Palo Alto Weekly
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Vol. XXXII, Number 1 • October 8, 2010 ■ 50¢

Palo Alto considers airport takeover

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Veterinary innovations

LOCAL ANIMAL DOCTORS USE EVOLVING TECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGIES TO CARE FOR THEIR PATIENTS

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Upfront

Local news, information and analysis

1ST PLACE BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE CNPA California Newspaper Publishers Association

Palo Alto to consider early airport takeover

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

by Gennady Sheyner

After a brief layover, Palo Alto's divisive debate about the future of the municipal airport is scheduled to take off later this month, when city officials debate what to do with the small and bustling Baylands facility.

The future of the Palo Alto Airport has split the local community in recent years, with some residents and council members calling for abolishment of the aged 102-acre facility and others urging more investment in the airport. Santa Clara County has been managing the airport since 1967 under a 50-year lease.

But county officials have been looking to lessen their role in the municipal airport since at least 2006, when they approved a business plan limiting the county's investment in the facility to only the most essential projects. The county estimated the costs of running the airport exceeded the facility's revenues by about $600,000 between 1967 and 2009.

A new study, however, suggests that with a modest investment, a city-run airport could bring a long-term windfall to the city.

The analysis by the Kentucky-based firm R.A. Wiedemann & Associates estimates the city could realize a profit of $13.5 million from Palo Alto Airport by 2037 if it were to take over operations before 2012. But to get to this point, the city would have to endure a deficit of $129,200 for the years 2012-17.

The report, which the council commissioned last year, largely backs up persistent claims from airport proponents that the busy facility could be a robust revenue generator. But it also stresses that any profits the city makes from the airport would have to stay in the airport. Federal Aviation Administration regulations prohibit transfer of airport revenues to other municipal uses.

"In short, the City of Palo Alto

(continued on page 6)

Veronica Weber

STRIKING UP THE BAND

Drum major Garret Schlesinger (left) leads the Stanford Band as it practices songs and formations on campus in advance of Saturday's home game against USC. "Cal may be the rival, but 'SC is the enemy," he said.

ENVIRONMENT

Superfund: Pollution spikes despite cleanup

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

by Sue Dremann

Despite nearly three decades of clean-up efforts at a central Palo Alto Superfund site, groundwater contamination from a leaky underground chemical tank has dramatically concentrated in some small areas, according to a new water-quality report.

None of the contamination is threatening homes, but it is causing some concern about vapors penetrating commercial buildings.

The underground contamination from the "Hewlett-Packard 620-640 Page Mill Road Superfund Site" is detailed in a five-year review released Sept. 30 by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Francisco Bay Region.

It is the third five-year study of the site.

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

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

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

Contamination has not spread into the adjacent residential areas outside of the site, the report said.

The clean up has been ongoing since 1982, after HP detected a toxic leak from a 1,000-gallon underground solvent-storage tank at 620-640 Page Mill Road in 1981 and began remediation to remove the contamination from soil and groundwater. The company left the site in 1986 but continued its lease until 2007.

HP has reported a cumulative cost of $6,788,253 through October 2009 to clean up the contamination.

According to the report — which was created from monitoring done by Stantec, a company hired by HP and Varian — an area just south of the 620-640 Page Mill Road buildings showed trichloroethene (TCE) levels in groundwater increased by 75 percent.

Trichloroethene concentrations increased by 20 percent in a monitoring well near El Camino Real and Page Mill Road between 2005 to 2009. But trichloroethene levels have increased nearly 800 percent in the water collected from two bore holes near the well site at 2875 and 2865 El Camino Real (the northeast corner of El Camino Real and Page Mill Road), according to the report.

The groundwater is not used for drinking or bathing and so does not pose a risk of off-gassing vapors from showers and baths, but inspectors expressed concern about air vapors that could seep into buildings. Rising groundwater levels in some areas have re-saturated soils.

