satire is about as cutting as a plastic knife through butter. However, Stillman establishes the main characters as naïve, self-unaware characters, but the way in which he reveals these qualities suggests we oughtn't rush to judge them. As humor as that sounds, the only tone of the script and the performances holds view- ers at arm's length and leave them much more perplexed than enlightened about human behavior. Rated PG-13 for mature thematic content including sexual material. One hour, 39 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed April 13)

**American Reunion**

(Century 16, Century 20) 2012's "American Pie" is no more derivative than "The Emoji Movie." It's a staidly overstuffed comedy of "American Pie" — as having subversive potential. The notion of randy high-schoolers looking into a cinematic crystal ball to find stale man- nages, dead-end jobs and a dispiriting high school is so far removed from the original film, that's a decidedly double-edged sword. "American Reunion" is such a long-winded "Pie" that it may bring a tear to the eye of hard-core fans. an achievement that's not to be prized. Rated PG-13 for mature thematic content, sexual material, language and nudity. Playing 1 hour, 23 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed April 6)

**Wrath of the Titans**

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**The Cabin in the Woods**

_Century 16, Century 20_  As written by Drew Goddard (Palo Alto) and directed by Whedon ("The Avengers"). "Cabin" is a post-generation "Scream," a self-referential horror film that tongue-in-cheekily deconstructs its own genre. On that level, it's a hoot. For this film it isn't quite as much fun or as scary as "Scream," it's more audacious, and that audacity, whose mission is quite well, involves a back-story that says it's ignored by those who hope we can also see in "Scream," another hilariously spoofs a horror motion picture like "The Ring." Horror cinema has a tendency to mock the audience, and drawing attention to that is not a new idea. "Cabin" presents a fresh narrative twist, and forces the audience to wonder if they should root for the slain or the slayers. Rated R for horror violence and gore, language, drug use and sexual content. One hour, 35 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed April 13)

**Damsels in Distress**

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Sports Shorts

STANFORD RUGBY . . . The Stanford women's rugby team will be one of eight premier college squads that will be competing in the 2012 Emirates USA Rugby Women's Division I and Division II playoffs on Saturday and Sunday on the Stanford campus. Stanford is one of four premium playoff locations around the country and will see eight teams from the Pacific Mountain Rugby Conference take the field in the highly competitive single-elimination competition. On the Division I side of the competition, Stanford will face Chico State in a matchup between Northern California rivals on Saturday at Steuber Rugby Stadium at 2 p.m. UCLA will face California in another D-I match that pits bitter rivals against each other. The national quarterfinal will be Sunday at 3 p.m.

ACADEMIC HONORS . . . Stanford recruit Brittany Howard from Mountain View High was named a first-team Academic All-American by prepvolleyball.com. Howard, who plays outside hitter, compiled a 4.14 grade point average. Sacred Heart Prep senior Sarah Daschbach, who is headed to Princeton, was named third-team Academic All-American with her 4.06 GPA. Sacred Heart Prep's Jesse Ebner, who will play at Yale, made the fourth team with a 4.20 GPA . . . Palo Alto High grad Philip MacQuitty was one of five men from the UCLA track and field team to earn MPSF Academic honors for the indoor season, during which he ran a 4:06 mile in Seattle. He got his outdoor season off to a good start by running a 4:49.2 for the 1500 meters recently in a dual meet at Oregon. Earning academic honors for the UCLA women was Castilleja grad Tori Anthony. Of Local Note . . . Palo Alto's Aidan Hsu recently won a gold medal at the 2012 California State Games Hockey Speed Skating Competition in San Diego. The nine-year-old won the 10-and-under competition and nearly won the 12-and-under division.

PREP SWIMMING

Gunn girls double dunk Paly in a pair of rivalries

Titans topple Vikings as Acker hands Paly All-American Tosky her first-ever loss in an individual event

by Keith Peters

Rachel Acker and Jasmine Tosky have been good friends since becoming teammates on the Palo Alto Stanford Aquatics swim team. Both will be in that role when they compete at the U.S. Olympic Trials in June.

