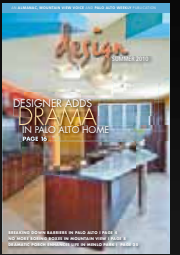


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Vol. XXXI, Number 42 • July 23, 2010 ■ 50¢

Inside this issue
Summer
Home + Garden
Design



Weekly

www.PaloAltoOnline.com

the retirement-home dilemma

plan now for the future

page 15

**1ST PLACE
GENERAL
EXCELLENCE** 
California Newspaper Publishers Association

Spectrum 12 Movies 27 Eating Out 29 Puzzles 60

- Arts Paying tribute to Django's 'gypsy jazz' Page 23
- Sports Jeremy Lin signs with the Warriors Page 32
- Home How edible is your garden? Page 37



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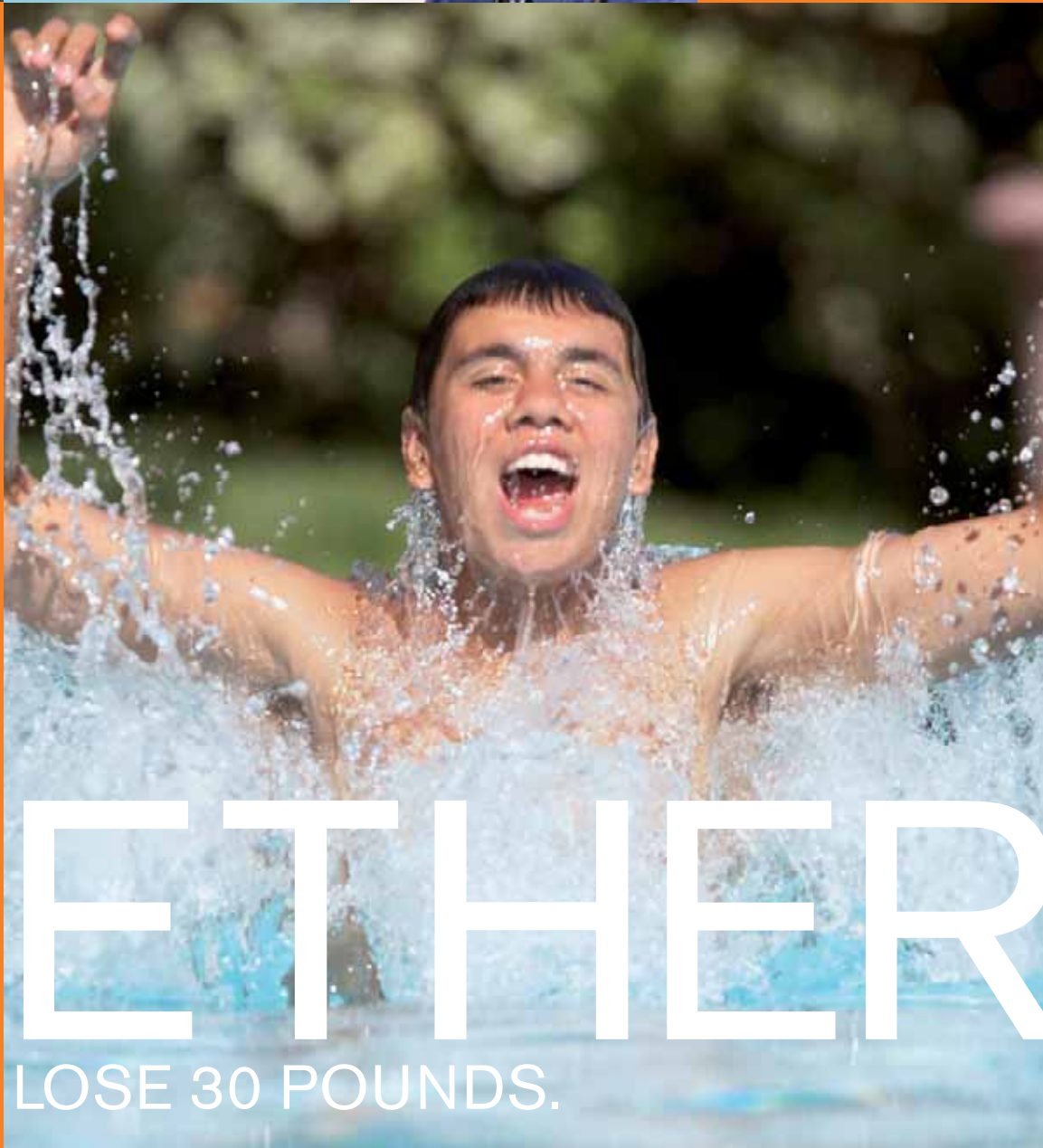
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Palo Alto may switch to even-year elections

Move would save city money,
extend terms of current council members

by Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto officials could soon switch to even years for local elections — a move that would save the city about \$200,000 every two years and extend the terms of current City Council members by a year.

The council asked the City Attorney's office early Tuesday morning to draft an ordinance that would change the city's election year from odd to even years, a switch that was

proposed last month by Santa Clara County Supervisor Liz Kniss. The switch would have to be approved by city voters.

Kniss, a former Palo Alto mayor, told the council at the June 21 meeting that most cities in the county already hold their elections on even years, which coincides with state and federal elections. Los Altos and Gilroy had recently switched from odd to even years, while Cupertino

decided to stay on odd years.

A switch from odd to even years would require the council to change the City Charter. It would also stretch the terms of four council members — Pat Burt, Sid Espinosa, Greg Schmid and Yiaway Yeh — until 2012. Their terms are currently scheduled to expire in 2011.

The five council members who were elected (or, in Larry Klein's case, reelected) last November would see their terms expire in 2014 if the measure gets on the ballot and the voters approve it.

The council voted 8-1, with Schmid dissenting, to ask the city's

legal staff to draft a charter amendment and ballot language that would allow current council members to serve five-year terms and that would not effect their ability to serve two terms.

Kniss acknowledged during her presentation last month that the political aspect of the switch could be the most difficult obstacle. But she said the switch would both save the city money and raise voter turnout.

"Voters are much more engaged, especially in a presidential year, and the buzz of running is always a bigger buzz," Kniss told the council.

Councilwoman Karen Holman

and Greg Scharff made the proposal to request an ordinance changing the election year. The council will discuss the proposal on Aug. 2, the final meeting before its August recess.

The council agreed at the end of its meeting — which spilled over from Monday night into early Tuesday morning — that Kniss' proposal deserves a closer look.

"I think it's important to have a discussion on the matter, given that she raised it and it's an important issue," Scharff said. ■

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be e-mailed at gsheyner@pawekly.com.

TECHNOLOGY

Stanford goes electronic with newest library

Online-based library will provide easier access
and convenience, librarian says

by Angela Chen

When Stanford University unveils its new engineering library Aug. 2, students will notice that the shelves now hold fewer books than ever.

And that's just how the university wants it.

Stanford is one of the first partners in the Google Books Library Project, an initiative to digitize content into an online database. The university has moved thousands of volumes to off-campus storage and added subscriptions to more than 25,000 Web journals as a result.

It's a practical solution for a university that buys books at a rate of 273 per day and is running out of on-campus storage space, officials say.

Stanford is only one of the schools moving toward electronic libraries. From the University of California system to Cornell University in New York, the trend has been growing in recent years. The University of Texas-San Antonio opened a new library this year with study rooms and computers but without a single book, while Arizona State University presented undergraduates with Kindles loaded with course materials, only to be sued by blind students over the e-reader's inaccessibility.

Nor is this phenomenon limited to institutions of higher education. One notable example is Cushing Academy, a Massachusetts preparatory school that has purchased e-readers, discarded half its library and replaced the traditional reference desk with a coffee shop and cappuccino maker, according to the school website.

Unlike Cushing, no e-readers or

coffee devices are replacing the books at Stanford.

The new Jen-Hsun Huang Engineering Library is part of an engineering quad and occupies only 6,000 square feet — less than half the 16,000 square-foot area of the original Terman Engineering Library. Accordingly, its shelves will hold only 10,000 books, an 85 percent decrease from the total volumes housed in Terman. That 85 percent translates to more than 80,000 books being stored 40 miles away in Livermore.

"We're not throwing away a single book, but we do need another place to store them," Stanford Dean of Engineering Jim Plummer said. "So many of our students and faculty already use online resources for most of their work. The new library reflects the way the world of engineering works today."

It is natural for the engineering library to have its books stored off site, Stanford Director of Library Communications Andrew Herkovic said. In engineering, as in physics and similar departments, a "book" is often a bound set of journals or periodicals instead of a narrative read in chronological order. They are easy to digitize, and as a result, engineering content is readily found online.

For the past three years, Head of Stanford Engineering Library Helen Josephine has been in charge of deciding which books remain and which are shipped away. She said that the overriding factor is how often the book has been used. As a general rule, books that have not been checked out in the past five



Struttin' his stuff

A peacock displays all his glory at the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo, which recently reopened the bobcat exhibit area after extensive renovation.

Veronica Weber

years are relegated to the Livermore facility, while often-used materials — including those requested by professors for instructional use in the classroom — remain on campus.

Other considerations include the age of material, especially since information in engineering becomes outdated very quickly, and the condition of the book.

"Storing off-site is actually better for the books since it's a climate-controlled facility," Josephine said.

The 80,000 volumes in Livermore will still be available to Stanford students, retrievable within 24 hours.

On the whole, Josephine said, the new library is more convenient for students. They don't even have to come to the library to use its contents.

"Having this material online makes it so much easier to find, and simultaneous students can access the materials. They're available to students 24/7 instead of just when the library is open, which gives students much more freedom," she said.

It also changes librarians' responsibilities.

"With electronic libraries, we'll

have new duties that include things such as scanning, helping with Google Book search and helping facilitate access of information no matter what format," she said.

However, mechanical-engineering undergraduate Ben Kallman said that moving books off site is a loss, despite the ease of online materials.

"The prospect of browsing a shelf online is not appealing for a student in need of inspiration," he said in an e-mail. "There is no replacement for a shelf of books all on the same topic."

Herkovic said that another disadvantage is that people may not be prepared to read large quantities of material on the screen.

However, electronic media has other uses, such as potentially reducing paper usage, he said. Whereas in the past people would buy an entire book, students can now print only the chapter as needed, which will result in less overall paper usage.

He believes that universities will continue to switch to the Stanford model because it provides high-tech convenience while preserving the original volumes.

EDUCATION

Intensive summer school draws to a close

Two-semester classes
are new this year

by Chris Kenrick

Nearly 100 high school students are immersed in a new summer-school offering in Palo Alto this year — two-semester classes.

Of the 2,958 children and teens currently enrolled in summer school, 98 are high school students completing courses such as algebra 1, geometry, biology and world history.

The "second semester" will end July 30. First semester ran from June 21 to July 9.

The two-semester program — squeezed into six weeks of intensive, five-hour days — is a new offering, created in response to pleas from teachers, students and parents, according to Assistant Superintendent Virginia Davis.

Previously, Palo Alto summer school offered at most only one-semester's worth of class.

"Students were having to go to other districts or to private high schools in the area to make up the credits they needed or wanted, so we added the extra weeks," Davis said in an interview Wednesday.

"Our kids have changing and emerging needs, and we're trying to change to address those needs."

About one out of every four Palo Alto students is enrolled in the district's summer school program.

Students sign up for both "enrichment" and "remedial" reasons,

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“ Instead of thinking in millions, I’m thinking in billions. ”

— Martha Kanter, former Foothill-De Anza Community College District chancellor; now U.S. undersecretary of education, on her new, national role. See story on page 5.

Around Town

WE'RE NOT NO. 1? ... The numbers are in, and it's one of those half-full, half-empty situations: Palo Alto trails behind Bethesda, Md., and Greenwich, Conn., in **CNN Money Magazine's** 2010 list of "top-earning towns." Median family income here is \$153,615, and the median home price is \$1,180,000, the magazine said. In Bethesda, home of many federal government employees and Washington D.C.-area professionals, median family income is \$172,541, but homes cost less — \$725,000 is the median price. In New York City's tony bedroom community of Greenwich, median family income is \$164,807 and the median home price is \$997,498.

HAIL TO THE CHIEF ... As a young man, **Nick Marinaro** considered careers as an attorney, a doctor and a professional golfer before he chose to become a firefighter. Marinaro, who retired last month as Palo Alto's fire chief, said he's had no regrets about his career decision. "You never know where the winds of fate will carry you," Marinaro said at Monday night's City Council meeting, minutes after the council passed a resolution in his honor. "If I had to do it all over again, I'd want to be a professional firefighter." Marinaro began his firefighting career at Stanford University, before Stanford's department merged with Palo Alto's. He has spent 37 years in the two departments and served as a firefighter, a paramedic, a fire marshal and a deputy chief before taking over the chief's position in Palo Alto 5 1/2 years ago. On Monday, the soft-spoken and always amiable Marinaro received two standing ovations from a crowd inside Council Chambers and heard Councilwoman **Gail Price** read a resolution praising him for providing "conscientious leadership" and "compassionate management." In his parting words to the council, Marinaro also praised the future leaders of the city's Fire Department. "I hope the pain-taking effort our staff has taken to hire the best and the brightest will bear full fruit because they will be the future of the organization," Marinaro said. "I'm confident that will be the case."

BEATING THE ZONE ... For years, Palo Alto's **Planned Community (PC)** zone has been the bane of local land-use watchdogs. The zoning designation, which allows developers to exceed density requirements in exchange for "community benefits," has been a part of almost every controversial development the city has approved in recent years, including **Alma Plaza**, the **College Terrace Centre** and the condominiums at **800 High St.** Critics have maintained that these "benefits" usually get reduced or forgotten, leaving neighborhoods saddled with massive projects with little upside. This week, a group of local land-use watchdogs united and asked the City Council to do something about the notorious zoning designation. **Winter Dellenbach**, **Bob Moss**, **Tom Jordan** and **Mark Nadim** all characterized the zoning designation as one that gets chronically abused by local developers. Nadim said the PC zone "makes a mockery of the zoning code," while Moss called it a "rip off." Jordan, meanwhile, told the council that the group will be coming back to the council in the near future with specific examples of how developers have failed to comply with the "public benefit" portion of their PC applications.

OVERHAUL ... Waste management is a messy business and nowhere more so than in Palo Alto, where city officials are trying to close a \$6.3 million deficit in the Refuse Fund. On Tuesday, the City Council Finance Committee approved a package of proposals to close the gap. The committee also debated but turned down several dramatic proposals for reducing costs and raising revenues. Vice Mayor **Sid Espinosa** proposed closing down the Recycling Center, a move that would likely require the city to ship its recyclable materials to Sunnyvale. "We should think regionally about our approaches to waste management and recycling," Espinosa said. The proposal was rejected by the rest of the committee, with **Larry Klein** calling it a "backdoor way to change an important city policy." "You cannot be in favor of recycling and not be in favor of the Recycling Center," he said. ■

Weekly launches apps for iPhone, Android

'Palo Alto' applications provide access to news, allow users to submit story tips, photos

by Palo Alto Weekly staff

Two mobile-phone applications that will give iPhone and Android users access to Palo Alto news, sports and other local information are being launched this week by the Palo Alto Weekly and Palo Alto Online.

The apps also allow individuals to submit highly personalized news, photos and story tips, according to Bill Johnson, Weekly publisher and Embarcadero Media president, who announced the new apps Thursday (July 22).

Johnson said the free applications (named "Palo Alto") are available in the iTunes Store and Android Market. Applications for Apple iPad and Blackberry devices will be released soon.

The apps include real-time news and sports feeds from Palo Alto Online, as well as access to the Palo Alto Online Twitter feed and videos. Those who download the application will see the same news and sports information, including photos, appearing on Palo Alto Online but formatted specifically for the mobile phone and without needing to open a Web browser.

In addition, users can use the 360News tool to submit anything from a breaking news report to a tip about a pothole in the road to a video of their daughter's winning goal in a soccer match. Once approved, submitted material appears on the app, on Palo Alto Online and, where appropriate, on YouTube, Flickr,



The free "Palo Alto" app can be found at the iTunes Store and Android Market.

Twitter, 360News and CNNireport sites, with credit going to the user. The applications also feature "push" notifications to users about breaking news or special offers.

"The Palo Alto mobile applications will evolve and improve in the weeks ahead, but they already bring a level of interactivity and engagement that goes beyond the function-

ality offered in most mobile-news applications," Johnson said.

The applications were developed by SachManya, a Santa Clara start-up and creator of award-winning YAPPER (Your APP maker), an online, easy-to-use self-service mobile application maker, and 360News, an interactive geo-aware program that allows users to keep up with local news and submit and comment on news, photos and videos.

When introduced earlier this year, YAPPER won the distinguished 2010 Macworld DEMO Best of Show award and showcased its revolutionary WYSIWYG app creation technology on the main stage.

"YAPPER is a platform for news organizations and other publishers to easily build mobile applications with rich functionality," said Chintu Parikh, chief YAPPER and CEO of SachManya. SachManya was founded by veterans of Yahoo!, Apple, HP, NeXT, Infosys and Wipro.

The Palo Alto Weekly and its parent company, Embarcadero Media, have long been pioneers in online publishing. The Weekly was the first newspaper in the United States to publish its contents directly on the Web in 1994. It since has developed numerous online features, including local sports and real-estate websites, video advertising, a popular community discussion forum (Town Square), a classified-ad website (Fogster), and a daily news digest distributed by e-mail (Express). ■

EDUCATION

Chancellor Kanter goes to Washington

Now U.S. undersecretary of education, former chancellor pushes hard to give U.S. students a boost

by Chris Kenrick

From a hushed corner office overlooking the Capitol dome and the Washington Mall, former Midpeninsula resident Martha Kanter pursues on a grand scale her quest to help the underdog.

Kanter, chancellor of the Foothill-De Anza Community College District from 2003 to 2009, was tapped last year by President Barack Obama to be undersecretary of education — the first top-level federal education official with a deep community-college background.

She now oversees some 1,500 federal employees — about 40 percent of the Department of Education staff — in areas including higher education, vocational and career education, workforce preparation, special White House initiatives for Hispanic students, tribal colleges, historically black colleges and others, plus overseeing billions of dollars of student loans.

"I tell people I have to add three zeroes to everything," she said in an interview with the Weekly in Washington, D.C.

"Instead of thinking in millions,

I'm thinking in billions.

"Instead of trying to scale 'best practices' at two community colleges, I look at the evidence from the entire research community and say, 'What can the federal government do to help institutions scale what works?'"

With a doctorate in organization and leadership, Kanter is well-versed in the realm of education jargon, academic research and statistics.

But her animating passion, from the days of her own relatively privileged, private-school upbringing in Boston, is deeply human — working on behalf of students who are poor, have disabilities, are immigrants or are members of minority groups.