In some areas, contaminated water close to the soil's surface has brought toxic vapors into buildings, according to the report.

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

(continued on page 6)

LAND USE

Peninsula Day Care site eyed by developer, school district

SummerHill plans to build 26 homes on 3-acre San Antonio Road parcel

by Chris Kenrick

A housing developer and the Palo Alto school district have competing designs on a rare 3-acre parcel that will be available for development next summer.

The property, at 525 San Antonio Road, has for decades been occupied by the Peninsula Day Care Center. But the center's owner, Herman Shaw of Palo Alto, plans to close his 35-year-old establishment in June and retire.

The parcel is under contract to be sold to a developer, who wants to build 26 single-family 3- and 4-bedroom homes.

Completion of the sale depends on the developer, the privately held SummerHill Homes, obtaining a rezoning allowing greater density from the city.

Meanwhile, Palo Alto School Superintendent Kevin Skelly confirmed the school district also is interested in acquiring the property.

"We're discussing it internally and have had preliminary discussions with SummerHill," Skelly said.

SummerHill Senior Vice-President Katia Kamangar said the firm knows of the district's interest.

"We've heard they have a potential interest in this land, and they took it to a closed session of their board," Kamanger said.

"In terms of what their intent is, it's not clear, but it's out there."

A member of the Shaw family said they have not been contacted by the district.

"We are pleased to consummate a contract with SummerHill Homes," family member Victor Martindale said.

"They are a Palo Alto-based home builder with a great reputation for infill development and working constructively with neighbors."

The San Antonio parcel backs up to the district's Greendell School site, which is now accessible through the Middlefield Road entrance to the Cubberley Community Center.

The Greendell campus currently houses the district's PreSchool Family and Young Fives programs.

With booming enrollment, particularly at the elementary level, the district has been scouting broadly for more classroom space.

"A piece of infill property in this community is of interest," Skelly said.

(continued on page 5)

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The **Palo Alto Weekly** (ISSN 0199-1159) is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306, (650) 326-8210. Periodicals postage paid at Palo Alto, CA and additional mailing offices. Adjudicated a newspaper of general circulation for Santa Clara County. The Palo Alto Weekly is delivered free to homes in Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton, Portola Valley, East Palo Alto, to faculty and staff households on the Stanford campus and to portions of Los Altos Hills. If you are not currently receiving the paper, you may request free delivery by calling 326-8210. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Palo Alto Weekly, P.O. Box 1610, Palo Alto, CA 94302.

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Printed by SFOP, Redwood City. The Palo Alto Weekly is available on the Internet via Palo Alto Online at: www.**PaloAltoOnline**.com

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"The airport is solvent and capable of making money and supporting itself."

***— Ralph Britton**, president of the Palo Alto Airport Association, on early takeover of the Palo Alto Airport by the city. See story on page 3.*

Around Town

BLACK & WHITE & MASKED ... It was no secret that a thousand revelers descended on Lucie Stern Community Center last Saturday for the biennial **Palo Alto Black & White Ball**. The volunteer-organized, mask-themed fundraiser for the Palo Alto Recreation Foundation included gourmet eats from 40 local restaurants and several musical groups, including Foreverland, a Michael Jackson tribute band. A silent auction attracted numerous bidders on items such as lunches with officials, a Stanford shopping spree and retail gift packages. But the standout item appeared to be a homecooked Persian dinner for six donated by Community Services Recreation Services Manager **Khashayar "Cash" Alaee**. Valued at $300, it had already attracted more than $500 with at least a half-hour to go until bidding closed.

