

*Palo
Alto*

Vol. XXIX, Number 41 • Wednesday, February 27, 2008 ■ 50¢

Weekly

**Sculpture to replace
Cal. Ave. fountain**

Page 3

PEOPLE POWER

City seeks citizen
engagement
Page 19

Norbert von der Groeben

Talk about the news at Town Square, www.PaloAltoOnline.com

- **Upfront** Palo Alto Council seeks green, techie city manager **Page 3**
- **In Business** Facebook changes 'face' of downtown **Page 17**
- **Sports Nine** — count 'em — local teams reach hoop semis **Page 27**



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Upfront

Local news, information and analysis

Wanted: Community-minded, green, tech-savvy manager

Palo Alto City Council, community outline
'ideal' city manager

by Becky Trout

Palo Alto's next city manager should be a committed environmentalist, comfortable with technology and, perhaps most importantly, eager to work with an engaged, opinionated community, the City Council said Monday night. In an unusual single-issue meeting,

the council and members of the public gave feedback to Bob Murray, the recruiter hired to help the city find a replacement for City Manager Frank Benest, who is retiring at the end of June.

Most council members focused generally on attributes — such as

community-minded — that are not counted as Benest's strong points.

"We want a city manager who sees it not as a headache but as a real asset we have such an engaged and educated community" that is able to contribute both knowledge and effort, Councilwoman Yoriko Kishimoto said. "We want someone who can take advantage of that."

The manager should be able to complete the library and public-safety building projects, motivate

staff members, maintain Palo Alto's cutting-edge reputation, focus on environmental efforts and have integrity and credibility, she said.

Then, recognizing her list had gotten quite long, Kishimoto said: "We want all these good things, but I think the reward is there as well."

Benest currently receives about \$230,000, and the city helped him purchase his Bryant Street house.

Councilman Pat Burt said he's looking for a "21st century manager"

who is innovative and taps into the Silicon Valley culture to improve city operations.

For Councilman Jack Morton it is important the next manager understands that Palo Alto residents value libraries, arts programs, parks and other services nearly as much as police and fire protection.

"What we really care about in this community is quality of life," Mor-

(continued on page 11)



Norbert von der Groeben

The California Avenue fountain installed in the 1970s will be replaced by a Bruce Beasley sculpture.

PUBLIC ART

Farewell fountain, hello sculpture

California Avenue fountain to be replaced with new art

by Karla Kane

Palo Alto pranksters will have to find something else to spike with soap, as California Avenue's aging fountain is set to be removed and replaced with a sculpture.

The simple, single-tiered concrete fountain, located near the Caltrain station, is suffering from plumbing damage, according to

Linda Craighead, staff liaison to the city's Public Art Commission. It is also frequently filled with detergent foam and colored water by practical jokers, although Craighead did not say that was a factor in the decision to remove it. It was installed at the site in the 1970s, according to Darlene Katsanes of the Palo Alto's Division of Arts

and Sciences.

The city considered repairing the fountain or installing a new one but decided instead to replace it with a sculpture to avoid the complications and high costs of maintaining an active fountain, Craighead said.

The commission has approved a proposal by Oakland-based artist Bruce Beasley to construct and install a 12-foot-tall abstract sculpture of free-standing stones, surrounded by benches. The benches may be made available to sponsorship by corporations or individuals.

Beasley plans to build the sculpture out of granite, a material he called long-lasting and graffiti-resistant. The granite will also

give the piece a "very Sierra, very local feel" that will sit well with the natural environment, Craighead said. She called obtaining a Beasley sculpture "an amazing opportunity for the city."

Beasley, a California native, graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, with a degree in sculpture and has had his work exhibited in galleries and public spaces worldwide. He specializes in large, abstract sculptures and works with a wide range of materials, including acrylic, wood, bronze, stone and steel. A 45-year retrospective of his work was exhibited at the Oakland Museum of California in 2005. He has also been commissioned to

(continued on page 11)

COURTS

Burford killer: 'I'm crying a river of tears'

Remorseful Tyrone Hamel gets life without parole for 1988 stabbing

by Sue Dremann

The man who killed Palo Alto attorney Gretchen Burford in 1988 received a life sentence without parole on Friday. But in his statement to the court, Tyrone Maurice Hamel said his own life has been changed by the compassion of his victim's children.

Hamel, now in his 40s, last month stunned the Santa Clara County court by confessing and pleading guilty to the crime, which he'd previously denied committing.

The murder had remained a cold case until Michael Schembri, a Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office investigator, reopened it three years ago and used current DNA technology to help substantiate the case against Hamel.

In court Friday morning, Hamel sat with his back to Burford's family and friends. Not a muscle twitched — from his shaved head and broad shoulders down to his back — while his victim's two daughters described the impact his actions have had on their lives in the two decades since he killed their mother at a Mountain View ATM.

At the end, Hamel turned to face the family, tripping over the word "humanity" as he spoke. From his lips, the word repeatedly came out "hoo-man-in-ity." It is a word he had little experience with, he said.

"I ain't got no written statement. I don't really understand how somebody could show so much compassion. I'm just all shook up," he said.

"I don't know if y'all believe me or not, but I'm crying a river of tears inside. ... I just want to be a more productive human being in my life. I do feel pain inside — the most ex-

(continued on page 11)

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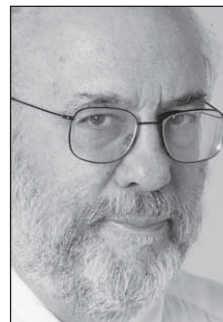
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Our Town

by Don Kazak

Speaking real fast

Rahul Ramakrishnan sometimes practices for his contests as a member of the Palo Alto High School debate team by clenching a pen between his teeth and then reading an argument out loud, as fast he can.

It's a warm-up exercise, his coach, Jennie Savage, explained.

When he is in an actual debate, as he was recently along with 1,200 other high school students from 20 states at Stanford, he will read his arguments just as quickly, while absently twirling a pen with one hand.

Speed isn't everything in a debate, but it can be important, Savage said.

She is a former high school national debate champion, as is Ramakrishnan, who won that honor last year as a high school junior.

Ramakrishnan recently qualified for a national tournament again.

Savage gathers the members of the Paly team two nights a week for preparation and practice.

The team has traveled around the country, to Dallas, Chicago and Washington, D.C., for tournaments.

The kids love it and say it helps them in their school work.

"They need to be able to convince anyone of anything at any time," Savage said.

The students prepare their arguments in writing to questions released nationally for all debate teams. The argument that Ramakrishnan debated at the Stanford tournament was whether the United States would be justified in attacking a country to remove nuclear weapons.

The kids practice for the debates by knowing and arguing both sides of the question equally well.

During the actual debates, the students have to think fast to counter what their opponent is saying.

It can be a blindingly fast exchange of words.

Speed can be important because the more arguments a debater can make the more arguments his or her opponent must try to counter.

Ramakrishnan can speak more than 300 words a minute during a debate, while absently twirling that pen in one hand.

Savage, a former congressional staff member who has worked on national political campaigns, started out a couple of years ago with

nine members on the debate team. It now has 45 students.

"We're dominating the local circuit," she said. "We're on the national circuit."

The thing that attracts students to the team, she said, is that "almost all of them have a tenacity and a tendency to question everything."

There is a cordial respect between opponents during the debates, belying a fierce competitiveness between really smart kids.

The boys all wore ties, which seemed unusual for a warm, sunny day on the Stanford campus.

Ramakrishnan said he works three hours a day to write and prepare his debate arguments.

Other students don't have what Savage called that tenacity. And he has the preparation down cold.

Some of the debaters used large file bins to contain all of their possible arguments.

"There are an infinite number of arguments to prepare for," Ramakrishnan said. "There are a lot more variables in debate than in school."

In his recent debate at Stanford, he and his opponent sat quietly in a small classroom for more than a half hour, waiting for the debate judge to show up. The scheduled judge never came, so a Stanford student finally came in as a replacement judge.

Ramakrishnan didn't know at the time that the Stanford student had been a high school debater for four years and knew what she was doing.

Ramakrishnan tried to gauge what the Stanford student would be measuring in her decision, and failed.

He was downcast later when he walked away from the debate. He said he had beaten this opponent many times in past competitions.

But he is a national champion, and may be again.

Both he and his opponent absently twirled pens in their hands during the debate, and so did the judge.

Savage laughed when I asked her about the pen-twirling.

"Every debater does it," she said. "It's the cool thing to do." ■

Senior Staff Writer Don Kazak can be e-mailed at dkazak@paweekly.com

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INDEX

Pulse	13
Transitions	14
Movies	16
Spectrum	24
Sports	27
Classified	33

'Sweethearts' awarded for helping special-ed students

Some winners surprised to hear of impact they've made

by Arden Pennell

John Tripp wasn't expecting to get an award for something that only takes a few minutes a day. The elementary-school crossing guard said he was shocked but proud Monday night to win a Sweetheart Award for the way he brightens special-needs student Ryan Navarro's morning.

Eighty-five "sweethearts" netted awards Monday in a special ceremony at the Palo Alto school-district office. Given by the volunteer group Community Advisory Committee for Special Education, the awards go to school-community members who positively affect special-needs students' lives.

Parent Pauline Navarro nominated Tripp, who says "Good morning" to her son Ryan and laughs at Ryan's joking response — which sounds like "Todays!" — every day as though he'd never heard it before, she said in a nomination statement.

Ryan bounces happily into school each morning after the exchange, she stated.

Along with Tripp, honorees Monday ranged from teachers to students to support staff such as bus drivers.

Everyone who was nominated got an award, according to Tina Underwood, a member of the advisory committee who announced winners. The program is now in its fourth year.

Tripp's surprise at how big a difference he's made in Ryan's life is typical, according to fellow honoree Bubba Paguirigan.

"[People] don't understand what a simple 'Hi' does, or a simple conver-



Bubba Paguirigan (left) and his Best Buddy Nicholas Peterson eat lunch at Kirk's Steakburgers Feb. 22. Paguirigan was honored with a Sweetheart Award Monday.

sation," he said.

Paguirigan, a Palo Alto High School senior, is president of the Best Buddies club, which pairs students with intellectual disabilities with mainstream students.

Paguirigan and special-needs student Nicholas Peterson meet to grab lunch from Kirk's Steakburgers or go to the movies — normal high school activities, he said.

But their friendship differs from other high-school friendships in a significant way, he said.

It lacks pretense, he said.

He said he finds himself relaxing and lapsing into silly voices or goofy gestures when the two joke around because Nicholas and other special-needs students are non-judgmental.

"They like you for who you are. ... There's no 'cool' or 'uncool,'" he

said.

Perhaps ironically, one benefit students like Nicholas get from mainstream friendships is precisely the opposite — they feel more like normal high-school students, Paguirigan said.

He has spent time with special-needs students since age 7, helping at a camp for special-needs children run by his mother, Sarrie Paguirigan, he said.

Sarrie won a Sweetheart Award last year and came to the celebration Monday to cheer on her son as he followed in her footsteps.

The room of about 125 attendees was dotted with colorful balloons — and damp tissues, as participants dabbed away tears when names and nomination statements were read.

(continued on page 11)

CRIME

Residential burglaries on the rise

Home, auto crimes jumping, police say

by Sue Dremann

The number of residential burglaries in Palo Alto is rising, a trend that police first noticed in early January, spokeswoman Sgt. Sandra Brown said Friday.

Auto-related crimes are also increasing, according to department statistics.

Palo Alto experienced a near doubling of residential burglaries in January, from 14 in November to 25 last month. In the first 24 days of February there were 22, according to police reports. On Feb. 21, at least six homes were burglarized.

Other burglary attempts have also been reported.

"We're looking at some of the same problems of two summers ago," Brown said, referring to a spike in crime.

Officers have made no arrests yet, but on Friday they were instructed to step up patrols in neighborhoods, stopping people who look suspicious, Brown said.

She surmised the double-digit spike in January and continued up-

ward trend have been due in part to the rains — officers are less visible when dealing with flood control, accidents, downed power lines and falling trees.

But that doesn't explain all of the increase. Residents' lackadaisical approach to simple home-safety precautions has returned, according to Brown. In some of the recent burglaries, crooks entered through unlocked back doors, she said.

"People are rushing out in the bad weather and not locking up their homes," she said.

The recent spate of burglaries occurred all over the city, with hot spots in Midtown, Crescent Park, along the creek in Downtown North and in Old Palo Alto.

Break-ins also occurred this month in Duveneck/St. Francis, Barron Park, Ventura and Old Palo Alto neighborhoods.

They seem to share a close connection with U.S. Highway 101, Brown said.

"If you look at where most of the

burglaries are occurring, they are all quick-transit areas — easy in and easy out," Brown said.

The Midtown break-ins happened mainly east of Middlefield Road, according to police maps.

Midtown Residents Association leader Annette Ashton said she has been e-mailing residents to warn them.

"Perhaps this is a good time to start thinking about block-preparedness coordination," she said — a program Ashton is advocating along with other members of Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN).

Ashton and others are working to enroll a coordinator for each of the city's 2,500 blocks. Coordinators must agree to go through a training session, meet their neighbors and keep track of more vulnerable residents, she said.

Once in operation, the program will fight crime as well as ensure the community responds efficiently to an earthquake or flood, Ashton

(continued on page 12)

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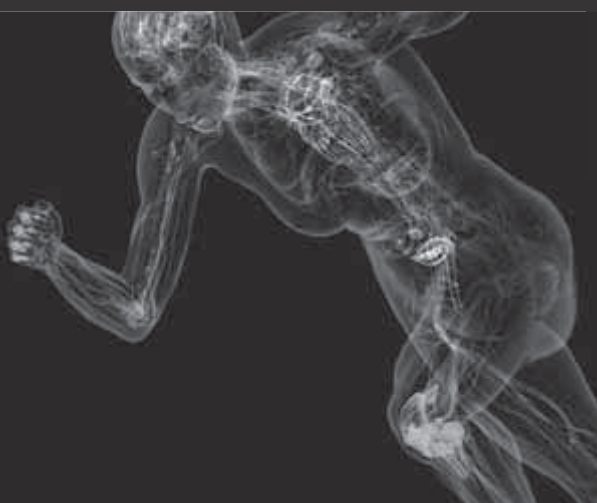
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Upfront

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“

My sister and I have sought to spare your life.

”

— **Martha Burford**, daughter of murdered Palo Alto attorney Gretchen Burford, on her fight against a death-penalty sentence for her mother's killer. See story on page 3.

Around Town

CRAIGSLIST TIP OFF ... Palo Alto police took to the Internet Saturday to respond to an ad offering what turned out to be a stolen bicycle for sale — and then arrested the seller. Police were told by a resident of the 1100 block of Clark Way Saturday that two bicycles had been stolen from his garage, Police Agent Dan Ryan said. The resident also saw a brand-new posting on Craigslist for very similar bicycles for sale. Officer **Michael Kan** then responded to the ad as a prospective buyer and discovered the bike for sale was one of the ones stolen from the Clark Way garage, Ryan said. The “seller” then led police to the second stolen road bike. The bikes were valued at \$800 each. **Anthony J. Gangi**, a former Sonoma County resident who recently moved to Palo Alto, was charged with possession of stolen property.

DON'T CALL IT A SPADE ... The process by which students are chosen for Palo Alto schools' “choice” programs, including the new Mandarin-immersion program, is not a “lottery,” according to Superintendent **Kevin Skelly**. “They are not lotteries. Lotteries imply winners and losers. The term is ‘random selection for district-wide programs,’” he said in a recent e-mail. But that makes an unwieldy phrase, and an even trickier acronym — RSDP — even in the abbreviation-friendly Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD). Time will tell whether the new term catches on among parents whose kids were chosen in last Thursday's, er, random selection for district-wide programs. These programs include Hoover and Ohlone elementary schools, the Mandarin-immersion program at Ohlone and the Spanish-immersion program at Escondido.

LIBRARY CARDS AVAILABLE AT HOME ... Palo Alto residents will now be able to register for city library cards from home through online registration. Registration requires residents to enter basic

contact information and a personal identification number at the city's library Web site, www.cityofpaloalto.org/library. After submitting an application, residents are assigned temporary library card numbers valid immediately for use with the library's online database and online book hold. Temporary cards are good for 30 days. Permanent cards can be retrieved with valid identification and proof of current address at any Palo Alto Library, library officials said.

HISTORIC UNIVERSITY SOUTH HOUSE, STABLE PRESERVED ...

Palo Altans gained the indefinite preservation of a historic house, and resident **Margo Schmidt** gets to remain on her beloved Addison Avenue property, according to an unusual deal approved recently by the City Council. The council unanimously agreed to Schmidt's request to divide her 1899 Queen Anne-style house and its former stable, now converted into a residence, into two lots. Schmidt said she plans to live in the former stable and sell the Victorian because she cannot afford to retain the property on her own. Schmidt has lived on the nearly 10,000-square-foot parcel since 1978. She co-owns 449 Addison Ave. with a partner, who would like to sell the entire property. The split required council approval, however, because the two lots are too small to conform to the land-use designation in the neighborhood. To solve the problem, city planners agreed to apply a flexible zoning designation, “Planned Community” (PC), usually reserved for complex projects such as Alma Plaza, to the Addison property. In exchange for this flexibility, the zoning demands the property owner provide a “public benefit.” In this case, Schmidt has agreed to sign a covenant ensuring both the house and its stable remain in their historic condition, ensuring a future owner would not tear them down. ■

Corrections

A Feb. 20 article about a sound-equalization system at El Carmelo Elementary School wrongly attributed a comparison of the system to lighting. Carrie Manley made the comparison. To request a correction, contact Managing Editor Jocelyn Dong at 650-326-8210, jdong@paweb.com or P.O. Box 1610, Palo Alto, CA 94302.

Neighborhoods

A roundup of neighborhood news edited by Sue Dremann

AROUND THE BLOCK

FRESH & EASY AT EDGEWOOD? A recent press release by grocery chain **Fresh & Easy** announcing that the company plans to open 18 grocery stores in the Bay Area in 2009 had residents living near **Edgewood Plaza** curious. Could Fresh & Easy become their neighborhood grocery store, replacing the departed Albertson's? Company spokesman Brendan Wonnacott wouldn't say, but did mention Fresh & Easy executives are looking all over the Bay Area — including Palo Alto — for sites. Currently, the closest planned site is in Sunnyvale. Fresh & Easy bills itself as a "neighborhood market" offering fresh, wholesome, reasonably priced food. Edgewood's developer **John Tze**, of Sand Hill Property Company, assured residents in an e-mail on Feb. 10 that a grocery store is key to his plans for Edgewood, and he also plans to bring in a cafe.

JFK SIGHTINGS IN BARRON PARK When and why **John F. Kennedy** hung out in one of **Barron Park's** neighborhood cocktail lounges, a \$20 million three-mile-long tunnel under the neighborhood and a host of other intriguing historical anecdotes will be presented by Barron Park historian **Doug Graham** on Sunday, March 2 at 2 p.m., when Graham discusses **How did Barron Park Get Its Name?** at Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. The event is free and open to the public.

CONGRATULATIONS Midtown neighborhood resident **Gerri Spieler** was chosen to serve on the City of Mountain View's new **Environmental Sustainability Task Force**. As a member-at-large, she will recommend initiatives to the City Council for creating a sustainable community for reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. Although Spieler is a Palo Alto resident, she owns a Mountain View business, the **Bath Shop**. She is also a **Certified Green Remodeler**.

KNOW THY CITY As mentioned in this week's cover story, Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN) has prepared a survey seeking to understand how residents engage — or don't engage — in civic discourse in Palo Alto. Survey results will be presented at the March 17 City Council meeting. To participate, visit <http://perennialsurvey.com/s.cgi?12415>. Additional comments can be sent to engage@paneighborhoods.org. ■

Little League to the rescue at Hoover diamond

New Hoover Park infield a successful public-private partnership

by Sue Dremann

When Hoover Park reopens in early spring, baseball players will walk onto a revamped infield, compliments of the Palo Alto Little League. The local youth-baseball league is funding the project in a public-private partnership with the city.

Such partnerships are increasingly becoming the standard for improving public spaces in Palo Alto. "This is a shining example of what we can do for this community," Palo Alto Parks and Recreation Commissioner Paul Losch said, also referencing a proposed indoor gymnasium on Fabian Way in the former Kiki's candy building, which is being developed by local basketball enthusiasts.

"It's a great example of what we should do with other sports," he said.

The Little League is hiring Jensen Landscape to do the infield work, which includes brand-new, professional-quality roll-on turf, according to Palo Alto Little League fields manager David Goldman. The league will also level the infield and build a new pitching mound, overhaul the backstop and upgrade the dugouts, he said.

The repairs at Hoover will cost \$6,000 to \$7,000, Goldman said. He expects the work will be completed by March 1.

The Little League has a letter of understanding with the city to maintain the infield at Hoover and at a league-owned park on Middlefield Road, according to Goldman.

The league previously entered into a public-private partnership with the city to remove a cyclone fence in the outfield. The group put up a removable, orange safety fence, which is taken down during soccer season, according to Goldman. He said the



A public-private partnership between the city and Palo Alto Little League will revamp the Hoover Park infield.

Danielle Vernon

league is open to funding other improvements, providing appropriate funds become available.

"I think it's a tremendous example of public-private groups working to the benefit of all. The Little League keeps investing for those purposes," he said.

Last year, the Hoover field was used by 1,050 players, Goldman said. The baseball field is used every evening from Monday to Friday and all day on weekends. Four games typically take place on Saturdays. Little League season begins in March.

"The kids are excited," Goldman said.

Annette Ashton, parks committee chair for the Midtown Residents Association, said the association is planning an inaugural celebration with the city after the park reopens.

Although some of the improvements residents requested have been done, others that park users deem important have not been included, according to association Vice Chair Sheri Furman.

"In the child-play area, there are no gates in the area. It's easy for a child to go zooming out of there. There are some concerns about safety. We (also) thought we were getting more picnic tables," she said.

City of Palo Alto Project Manager Kate Rooney said many of the picnic tables will be new in the barbecue area. Landscaping around the paths and much of the concrete will be replaced. And pets will enjoy an expanded dog-run with double-entry gates, a fountain and doggie water bowl, she said.

But much of the renovation is in the form of "green" improvements

that park visitors will not necessarily notice. A new computerized irrigation system tied to a weather station will water the fields based on need. Rooney estimated the system will result in a 15 to 25 percent water savings. A catch-basin and new drainage will improve soggy field areas, she said. Other ecologically sensitive improvements include recycling containers, which will replace half of the trash bins, she said. Renovations for the park, including planning and design, cost \$770,000 — \$500,000 of which is funded by a state grant, Rooney said.