Kanter's driving goal is to boost the nation's low-income, often ill-prepared students to improve their success rates in getting through college and into the higher-pay workforce.

For years, Kanter has rattled off the grim statistics — not so visible in a community such as Palo Alto — with the sense of a crusader.

She cites statistics, such as that 30

percent of the nation's students come to kindergarten poorly prepared, leading to stagnation of math and reading scores by fourth grade.

Another 30 percent of the country's students — 50 percent in some urban and rural areas — drop out of high school.

Many others enter college, including community college, ill-prepared, leading to a 50 percent dropout rate in undergraduate and even in later doctoral programs.

"This is not the America we want," she said. "We have to do better for the next generation."

Her goals are clear-cut: increase access to higher education, improve its quality and get results, as measured by higher rates of achievement, retention, graduation and employment.

"What are the best incentives? How can we scale things, and how can we pay for this?" she asks.

She is proud of the recent simplification of the federal student-aid application, made possible "because we were able to work in collaboration with the Treasury and use information the government already had."

"We need to do a lot more of

(continued on next page)

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Kanter

(continued from page 5)

that!” she said.

Her department’s Office of Innovation is sifting through more than 1,700 “best practices” proposals from districts across the country to find those grounded in “robust, evidence-based research” that should be spread to more schools.

An energetic conference-goer and speechmaker, Kanter has used her bully pulpit to spread the word in 40 states and foreign countries, including India, France and Morocco.

While not promoting specific programs, Kanter said she can shine a spotlight on strategies that have proven effective, including summer bridge programs, performance-based scholarships and programs that permit high-school students to take some of their classes in community colleges.

That approach, known as “early college high school” — similar to the Middle College now offered to Palo Alto students — recently received a significant investment from philanthropist Bill Gates.

In a typical day, Kanter meets a colleague at a Starbucks at 7 a.m. to carpool into the office. She holds a staff meeting; meets with a deputy secretary; hears a research briefing from a Columbia University professor; discusses ways to improve international benchmarking of education data; meets with her boss, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan; attends a meeting in the West Wing; returns to her office for a meeting about student-loan reforms, including “direct lending” to cut out the middleman; discusses civil rights and technologies to help students with disabilities; dines with her chief of staff; goes home; edits two speeches; spends more than an hour responding to e-mail and goes to bed at midnight.

By 2020, President Obama has

called for the United States to have “the best-educated, most competitive workforce in the world,” including the world’s highest rate of college graduation.

To reach that goal, the U.S. must increase from 40 percent to 60 percent the proportion of students who earn associate and baccalaureate degrees, Kanter said.

The administration believes some ways of achieving that are reforming the \$40 billion Pell Grant program; paying more attention to historically black colleges, Hispanic-serving institutions and tribal colleges; and launching policies to ease loan-repayment terms for those who enter teaching, nursing and other areas of public service.

In suggesting reforms to Pell grants, the administration has taken on the for-profit education industry, whose students use the grants in disproportionate numbers.

Proposed rules would make it harder to load students with debt levels not justified by their prospective careers.

Today’s “reality,” Kanter said, is that two-thirds of the nation’s undergraduates hold jobs while they are in school and need programs tailored to their schedules.

Since many enter college unprepared, remedial programs must be streamlined to allow students to catch up quickly and get on with real college work, she said.

Foothill’s self-paced “Math My Way” program is one such example.

It caught the attention of Gates, who dropped in on a session at Foothill in April during his search for “best practices” he can spread across the country.

“Foothill-De Anza prepared me well for this job,” Kanter said. “When you have labor, business, government and education in a region, a publicly elected board and 45,000 students, it’s a great microcosm.”

Kanter was back recently — with Duncan, who spoke at the June 23 and June 24 graduation ceremonies of Foothill and De Anza.

The Harvard-educated Duncan told graduates that community colleges are “central to building a vibrant economy and resilient workforce, and are critical to meeting President Obama’s goal of America once again having the highest percentage of college graduates in the world by 2020.”

With the higher-education portfolio, Kanter is not directly involved in Duncan’s signature \$4.35 billion “Race to the Top” incentive program for K-12 education. But she calls it critical in helping to prepare students for college.

Pieces of Race to the Top — some of which are vigorously opposed by teachers’ unions — include greater use of student-achievement data, turning around low-performing schools, improving teacher quality and lifting caps on charter schools.

“For me it all boils down to helping more students stay on grade level, cutting down on our high-school dropout rate and having them better prepared for college,” Kanter said.

Besides her large desk, Kanter’s expansive office in the huge LBJ Department of Education Building contains a long conference table, a sofa, a framed copy of her White House appointment, a wall of books, and mementos from home — including a photo of her late husband, Carl Brown, and another of her “classmates” from the American Leadership Forum of Silicon Valley, a local networking group.

Kanter also brought with her a few people from home, including Special Assistant Jon O’Bergh, who served in a similar capacity at Foothill-De Anza, and former Foothill-De Anza district trustee Hal Plotkin, who works from a cubicle next to Kanter’s office as a senior policy adviser.

Kanter’s chief of staff is Alejandra Ceja, a Los Angeles native and former staff member for the House Education and Labor Committee.

“I met Martha, and in the first five minutes her energy and passion for education was just contagious,” Ceja said.

“We talked about the need to increase opportunities for minority students, in particular the Latino community, and I was sold.

“How can you say no to this woman?”

“We have a young staff here, but we have a hard time keeping up with her.”

Though clearly relishing the new job, Kanter said she’s surprised to find herself working in the Obama administration.

“I never imagined I’d be doing this kind of work,” she said. “I’d done policy work in Sacramento for five years, but I never thought I’d be in Washington.

“I miss ‘California casual.’ The layers of lawyers, policy wonks and decades of special interests make it ever more important to keep the focus on what’s best for students. ...

“But when you get called to service, you serve.” ■

Staff writer Chris Kenrick can be e-mailed at ckenrick@paweekly.com.

News Digest

School board backs lower tax threshold

Saying they want to help cash-starved schools throughout California, members of the Palo Alto school board Tuesday endorsed a measure to reduce the school-tax threshold.

If passed by the Legislature and approved by voters, the constitutional amendment would lower from two-thirds to 55 percent the majority required to pass a school parcel tax.

It is sponsored by State Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, who began his political career as a member of the Palo Alto school board.

A similar bid by Simitian has failed three times before, most recently last year.

In a phone interview from Sacramento Tuesday, Simitian said he will “force the issue” this year because of the state’s inability to adequately fund education.

“We’re very clearly in a place where the state is unable to provide the level of funding for a quality program of instruction, so the least we can do is give this tool to local folks so they can make the choice about local needs,” he said.

Palo Alto’s two most recent school parcel-tax elections have comfortably exceeded the two-thirds requirement.

In May of this year, 79.4 percent of voters approved an annual \$589-per-parcel tax. That vote replaced a \$493-per-parcel tax approved by 78 percent of voters in June 2005.

But seven months earlier, in November 2004, a bid to boost an existing tax from \$293 per parcel to \$521 per parcel narrowly failed. It received 66.03 percent of the vote, just short of the 66.67 percent needed to pass.

Simitian amended his measure to limit the 55 percent threshold to parcel taxes of \$250 or less. Measures seeking funds beyond that level would still be subject to the two-thirds requirement. ■

— Chris Kenrick

Musical ‘gala’ Sunday to fund disability center

As education budgets are slashed across California, volunteers are working to preserve services to students with disabilities at Foothill College.

A July 25 gala — kicking off performances of the Cole Porter musical “Anything Goes” through Aug. 15 — will raise funds for Foothill’s Adaptive Learning Division, which serves 400 students each quarter.

The center offers “everyday services” to students with physical disabilities and learning disabilities — as well as to veterans of Iraq, Afghanistan and even Vietnam with post-traumatic stress disorder.

The help comes in many forms, from class note-taking assistance, to extra time on tests, to voice-to-text technology that enables a student to dictate school assignments, to counseling and tutoring.

Sara Moussavian, a 2009 Gunn High School graduate who just finished her first year at Foothill, uses software called “Dragon Dictate Naturally Speaking” to dictate and edit her essays.

Moussavian — who has had multiple surgeries for congenital problems and has difficulty using her hands, walking and processing lectures — also gets help from note-takers and uses a special test-taking room, where she gets extra time on exams.

After Foothill, she hopes to transfer to a four-year state college or university and aims for a “high demand” job.

Budget cuts earlier this year meant layoffs for three of the 19 staff members in the Adaptive Learning Division, according to coordinator Margo Dobbins.

“We were cut quite substantially so a lot of our resources that went to things like note-takers and tutoring — which is not state-mandated but is critical to student success — has been reduced.”

The Foothill College Summer Musical Gala is scheduled for Sunday, July 25, beginning at 1:30 p.m., followed by an auction and wine-tasting buffet reception. Tickets are available at 650 949-6230 and https://secure.entango.com/donate/fhda_event. ■

— Chris Kenrick

Palo Alto chief transportation official named

Jaime Rodriguez, a traffic engineer who has worked for Milpitas and several other Bay Area cities, has been named Palo Alto’s new “chief transportation official,” replacing Gayle Likens, who retired July 1, 2009.

Rodriguez worked as a city traffic engineer in Milpitas for five years. After leaving Milpitas in 2009, he consulted on projects for cities around the Bay Area, working on traffic-signal systems for Oakland, San Leandro and Walnut Creek. He also worked with Placer County in the Sierra foothills.

He started work in Palo Alto on Friday, July 16.

Curtis Williams, Palo Alto’s director of planning and community environment, said the primary function of the chief transportation official is to oversee transportation planning. His job includes taking on neighborhood requests for traffic calming, conducting bike and pedestrian studies, measuring existing parking-permit programs and handling complaints about signals and stop signs. ■

— Carolyn Copeland

LET’S DISCUSS: Read the latest local news headlines and talk about the issues at Town Square at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

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Online This Week

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

Detective catches heat for Facebook comment

Nearly six months after an East Palo Alto police detective was accused of making inappropriate comments on Facebook about "open carry" advocates, Police Chief Ron Davis released a statement on Tuesday saying the detective was in violation of department policy. (Posted July 22 at 9:54 a.m.)

Caltrain unveils new website

It's now easier to access train schedules and information with the new Caltrain website, launched this summer. Caltrain spent a year developing the site from user feedback, a press release said. (Posted July 21 at 3:23 p.m.)

Menlo Park firefighters sue over overtime, travel

Surprised is how Fire Chief Harold Schapelhouman of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District said he felt upon learning that firefighters had filed a lawsuit against the district in federal court. (Posted July 21 at 3:16 p.m.)

Mixed results in new SC County health profile

Fewer residents in Santa Clara County are smoking and teen birth rates are declining, but access to health care has also declined while obesity and diabetes are on the rise, according to a new health report released Tuesday. (Posted July 20 at 11:42 p.m.)

80-year-old killed in hit-and-run accident

An 80-year-old Mountain View man is dead and a Saratoga woman is in custody after a fatal hit-and-run accident on Monday evening (July 19). (Posted July 20 at 5:07 p.m.)

County launches domestic-violence registry

A registry of domestic-violence perpetrators became effective Monday in Santa Clara County, one of three Bay Area counties to roll out the new system designed to provide current information to law-enforcement and court officials statewide. (Posted July 20 at 9:34 a.m.)

Palo Alto takes aim at binding arbitration

Palo Alto residents could be asked to choose between their elected leaders and their firefighters in the November election. After a long and wide-ranging discussion stretching into early Tuesday morning, the City Council asked the City Attorney's office to draft an ordinance that would repeal the "binding arbitration" provision in the City Charter. (Posted July 20 at 7:25 a.m.)

Friendship was Chris Chan's 'greatest strength'

Friendship, not climbing, was Christina "Chris" Chan's greatest strength, despite her being a highly accomplished climber, friends said Sunday at a memorial service at Stanford's Memorial Church. (Posted July 16 at 5:20 p.m.)

Bill guaranteeing polling stations becomes law

A bill that guarantees California voters have a place in which to vote on Election Day has been signed into law by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. (Posted July 16 at 5:20 p.m.)

Palo Alto police investigate business burglaries

Palo Alto police are increasing patrols in business areas after a string of nighttime burglaries has resulted in the loss of thousands of dollars, Detective Brian Philip said. (Posted July 16 at 12:24 p.m.)

Foundation awards \$1.3 million in local grants

Sixty-five community-based organizations in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties will receive \$1.3 million in modest grants from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, the foundation has announced. (Posted July 16 at 11:23 a.m.)

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LOOK FOR IT IN THE PALO ALTO WEEKLY

AUG 27



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Palo Alto Nursing and Rehabilitation Center To Be Honored With National Award Recognizing Their Significant Commitment In The Delivery Of Quality Care!



Palo Alto, CA – Palo Alto Nursing and Rehabilitation Center has been recognized as a 2010 recipient of the Bronze Award – Commitment to Quality National Quality Award presented by the American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living (AHCA/NCAL), a trade organization with approximately 11,000 members nationwide.

Implemented by AHCA/NCAL in 1996, the National Quality Award Program is based on the core values and criteria of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Program. It provides a pathway for providers of long term and post-acute care services to journey towards performance excellence.

Palo Alto Nursing and Rehabilitation Center provides high quality of nursing and therapy services to ensure a superior level of rehabilitation for our residents. In addition to skilled nursing services 24 hours a day, we are the rehabilitation specialists, offering physical therapy, speech and occupational therapy up to 7 days a week.

The award will be presented during AHCA/NCAL's 61st Annual Convention and Exposition, October 10-13, 2010 in Long Beach, CA.

"We congratulate Palo Alto Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on this achievement."
- Bruce Yarwood, President and CEO of AHCA/NCAL



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Summer school

(continued from page 3)

according to Davis and Summer School Coordinator Barbara Lancon.

In some cases, high school stu-

dents need to make up one or even two semesters of a class they failed during the regular school year. In other cases, they seek to complete a course over the summer to make room in their schedule for more academics.

"For some of them it's just a way

to take a more intensive school year," Davis said.

"We also have kids who get a B+ and want to take the class again. It's their first experience with getting anything less than an A.

"We're addressing each individual family and spending a lot of time meeting with parents.

Davis said she wished students taking the intense summer school classes would opt to schedule more creative courses during the school year, rather than more Advanced Placement (AP) classes.

"We need to look at creating whole adults, with many interests and abilities."

By far the most popular summer offering at the high-school level

is the one-semester "living skills" class, which is required for graduation at both Gunn and Paly.

High school students gathered for class at Terman Middle School this summer because of heavy construction work on the Palo Alto and Gunn high school campuses. Terman remains in session through July 30.

For elementary and middle-school students, the four-week summer session ended July 16.

The middle-school program — almost entirely "enrichment" classes — was held at JLS Middle School and offered courses such as "Hogwarts' Haven," "Let's Draw Manga!" and "Graphic Design."

Elementary schools offered

Mandarin and Spanish immersion classes, and both enrichment and remedial courses in math and language arts.

High school summer school enrollment totaled 794 students; middle school 1,111; and elementary school 943.

In addition, 110 rising juniors and seniors took living skills online. Those students were required to complete their work within the three-week session and to meet weekly with a teacher at Terman.

They also had to attend two CPR-first aid sessions at Terman. ■

Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can be e-mailed at ckenrick@paweekly.com.



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How To Clinics

July 31

→ **The Lyngso Raised Bed Planter Kit:** Terry Lyngso, Master Gardener and Earl Boyd, LEED AP will show you how you can have a raised bed garden in no time at all. We will explain how to assemble the kit, all the benefits of a raised bed, why our vegetable blend is the right choice for a raised bed, and what to consider when planting.

August 7

→ **Applying Concrete Overlays and Stains:** Steve Hay and Erik Lyssand of Concrete Chemicals will demonstrate how their overlay concrete finish systems and acid stains can transform an existing ordinary concrete surface. Each installation becomes unique because it draws from the character of the concrete and offers limitless design possibilities.

August 14

→ **Landscaping with Native Plants:** Frank Niccoli owner of the Village Gardener is an award winning landscape contractor committed to the principles of sustainability. Landscaping with native plants will lower maintenance costs, water usage, eliminate the need for chemical fertilizers and pesticides, helping to make your landscape ecologically functional.

August 21

→ **Options to a Traditional Lawn:** Frank Niccoli owner of the Village Gardener is an award winning landscape contractor committed to the principles of sustainable landscaping. Frank will discuss aesthetically pleasing options to a traditional lawn. Replacing your lawn will reduce emissions caused by mowers and edgers, reduce water consumption and the need for petroleum based fertilizers and herbicides. Learn how to save time, money, water and be environmentally responsible.

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CityView

A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

City Council (July 19)

Nick Marinaro: The council passed a resolution honoring retired Fire Chief Nick Marinaro. **Yes:** Unanimous

Stanford Hospital: The committee discussed the noise, seismicity and hydrology chapters of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the proposed expansion of the Stanford University Medical Center. **Yes:** Unanimous

Project Safety Net: The council heard an update on Project Safety Net, a community task force created in response to teenage suicides on the Caltrain Corridor. The council forwarded the Project Safety Net report to the council's Policy and Services Committee for further review. **Yes:** Unanimous

Binding arbitration: The council voted to request that the City Attorney's Office draft an ordinance that would repeal the city's binding-arbitration provision. The council will decide whether to place the measure on the November ballot on Aug. 2. **Yes:** Burt, Espinosa, Price, Shepherd, Holman, Scharff, Schmid, Klein **No:** Yeh

Fire initiative: The committee discussed the \$6.7 million budget deficit in the city's refuse fund and considered ways to close the budget gap. The committee will resume the discussion on July 20. **Action:** None

Board of Education (July 20)

Legislation: The council endorsed a constitutional amendment proposed by State Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, to lower the majority required to pass a school parcel tax of \$250 or less from two-thirds to 55 percent. **Yes:** Unanimous

City Council Finance Committee (July 20)

Refuse rates: The committee discussed a series of cost-cutting measures to close the \$6.3 million deficit in the Refuse Fund. The committee supported a series of staff recommendations, including reducing landfill operations to five days a week, reducing spending on Zero Waste outreach and raising rates for customers and residents in October. **Yes:** Klein, Scharff, Espinosa **No:** Schmid

Utilities Advisory Commission (July 20)

Gas and electricity: The commission heard an informational presentation on the city's Gas Asset and Supply Management Plan and its Long-Term Electric Acquisition Plan. **Action:** None

City Council (July 21)

Evaluation: The council held a closed session to evaluate the performance of City Manager James Keene.

Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL ... The council plans to discuss the Alternatives chapter in the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Stanford University Medical Center expansion project; the formation of a task force to help conduct a Caltrain corridor study; and the council's priority work plan. The meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Monday, July 26, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

CITY COUNCIL ... The council is scheduled to interview candidates for the Planning and Transportation Commission and to hold a closed session to discuss performance evaluations for City Clerk and City Auditor. The meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Monday, July 27, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ... The commission plans to review the city's gym-use policy; hear a presentation on the Middle School Athletics Program and discuss the El Camino Park Reservoir Project. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Tuesday, July 27, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

UTILITIES ADVISORY COMMISSION ... The commission plans to discuss its response to the City Council colleague's memo regarding the development of a Comprehensive Energy Efficiency and Renewables Procurement Strategy. The commission also plans to discuss the city's Gas Asset and Supply Management Plan and its Long-Term Electric Acquisition Plan. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 28, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss options to implement a Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline and consider changes to the council's procedures and protocols. The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday, July 29, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD ... The board plans to discuss green building standards and hold a retreat where they will discuss the city's sign ordinance and the board's annual report. The meeting is scheduled for 8 a.m. on Thursday, July 29, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

HIGH-SPEED RAIL COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss a contract for engineering on-call services with Hatch Mott MacDonald and pending legislation relating to California's high-speed rail project. The meeting is scheduled for 8 a.m. on Thursday, July 29, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

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Neighborhoods

A roundup of neighborhood news edited by Sue Dremann



Volunteers Kamolluck Trateng, left, and Hannah Schwartz serve dinner to Julie Stephenson, far right, and fellow diners at the Macro Chef Monday Night Dinner, sponsored by the Peninsula Macrobiotic Community at the First Baptist Church in Palo Alto.

Dining for health and friendship

Nearly 100 neighbors meet up for weekly gourmet vegetarian dinners

by **Coryanne Hicks**

Nearly every Monday night a room at Palo Alto's First Baptist Church in Old Palo Alto is transformed into a healthy-eating sanctuary and a gathering place for neighbors and friends who bond over macrobiotic and vegan cooking.

As many as 90 to 120 people flock to the church to share or take home the Peninsula Macrobiotic Community's Macro Chef Monday Night Dinner, which is prepared by professional chef Gary Alinder of Vallejo. The group has come together weekly for 23 years.

The dinners were started by "a group of people who just really wanted to eat well, so they hired a chef," said Patricia Becker, former manager of the Monday night dinners.

Many long-term friendships have developed through the dinners, attendees say. Aficionados range from newborns to grandparents and regulars to first-timers.

For Sky Ann McGrath, the draw is simply an interest in having a good meal in good company, she said. McGrath's husband introduced her to the macrobiotic way of eating and used to cook meals for the two of them until he passed away.

"The chefs cook just like my husband used to," she said.

It was love at first sight for Ilona Pollak, who was introduced to the dinners by a friend in hopes of curing her chronic stomach ache. (It did.)

"I loved the community aspect, loved the lectures, loved all the

people," Pollak said. She currently manages the dinners.

The word "macrobiotics" comes from the Greek roots "macro," meaning large or long, and "bios," which means life. A long life is exactly what consumers of macrobiotics hope for, according to Becker.

The theory is simple: Eat in accordance with nature. In practice that means strive for variety and eat lots of whole grains, organic foods and only those fruits and vegetables that are grown locally and currently in season.

On Monday, guest chef Chuck Collison prepared cream of summer squash soup; quinoa pilaf with cumin-scented shitake sauce; corn, basil and olive tofu tart; broccoli with rosemary-caper dressing; fresh salad greens with strawberry vinaigrette; blueberry crunch bars and mint tea. Each week during the summer a different chef has taken the helm while Alinder is out of town.

After dinner, there are lectures, usually on macrobiotic or health-related topics and given by macrobiotic counselors, doctors, cooking teachers and people who have dealt successfully with diseases using macrobiotic or similar approaches. Events have included performances by folk singers and vegetarian Chinese acrobats.

Janet and Jeff Rulifson are regulars at the multi-course dinners. The Rulifsons have been attending for six months, ever since they decided to become vegans. Both have seen considerable health benefits such as diminished allergies and weight

loss — and for Jeff Rulifson, lowered cholesterol, they said.

"In general we just know that we feel a whole lot better," Janet Rulifson said.

Karen Kramer became acquainted with macrobiotics and the possibilities of vegan eating through her 11-year-old son, Grant Kramer-Weis. Now, the two attend the dinners every week when they're in town, she said.

Grant spent his early years on an almost constant slew of antibiotics because he suffers from an immune deficiency.

"He was on antibiotics 13 times in his first year of life," Kramer said.

Grant explained the difficult, early years.

"My mom kept bringing me to doctors and asking if there was a way they could cure my health problems, but they said there was nothing they could do," he said. The family met a doctor who told them changing Grant's diet might be the solution. Now he feels much better thanks to his vegetarian and macrobiotic diet, he said.

Grant said he has been a vegetarian since before he could talk.

"Meat just grosses me out," he said.

Kramer recalled that Grant seemed to know what was good for him.

"He would hold his milk and look at me, smile and throw it in the garbage," she said.

Information about the Peninsula Macrobiotic Community is available at macrochef.org. ■

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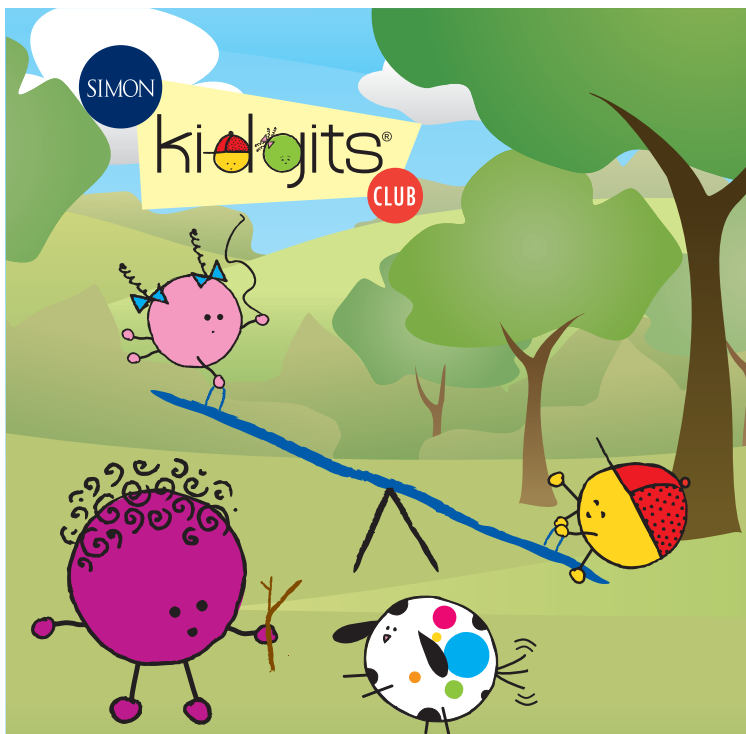


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AROUND THE BLOCK

A BURGLARY 'FAMILY'? ... A burglary team consisting of a child and two adults is active in Palo Alto, police Capt. Bob Beacom told residents during a "Meet the Chief" get-together in Juana Briones Park on Wednesday. The burglars have attempted three residential break-ins in the past month. Beacom said the group resembles a family operation, although there is no confirming evidence of that. Residents who see something suspicious can call the police department's anonymous hotline at 650-329-2190 or text paloalto@tipnow.org. Those who relay information anonymously are assigned a number to maintain confidentiality.

IN REMEMBRANCE ... The College Terrace Residents Association (CTRA) will honor longtime resident **Colin Mick**, who died April 7, with a memorial bench and plaque at Werry Park. Mick was active in College Terrace issues. He helped organize the neighborhood against the College Terrace rapist, which led to the rapist's capture in 1980. He worked to cut down on cut-through traffic and parking problems on the neighborhood's streets and worked on the recent residential parking-permit program. He had been elected the association's communications director in March.

ARSON WATCH ... Summer brings an increase in open-land fires, and arson is a concern as the summer progresses, according to Palo Alto police **Capt. Bob Beacom**. Last summer, several suspected arsonists were identified and arrested. Now more could be at work, he said. Five suspicious fires have been set since April 15, including one at **Herbert Hoover Elementary School**. The fires are being set between 11 p.m. and 1 a.m., and police and fire officials are asking citizens to watch for suspicious activity.

NO MONEY HERE ... Palo Alto won't get a \$1.7 million grant from the **Valley Transportation Authority (VTA)** for improvements to **California Avenue**. The city applied for the grant money, which required about \$500,000 in city matching funds, to pay for new street lights, wider sidewalks, landscaping on the median strip, a new fountain, refurbished plaza benches, bike kiosks and other improvements. The money was to come from a \$5 million-plus federal Community Development and Transportation grant. The city could still apply for some of that grant money if VTA reopens bids, since \$3.1 million has yet to be allocated, according to a VTA spokesperson. ■

Send announcements of neighborhood events, meetings and news to Sue Dremann, Neighborhoods editor, at sdremann@paweekly.com. Or talk about your neighborhood news on Town Square at www.PaloAltoOnline.com.



Veronica Weber

Shuttle bus blues

One of the larger Facebook employee shuttles makes a left turn from Hanover Street to South California Avenue on July 19. College Terrace neighbors are concerned about the frequency and noise of the bus runs. See the story at www.paloaltoonline.com and join the discussion.

Stanford library

(continued from page 3)

"Stanford students had access to half a million volumes last quarter and there's going to be even more," Herkovic said. "Nobody is losing access to a single book. It's the method of how we store and access them that's changing with the times."

However, he acknowledged that Stanford has yet to reach the age of the true bookless library. While engineering and physics already have large amounts of their research materials online, mathematics is

further behind because formulas translate badly on the screen. Foreign languages vary by writing system. For example, Google has not digitized non-Roman alphabets, so while physics books are easy to find online, texts in Chinese, Japanese and Korean are more difficult to access.

"It will be decades, maybe even generations, before everyone goes down that path," he said. "Our libraries can't get too far ahead of where our users want to be." ■

Editorial Intern Angela Chen can be e-mailed at editor@paweekly.com.

Stanford Continuing Studies and the Office of Science Outreach
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**Outdoor Science Talk:
The Next Wave in Wireless Technology**



Andrea Goldsmith

Wireless technology has enormous potential to change the way people and things communicate. Future wireless networks will allow people on the move to communicate with anyone, anywhere, and at any time using a range of high-performance multimedia services. Wireless communications and sensor networks can also enable a new class of intelligent home electronics, smart and energy-efficient structures and highways, and in-body networks for analysis and treatment of medical conditions. However, there are many technical challenges that must be overcome in order to make this vision a reality.

In this talk, **Andrea Goldsmith, Professor of Electrical Engineering**, will describe what the wireless future might look like and some of the innovations and breakthroughs that will be required to realize this vision.

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Editorial

Binding arbitration needs a public vote

Palo Alto should place proposal to drop arbitration provision from City Charter on the November ballot as part of a broad cost-containment effort

Already faced with a firefighters' union initiative proposal on the November ballot, Palo Alto city officials are wrestling with a second proposal to seek voter approval to drop "binding arbitration" as a City Charter provision.

This would be a long-overdue clean-up of an anachronistic provision, initially intended in the 1970s to prevent strikes by police and fire personnel and perhaps assuage unions. It was likely unnecessary at the time. But it has since become completely established that such strikes are illegal, and this outdated provision needs to be dropped.

The City Council is to discuss the proposal again July 26 and on Aug. 2 decide whether to put it on the ballot.

The firefighters union proposal already on the ballot would require voter approval before the city could close any fire station or reduce staffing — an attempt to protect jobs under the mantle of preserving public safety. In reality, it would create a protected area within the city at the cost of other city departments and employees at a time when the city must severely control expenses and close a multi-million-dollar gap in the annual city budget.

As we've said before, creating such protectionist bubbles within any organization is a terrible idea, disruptive to the entire operation, and voters should reject this ill-conceived proposal.

The binding-arbitration ballot measure should not be perceived as a get-back at the firefighters union but as one action of many in a broad context of cities and counties re-taking control of their labor expenses (including retirement and health benefits) that have ballooned out of control in the past decade. Details were reported in the July 16 Weekly, (www.paloaltoonline.com/weekly/story.php?story_id=13278) and on Palo Alto Online on Tuesday (www.paloaltoonline.com/news/show_story.php?id=17613).

While binding arbitration initially was an insurance policy against public-safety strikes during labor negotiations, but in practice it tends to benefit unions because an arbitrator looks at comparables in other cities and deprives a city from making its own decisions on compensation. Comparing cities drives up costs for all, to the point of crisis, as now.

The magnitude of the crisis is outlined in stark detail in a new report by the Santa Clara County Grand Jury, initially published quietly in late May but circulated to Palo Alto city officials last week.

The report's title sums up the hard conclusion: "Cities Must Rein In Unsustainable Employee Costs." The report outlines in detail how costs got out of control and makes 13 specific recommendations for cities to follow to begin to bring costs into line with present economic reality.

The report notes that "reasonable, intelligent people" approved the wage, benefits and retirement packages during a flush economic time when it was difficult to recruit employees in a high-flying private-sector boom. But when the boom went bust the public-employee wages and benefits surged ahead of those for comparable jobs in the private sector — sometimes dramatically.

The full report is well worth the reading, and is available at: www.sccsuperiorcourt.org/jury/GJ.html.

The startling findings show that wage-and-benefits costs haven't just escalated but have in some cases increased by nearly 50 percent in the past decade, while available revenues to cities have plummeted.

In Palo Alto, for instance, the median wage/benefits for non-safety employees went from \$75,814 in fiscal year 2000-2001 to \$113,841 in 2009-2010, while costs for public-safety employees jumped from \$89,059 to \$146,061.

It is even worse in Mountain View, where non-safety compensation jumped from \$79,033 to \$123,754 and safety-employee costs soared from \$106,654 to \$190,591 during the same decade, according to the Grand Jury report.

Palo Alto has already begun to act on several of the recommendations in the jury's report, including enacting a two-tiered system for retirement and health benefits, in which new employees are on a lower scale than existing employees.

But it and other cities and public agencies have far to go, and the road there is laden with challenges of how to negotiate such scaling back with unions, how to deal with vested entitlements for existing employees and retirees, and how to respond to a crisis that is virtually unprecedented during what is becoming known as the "Great Recession."

For Palo Altans, pruning "binding arbitration" from the City Charter would be an excellent first step.

Spectrum

Editorials, letters and opinions

Computerized classrooms

Editor,

My tenure at Gunn High School is more distant each day, but forever are memories of playing Tetris on my classmates' graphing calculators. But the time I logged playing Tetris was minimal, and my teachers ensured that I used my graphing calculator for its intended purpose of, well, graphing.

Now a college senior, I, unlike many of my peers, dare not bring my laptop to class with me in order to avoid distractions far more distracting than Tetris. College professors have begun to incorporate computers into their curricula, but I have yet to experience a class in which an in-class computer was as integral a part of my learning as my graphing calculator has been for integrating.

The distraction brought from an in-class laptop probably still outweighs its educational benefits, but it is difficult to refute that computers will be significant aids for future educators.

While extending Wi-Fi in Palo Alto schools will probably not dramatically increase Palo Altans' standardized test scores (or their learning) immediately, Palo Alto Unified does have an opportunity to be a leader in the inevitable movement toward computers in the classroom and, in the process, prepare its students for their computerized college experiences.

Stephan Campbell
Waverley Street
Palo Alto

Masonic information

Editor,

I am a member of the Masonic Lodge of Palo Alto and was very pleased to see the pictures of our main lodge room in the Palo Alto Weekly edition of July 16. The Rebekahs in the pictures are typical of the members of fraternities, sororities and others who use the Masonic facilities.

The Masonic Lodge of Palo Alto celebrated its centennial in 2002. A great many prominent men from Palo Alto and Stanford University, who might be considered the builders of these communities, were members of the lodge.

The lodge does not solicit members but welcomes applicants of all religions, ethnicities or races, to first contact the lodge or a Mason.

The Masonic Fraternity is a worldwide organization with many concordant bodies and with lodges in most countries. The Masons' wide range of philanthropies total more than \$1 million a day.

The Masonic Fraternity has ancient roots deriving from the craft guilds of operational masons who built the great cathedrals of Europe in the Middle Ages. These men were known as Freemasons since they were allowed free passage between countries where their skills were needed.

The Masonic Guilds continued as fraternities after cathedral building

ended wherein they extended their ideas of freedom and related concepts, sub rosa. As these ideas became more acceptable, the Masons emerged in England in 1717 and in the American colonies shortly thereafter. Many of the founders of our country as well as signers of the Declaration of Independence were Masons. Over the centuries many American political leaders were Masons, in particular, 14 of our presidents.

Thank you for the very informative article.

Bernard F. Bayuk
Paloma Road
Portola Valley

Cargill development

Editor,

Like many people on the Peninsula, I was startled to read the latest disclosure from supporters of the controversial Cargill salt pond development in Redwood City, not least because this disclosure involved an unwarranted attack on me.

Political consultant Ed McGovern just announced that DMB spent \$30,000 in the recent Democratic primary to inspire the South Bay Labor Council to produce misleading mail pieces against me.

I am proud to have led the early opposition from elected officials to this misguided project, with my October

2009 op-ed in the Palo Alto Weekly, and I regard DMB's attack as a badge of honor.

And I am hardly alone in my opposition to paving over this fragile open space site. My fellow candidate Josh Becker also came out against the Cargill project. Rich Gordon has kept mum on the project citing his current role as a commissioner of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, which has to issue permits for any projects under its Bay protection jurisdiction. I trust Rich has not been unduly influenced by this expenditure from Cargill's developer, and will soon make his opposition known as well.

Cargill looks to be getting desperate as more and more Bay Area elected officials come out publicly against their big scheme on the salt ponds in Redwood City. In fact, there isn't one Bay Area elected official not on DMB's payroll who has stated their support of Cargill's proposed new city in our bay.

McGovern is threatening to "look for opportunities in November to do the same thing."

I hope the voters learn from this and do not allow corporate manipulation such as this to further distort the integrity of our local elections.

Yoriko Kishimoto
Embarcadero Road
Palo Alto

YOUR TURN

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

What do you think? Would you favor moving Palo Alto City Council elections from odd to even years as part of general elections, or keeping them separate in odd years?

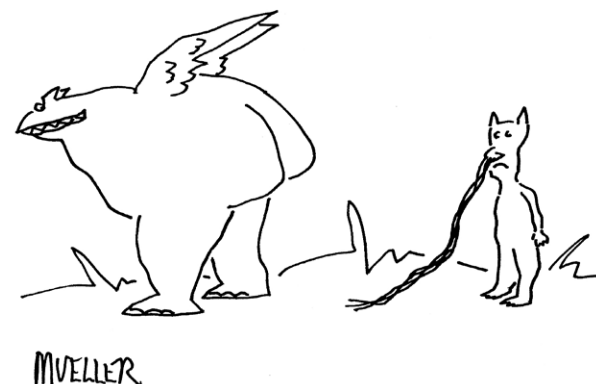
Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words to letters@paweekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be 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 Online Editor Tyler Hanley at editor@paweekly.com or 650-326-8210.