Sandhya King and Vince Scarich at the Black & White Ball

CHALLENGING THE AUTHORITY ... Palo Alto's high-speed rail watchdogs are calling for California Attorney General to clamp down on rail officials whose service may constitute a conflict of interest. The group **Californians Advocating Responsible Rail Design** wrote a letter to Attorney General **Jerry Brown** this week, asking his office to begin the process of removing **Curt Pringle** and **Richard Katz** from the rail authority's board of directors. Pringle, who serves as Anaheim mayor in addition to chairing the rail board, and Katz, who serves on the board of Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, made headlines recently after the state **Legislative Counsel Bureau** found that their participation on the rail board is incompatible with their other offices. The Attorney General's Office, which is charged with enforcing California's conflict-of-interest statute, wrote a letter to the rail authority on July 30 asking members to "review the relevant law" and "to take appropriate steps to clear up any lingering issue." CARRD argues in its Sept. 28 letter that this response has proven insufficient and asked Brown to restore the public's confidence in the project by removing the conflicted members from the board. "It is time to acknowledge that the statute's self-enforcing aspect has failed," the group wrote to Brown. Palo Alto watchdogs aren't the only ones paying attention to the conflict-of-interest issues on the rail board. Last week, California legislators noticed and quickly removed a provision in the proposed state budget that would have exempted Pringle and Katz from the conflict-of-interest requirement.

FINDING MR. WRIGHT ... The nonprofit group charged with beautifying and marketing downtown Palo Alto has been seeking a new leader since May, when **Sherry Bijan** was asked to step down. This week, the **Palo Alto Downtown Business and Professional Association** selected a veteran business consultant to lead it on an interim basis, until Bijan's permanent replacement is found. **Paul Wright**, former Belmont mayor and past board chairman of the **Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce**, has been hired by the group to serve as its interim executive director, a job that puts him in charge of the board's community outreach and day-to-day activities and programs. **Anne Senti-Willis**, who chairs the association's board of directors, said Wright is not a candidate for the permanent position, which she expects will be filled within the next two months.

LANDMARK IN A CUP ... The critically acclaimed new motion picture "The Social Network" about Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg wasn't filmed in Palo Alto, but that didn't stop the filmmakers from tossing in a little Palo Alto flair. A coffee cup from popular Coupa Cafe on Ramona Street can be spotted in the movie, as can several references to Stanford University. One character even quips (during the early development of Facebook): "They need to see this in Palo Alto." ■

ENVIRONMENT

Weekly building gets LEED gold rating

Public invited to open house this Sunday on Cambridge Avenue

by the Palo Alto Weekly staff

The Palo Alto Weekly's 10,000-square-foot headquarters building at 450 Cambridge Ave. has been awarded LEED Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council, realizing a dream hatched more than four years ago to build Palo Alto's first such facility and to be a model for future commercial "green" development.

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

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

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

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

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

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

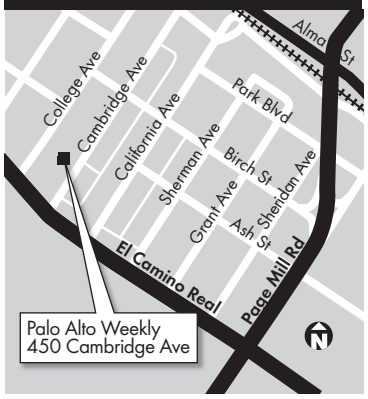
"We wanted to use this project as an opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to sustainability and to create a building that will be healthy and comfortable for our employees, as well as a model for future developers," said Bill Johnson, Weekly publisher and president of Embarcadero Media, the company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

Johnson credited the vision of Palo Alto developer Jim Baer, who managed the construction, for the inspiration to maximize green features. The building was the first LEED project for both Baer and the general contractor, Cody-Brock of San Carlos, as well as many of the subcontractors. Interior design was by Rise Krag of Menlo Park; lighting design was done by Rita Koltai of Palo Alto. The project architect was the Hagman Group of San Jose.

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

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

Palo Alto Weekly Open House



What: Free tour of the Weekly's LEED Gold building, with refreshments

When: Sunday, Oct. 10, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: 450 Cambridge Ave., Palo Alto

San Antonio site

(continued from page 3)

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

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

"We're looking at enrolling another 200-plus kids this year."