The park was originally scheduled to open on Feb. 17 but has been set back because colder-than-normal weather has delayed the growing of new grass, she added. ■

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

PARKS

Midtown residents question Stanford plans

Hospitals' development could bring more traffic, housing demand, residents say

by Sue Dremann

Midtown residents hoping for an answer last week didn't get one from Stanford Hospital & Clinics about where 2,000 additional employees will live when the hospital expands. But representatives told members of the Midtown Residents Association they will work

with the neighbors to solve traffic and housing problems caused by the potential new growth.

Though Midtown is miles away from Stanford, the neighborhood has a stake in the hospitals' development plans, according to Peggy Kenny, chair of the Midtown Residents Association. Midtown has

lower-priced housing options and new higher-density housing developments that will attract Stanford's new employees, she said.

"There is an assumption that the impact will be locally around the hospital. The impact will be all over," Sheri Furman, the association's vice chair, said by phone.

Stanford Hospital's hoped-for expansion of 1.3 million square feet and increase in the number of hospital beds will boost the number of helicopter flights, ambulance trips and visitors — many of whom will travel during peak commute hours to visit patients after work, according to Furman.

The current plans do not include housing for the estimated 2,000 employees who will be phased

in between now and 2018, Andy Coe, Stanford Hospital's chief government and community relations Officer, told residents. But he expects housing will be part of the discussion when the Draft Environmental Impact Report is completed.

Stanford is committed to addressing potential traffic and housing problems in its plans, according to Sherri Sager, chief government relations officer for Lucile Packard Children's Hospital. The City of Palo Alto will create a traffic-impact analysis, she added.

The hospital is working through several ideas to reduce employee and visitor pressures on neighbor-

(continued on page 12)

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Upfront

News Digest

Simitian to keep environmental chair

State Sen. Joe Simitian (D-Palo Alto), who was stripped of his chairmanship of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee two weeks ago, will keep it after all. But he will lose his seat on the Budget Subcommittee on Educational Finance under an exercise of party discipline for taking an independent stance on massive school-budget cuts.

Simitian's position is that state officials should avoid suspending Prop. 98, the 1988 voter-approved minimum-funding guarantee for education, by using \$1.5 billion in funds in unspent accounts to reduce this year's general-fund expenditures on education — the basis for next year's Prop. 98 funding allotment.

But when he proposed an amendment to allow flexibility in how funds were spent at a Senate committee meeting, Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata stripped Simitian of his committee chairmanship. Perata apparently reconsidered, following discussions with Simitian last week. The change had not yet been ratified by the Senate Rules Committee, although the vacancy was listed briefly on a daily journal for the Senate.

"It was my choice to speak my mind," Simitian told the Weekly late Friday about his position at the meeting.

"Choices have consequences. I understand that. I said what I said because I'm trying to avoid a Prop. 98 suspension. It's just that simple," he said.

Perata's office has said that he never comments on committee assignments. But a longstanding tradition in both parties in Sacramento is to use committee assignments, office allocations and even staff budgets of legislators to enforce party discipline on legislative matters.

School districts statewide face more than \$4 billion in budget cuts as part of a budget reduction that has grown to \$16 billion, adjusted upward last week from an earlier estimate of \$14.5 billion. ■

—Jay Thorwaldson

Court overturns East Palo Alto rent freeze

The rent moratorium enacted unanimously by the East Palo Alto City Council in January was overturned Monday by San Mateo County Superior Court Judge Beth Larson Freeman.

East Palo Alto had enacted a freeze on all rent increases greater than the presently allowed 3.2 percent because Palo Alto-based Page Mill Properties tenants were notified of rent increases averaging 9 percent late last year. Rents were originally due to rise Jan. 1 but were deferred to Feb. 1.

The company owns 1,600 apartments in the city.

The judge ruled that the rent moratorium violated three state laws and that the city-issued Certificates of Maximum Legal Rent, which allowed for 37 percent rent increases, were enforceable.

Attorneys for the city claimed Page Mill erred in interpreting those certificates by including previously allowed, but never issued, rent increases.

The city will consider appealing the court decision, Mayor Pat Foster said.

The judge's ruling also states that any substantive changes to the city's rent-control program have to be approved by a vote of the people, which is how the rent ordinance was originally adopted more than 20 years ago.

"The court's decision will allow us to proceed with investing in the community by providing homes and employment opportunities for the people of East Palo Alto," David Taran, Page Mill's chief executive officer, said. He added that his company is investing \$11 million in improving its East Palo Alto rental properties.

There is no indication from Page Mill whether its previously scheduled Feb. 1 rent increases will now take effect March 1.

"We're looking at that now," Lance Ignon, a Page Mill spokesman, said. ■

—Don Kazak

Top school official to retire at year's end

Associate Superintendent Marilyn Cook will retire at the end of 2008 after 14 years in the Palo Alto Unified School District, Assistant Superintendent Scott Bowers announced Thursday.

Cook's wide-ranging experience, from being principal of a high school to developing curriculum, will make her position tough to fill, Superintendent Kevin Skelly said.

"It's going to be a big loss," he said.

Cook will be the third departure within the last two years of a top district official, following the retirements of former Superintendent Mary Frances Callan and Associate Superintendent Jerry Matranga.

Cook became associate superintendent in 2005. Her recent projects include supervising the formation of the upcoming Mandarin-immersion program. ■

—Arden Pennell



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* HEART TO HEART SEMINAR ON GROWING UP

Informative, humorous and lively discussions between parents and their pre-teens on puberty, the opposite sex and growing up. Girls attend these two-part sessions with their moms and boys attend with their dads.

- For Boys: Thursday, March 13 & Tuesday, March 18
- For Girls: Saturdays, April 5 & 12

* NEWBORN CARE 101

Often touted as our "most fun" class, this interactive program teaches the specifics of newborn care, including bathing, temperature-taking, changing diapers, swaddling, soothing techniques and more. Infant doll models are used to allow for hands-on practice.

- Saturday, March 15

* SIBLING PREPARATION

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- Saturday, April 5

* THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS: BULLYING AND THE SOCIAL LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN

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- Tuesday, April 15

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Woodside... Designer 4BR/3BA cottage in the Redwoods. Beautiful Cape Cod home, takes your breath away with how well done the interior is done. Very entertaining home with two large decks.
Dana Cappiello \$1,399,000



Menlo Park... Remodeled home on prime West Menlo cul-de-sac. Gourmet kitchen w/ center island, Granite counters, and high-end appliances. Great Room 3 bd/2ba in main house, and large 1bd/ 1ba detached office/guest house. Sunny, private yard with beautiful, mature landscaping.
Stephanie Savides \$2,738,000



Palo Alto... Beautiful 5BR/3.5BA with Country style architecture. Remodeled and spacious. State of the art kitchen and hardwood floors. Spacious home with Large bedrooms. Extra large lot with oversized two car garage. Prestigious Palo Alto Unified School District & Gunn High School.
Julia Keady \$2,349,000



Los Altos... A spectacular Italian style Villa Loc in prestigious Los Altos Country Club area. Enjoy the pleasures of this Cstm Hm, Excpntl Flr plan built to unprecedented standards of design & quality. 4BR/4.5BA, office, 3 car Gar, plus pool house, pool/spa & lawn.
Farideh Zamani \$4,449,000



Portola Valley... French Chateau with 4 bedrooms, 4 and one half baths, 2 family rooms, office, living and dining rooms. One of the most beautiful kitchens in the world with marble countertops inlaid with stone and French slab limestone floors. Winery, 12 stall barn.
Dana Cappiello \$8,275,000

ATHERTON

On one of Atherton's most desirable streets rests a stylish 4BR residence. Enjoy well-designed living spaces over 2 levels & features; oak hrdwd flrs, boxed & wood-beamed ceilings, elegant crown moldings, wood trim, custom built-ins.
Tim Kerns 3,699,000

Unique Listing, W. Atherton opportunity! Charming 2-BR house w/ vaulted ceilings & French doors leading to, private rear yard. Updated w/ granite, travertine flr, & dbl paned windows. Unlimited expansion possibilities.
Stephanie Savides \$1,395,000

EAST PALO ALTO

Great starter home or investment. Updated interior, Designer paint & crown moulding, bonus rm. w/ sep. entry. Lrg private bckyd & BBQ area. Corner lot w/ unique stone fence, large side parking area.
Barbara Klem \$549,000

Find a real honey in this pleasant 3-bedroom Ranch. This attractive stucco residence offers fireplace. Carpeting, gas heat. Garage. All you want in comfort!
Louise Guzzo \$525,000

MENLO PARK

Beautiful Remodeled 4BR/2BA-Las Lomita's Schl. Dist. Open floor plan, high ceilings, gourmet kitchen w/ granite, maple cabinets & Viking range/oven. 2/car garage w/ storage. Private yard. Near Shopping & Dining.
Stephanie Savides \$1,595,000

This stunning 3BR/2.5BA townhome has beautiful maple floors and cabinetry. Separate formal DR. Two slate FP's in LR and Master BR. Master BR w/ his & hers closets and vaulted ceiling. Large 2-car garage and landscaped yard w/ patio area. Excellent Menlo schools.
Mary Jo McCarthy \$869,999

This adorable, 3BR/1BA home has hdwd flrs, cozy fireplace, large backyard, lots of sunshine throughout, generous sized bedrooms. It is in great condition and has been well cared for. All new appliances in 2005.
Carolyn Mitchell \$699,000

2BD/1BA home located in Menlo Park. This home feat. a wd. burning fireplace, attached garage and a large private yard w/ extra storage. Hurry, this home won't last long at this price!
Michael Ames \$479,900

MODESTO

Price Reduced Great Craftsman style home, needs a little TLC. 3 BR / 1 BA with new interior paint and a formal dining room. Great for investor or contractor. Income producing studio with separate entrance.
Stephanie Johnson \$229,000

PALO ALTO

This bright and spacious 2 BR/ 2 BA home situated just across from the serene sights and sounds of San Francisquito Creek. Inside, finely crafted vintage details include mellowed hardwood flooring and true divided light windows. The updated kitchen and baths are finished with white cabinetry and marble tile. This home can be purchased with 109 Webster or separate.
Ginna Lazar \$849,000

This 2 BR/ 1.5 bath home located in the ideal Downtown North area. Hardwood flooring and crown molding are introduced in the living room, which also features built in bookshelves and a wood burning brick fireplace. The kitchen is a delight with tile countertops and a breakfast nook with built in benches and a mounted table tucked away next to a window. This home can be purchased with 612 Palo Alto or separate.
Ginna Lazar \$749,000

REDWOOD CITY

Turn of the century craftsman architecture enhances this well preserved and renovated office building. Five offices & common area. Five off street parking spaces. High visibility.
Matthew Shanks \$890,000

A perfect starter home! 3BR/1BA in a charming Redwood City neighborhood. Newly painted, beautiful hardwood floors & FP in cozy living room. Cute kitchen with lots of cabinet space. Property has been well maintained by previous owners.
Mary Paiget \$649,000

Great House in a Great Location! Two bedroom, one bath home featuring a large backyard, extra storage, eat-in kitchen and a detached converted two-car garage.
Michael Ames \$599,900

Fantastic, remodeled Co-op Condo in the heart of the Peninsula. 2BR/2BA near shopping amenities & transportation. Quiet, small complex, & more. Best buy in area.
Tobi Baldwin \$440,000

SAN MATEO

Beautifully remodeled 2BR/1.5BA home. Upgraded kitchen, hardwood floors, dual pane windows, new carpet and custom paint. Close to Downtown San Mateo.
Patricia Dwyer \$799,000

Wonderful Waterfront Laguna Vista Townhome. Back deck overlooking greenbelt and lagoon is perfect for entertaining or just relaxing. Plenty of space in this 3BR/2BA with bonus room/ office off master suite.
Geoffrey C. Hoffman \$775,000

SANTA CLARA

Convenient to Restaurants and Shopping. This 2BD/1BA home includes remodeled kit. w/ black tile and new cabinetry with open living space. There are multiple pools plus a recreation center with ping-pong and pool tables, kitchenette and fireplace.
Julia Keady \$429,000

Best priced 1BR/1BA condo in Woodsborough. Ground floor end unit. Remodeled kitchen w/ newer appliances. Upgraded Bath. Views to the lake.
Matt Shanks \$250,000

WOODSIDE

Stunning views: Western hills & Santa Clara Valley, Los Lomitas Schools, 2003 Craftsman, 4BR/3.5BA, upgrades, vineyard & est. landscaping. Minutes to 280 and 101.
Gary Mckae \$5,250,000

Country estate w/ 3BR / 2.5BA in a private location. Spectacular LR/DR w/ vaulted ceilings, skylights and a wall of windows showcasing beautiful views. Remodeled chef-style gourmet kitchen. Corral, barn and tennis courts.
Steven Gray \$3,395,000



Palo Alto... Outstandingly designed 5BD/4BA home located in one of Palo Alto's most sought after neighborhoods. Extra large lot with beautiful grounds. Family room/Kitchen and inviting living room are connected by a very beautiful formal dining room.
Julia Keady \$3,150,000



Menlo Park... Located in the heart of west MP this 5BR/4BA home offers the utmost in comfortable living w/ 2 wood burning frplcs, flr to ceiling back yard window, pool and an attached private access unit with full kitchen and bathroom. Spacious mbr suite features three closets, private bath and great natural light.
Ginna Lazar \$2,488,000



Redwood City... Beautiful Emerald Hills. 5-year old 3BR/2.5BA traditional home. Charming living room, gourmet kitchen w/ granite countertops, opens to cozy FR w/ fireplace, sunny master suite w/ bay views. Hrdwd flrs, natural stone finishes, double paned windows.
Elizabeth Daschbach \$2,950,000



Menlo Park... This 1bd/1ba Lincoln Green Condominium has been tastefully updated with high quality appliances and accessories. Located close to Stanford University, walking distance to the Sharon Park Shopping center and quick access to Highway 280. Pool, two saunas, a meeting room and laundry rooms.
Alexandra von der Groeben \$489,500



Menlo Park... This Charming Ranch sits in the heart of the Willows. Close to dwntwn Palo Alto & w/ in blocks of local market, coffee shop, spa & park w/ dog run. 3BR/1 tiled BA, hdwd flrs, carpeting, double pane windows, Menlo Park schools.
Ted Paulin \$839,000

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Burford

(continued from page 3)

treme pain," he said, causing one of his defense attorneys to cry.

Dana Overstreet, supervising deputy district attorney, said outside the courtroom that in her years as a prosecutor, she had never had anything happen such as Hamel's January confession and apology.

Maureen Burford, the elder of Gretchen Burford's daughters, said she had a powerful, direct experience of her mother's presence after death.

"I could feel my mother there with us in our grief: expansive, nurturing, wise. Her life no longer seemed limited in its form," she said.

"It is my conviction that we never become our behavior ... but as adults, whatever we inherit, life can be a journey of transformation, no matter where it is lived — whether it is in prison or at home," she told Hamel.

Younger daughter Martha Burford said her mother had become a criminal defense attorney in her 40s, actively seeking to change young juvenile defenders' lives. Gretchen Burford chose to be a child advocate.

"I've never known anyone with so much life force who could change ... people's lives. ... This was the magic of my mother," she said.

Most of Hamel's victims are women, she said. The irony is that her mother, a woman, "would have helped you and would've tried to turn your life around. (And) two women — my sister and I — have sought to spare your life."

Gretchen Burford, who was 49 when she was killed, did not believe in the death penalty, her family has said.

Former State Senator Becky Morgan, a former Palo Alto school district board member, said outside the courtroom that Gretchen Burford had been her best friend. When Burford died, Morgan was the one

who broke the news to Burford's children.

"She was the sister I never had. It was pretty traumatic," she said. "I was about to give up [on the police solving the crime]. It was 17 years when they found him."

Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Jerome E. Brock said he believed Hamel's apologies are sincere. He said Gretchen Burford is remembered by the courts for her compassion. It is a cruel irony that Hamel, who had a troubled childhood, is exactly the type of person Burford would have tried to help, he added.

In addition to the life sentence without parole to be run consecutively with a one-year weapons-enhancement conviction, Brock imposed a \$10,000 fine for restitution, which he suspended.

He accepted the prosecution's request to drop charges in a separate robbery trial. Hamel was ordered returned to Texas, where he is already serving a life sentence plus 60 years

for robberies and assaults.

Schembri, the detective who reopened the case, said the sentencing feels good.

"It's appropriate," he said.

In January, the district attorney's office stopped funding a dedicated cold-case investigator and cold-case

prosecutor due to budget cuts. Those cases are now looked at on a case-by-case basis, a spokesman for the district attorney's office has said. ■

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

California Ave.

(continued from page 3)

create a piece for the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

Of his California Avenue proposal, Beasley said he hopes the sculpture and surrounding benches will bring a "certain presence and dignity" to the neighborhood, which he said is in need of a gathering place. The sculpture will serve as a visual "entry and exit" bridge between the train station and the city, he added.

Stanford University, the Djerassi Foundation in Woodside and the San Francisco International Airport also feature works by Beasley.

Beasley's plan was approved by the Public Art Commission in January. At last week's meeting, Chairman Rob Cooper said he was excited to have finally made the commitment to Beasley. The details of the contract are still being finalized.

Craighead said a budget of \$185,000 has been approved for the project.

A definite timeline has not yet been set, in part because multiple improvements are planned for the area, Craighead said. The Public Art Commission plans to work in tandem with the Department of Public Works to schedule the fountain removal and sculpture installation.

Members of the commission will meet with Beasley and representatives from the Department of Public Works at the site this week to discuss layout. Ronna Devincenzi of the California Avenue Area Development Association said she had no comment yet on the proposal.

Once the fountain has been removed, Beasley estimated it will take him six months to build and install the sculpture. ■

Beasley's work can be viewed at www.brucebeasley.com.

Editorial Assistant Karla Kane can be e-mailed at kkane@paweekly.com.

Council

(continued from page 3)

ton said.

Palo Alto is also all about the process, not necessarily the solution, he said.

"This is a process city," Morton said. "We can go on for a long time before we get to the answer."

Vice Mayor Peter Drekmeier urged Murray to look for candidates with strong environmental backgrounds who are willing to work with existing staff members to "streamline" city processes.

A mere willingness to enact the council's environmental policies isn't enough, Mayor Larry Klein said.

"Personal dedication to the issue is important," he said.

Councilman Yiaway Yeh said he'd like to hear how the candidates plan to work with a city auditor — a rare position in a city of Palo Alto's size — and with city-owned water, gas and electric utilities.

Palo Alto doesn't need a manager looking for a "capstone" to his or her career, Councilman Greg Schmid said. Instead, the manager should be looking to the future and be abreast of Palo Alto's changing nature.

Ten members of the public focused on particular issues, such as the importance of finding a manager who values the city's art and Children's Theatre programs, has an expertise in land-use planning or supports a revised noise ordinance.

In the next two weeks, the council agreed, Murray should meet with neighborhood leaders, members of the Chamber of Commerce, school officials and other local leaders.

The council voted unanimously that each member would submit two names of other Palo Alto residents with whom Murray should meet.

Murray said he plans to talk with individual council members for 30 to 45 minutes and then meet with small groups of community leaders for about 30 minutes each.

"I think you will get a very complete view of the issues facing the community if you do engage a series of (local) leaders," Councilman John Barton said.

Despite an effort by Klein, the council appears unlikely to hold open interviews for finalists.

Klein argued that involving the public would build support and eliminate suspicion of the new manager, but Morton countered that the city would lose top candidates if the interviews were public.

Desired qualifications, characteristics or other comments about the next manager can be sent to mgr4pa@cityofpaloalto.org.

The city has already received 14 comments via e-mail, Klein said Monday.

The council plans to meet publicly with Murray March 24 with a job description. The next manager is expected to begin July 1. ■

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

Sweethearts

(continued from page 5)

"I'm still crying," honoree Charline Dixon said after returning to her seat from the podium.

Dixon, who drives a special-needs bus for Paly students, said she had no idea she'd be nominated.

Dubbed "CD" by her students, Dixon earned the award with her

maternal presence, giving students constantly loving — but firm — attention, nominator Underwood said in her statement.

Honoree Lorena de Anda, a teacher's aide at Jordan Middle School, sat near Dixon.

She was nominated twice, by teacher Ann Duesenberg and parent Joyce Brown.

"These people do something you

can't buy. They really care," her nomination statement said.

Like Dixon, de Anda said the nomination surprised her. Her husband, Rodolfo, held her hand, the one that wasn't clutching the award certificate and crimson carnations.

"I'm very proud," he said. ■

Staff Writer Arden Pennell can be e-mailed at apennell@paweekly.com.

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Crime

(continued from page 5)

said.

Other crimes are also on the rise. Auto burglaries have reached 22 so far this month — more than for all of December or January and equal to all of November, according to police maps. Clusters have occurred in Duveneck/St. Francis and throughout a corridor of neighborhoods in the northern part of the city, stretching from Crescent Park and Professorville to downtown, but incidents have happened throughout Palo Alto.

Fifteen vehicles have been stolen in the last 30 days, according to the city's new crime-mapping system, through CrimeReports.com.

Barron Park resident Bob Moss said CrimeReports.com has brought the old Neighborhood Watch program onto the Internet. The vigilance instilled by Neighborhood Watch back in the 1990s was effective

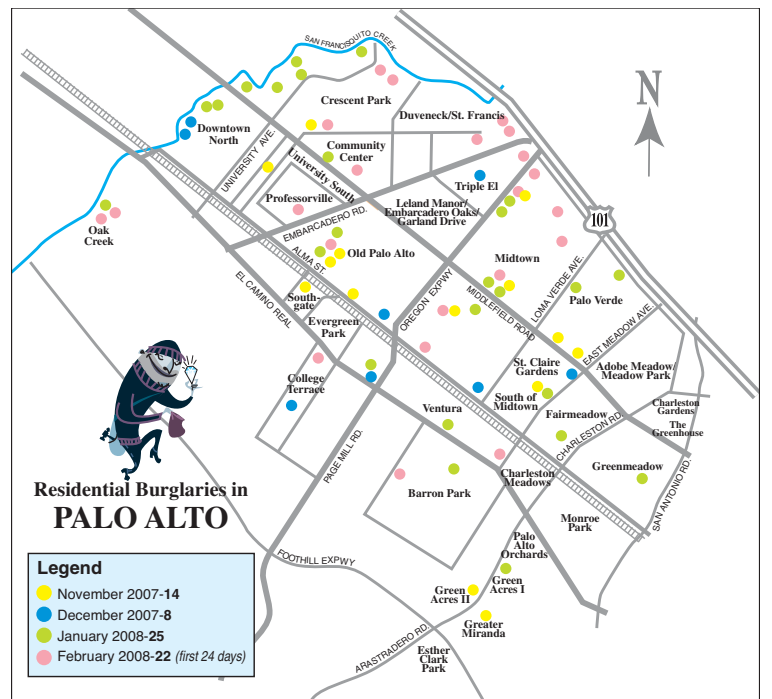
against neighborhood crime, he recalled.