BUM AVATAR



Check out Town Square!

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

Guest Opinion

Shifting the paradigm of Palo Alto to the world

by Wolf Price

I'm just another person from Palo Alto working to continue this city's pattern of innovation. I was born and raised here by a family of artists, both parents professional photographers, so I didn't fit into the normal Palo Alto trend.



My parents filled my life with artistic opportunities and encouragement. Growing up in Palo Alto brought together technology and art. I discovered invention to be the sculpture of technology.

At 16 I was granted a film-making scholarship to Innerspark, a residential college-level course for the top artists from California school districts, at Cal Arts in Valencia. The teachers there advised against art school, and said I should learn from experience. So the conventional college track wasn't for me.

How could it be? My experimental mentality was reflected in my role models: Gandhi, Ansel Adams and Alexandra David-Neel, the early 1900s explorer whose works supposedly influenced early voices of America's Beat Generation.

I wanted to be the American Richard Branson billionaire but with minimalism, or the next Kerouac, without a drug addiction.

But understanding the world — experience — was my most pressing need. I applied to a study-abroad program, but after seeing the price tag, and having already

worked hard at Whole Foods to save, I realized I could do the trip solo for far less.

At 17, my summer after junior year at Paly, I went to Europe for six weeks with my bicycle.

That trip changed my life. I came home, graduated early and returned to Europe for three months. In Spain I took a ferry to Morocco, and my experience in North Africa again changed my perspective. The signs were clear: Traveling was my passion, and would help me realize my dream of contributing to Palo Alto innovation.

Never on vacation, never with a guidebook, the aim of my travels was education. I immersed myself in different cultures, and learned about the human condition and the world via direct transmission.

I studied books on history and culture, and networked with other travelers to help decide where to go next. I traveled through Nepal, rural Thailand, India, Bangladesh and all over Central and South America.

I liked the Third World because for me it made life meaningful. I was immersed in reality. There was no escaping the constant experience of minimalism and the benefits of a frugal life. All around me in the most simple surroundings were the happiest people I had ever met.

While my peers were binge drinking or using study drugs to stay awake cramming in some college, I was ordaining as a monk in rural Thailand, or working 10 hours a day building an Eco-dome and digging up Mayan artifacts in the Guatemalan jungle.

I knew I had discovered an unconventional path to success. Instead of spending thousands of dollars to study a subject, one can work under practitioners in the field,

learn from experience — and get paid. I immersed myself in sustainable communities in Central America. I analyzed Buddhist and Vedic teachings in temples and ashrams in Thailand, Nepal and India.

I studied and worked in 50 countries around the world and returned to many places several times.

"So who paid for it?" I have been asked. In a given month I spent \$100 to \$300. I'm self-supporting from my photography business in Palo Alto.

While exploring the meaning of life around the world I expressed myself through photography, writing and video. I discovered wonderful people, visited paradisaical places and learned valuable lessons.

Many changes people want and wait for in the world already exist. I saw the difference between the lonely individualist Western ideal and non-Western culture of community: a friendly togetherness that is impossible to ignore.

The point of this nomadism is clear — to devote my life to leading a new movement in alternative travel and education. I want to inspire young people to take time before or during college to see the world from a more three-dimensional perspective, so as to maximize the value of their college experience.

I'm ready to share my tools to experience a world where people are happy with food, water, shelter and family.

Now that I've seen how people can be genuinely happier with simple lives than with money, I am free to be satisfied with any outcome of my own life. With my methods one can go anywhere and be welcomed with open arms. Bike down a street and dozens

will invite you to eat with them, or inquire where you're headed.

It's important for young people to recognize that there are teachers and lessons everywhere for one's entire life and to understand that the most significant lessons in life aren't in the curricula of Harvard or Stanford. The push for high-profile education can leave one with little or no time for introspection and developing life skills, integral to deciding one's future.

After six years discovering and practicing my international lifestyle what do I have to show for it? A global community and a portfolio of media and inventions that can change the way people perceive the world. I believe I'm ready to help reinvent the travel industry, or part of it. By writing a universal guidebook I'll expose people to the possibilities of the modern world, and teach people that virtually anybody can do this.

Over the years I've taken photos, made films and created a website to share my joy in independent experiential travel.

As time goes by I understand more that one does not need to live like me to realize that simply seeing one's surroundings in an open-minded and friendly way will change everything, at home and abroad.

I'm always happy to help people make the most out of their hard-earned travel time. Six years on the road may seem like a long time, but insha'Allah, it's just the beginning. ■

Wolf Price is a native Palo Alto and attended Palo Alto High School before embarking on creative and educational travels. His website is www.WanderWolf.com, and he can be e-mailed at wolfprice@gmail.com.

Streetwise

What do you like to do around Palo Alto in the summer?

Asked on California Avenue. Interviews by Sophie Stid. Photographs by Kimihiro Hoshino.



Madeline Wright
Personal Trainer
Belmont Canyon Road, Belmont

"Hanging out with my kids. We go to Half Moon Bay or the parks with the fountains. We like the water."



Mariana Esparrell
Student
El Camino Real, Stanford

"Play tennis. In Brazil, where I come from, everyone plays tennis."



Joe Bay
Scientist
Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park

"I love going to Harley Farms. I love looking at the goats and my 2-year-old son does, too."



Collin Hctor
Retailer
Peralta Street, Hayward

"I like going to farmers markets. I like seeing the different varieties of fruits and vegetables."



Jennifer Borenstein
Speech Pathologist
College Terrace, Palo Alto

"We get gelato on Emerson."

Transitions

'Climate warrior' Steve Schneider dies at 65

Stephen Schneider, 65, a Stanford biology professor who for decades has been a central figure in the debate on global climate change, died of an apparent heart attack July 19 while flying from a scientific meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, to London.

A memorial service is being planned for September after the start of Stanford's fall quarter, according to a colleague at Stanford.

He was a lead author of the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The panel shared a Nobel Peace Prize with former U.S. Vice President Al Gore. He and his wife and collaborator, Terry Root, won the 2003 National Conservation Achievement Award from the National Wildlife Federation.

Schneider had been a consultant on climate change to the White House under presidents Richard Nixon, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, William Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama.

In recent writings, speeches and interviews, he acknowledged the fierceness of the debate over climate change and environmental policies. He recently had become a vocal advocate for scientists becoming more assertive in voicing their conclusions in a ways that would be clear to the public and political and governmental leaders worldwide.

The title of his last book encapsulated the struggle over climate change: "Science as a Contact Sport: Inside the Battle to Save Earth's Climate."

He earlier had chronicled his



personal battle with lymphoma in a book, "Patient from Hell."

He has been dubbed "the climate warrior." His interest in climate change materialized early on his career. He received his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering and plasma physics from Columbia University in 1971, and by 1975 he had founded the journal, Climatic Change.

He joined the Stanford faculty in 1992 as part of the Woods Institute for the Environment — the same year he won a prestigious MacArthur Foundation \$500,000 "genius grant" fellowship. He was the Melvin and Joan Lane Professor of Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies in Stanford's Department of Biology, and was a senior fellow at the Woods Institute.

Schneider has been a frequent target of climate-change doubters, some of whom have cited his early predictions that particulates or aerosols in the atmosphere could trigger a new cold spell or even ice age by blocking sunlight. But he soon shifted his conclusions based on research that showed a rapid buildup of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" that could cause the global atmosphere to warm.

The warming would cause ice caps and glaciers to melt, and cause havoc worldwide due to rising sea levels and more volatile weather.

An article quoting Stephen Schneider at length is in a recent issue of Stanford Magazine, online at: www.stanfordalumni.org/news/magazine/2010/julaug/features/schneider.html.

In the extended Q&A interview, Schneider expressed a basic optimism.

"I really trust this generation of kids to make a difference. I know we can invent our way out of some of the problem. We have to get to them to create a tipping point for a majority. And that can be done."

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Norma Brounstein Levitan, 96, died July 19. A memorial service will be held Sunday, July 25, at 11 a.m. at Congregation Etz Chayim, 4161 Alma St., Palo Alto.

Answers to this week's puzzles, which can be found on page 60

A	S	S	N		N	C	A	R		C	H	U	B			
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7	5	6	3	8	9	2	4	1
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8	1	9	5	4	2	7	3	6

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Joan Manning Paulin

Born Feb. 28, 1931 – Palo Alto Died July 6, 2010 – Palo Alto



Joan Manning Paulin, a 4th-generation Palo Altan, has died unexpectedly at age 79. She graduated from Palo Alto High (class of '48), from the University of Oregon (class of '52) and worked as a Realtor in Palo Alto for 57 years.

She spent 5 years in the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone and Belize with her husband and 3 sons.

Joan was larger than life! She was much loved by her wide circle of friends and will be sorely missed. A Unitarian Buddhist, she pursued her spirituality in her world-wide travels and often hosted Buddhist

and Dharma Friends events at her home. She was predeceased in 1974 by her husband, Sherwood Paulin (Woody). She is survived by her sister Meredy Keller of Portland, OR; her son Jack and daughter-in-law Janna of Lakeport; son Andy of Santa Cruz; son Ted and daughter-in-law Julie of Menlo Park; her companion, Owen Hackett of Palo Alto; and grandchildren Bret, Grant, Kira, Lee, Hanna, Jason, Niki and Justin.

There will be a celebration of her life on August 15 from 1-5pm at her home in Palo Alto. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to a charity of Joan's interest. Please bring photos and stories of Joan to share.

PAID OBITUARY

The retirement-home dilemma



Miriam Angus dines with fellow Channing House residents George Knoles and Maryann Coulson.

When it comes to one's golden years, plan now for the future, experts say

Story by Susan Kostal. Photographs by Kimihiro Hoshino.

Miriam Angus, 92, has lived at Channing House, a senior living center in Palo Alto, for nearly 20 years. When she moved in, the former bookkeeper was 73 and very active, driving the state to visit her children and grandchildren and taking advantage of all Palo Alto had to offer. An extrovert, she participated in many activities and was known for hosting cheery happy hours.

"I had been burdened with my own mother's care for far too many years," she said of her decision to move into a retirement community where health care would be an option. "I did not want my children to do what I had done."

Angus was on the waiting list for a unit at Channing House for five years. By the time she moved into a one-bedroom overlooking the glossy magnolias on Webster Street, her husband had suffered an extended illness and died.

Angus has thrived at Channing House — for example, completing her memoirs. She remained in good health until a nasty bout of shingles cost her the vision in one eye. Then, eight years ago, venal occlusion began restricting the blood flow in her good eye. Her physician told her she would lose her sight completely in six to nine months.

Though she loved her apartment, she immediately notified the Chan-

ning House staff she wanted to move into an assisted-living unit on a lower floor, so she could adjust to the new surroundings before she lost her sight entirely.

"I did not want to be a burden to my floor," she explained.

Today, Angus, "Mim" to her friends, lives with surprising self-sufficiency, thanks to her razor-sharp mind, sunny disposition and her facility with technology, like voice-activated e-mail from Google. She is able to give a tour of the entire 11-story facility quite easily, having memorized its layout. The only assistance she requires is when she drops something on the floor and then requires a staff person to find it for her and pick it up.

Palo Alto is home to more than a half dozen senior living communities. Some are non-profits; others are run by religious organizations. Still others are part of large corporate chains, such as Sunrise and Vi (formerly known as Classic Residence by Hyatt). Most include a range of services, from recreational programs for those living independently to various levels of health care for people in assisted-living and skilled-nursing units.

Some homes, but not all, provide care for those with Alzheimer's. Few, however, are designed for low-income seniors, and most facilities

have waiting lists (*see sidebar on next page*).

Those who work with the elderly say many residents who raised families in the community want to stay here, if they can afford to do so. But not all seniors make the transition to assisted living as gracefully as Angus. Often, the decision is made in a time of crisis, when illness or depression forces the situation. Consequently, at a time requiring a clear head, many instead feel vulnerable and grief-stricken over the loss of their independence, which makes it difficult to make good decisions.

Experts such as Michael Griggs, head of social work at Palo Alto's Avenidas senior center, said the No. 1 problem for most seniors is waiting too long to make decisions about their future care.

"You want control, I understand, but you have to take control early on. If you wait, it will be taken from you," he said.

It can be difficult to parse the choices and separate facts from emotion during the search for residential care.

"Let's face it, next to buying a home, this is probably one of the biggest decisions of your life. When we are older, and often more frail, there are also issues of health and mental health. All this stuff makes it much more complicated," Griggs said.

Because the most desirable facilities have waiting lists — and some impose maximum age limits for entry — there are seniors who will miss out on the chance to live in a particular senior community. Last-minute choices often mean going where there is an opening, which may not be the senior's first choice or the best fit for his or her immediate condition.

'I had been burdened with my own mother's care for far too many years. I did not want my children to do what I had done.'

— Miriam Angus, resident, Channing House senior living center

Fran Ogle, 77, has lived at Vi on Sand Hill Road for one year. Two years ago, she and her late husband, H. Kelly, were happily living in the Sharon Heights home they built in 1960. But when her husband was diagnosed with terminal liver cancer and his health quickly declined, she knew she did not want to live alone.

"In the week before he went into the hospital for the final time, I said I didn't want to live in that house by myself. And he said, 'I don't want

you to live by yourself,'" Ogle recalled.

She knew someone who lived at Vi, and she liked the location across from Stanford Shopping Center. Ogle put her name on the waiting list. But it was a year before an apartment came available, and even then she had little choice.

"I took what opened up," she said.

In that short time, Ogle struggled with home repairs without her husband's help. The fence fell down, and the sprinkler system broke.

"Now I go to bed at night without worrying about tree branches falling on the roof, and so on," she said.

The array of choices for residential care can be overwhelming, said Joe Matthews, an attorney, author of "Long-Term Care," and an editor at Caring.com, a website devoted to helping seniors and their families manage their care.

Seniors are not only renting or buying an apartment, they are also buying a contract for care such as assistance with daily-life tasks or skilled nursing.

Channing House and Vi are continuing-care retirement communities. That means they have increasing levels of care, so residents can remain at the same facility as their

(continued on page 21)

Palo Alto* senior-housing options

Reported by: Angela Chen, Carolyn Copeland, Coryanne Hicks and Piyawan Rungsuk

Age requirement to enter	Apartments owned or rental	Costs to enter	Monthly costs to live there	Waiting list	Type of health care available	Total numbers of residents	Other restrictions
Channing House 650-327-0950							
Must be between 65 and 83	Residents buy membership into community (with refund option)	\$133,000-\$637,000	Starting at \$2,466-\$7,000	Several-year waiting list	Medical care, assisted living, skilled nursing, life-care community	260	Must be independent and in good health to move in
*Glenwood Inn (Menlo Park) 650-322-5550							
60	Month-to-month rental	\$2,600	\$3,750-\$5,200	No waiting list for a standard one-bed room but there is a waiting list for a deluxe one bedroom	Varies	85 plus	None
The Hamilton 650-463-1400							
55	Owned	Ranges from \$3,932-\$4,743	Around \$800,000	No waiting list	No health care available unless one decides to hire their own caregiver	36	None
Lytton Gardens 650-617-7434							
62	Rental	Varied, based on residents' income	30% of income for rent	Yes, varies	Social services and counseling, respite care and hospice, spiritual support, physical, and speech therapies	About 500	None
Lytton Gardens Assisted Living 650-617-7338							
62	Rental	Varied, based on residents' income	30% of income for rent	Yes, for non-subsidy, no for subsidy independent living	Varies	50	None
Lytton Gardens Health Care Center (skilled-nursing facilities) 650-617-7350							
62	Rental	Varies depending on health needs	Varies depending on health needs	No waiting list	Social services, counseling, respite care and hospice, spiritual support, physical, and speech therapies	145	None
Moldaw Family Residences 650-433-3629							
62	Residents buy membership into community (with refund option)	\$333,000-\$1,200,000	\$2,805-\$6,600	No waiting list	Independent living and assisted living	86	Financial qualification required
Palo Alto Commons 650-494-0760							
None	Month-to-month rental	N/A	N/A	No waiting list	Independent living, assisted living, dementia care, focused care, elite care, 24/7 nurse available	141	None
*The Sequoias (Portola Valley) 650-851-1501							
65	Residents buy membership into community (with refund option)	\$226,000-\$733,700 (studio to duplex)	\$3,500-\$6,353 for single person	Yes, for larger units, 200 on list	Residential living, assisted living, skilled nursing, memory care	312	Review of medical and financial history required
Sunrise of Palo Alto 650-326-1108							
62	Rental	Starting at \$3,300 per month	Starting at \$3,300 per month	No waiting list	Assisted living and memory care	97	Certain health conditions not accepted
Vi at Palo Alto (Formerly Classic Residence by Hyatt) 650-838-0300							
62	Residents buy membership into community (with refund option)	Starting at \$682,700	Starting at \$3,598	Yes, close to 300	Full continuum of care: independent, assisted living, skilled nursing, memory support	530	Medical and financial qualifications
Webster House 650-327-4333							
62	Residents buy membership into community (with refund option)	Starting from \$355,000	\$3,100	No waiting list	Independent living, assisted living	34	Doesn't provide memory care

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Special
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Produced by
Ravenswood Family
Health Center



of primary health care services

Ravenswood Family Health Center Board of Directors

Photo: Kathleen Alexander

Dear Friends:

This is a watershed year for us with the April opening of Ravenswood Family Dentistry, an amazing "high tech" state-of-the-art full service dental clinic and a handsome Center for Health Promotion featuring a branch of the Stanford Health Library.

For the second time in our short history the David and Lucile Packard Foundation stepped up to fund a major capital project. The first was in 2000 with the building of the main clinic. This time the foundation's gift of \$1.5 million brought to life the first full service dental clinic serving low-income families in our service area. Right next door to it we built a Center for Health Promotion, the inspiration of our board member Gordon Russell who has always seen the importance of providing the resources needed to improve health outcomes in the community. With a major gift from him and timely federal stimulus funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the community now

has a major new center that features a branch of the Stanford Health Library. For this federal support we're grateful to our Congresswoman Anna Eshoo who has been proactive in backing us at every stage of development to ensure equality in healthcare for the underserved.

Another major achievement this year was the convening of the first meeting of our newly appointed Advisory Council. To strengthen our capacity we've recruited men and women with skills and experience to enable us to build for the long-term in preparation for the surge in the number of uninsured and those newly insured once the Health Exchange is enacted in 2014. (See Page 3)

In closing I want to acknowledge our collective sadness with the tragic death of David Lewis, the founder of Free at Last, a community partner that has provided housing to hundreds of our patients while in recovery from addiction. The community lost a charismatic leader who had led the recovery movement in East Palo Alto for the past 15 years. David

was an ardent supporter of RFHC and the father of our staff member Shyvonne Lewis. He is irreplaceable.