Acker and Tosky also are rivals. Acker at Gunn and Tosky at Palo Alto. While they have faced each other on relays over the years, it’s rare when they meet in the same individual event. However, that rare moment arrived Wednesday when the teams met in their annual showdown for city bragging rights and the result was fairly historic. When it comes to high school swimming, Tosky has been unbeatable. Coming into this season, she had never lost an individual race — whether in a dual meet, the league finals or Central Coast Section Championships.

Streaks are meant to be broken and Acker took care of Tosky’s string of success while helping the Titans pull off a big victory while moving closer to clinching the SCVAL De Anza Division regular-season title.

Palo Alto senior Jasmine Tosky lost her first prep race ever.

(continued on page 40)
**Stanford not a hit at plate**

**Opposing pitchers have taken the bat out of the Cardinal's collective hand**

by Rick Eymer

I t wasn’t so long ago that Stan- ford’s offensive statistics were showing the best in Pac-12 base- ball. The Cardinal enjoyed a team batting average of over .300 before last weekend’s series with visiting Oregon.

A week and four games later, Stanford’s offensive numbers have taken a slide. Much of that has to do with pitching. The Ducks currently rank 19th in the nation with a team ERA of 2.87. The 10th Cardinal staff overall at 2.57.

The top four individuals in each event (plus ties) from Friday’s semi- finals will compete in the individu- al-event competition Sunday.

**Women’s gymnasts take a shot at NCAA title**

Men’s volleyball opens MPSF playoffs on Saturday night; women’s tennis plays host to Cal with title still up for grabs

by Rick Eymer

T he 10th-seeded Stanford wom- en’s gymnastics team will be looking for its best perfor- mance of the season when it takes to the floor in the first session of the NCAA championships Friday at the Gwinnett Center in Duluth, Ga.

Stanford (18-7) competes along- side No. 2 seed UCLA, No. 3 Okla- homa, No. 6 Nebraska, No. 7 Utah, and No. 11 LSU in their six-team session that begins at 9 a.m. PT. The top three from each of the two ses- sions advance to the Super Six team final Saturday.

The Cardinal needs to win the league title, or at least a share of it. We haven’t peaked yet and that’s a huge motivating factor.”

Perhaps the development of the freshmen class will make a huge difference at the national meet with the Bears. Hong was limited by injuries of her own. All have made an impact in the lineup. Shapiro has scored 9,875 on bars and vault, 9,850 on beam, and 9,000 on floor. Ward has scored 10,100, but has not been able to qualify. Young has scored 9,800 on floor and 9,000 on vault. Shapiro has largely multiple events. Shapiro has largely multiple events.

Juniors Ashley Morgan and Ni- cole Dayton and sophomore Shona Morgan will also be competing at the NCAA meet.

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Menlo’s Avis delivers a veteran performance

Senior produces six RBI for injury-riddled Knights in big WBAL baseball win over rival Sacred Heart Prep by Keith Peters

After losing three starters to injuries during the past week, Menlo School baseball coach Craig Schoof was forced to dip into his freshmen-talent pool for extra bodies.

Schoof also knew he needed more than that when his team hosted rival Sacred Heart Prep on Wednesday in the first of two very important showdowns in the West Bay Athletic League.

Schoof knew he needed a veteran to step up and produce. That veteran was senior Freddy Avis.

The Palo Alto native was the star of the show, overpowered on the mound and at the plate as the Knights grabbed a 10-1 victory and control of the WBAL.

Avis, who has signed a national letter of intent to attend Stanford in the fall, struck out 15 Gators while only allowing three hits and four walks.

At the plate, Avis hit a grand slam in the fifth-run second inning and a two-run triple in the fifth as the Knights jumped out on top and never looked back.

The Knights (3-0, 11-8), hit by a series of injuries that have cost them bodies.

In the PAL Bay Division, Menlo-Atherton swept all three relays and contributed two hits, including a double. Senior Carson Badger added two RBI on two hits.

With the bases loaded in the second inning and a six-point lead, Tosky closed in 50.55 but was far too far behind by the time she entered the water.

.mixer file: 11-1, 7-2 (3-5 over all) and gave them a 1-2-1 combination lead over second-place Fremont (4-2) with six games remaining. Monta Vista (4-4) dropped to third place.