“Barron Park Association used to meet with the police monthly in the early 1990s, and the police would bring in all the crime reports in the area. At one time there were five car break-ins in a couple of weeks. We went online and warned everybody to lock their cars and remove valuables. As a result, it dropped to only one break-in over a month,” he said.

Brown agreed.

“We need to go back to the basics. We need prevention,” she said. “We need people to be watching for suspicious activity. If it doesn't fit, it probably doesn't.” ■

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be e-mailed at sdremann@paweekly.com. Additional reporting by Staff Writer Becky Trout.



Midtown

(continued from page 7)

hoods, such as having some administrative staff members work outside of peak daytime hours. For Midtown, the hospital is considering running a Marguerite shuttle in the neighborhood to cut down on the number of auto trips by employees and clients, she said.

The hospital is also shifting some outpatient services off-campus. An estimated 120,000 outpatients — nearly one quarter of the more than 400,000 who receive ambulatory care at Stanford's Outpatient Center annually — will be cared for at a new center in Redwood City, Coe said. The new outpatient center is being constructed at the former Excite@Home office complex, seven miles north of Palo Alto and adjacent to U.S. Highway 101. A dental center currently on the medical campus will move to Menlo Park.

Resident Stepheny McGraw questioned what burden Palo Alto residents bear owing to Stanford's role as a regional facility.

While recognizing the important role Stanford plays, especially as a

trauma center, McGraw questioned if trauma centers could be built in other areas.

Dr. Joseph R. Hopkins of Stanford Hospital replied that the state regulates the number of trauma centers in an area, due to the high cost of establishing and maintaining the specialized centers.

Residents and officials agreed the benefits of Stanford's state-of-the-art trauma center are high.

“It brings a critical mass of expertise,” Hopkins said.

The trauma center and expanded hospital facilities would position Stanford to better handle patients during natural and man-induced disasters, Sager said. And she painted a sobering picture of a hospital built in 1959 that is struggling to handle nearly 50 years of population growth — without the “surge capacity” periods — despite upgrades made to the facility in the late 1970s. Even at the more recently built Packard, the hospital turned away 250 children due to a shortage of beds in the pediatric intensive-care unit. ■

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

Regional Premiere

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Pulse

A weekly compendium of vital statistics

POLICE CALLS

Palo Alto

Feb. 14-21

Violence related

Battery1
Domestic violence4
Strong-arm robbery3

Theft related

Attempted burglary1
Commercial burglaries1
Grand theft7
Petty theft7
Residential burglaries10
Shoplifting4

Vehicle related

Abandoned auto1
Attempted auto theft1
Auto recovery4
Auto theft2
Driving w/ suspended license5
Hit and run2
Misc. traffic8
Theft from auto5
Vehicle accident/minor injury3
Vehicle accident/property damage11
Vehicle impound3
Vehicle tow40

Alcohol or drug related

Drunk in public3
Drunken driving6

Liquor-law violation1
Possession of drugs4
Possession of paraphernalia4

Miscellaneous

Found property6
Lost property7
Misc. penal code violation5
Noise complaint5
Other/misc.12
Property for destruction1
Psychiatric hold5
Vandalism1
Warrant/other agency14

Menlo Park

Feb. 15-24

Violence related

Battery3
Robbery1

Theft related

Burglaries unspecified2
Commercial burglaries2
Fraud2
Grand theft2
Petty theft12

Vehicle related

Auto recovery1
Auto theft2
Driving with suspended license5
Hit and run3
Vehicle accident/minor injury1
Vehicle accident/property damage4

Vehicle tampering1
Vehicle tow2

Alcohol or drug related

Drunk in public2
Drunken driving2
Possession of drugs6

Miscellaneous

Disturbing the peace1
Found property4
Medical aid1
Missing person1
Other misc.5
Vandalism5
Warrant arrest16

Atherton

Feb. 15-24

Violence related

Assault and battery1
Robbery1

Theft related

Fraud1
Petty theft3
Residential burglaries1

Vehicle related

Abandoned auto3
Suspicious vehicle12
Vehicle accident/minor injury1

(continued on next page)



CITY OF PALO ALTO NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the City Council of the City of Palo Alto will hold a Public Hearing at a Regular Council Meeting on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., or as near thereafter as possible, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California to Consider Adoption of an Ordinance Adding Chapter 18.14 ("Below Market Rate Housing Program") to Title 18 ("Zoning") of the Palo Alto Municipal Code

DONNA J. GRIDER
City Clerk



CITY OF PALO ALTO NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the City Council of the City of Palo Alto will hold a Public Hearing at a Regular Council Meeting on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., or as near thereafter as possible, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California to Consider Approval of Mitigated Negative Declaration, Site and Design and Record of Land Use Action to allow (1) architectural and landscape architectural changes to two Open Space (OS) District homes at 3220 and 3230 Alexis Drive, (2) screening vegetation on adjacent Foothills Park land, and (3) expansion of the project site to include an adjacent, vacant OS parcel at 3208 Alexis Drive to be graded, landscaped and used for driveway access, a spa and a perimeter pathway

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Just for Kids Sunday•March 2•10:30 AM
Meet everyone's favorite monkey **Curious George!** Join us for a special storytime, activities & pictures with George! *10% of the days sales will benefit the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo!*



Tuesday•March 4•7:00 PM
Meet **Michelle Richmond**, author of *Year of Fog*, a riveting tale of the search for the truth behind a child's disappearance, and unwavering faith in the redemptive power of love, the science of memory and the art of photography and how they came together to find the truth. *10% of the days sales will benefit the C-A-R (Community Association for Rehabilitation)!*

Wednesday•March 5•7:00 PM
Please join us for a *Book Group Social* featuring **Ann Packer** author of the best selling *The Dive From Clausen's Pier* and *Songs without Words*. Ann will be speaking about the importance of book groups to authors. *10% of the days sales will benefit the Palo Alto Library Foundation!*



Thursday•March 6•7:00 PM
Meet **Cara Black** introducing her new Parisian mystery, *Murder in the Rue De Paradis*, the latest Aimee Leduc mystery where an ex-lover returns to her to propose and then is found dead in a Paris doorway. *10% of the days sales will benefit the Children's Health Council in Palo Alto!*

Friday•March 7•7:00 PM
Not Your Mother's Book Club presents **Frank Portman** author of *King Dork* one of our absolutely favorite books of 2006, just coming out in paperback and to celebrate Dr. Frank himself will be joining us for a punk rock jam session & pizza. *10% of the days sales will benefit the Palo Alto High School*

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MIKI (IRENE) STELMACH

Born December 8, 1915

Died on February 17, 2008 at the age of 92

She was born in Chicago, Illinois. Her family was from Poland and they had settled there. She spoke Polish fluently. Her parents were Carser and Bessie Skarback. She had 2 brothers.

She married William Andrew Stelmach on September 1, 1934. They were married for 59 years until he passed away in 1993. They had a long and happy marriage. William Stelmach was a flight engineer for many years with United Airlines and they were able to take many trips together to such places as Hawaii and Japan.

They had 2 daughters Connie and Carol and 4

Grandchildren, Laurel, Andrea, Stacie and Donald. They had 6 great grandchildren.

Irene and William moved to California in 1942 and built a home with their family and friends from United Airlines on 1620 Oakdell Drive in Menlo Park in 1951 and spent many happy years there. Miki (Irene) was a homemaker and a member of the PTA and also a Volunteer for the Menlo Park Police department.

She was also a faithful member of St. Raymond's Catholic Church.

Services were held at 1 pm on Monday February 25, 2008 at the Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Cristo Rey Drive in Los Altos.

PAID OBITUARY

Transitions

Births, marriages and deaths

Deaths

Wilson Harwood

Wilson Franklin Harwood, 95, a resident of Portola Valley, died Jan. 31 at Stanford Hospital.

He was born in San Francisco and attended Lowell High School. At Stanford University, class of 1934, his sister Sally introduced him to his future wife of 69 years, Lee Lewis. Graduate studies at the University of Chicago and American University were interrupted by World War II.

A naval officer during the war, he served as an administrative and budget analyst in Washington, D.C. He applied his creative skills in various government agencies, including the Naval Research Laboratory, Office of Naval Research and National Bureau of Standards. With the formation of the National Science Foundation in 1951, he served on the initial team as assistant director for administration.

His career took him and his family all over the world with SRI International and other development organizations.

He began his lifelong love of chess and bridge at age 9 and was Lowell High School's chess champion. He was the master teacher of both chess and bridge for members of his extended family and found that these games fostered friendships throughout the world. In his late 80s, he became a Life Master duplicate bridge player.

Loved ones recall his love of adventure, global perspective, spirited intellect and colorful stories.

He is survived by his wife, Lee Harwood of Portola Valley; sister, Sally de Bivort of Portola Valley; children, Margaret Milledge of Palo Alto, Sara Arnold of Lexington, Mass., and Lewis Harwood of Bethesda, Md., and their spouses; five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Kathleen Politzer

Kathleen Ruth Politzer, a former resident of Palo Alto, died Feb. 7, just

after moving to Gilbert, Ariz.

She was born in Toledo, Ohio, and came to California in 1973, where she met her husband, Stephan Politzer.

Loved ones recall her as a strong-willed, compassionate person, devoted to the children of the Palo Alto Unified School District, where she worked as a self-described "jack of all trades" for 22 years.

She was an active member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Palo Alto, where she sang in the choir and served on the deanery. She was also active in the San Mateo County Jail Ministry and an enthusiastic member of the Cursillo movement.

She enjoyed playing online scrabble games and bridge with her friends and was devoted to her online prayer groups.

In addition to Stephan, her husband of 33 years, she is survived by her brother, Mark Bergstrom of Toledo, Ohio; daughters, Elise Ransom and Honesty McMinn, both of Mountain View, and Sarah Wright of Seattle, Wash.; and three granddaughters.

Donations in lieu of flowers may be made to St. Mark's Episcopal Church or the San Mateo County Jail Ministry.

Lorraine Smith

Lorraine "Lorry" Smith, a long-time resident of Palo Alto, died Feb. 6.

She was born in Newark, N.J., and moved to the Bay Area in 1948. In 1953, she co-founded the Cupertino Cooperative Nursery School.

She, her husband and their children moved to Palo Alto in 1956.

Having attended San Jose Community College and the University of South Carolina, she pursued nursing, working for several doctors in Palo Alto and San Jose during her career.

She was an ardent supporter of women's rights, as evidenced by her membership in the National Organization for Women. She was also an active member of the American Civil Liberties Union.

She was an accomplished ball-

room dancer and ping-pong player. An avid gardener, she loved the outdoors.

She is survived by her husband, Arthur Smith of Bakersfield, Calif.; children, Donna St. John of Bakersfield, Calif. and Lou Smith of Denver, Colo.; and two grandchildren.

Mario Tul

Mario Tul, 94, a resident of Palo Alto, died Feb. 20 at home.

He was born in Trieste, Italy. After elementary school, he was apprenticed as a butcher. He joined the Italian army in 1934 and trained as a telegraph operator and company accountant. In 1941, he fought in North Africa and was captured in Egypt in November 1942 after the Battle of El Alamein.

After four years as a prisoner of war, he was repatriated and soon after met and married Lidia Prencis.

He emigrated with his family to the United States in 1956.

He worked as a shipping clerk at the Republic Foil Company in Danbury, Conn., until mandatory retirement at age 65. He continued working into his 80s as the sausage maker at the Milano Deli.

He was an avid cyclist.

After his wife died in 1994, he moved to Palo Alto. He was an active participant in the Avenidas Senior Day Health Center, Rosener House and the Sheridan Apartments. He was also a member of the Democratic Party and voted in every election since his citizenship.

He is survived by his daughter, Viviana Tul of Palo Alto.

A memorial service will be held in March at the Church of the Nativity in Menlo Park.

Births

Karen and Geoffrey McKinley of Palo Alto, a daughter, Feb. 8.

Pulse

(continued from previous page)

Vehicle accident/prop. damage	3
Vehicle code violation	3
Vehicle/traffic hazard	3
Miscellaneous	
911 hang up	3
Animal call	3
Be on the lookout	5
Citizen assist	7
Construction	22
Disturbance	1
Fire call	1
Follow up	5
Juvenile problem	4
Located missing person	1
Meet citizen	4
Other/misc.	7
Outside assistance	4
Suspicious circumstances	7
Suspicious person	2
Town ordinance violation	6
Tree blocking roadway	6
Vandalism	1
Welfare check	3

VIOLENT CRIMES

Palo Alto

400 block High Street, 2/14, 8:20 p.m.;

battery.

Unlisted location, 2/16, 2:40 p.m.; strong-arm robbery.

Unlisted location, 2/16, 7:40 p.m.; battery/domestic violence.

600 block Ramona Street, 2/16, 10:18 p.m.; battery.

Cowper Street/Kellogg Avenue, 2/16, 11:30 p.m.; strong-arm robbery.

Hamilton Avenue, 2/16, 11:46 p.m.; strong-arm robbery.

Unlisted location, 2/18, 2 p.m.; battery/domestic violence.

Unlisted location, 2/19, 5:22 p.m.; battery/domestic violence.

Menlo Park

400 block Willow Road, 2/19, 1:03 p.m.; battery.

Alma Street/Burgess Drive, 2/20, 4:02 p.m.; battery.

500 block El Camino Real, 2/24, 5:41 a.m.; robbery.

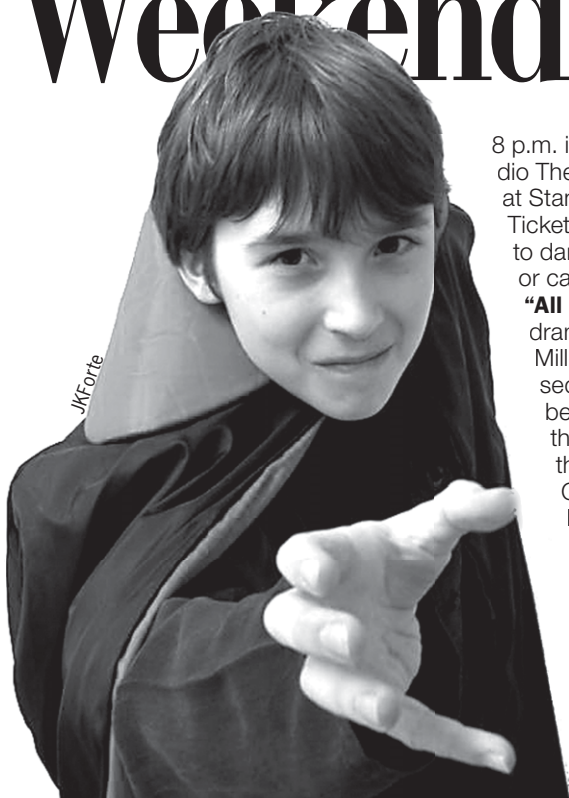
Newbridge/Sevier, 2/24, 9:35 a.m.; battery.

Atherton

Middlefield Road/Linden Avenue, 2/17, 1:28 a.m.; robbery.

1000 block El Camino Real, 2/22, 2:48 a.m.; assault and battery.

Weekend Preview



Dashiell Grusky plays that famous vampire in Jordan Middle School's production of "Dracula, Count of Comedy" this Thursday through Saturday.

Thursday

"Dracula, Count of Comedy" shows what happens when a real vampire auditions for a theater production of "Dracula." Bring garlic. Jordan Middle School hosts performances tonight and tomorrow at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 2:30, in the Cafetorium at 750 N. California Ave. in Palo Alto. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students; it's advisable to buy them in advance. Call 650-213-0150.

Painter Karolyn Zeng is exhibiting works in the Physics and Astrophysics Building at Stanford University, reflecting on such heady topics as quantum physics and the I Ching. Some of her works incorporate ancient Chinese calligraphy. The exhibit is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., through March 31. Call 650-724-7667.

Sheila Canby, curator of Islamic art and antiquities at the British Museum in London, is set to speak at 4:30 p.m. in Room 4 of the Cummings Art Building at Stanford University. Her free talk is titled "Sufis, Shi'ites & Shahs: The Great Shrines of Iran, 1500-1650." Go to www.stanford.edu/dept/islamic_studies/.

The Spring Migration Dance Concert includes newly commissioned works from many dance traditions: tap and ballet, Mexican folkloric dance, and modern and urban styles, presented by the Stanford Department of Drama and Dance Division. Performances are tonight through Saturday at

8 p.m. in the Roble Studio Theater, Roble Gym, at Stanford University. Tickets are \$5-\$15. Go to dance.stanford.edu or call 650-725-5838.

"All My Sons," a drama by Arthur Miller about the consequences of war, is being presented on the SecondStage at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts by Filbert Steps Productions, a film company that is expanding into theatrical ventures.

Performances are Thursday through Sunday through March 9 at 500 Castro St. in Mountain View. Tickets are \$20 general and \$15 for seniors

and students. Go to www.mvcpa.com or call 650-903-6000.

"A Delicate Balance" is a story of the dynamics of friendship and love in family life. The Pulitzer Prize-winning play, written by Edward Albee, is showing Thursday through Sunday at the Dragon Theatre at 535 Alma St. in Palo Alto, through March 9. Tickets are \$13 to \$20. Go to www.dragonproductions.net/tickets/htm or call 650-493-2006.

Friday

Chinese and American artists are taking part in a cross-cultural exhibition at the Community School of Music and Arts, showing works including ink and wash, clayprints and paintings. An opening reception is set for tonight from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 230 San Antonio Circle in Mountain View. Afterwards is "Dynasties, Chinese Opera and Dance," a performance work. The events are free. Go to www.arts4all.org or call 650-917-6800, extension 306 (exhibit) or 314 (concert).

Daniel Mandel, a singer-songwriter and guitarist whose folk-style music is inspired by Jackson Browne and Cat Stevens, performs at 8 p.m. at Red Rock Coffee, 201 Castro St., Mountain View. Go to www.redrockcoffee.org or call 650-967-4473.

Saturday

Cabaret singer Wesla Whitfield performs tonight at 8 p.m. with



Jackie Krantz, painter of the watercolor "Fruit on Branch," is one of the California artists who traveled to China and is now taking part in a cross-cultural exhibit at the Community School of Music and Arts.

pianist/arranger Mike Greensill and bassist Dean Reilly at the Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Whitfield and Greensill recently released the recording "Message From the Man in the Moon." Tickets are \$35; go to www.busbarn.org or call 650-941-0551.

Sunday

The Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra will give a 3 p.m. concert featuring violinist Robin Sharp at Stanford University's Dinkelspiel Auditorium. The program features Handel's Concerto Grosso, Vaughan Williams' Concerto Academic, and Edward Elgar's Serenade for String Orchestra. Tickets are \$6-\$15. Go to www.pacomusic.org or call 650-856-3848.

A benefit for the Music in the School program is set for 4 p.m. at the Palo Alto Art Center at 1313 Newell Road. Pianist Laura Goehner-Moreno and cellist Michael Graham will perform Chopin's Sonata Op. 65 and Rachmaninoff's Sonata in G Minor. Suggested donation is \$5-\$15. Go to www.musicintheschools.org or call 650-329-2366.

There's much more in the local arts scene than can be contained on paper. Read more online on A&E editor Rebecca Wallace's blog. Go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com and click on **Ad Libs**.

COMING UP IN FRIDAY'S WEEKEND EDITION

Music

Andrew Currier turns his Palo Alto classical-music roots into an eclectic, energetic new style of jazz with his band Panthelion.

Theater

A review of "My Fair Lady" presented by Foothill Music Theatre.

Movies

Reviews of "The Other Boleyn Girl," "Penelope" and "The Band's Visit."



ON THE WEB: Comprehensive entertainment listings at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

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**CITY OF PALO ALTO
NOTICE
STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS**

The City of Palo Alto cordially invites you to attend the State of the City Address scheduled for Monday, March 3, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto. Reception will immediately follow in the City Hall Lobby.

DONNA J. GRIDER
City Clerk

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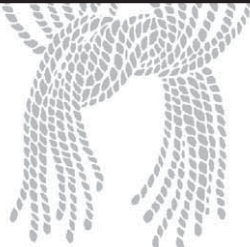


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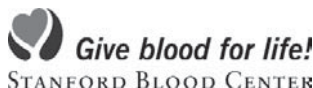
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Movies

Movie reviews by *Jeanne Aufmuth, Tyler Hanley, and Susan Tavernetti*

MOVIE TIMES

Note: Screenings are for Wednesday through Thursday only.