Palo Alto K-12 enrollment currently is 11,680 students, with new official figures for 2010-2011 due out this week.

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

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

Historically, enrollment peaked in 1967-1968 at 15,575.

The district is building for anticipated growth in a $378 million bond-financed construction program — now underway — that will touch every campus.

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

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

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

The new homes, each with a two-car garage, would be built on a loop road with two access points to the frontage road along San Antonio. The private road — 32 feet from curb to curb with parking on one side — would comply with Palo Alto's new private-street ordinance.

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

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

In addition to Greendell School

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

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

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

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

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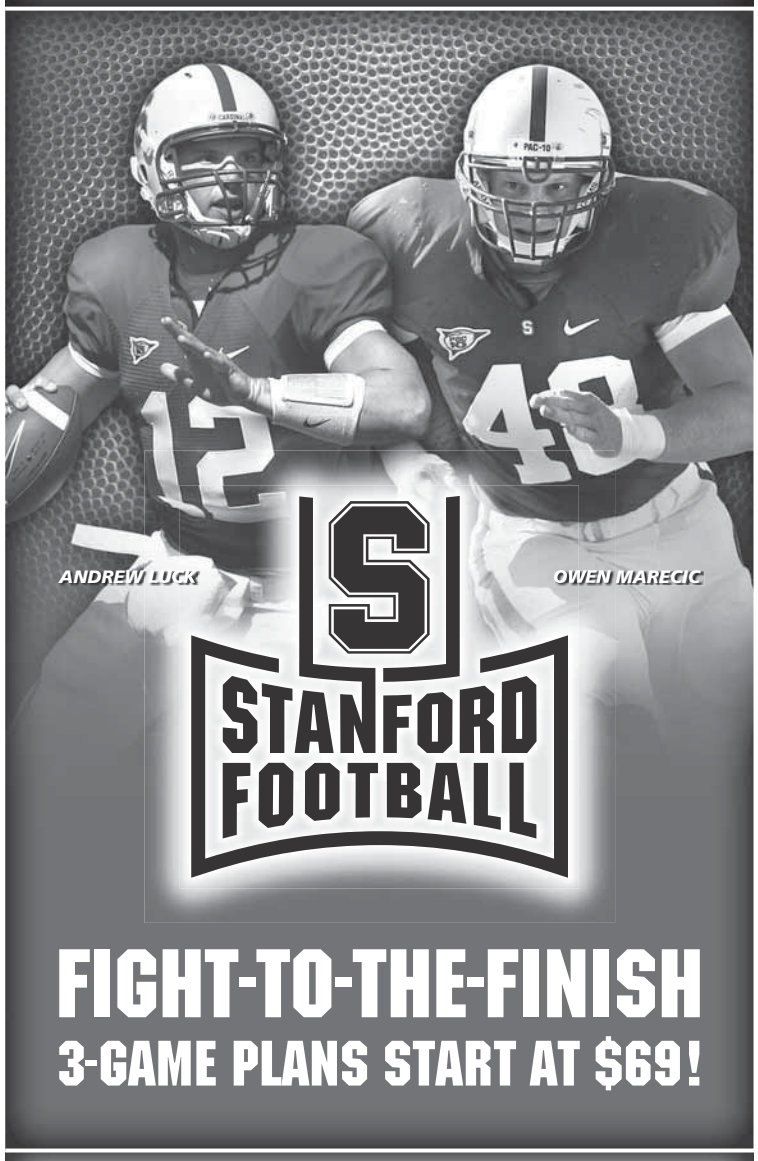

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Steve Lewis is President of Lewis & Mathews Investment Management in Menlo Park. He is a college professor, investment counselor, Value Line award winner, financial author and has appeared on national radio and television. He is a past officer of the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

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

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Superfund

(continued from page 3)

to California Avenue under the former Varian site. It flows east along Grant Avenue to Alma Street and the Oregon Expressway underpass, then south along Portage and Lambert Avenues, just shy of Matadero Canal, according to report maps.