Gunns eighth-straight victory moved the Titans to 7-2 (13-5 over all) and gave them a 1-2-1 combination lead over second-place Fremont (4-2) with six games remaining. Monta Vista (4-4) dropped to third place.

In West Bay Athletic League action on Wednesday, the Sacred Heart Prep boys and girls won meets.


SHP senior Tom Kremer had the fastest times of the day as he won the 50 free in 21.52 and 100 fly in 50.48, just missing school records in both races (21.46 and 50.26). He also swam legs on the winning 200 medley and 200 free relays.

Harrison Enright added solid wins in the 200 free (1:50.41) and 500 free (4:57.81) and Brett Hinrichs took the 200 IM (2:03.65) and 100 back (57.20).

In the girls meet, SHP’s Ally Howse set a school record while winning the 500 free (4:56.03), breaking the previous mark of 5:10.11 set by Katie Sutherland in 2005. Howe also won the 100 breast (1:08.45) and swam on two winning relays.

SHP senior Erin Sheridan took the 200 freestyle (2:00.06) and 50 free (25.42). Selby Sturzenegger added wins in the 100 free (1:01.43) and 100 back (59.30); Erica Myers won the 200 IM (2:19.31) and 100 free (56.65) and the SHP relay teams swept all three relays.

Sacred Heart Prep will join Palo Alto in the annual Section Challenge on Saturday at Palo Alto High, starting at 9 a.m. The meet will feature many of the top teams in Northern California.

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THANK YOU to these green energy purchasers for helping to make PaloAltoGreen the #1 renewable energy program in the United States!

City of Palo Alto Utilities wants to thank all the businesses, organizations, and residents in Palo Alto who support renewable energy and contribute to the success of PaloAltoGreen.

To sign up or learn more, visit us at www.cityofpalalto.org/pagreen or call (650) 329-2161.
GUIDE TO 2012 SUMMER CAMPS FOR KIDS

For more information about these camps, see our online directory of camps at http://paloaltoonline.com/biz/summerscamps/. To advertise in a weekly directory, contact 650-326-8210

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Palo Alto Elite Volleyball Club

Palo Alto/ Summer Camp

Menlo Park

Girls Volleyball - fastest growing, non-impact sport for girls, emphasizing team work. Camp provides age appropriate fundamentals, setting, hitting, passing, serving, plus offense vs defense strategy and learning rotations. 3rd -12th grades (separate camps). High coach to player ratio. Email: info@paloaltoelite.com

www.paloaltoelite.com

Spartans Sports Camp

Mountain View

Spartans Sports Camp offers multi-sport, week-long sessions for boys and girls in grades 3-5 as well as sport-specific sessions for grades 6-9. There are also strength and conditioning camps for grades 6-12. Camps begin June 11th and run weekly through July 27th at Mountain View High School. The camp is run by MVHS coaches and student-athletes and all proceeds benefit the MVHS Athletic Department. Lunch and extended care are available for your convenience. Spartans Sports Camp is also hosting two free basketball clinics on April 21st and May 6th from 10 am - 1 pm. Register today for the camps and free clinics on our website!

www.SpartansSportsCamp.com

Spring Down

Equestrian Center

Portola Valley

Spring Down camp teaches basic to advanced horsemanship skills. Ages 6-99 welcome! Daily informative lecture, riding lessons, supervised hands-on skill practice, safety around horses, tacking/un-tacking of own camp horse, and arts & crafts.

www.springdown.com

Stanford Water Polo Camps

Stanford

Ages 7 and up. New to the sport or have experience, we have a camp for you. Half day or full day options for boys and girls. All the camps offer fundamental skill work, position work, scrimmages and games.

www.stanfordwaterpolocamps.com

Summer at Saint Francis

Mountain View

Sports & Activity Camp (ages 6-12) This all sports camp provides a diverse group in a variety of field, court and court games. Saint Francis faculty and students staff the camp, and the focus is always fun. The program is dedicated to teaching teamwork, sportsmanship and positive self-esteem. After camp care and swim lessons available.