27 Dresses (PG-13) **1/2	Century 20: 4:10 & 9:45 p.m.
Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG) ***	Century 12: 2:15 & 4:50 p.m.
Atonement (R) ***1/2	Century 16: 12:55, 4, 6:55 & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: 1:30, 4:20, 7:15 & 10:15 p.m.
Be Kind Rewind (PG-13) **1/2	Century 16: 12:35, 3, 5:35, 8:05 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40 & 10:10 p.m.
The Bucket List (PG-13) *	Century 20: 7:55 & 10:25 p.m.
Charlie Bartlett (R) **	Century 16: 2:20, 5:05, 7:40 & 10:05 p.m. Century 12: 1:30, 4, 7:20 & 10 p.m.
Charlie Wilson's War (R) **1/2	Century 20: 1:15 & 7:05 p.m.
Cloverfield (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 20: 12:30, 5:05 & 10:15 p.m.
Definitely, Maybe (PG-13) **1/2	Century 16: 1:20, 4:05, 7 & 9:45 p.m. Century 20: Noon, 1:20, 2:40, 4, 5:20, 6:50, 8, 9:30 & 10:35 p.m.
The Diving Bell and the Butterfly (PG-13) ****	Century 16: 12:45, 3:45, 6:50 & 9:30 p.m. Century 20: 1:25, 4:15, 7:25 & 10 p.m.
Enchanted (PG) (Not Reviewed)	Century 12: 12:50 & 3:50 p.m.
The Eye (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 12: 7:40 & 10:20 p.m.
Fool's Gold (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 1:50 & 10:30 p.m. Wed. also at 4:35 & 7:50 p.m. Century 20: 1:45, 4:35, 7:20 & 9:55 p.m.
Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Disney 3D (G) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 1:10, 3:20 & 5:20 p.m.
In Bruges (R) (Not Reviewed)	Century 20: 12:10, 1:20, 2:40, 3:55, 5:15, 6:35, 7:50, 9:10 & 10:30 p.m. CineArts at Palo Alto Square: 1:40, 3, 4:20, 5:40 & 7:10 p.m.
Jumper (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 12:30, 1:45, 2:50, 4:20, 5:10, 7:05, 7:55, 9:25 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 12:20, 12:50, 1:40, 2:30, 3:10, 3:55, 4:40, 5:30, 6:15, 6:55, 7:50, 8:35, 9:15 & 10:10 p.m.
Juno (PG-13) ***	Century 20: 12:05, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10 & 9:30 p.m. Aquarius: 1, 3:30, 6, 8:20 & 10:30 p.m.
Meet the Spartans (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 12: 7:50 & 10:35 p.m.
National Treasure: Book of Secrets (PG) (Not Reviewed)	Century 12: 3:15 & 9:55 p.m.
No Country for Old Men (R) ****	Century 16: 1:15, 4:10, 7:15 & 10:10 p.m.
Persepolis (PG-13) ***1/2	Century 20: 12:15, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15 & 9:35 p.m. Aquarius: 2:45, 5, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m.
The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie (G) (Not Reviewed)	Century 12: 12:45, 3:05 & 5:25 p.m.
Rambo (R) (Not Reviewed)	Century 12: 12:35 & 7:25 p.m.
The Signal (R) (Not Reviewed)	Century 12: 1, 3:30, 7:15 & 10:10 p.m.
The Spiderwick Chronicles (PG) ***	Century 16: 12:50, 2, 3:30, 4:40, 6:15, 7:10, 8:40 & 9:35 p.m.
Step Up 2: The Streets (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 12:30, 1:55, 2:55, 4:30, 5:30, 7:05, 7:55, 9:40 & 10:25 p.m.
There Will Be Blood (R) ****	Century 20: 12:05, 3:25, 6:45 & 10:05 p.m. Guid: 1, 4:30 & 8 p.m.
U2:3D (G) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 8 & 10:20 p.m.
Untraceable (R) **	Century 20: 2:35 & 7:45 p.m.
Vantage Point (PG-13) ***1/2	Century 16: 12:40, 1:40, 3:05, 4:15, 5:25, 6:45, 7:45, 9:05 & 10 p.m. Century 20: Noon, 1:10, 2:15, 3:25, 4:30, 5:40, 7, 8, 9:20 & 10:20 p.m.
Welcome Home Roscoe Jennings (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 12: 7:10 & 10:15 p.m.
Witless Protection (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 12: 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8 & 10:30 p.m.

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

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

ON THE WEB: The most up-to-date movie listings at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

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SPACE RESERVATION

Thursday, March 6, 2008

PUBLICATION DATES

Palo Alto Weekly	Wed, March 12, 2008
Almanac	Wed., March 12, 2008
Mountain View Voice	Friday, March 14, 2008

Contact your advertising representative or Vern Ingraham, Ad Director at 650-326-8210

FYI

FORGET WIKIPEDIA... The City of Palo Alto in its efforts to make it easier for businesses to go green, has launched **Recycloped** on its Web site. Designed as a resource for businesses, but handy for residents, too, the list is an alphabetical guide to what to do with objects that have outlived their usefulness. For instance, under "R" is an entry for what to do with old radios. A click on the letter link downloads a pdf document to your computer, listing no less than six possible methods to help you or others reuse or recycle the item. Look it up at: www.city.palo-alto.ca.us/depts/pwd/recycle/recycloped.asp.

IT'S ABOUT THE ROAST . . . A new, local roastery has recently debuted its dark-roasted coffee beans at Palo Alto's Whole Foods Market. **Mr. English** Coffee Roasting Co., a bean roaster and café in Los Altos, is owned by Peninsula native **Thomas McBay**, who got the name for his company while teaching English abroad in Nakatsugawa, Japan. Because his students were raised in a tea-drinking culture, McBay thought he would introduce them to coffee as an adjunct to their language instruction. It quickly caught on, and McBay found himself not just an English teacher but a fledgling coffee importer. One day he received an invoice from his American coffee source, jokingly addressed to "Mr. English." The name stuck. Now McBay roasts coffee locally using an indirect flame method on a Diedrich roaster. Palo Alto resident David McBay, Thomas' brother and an arborist for Toyon Valley Tree Service, helps out at the business and can often be seen in the vicinity of Whole Foods Market wearing a straw hat. Go to www.mre-coffee.com for more information.

VENTURE REAL ESTATE . . . City National Bank has formed a new Palo Alto commercial lending team to support the real estate development community in the Silicon Valley region. The team is led by Senior Vice President Robert Sherrard, who most recently served as senior vice president and manager of Greater Bay Bank's Construction Lending Group in Palo Alto. The new office is located at 1 Palo Alto Square.

Talk about technology and business issues at Town Square. To start a conversation, just post a topic at Palo Alto Online, www.PaloAltoOnline.com.

FYI is a regular feature announcing news and events related to the Palo Alto business community. Send news to In Business editor Allen Clapp at aclapp@paweekly.com.

In Business

A monthly section on local business news and trends, edited by Allen Clapp



Facebook employees return from lunch break to their workplace on Hamilton Avenue in Palo Alto.

Downtown gets boost from Facebook influx

Rents rise and so does fun factor, some say

by Arden Pennell

Those kids strolling the streets of downtown Palo Alto in matching track jackets aren't on the same sports team.

They're the young army of Web firm Facebook, hundreds of employees that local workers and business owners say have become a dominant presence, boosting sales and rental prices.

Facebook's purchase of several offices in a small patch of downtown has caused commercial rents to increase 20 to 25 percent in the last year, according to Realtor Sam Arsan, whose Menlo Park-based Arsan Realty rents downtown properties.

Located in Palo Alto since 2004, the technology firm now has four offices within a stone's throw of each other, at 156 and 151 University Ave. and 164 and 285 Hamilton Ave.

The company's growth is fueled by massive numbers of users who sign up for its free, Web-based social network, despite ongoing privacy concerns.

The company now employs 450 workers — up from 250 last May — and founder Mark Zuckerberg hopes for 1,000 before the end of 2008, according to Wall Street Journal columnist Kara Swisher's account of a January all-staff meeting.

Zuckerberg rented out the Aquarius movie theater for the meeting.

The company offers a monthly \$600 subsidy to employees who live within a mile of the office, sparking rumors that the company's rapid growth has caused a corresponding rise in local rents.

It's true that few employees turn down the rent subsidy, which allows them to walk to work and shop on foot, Facebook employee Charlotte Carnevale said.

It hasn't gone unnoticed on Silicon Valley gossip Web sites. According to

(continued on page 18)



The Facebook logo can be spotted on employees bags and clothing, as they walk along High Street near the University Avenue office.

Community Environmental Action Partnership



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Facebook

(continued from page 17)

a Valleywag article, Facebook has “unleashed a flood of demand on a fairly tight supply.”

The August article, “Facebook takes over Palo Alto,” features an illustration of Godzilla destroying buildings. It got people gossiping but doesn’t ring true, Carnevale said, noting it wasn’t tough to find the downtown apartment she’s moving to in April. But she did have to sit by her computer, vigilantly scanning Craigslist real-estate postings, she said.

“Every hour you refresh the page,” she said.

Realtor Marseille Jaco of Palo Alto’s Investment Capital Partners said rents remain high because many technology companies subsidize employee rents, not just Facebook.

The worst demand may be yet to come, according to John Carman, broker manager at Coldwell Banker’s downtown office. He predicted Facebook’s future initial public offering — whose date has not been announced — will spur suddenly wealthy employees to seek nicer downtown digs.

The Facebook “invasion” also provides plenty of patronage to local businesses, Carnevale said.

The company’s catered cafeteria isn’t open on weekends, leading employees to seek out waffles at Peninsula Creamery or lunch from Whole Foods, she said.

And because Facebook often hires using referrals — recently hired graduates encourage friends to apply for jobs — they often grab dinner or drinks nearby after hours, she said.

Fraiche yogurt shop co-owner and co-founder Jessica Gilmartin said Facebook workers have been a boon to her business, particularly a loyal set of regulars who come daily.

The surge of young Facebook employees brings vitality to downtown, she said.

“I live downtown and a couple of Facebook people live right down the block from me. They generate so much income for downtown businesses,” she said.

And it’s not just money they bring, she said.

“The Facebook people are all so young and energetic and fun, and they just have such an energy about them,” she said.

The corporate culture is informal, with graffiti-style art on office walls and Razor scooters available for general use, Carnevale said.

There is even a beer-pong league based on the popular college drinking game of throwing ping-pong balls into plastic cups filled with beer, according to an employee who declined to be named.

It helps the youngest new hires transition to the workplace, the employee said.

Local workers said the surge of Facebook-ers is an obvious street presence.

“My gym is right by their office and [the area] is overrun by Facebook people,” according to Palo Alto resident Priscilla Tan, who lives in midtown and works out at

Vivre on Emerson street.

“Everywhere I go everyone has their little MacBook in hand and their Facebook sweater,” she said.

The Facebook clothing is reassuring for Carnevale, who said the company is growing so fast she doesn’t recognize everybody anymore — but can spot the Facebook logo on their clothes.

Eleanor Morgan works for international design firm Ideo. With about 250 employees, the firm is most likely the second-largest employer in downtown, behind Facebook. Like many of her coworkers, she commutes to Palo Alto from San Francisco on the Caltrain.

“It’s so funny on the train. There are two main crowds that come off. We all have to funnel through the same underpass and walk down University, then we split off at High street and one goes to Facebook,” while the other crowd continues to Ideo’s offices around Forest Avenue, she said.

But she doesn’t feel that Facebook has conquered downtown, because the young employees wearing logo-printed clothing still stand out, she said.

When the employees are simply ubiquitous, it’ll be a different story, she said.

Facebook Chief Operating Officer Owen Van Natta explained why the firm chose Palo Alto in a meeting with City Council members in May.

“We think of Palo Alto as a real asset for us,” he said, in reference to the practice of poaching workers from nearby tech giants such as Google.

And workers enjoy the downtown ambience, he said.

“You’re working late hours, and it doesn’t feel like you’re in the middle of nowhere,” he said.

Facebook declined to comment for this article. ■

Staff Writer Arden Pennell can be e-mailed at apennell@paweekly.com.



As one employee enters the Facebook offices at 156 University Ave., another can be seen speaking on the phone on the second floor.

Marian Sadoughi

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Help wanted

City priority of 'civic engagement' calls for greater community participation

Story by Becky Trout.
Photographs by Norbert von der Groeben.



Palo Alto's City Council chambers are often sparsely filled, drawing only a handful of residents and business people interested in a particular issue.

When a crisis struck the Palo Alto Children's Theatre last month, supporters of the beloved institution packed City Council chambers hoisting signs and speaking during the public-comment period.

It's a familiar scene when the council's agenda involves a controversial topic, such as the police investigation of the theater group or a development issue that could affect homeowners' property values and neighborhood character.

But most of the time, the chamber's padded red benches are nearly empty — even when the council is discussing such important issues as the city's budget, most anything utilities-related or even plans to sell naming rights (or recognize major donors) for city facilities.

The uneven pattern of participation in the council's chambers is one sign Palo Alto has much to learn about civic engagement, some city leaders believe.

The concept of civic engagement — in vogue since the publication of Harvard University scholar Robert Putnam's 2000 treatise "Bowling Alone" — gained traction in Palo Alto after it was selected as one of four 2008 city priorities by the council Jan. 12.

Now, city leaders are crafting a program to promote civic engagement in Palo Alto. The council intends to outline its plan for the year, and beyond, at its March 17 meeting.

Most everyone agrees that strengthening the link between local government and residents benefits both, but definitions and visions for civic engagement in Palo Alto vary widely.

"I see civic engagement as not just a nice thing to do for people, but a really helpful way to solve problems by forging a partnership between government and the community," said Malka Kopell, the managing director for the Stanford Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society and an expert on civic engagement.

"It means actually being active and reaching out," Councilman Yiaway Yeh said.

"Civic engagement is about community members beginning to take responsibility and accountability for issues in the city," Ed

Everett, a former Redwood City city manager recognized for his community-building expertise, said.

"I see civic engagement as not just a nice thing to do for people, but a really helpful way to solve problems by forging a partnership between government and the community."

— Malka Kopell, managing director for the Stanford Center on Philanthropy

"It is about the staff honestly asking the community for input.

"It is not a time when citizens come together and complain and point fingers and tell the city what it should do. That's not civic engagement," he said.

Civic engagement connotes personal involvement, a neighborly attitude, a commitment to a place and its people, some say.

"We're talking about how we have healthy conflict in the community and work toward that kind of unity where whatever happens, we're a community — we're Palo Altans," said Ray Bacchetti, a member of Palo Altans for Government Effectiveness (PAGE), the group that lobbied the council to adopt "civic engagement for the common good" as a priority. The council dropped "the common

good," however.

Both Bacchetti and Everett consider engagement to be building "an association of associations" — and then linking it to the local government.

Strong communities already exist within faith groups, sports leagues, environmental organizations and other interest groups. Increasing bonds between those segments can allow them to work together to solve city-wide problems, reducing duplication and hopefully producing a superior solution, they say.

And for individuals, getting involved will also foster a sense of belonging, Everett said.

"The most important part of community is the feeling of not being alone and knowing that someone in the community will help you even if they don't know you," Everett said.

And it's OK that everyone seems to have a different interpretation of the concept, several civic-engagement experts said.

"It's not a 'one size fits all' circumstance or a monotonic method," Bacchetti said.

But not everyone agrees that civic engagement is worthy of intensive city emphasis.

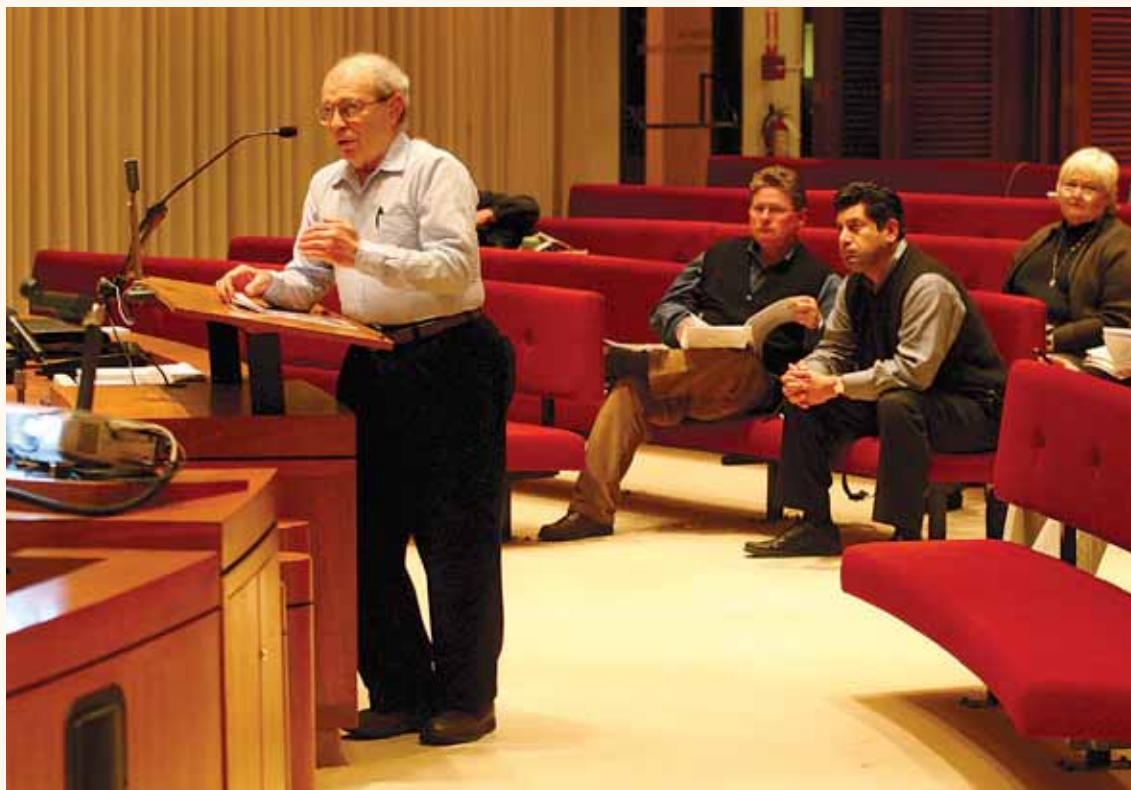
Councilman Jack Morton has said the entire priority seems off the mark.

"People get involved when they think the issue is worth their getting involved," Morton said. "Why would you want someone to come down to City Hall to hear the council (conduct routine business)?"

Even some neighborhood leaders are confused by the council's newfound focus.

"None of us are real clear about what the city's goal is," said Sheri Furman, vice chair of the Midtown Residents Association.

(continued on page 20)



Palo Alto resident Bob Moss addresses the City Council on Feb. 19.



Upper left, City Councilman Jack Morton speaks during a recent meeting. In January, he opposed naming civic engagement as one of the city's key priorities this year. Above, City Councilman Yiway Yeh chats with Max Keeler, Gunn High student body president, on Feb. 25 after talking with the school's Student Executive Council. Left, Marta Kopell of Stanford University is an expert on civic engagement.

"People get involved when they think the issue is worth their getting involved. Why would you want someone to come down to City Hall to hear the council (conduct routine business)?"

— Jack Morton, councilman

(continued from page 19)

PAGE started with the assumption, based primarily on in-depth observation and discussion with other organizations, that civic engagement in general could be improved in Palo Alto. Many residents don't know how to participate; large swaths of the community are missing from civic events; volunteer talent goes unused; and citizens lack trust in their government, PAGE states in a proposal it presented to the council in January. Greater civic engagement would make community conversations more respectful, decrease adversarial relationships and boost both collaboration and the number of people willing to take part and help. Most council members, however, took a different approach to the concept during their Jan. 12 discussion.

Promoting civic engagement could help the city accomplish its goals, they said. And this year it would be particularly timely, given the numerous large projects facing the city, the council majority agreed. In November, the city intends to ask the public to pass an \$81 million bond measure for library improvements and a new Mitchell Park Library and Community Center, requiring approval of two-thirds of voters. With an outreach campaign already underway, the library project provides a prime opportunity to involve the public, the council reasoned. "We need you to consider how this project could be a benefit to you in your life," Yeh said. Palo Alto is also in the process of selecting a new city manager. The civic-engagement priority will send an important signal to candidates, several council members said.

Drekmeier said. But the city needs to narrow down the priority into manageable projects, he added. "(If) everything is a priority, then nothing is," Drekmeier said. All told, more than a dozen uses for and interpretations of the civic-engagement priority have emerged, which amuses Mayor Larry Klein. "I've been intrigued how people are using the phrase," Klein said. "Everybody has been using it (for) their pet issue."

So how do city leaders get people off the couch and into a meeting room, a Web site or anywhere else community issues are being discussed? Tapping into residents' self-interest and issuing a call to action can help. Local neighborhood associations have already launched a large-scale effort to prepare the community for an emergency, which requires household-level participation. Annette Glanckopf Ashton, a founder of Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN), a consortium of neighborhood groups, said she considers emergency preparedness the "true model" of civic engagement.

Currently, PAN is working to enroll a block-preparedness coordinator for all of the city's 2,500 blocks or apartment halls, Ashton said. The coordinators will be responsible for meeting their neighbors and keeping tabs on those with special needs, she said. "It builds social networks, deters crime, helps us prepare for an emergency," Ashton said. "We feel it's such a model for community building, for making our neighborhood(s) safe to live in." Smita Joshi, like many civic leaders before her, got involved because of several housing developments planned for her south Palo Alto neighborhood. With others, she revived the Palo Verde Residents Association, even though it wasn't the best time for her personally, Joshi said.

said. How people are treated once they get involved is as important as encouraging them to show up in the first place, leaders say. Once at a community meeting, for example, participants must feel like they have been heard and respected and that their comments may make a difference, even if their suggestions aren't ultimately adopted. "Ideally, you'll like the process," Councilman Yeh said. "Ideally, the project managers are managing it in a way that is community building so you say, 'OK, I'm going to come back, and I'm going to help out with this other project.'"

"I'm sure I would not have been courageous enough to go before the City Council (to speak), except I had other people helping me. It gets easier to do things as a group."

— Smita Joshi, member Palo Verde Residents Association

If participants' opinions and contributions aren't respected, apathy results, Stanford's Kopell said. "People get tired of participating in something that doesn't work," she said. Sure, adding participants can make meetings, or decisions, a bit messier and longer, but if designed properly, it should all work out, engagement supporters say. The goal is to make processes "effective and efficient and workable," PAGE Chairwoman Barbara Spreng said. And don't try to force it, Everett said. "Community gets built by the community, not by the city building it," he said. Everyone also has to be patient and flexible, he said. "The community has to say, 'We're learn-

ing'; the council has to say, 'We're learning'; the staff has to say, 'We're learning.'" Everett said. "Nobody's an expert at this." "Civic engagement isn't fancy," Kopell said. "What makes or breaks real civic engagement is someone really listening and someone really talking. If you don't have that, all the fancy tools and processes and focus groups aren't going to work." Leaders have to prioritize which efforts to focus their outreach on as well, Everett said. It's important to start small and aim for achievable progress. Don't worry if crowds don't appear right away, he said. "Don't over-talk it; don't over-analyze it. Go out and do what you normally do, but do it in a different way so the community is civically involved," he said.