As always, we appreciate how responsive and interested many of you have been over the years. You have an open invitation to come for a tour. Feel free to contact our Development Office (650-617-7828) for more information.

Wishing you well,

Luisa Buada
Chief Executive Officer



Luisa Buada



Ravenswood Family Health Center's mission is to improve the health status of the community we serve by providing high quality, culturally competent primary and preventive health care to people of all ages regardless of ability to pay

— Mission Statement



What we do

Provide integrated, coordinated primary health care to low-income and uninsured residents of southeast San Mateo County

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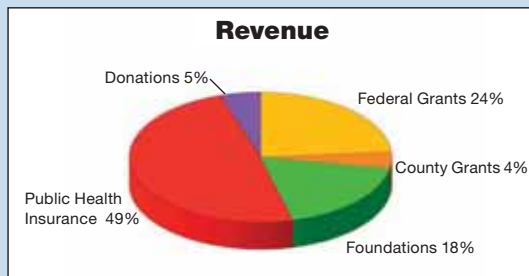
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 650-330-7418 or 650-617-7828

Visit our website at:
www.ravenswoodfhc.org

The Federal Office of Management and Budget has ranked health centers one of the ten most effective federal programs. By focusing on prevention, Community health centers save substantial dollars in avoided emergency room visits, medical treatment and hospitalization.



In the Eye of Healthcare Reform

During the debate over U.S. health care reform, relatively little attention was paid to the long-established network of community health centers (CHCs) in the United States. And yet this unique national asset constitutes a critical element of any reform intent on expanding access to health care through a primary care portal.

— Health Care Reform and Primary Care: The Growing Importance of the Community Health Center *New England Journal of Medicine*, April 28, 2010

If you look at health care reform through the lens of the nation's safety net of community health centers (CHCs), you will find the two are closely aligned. The staggering number of uninsured that drives debate about health care reform is also what has powered the accelerated growth of community health centers.

What began with two pilot neighborhood clinics in the mid '60's—one in Boston and the other in Mound Bayou, Mississippi (a black community founded in 1887 by former slaves) has evolved into a **nation-wide network of 8,000 community health centers and clinic sites, both urban and rural. Located in every state and territory, they provide a medical home to 20 million Americans. That's 5% of the current U.S. population.**

The underlying premise in health care reform and CHCs is really the same: uninsured, low-wage working poor or people with pre-existing conditions should be able to get quality primary

care, not only for their own good and the benefit of their families, but also because it's the only sensible way to reduce costs for untreated conditions leading to costly emergencies and hospitalization.



Congresswoman Anna Eshoo on tour of the new dental clinic

Number of Uninsured Jumped By Nearly 3 Million in 2009

Over the last 10 years, the number of uninsured adults in the U.S.—those ages 18 to 64—has steadily increased, and according to 2009 data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, now sits at just over 21 percent. That represents an increase of nearly three million people from 2008, and likely is a symptom of less employers offering health insurance, reports *Health Day News*.

Overall, the number of uninsured people in the U.S. is now 46.3 million—roughly 15 percent of the nation's total population.

care, not only for their own good and the benefit of their families, but also because it's the only sensible way to reduce costs for untreated conditions leading to costly emergencies and hospitalization.

Anticipating the Times

Community health centers have anticipated the times we are in. Early on, CHCs recognized how important it is to take into account the cultural and linguistic needs of patients, many of whom were recent

immigrants. Now as major demographic shifts spread diversity across the nation, CHCs are well positioned to serve an increasingly diverse population. At RFHC 85% of the staff is bilingual in either English and Spanish or Tongan.

The Whole Person

Community health centers were holistic before the word became a cliché. Like other CHCs, RFHC has developed a comprehensive system of coordinated care that includes medical, dental and mental health services as well as a broad network of support services. Since every part affects the health of the whole—our providers look at the whole picture and treat and refer accordingly.

Community health centers are the middle road in the health care system.

Although supported in part by government grants, they are not public entities but remain independent not-for-profit organizations. Because they are community governed, they are not subject to the pressures of private for-profit incentivized care.

For more information about community health centers, visit www.cpga.org or www.nachc.org

The Launch of New Partnerships

Stanford Health Library Comes To East Palo Alto

Stanford Hospital & Clinics has been a quiet partner for years through our affiliation with its pediatric residency program and contracting pediatric and OB/GYN physicians to RFHC. Recently, our partnership has become more public with the addition of a branch of the Stanford Health Library, funded by Stanford and staffed by a bilingual medical librarian with expertise in bi-lingual online and print resources selected to serve the community. Located in the new Center for Health Promotion at 1805 Bay Road in East Palo Alto, it is open to anyone interested in learning more about medical and health issues.



Left of Center: Nora Cain, Director of Stanford Health Library. Center: Nancy Lee, Vice President of Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer. Far right Rose Jacobs Gibson.



Dental professionals tour the dental clinic

For more information about volunteering, call 650/617-7841 or email christinal@ravenswoodfhc.org

We are thankful for a coalition of new dental partners collaborating with us to expand our capacity to serve more patients through volunteering.

- Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program
- Mid Peninsula Dental Society
- Carrington College
- Chabot Dental Hygiene Program
- San Mateo Dental Hygiene Association
- Santa Clara Valley Dental Hygiene Association
- University of Pacific School of Dentistry
- San Mateo Oral Health Access Collaborative

Introducing Our Newly Formed Advisory Council

Our relationships extend to a broad coalition of leaders in business, medicine, government, philanthropy and the local community.

- | | | | |
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|---|---|--|---|

Health in the Community: Causes for Concern

CHILDHOOD OBESITY

• 49% of 5th graders and 43% of 7th graders are overweight or obese in Ravenswood City School District with elementary schools in East Palo Alto and Belle Haven.

TEEN PREGNANCY

• Highest rates of teen pregnancy in the county are in RFHC's service area.
 • Majority of teen pregnancies occurs consistently in adolescent Latinas; increased dramatically from 61.3% in 1990-1994 to 78.2% in 2000-

2004 (latest data available) Source - 2008 Community Assessment: Health & Quality of Life in San Mateo County.

CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE

• Death from heart disease is 29% higher among African Americans than whites, and death from stroke is 30% higher.
 • 85.3% of adults exhibit one or more risk factors for heart disease and stroke, indicating an unfavorable increase in cardiovascular risk since the initial 1998 assessment.

DIABETES

• 26% of RFHC's 6,805 adult patients have diabetes and/or hypertension.
 • 1 in 4 black women over 55 has diabetes, nearly twice the rate of white women.

ORAL HEALTH CARE

• Dental disease is the #1 pediatric health problem. A dental screening of kindergarten and 2nd graders in Ravenswood School District found 32% had visible tooth decay.
 • 80% of dental disease in children is found in children from low income families.

• 40% of our adult patients need immediate dental care.

EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS

• ER use is notably higher among women (29.6%); those with high school or less education (32.8%); those living between 200% and 400% of the Federal Poverty Level (33.8%); Black respondents (39.5%).

Profile of Our Patients

- 13% are African American, 69% Latino and 10% Pacific Islander
- 84% live at 100% federal poverty level; up from 76% in 2008
- 58% are uninsured
- 34% qualify for Medi-Cal
- 65% prefer a language other than English
- 90% of the adults have no dental insurance
- 37% are children aged 15 or younger
- 18% of pregnant women age of 20

Thank you for the generosity of all our contributors

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I know the price of success: dedication, hard work, and an unremitting devotion to the things you want to see happen.

Architect Frank Lloyd Wright

It's been a lavish spring. Three key people associated with RFHC were honored for their dedication and contributions to making the world a better a place.

On March 18th, Luisa Buada, CEO of Ravenswood Family Health Center was one of six women



chosen to be inducted in the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame, recognizing her vision and leadership in building a comprehensive health care program for low-income and uninsured families. "Known for a compassion that ignites a vision that translates into a determined plan of action."



On April 29th Melieni Talakai, Chair of our Board, received the Nonprofit Board Leader Award at the Volunteer Center's Hats Off event. The award recognizes the achievements of outstanding nonprofit board members in the Bay Area. Melieni has served on RFHC's board since 2000 and twice as the chair of its board, while raising five teenagers and working as a nurse with San Mateo County Mobile Clinic.



One of the prestigious awards given annually in Silicon Valley is the Lifetimes of Achievement Award by Avenidas in Palo Alto, honoring those who have made outstanding contributions through community involvement. Gordon Russell, our esteemed board member and generous supporter, was one of six honorees to receive the award on May 16th. He has served on many nonprofit boards over the years; none values him more than does RFHC.

Visit us at
www.ravenswoodfhc.org

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Channing House's harmonica club meets on Saturday mornings.

Seniors

(continued from page 15)

health declines and they need more help. A resident may progress from independent living, in their own apartment, to one of two levels of assisted care, where they may have private or shared rooms, to skilled-nursing care, which has more of a hospital-like atmosphere.

Not all health situations are covered, however. At Channing House, for example, those who develop Alzheimer's must go to another facility; Channing House is not equipped for late-stage (violent, combative or wandering) Alzheimer's care.

'You want control, I understand, but you have to take control early on. If you wait, it will be taken from you.'

— Michael Griggs, head of social work, Avenidas senior center Palo Alto

And there may be social drawbacks to consider. At Vi, residents who need assisted living or skilled-nursing care move into adjacent buildings and may not see their old neighbors on a regular basis.

Lengthy contracts spell out who decides when seniors will move into advanced levels of care, and why.

Facilities licensed as continuing-care retirement communities (CCRCs), sometimes called "life care" facilities, such as Channing House, have extensive contracts and must adhere to a slew of state laws, most falling under the state's Health and Safety Code, when it comes to the care they provide at each level.

Thus both state law and facility policy dictate the level of independence seniors must achieve in order to be able to stay in a given level of care. Often these are simple and sound straightforward, such as being able to get out of a chair unassisted.

But seniors don't always under-

stand the repercussions — or anticipate them. And it's tempting, experts agree, for a senior to want to fudge certain criteria in order to stay in a unit or on a floor where they feel comfortable. These contracts will also spell out whether seniors are able to hire outside help to assist them or if they must rely solely on the services provided by the facility.

"There are always going to be dis-

agreements," Matthews said. "Problems usually arise around whether the criteria are clear enough, who needs to be consulted and who makes the ultimate decision."

Such issues came into play recently in litigation, now settled, between Channing House and a former resident, Sally Herriot. Herriot's health was declining, but she did not want to move from her apartment and so hired private help for 16 hours each



Fran Ogle, 77, moved into her Vi apartment a year ago, after her husband passed away. She no longer wanted to live in — and maintain — their Sharon Heights home alone.

day rather than moving to the assisted-living floor at Channing House. (According to the settlement, Herriot moved out of Channing House but has the right to move into Channing House's skilled-nursing wing

in the future without paying an entrance fee.)

Matthews' own mother, now deceased, bristled when she found she

(continued on next page)

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(TENTATIVE) AGENDA-SPECIAL MEETING-
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
July 26, 2010 - 5:30 PM

- 1. Recommendation from the Policy & Services Committee (P&S): Council Priorities Workplan
7:00 p.m. or as soon as possible thereafter
2. Public Hearing: To Consider Stanford University Medical Center Facilities Renewal and Replacement Project- Meeting to Accept Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Stanford University Medical Center Facilities Renewal and Replacement Project, Including an Overview of the Alternative Chapter and Mitigation Measures of the DEIR
3. Approval of Rail Corridor Stakeholder Task Force and Direction to City Manager to Appoint Task Force Members (Continued from July 12, 2010)
4. Discussion Regarding a Potential Measure on Repealing Binding Arbitration
5. Recommendation from Council Appointed Officers Committee (CAO) regarding City Attorney Recruitment
6. Approval of an Electric Enterprise Fund Contract With Pacheco Utility Line Builders, Inc. for a Total Not to Exceed Amount of \$3,000,000 for Providing Overhead Electric Transmission and Distribution System Construction Services - Capital Improvement Program Budget EL 98003
7. Approval of Four Multiple Prime Contracts for the Civic Center Infrastructure Improvements - Capital Improvement Program Project PF-01002: 1) Contract with Nexgen Builders, Inc. in the Amount of \$367,313 for General Work Items and Finishes;2) Contract with Everest Waterproofing and Restoration, Inc. in the Amount of \$648,934 for Exterior Improvements; 3) Contract with ACCO Engineered Systems, Inc. in the Amount of \$1,270,695 for Mechanical, Plumbing, Fire Sprinkler and Controls; and 4) Contract with H.A. Bowen Electric, Inc. in the Amount of \$749,000 for Electrical And Fire Alarm
8. Approval of Amendment No. One to Existing Contract No. C09127499 with Assetworks, Inc. in the Amount of \$9,832 for the Purchase of Additional Components Required to Complete the Implementation of the Fuel Transaction Management System
9. Approval of the Sale of Surplus Fire Equipment to Oaxaca, Mexico in the Amount of \$20,000
10. Approval of a Wastewater Treatment Enterprise Fund Contract with Carollo Engineers, P.C. in an Amount of \$981,266 for Preparation of the Long Range Facility Plan for the Regional Water Quality Control Plant; and Adoption of a Budget Amendment Ordinance to Transfer \$481,266 from Capital Improvement Program Project WQ 04010, Replace Existing Reclaimed Water Pipe to Capital Improvement Program Project WQ 10001, Plant Master Plan
11. Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing Use of a Design-Build Project Delivery Method for Design and Construction of Replacement Fuel Pumps and Related Equipment at Foothills Park (VR-92006)
12. Adoption of Budget Amendment Ordinance (BAO) Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 2011 to Provide Additional Appropriations of \$22,780 for Verification of Petition Signatures Within the General Fund for the County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters Regarding Palo Alto Professional Firefighter's, Local 1319, Initiative Costs

(TENTATIVE) AGENDA-SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Special City Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 27, at 6:00 p.m. regarding: 1) Interview of Candidate for the Planning and Transportation Commission for Two Four Year Terms Ending July 31, 2014., and 2) Performance Evaluation for City Clerk & City Auditor

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Policy and Services Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, July 29, at 7:00 p.m. regarding: 1) Oral Communications, 2) Follow-Up Discussion of Options to Implement a Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Hotline Program, 3) Continued Discussion of and Recommendation to Council on Proposed Changes to the City Council Procedures and Protocols, 4) Selection of Top Focus Areas for Policy & Services Workplan from Council Priorities Workplan

The High Speed Rail Committee will be held on Thursday, July 29, at 8:30 a.m. regarding: 1) Discussion of Engineering On-Call Services with Hatch Mott MacDonald (HMM) 2) Discussion of Technical Working Group Worksheets (tentatively scheduled) 3) Legislative Update, 4) Updates and Informational Items

Cover Story



Miriam Angus, with friend Barbara Gordon, has thrived in the Channing House community for nearly 20 years.

Seniors

(continued from previous page)

needed to move, briefly, into assisted care following an illness.

"She ended up back in independent living but wound up hiring someone to come in a certain number of hours a day to help her. Her facility allowed that, and allowed caregivers to spend the night."

But, Matthews said, not all do, and it gets quite expensive.

"That's why assisted living can be a great thing for people."

Both Griggs and Matthews urge seniors and their families to get help when comparing retirement communities, the services they offer and the regulations that govern their operations.

"Geriatric-care managers can be immensely useful in the search process," Matthews said.

Geriatric-care managers and social workers who serve older adults will help seniors investigate the levels of care into which they may progress and steer them away from making decisions based on surface details, such as the light in the day room or the quality and variety of desserts.

"The problem is people tend to look almost exclusively at the front end and not at the back end or middle parts," Matthews said.

Likewise, Griggs recommends having a third-party involved in the process.

"I would encourage any older adult who is planning on making that move (to a senior living facility) to have an advocate with them and to ask as many questions as possible. You should probably compile a list of questions before you sign any contract. ... The more you know, the more empowered you'll be," Griggs said.

In addition to health care services, seniors should ask whether fee increases, which cover ongoing care, for example, will be capped at a certain percentage, or what the procedures are for resolving problems or complaints, such as issues with roommates.

Matthews said a lawyer should review the complex legal contracts required to buy into a continuing-care facility.

"Many times, you are sinking your life savings into one place," Matthews said.

As careful as seniors are in selecting their retirement homes, disagreements do arise. Then, Griggs and other experts recommend going to either the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program at Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County or the Ombudsman Services of San Mateo County, a nonprofit that investigates and works to resolve complaints on behalf of residents in long-term care facilities. Ombudsman Services, for example, will send a volunteer to accompany a senior to a meeting with staff about transitioning into a different care level.

Difficult transitions rarely lead to litigation, as they did in the case of Herriot. But the case points out the problems when seniors find it difficult to accept they need more care than they needed previously.

Not all seniors find the changes upsetting, though it is a natural reaction, experts say. Angus' neighbors, a married couple, live in two separate units, on two separate floors, at Channing House. She is lively and in good health, but her husband has a form of dementia and needs careful

attention and care to ensure he eats properly and doesn't wander from the facility. She lives in the couple's spacious one-bedroom, with tomato plants on her balcony and a spectacular view of the leafy Stanford University campus, while he lives on a floor where he gets greater assistance. The arrangement gives her a degree of freedom she would not otherwise have. She is in and out of his room constantly, she said, and the two eat meals together.

Angus views her floormates as her family. One of her daughters lives in Palo Alto, and she and her husband are considering signing up at Channing House, Angus said.

For her part, Ogle said her three adult children are "thrilled" she lives at Vi, and Ogle likes knowing they don't have to call her daily to check on her.

"It has worked out extremely well," she said. "The whole family would move in if they could." ■

Freelance writer Susan Kostal can be e-mailed at skostal@mac.com.

On the cover: Miriam Angus, 92, moved into Channing House 19 years ago and now lives in the assisted-living section. Photo by Kimihiro Hoshino.



Avenidas' Michael Griggs conducts an interview with Eldon Everett on his housing situation.

Arts & Entertainment

A weekly guide to music, theater, art, movies and more, edited by Rebecca Wallace

From left, guitarist Julian Lage, bassist Jorge Roeder and violinist Victor Lin will perform July 28 in "100 Years of Django."



Joel Simon



Joel Simon



Joel Simon

Tribute times 3

Trio of friends to honor jazz giant Django Reinhardt in Stanford Jazz Festival concert

BY ROBIN MIGDOL

You could say that it was Django Reinhardt, the master jazz guitarist whose 100th birthday would have been this year, who brought guitarist Julian Lage, bassist Jorge Roeder and violinist Victor Lin together.