www.sffs.com/summer

Summer at Saint Francis

Mountain View

Advanced Sports Camps (5th-9th grades). We offer a wide selection of advanced sports camps designed to provide players with the opportunity to improve both their skill and knowledge of a specific sport. Each camp is run by a Head Varsity Coach at Saint Francis, and is staffed by members of the coaching staff.

www.sffs.com/summer

YMCA of Silicon Valley

Peninsula

Say hello to summer fun at the YMCA! Choose from enriching day or overnight camps in 35 locations: arts, sports, science, travel, and more. For youth K-10th grade. Includes weekly fieldtrips, swimming and outdoor adventures. Accredited by the American Camp Association. Financial assistance available.

www.ymcavs.org/summercamp 408-351-6400

Galileo

Los Altos/Palo Alto/Menlo Park

Learning Woodside/Hillsborough

Galileo Learning operates award-winning summer day camps at 31 Bay Area locations. Camp Galileo (pre-K - rising 5th graders) inspires campers to bring their ideas to life through art, science and outdoor activities. Galileo Summer Quest (rising 5th - 8th graders): Campers dive into exciting majors like Chemistry and Video Game Design.

www.galileo-learning.com 1-800-854-3684

(continued on next page)

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Sports

Claire Collins

Gunn High

The senior infielder had a total of five hits with four RBI and four runs scored during a 2-1 softball week, which featured a two-run homer to upset host St. Francis, 3-2, in an important nonleague showdown.

Honororable mention

Shannon Aguilar

Menlo-Atherton softball

Elena Hyvarinen

Menlo-Atherton swimming

Michael Hester

Menlo-Atherton tennis

Graham Fisher*

Gunn baseball

E.J. Fassett

Palo Alto track and field

Kyle Koening

Sacred Heart Prep swimming

Rolein Lai

Palo Alto swimming

Andrew Liang

Palo Alto swimming

* previous winner

Zeke Brown

Menlo-Atherton tennis

To see video Interviews of the Athletes of the Week, go to www.PASPsportsOnline.com

Sarah Robinson

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Robinson

(continued from page 31)

Azerbaijan.

Team USA (7-0-2) will open the qualifying against the Bahamas on May 3, before taking on Trinidad & Tobago on May 5. The Americans will conclude the first round against Mexico on May 7. The top two teams from each group will advance to the semifinals, beginning May 10.

Robinson, a midfielder, said her role on the team is “playmaking and defending well. That’s what we focus on, defending as a team.”

Robinson has started all the matches she has played in and sees her current experience as a stepping stone to future levels of US Soccer. Yet, she isn’t planning on giving up on cross country or track, at least for the time being.

“She still wants to train and run in the meets,” said Gunn assistant Eric Lee. “The meets turn into very good workouts.”

Lee and Gunn head coach Matt Tompkins knew they’d have to share Robinson at some point.

“It’s something we knew going into it,” Lee said of the situation. “But when she’s here, it’s to the max . . . she understands the decision she’s made and the consequences . . . the sacrifices.”

“It’s weird, she’s the only one doing homework (on the soccer trips).”

The U.S. Women’s Senior National Team, meanwhile, opened a training camp in Braden-

ton, Fla., on Wednesday. A total of 27 players are taking part in the camp, which runs through April 30 and will serve as preparation for the 2012 Olympics.

The camp allows head coach Pia Sundhage to continue the evaluation process to select the 18-player roster that will travel to London for the Summer Olympics.

Former Stanford All-American Christen Press will be competing in her first senior national training camp. Press was the 2011 MAC Hermann Trophy winner.

Also attending the camp are former Stanford standouts Nicole Barnhart (goalie), Rachel Buehler (defender) and Kelley O’Hara (defender).
and senior Filip Grehn finished with a 46. Next up for M-A will be the PAL Individual Tournament on Tuesday.

Anderson shot a 1-under 35 to earn medalist honors and help M-A post victories over Hillsdale and Aragon on Tuesday at Sharon Heights Country Club.

In the WBAI, Sacred Heart Prep sophomore Bradley Knox was the medalist for the third time this week as the Gators ruined Menlo School’s perfect season with a 195-202 victory on Wednesday at Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club.

Knox recorded three birdies in his up-and-down round of 1-over 36. Menlo junior Andrew Buchanan shared medalist honors with a steady one-birdie, two-bogey round. With the win, the Gators (6-2) squared the home-and-home series with the Knights (7-1).