For PAGE leaders, the goal is to increase the diversity of people involved as well as the quality of their involvement. Asians, retirees, youth, families with children and other groups have been named as groups that could be more involved in Palo Alto affairs. "It's engaging a new group of folks in the community who are not necessarily white and in their 40s and 50s," Mayor Klein said. Those currently involved are "a bunch of white folks for the most part," Midtown neighborhood leader Furman agreed. "None of us do that deliberately; we're always trying to get everybody involved. Maybe there are cultural barriers we have to look at." The best way to reach people is to influence their peers and connect with their individual networks, Kopell said. Yeh already has plans to do just that — he intends to reach the local Chinese community by tapping into Palo Alto Chinese School's broad network.

"Civic engagement requires a proactive outreach rather than, 'We're having a meeting, you all come,'" PAGE's Bacchetti said. Kopell said she believes most people genuinely want to help. "The question is what can they do and how will it fit into the political processes," she said.

One way to tackle civic engagement is to measure the amount and quality of engagement already existing in Palo Alto, leaders say. Fortunately, the city has several existing resources to turn to, according to Spreng, including the 2001 paper, "Building Community: Social Connections and Civic Involvement in Silicon Valley," by the predecessors of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation. (Available at www.siliconvalleycf.org, under "News & Resources" as Archived Research.) For more local data, there is the Service Efforts & Accomplishments report produced annually by the city auditor, Spreng said. The 2007 Citizen Survey — completed by 437 residents last fall — shows that 20 percent of respondents reported an "excellent" sense of community, with 50 percent calling Palo Alto's sense of community "good."

Only 26 percent of respondents said they had attended a local public meeting in the last year; an equal percentage reported watching a meeting on TV. But 52 percent of those surveyed said they had volunteered in Palo Alto in the last year. To supplement the responses, PAGE worked with City Auditor Sharon Erickson to request even more detailed breakdowns of the data to show the correlation between age groups, gender and ethnicity and civic engagement. That information should be available soon, Erickson said. Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN) has launched a parallel information-gathering effort. This month the group released a 13-question survey that collects basic demographic data and asks where respondents get their local in-

(continued on page 22)

Profile: Palo Altans for Government Effectiveness

Group formed in 2003 to promote civil civic processes

by Becky Trout

Civic engagement didn't just pop onto the city's 2008 priority list. Since 2003, a group known as PAGE (Palo Altans for Government Effectiveness) — created by current Mayor Larry Klein, architect John Northway and a core of other well-known locals — has been working to promote respectful involvement with local government. The group emerged during a rancorous period in Palo Alto's political history, motivated by a divisiveness that had overcome civil civic processes, Klein and Northway said at the time. The group founders believed that effective engagement and dialogue would help the community address critical issues. In addition, PAGE has espoused a particular interest in involving and respecting staff members of local public agencies. In 2004, through a series of community meetings, the group developed a list of 13 "Guiding Principles for Palo Alto."

Available as an appendix on PAGE's Web site, the principles include: "Be willing to compromise," "Build relationships ..." and "Once a solution is reached, support it and move on." In the spring of 2007, PAGE released the paper, "Building Civic Engagement and Social Capital in Palo Alto: Making a Good Community Better." It hosted two forums that spring on community building and interacting with the government. After releasing the paper and hosting the forums, PAGE appeared to go underground again, but actually the board was working on a strategy to make "Civic Engagement for the Common Good" a city priority.

"We are very sensitive ... about [saying] what could happen without going so far as to say we are proscribing what needs to happen."

— Barbara Spreng, PAGE chairwoman

PAGE board members gained the support of the senior-services agency Avenidas, the Kiwanis Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Council of PTAs, the Stanford University Division of Continuing Studies and the nonprofit Youth Community Service and took their vision to the City Council. At the core of PAGE's philosophy is the belief that "our community's performance does not match its potential," according to a proposal submitted to the council shortly before the council's priority-setting retreat Jan. 12.

Palo Altans don't know how to participate, and many segments of the community are vastly underrepresented, the proposal stated. Citizens don't trust in government, but public efforts could benefit from residents' skills and knowledge, it states. The best way to focus the community's attention on civic engagement would be to

institutionalize it as a priority, board members said. "Part of the reason we felt it was important for this to be identified as a City Council priority was that it legitimizes staff spending time on it," Chairwoman Barbara Spreng said.

The council agreed and on Jan. 12 selected civic engagement as one of the top priorities for 2008. But PAGE members were disappointed that only "civic engagement" — not "civic engagement for the common good" — was adopted. Several council members said they feared the "common good" would be co-opted by a certain group. In a Jan. 30 op-ed article in the Weekly, PAGE members Nancy Shepherd and Ray Bacchetti defended the importance of the "common good," which they called a key component of civic engagement. "Civic engagement by itself can go in all sorts of directions," Bacchetti said.

In the article, they argued that an individual can be engaged, advocating his or her own position, but if no one takes the broader position and represents the entire community, engagement simply pits individuals or groups against each other. Decisions should serve the community as a whole, not just a segment, they wrote. PAGE has many ideas but doesn't want to define or control the city's civic-engagement efforts, Spreng and Bacchetti said. "We are very sensitive (at the balance) between offering ideas about what could happen without going so far as to say we are proscribing what needs to happen," Spreng said.

"The whole idea is that it be an inclusive process." In particular, PAGE has proposed reviving a leadership program similar to the former Leadership Midpeninsula, which disbanded in 2003. Originally known as Leadership Palo Alto when it was created by the Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce in 1988, the year-long program taught leadership skills and provided valuable networking opportunities.

Several council members, including Sid Espinosa, Pat Burt and Vice Mayor Peter Drekmeier have expressed interest in reinstating a leadership program. PAGE also suggested creating a "Citizens' Academy" similar to the existing Police Academy. An academy would provide basic organizational information and hands-on projects, empowering participants to become more effectively involved. Redwood City has a nine-week Partnership Academy for Community Teamwork. Spreng said her personal motivation stems from an "innate interest in leadership development."

"I'm the kind of person who feels like there are always opportunities to make things better," Spreng said. Bacchetti said civic engagement is the difference between being a resident and being a member of a community. "I think the world works better when we work together," he said. Additional information on PAGE is available at <http://paloaltopage.org>. ■

Ways to engage in Palo Alto

- Learn more about your neighborhood association, attend a meeting (<http://www.paneighborhoods.org> under "Who We Are").
- Find a problem (such as trash along the street) and work with others to solve it.
- Attend a Palo Alto City Council, Palo Alto Unified School District Board of Education, other local board, commission or committee meeting.
- Pitch in at the Midpeninsula Community Media Center.
- Invite your neighbors over to dinner.
- Be willing to learn from others.
- Sign up to be a Block Preparedness Coordinator at www.paneighborhoods.org under "Emergency Prep."
- Volunteer at the library, Junior Museum & Zoo, Children's Theatre, Art Center, parks or with any of their "Friends" groups.
- Share your skills with your local school.
- Attend the first meeting of the Community Environmental Action Partnership (www.cityofpaloalto.org, under Environment) on March 5 at 4 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.
- Complete Palo Alto Neighborhoods' survey on civic engagement at <http://www.mimi.com/mra/>.
- Plant trees with Canopy March 1 at 9 a.m. at the Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course.
- Improve Arastradero Preserve with Acterra's restoration work day on March 8 at 9 a.m.
- Walk a dog or pet a cat through the City of Palo Alto's Animal Services (call 496-5989).
- Serve on a local board, commission, committee or task force.
- Teach computer skills, drive older folks, spend time with seniors or help the homebound with Avenidas's senior programs (call 289-5412).
- Promote "civic literacy" with the League of Women Voters (call 327-9148).
- Attend the Palo Alto Police Department's Citizens Academy beginning March 12 (call 329-2632).
- Volunteer with Youth Community Service (call 617-8962).
- Help out at Stanford Hospital, Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, the Palo Alto Medical Foundation or the Veterans Affairs Hospital.
- Advocate for the community's well-being, not just your own.
- Serve food or organize clothes for the homeless at the Opportunity Center (visit www.innvision.org).
- Attend "Not in Our Town — Silicon Valley" workshop on confronting hidden biases on March 13 from noon to 5:30 p.m. at the Palo Alto Art Center, Newell and Embarcadero roads. ■

— **Becky Trout**



Above, Barbara Spreng and Ray Bachetti of the group Palo Altans for Government Effectiveness chat in the City Council chambers on Feb. 22. Below, Annette Glanckopf Ashton of the Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN) group attends a Midtown Residents Association meeting on Feb. 19. At the meeting, neighbors talked with representatives of Stanford Hospitals & Clinics about its redevelopment plans.



(continued from page 21)

formation, which issues they are interested in, how involved they are and if they would like to be more involved.

The survey is available at the Midtown Residents Association site at www.mimi.com/mra/.

Furman said she and other PAN leaders plan to present the results at the March 17 City Council meeting when a discussion of the city's priorities is planned.

Another way to track changes is by charting the number of applicants the city has had for board and commission vacancies, Spreng said.

Eventually, the city could create a formal civic-involvement benchmark study, following the guidelines of the Harvard University-based Saguro Seminar, PAGE has suggested.

Nine council members, nine different takes

'How should Palo Alto foster civic engagement?'

John Barton — Encourage humility; reach out to different groups — not all white and older; improve city's communication.

Pat Burt — Launch new Leadership Palo Alto program; create an interactive city Web site; involve citizens in local neighborhood planning; attract a city manager who values community participation.

Peter Drekmeier — Revive Leadership Palo Alto; individuals should view it as a responsibility that can boost emergency preparedness, generate support for the library projects; and reduce greenhouse-gas emissions.

Sid Espinosa — Engage more community members, such as seniors and Asian-Americans; revive Leadership Palo Alto; create interactive Web site; improve emergency preparedness; increase community involvement in library projects, budgetary decisions and proposed Stanford developments.

Yoriko Kishimoto — Draw on technology to conduct polls, encourage online participation; host "old-fashioned" discussions; involve public in library and public-safety building projects and associated tradeoffs; reach out to under-represented groups.

Larry Klein — Encourage individuals to

take responsibility to get involved, form networks and consider other perspectives.

Jack Morton — Treat civic engagement like a genuine principle, not a slogan: "Saying civic engagement should be a priority is like saying the council should be honest."

Greg Schmid — Boost government transparency by promoting early public participation; ensure public awareness of long-term processes, plans and goals.

Yiaway Yeh — Involve all community segments, particularly older adults, youth and Asians, in support of library bond. ■

Building civic engagement is a never-ending process, its supporters agree.

"I don't think there's any such thing as 'How we will know when we get there?'" Spreng said. "It would be nice to know what's helped and what hasn't helped, though."

The council generally agrees civic engagement will be a priority for several years, until it is subsumed into the community's culture.

Assistant City Manager Emily Harrison said via e-mail the city has no estimate yet for the cost of implementing the priority, although it "will undoubtedly have resource requirements."

"In an ideal world, this would be a community where everybody ... felt they have a stake in the community. They have a voice, a sense of pride and ownership."

— Barbara Spreng, PAGE chairwoman

But the potential benefits will far outweigh the cost, leaders said.

"In an ideal world, this would be a community where everybody, no matter what your ethnic background, gender, age, level of physical fitness ... felt they have a stake in the community. They have a voice, a sense of pride and ownership," Spreng said. ■

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

How other cities are doing it

Redwood City, Menlo Park offer civic-engagement models

by Becky Trout

If anything, Palo Alto is a bit behind some other local communities that have already embraced the concept of civic engagement and begun experimenting with its implementation.

Northern neighbors Redwood City and Menlo Park can already cite successes of their institutionalized civic-engagement programs.

Redwood City has a citizens' academy, a nine-week local government introductory program with 200 alumni, and is known for its community discussions on pressing issues such as gangs and traffic — which always begin with a meal and include small-group discussions.

The city's Web site has an informal tone, with a link to "Opportunities to Get Involved," "How the City Works!" and a list of elected officials, from the City Council to the U.S. president.

But for recently retired City Manager Ed Everett, whose passion for community building stoked the city's initiatives, one project stands out as a shining example of civic engagement at its best.

Redwood City's demand for water exceeds its Hetch Hetchy allotment, so in 2000 the city began using recycled water — treated wastewater — for irrigation. Residents became concerned, fearing their children might become ill after playing in a park, Everett said.

So in 2003 the council formed the Com-

munity Task Force on Recycled Water, a body with 10 members opposed to recycled water and 10 who supported its use, Everett said.

The city provided a facilitator, a budget and a mission: If they didn't like the city's proposal, participants had to develop an alternative that saved an equivalent amount of water, Everett said. Otherwise, the city would adopt its proposal, he said.

"We got an intelligent discussion among people that came up with the solution, not the problem."

— Ed Everett, former city manager, Menlo Park

"That prevents the people who are naysayers from saying, 'Good, we killed it,'" Everett said.

After six months, the task force returned to the council with a "marvelous idea," a plan had the support of nearly all task force members.

Everett still gets excited talking about the effort.

"We built connections between people who didn't trust each other, and we got an intelligent discussion among people that

came up with the solution, not the problem," he said.

The task force even got together for several celebratory dinners afterward, he said.

In Menlo Park, civic engagement initiatives were driven by a divided community, Mayor Andrew Cohen said.

Striking gaps in residents' incomes, an East-West divide and a colorful political history have made Menlo Park into a "very fractious city ... where building consensus has not come easy," Cohen said.

In 2005 the city hired the nonprofit consultant Community Focus — a San Francisco-based firm founded by Stanford University's Malka Kopell — to address a \$2.9-million budget deficit. The project was named "Your City/Your Decision."

Community Focus distributed a survey to gather residents' input, also forcing respondents to consider tradeoffs and limits, according to reports about the process.

Next, 225 residents participated in focus groups, developing a set of cost reductions and revenue increases to close the budgetary gap.

"That got people to sit down together and talk about what their priorities were," Cohen said. Exchanging ideas and getting more people involved early are critical to community building, he said.

Menlo Park is also in the process of hiring a community-engagement manager, a top position with a \$87,000-plus salary. The manager would be in charge of distributing information about the city, involving "less-engaged segments of the city," conducting outreach meetings and training staff members. ■

Free Seminar!

Special Needs Trusts

The Cornerstone of Estate Planning for People with Disabilities

- What is a Special Needs Trust?
- Why is it a "must do" if a child or other family member is disabled?
- How can a family member with disabilities have a trust and still keep public benefits?
- What can and cannot SNT funds be used for?



Michael Gilfix, Esq.
Gilfix & La Poll Associates LLP
www.gilfix.com

Thursday, March 13, 2008

2:00-4:00 pm

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

Co-sponsored by:



To register call
650-493-8070
or
408-971-7292
Seating is limited!

Editorial

Residents are best anti-burglary alarm

Big spike in residential burglaries and thefts from automobiles reported in January, creating fears of 2006 crime wave

When home and auto burglaries spiked in 2006, Palo Alto residents were rightfully alarmed and some were angry, demanding that police do something about the crime wave that penetrated virtually all areas of town.

Police did. An intense, multi-city effort was launched to detect and capture those responsible for numerous home and auto burglaries, with extra police patrols cruising neighborhoods both in cars and on bicycles. Dozens of suspects were arrested.

Firefighters were sent out on their rigs to watch for suspicious activity and for visibility. Utilities crews and meter readers were trained to report out-of-place activities.

But then, as now, police and city workers cannot do it alone. A good portion of the effectiveness in 2006 and in earlier crime spikes was due to increased awareness on the part of citizens watching each others' homes and vehicles more closely and calling in if something might not look right.

In the current wave, police report nearly double the number of home burglaries in January, 25 compared to 14 in November. February is even worse, with 22 reported in the first 24 days, with six in one day, Feb. 21 — nearly one per day average for the two-month period. In addition, 15 vehicles have been stolen in the past 30 days.

"We're looking at some of the same problems of two summers ago," police Sgt. Sandra Brown observed to the Weekly for a story in today's paper. Only it's not summer.

Brown said the bad weather in January may have created opportunities for some burglars, as officers were busy responding to accidents, downed trees and other storm-related incidents. The sound of rain and wind also covers forced entries.

But a large part of the problem is simple carelessness on the part of residents, many of whom fail to lock vehicles while some even leave their back doors unlocked when they leave home.

Besides the inconvenience, residents value the feeling of not having to be overly careful in their homes. They want to feel secure enough that they can leave their homes without securing every door and window. But this is not Mayberry, USA — and no area of the community has been spared, although there is some clustering closer to Bayshore Freeway for a quick exit from town.

When people are hit in their homes or parked vehicles, the sense of violation and vulnerability can be a shock, and the first reaction is to blame authorities and demand that those responsible be apprehended and jailed.

That's easier said than done, especially when citizens haven't really done their part.

In 2006, then-Mayor Judy Kleinberg announced a "Palo Alto Safe Neighborhoods" effort that focused city efforts on crime prevention. Since then, Kleinberg and neighborhood leaders such as Annette Glanckopf Ashton of Midtown and others have expanded their efforts to organize residents into emergency-response teams.

While the primary focus is on preparing for a major disaster or emergency, natural or man-made, the same network of trained volunteers and alert residents could be highly effective in this type of neighborhood emergency.

Ashton and other leaders are presently trying to recruit and train "block coordinators" for each of the city's approximately 2,500 blocks — individuals willing to take some responsibility for meeting their neighbors and helping them become more aware of what's going on around them.

Progress has been slow, but perhaps a silver lining of the current crime wave would be to hurry this process along.

Longtime Barron Park leader Bob Moss recalls earlier efforts in that part of town, including monthly update meetings with police in the early 1990s and creation of a "Neighborhood Watch" program. But residents come and go, and such programs need constant tending to remain effective.

New organizing tools now exist, such as e-mail and the Internet. In addition to the Weekly's longstanding "Community Pulse" crime reports each week, a new real-time crime-reporting system just came online: www.CrimeReports.com.

But, as Brown says in today's coverage, the key is people: "We need to go back to the basics. We need prevention. We need people to be watching for suspicious activity."

Spectrum

Editorials, letters and opinions

Audio access

Editor,

Thank you to the Weekly and reporter Arden Pennell for the excellent coverage on the new sound-equalization systems in classrooms at El Carmelo Elementary School (Feb. 20).

I also want to commend the El Carmelo PTA, teachers and principal for working together to bring this innovative technology to help all students.

The Palo Alto PTA Council is sponsoring a demonstration and presentation about this powerful technology Wednesday, Feb. 27.

Research shows these systems improve test scores and classroom management. This free community event begins at 7 p.m. at the PAUSD district office at 25 Churchill Ave. in the boardroom.

Come experience for yourself a technology that gives equal access to all.

Wendy Kandasamy
PTA Council Parent Ed Co-Chair
Ferne Avenue
Palo Alto

Civic priorities

Editor,

If the City Council is sincere about its new civic-engagement priority, it will need to make some changes.

The council needs to reach out and encourage the community to get involved. Twenty, 30 years ago there was extraordinary civic involvement in Palo Alto but that is past. Both the council and public have forgotten how to make involvement happen. The last seven or eight years have felt as though City Hall discouraged or even resisted citizen input.

A good first step would be for council packets to be available one week before topics in that packet are discussed by council. Indeed, the Weekly recommended this in an editorial last month.

Normally, the packet is available at City Hall at about 6 p.m. Thursday. So even if one picks it up Friday morning, there is not time to read it thoughtfully, perhaps call City Hall for clarification and e-mail council members that same day.

Of course, every other Friday City Hall is closed, so there's a 50 percent chance of being unable to clarify points until Monday. Thus, if a neighborhood group or nonprofit wants to comment on an agenda item there is no time to meet, develop a consensus and relay views to council members before Monday night's meeting.

Having the packet available a week in advance would allow time for thoughtful, constructive civic engagement. This is consistent with the city's Comprehensive Plan that calls for the public to "be actively and effectively involved in city affairs, both at the citywide and neigh-

borhood levels."

Civic engagement is a terrific goal but must be encouraged and enabled by the council.

Ellen and Tom Wyman
Washington Avenue
Palo Alto

Pesticide risks

Editor,

Is anyone else alarmed about the pesticide warnings all over Seale and Greer parks?

I am simply appalled that a city as purportedly "green" as Palo Alto permits the spraying of unnamed chemical pesticides in the very places where our children play.

At this point, scientists pretty much universally agree that children are the most vulnerable to pesticide damage. In fact, we're watching rates of neurological disorders skyrocket in this very community as well as others in the valley (autism rate of 1 in 166 kids).

And, the rate of childhood cancer (the leading cause of death by disease among non-infant children under the age of 15) is increasing approximately 1 percent annually (on average).

Yet, I'm curious to know how

many studies the city has conducted assessing the safety for children of whatever chemical was sprayed within 5 feet of the play equipment in our local parks today.

Who has proven that no pesticides actually remain once they remove those signs?

Hilary Stamper
Colorado Ave
Palo Alto

Bad service

Editor,

We recently had a reservation at the new restaurant in town, "Shokolaat."

We had no problem with the food, in fact it was some of the best in the city, yet the service and the way the owner treated us were unspeakable.

The waiter forgot to fill up our glasses, either with water or wine. He served us crossing over our face, interrupting our conversation (there was plenty of room around us to be served properly).

They took away the silverware and forgot to bring replacements. He brought out the dessert before we even finished our course. We would

(continued on page 26)

YOUR TURN

The Palo Alto Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest.

What do you think? Will you change your habits due to the recent increase in burglaries? If not, why not?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words to letters@paweekly.com or shorter comments to readerwire@paweekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

You can also participate in our popular interactive online forum, **Town Square**, at our community website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com. Read blogs, discuss issues, ask questions or express opinions with you neighbors any time, day or night.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Palo Alto Weekly and Embarcadero Publishing Co. to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information contact Editor Jay Thorwaldson or Editorial Assistant Karla Kane at editor@paweekly.com or 650-326-8210.



Check out Town Square!

Hundreds of local topics are being discussed by local residents on Town Square, a reader forum sponsored by the Weekly on our community website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com. Post your own comments, ask questions, read Diana Diamond's blog or just stay up on what people are talking about around town!

Guest Opinion

Palo Alto's next manager should follow Frank Benest's regionalism

by Russell Hancock

With Frank Benest's impending departure Palo Alto is losing more than a gifted city manager. We're losing a major force for regionalism.



I'm a longtime Palo Alto resident, and, like most everybody I know, I appreciate Benest —

Frank — for running our city with a sure hand and a big-picture managerial approach. I especially appreciate having a manager who always spoke truth to power.

But that's not why I'm motivated to write this guest opinion.

I'm deeply affected by the courage and fortitude Frank showed during times of intense personal tragedy — his wife's untimely death and his own diagnosis with cancer — and from what I can tell he kept the city running smoothly through all of it.