Lage, Roeder and Lin first played as a trio at the Stanford Jazz Festival last year, in a concert that featured faculty and several musicians playing music from the year 1959. The three came out into the middle of the stage, gathered around one microphone, and played a Django-style medley of three John Coltrane tunes.

In a matter of minutes they had stolen the show, and the crowd went wild.

Now, the trio is set to put on a tribute concert entitled "100 Years of Django" at this year's Stanford Jazz Festival, in

a fitting tribute to their original performance and the master musician whose music continues to inspire jazz artists and aficionados today.

The annual Stanford Jazz Festival and Workshop, now in its 39th year, kicked off on June 25 and will continue with camps, a residency program, workshops and two dozen concerts through Aug. 7. "100 Years of Django" will be held on July 28 at Stanford's Dinkelspiel Auditorium.

Born in 1910, Django Reinhardt was raised among gypsy settlements and began playing the guitar, violin and banjo as a child, according to a Stanford Jazz press release. At 18, he was badly burned in a fire that left him unable to use two fingers on his left hand, though he developed his own technique that still allowed him to play with breakneck speed and agility. "The urbane, lilting tones of his guitar and his ornamented, melodic improvisations defined the genre known as 'gypsy jazz,'" the release reads.

Though they are united by their love of jazz, Lage, Roeder, and Lin have each had vastly different careers.

Lage has been front and center in the jazz scene since he was 8 years old. Labeled a guitar prodigy, he played with Carlos Santana and other guitar masters and was the subject of the 1996 documentary "Jules at Eight." Now 22, he recently released

his first solo album, "Sounding Point," and performs all over the world in addition to teaching each year at the Stanford Jazz Workshop.

Lage said he is happy to shed his "child prodigy" image, though he never took the label too seriously.

"You can take it as pressure, or as you grow up you can kind of let go of that and realize that it doesn't have as much to do with your self-image or self-worth as it might have as a younger person," Lage said. "I think it's a relief to be getting a little older and go, 'Wow, that word doesn't really apply to me as much.'"

Lage met violinist Victor Lin at the Stanford Jazz Workshop when he was 15 years old. Despite the nearly 15-year age difference between them, the two became good friends, though with Lin's focus on jazz education in New York City and Lage's Boston-based performance career the two don't get to play together often.

"Over the years he's become one of my best friends. He was actually one of the groomsmen in my wedding about a month ago," Lin said of Lage. "But over the last couple of years, we've been playing a lot of violin and guitar stuff. Every time we get a chance to play together it's a riot. It's just so much fun. And then musically, it's like, get out — it's on such a high level. It's (continued on next page)

Tribute

(continued from previous page)

fantastic.”

Lage also met bassist and Peruvian native Jorge Roeder at Stanford Jazz. Roeder is now a member of Lage’s band, the Julian Lage Group. He met Lin at Calhoun School, where Lin is a music teacher, in New York City. Roeder said he is looking forward to playing with Lage and Lin once again.

“To share the common rhythm with string instruments is something that I find very appealing. There’s a great sense of communication,” Roeder said. “Julian and Victor are incredibly proficient in

their instruments and they also are very eager to communicate, to have fun and share the experience. For me it’s just a pleasure every time I play with them.”

All three agree that Django continues to be one of the most influential voices in the history of jazz music. Lin and Lage said that their concert will not attempt to replicate Django’s sound, but rather capture the spirit and recognizable style of his music.

“Django is inextricably linked to that guitar style that he played and the violin style of Stephane Grappelli (with whom he founded the Quintette of the Hot Club of France),” Lin said. “The way I see

it, as long as the spirit of that is present, that hypnotic, addictive rhythmic quality and that romantic and dramatic aspect, you can go wherever.”

“I could never (try to) play the way he played; that’d be a lost cause!” Lage said. “I don’t see it as much as a tribute — it’s more of a celebration of that kind of exciting, innovative quality he had throughout his career.”

Roeder said that anyone will be able to appreciate the trio’s take on Django’s music.

“I am from Peru, where jazz is not something that you hear very often,” he said. “But the sense of communication that exists be-

tween (Julian, Victor and me) can radiate to the audience the same way it captured me. I think it can be enjoyed on many different levels.”

For Lage, Roeder and Lin, the concert is simply another chance to play great music in great company. As Lin recounted, the three musicians have fun playing together no matter where they are — even on the streets of Palo Alto.

“Last year when we had some down time, just for fun, we would drive to the middle of Palo Alto. We’d just stand on the street corner and play as a trio,” Lin said. “If you can have fun playing on the corner of University Avenue,

for two kids sitting on the sidewalk and a bunch of cars driving by, you’re definitely going to have a good time when you’re actually in a place designed for music.” ■

What: “100 Years of Django with Julian Lage, Victor Lin, and Jorge Roeder,” a concert presented by the Stanford Jazz Festival
Where: Dinkelspiel Auditorium, Stanford University
When: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 28
Cost: \$32 general, \$18 for students
Info: A pre-concert talk by Julian Lage is set for 6:30 p.m.; admission is free with concert ticket. For more information, go to stanfordjazz.org, which contains Django-related audio and video links, or call 650-725-2787.



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It once hosted vaudeville; now the historic Fox Theatre in Redwood City will be home to a respected Peninsula theater group. Read more on Weekly arts editor Rebecca Wallace’s blog. **Ad Libs** is located at adlibs.paloaltoonline.com.

Correction
An article in the July 16 Weekly misstated the admission price for the “Encounter” lectures at the Music@Menlo festival. Tickets cost \$42 for adults and \$20 for students. Go to musicatmenlo.org for more.

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Tracy Martin

Playing sisters, Heidi Kettenring and Molly Anne Coogan fight over their father's desk.

Worth the highest bid

TheatreWorks' new play about an auctioneering family is vigorous and refreshing

by Kevin Kirby

Alice Ainsley has a problem: Her cherished mementos are vanishing. It's not that they're being stolen; in fact, they never leave their shelves. But Alice's synapses are failing her. Her memories are evaporating, and each time she loses a memory, the keepsake associated with that memory becomes invisible to her.

Alice is the widowed matriarch of the Ainsley clan, a family of Midwest auctioneers, and in her waning years she has secluded herself in the family's Queen Anne house, communicating through an intercom. But when the memories begin blinking out, Alice seeks outside help.

In "Auctioning the Ainsleys," the world-premiere play by Laura Schellhardt that launches TheatreWorks' 41st season and ushers in the company's New Works Festival, that help comes in the form of Arthur, a young man with a singular gift for taking thorough and accurate notes, even under stressful conditions. Alice hires him to jot down her reminiscences before it's too late.

THEATER REVIEW

She also enlists Arthur's help in preparing the house and its contents for auction. Of course, this task is not nearly so daunting as preparing Alice's grown children for the sale of their home and the family business.

The ensuing turmoil forms the core of Schellhardt's story, and she mines it for all the humor it's worth. The play, billed as "a dramatic comedy," is by turns absurd, insightful

and touching. It's a vigorous and refreshing work from a young playwright not afraid to let the theater be theatrical.

The production is stylishly directed by Meredith McDonough, who heads the New Works Festival, and features masterful performances from all six cast members.

Molly Anne Coogan takes the show's Wildest Comic Moment award when, in a desperate moment, her character staples herself to her father's desk.

Diane Dorsey is quietly resolute as Alice, a woman who chooses to focus on the task at hand with all the clarity she can muster. Happily, Dorsey also has a talent for delivering trunkloads of exposition in a completely natural manner. She is largely responsible for setting the rhythm and tone of the piece, and she does it well.

Faithful scribe Arthur is played by Lance Gardner, the embodiment of efficiency and dedication in raspberry slacks. Arthur is also a sort of magic looking glass for the Ainsleys, taking in their quirks without judgment and mirroring them back with a gentleness and wisdom beyond his years. In time, he becomes the trusted friend that each of the Ainsleys needs to move forward in their lives.

And move forward they must, for each of the Ainsleys is, in some sense, stuck. In "Auctioning the Ainsleys," Schellhardt is concerned with the elaborate tactics that each of us uses to deal with the chaos of day-to-day life. Like the grand Victorian house where most of Alice's children still reside, these tactics can both protect and entrap.

Not surprisingly for a family that

subsists on auctioning the remnants of other people's lives, the Ainsleys have a tendency to organize their own lives around *stuff*.

Take daughter Amelia. Amelia has a talent for grouping auction items into lots, collections of things that will sell better together than separately. She believes she can judge the health of her own marriage (poor, as it turns out) by comparing a pile of her possessions to a pile of her husband's, determining if her objects are a good match for his. Smartly played by Jessica Lynn Carroll, Amelia is hopelessly naïve but never shallow.

Her sister Annalee is responsible for the auction house's paperwork. Wielding the meanest stapler in the Midwest, Annalee guards her niche by creating a filing system that is utterly undecipherable to everyone else. Actress Molly Anne Coogan plays Annalee's various neuroses and coping mechanisms to the ludicrous hilt while still keeping the character believable. (Coogan also edges out her costars for the show's Wildest Comic Moment award when, in a desperate moment, Annalee staples herself to her father's desk.)

Liam Vincent is deliciously disagreeable as brother Aiden, a gifted restorer who can polish or tarnish, repair or distress with equal skill, whichever will maximize an object's value. Aiden chooses to keep life's chaos at bay by renouncing material possessions altogether, and his basement apartment is barer than a monk's cell. (The budding romance between Arthur and Aiden seems more like the playwright's idea than the characters', but Vincent and Gardner play it with a light touch that renders it charming.)

As the wayward eldest sibling, Avery, actress Heidi Kettenring has the toughest role. The only one of the Ainsleys to leave home, Avery is now an itinerant auctioneer, dealing with the painful things in life by selling them off. Alice's plan to sell

the house draws Avery home for the first time since her father's death, and Kettenring is saddled with oblique exposition about the abusive patriarch. With a weaker actress, the play might implode under this subplot, but Kettenring makes it work.

Splendid performances aside, much of this production's flair derives from its technical elements. Annie Smart's black and white, two-and-a-half-story set has a sense of hand-drawn whimsy about it: a Victorian interior from a New Yorker cartoon. It is also spectacularly functional, rotating to reveal three living spaces in addition to Alice's attic and Aiden's basement. (On opening night, the first set change provoked an audible "Oooo ..." from the audience.)

But it is the combined work of lighting, sound and properties designers that creates the most impressive effects. Each time one of Alice's memories decays, a physical item on stage disappears with a synaptic sizzle and a flash of light. Even though these items are invisible to Alice and the audience, the other characters continue to see, touch and use them. The attendant sound cues — the reverberant crack as Avery wields an invisible gavel, the rubber-duddy squeak as Arthur squeezes an invisible finger puppet — are timed with an almost miraculous precision.

"Auctioning the Ainsleys" is bursting with theatrical magic, from audio-visual illusions to unexpected revelations of the human heart. It is also a tremendously funny, inventive play. Catch it while you can. ■

What: "Auctioning the Ainsleys," a play presented by TheatreWorks
Where: Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto
When: Through Aug. 8, on Tues. and Wed. at 7:30 p.m.; Thurs. and Fri. at 8 p.m.; Sat. at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sun. at 2 and 7 p.m.
Cost: Tickets are \$19-\$67.
Info: Call 650-463-1960 or go to atreworks.org.



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Beyond the sea

Dragon's 'Seascape' looks at marriage and evolution with insight and humor

by Chad Jones

THEATER REVIEW

Slithering swiftly into the swirl of evolutionary debate, Edward Albee surmises that sea creatures are better at marriage than human beings.

In his Pulitzer Prize-winning 1974 play "Seascape," now at the Dragon Theatre in Palo Alto, Albee takes one of his favorite punching bags — the supposed bliss of matrimony — and dunks it into the dangerous riptide of absurdity. In the early '60s with his landmark "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" he pitted two warring, game-playing spouses against one another and let the fur fly in the presence of a younger, flabbergasted couple.

As Albee matured as a playwright, he became more artful in his evisceration of the connubial conundrum. By 1966, with "A Delicate Balance," he was turning marriage and relationships into something profound and absurd by rendering it with hints of monsters in suburban homes.

By the time he got to "Seascape" in the mid-'70s, he was, as the play's title suggests, a skilled artist working his dramatic canvas in shades of reality, comedy and absurdity with aplomb.

It's hard to imagine another American playwright who could so successfully blend a straightforward discourse on spouses and mortality with an utterly daffy take on evolution represented by two highly intelligent sea lizards.

Try as you might, YouTube fails to provide video documentation of that key moment in the planetary history when sea creatures stepped onto dry land and began the relatively swift — and some might say downhill — evolution toward oil spills and *Us Weekly*.

Thankfully, in "Seascape," Albee imagines what that moment might have been like.

On a gorgeous sunny afternoon, an older couple savors the pleasures of what appears to be a Cape Cod-ish sort of beach (the dunes and pier of the set is rendered nicely by Gavin Takase-Sanchez, and the filtered sunlight and ocean waves are courtesy of Andrew Custer). Nancy (Patricia Tyler) is sketching the ocean, while her husband, Charlie (Bill C. Jones), relaxes and grumbles.

Nancy and Charlie are at a crossroads in their life together. After raising three children, they each view the remaining years in different ways. Nancy wants the golden years to be full of activity and meaning. "The only thing to do is to do something!" she urges, while Charlie is of the opinion that, "We've earned a little rest."

Charlie makes the mistake of reminding Nancy that she has "had" a good life, while Nancy charges that she is "having" a good life. Turns out that Charlie has wrestled with melancholia before, and in his youth, he was fond of what you might call "reverse evolution." He found great comfort in loading his pockets with stones and allowing himself to sink to the bottom of the sea for as long as he could stand it.

He wants to go backward, while Nancy gamely charges forward.

Their contentious impasse is broken by the appearance of another, younger couple, Leslie (Alex Hero) and Sarah (Jeannie Naughton). Their relationship appears to be quite healthy — going swimmingly, in fact. In large part, they don't think too much about marriage. They just live it.

It's not that they lack smarts. On the contrary, they're both bright, inquisitive and well spoken. And, as mentioned before, they're sea lizards who, for some inexplicable reason, felt compelled to break the watery bonds of their ocean home and cast their lot on dry land.

Welcome to evolution Edward Albee-style. It turns out that we humans, with our privileges, our educations, our "gracious" living, have an awful lot of time to think about what we want or what we don't want, what we have or don't have. Could that be devolution? Perhaps our over-thought, overburdened lives have run their course, and now it's time for a newer, simpler species to come along and try it all again. And to think this was written before the advent of e-mail and smart phones.

Director Ana-Catrina Buchser takes a straight-ahead approach to this tricky material, and that's a smart choice. In Jones and Tyler, she has two comfortable, capable actors who are able to set a familiar tone: a husband and wife rummaging through well-worn arguments about who they are as individuals and as a couple.

Things get much more interesting with the arrival of Hero and Naughton, outfitted like *Cirque du Soleil* acrobats by designer Magenta Brooks. Their shiny lizard outfits, complete with tails, are topped by marvelously expressive metal gills along the sides of their heads.

The presence of the lizards could easily turn the play into a sketch, but the level of discourse is too high, and often too funny. Hero and Naughton could easily be ridiculous if they weren't so sincere and so wonderfully

direct. Even their lizard mannerisms — twitchy bodies, flicking tongues — cease to be comedy as we come to accept the notion of talking lizards on a New England beach.

The creatures possess innocence limned with the common sense of the natural world. They know some impressive words but not too many of them. They also display striking chemistry with one another, which makes them even more believable as a fully invested married couple.

For two hours, Dragon's "Seascape" rolls merrily along, with Albee unspooling ideas and notions about the fate of humankind and the intricacies of married life. This is pleasurable theater that entertains and tickles the brain — but not so much you feel taxed.

There's fun and substance to be found as the real world collides with a fantastical biological experiment, all laboring to say something simple: Being married is rough, wonderful and, very occasionally, astonishing. ■

What: "Seascape" by Edward Albee, presented by Dragon Productions

Where: Dragon Theatre, 535 Alma St., Palo Alto

When: Through Aug. 8, at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and at 2 p.m. on Sundays.

Cost: Tickets are \$20 general, and \$16 for seniors and students.

Info: Go to www.dragonproductions.net or call 650-493-2006.



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Movies

OPENINGS

The Kids Are All Right ★★★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) It's your typical Norman Rockwell family: two parents, two kids (girl, boy), nice suburban house.

But in "The Kids Are All Right," director/co-writer Lisa Cholodenko gives the traditional family drama/comedy a decidedly 21st-century spin: The parents are lesbians, and the kids were conceived from an anonymous donor's sperm.

What's refreshing about the movie is that the two-mom family and various interracial relationships are presented without a wink or a blush. That all seems ho-hum enough in our corner of the country, but it may prove eye-opening elsewhere, especially since "The Kids Are All Right," featuring big-name actors (Julianne Moore, Annette Bening, Mark Ruffalo, "Alice in Wonderland"'s Mia Wasikowska), is, as they say, a "major motion picture," not a macro-budget art house indie.

Bening plays Nic, a doctor, biological mother of Joni (Wasikowska), a straight-A student about to leave for college. Jules (Moore), biological mom of 15-year-old Laser (Josh Hutcherson), has stayed home with the kids and tried a variety of careers, including her latest, landscape design. Laser, who excels at sports, is "exploring": trying drugs, maybe a little gay sex with his unsuitable buddy Clay.

What Laser is really curious about, though, is his biological father, and with Joni's help, he finds him. Paul (Ruffalo), the sperm donor, is a hang-loose restaurateur and organic farmer. How cool is that? Everything about Paul is cool, the kids find, from his motorcycle to the easy way he seems to fit in.

But not so fast. Nic in particular resents Paul's apparent assumption that he's part of the family. For one thing, it turns out he lied in his statements to the sperm bank: He was not studying international relations and in fact never finished college. Will he turn out to be a father, or an interloper?

The film, co-written by Stuart Blumberg, excels in the naturalness and wit of its dialogue and its sympathetic examination of the ambiguities and tensions of sex. How can Joni win the love of her sometimes-boyfriend Jai? Why do Nic and Jules watch male porn videos? And is Jules really gay? In a world where the old certainties seem to be collapsing, what are the new rules?

Rated R for strong sexual content, nudity, language and teen drug and alcohol use. One hour, 44 minutes.

— Renata Polt

Salt ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) In her new action thriller "Salt," Angelina Jolie doesn't just play a spy. She doesn't just play a superspy. She plays a soooooooper-spy. (The better to stooooopefy, my dears.)

As you might imagine, the approach of Jolie, director Philip Noyce ("Clear and Present Danger") and screenwriter Kurt Wimmer ("Law Abiding Citizen") has its merits. The story of a career CIA intelligence officer informed that she's been a Russian sleeper agent all along, "Salt" gives Jolie plenty of opportunities to bust out her perfected, pursed-lip "I'm about to do something naughty" look. The problem is that what may seem at first blush like an unconventional action movie has within it, waiting to break out, its own sleeper agent: a highly conventional action movie designed for franchise potential (a star is "Bourne"?).