Boys’ lacrosse Menlo School broke a tie in the second quarter and never looked back in a 14-12 victory over host Sacred Heart Prep on Friday in an important SCVAL De Anza Division match.

Rebounding from three losses at the Noah St. Ignatius tournament last week, the Knights (5-3, 7-6) averaged an even larger league loss to the Gators (7-1, 9-2) and knocked them out of sole possession of first place.

Menlo prevented SHP from grabbing control of the division as junior Nick Schultz fueled the attack with six goals and assisted on three more. Despite being a target of the SHP defense, Menlo junior Wiley Osborne still managed three goals and two assists.

Frankie Hatler led SHP with three goals and three assists while Noah Kawasaki added two goals and one assist. Brian White finished with three goals.

Girls’ lacrosse Getting seven goals and three assists from junior Michaela Michael, Menlo School remained unbeaten in the WBAI Foothill Division with a 22-13 triumph over host Burlingame on Tuesday. Brooke Buddington added five goals and two assists as the Knights improved to 5-0 in league (8-4 overall).

In their first match back from spring break, the Knights grabbed a 12-4 halftime lead and rolled from there. Ali Kim produced three goals and one assist and Elyse Adler added three goals. The midfield crew of Michael, Bullington, Adler, Kim and Kacie Keepes accounted for 19 goals and 22 of Menlo’s 25 successful draw controls.

Menlo hosted host Menlo-Atherton on Friday at 4 p.m.

The Bears got two goals in over-time from Becca Higgitt in a 19-17 victory over Castilleja in WBAI Foothill Division action on Monday. Higgitt had the match at 17 with four seconds to play after taking a long pass from Emily Carlson who had won a loose ball at midfield with 10 seconds remaining.

The Bears (3-2, 3-4) trailed by 15-12 with 1:50 left to play before a great save by M-A goalie Neeka Naizhard was cleared to Sydney Novak-Federmeyer and led to a goal. The Bears then added a fastbreak goal to make it 15-14 to set up Higgitt’s tying goal.

Higgitt finished with a season-high 10 goals while Martha Harding scored 10 goals for Castilleja (2-3, 7-3).

In the SCVAL De Anza Division, Palo Alto suffered its first loss in league action this season in a 15-13 setback to host St. Francis on Tuesday. The defending league champion Lancers avenged a loss to Pal in the teams’ first meeting.

The match was tied at halftime, 7-7, and for one final time at 13-13 on a goal by Emily Keltz with less than two minutes remaining. Pal’s excitement was shortlived however, as the Vikings lost the next two draws and the Lancers scored each time.

Keltz finished with three goals for Palo (8-4, 10-3) while Charlotte Bifar and Nina Keltz each added three goals. Layla Memar contributed two goals and one assist.

Boys’ tennis Menlo-Atherton clinched the PAL West regular-season title with a 6-1 victory over host Burlingame on Wednesday. The Bears improved to 13-0 in league play (18-2 overall) while improving to 52-0 in regular-season league matches since the end of the 2008 season.

The Bears beat El Camino on Tuesday, 7-0, and topped San Mateo on Monday, 7-0.

Summer programming Guide to Summer Camps for Kids (continued from previous page)

Academics

GASPA German Summer School Camp Menlo Park Learn German by way of Fairytail German is taking Summer Camp into the world of fairy tales and everything that comes with it... in German of course! Offering a 4-week program for children ages 3-12.

www.gaspa-ca.org 650-520-3664

Harker Summer Programs San Jose K-12 offerings taught by exceptional, experienced faculty and staff. K-6 morning academics - focusing on math, language arts and science - and full spectrum of afternoon recreation. Grades 6-12 for credit courses and non-credit enrichment opportunities. Programs also offered.

www.summer.harker.org 408-553-0537

ID Tech Camps - Summer Tech Fun! Stanford Take hobbies further Ages 7-17 create iPhone apps, video games, movies, and more at weeklong, day and overnight programs held at Stanford and 60+ universities in 27 states.