But that's not my reason either.

Instead I'm writing to thank and praise Frank for something that might escape many Palo Altans, and to urge the City Council to look for these same qualities in our next manager.

That would be Frank's steadfast commitment to the region.

Frank's vision of Palo Alto extends beyond our city boundaries. He considers Palo Alto a citizen of Silicon Valley and the greater Bay Area, and understands that our well-being is intricately intertwined with the well-being of our neighbors.

I think many Palo Altans fail to appreciate how the solutions to so many of our problems — transportation, housing, infrastructure, economic development, disaster planning and the environment, just to name a few — have a profoundly regional dimension and are best worked out through complex regional accords.

Sadly, ours is a region without any real framework for this kind of decision-making, which is why so many of the outcomes around us are haphazard or, worse, Darwinian.

But to his great credit Frank has never taken the Darwinist approach. He has consistently chosen collaborative approaches over competitive ones, reaching out to his manager colleagues, serving on regional bodies and championing cross-jurisdictional initiatives.

Economic development is one interesting example. When Frank arrived in Palo Alto he was surprised to see Silicon Valley cities locked in competition, poaching corporations from each other, viewing the whole business of site selection as a zero-sum game. Frank thinks that approach is simplistic and misguided. He argued that cities would fare better by making sure the Silicon Valley economy overall was humming, and by banding together to accomplish it.

Accordingly, Frank helped broker regional approaches to everything from permit streamlining to uniform building codes to cell phone coverage. He even organized a task force of 19 cities between San Francisco and San Jose working to improve the look and function of El Camino Real.

To this day Frank chairs the Silicon Valley Economic Development Alliance, a group of 28 Silicon Valley cities who work for the

When Frank arrived in Palo Alto he was surprised to see Silicon Valley cities locked in competition, poaching corporations from each other, viewing the whole business of site selection as a zero-sum game. Frank thinks that approach is simplistic and misguided. He argued that cities would fare better by making sure the Silicon Valley economy overall was humming, and by banding together to accomplish it.

benefit of the region rather than their own narrowly defined interests.

A win for one is considered a win for all, and that sums up Frank's whole approach.

Frank has also championed collective approaches to the provision of infrastructure. Why, for example, should every city develop its own wireless network? Frank argued we should do it on a regional scale, sharing model ordinances, creating economies of scale and returning cost savings to the taxpayer. He has been a proponent of a 40-city effort to do exactly this.

This same spirit has guided Frank with our immediate neighbors. Whether we're talking

about flood control, emergency management or public safety, Frank has never taken the me-first approach. He has consistently tackled these issues in a spirit of total partnership with Menlo Park, East Palo Alto and Stanford.

It's no accident, of course, that the new Opportunity Center is located in Palo Alto. It is a regional facility serving a regional function, but Frank was eager for it to be located here.

Frank has also articulated the importance of cities sticking together to advocate their collective interest in Sacramento and Washington D.C. He has served as an officer in the national and regional city managers associations, and been an active member of the League of California Cities.

Bear in mind that none of this actually appears in Frank's job description, and these sorts of activities probably haven't been a factor in his annual review, either. In fact, it's a good bet when the council members write up their specs for the new recruiter they will describe somebody who is a competent internal administrator.

That would be a mistake. Palo Alto needs much more. External relations have become as important as internal ones. Palo Alto's biggest issues cut across jurisdictions and won't be solved on our own.

We've been lucky to have a manager like Frank who understands all this instinctively and has an enormous talent for collaboration. We'll never find another Frank, but if we're wise we'll insist on another regionalist as our next city manager. ■

Russell Hancock has lived in Palo Alto since 1987. He is president and CEO of Joint Venture: Silicon Valley Network.

Streetwise

How civically engaged are you? And in what ways?

Asked on Emerson Street.
Interviews by Richard To. Photographs by Danielle Vernon.



Eugene Muniz
Whole Foods Cashier
Samson Street, Redwood City

"It's a good question, because I'm not."



Portia Monberg
Student
Waverly Street, Menlo Park

"What does that mean exactly? In the past I did a lot of volunteer work but unfortunately right now I'm a fulltime student."



Andrew Chase
Software Engineer
Waverley Street, Palo Alto

"I would say I'm relatively civically engaged compared to my fellow man. But I wouldn't say that means I spend a lot of time day to day. I do more one-off events, so I work at charity events."



Shayan Guha
Software Engineer
Tanland Drive, Palo Alto

"I'm not really that civically engaged. I guess the only thing I do have from the city is a library card."



Priya Nayak
Development Associate
Hawthorne Avenue, Palo Alto

"I work for Al Gore's environmental nonprofit. I work on an advocacy campaign. I do try to vote whenever possible but I generally don't vote on a local level."



**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
of the Palo Alto Planning
& Transportation Commission**

Please be advised the Planning and Transportation Commission shall conduct **a special meeting at 6:00 PM and a regular meeting at 7:00 pm, Wednesday, March 12, 2008** in the Civic Center, Council Chambers, 1st Floor, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California. Any interested persons may appear and be heard on these items.

All correspondence relating to any of the agenda items below or non-agenda items, which were not received by the 2:00 PM deadline for inclusion into Commission packets on the Thursday preceding the meeting date, need to be received before 5:00 PM on the date of the meeting for distribution to staff and Commission members.

Interested persons may appear and be heard. Staff reports for agenda items are available via the City's main website at **www.cityofpaloalto.org**, under Agendas/Minutes/Reports and also at the Planning Division Front Desk, 5th Floor, City Hall, after 2:00 PM on the Thursday preceding the meeting date. Copies will be made available at the Development Center should City Hall be closed on the 9/80 Friday.

AT 6:00 PM

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Study Session:** Planning and Transportation Commission Review and Comment on the Proposed Green Building Criteria for Use in a Mandatory Green Building Program for Private Developments

AT 7:00 PM

- 2. 2008-2013 Proposed Capital Improvement Program:** Commission establishes review schedule and appoints CIP SubCommittee.
- 3. 2501 Embarcadero Way*:** Request by the Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant, on behalf of the City of Palo Alto, for Site and Design review for the construction of a new 3,600 square foot ultra violet wastewater treatment facility, replacing the old treatment system. Zone District: PF(D) Public Facility with Site and Design Overlay. Environmental Review: An Initial Study has been completed and a Draft Negative Declaration has been prepared for this project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements.
- 4. 4249 and 4251 El Camino Real*:** Request by Summerhill Homes, on behalf of the Palo Alto Elks Lodge, for approval of a vesting tentative map to subdivide one lot into 45 condominium units, private streets and dedicated park land for a multi-family residential project. Environmental Assessment: A Mitigated Negative Declaration has been adopted in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements. Zoning District: RM-15 and RM-30.

*Quasi-Judicial items subject to City Council Disclosure Policy

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Special and Regular Meeting of February 13, 2008

NEXT MEETING: Regular meeting of March 26, 2008

Questions. If interested parties have any questions regarding the above applications, please contact the Planning Division at (650) 329-2441. The files relating to these items are available for inspection weekdays between the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Audio tapes are available at 329-2440 and video tapes of meetings are available with the City Clerk's at 329-2571. This public meeting is televised live on Government Access Channel 26.

ADA. The City of Palo Alto does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. To request accommodations to access City facilities, services or programs, to participate at public meetings, or to learn more about the City's compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), please contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 650.329.2550 (voice) or by e-mailing ada@cityofpaloalto.org.

Steve Emslie, Planning Director

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Pictured: A massive pair of blue
and white jars and covers,
Kangxi Period. Sold for \$226,000,
December 2007

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**City of Palo Alto
Environmental Assessment**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Draft 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 February 27, 2008 through March 27, 2008 during the hours of 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Development Center, 285 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

This project is tentatively scheduled for consideration by the **Architectural Review Board** at a **public hearing** on **Thursday, March 20, 2008 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.

695 Arastradero Road (07PLN-00000-00291): Application for Major Architectural Review Board Review to allow construction of a new two story 13,320 square feet mortuary/chapel building to replace the existing administration building. Zone District: Residential Estate (RE). Environmental Assessment: A notice of intent to adopt a Negative Declaration has been prepared.

Steve Emslie
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.

Spectrum

(continued from page 24)

have forgotten this if we were not insulted by the owner, too.

This happened during the desert and coffee. The owner, Ms. Shekoh

Moossavi, came to our table and asked us to leave because she wanted to set up the table for the next guests!

We had not even finished eating (we had a six-course dinner). There was nobody waiting for the table and there were empty tables which she could have used. She did not even try to be tactful.

I know these restaurants are bringing in big revenue for the city, yet we should not tolerate this arrogance and these unpleasant circumstances at any time.

Ferenc Makra
Middlefield Road
Palo Alto

Slots for students

Editor,

The good citizens of California have chosen not to stabilize the funding of our community colleges (defeat of Prop. 92).

So, it is time to put another proposition on the ballot. This one would allow the community colleges to install slot machines in their student centers. Surely, those profits would finally provide a steady funding source.

Mary Ellen Farwell
Laurel Avenue
Menlo Park

Lantos remembered

Editor,

With the death of Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.), animals have lost one of their greatest advocates and the world has lost a great man. We at PETA came to know Rep. Lantos when he offered to help us with the Silver Spring monkeys, a group of animals that had been terribly abused in a Maryland laboratory.

I had the honor of interviewing Rep. Lantos and his wife, Annette, about their efforts to send these animals to a sanctuary. They showed me a photograph of themselves from 1939, when they were happy childhood friends in Budapest, Hungary. But they were Jewish, and not long after the picture was taken, Annette went into hiding and Tom was sent to a forced labor camp. Their families were killed in the Holocaust.

When they came to this country in the late 1940s, scarred but eager for a new life, they decided that they wanted to work for a new world in which no one – regardless of race, religion, or species – could be treated as an object rather than as a living being.

Rep. Lantos did exactly this, founding the Congressional Friends of Animals Caucus and sponsoring or supporting dozens of pieces of legislation aimed at ending the suffering of humans and other animals.

Even as we mourn his loss, we celebrate his amazing work for all beings.

Kathy Guillermo
Director of Research
People for the Ethical Treatment
of Animals
Front Street
Norfolk, Va.

Sports Shorts

ALUMNI REPORT . . . Harvard sophomore guard **Jeremy Lin** of Palo Alto has been named the Ivy League basketball Player of the Week. Lin averaged 20.5 points, 6.5 rebounds, 3.5 assists, 2.5 steals and 1.5 blocks last week as Harvard completed its first weekend sweep of Penn and Princeton since the 1986-87 season. The Crimson scored the last eight points of regulation to force overtime and then scored the first seven points in overtime to upend Princeton, 74-67, Friday night. After overcoming a 12-point deficit late in the game including an eight-point deficit in the final 2:30 of play, the Crimson exploded out of the gates Saturday against Penn, shooting 62 percent in the opening half and cruising to an 89-78 win over the Quakers. Lin, who shot 61 percent from the floor (17 of 28) on the weekend, scored on a layup with 9.1 seconds in regulation against Princeton to send the game into overtime and finished with 20 points and seven rebounds against the Tigers. He added 21 points, six boards, four assists and three steals against Penn. . . . One-time Menlo School tennis standout **Dmitry Tursunov** joined with partner Tomas Berdych to capture the doubles title at the ATP Tour stop in Rotterdam.

OF LOCAL NOTE . . . Gunn High junior **Martin Trainer** and Menlo-Atherton junior **Nick Sako** both have advanced to the Round of 16 at the San Francisco City Golf Championships. Trainer defeated **Patrick Grimes** of Menlo School, 3 and 2, in the Round of 32 on Sunday that saw Trainer make a hole-in-one on the par-3 8th hole at Harding Park Golf Course. Trainer used a hybrid 2 iron for his ace. Sako, meanwhile, eliminated Daniel Wallis III of Saratoga, also 3 and 2. Should Trainer and Sako win on Saturday, they'll face each other on Sunday. Palo Alto residents **Andrew Biggdike** and —Pat Phillips both were eliminated in the Round of 32 on Saturday.

BABE RUTH TRYOUTS . . . The Palo Alto Babe Ruth baseball program will hold tryouts on Saturday at Palo Alto High from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Players should arrive no later than 9:30 a.m. for registration and warm-ups. All ages (13, 14 and 15) will participate in tryouts at the same time.

ON THE AIR

Thursday

Men's basketball: Washington at Stanford, 7 p.m.; KNST (1220 AM); KZSU (90.1 FM)

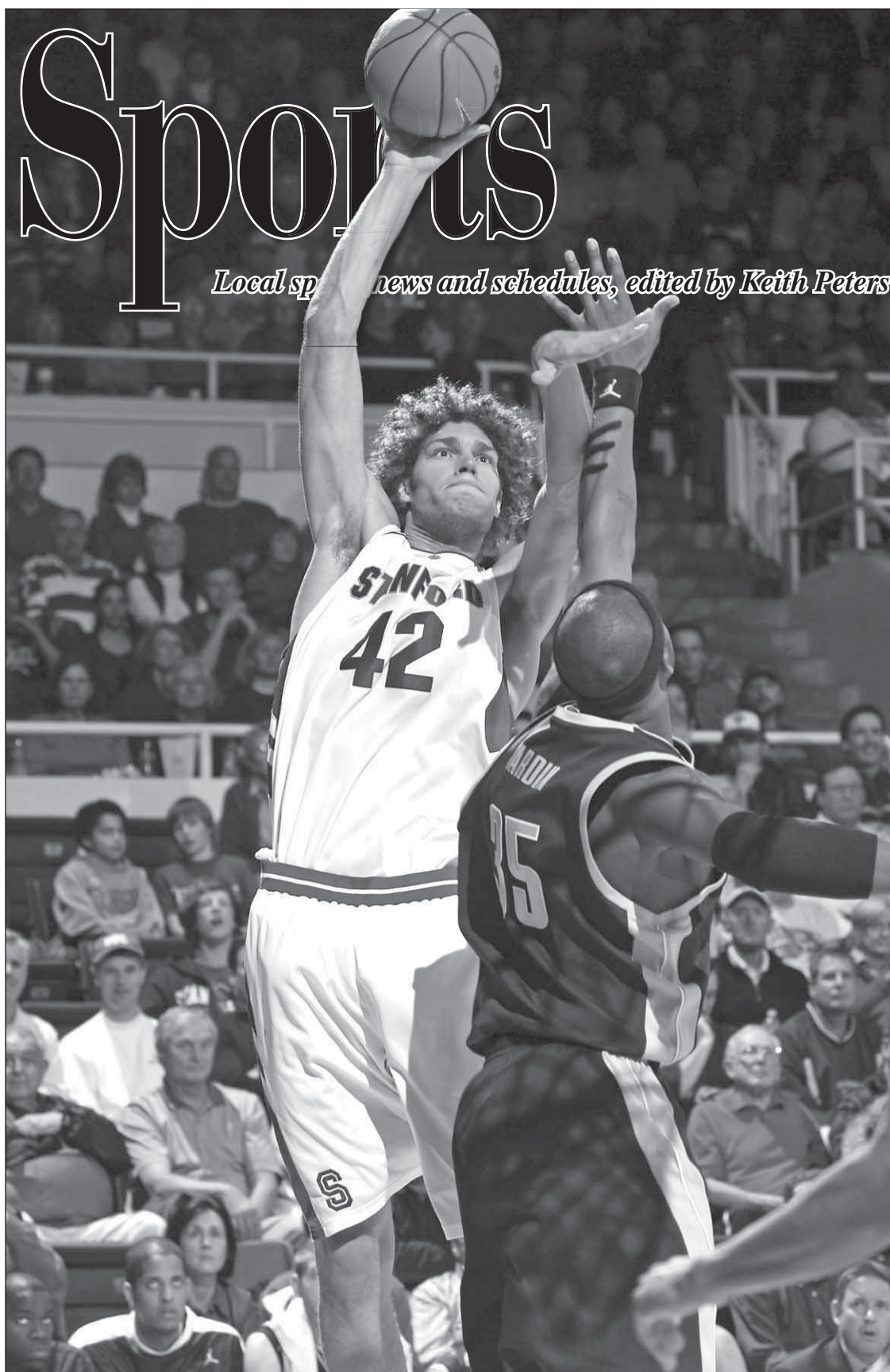
Friday

College baseball: Cal State Fullerton at Stanford, 5 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

Women's basketball: Stanford at Washington, 7 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

SPORTS ONLINE

For expanded daily coverage of college and prep sports, please see our new site at www.PASportsOnline.com



Stanford sophomore Robin Lopez scored 11 points to help the Cardinal, ranked No. 8 in the nation this week, hold off visiting Cal on Sunday, 79-69, to remain a game behind UCLA in the Pac-10 standings.

Stanford men have yet to cool off in the hot Pac-10 basketball race

by Rick Eyrer

Anthony Goods showed why he's so dangerous, and why Stanford opponents take him into consideration when planning a defense.

When he's hot, Goods is one of the best shooters in the Pac-10. That he's getting hot again for the ninth-ranked Stanford men's basketball team is a good sign as the conference season enters its final two weeks. He makes other teams play interior defense honestly. Try to double-team Brook Lopez and Goods can hurt you.

It's been awhile since he had a major impact on a game and scored a pile of points. He took care of that in Stanford's 79-69 victory over visiting California on Sunday

night, scoring 20 points, including a couple of free throws in the late going that helped put the finishing touches on the win.

"All week long coaches and teammates kept telling me to stay aggressive," Goods said. "I wanted to throw the first punch and I kind of got it going."

No. 8 Stanford (11-3, 22-4) remains a game behind UCLA in the Pac-10 race with four games remaining, including Thursday's 7 p.m. home game against Washington and Saturday's 1 p.m. game against Washington State.

"We have to get these wins and send our seniors out the right way," Goods said. "They've been here for us four years, well, Fred (Washington) has been here nine years!"

Stanford has won 14 of its 15 home games this season, a major reason why the Cardinal is currently ranked in the top 10 and on its way to the NCAA tournament.

Sunday's victory also means Stanford is three games up on both the Cougars and USC in the loss column, its nearest competitors for the second seed in the conference tournament. The Cardinal hasn't given up on overtaking the Bruins for first place, although it's a monumental task with games left at both UCLA and USC to end the regular season.

Goods had nine points in the first half and scored five of Stanford's first nine points as the Cardinal opened a 14-point advantage at

(continued on page 31)

CCS BASKETBALL

Moving closer to titles

Nine local teams reach semifinals in section playoffs

by Craig Wentz

With the Central Coast Section finals set for this weekend, a number of local prep basketball teams are only a victory away from the opportunity to play for a section title and receive an automatic invitation to the NorCal playoffs.

Local teams fared quite well in respective quarterfinal action last weekend, but it was in the boys' and girls' Division V bracket where the area is most represented with six area playing in Wednesday's semifinals.

The boys' Division V semifinals at Santa Clara High look like a mini Private Schools Athletic League tournament with three teams renewing their battles for the right to reach the finals on Saturday.

Top seed Woodside Priory (23-4) plays upstart No. 5 Pinewood (13-12) at 5:30 p.m. with No. 2 Sacred Heart Prep (17-8) facing surprising No. 7 St. Thomas More (21-7) at 7:30 p.m. Two big upsets last Saturday in the quarterfinals saw Pinewood shocking No. 4 Valley Christian-Dublin, 52-41, and St. Thomas More stunning defending Division V champion and No. 2 seed Bridgmont, 72-66.

The semifinals winners will play for the CCS crown on Saturday at Foothill College at 2 p.m.

Woodside Priory coach Al Klein wasn't too surprised to see Bridgmont eliminated, figuring if St. Thomas More didn't accomplish it that Sacred Heart Prep might in the semifinals.

"We, obviously, can beat anybody because we have," said Priory coach Al Klein. "But, we have to bring our 'A' game. If we don't, anybody can beat us."

The Panthers from Priory should beat the Panthers from Pinewood, even though Priory's twin towers have been reduced to one — albeit a big tower in 7-foot-2 senior Greg Somogyi. Dinko Marshavelski, a 6-9 junior, is still sidelined with a stress fracture in his foot and isn't expected back this season unless Priory makes advances deep into the NorCal playoffs.

Even without Marshavelski, Priory proved it can get by with Somogyi and a supporting cast. Somogyi poured in 23 points in a 47-36 quarterfinal win over No. 9 St. Francis-Central Coast Catholic on Saturday. It was the Panthers' 37th straight victory.

Somogyi also had "at least 10 blocks and 10 rebounds" according to Klein. Just as important was Priory's defense, which is allowing only 38.1 points a game in the past 10 outings.

"On the day we decide to guard,

(continued on page 33)

Paly grad Stringer helps Stanford baseball open season successfully

by Rick Eyrer

Palo Alto grad David Stringer made the most of his opportunities after walking on to the Stanford baseball team as a freshman in 2005. Now the Cardinal is making the most of Stringer.

Stringer pitched two innings of relief to earn his first save of the season in Stanford's 4-2 victory over Nebraska on Sunday, clinching the series win.

The Cardinal (2-1) split a doubleheader with the Cornhuskers on Friday, winning, 17-7, in the opener and falling, 9-2, in the nightcap. Jeremy Bleich pitched six shutout innings to earn the victory in the first game.

"I didn't necessarily have my best stuff, but I battled," said Bleich, who gave up one hit. "It was great to get all that run support early."

Cord Phelps hit a home run and drove in four runs. Zach Jones also hit a home run.

Stringer, meanwhile, found a home in the bullpen last year and eased into the closer's role. After finishing off the Cornhuskers on Sunday, it looks as though he wants to keep the job for a while.

Stringer took over after Stanford scored four runs in the bottom of the seventh inning to take a 4-1 lead. Jason Castro's two-run home run and Jones' RBI double were the big hits.

Nebraska scored in the eighth and got the tying and go-ahead runs to the plate before Stringer struck out Cornhuskers' catcher Mitch Abeita to end the threat. He retired the side in order in the ninth.

Jeffrey Inman (1-0) got the win, allowing just one hit and three runs with three strikeouts over four innings in relief of Max Fearnow, who went three innings on Saturday before the game was suspended due to rain.

"This was a good win for us under tough weather conditions," Stanford coach Mark Marquess said. "We had a lot of people come through for us."

The Cardinal, which had games scheduled on Monday and Tuesday, host perennial powerhouse Cal State Fullerton in a three-game series beginning Friday at 5 p.m.

On Friday, Phelps led off the game for Stanford with the home

run. It was the first of his collegiate career.