Suddenly on the run, Jolie's highly trained operative Evelyn Salt must contend with two problems: eluding the full force of the CIA and tracking down her beloved husband (a German arachnologist played by August Diehl), who's likely a victim of



Angelina Jolie in "Salt."

kidnap or worse. For the audience, there's a larger question: Whose side is Salt on?

If only Noyce didn't make it so easy to predict where "Salt" is going, maybe it would be harder to predict where Salt is going — so to speak. Still, the first act's breakout of good old-fashioned "Fugitive" action allows for some preposterous but cool stunts of the James Bond school, and the able Jolie thrives on every such opportunity. (It's a testament to Jolie's action-star credibility that she replaced the once-attached Tom Cruise.)

Salt's ingenuity, hyper-speed reaction time and application of brute force make her a kind of Jackie Bauer who we'd better hope is working for the good guys. Jolie gets pro support from Liev Schreiber, as longtime colleague Ted; and Chiwetel Ejiofor as the skeptical Peabody (sample line: "There's a mole in Russia House, I'm sure of it"). Both are tasked with hunting down Salt, who may or may not be poised to assassinate the Russian president. This question gets answered in another novel set piece — this one set in a New York City cathedral — that's emblematic of the movie: momentarily exciting but utter nonsense, a Burmese Tiger Pit built over a gaping plot hole.

So "Salt" is a wild ride, crazy-ridiculous, predictable to anyone who's ever seen a big-budget spy picture, but also pleasingly stunt-happy. Whether or not audiences will want to sign up depends on what they're in the mood for: a gourmet meal like "Inception" or fast food. Add "Salt" to taste.

Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action. One hour, 40 minutes.

— Peter Canavese

Agora ★1/2

(Aquarius) Swords and sandals, astronomy, and Christians behaving badly: If this admittedly snarky description doesn't quite sum up "Agora," it comes close.

A Spanish film directed in English by Chilean-born Alejandro Amenabar ("The Others," "The Sea Inside"), the film is set at the end of the fourth century A.D. in Alexandria, Egypt (but filmed in Malta). Governed by Rome, Alexandria is the site of the magnificent Royal Library. There Hypatia (based on a historical character and played by Rachel Weisz) studies mathematics, philosophy and astronomy and teaches classes of eager young men, all of them, apparently, in love with her.

But there's trouble, as the Christians aggressively proselytize while the Jews and pagans (or some of them) resist. These conflicts aren't merely intellectual or theological. Battle after battle is fought in this two-hour-plus film, with massive digitally produced crowd scenes and plenty of blood. The film's centerpiece is the Christians' sacking of the library, as the pagans attempt to rescue some of its

(continued on next page)

ANNETTE
BENING

JULIANNE
MOORE

MARK
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Los Angeles Times

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(continued from previous page)

precious scrolls.

Two of Hypatia's students, the upper-class Orestes (Oscar Isaac), and her slave Davus (Max Minghella), convert, with Davus becoming a follower of the black-clad preacher Ammonius (Ashraf Barhom). But Weisz's Hypatia floats ethereally above the fray, refusing either to convert or to get emotionally involved with her admirers, speculating about the shape of the Earth and its position

related to the sun, and occasionally uttering such lines as, "Why are slaves never around when you need them?"

The film makes some timely points about fundamentalist religions, as the Parabolani, a radical Christian sect, preaches women's submission and "modesty." You'd think the filmmakers had taken the fundamentalists' advice, as, aside from Hypatia, women are virtually MIA from this film. Hypatia doesn't even appear to have any female servants. What the film does have, in splendid abundance, are impressive sets: the library and other public buildings, lavish interiors, a ship at sea.

"Agora" leaves us with the impressions that the ancients lived amidst constant religious strife, butchery and upheaval, interrupted by short periods of speculation about the solar system.

Maybe that's the way it was, but you have to wonder.

Not rated. Two hours, six minutes.

— Renata Polt

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Agora (Not Rated) *1/2	Aquarius Theatre: 2:30, 5:30 & 8:30 p.m.
The Belle of New York (1952) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Stanford Theatre: Wed. & Thu. at 5:55 & 9:40 p.m.
Clifford's Really Big Movie (G) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Wed. at 10 a.m.
Cyrus (R) ***	Aquarius Theatre: 2:45, 5, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m. Century 20: 12:35, 3, 5:20, 7:45 & 10:10 p.m.
Despicable Me (PG) **1/2	Century 16: 12:10, 2:40 & 5:10 p.m.; In 3D at 10:50 a.m.; 1:20, 3:40, 7:20 & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Sun. at 12:30, 2:50 & 5:10 p.m.; In 3D Fri.-Mon. at 11:15 a.m.; 1:45, 4:15, 7:10 & 9:40 p.m.
Dinner for Schmucks (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 20: Thu. at 12:01 a.m.
Elvis on Tour: 75th Anniversary Celebration (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Thu. at 7 p.m. Century 20: Thu. at 7 p.m.
Eric Clapton's Crossroads 2010 (PG) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Tue. at 7:30 p.m. Century 20: Tue. at 7:30 p.m.
The Girl Who Played with Fire (R) **	Guild Theatre: 2, 5 & 8 p.m.
Grown Ups (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 11:20 a.m.; 1:55, 4:50, 7:45 & 10:35 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Sun. at 11:45 a.m.; 2:20, 4:50, 7:25 & 9:55 p.m.
Harvey (1950) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Stanford Theatre: Sat.-Tue. at 5:35 & 9:35 p.m.
I Am Love (R) (Not Reviewed)	Palo Alto Square: 1:45, 4:30 & 7:15 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 10 p.m.
Inception (PG-13) ***1/2	Century 16: 10:30 & 11:40 a.m.; 12:50, 2, 3:10, 4:20, 5:30, 6:40, 7:50, 9 & 10:05 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Mon. at 11:35 a.m.; 12:25, 1:15, 2, 2:50, 3:45, 4:35, 5:25, 6:15, 7:05, 7:55, 8:45, 9:35 & 10:25 p.m.
The Karate Kid (2010) (PG) ***	Century 20: Fri.-Sun. at 7:30 & 10:30 p.m.
The Kids Are All Right (R) ****	Century 16: 11:30 a.m.; 1, 2:15, 3:50, 5, 6:30, 7:40, 9:20 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Mon. at 11:30 a.m.; 2:10, 4:40, 7:15 & 9:50 p.m.
Knight and Day (Not Rated) **1/2	Century 16: 7:30 & 10:10 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Sun. at 8:10 & 10:45 p.m.
The Last Airbender (Not Rated) **1/2	Century 20: In 3D Fri.-Mon. at 11:20 a.m.; 1:50, 4:20, 6:50 & 9:20 p.m.
The Metropolitan Opera: Carmen (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: Wed. at 6:30 p.m.; Thu. at 10 a.m. Century 20: Wed. at 6:30 p.m.; Thu. at 10 a.m. CinéArts at Palo Alto Square: Wed. at 6:30 p.m.; Thu. at 1:30 p.m.
Predators (Not Rated) **1/2	Century 16: 11:10 a.m.; 1:50, 4:40, 7:35 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Sun. at 11:50 a.m.; 2:40, 5:15, 8 & 10:35 p.m.
Ramona and Beezus (G) (Not Reviewed)	Century 16: 10:40 a.m.; 1:15, 3:45, 7:10 & 9:45 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Mon. at 11:25 a.m.; 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:30 p.m.
Rear Window (1954) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Stanford Theatre: Sat.-Tue. at 7:30 p.m.; Sat. & Sun. also at 3:30 p.m.
Restrepo (R) (Not Reviewed)	Palo Alto Square: 4:45 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 9:35 p.m.
Royal Wedding (1951) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Stanford Theatre: Fri. at 7:30 p.m.
Salt (PG-13) **1/2	Century 16: 11 a.m.; 12:20, 1:30, 2:50, 4, 5:20, 7, 8, 9:30 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Mon. at 11:10 a.m.; noon, 12:50, 1:40, 2:30, 3:20, 4:10, 5, 5:50, 6:40, 7:35, 8:20, 9:10, 10:05 & 10:45 p.m.
Silk Stockings (1957) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Stanford Theatre: Wed. & Thu. at 7:30 p.m.
The Sorcerer's Apprentice (PG) **1/2	Century 16: 11:50 a.m.; 2:30, 5:40, 7:15, 8:50 & 10 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Mon. at 11:05 a.m.; 1:40, 4:30, 7:20 & 10 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 12:40, 3:15, 6 & 8:50 p.m.
Toy Story 3 (G) ****	Century 16: 10:25 a.m.; 1:10 & 4:10 p.m.; In 3D at noon, 3, 6:50 & 9:35 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Sun. at 12:20, 2:55 & 5:35 p.m.; In 3D Fri.-Mon. at 11 a.m.; 1:35, 4:25, 7 & 9:45 p.m.
The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG-13) **1/2	Century 16: 10:35 a.m.; 1:40, 4:30, 7:25 & 10:25 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Sun. at 11 a.m.; 1:55, 4:55, 7:50 & 10:40 p.m.
Winter's Bone (R) (Not Reviewed)	Palo Alto Square: 2:15 p.m.; Fri.-Tue. & Thu. also at 7:20 p.m.
Yolanda and the Thief (1945) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	Stanford Theatre: Fri. at 5:30 & 9:15 p.m.

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

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Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW



Lettuce wraps with smoked, braised pork belly are accompanied by a cucumber-mayonnaise-mustard sauce.

More than just sushi rolls

Bushido Izakaya gives you ample time to sample small plates and unusual flavors

by Andrew MacLeod Doerschuk

If you want to quickly fill your belly, go elsewhere. But if you want to sample delicacies that challenge preconceptions in an elegant and relaxing setting, visit Bushido Izakaya.

"In America, when people think of Japanese restaurants, they think of California rolls," says Steven Yen, the young, casually untucked visionary who opened the restaurant last March. "But there is so much more to Japanese food than sushi."

In Japan, according to Yen, you're much more likely to stumble upon an Izakaya house than a sushi bar. "It's essentially a drinking house," he says. "People drop by after work, spend several hours drinking beer and sake and ordering appetizers and small plates."

So a night of Izakaya really isn't about dinner after all. It's a lifestyle, which Bushido wholeheartedly embodies. With its dark wood paneling, playful Japanese noren drapes, a sweeping full-service bar and delightfully personable servers, it's a place to unwind, meet friends and forget about the grind for a while: a rare commodity in high-velocity Silicon Valley.

And yet food remains Bushido's central focus. Appetizers are tiny

works of art, meticulously prepared to gratify the eye as well as the palette. Each manner of serving platter — square, round, oval, of various hues — is carefully selected to frame a deftly sculpted tidbit.

During a recent visit, the arrival of every plate elicited happy gasps from my captivated dinner guests. That's a reaction relished by Yen, who encourages executive chef Steve Futagaki to experiment freely with traditional Japanese cuisine. Don't be surprised if the menu slightly changes on subsequent visits.

And don't drop by Bushido on the way to the airport. You couldn't eat quickly if you wanted to. Each plate is served individually, so as not to overwhelm the table. The slow pace invites interaction. Hot things stay hot and cool things cool. Yet our service was expeditious and choreographed, and never left us waiting for another course to arrive.

On our first plate, three small, warm crab croquettes (\$6.95) offset a flaky panko crust against a creamy mashed potato and Havarti cheese filling. With a dab of the accompanying Worcestershire-flavored tonkatsu sauce — Bushido makes every sauce by

hand, except mustard — the dish only hinted at the flavor of crab. We soon would learn that everything at Bushido was delicate and subtle.

Even Bushido's vegetable tempura (\$6.95), which was altogether conventional, save for a refreshing deep-fried sprig of parsley, was perfectly light and crispy.

Yen shrugs. "You have to have tempura."

See, he's realistic — he even borrowed the family recipe for kim chee gyoza (\$5.45) from the mother of a childhood friend. These plump dumplings tasted vaguely smoky, stuffed with kim chee, cabbage, chives and ground pork.

The cold salad ohitashi (\$5.95) arrived as boiled spinach mounds topped with sesame seeds and bonito flakes, which informed its sweet katsu sauce with a vaguely fishy under-taste.

Breaded and lightly fried, our fillet katsu (\$7.45) featured two succulent pork cutlets, left to rest after deep frying to seal in juices. The meat was cut into small slices, and accompanied by sliced cabbage, tonkatsu sauce and mustard.

Cut into thin slices of tenderloin, Bushido's tender beef tataki (\$10.45) rocked the table. It was quickly seared and served cold with chopped green onion, and red and yellow onion slices in a sweet and piquant ponzu sauce.

Yen laughed when asked about (continued on next page)

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Eating Out

(continued from previous page)

his okra and potato yama imo salad (\$5.95). Sliced, served cold in a ponzu sauce and topped with bonito flakes, it had a texture that was decidedly ...

"Slimy?" Yen finishes the sentence. It's an acquired taste, to be sure. One of my guests adored it. I needed only a bite. "We were hesitant to put it on the menu," he admits.

Ever more daring, we also ordered chicken hearts (\$4.45). Grilled with salt and pepper and served with a lemon wedge, they arrived on two double-pronged skewers, each holding four tiny hearts.

With some trepidation, I removed one from the skewer and popped it into my mouth. Dense and leathery. I gnawed through muscle, chambers and ventricles. It tasted oddly bland. Not at all like chicken.

We closed the evening with an order of rather average vanilla panna cotta (\$6.95) — an eggy flan topped by a strawberry slice — and a shot of Tengumail Yamahai (\$13), one of many options on Busido's remarkable sake menu.

Yen personally over-poured our selection into a glass, allowing the clear rice alcohol to spill into its serving box. "It signifies abundance," he explained. We nodded, gladly sipping the remaining nutty-tasting sake out of the small black box, while promising ourselves to be back very soon. ■



Today's news, sports & hot picks

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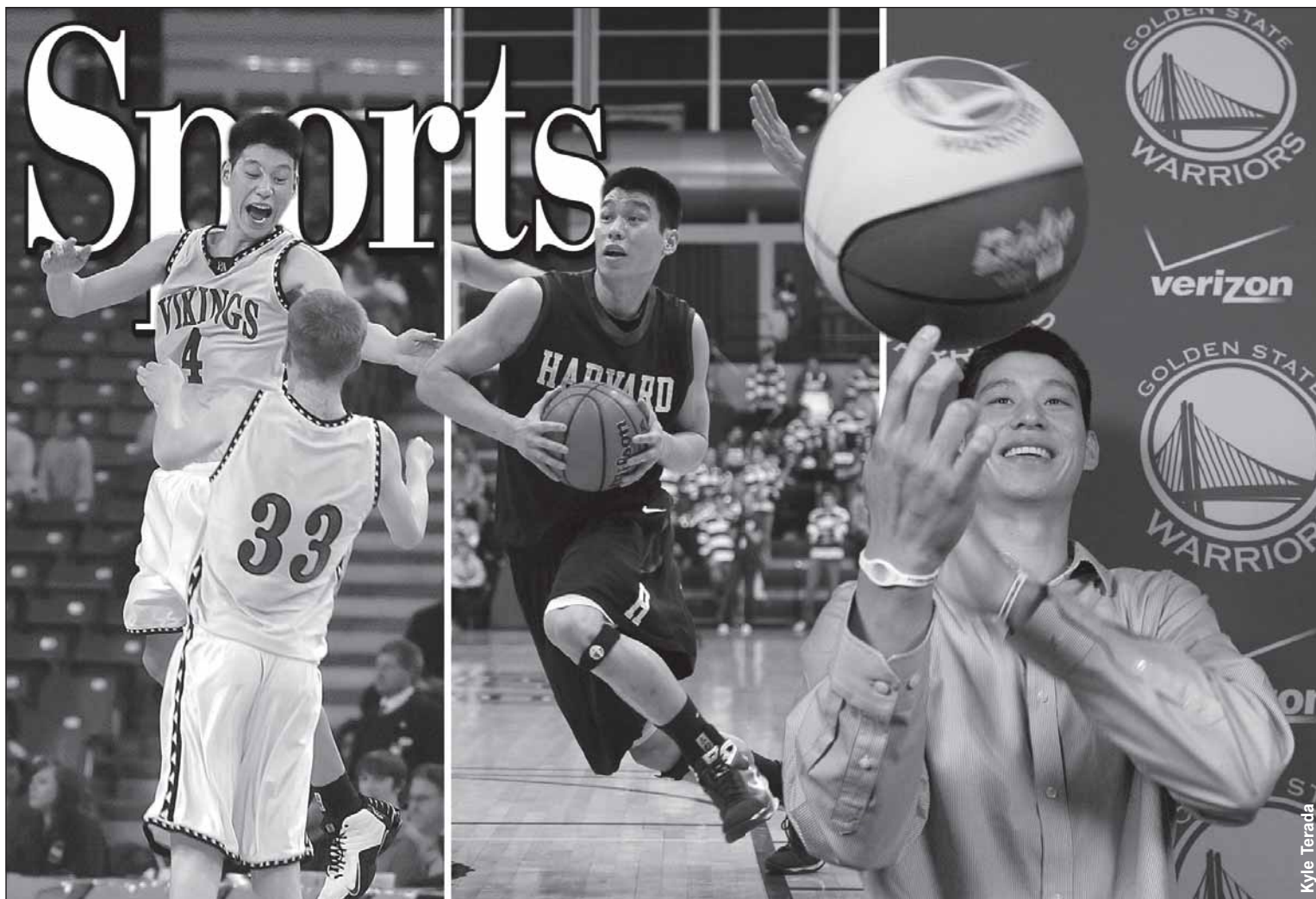
ON THE PITCH . . . The Stanford women's soccer team will be well-represented in the next round of the FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup in Germany, with four Cardinal players still competing. Stanford's **Alina Garciamendez** scored a crucial equalizer to lift Mexico to a 1-1 draw with Nigeria and into the knockout stages of the FIFA Under-20 Women's World Cup on Wednesday in Bochum, Germany, when Mexico was in danger of not advancing. And the United States, with three Stanford players, beat South Korea, 1-0, in Bielefeld to win Group D. The U.S. (2-0-1, 7 points) plays Nigeria on Sunday in a quarter-final in Augsburg while Mexico, the Group C winner, follows with a match against South Korea in Dresden the same day. In the 78th minute of Mexico's match, Garciamendez controlled a ball with her chest and struck a right-footed volley from close range to shoot Mexico from third to first in Group C. The Mexicans (1-0-2, 5 points) tied Nigeria on points, but won on total goals (5-4), with Japan (4 points) eliminated from the tournament despite finishing only a point behind. Garciamendez, who will be a sophomore central defender for the Cardinal this fall, is the captain of the Mexican team. For the USA, **Rachel Quon** played the entire match at right outside back, and Stanford teammates **Teresa Noyola** and **Courtney Verloo** were second-half substitutes. Noyola, who entered in the 57th minute as an attacking midfielder, nearly scored on a dipping shot from the top of the box that was pushed wide by South Korea's keeper.