www.techcamp.com 1-888-709-TECH (8324)

iTeen Academies Stanford Learn different aspects of video game creation, app development (Android & iOS), and more in summer programs and 2-week programs where ages 13-18 interact with industry professionals to gain competitive edge. ID Gaming Academy, ID Programming Academy, and iD Visual Arts Academy are held at Stanford, and other universities.

www.iteenacademies.com 1-888-709-TECH (8324)

ISTP’s Language Immersion Summer Camp ISTP Summer Camp is designed to give participants a unique opportunity to spend their summer break having fun and learning a new language in a second language. Students are grouped according to both grade level and language of proficiency. Our camp offers many immersion opportunities and a combination of language classes and activities taught in the target language. Sessions are available in French, Mandarin, Chinese and English ESL and Spanish, 6 weeks, 30 sessions, 1 hour morning/afternoon, 3:30pm, with additional extending care from 3:30-5:30pm.

www.istp.org 650-251-8519

Mid-Peninsula High School Summer Program Menlo Park Mid-Peninsula High School offers a series of classes and electives designed to keep students engaged in learning Class Monday-Thursday and limited to 15 students. Every Thursday there’s a BBQ lunch. The Science and Art classes will have weekly field trips.

www.mid-pen.com 650-321-1991 x110

SuperCamp - Stanford Increases Grades, Confidence and Motivation. Academic pressure to stand out. Social pressure to fit in. It’s not easy being a high school or middle school student. Straight A or struggling, kids are overwhelmed by homework, activities, and technology distractions. SuperCamp provides strategies to help kids succeed. Bobbi DelPorter created SuperCamp to empower kids. Now in its 30th year with 6,000 graduates. SuperCamp builds study skills, self-esteem, and test scores. SuperCamp works. Parent Patty M. says, “We saw a jump in grades ... the things she learned about her worth are of lasting value.”


Summer at Saint Francis Mountain View Summer at Saint Francis provides a broad range of academic and athletic programs for elementary through high school students. It is the goal of every program to make summer vacation enriching and enjoyable!

www.sfhs.com/summer 650-968-1213 x446


synapseschool.org/curriculum/summer 650-866-5824

Write Now! Summer Writing Camps Palo Alto Emerson School of Palo Alto and Hacienda School of Pleasanton open their doors and offer their innovative programs: Expository Writing, Creative Writing, Presentation Techniques, and (new!) Media Production. Call or visit our websites.

www.headsup.org 650-424-1267, 925-485-5750

Arts, Culture and Other Camps

Community School of Music & Arts (CSMA ) Mountain View CSMA offers creative camps for K-8! Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Musical Theater, American Idol Workshop! More Two-week sessions; full and half-day enrollment. Extended care available. Financial aid offered.

www.csamusic.org 650-917-4800 ext. 0

Creative Kids Camp Menlo Park Children entering Grades 1 to 8 are invited to explore the arts July 16 - 20, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Workshops available online. Over 30 different camps all through the summer for Grades K-12. To register or for more details visit:

www.indiacc.org/camps 408-934-1130 ext. 225

Pacific Art League Palo Alto, Arcata, Art camps are fun, and stimulate visual perception and cognitive thinking. Week-long camps are available for kids and teens 5 – 18, from June 18 to August 19, including Glass Fusing, Cartooning, Printmaking and Claymation.

www.pacificartleague.org 650.321.3891

Palo Alto Community Child Care (PACCC) Palo Alto PACC campers range from infants to 6th, a wide array of fun opportunities! K-1 Fun for the youngest campers, Nothing But Fun for themed-based weekly sessions, Neighborhood Adventure Fun and Ultimate Adventure Fun for the more active and on-the-go campers! Swimming twice per week, periodic field trips, special visitors and many engaging camp activities, songs and skits round out the fun offerings of PACC Summer Camps! Registration is online. Open to campers from all communities! Come join the fun in Palo Alto.

www.paccc.org 650-493-2361


www.techknowhowkids.com 650-638-0500

Theatreworks Summer Camps Palo Alto In these skill-building workshops for grades K-5, students engage in language-based activities, movement, music, and improvisation theatre games. Students present their own original pieces at the end of each two-week camp.

www.theatreworks.org/educationcommunity 650-463-7146
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