"It felt great," Phelps said. "Everybody was hitting the ball really well. Their pitchers made some mistakes, and we made them pay for it."

Women's water polo

The top three ranked teams — Stanford included — all participated in the UC Irvine Invitational over the weekend, and when they played each other, well, there's a reason for their rankings.

The second-ranked Cardinal dropped an 8-7 decision in sudden-death overtime to top-ranked and undefeated UCLA in the championship game on Sunday.

That was after Stanford edged No. 3 USC, 7-6 in overtime, in the semifinals earlier in the day. The Women of Troy beat Stanford by a single goal earlier in the year at the Stanford Invitational.

USC lost in the third-place match, 9-8, to fourth-ranked California.

Stanford opened the Invitational with an 11-3 victory over UC San Diego and a 15-8 decision over San Jose State on Saturday.

Koree Blyleven scored in the second overtime period to lift Stanford (9-2) past USC. Kira Hillman and Jacquelyn Gauthier each scored twice and freshman goalie Amber Oland recorded 10 saves.

Gauthier scored with 41 seconds left in regulation against the Bruins to force the overtime, and Blyleven scored in the extra session to give Stanford a short-lived lead. Oland had 11 saves in the contest.

Men's swimming

Stanford downed California, 132 1/2 to 110 1/2 in the final regular season dual meet on Saturday at Avery Aquatic Center.

Cardinal junior Jason Dunford won two events and swam the anchor leg of the winning 400 medley relay team.

Dunford won the 50 free in 19.98, and came back to win the 100 free in 43.86. The relay team, which also included Eugene Godsoe, Paul Kornfeld, and Austin Staab, swam a season-best 3:11.94.

The Cardinal (5-1, 6-1) will look to improve upon its streak of 26 straight conference titles going at

the Pac-10 championships, which get under way on March 5 in Long Beach.

Softball

Stanford won four games at the Palm Springs Classic over the weekend to make it 15 in a row to start the season, a school record. The streak, however, came to an end on Sunday in a 3-1 loss to Texas.

Stanford (15-1) hopes to rekindle the streak when it hosts Providence on Wednesday at 3 p.m.

On Saturday, Becky McCullough pitched 2 2/3 innings of relief to earn her first win of the year as the 13th-ranked Cardinal beat No. 23 UNLV, 10-1, in the morning. Maddy Coon had a home run, a single and drove in three runs.

Missy Penna pitched a four-hitter in Stanford's 3-1 victory over 18th-ranked Ohio State in an afternoon game. Melisa Koutz, Shannon Koplitz and Alissa Haber each delivered an RBI for the Cardinal.

Michelle Smith hit two home runs and drove in three runs in Stanford's 10-2 win over Fordham on Friday.

Smith's home run in the sixth was also the difference in the Cardinal's 3-2 win over Oklahoma.

Men's volleyball

Spencer McLachlin recorded 16 kills, blocked eight attempts and hit at a .310 clip as ninth-ranked Stanford defeated previously unbeaten and top-ranked BYU on Saturday, 35-33, 30-22, 31-29, in a Mountain Pacific Sports Federation match in Provo.

The match featured 19 lead changes and 49 ties as Stanford handed BYU just its second home loss in two years.

Women's tennis

For the second consecutive day, three freshmen won singles matches to lead Stanford past a Pac-10 opponent, including Saturday's 5-1 win over host Washington State.

Men's tennis

The Cardinal (3-5) beat Boise State, 4-3, in a match on Friday night that was delayed nearly six hours due to rain. Freshman Gregory Hirschman clinched the victory with a three-set victory at No. 6 singles. ■



Former Stanford teammates David Martin (left) and Scott Lipsky won their first pro tennis doubles title on Sunday in San Jose.

PRO TENNIS

All-Stanford tennis final produces a big surprise

by Keith Peters

Mike and Bob Bryan may not have a lot in common with Scott Lipsky and David Martin, other than the fact all four played tennis at Stanford. The Bryans have been ranked No. 1 in the world in doubles while Martin and Lipsky haven't broken into the top 50.

Now, however, all four have something in common as doubles champs at the SAP Open in San Jose.

While the Bryans have won in San Jose before, Lipsky and Martin are the 2008 champions after shocking the top-seeded Bryan brothers on Sunday at HP Pavilion to cap the pro tennis tournament's week-long run.

It was the first all-Stanford doubles final in the tourney's history.

Lipsky and Martin made their first career pro doubles title a special one by beating the Bryans, 7-6 (7-4), 7-5. It was only the second doubles final ever for Lipsky and Martin.

The Bryans, meanwhile, were seeking their 45th overall doubles title.

"That was incredible," said former Stanford men's head coach Dick Gould, who was on hand to watch the match before doing TV commentary for the singles final. "It was really special. They played the doubles final before the singles, so they had a big crowd." ■

Menlo College men capture Cal Pac basketball playoff championship

by Rick Eyrer

The Menlo College men's basketball program returns to national prominence after a six-year absence courtesy of its 61-49 victory over William Jessup on Saturday night in the championship of the Cal Pac Conference tournament at Cal State East Bay in Hayward.

Menlo, which finished second in the conference behind Dominican, earned an automatic bid to the NAIA Division II National Championship, which begin March 12 at College of the Ozarks' Keeter Gymnasium in Point Lookout, Mo.

"This is a very exciting opportunity for us," Menlo coach Brandon Laird said. "We're excited to be headed to the national tournament and hope to represent the Cal Pac well."

Menlo reached the championship game with a 74-63 win over the host Pioneers on Friday night. The fourth-seeded Warriors upset Dominican in the other semifinal.

The Oaks (18-9) recorded their third win of the season against William Jessup, though it was anything but easy. The Warriors took a 29-26 lead into halftime.

Menlo was a different team in

the second half, hitting long-range shots and forcing the Warriors into several turnovers.

Chris Cobb's steal led to Cody Christensen's three-point play that gave the Oaks a 34-31 lead and they never slowed down afterward.

Junior forward Brandon Cochran led the Oaks with 13 points and nine rebounds. Bryon Wesley finished with 11 points.

The Oaks qualified for the national tournament in 2002, with a team that included current assistant coach Justin Trott and volunteer assistant coach Trevor Mattes.

Wesley and Cochran each had a

double-double in Menlo's victory over Cal State East Bay.

Women's basketball

Menlo saw its season end with a 61-48 loss to No. 2 Cal State East Bay on Friday in the semifinals of the Cal Pac Conference tournament.

The Lady Oaks (14-13) played the second half of their conference schedule without their All-American scoring leader Kepua Lee, who tore an ACL in January.

Menlo took a 38-34 lead over the Pioneers five minutes into the second half after junior Amy Elliot

and sophomore Angela Steward hit consecutive 3-pointers.

Junior Kelci Fushikoshi led the Lady Oaks with 20 points, which featured an 11-of-12 effort from the foul line.

Men's wrestling

Menlo heavyweight Jesse Ruiz and 165-pounder Robert Davis won their championship matches at the NAIA West Region Championships on Saturday at the University of Great Falls in Montana.

The Oaks, who finished third as a team, advance to the NAIA National Championships in Sioux City, Iowa, this weekend. ■

CCS SOCCER

Sudden disappointment for Paly in soccer final

by Keith Peters

The postseason was anything but normal for the Palo Alto boys' soccer team. Out of four playoff matches, only one was completed during regulation time.

Thus, the Vikings could have been eliminated at any point in their next three games. Eighth-seeded Palo Alto survived a penalty-kick shootout to beat No. 1 South San Francisco and held off No. 5 St. Francis in overtime before advancing to the Central Coast Section Division II championship match against No. 3 Pajaro Valley last Friday at Milpitas High.

With the possibility of winning its first section title since 2000, Paly battled for 102 scoreless minutes before the Grizzlies (22-2-2) scored in the first sudden-death overtime period for a 1-0 victory.

For Palo Alto, the loss was sudden disappointment.

"This was definitely the toughest loss since I have coached at Paly, and I felt bad for our players," said Paly coach Don Briggs. "We had the 1-0 win over Sequoia, then an overtime PK shootout, then an OT goal win in regular overtime. And, then finally, an OT 'golden goal' loss.

"We had quite a run. (But) In my years as a player at UC Davis and Gunn, I can't remember anything quite so tough. After a scoreless contest for over 100 minutes, this felt much more like the 'sudden death' than the now politically correct 'sudden victory.'"

No matter how it's phrased, the end of Palo Alto's season was sudden. After Paly junior goalie Peter Johnson made a diving attempt to tip a shot away just moments into the first of possibly two sudden-death overtime periods, Pajaro Valley set up for a corner kick and launched a shot into the penalty box.

"Everyone kind of jumped up to get it, and the ball hit the ground," Johnson said. "I had like four or five guys in front of me. I didn't ever see the ball. It's just one of those things . . . You can't go that long without someone scoring. Someone has to, unfortunately it wasn't us."

There was talk and evidence that Palo Alto stacked its defense and played for a tie, which would have resulted in a co-championship since the match wasn't going to be decided on penalty kicks. One Paly player commented on the sideline: "I'd rather lose than play for a tie."

No matter what the plan was, Palo Alto played its best defensive game of the season.

"Our defense played incredibly well," Johnson said.

The Vikings got a break when Pajaro Valley playmaker Jesus Acuna suffered a broken toe on his left foot after a slide tackle in the 15th minute. He never returned. That, coupled with the outstanding marking job that Paly freshman Riley Smith did on Grizzlies' scoring leader Martin Monroy, made the Vikings' defensive effort all the more impressive.

"He (Smith) had a remarkable game, limiting Martin to only a few significant shots," said Briggs, who also acknowledged the defensive efforts of Johnson, juniors Kevin Ashworth, Michael Hanabusa, Adam Zernik and John Christopherson plus sophomores Ryan Holland and Jenner Fox in blanking the Grizzlies for over 100 minutes and repelling 17 shots.

Unfortunately for Palo Alto, there was an 18th shot that wasn't stopped.

"That last corner, I don't know how it got in," Briggs said. "To have it slip away . . . it's tough.

"Everybody played really well. I thought if we just could get a corner . . ."

Palo Alto had a few opportunities, but not many. The Vikings were credited with three shots, one a very near miss by Greg Stewart.

"We had a couple of set plays that were close to scoring, too," said Briggs, who now has guided the Vikings to back-to-back CCS title game appearances.

"Last year (a 3-1 loss to Gonzales) was disappointing because I did not think we played our best," Briggs said. "This year was so disappointing as we were so close — to



Palo Alto senior Matt Nguyen (center) had a hard time getting past Pajaro Valley's defense, as did his teammates, during the Vikings' 1-0 loss in sudden-death overtime last Friday in the CCS Division II finals.

at least a co-championship. We are disappointed that we did not bring a championship to the seniors, many of whom have been with the team since their sophomore year."

Palo Alto (14-5-6) will lose Scott Ostrau, Matt Nguyen, Bubba Paruirigan, Max Wilson and Andrew Chen.

"They are a solid core group that provided positive senior leadership," Briggs said. "Fortunately, we have nearly everyone returning."

Added Johnson on the future: "Hopefully, a third time is a charm. I guess we'll have to come back next year."

(For results on Tuesday night's CCS Division III championship game between Woodside Priory and Scotts Valley, go to www.PASportsOnline.com).

Gunn's Giaccia qualifies for state wrestling

by Keith Peters

Gunn senior Nic Giaccia earned his second straight trip to the CIF State Wrestling Championships by finishing third at 160 pounds at the Central Coast Section finals Saturday at Overfelt High in San Jose.

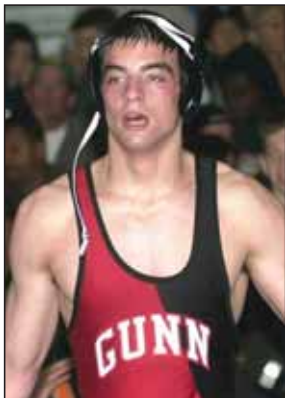
Giaccia, who finished fourth last year at 147 pounds, wrestled up two weight divisions this season. He finished 5-1 during the two-day section meet, which began Friday at Independence High in San Jose.

This marks the fourth straight year that Gunn has been represented at the state championships.

Giaccia went 3-0 on Friday. He pinned Kevin Casteck of Serra in

0:55 to open. He followed with a state meet berth already clinched, Giaccia decided over Mason Sinclair of St. Francis. To finish off the first day, Giaccia pinned Rob Riedler of King City in 2:46.

On Saturday, Giaccia lost to No. 6 seed Ethan Ogle of Gilroy, 7-1, to drop into the consolation bracket. There, he held off Enrique Lucatero of San Benito, 7-6, to reach the third-place match against No. 3 seed Alex Kellogg of San Lorenzo Valley. With a top-four finish and



and suffered a pin to keep him out of the third-place match. ■

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Stanford still needs two wins to clinch top seed

by Rick Eyrer

Stanford's 60-58 victory over California put the seventh-ranked Cardinal in good position but it didn't guarantee anything. Stanford remains in a must-win situation as it gets set for the final two games of the regular season.

Stanford (14-2, 25-3) still needs to win both games to clinch the top seed in the Pac-10 tournament and at least a share of its eighth straight conference championship, and the Cardinal doesn't always have the best of games in Seattle.

Washington (7-8, 12-15) has won its last four games at home and is 5-2 there against Pac-10 competition. Stanford has lost four of its past eight trips into Seattle and is coming off an emotional win over the Bears.

Friday's 7 p.m. game at Washington will be just the second time ever the Cardinal play on Feb. 29, and the first time since 1992.

"This was a great win to get back on top but now we're looking at Washington," Stanford freshman forward Kayla Pedersen said.

Stanford still has the distractions that come with Candice Wiggins nearing the Pac-10 career scoring record — she needs 37 to surpass Lisa Leslie's 2,414. The Cardinal has done a good job of keeping those distractions to a minimum, but now it may happen on the road, which is tough enough as it is.

Washington State has also improved over the course of the season, though probably not enough to challenge the Cardinal, which has won all 45 meetings with the Cougars.

The win over Cal, although no masterpiece, was an example of how Stanford was able to keep pushing through every frustration, shaking things off quickly and moving forward.

What could be more frustrating than watching three different players miss the front end of a one-and-one in the final 37 seconds? Or watching the opponents consistently grab offensive rebounds?

Stanford men

(continued from page 27)

the 10-minute mark of the opening period. Lopez had just two points. Things were different in the second half, due largely to Goods' ability to spread Cal's defense.

"The refs let us play," Goods said. "They let us decide the outcome of the game. We love a physical game because it makes it more fun."

The Bears were within 64-62 with just over four minutes to play before Stanford began to pull away.

"You always have to beat Cal because when you come back to school you have to face the students," Goods said. "So it was good to get this win for that reason."

Goods scored 20 points for the first time since Nov. 11, when he scored 23 against UC Santa Barbara. Brook Lopez scored 13 of his 15 points in the second half, includ-

Wiggins missed 14 of her first 16 shots before stealing the ball from Devanei Hampton and scoring on a layup that gave the Cardinal the lead for good at 58-56 with 2:47 to go. She hit a short jumper a minute later to boost Stanford's lead and the Cardinal hung on through all sorts of twists and turns.

"I think the game was all that it was billed to be," Stanford coach Tara VanDerveer said. "To me it was like a heavyweight fight. Sometimes it wasn't really pretty but it was very competitively played."

Wiggins went over 32 minutes between baskets, during which time JJ Hones stepped up, Pedersen made big plays, and finally, Jayne Appel asserted herself into the competition and carried the team for much of the second half.

"At halftime Jayne came out of hibernation and went to work," VanDerveer said. "She really took over the game for us. I'm really proud of how well she played. That was our focus, get Jayne the ball. She delivered. She got an earful at halftime, took it in and stepped it up. I thought that was the whole difference in the second half."

Appel and Wiggins each played the majority of the final 5:47 with four fouls. Those precious minutes Morgan Clyburn and Jeanette Pohlen spent on the court proved to make a difference. Even without its two stars the Cardinal never allowed California (14-2, 23-4) to take the ball and run away.

"I have so much confidence in my teammates. They showed that even if I was struggling they were all there to pick me up," Wiggins said. "Obviously I was struggling and it was hard and it was frustrating. But this team stays together and when someone is down the other four or other 10 people are picking up that person."

Hones and Appel led Stanford, each with 16 points. They combined to shot 61 percent from the field (11-for-18), an astonishing figure given that the rest of the team shot less than 23 percent. ■

ing six in the final 3:08. He also grabbed nine rebounds, blocked two shots and turned in several defensive plays that turned the Bears away.

"These games do get a little heated, but I've been trying to keep from exploding and just enjoy these physical games," Lopez said. "Basketball is always fun. We're out there because we love it. We tried hard to defense (Ryan Anderson). He definitely missed some opportunities. He had a few open look 3's that just didn't fall for him. He's a great player. He just didn't have a good game."

Mitch Johnson and Robin Lopez each added 11 points, while Lawrence Hill had nine points and seven rebounds.

Stanford missed six of its first 11 free throw attempts but then made 17 of 19 to make it difficult for Cal to claw its way to the lead. ■

Expect more of Giovanni.

He has Francisco.

Francisco Espinoza, 19, wasn't always as lucky as Giovanni. Once a boy of streets and gangs, Francisco heard about the safety, friendship, and the life-building academic and arts programs of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula. The club's mentors and peers moved him. Now he's on staff, helping kids beat the Opportunity Gap that defeats so many in his low-income neighborhoods. Francisco is a role model: with club coaching, he graduated from high school, made Foothill College, is a good musician, and created an inspiring video shown at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival.

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- Shoes
- Toys

Much More!

Not valid with any other offers or discounts,
one per customer, expires 3/31/08
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526 Waverley St. • Palo Alto
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Advertise your business in this space with a special offer

Call Tony 650-326-8210 x201

FREE BAGELS
Buy 8 Bagels, Get 5 Free

Offers cannot be combined.
Please present coupon.
Expires 3/31/08



HOUSE OF BAGELS
526 University, Downtown Palo Alto
322-5189

MANICURE AND SPA PEDICURE

\$22
(reg. \$37)

EXPRESS MINI FACIAL & MANICURE

\$50

BodyKneads SPA+SALON

810 San Antonio Rd., Palo Alto (650) 852-0546
Open 7 days 10-10

Expires 3/31/08. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Not valid as a gift certificate.



50% Discount on all Nielsen Sectional Frame Kits with this coupon!

(May not be combined with any other offers or discounts! Limit one coupon per customer! Coupon must be presented at time of purchase! Expires 3/31/08)

Wood Frame Kits in Black & Walnut
Metal Frame Kits in Silver, Gold, Black & Grey
Sizes: 5" to 40"

UNIVERSITY ART • Palo Alto
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also in • San Francisco • San Jose • Sacramento
North Sacramento • www.universityart.com



FREE DINNER

Buy 1 dinner entree & receive 2nd entree of equal or lesser value 1/2 OFF
Must present coupon, limit 2 coupons per table.
Expires 3/31/08
Not valid on FRI or SAT

Darbar FINE INDIAN CUISINE

Largest Indian Buffet in Downtown PA
Take-out & Catering Available

129 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto
650-321-6688

open 7 days

\$4.00 OFF

ANY LARGE PIZZA FREE DELIVERY

Not valid with any other offer.
Expires 3/31/08

322-8100

DELIVERY ONLY



Best Chinese Cuisine Since 1956
1700 Embarcadero, Palo Alto
856-7700



10% Off

LUNCH
(Includes Dim Sum on Carts)
(Maximum Discount \$15.00)

DINNER
(Maximum Discount \$15.00)

TAKE-OUT

DELIVERY
(Minimum \$30.00)

Not valid on private room dining. Must present coupon. Valid only for orders placed directly with Ming's. Black-out dates may apply. Cannot be combined with other offer.



COMPLETE CAR CARE SPECIALISTS

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650.328.0287

Oil Change

\$19.95*
+Tax and disposal fee

*Most cars & light trucks.
Cannot be combined with any other offer.
Must present coupon.



We are a consumer assistance program
Gold Shield station



Schedule Maintenance
30/60/90K
Factory Recommended Service

- Brakes
- Mufflers
- Catalytic Converters

(1 block north of Stanford Shopping Center & 2 blocks south of Downtown Menlo Park)

Expires 4/30/08

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So, the next time you have an item to sell, barter, give away or buy, get the perfect combination: print ads in your local newspapers, reaching more than 150,000 readers, and unlimited free web postings reaching hundreds of thousands additional people!!

INDEX

- BULLETIN BOARD 100-155
- FOR SALE 200-270
- KIDS STUFF 330-390
- MIND & BODY 400-499
- JOBS 500-560
- BUSINESS SERVICES 600-699
- HOME SERVICES 700-799
- FOR RENT/ FOR SALE REAL ESTATE 801-899
- PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICES 995-997

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

Considering Adoption?
We match Birthmothers with Families nationwide. Living Expenses Paid. Toll Free 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 1-866-459-3369. (Cal-SCAN)

Pregnant? Considering Adoption
Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions 866-413-6293 (AAN CAN)

- A BABY BOOMER ???
- You Can Go Carbon Neutral! \$50
- Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA)
- Color Therapy Workshop
- Complete Reiki I
- Dancer Dejour Retail Store
- Emerson School Open Houses
- Friday Night Chess
- GREEN Home Improve Contractor
- Guided Imagery meditation group
- Issues with food?
- JKD Self Defense School
- Military Veterans
- Mozart and the Enlightenment
- One Stop Dance & Theater Store
- Reiki 2 Energy Healing Class
- Reiki treatments this Sunday
- Silicon Valley Singles Mixer
- Special guided meditation
- West Bay Opera in COSI FAN TUTTE

130 Classes & Instruction

Adult Spanish Lessons

GERMAN Language Class

Instruction for Hebrew
Bar and Bat Mitzvah For Affiliated and Unaffiliated
George Rubin, M.A. in Hebrew/Jewish Education
650/424-1940

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Weekend Expressive Art Workshop

133 Music Lessons

A Piano Teacher
Children & Adults
Ema Currier (650)493-4797

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Instruction, All Levels. Roger Emanuels, cello and Laura Barton, vocals.
650/965-0139

Hope Street Studios
In Downtown Mountain View
Most Instruments, Voice
All Ages, All Levels
(650) 961-2192

Jazz & Pop Piano Lessons
Learn how to build chords & improvise.
Bill Susman, M.A., Stanford.
(650)906-7529

McCOOL PIANO 566-9391(MP)
mccoolpiano.com 5 min walk fr.
Burgess gym

Piano Lessons
Taught in your home.
Member MTAC & NGPT.
Specializing in beginners.
Karen, (650)233-9689

Piano Lessons in Palo Alto
Call Alita (650)838-9772

Violin-Classical, fiddle, jazz
Kids & adults. MV & Cupertino. MM, Eastman; tchg credential; former SJ Symphony. 408/446-5744

135 Group Activities

- Art fun for kids
- Art made fun 4 kids
- Art/Spring workshops for kids
- BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT GROUP - \$1
- Clay art 4 kids!
- Clay art class 4 kids
- FREE Breast Cancer Group
- Free Reiki Treatments
- Moms, Get Fit!
- Scrabble-Bstrn Mkt-Mon Evg-Free
- Trouble with food?