SOFTBALL HONOR . . . Recent Cardinal graduate **Alissa Haber** was voted the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) Female Athlete of the Month for June 2010, based on her record-breaking play at the 2010 ISF Women's World Championship in Caracas, Venezuela. The USA Softball Women's National Team was also selected as June 2010's Team of the Month for its performances leading to a seventh consecutive World Gold Medal.

COACH OPENINGS . . . Sacred Heart Prep and Menlo-Atherton are looking for some coaches for the upcoming school year. Sacred Heart needs a girls JV head tennis coach and boys JV head tennis coach. Interested applicants please contact AD **Frank Rodriguez** at 473-4031 or via email at fr Rodriguez@shschools.org.

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It has been a long a successful road for Palo Alto's Jeremy Lin, who led Palo Alto High to the CIF Division II state championship (left) in 2006, helped Harvard (center) compile one of the best records in school history while earning All-Ivy League honors and Wednesday (right) joined the NBA's Golden State Warriors.

The journey continues for Jeremy Lin



Jeremy Lin has wanted to play in the NBA most of his life and now will get the chance after signing with the Warriors on Wednesday.

Palo Alto High graduate moves closer to fulfilling his dream of becoming an NBA player after signing with the Golden State Warriors

by Rick Eyrer

The ink had hardly dried from Jeremy Lin's signature on a Golden State Warriors' contract and the reaction was swift, positive and overwhelming. With one smooth stroke of the pen the Warriors not only ended Lin's draft-day disappointment but engaged a large segment of the Bay Area population.

Lin, the Palo Alto High grad who led the Vikings to a state basketball championship in 2006, was formally introduced as the newest Warrior on Wednesday in a decidedly informal setting at the team's training facility in downtown Oakland.

"I thought I would be a borderline draft guy," Lin said. "It was obviously a disappointing night for me. The last three months have been very anxious for me. It was the first time in forever that I didn't know

where I was going to go."

That meant even more hard work, a little bit of luck and the willingness of an NBA executive to give him another chance.

Donnie Nelson, a former assistant coach with the Warriors in the 1990s under his father, called Lin just before the NBA draft and offered him the opportunity to play in the NBA's summer league in Las Vegas. He was originally scheduled to play in the San Francisco Pro-Am League, which hosts games at Kezar Pavilion.

The Mavericks' president of basketball operations, the only person from the NBA to contact Lin, invited him to Dallas to train, and generally gave him every opportunity.

"Donn Nelson took care of me," Lin said. "He invited me to July 4th

(continued on page 34)

Bank of the West Classic will have plenty to celebrate

by Rick Eyrer

The 2010 Bank of the West Classic certainly will be all about celebration when it makes its annual appearance next week at Stanford's Taube Family Tennis Stadium.

This will be the event's 40th birthday party, so to speak, and will have a field worthy of the celebration during the week-long event that begins Monday and wraps up Sunday, Aug. 1.

Defending champion Marion Bar-

toli of France returns but will be tested by many of the world's best players. Three-time Grand Slam champion Maria Sharapova is just one of the many standout players who will battle Bartoli, along with three top-10 players and at least 12 of the top 30 players in the world overall.

Sharapova, who will play in the featured 7 p.m. match on Tuesday, is one of the most popular and successful tennis players in the world. The former World No. 1, and future

Hall of Famer, has already won two titles in three finals appearances this year.

In addition to Sharapova, the tournament field includes 2008 French Open champion Ana Ivanovic, 2008 Olympic gold medalist Elena Dementieva, 2010 Wimbledon finalist Vera Zvonareva, 2010 French Open finalist Samantha Stosur, 2010 Australian Open semifinalist Zheng Jie, 2009 US Open semifinalist Yanina Wickmayer, 2008 Australian Open semifinalist Daniela Hantuchova,

two-time Grand Slam semifinalist Kimiko Date Krumm, former No. 1 Dinara Safina and 18th ranked Victoria Azarenka.

And if that wasn't enough, the doubles draw will feature three-time Grand Slam champion Lindsay Davenport playing with Liezel Huber, the world's No. 1 ranked doubles player.

The Bank of the West also will have its usual handful of past, pres-

(continued on page 35)

Castilleja coach has mettle and medals

Olympian Brenda Villa will bring plenty of international experience to new job as Gators' water polo coach

by Keith Peters

It was only a few weeks ago that members of the Castilleja water polo team were in tears after hearing the shocking news that their coach, Ted Minnis, had accepted the job of coaching the men's and women's water polo teams at Harvard University.

There still were a few tears last Friday morning when a handful of Castilleja players received more shocking news. This time, however, it was tears of joy as the Gators discovered that three-time Olympian Brenda Villa will be the team's new head coach.

"No way," said senior Sayeh Borzorghadad upon the announcement by Castilleja Athletic Director Jez McIntosh. "You're lying, right? She is like my idol."

"This is so cool," said another player.

Added teammate Erica Lantzsich "I've got to start working out!"

Villa comes to Castilleja as perhaps the most recognizable name in the history of USA women's water polo. In addition to being a three-time Olympic medalist (2000, '04 and '08) and Team's USA captain from 2005-09, the Stanford graduate received the Peter J. Cutino Award was the female College Player of the Year in 2002 and was named the female Player of the Decade by FINA Aquatics World Magazine this past April.

"To replace Ted, it had to be someone big," McIntosh said Friday morning. "He, after all, was the big, lovable coach here for 11 years. For the seniors, I'm really happy for them -- especially after losing Ted for their senior year."

For Villa, it's an opportunity to return to the Stanford community where she built the foundation of her career after arriving on The Farm in 1998 as the nation's top recruit.

"I am excited to return to the Bay Area and be a part of a long-standing tradition of athletic and academic achievement at Castilleja," Villa said in a statement. "I am eager to build on the program's success over the last several years and look forward to working with the girls. I am grateful for this opportunity and look forward to becoming a part of the Castilleja community."

This will be Villa's first time as a head coach at any level. She has been an assistant water polo coach at Cerritos College since 2005 and a swim instructor since '08.

"It will be great for our girls," McIntosh said. "She can get in the pool and show them how to do it. That's the biggest key, having a coach who the girls have seen compete. She's an amazing role model and we are thrilled to have her on board."

From the reaction of the Castilleja players on Friday, the selection of Villa is a hugely popular one.

"I'm totally stunned she's going to coach us," said Borzorghadad. "It's such an honor."

Borzorghadad was smiling through a few tears upon hearing the announcement. It was quite a reversal of emotions after hearing about the departure of Minnis.

"It was really sad," she said. "I definitely did not see it coming. But, I was also very happy for him because I knew he wanted to coach at the next level. He worked so hard for us for so long."

Minnis also had told Borzorghadad and other players to have role models.

Kyle Terada



Three-time Olympian and former NCAA Player of the Year Brenda Villa from Stanford will coach the Castilleja water polo team this fall while continuing her preparations for the 2012 Summer Olympics.

dad and other players to have role models.

"When I was in middle school, Ted would say we should have certain athletes to look up to. I looked up to Villa. She's sort of my size and we play similar positions. She was always one of those players I watched."

Borzorghadad and her teammates did just that last month when Villa and her USA teammates played China in an exhibition match at Stanford. Interesting enough, everything leads back to Stanford, where Villa was a three-time All-American, the NCAA Women's Water Polo Player of the Year in 2001 and led the Cardinal to the national title in 2002.

When Villa makes her coaching debut with Castilleja on Sept. 3, it will be at Stanford.

Before that happens, Villa will compete with Team USA at the 15th FINA Women's World Cup in New Zealand from Aug. 17-22. That means she will miss the start of Castilleja's workouts, which begin Aug. 16. Castilleja assistant Jessie Wood will take charge in Villa's brief absence.

Having some flexibility in her schedule was important to Villa, said McIntosh.

"She knew we could support her during her training for the (2012) Olympics," he said.

McIntosh said other than a few

weekend when Villa will have to train in Los Alamitos at the Olympic training facility, there are no other conflicts.

"The opportunity to have her own program was exciting to her," he said. "She knew of the program that Ted had built because she knew Ted. She was excited that it was a quality program and a senior-heavy team."

Villa's only concern, McIntosh said, was whether she could fill Minnis's popular shoes.

"I just told her to bring a few of her Olympic medals to practice," McIntosh said.

Brenda Villa likely will bring a lot more than that to the Castilleja water polo program. ■

BASEBALL ROUNDUP

Stanford grad Lowrie makes season debut with Boston

by Rick Eyrer

Stanford grad Jed Lowrie made his season debut with the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday against the Oakland Athletics. The team may not have won, but his return to the lineup was successful.

"I'm happy with the way I played," Lowrie said after the Red Sox dropped a 6-4 decision to the host A's. "It felt good to be out there."

Lowrie, who began the season on the disabled list due to mononucleosis, was in the starting lineup at shortstop and batting second. He was 1-for-2 with a pair of walks, an RBI and a run scored. He also committed a throwing error.

"That was a good starting point: get on base and score the first run to get the team off to a good start," Lowrie said. "I'm going to continue to roll with it."

Lowrie batted .367 (11-for-30) in 10 rehab games between Single-A Lowell and Triple-A Pawtucket.

"I've had plenty of at bats on my rehab and I was ready to go," he said. "I had good reactions on the ball and my footwork was good. The one throw sailed on me. I was a little excited that (Rajai) Davis was running and I rushed the ball a little bit."

In other baseball news:

Stanford sophomore Brett Mooneyham scattered three hits over five innings and George Springer (Connecticut) collected two hits and drove in three runs to pace the Collegiate National Team to an 8-4 win over the Omaha Diamond Spirit of the MINK League on Tuesday night at E.A. Fricke Field in Papillion, Neb.

In semipro action:

The Palo Alto Oaks (12-1-2) will take a No. 1 seed into this weekend's State Playoffs in Santa Rosa. The midseason event gets underway Saturday with Palo Alto taking on the No. 2 seed out of the Sacramento Rural League at 1 p.m. ■

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Real estate professionals aren't anxious about whether a home sells for more or less since the difference isn't that significant once the commission is split four ways. Agents work hard to sell a home simply because it is in their best interest to do so.

If you suspect your listing may be underpriced, you could order an

appraisal prior to listing, because it is ultimately the seller, and not the agent, who decides on the actual asking price.

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Jeremy Lin

(continued from page 32)

festivities, brought me to Dallas for a 10-day training camp and went out of his way. I will call him immediately after this to thank him. He means a lot to me."

That's because Lin impressed a lot of people with his play in the short summer session.

"That's when my stock really rose," Lin said. "The biggest thing for me was to play against the best players entering the NBA."

Lin acknowledged that the Mavericks' televised game against the Wizards and the NBA's No. 1 overall draft pick John Wall was instrumental in getting an NBA offer. The YouTube video of the game didn't hurt Lin, either. He scored 13 points on 6-of-12 shooting in just 28 minutes while Wall scored 21 points on 4-of-19 shooting in 33 minutes.

Lin has overcome several obstacles and preconceived notions to reach this level. After graduating from Palo Alto, only Pac-10 schools, Harvard and Brown showed any interest.

"The Pac-10 schools wanted me to walk-on," Lin said. "I didn't want to walk on and then not make a team so I had to choose between Harvard and Brown."

Anyone who knows Lin knows his drive for excellence. He's never really given much thought to anything outside of his control. His focus remained on becoming the best possible basketball player.

Lin acknowledged his former Palo Alto coach Peter Diepenbrock and AAU coach Jim Sutter "as the biggest influences on my career."

Along with his family — father Gie-ming, mother Shirley and brothers Josh and Joseph — Lin also shared Wednesday's moment with the two coaches.

"He was always the best player on any team he played for," said Diepenbrock, a point guard in his playing days at Burlingame High and Menlo College. "He made the varsity as a freshman and just kept getting bigger, stronger and better. He has a different body now than what he had in high school. He turned that small body into a strength as a big point guard."



Palo Alto High grad Jeremy Lin and former Paly basketball coach Peter Diepenbrock enjoyed the spotlight on Lin's signing day.

He became the fourth Asian-American player signed by the NBA since 1947. In an area with a large Asian population, Lin becomes an instant celebrity.

"I consider myself a basketball player more than Asian-American," he said. "I'm ready to play at this level and I appreciate the support of the Asian community. This is a dream come true. I always wanted to be in the NBA and now I get to do it with the Warriors, the team I grew up watching."

The 21-year-old Lin averaged 16.4 points, 4.5 assists and 4.4 rebounds per game as a senior at Harvard. The season was highlighted by a 30-point, nine-rebound performance against Connecticut, one of two Crimson games televised.

Lin's effort against the Huskies, and his ability to draw large crowds to Bay Area venues such as Santa Clara and Stanford, attracted interest and placed value on his skills.

The Ivy League doesn't generate much attention from the national media in general, and Harvard has hardly been a powerhouse. The Crimson (a school record 21 wins) completed one of their most successful seasons this year, finishing second to Cornell in conference play. Cornell reached last season's Sweet 16. Lin averaged 21.5 points

against the Big Red in two games.

Harvard played in its first post-season tournament in 64 years, losing to Appalachian State in the first round of the collegeinsider.com tournament.

Lin moved into the Harvard starting lineup as a sophomore, the year Tommy Amaker took over as head coach. Amaker, a former assistant at Duke, also knows point guards. He was one with the Blue Devils.

Amaker also began scheduling tougher opponents in an effort to raise Harvard's profile. That meant Lin could be seen against a perennial favorite like Connecticut.

Lin became the first Ivy League player to record 1,450 points, 450 rebounds, 400 assists and 200 steals. He finished his college career as Harvard's all-time leader in games played (115) and fifth in points with 1,483 points.

Now he has the chance to live a dream.

"They want me to come in and compete," Lin said of the Warriors. "They have a need at the guard position and that speaks volumes to me. My opinion is I'm ready to go. I'm ready to play at this level. It's up to me how I develop. I know I have to develop a consistent jump shot out to the NBA 3-point line. All I wanted was the chance." ■

What They Are Saying About Jeremy Lin:

"He's easily one of the nation's best-kept secrets. Perhaps no more." -- ESPN commentator Andy Katz

"He's a terrific basketball player. What I like about him is he's athletic, more than you think so. He controls his temperament to a really nice tempo. He knows how to play. I really love his composure." -- Connecticut coach Jim Calhoun

"Lin can play anywhere, in any league." -- ESPN commentator Jay Bilas

"For some folks who haven't seen him play, you're probably wowed by some of the things he can do. We are." -- Harvard coach Tommy Amaker

"Jeremy Lin is probably one of the best players in the country you don't know about." -- ESPN's Rece Davis

"He's a joy to watch. He's smooth, smart, unselfish, sees the floor like no one else on it sees." -- Columnist Len Megliola

"He boasts an all-around repertoire rarely on display." -- ESPN columnist Dana O'Neil

"Jeremy Lin reminds me of Santa Clara's Steve Nash circa 1996. Hair cut, deceptive athlete." -- ESPN analyst Fran Fraschilla

"He's plenty athletic. Lin explodes at the hoop and can finish above the rim, and he has built his body into a strong physical speci-

men that can withstand contact." -- ESPN analyst Doug Gottlieb

"Boy, he had a nice summer league. He was pretty good most of the time. I wouldn't base it on one game." -- Golden State Warriors' GM Larry Riley

"Jeremy's game is not about the parts. It's about the will he exerts." -- Former Paly coach Peter Diepenbrock

"Getting myself a Lin jersey." -- Anonymous post on JeremyLin.net



Jeremy Lin



Marion Bartoli

Bank of the West

(continued from page 32)

ent or future Stanford players. Stanford's Hilary Barte and two highly rated incoming Cardinal freshmen are among the final list of wild cards.

Barte, who will be entering her senior year at this fall, is already a six-time All-American having earned singles and doubles honors her first three years. This will be her second appearance in the Bank of the West as a wild card in the main draw.

The wild-card selections for the qualifying draw include two future Stanford players, Kristie Ahn and Nicole Gibbs. They have yet to take their first class at Stanford, but both will have the opportunity to play on

the courts they will call home over the next four years. Ahn and Gibbs are both currently ranked in the top 500 in the world.

Finalizing the qualifying wild cards are Tamaryn Hendler and Coco Vandeweghe. Hendler, better known as Tammy Hendler, is 18 years of age and a former World Top 5 junior player. Hendler reached the quarterfinals in the 2008 US Open Girls' singles tournament and the semifinals at 2008 Junior Wimbledon.

Vandeweghe, who resides in Rancho Santa Fe (Ca.), defeated Hendler on her way to winning the 2008 US Open Girls' Singles championship. Vandeweghe, currently ranked 200 in the world, is the niece of former NBA star Kiki Vandeweghe.

The 2010 Bank of the West Classic will feature a 30-player singles draw and 16-team doubles draw. The official tournament draw, and first-round matchups, will be announced on Saturday.

Tickets for the 2010 can be purchased by calling the box office at 866-WTA-TIXS (866-982-8497) or by logging on to www.BankoftheWestClassic.com.

To help celebrate its 40th anniversary, the tournament will honor "Four Decades of Champions" prior to the 7:30 p.m. semifinal match on Saturday, July 31. The event will feature appearances by some of the tournament's most prestigious winners, including Billie Jean King and Andrea Jaeger.

Yet another special addition next week will be the first-ever US Open

National Playoffs that features 16 women vying for a wild-card entry into the 2010 US Open qualifying.

The US Open National Playoffs began with 16 sectional qualifying tournaments held throughout the country from April through June. In all, 373 women competed in hopes of making

it to the final 16 at Stanford.

No player will be entering the 16-player playoff with more professional experience than 33-year-old Alina Jidkova, a Russian immigrant who won the Texas Sectional Qualifying. Jidkova's professional resumé includes appearances in all four

grand slams and a win over Serena Williams.

The Women's Championships will be held July 28-Aug. 1, during the Bank of the West Classic. The final will take place Sunday, Aug. 1 following the women's Bank of the West doubles final. ■

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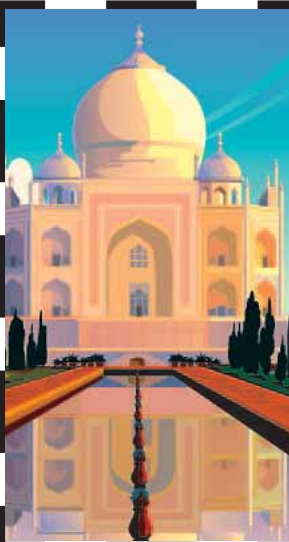
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