140 Lost & Found

Found Currency
Nov. 2007 owner must provide details re: where & how lost, total amount & denomin. Contact Nancy Gable, Menlo Park Police (650) 330-6334
found tan 35 lb short hair puppy
Found: Currency

Lost jewelry - Reward

Lost grey bird w/ red cheeks
Runaway Cat!

145 Non-Profits Needs

IBOK Rescue Needs Your Help!

150 Volunteers

- Support Tropical Reforestation!
- Are YOU up to the Challenge?
- Be a Friend! Make a Difference!
- Be a Mentor! Change a Life!
- Become a Mentor! Once a week!
- Children's Art Docents

DEPRESSION?

- foster a shy tame cat in need
- Fosterers for NASA cats needed

Gallery Shop Volunteer

Library Volunteers Needed

Read to Children

Reading to the Visually Impaired

Senior Games volunteers needed

volunteers needed to visit

152 Research Study Volunteers

Chronic Pain Patients needed
for a 12 visit research study.
No Drugs. If interested, contact
(650)585-5304 or
elaramee@omneuron.com

No phone number in the ad?
GO TO
fogster.com
for contact information

For Sale

201 Autos/Trucks/ Parts

\$500 Police Impounds
Cars from \$500! Tax repos, US Marshal and IRS sales! Cars, trucks, SUVs, Toyotas, Hondas, Chevys, more! For listings, call 1-800-706-1759 X6443 (AAN CAN)

Donate Vehicle
Running or not accepted! Free Towing. Tax Deductible. Noahs Arc - Support No Kill Shelters, Animal Rights, Research to Advance Veterinary Treatments, Cures. 1-866-912-GIVE. (Cal-SCAN)

Donate Your Car
Children's Cancer Fund! Help Save A Child's Life Through Research & Support! Free Vacation Package. Fast, Easy & Tax Deductible. Call 1-800-252-0615. (Cal-SCAN)

BMW 1984 318i
1984 BMW 318i. Cute, classic 2-door, stick shift. \$1250 obo. 650-856-6637.

BMW 1998 740i - \$13,950

Cable Tire Chains - \$15

Car Trailer 650 390-9921 - \$500

Ford 1998 Eddie Bauer Expedition - \$6900

Ford 2001 Escape XLT 4WD - \$8725 obo

Honda 1983 Accord

hyundai 2002 accent
- 5 speed manual transmission
- 50,000 miles
- extremely economical
- phone (650)4940516 evenings

Lexus 1996 LS400 - \$9,500

Mercedes 2002 ML500 SUV - \$17,900.

Mercedes 2002 ML500 Suv - \$15,750.



Kids' Stuff

330 Child Care Offered

- Afternoon Babysitter Available
- How to fund childcare -Divorce
- Get spousal funding 4 child c
- BABYSITTER
- Camp reviews - Neighbor.com
- Experienced Baby Sitter!!!! - \$10/hr
- Experienced Nanny**
Avail. F/T. CDL, CPR. Exp. with newborns and toddlers. dtroche2003@yahoo.com
- Experienced nanny for you!
- Grandma W/2 openings for Infants

- Grandma w/loving arms Infants
- Great nanny looking for full time
- Live Out Nanny/House Manager
- LOVING & CARING NANNY AVAILABLE
- Mary Poppins For Hire!**
All ages. CPR cert., TrustLine, top refs. 650/529-9808
- Nanny available ASAP
- NANNY AVAILABLE! FUN, RESPONSIBLE
- Nelly's Childcare and Pre-School - Depends
- New Licensed in home childcare
- Reliable Nanny
- WEEKEND BABYSITTER!!!

340 Child Care Wanted

After School Help Needed
After school help for 2 girls, 10, 15. P/U from schools, drive to activities, homework supervision, dinner prep.

Must speak English, exc driving record, reliable car, NS, refs required. Approx 2 - 6pm, M-F \$20/hr Rita 650-255-1839.

babysitter 2h a day and we

Childcare Wanted

Fun Nanny Needed 4 3/19-3/22

Nanny Companion P/T
for delightful 14 y/o boy. Mon. and Tues., 4-8pm. Own car, English speaking. 650/321-1920

Peninsula Parents

Are you looking for a nanny?
Advertise in the Weekly's Kids' Stuff section and reach over 90,000 readers!
326-8216

Stanford Park Nannies

Palo Alto care for 9 mo girl and 3 yr boy 8:00-4:00, M-F, \$800/wk

MP mom needs 3 mornings Darling 3 year old girl 9-2, M/Tu/Th, \$18/hr

650-462-4580
www.spannannies.com

Substitute Teacher Wanted

345 Tutoring/Lessons

- Adult French Lessons
- Adult Spanish Lessons
- Art:Classes, birthday parties! - 650/7990235
- Back 2 School Spanish & French!
- French & Spanish for Adults
- French Lessons for Home Schooled

French Native Teacher
All levels and ages. SAT, AP, conversation for travelers and business professionals. Hessen Camille Ghazal, Ph.D. 650/965-9696

French, Spanish for HS students

Language Experts
Experienced European French-Spanish Teacher with degree. Kids, high schoolers, special programs for adults. (650)691-9863 (650)804-5055 www.languageexpert.com

Math & Spanish Specialists K-16 - \$40 to \$80 p/h

One-to-One Tutoring Service - 363-8799

Physics-Chemistry-Biology Tutors

Spanish 4 hme schooled

Spanish for High School Students

350 Preschools/Schools/Camps

Montessori Preschool
Ages 3-6. Environment designed for learning and exploration. 650/857-0655. www.growingtreepreschool.com

Waldorf preschool

355 Items for Sale

kids' adidas soccer shoes, 4 1/2 - \$12

go to fogster.com to respond to ads without phone numbers



SUMMER FUN 2008

It's All About The Kids



Andy Harader Tennis ● Camp

June 16 - August 22
9AM - NOON • AGES 7-16

@ PALO ALTO H.S.
www.andystenniscamp.com

(650) 364-6233

HOPE MUSICAL THEATRE

Summer Camp
Sign up today!

Put on a whole show in 2 weeks with costumes, sets and much more!
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(650) 568-3332



(2nd grade-12th)



International School of the Peninsula Language Immersion Summer Camp

French • Chinese • Spanish • ESL

Nursery - 8th Grade
Three 2-week Sessions
Located in Palo Alto

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7/7 - 7/18
7/21 - 8/1

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Under the Tropics



(650) 251-8519 • SummerCamp@istp.org • www.istp.org
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夏令营说明与三锐(Sunrise)公开课 Open House & Enrollment

S. Palo Alto	2/27 (Wed)	5:00pm	(650) 353-0850
Mt View	2/28 (Thurs)	5:30pm	(650) 353-0881
N. Palo Alto	2/29 (Fri)	5:30pm	(650) 858-1880
Mt View	3/6 (Thurs)	10am-3pm	Google (bldg 42) onsite enrollment

夏令营种类

A 北京上海中文沉浸东方文化
游学夏令营
Beijing-Shanghai Chinese Immersion
Travel Summer Camp



B 当地 (Local-Palo Alto campus & Mt. View campus)

● 三锐韵文游戏夏令营
Sunrise Chinese Summer Camp
(www.oksunrise.org)
● 才艺文体兴趣培训夏令营
Art & Sports Enrichment Summer Camp



硅谷建平中文学校 Champion Youth Enrichment School
www.championyes.com



Spring Down EQUESTRIAN CENTER

2008 HORSEMANSHIP CAMPS

Winter Camp:	February 18-22	Summer Camps:	
Spring Camp:	March 17-21	Session I:	June 16-June 27
	April 14-18	Session II:	June 30-July 11
1 Day Mini Camps:	May 31 & June 7	Session III:	July 14-25
Intermediate/ Advanced Camp:	June 16-19	Session IV:	July 28-August 8
		Session V:	August 11-22

725 Portola Rd., Portola Valley
(650) 851-1114 www.springdown.com

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Camp Gator

June 16 - August 1
Boys and Girls ages 4-18

Activities include Wide World of Sports, Camp Gator Adventures,
Swim School, Various Sports Clinics including Soccer, Basketball,
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Day Camp for ages 6 through 9

Residential Camps for ages 9 through 17

One and two week sessions begin June 16th through August 15th
Register Online: www.hiddenvilla.org

26870 Moody Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022 650-949-8641

Woodland School Summer Adventures

June 30 - August 1
Kindergarten through 8th Grade

Academics
Horseback Riding, Art, Music
Gymnastics, Computers
Sports, Drama, Campfire Night

Call now for Summer Adventure information, or our fall
enrollment package.

Woodland School

PRE-K THROUGH 8TH GRADE INDEPENDENT DAY SCHOOL

360 La Cuesta Drive
Portola Valley
Ca. 94028

650 854 9065

www.woodland-school.org

To include your school or camp in Summer Fun, please call 650-326-8210 x213



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Noon**

Thursday
(space reservation
& copy)

**Friday edi-
tion
Noon**

Tuesday
(space reservation
& copy)

**Please Call
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Real Estate
Advertising
650-326-8210
ext. 237**

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Ads in the paper without phone numbers are free ads posted through our fogster.com classified web site. Complete information appears on the web site. The person placing the ad always has the option of buying lines for print in the newspaper. Many do, some do not – it is their choice.

These free lines in print are meant to share with you a little of a lot that is available online. We offer it as an added bonus. Hopefully, you will be encouraged to check out fogster.com

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Special section includes relevant news and articles about the real estate market...where it's been, where it is now and where it's heading. It represents a great opportunity to promote yourself or your listings to over **155,000** readers of our newspapers in Woodside, Atherton, Portola Valley, Menlo Park, Palo Alto, Stanford, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View.

Your ad can appear in both the Almanac/Weekly version on **April 23 - 25** and/or the Mountain View Voice on **April 25**

DEADLINES

Space reservation: **Friday, April 4**

Copy/Layout: **Monday, April 7**

Digitally-prepared ads: **Monday, April 7**



To place your ad,
please contact your
sales rep at the following
newspapers:

**Palo
Alto
Weekly**

326-8210
PALO ALTO WEEKLY
Kathryn Brottem
(ext. 237)

The Almanac

854-2626
THE ALMANAC
Neal Fine (ext. 233)
or Nora Melendez (ext. 230)

**MountainView
VOICE**

964-6300
MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE
Pooja Bhardwaj (ext. 28)

PALO ALTO WEEKLY • THE ALMANAC • MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE
2008 SPRING REAL ESTATE



PALO ALTO 6+ 4

NEW HOME IN SOUTH PA \$2,675,000
Spacious new hm. 10,745sf lot. Separate dining room, spacious family kitchen w/fireplace
Alan & Nicki Loveless 650.325.6161



PALO ALTO 3 3

STUNNING PENTHOUSE \$1,995,000
Enjoy beautiful views of Western Hills & Stanford from this 13th floor Penthouse.
Ann Griffiths 650.325.6161



MOUNTAIN VIEW 3 1

QUIET DESIRABLE STREET \$795,000
3 BR 1 BA in a desirable street & neighborhood. New sod. Newly painted. Private backyd. 2-car gar.
Garrett Mock 650.328.5211



REDWOOD CITY 3 2

GREAT HOME W/IN-LAW UNIT \$648,500
3 BR 2 BA w. 1/1 in-law unit. Great private lot. 75x105 w/nice lawn, patio and more. Remod. kitchen.
Joy Yoo 650.328.5211

BEDROOMS | BATHROOMS

ATHERTON

STATELY GRAND ESTATE \$17,900,000
6 BR 4 BA 10350sf (includes guest hs) on 1.81 A in prime Circus Club area. Almost completely redone!
Hanna Shacham 650.324.4456

EAST PALO ALTO

LARGE LOT-PRIVATE STREET \$485,000
2 BR 1 BA Two Bedrooms, One Full Bath, Double Paned Windows and Tile Roof. Landscaped yards.
Prieto Team 650.325.6161

1 OF BEST EPA LOCATIONS! \$479,950
3 BR 3.5 BA Fresh paint! New fixtures, flr, landscape & appliances! Bonus rm off mstr! Gar. conv w/bath.
Wendi Selig-Aimonetti 650.328.5211

CONVENIENT LOCATION \$435,000
3 BR 1 BA Spacious bedrooms, cozy kitchen with breakfast bar, living and dining room combo.
Prieto Team 650.325.6161

UPDATED, NEAR SHOPPING \$434,000
2 BR 1 BA Spacious bedrms, kitchen with tile floors, separate dining area, living room w. fireplace
Prieto Team 650.325.6161

NEWER PAINT AND CARPETING \$375,000
3 BR 2 BA Kitchen with breakfast bar, inviting living room with fireplace, Updated Baths. Carport.
Prieto Team 650.325.6161

LOC IN UNIVERSITY VILLAGE \$360,000
3 BR 1 BA Home features tile floors, cozy kitchen, dining and living room combo with fireplace.
Prieto Team 650.325.6161

LOS ALTOS

WONDERFUL HOME \$2,495,000
5 BR 4 BA This tastefully remodeled home is a joy to see. It is convenient to great schools & parks.
Joanne Shapiro 650.328.5211

SPACIOUS RANCH CUL-DE-SAC \$1,695,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Expansive single-level floorplan. Fireplace in LR/FR, eat-in kitchen, DR, 2-car garage.
Dorothy Gurwith 650.325.6161

LARGE/REMODELED DOWNTOWN \$795,000
2 BR 2 BA Remodeled upstairs end unit with chef's kitchen, separate dining, balcony, fireplace.
Owen Halliday 650.325.6161

LOS ALTOS HILLS

NEW OASIS \$15,000,000
7 BR 7.5 BA Unparalleled luxury & landmark architecture await you at this home w/10,666 sf on 1+ acre.
Hanna Shacham 650.324.4456

NEW PRICE! \$4,275,000
4 BR 4 BA Gorgeous, nearly 5000 sq ft estate on large 1.16 acre lot w/bay views w/PA schools.
Nathalie de Saint Andrieu 650.324.4456

MENLO PARK

PRIME WEST MENLO! \$2,200,000
3 BR 1 BA Final plans submitted to building dept. for 6BR/6BA, 5400sf Craftsman on 10,690sf lot.
Mandana Nejad 650.325.6161

NEWLY BUILT TWO STORY \$2,195,000
4 BR 3.5 BA Beautiful home with two master suites. Las Lomitas schools.
Tom LeMieux 650.323.7751

PEACEFUL RETREAT \$1,875,000
3 BR 1.5 BA Rare Opportunity! Secluded, peaceful property off a private drive. Close to 1/3 of an acre
Maya & Jason Sewald 650.323.7751

504 OKEEFE ST \$1,680,000
4 BR 3 BA Beautiful New Construction in the Willows. Built by J5 Homes. Designed by Alex Miller-Cole
Mandana Nejad 650.325.6161

STUNNING 1930'S HOME! \$1,495,000
3 BR 2 BA Vaulted ceilings, gourmet eat-in kitchen. Lovely Backyard. MP Schools!
Keri Nicholas 650.323.7751

LARGE LOT IN ALLIED ARTS \$1,395,000
2 BR 1.5 BA Charming home in outstanding location. Remodel, add on, build new! Separate unit in back.
Sharon Witte & Hossein Jalali 650.325.6161

SOPHISTICATED & STYLISH \$850,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Don't miss! Impeccably maintained. Close to Google, but in Menlo Park!
Geraldine Asmus 650.325.6161

610 GILBERT AVE #17 \$499,000
2 BR 1 BA Great 1st Flr Unit Condo, Spacious Living Room, Hardwood Floors, Green Setting Patio Area
Greg Stange 650.325.6161

MOUNTAIN VIEW

RENOVATED EICHLER \$899,000
3 BR 2 BA Expanded Eichler on large lot. Big family room, updated kitchen & baths. New landscaping.
Pat Jordan 650.325.6161

REMODELED HOME \$880,000
3 BR 2 BA Located on a quiet st. New kitchen w. granite counters & wood counters. Dual-pane windows.
Garrett Mock 650.328.5211

REMODELED WITH A WOW! \$540,000
2 BR 1.5 BA Stunning new kitchen & mstr bath. New pergo & carpet throughout, paint. For sale or lease
Geraldine Asmus 650.325.6161

TOWNHOME LIKE NO OTHER! \$569,999
2 BR 1.5 BA 1200+sf! Remod. kitch, granite counters & Viking Stove. Open flr pln, Wood laminate flrs.
Dulcy Freeman 650.325.6161

VAULTED CEILINGS & DECK \$395,000
1 BR 1 BA Lg upstairs condo w/ vaulted ceilings & peaceful deck nestled in treetops.
Owen Halliday 650.325.6161

PALO ALTO

HUGE PRICE REDUCTION! \$4,295,000
6 BR 6 BA Enjoy sophisticated living, just blocks from d'town PA w/nearly 5,000 SF of living space.
Hanna Shacham 650.324.4456

NEW CONSTRUCT. IN OLD PA \$3,900,000
5 BR 4.5 BA Stunning Craftsman by J5 Homes. Open Floor Plan, Imported Materials, High-End Finishes!!
Mandana Nejad 650.325.6161

PA NEW CONSTRUCTION \$3,600,000
5 BR 4.5 BA Villa set upon 3 levels. Imported Spanish finishes, wood-beam ceilings, steam rm, media rm
Mandana Nejad 650.325.6161

CUSTOM BUILT 7-YR-OLD \$2,190,000
5 BR 3.5 BA Lot 7400 sq ft, att. 2-car garage ext. Cul-de-sac, gourmet granite kit
Julie Lau 650.325.6161

RICH, INVITING & BRIGHT \$1,895,000
4 BR 3 BA Beautifully Renovated, Open-design Home has Two Master Suites. Tree-lined Cul-de-sac.
Lan L. Bowling 650.328.5211

FRESH AS SPRING IN N. PA \$1,650,000
3 BR 2 BA Lovely LR/DR with a lot of light, eat-in kitchen with a bay window & skylight.
Nancy Stern 650.325.6161

OLD PA REMOD. CRAFTSMAN \$1,498,000
3 BR 3 BA Lovely & spacious in Walter Hays district. Room for expansion. Remodeled kitchen & 3 baths
Leannah Hunt 650.325.6161

UPDATED CRAFTSMAN COTTAGE \$1,248,000
3 BR 2 BA Great Downtown loc. New kitchen w. granite counters, tile floor, new bath with shower.
Leannah Hunt 650.325.6161

CHARMING COLLEGE TERRACE \$998,000
2 BR 1 BA Near Stanford & Cal Ave. Tudor inspired charm features; updt'd kitchen, f/p, hrdwd floors.
Linda Fahn & Sharon Witte 650.325.6161

DRAMATIC OPEN SPACES \$910,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Light & spacious, vaulted ceilings, remodeled kitchen, new hwdw floors, carpet, paint.
Dante Drummond 650.325.6161

IMMACULATE! \$510,000
1 BR 1 BA w. 2nd bedroom/den/office. Award winning complex with full amenities. High ceilings.
Jerod Trailer 650.325.6161

PORTOLA VALLEY

FABULOUS NEW CONSTRUCTION \$6,995,000
5 BR 4 BA Stunning new contemporary ofrs magnificent mountain, valley views. Completed summer 2008.
Hanna Shacham 650.324.4456

REDWOOD CITY

A MUST SEE GLEAMING FLRS \$799,888
4 BR 2.5 BA Updated kitchen & baths hardwood floors open floor plan dual pane windows marble floors.
Christina Nguyen 650.323.7751

GORGEOUS TOWNHOME! \$739,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Lovely 3BR/2.5BA townhome in prime location. Exquisite master suite.
Keri Nicholas 650.323.7751

REDWOOD CITY DUPLEX \$650,000
A great opportunity! Duplex never vacant! Each unit has 2BR/1BA. Back unit has back yard.
Garrett Mock 650.328.5211

SAN JOSE

WONDERFUL 2-STORY HOME! \$624,888
4 BR 2.5 BA Fireplace, master bedroom suite, spacious backyard. Vaulted ceiling, att. 2-car garage.
April Iroaga 650.328.5211

SAN MATEO

CONVENIENT UNIT \$449,900
2 BR 2 BA Top unit w/fireplace, no common wall, very close to downtown Burlingame, new carpet.
Judy Shen 650.328.5211

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

LIKE NEW! JUST MOVE IN! \$649,000
3 BR 2 BA Great Westborough Location - new bathrooms, interior paint, roof, carpet, and new fencing.
Gordon Ferguson 650.328.5211

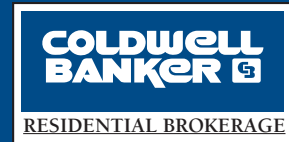
WOODSIDE

BEAUTIFUL PRIVATE SITE \$2,250,000
Apprx. 17 ac of forest on a gated road & adjacent to watershed lands. Excellent WDS schls.
Scott Dancer 650.851.2666

CHARMING WOODSIDE HOME \$1,879,000
3 BR 2 BA Aprox 1/2 Acre - Amazing Views of Western Hills, Artist studio, Woodside Elementary
Erika Demma 650.323.7751

SAN FRANCISCO BAY VIEW! \$1,545,000
4 BR 3 BA Two story home on over an acre. Possible horse property, with view of SF Bay.
Jean Isaacson 650.851.2666

BEAUTIFUL BAY VIEW \$799,000
Serene useable 4.8 acres near Fogarty Winery. Sunny, Oak trees, plus horse property.
Bonnie Rapley 650.851.2666



LOS ALTOS . FIRST STREET
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PALO ALTO . LYTTON
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PALO ALTO . MIDDLEFIELD
650.328.5211

PORTOLA VALLEY
650.851.1961

WOODSIDE
650.851.2666