The site contains contaminants in the soil including arsenic, gallium, trichloroethene (TCE), trichloroethane (TCA), 1,1 dichloroethene (DCE), tetrachloroethene (PCE) 1,2,4 trichlorobenzene and phenol. It was added to the federal Superfund site list in 1990.

The Regional Water Board approved decommissioning groundwater monitoring and extraction wells at the former Mayfield School site on El Camino in 2005. That site was redeveloped by Stanford University into the Stanford/Palo Alto Community Playing Fields soccer complex in 2006.

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

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

Groundwater TCE concentrations have also increased in the area at the northwest corner of El Camino and Pepper Avenue. The groundwater is close to the surface and there is potential for contaminating vapors to enter buildings, inspectors said.

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

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

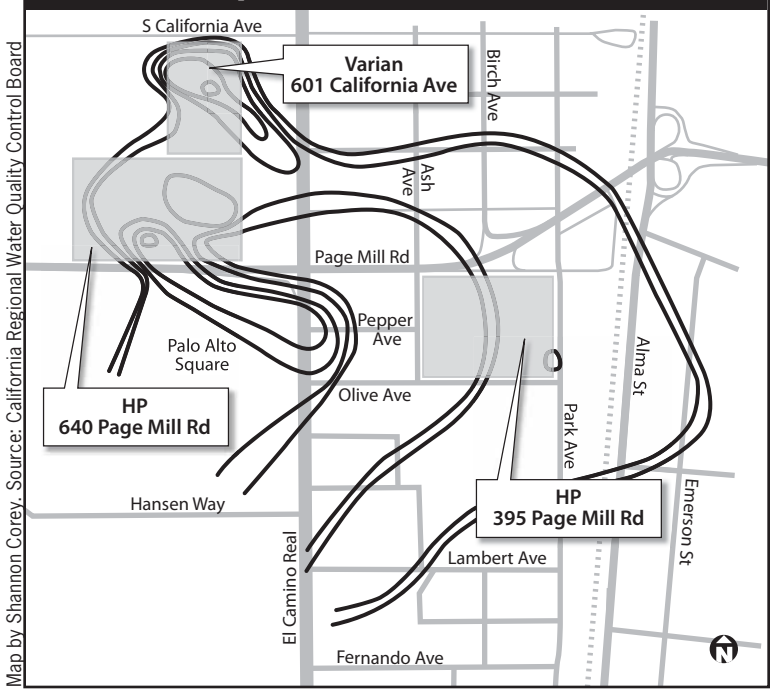
The Superfund site has been the subject of litigation. After the City Council approved a development at 195 Page Mill, Palo Alto residents Bob Moss and Tom Jordan filed suit, contesting the adequacy of the city's environmental review.

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

HP is required to submit its next five-year report to the water board by Feb. 1, 2015, inspectors said. ■

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

Palo Alto Superfund site



Map by Shannon Corey. Source: California Regional Water Quality Control Board

The underground, toxic chemical plume of the HP 620-640 Page Mill Road Superfund site includes high concentrations of tricholorethene (depicted as small circles) as well as lower concentrations further out.

READ MORE ONLINE
www.PaloAltoOnline.com

The 58-page, five-year report is posted on Palo Alto Online. Go to the website and search for "Superfund."

Airport

(continued from page 3)

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

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

If Palo Alto officials were to decide to take over airport operations from the county by 2012, the city would have to hire an airport manager and assistant airport manager and assign a part-time city worker to assist with airport operations, the report states. It would also need to set up an Enterprise Fund for airport revenues and set up a billing system for airport tenants, according to the report.

The Wiedemann analysis, which the City Council's Finance Committee is scheduled to discuss on Oct. 19, also recommends that the city appoint an advisory group composed of aviation experts that would regularly report to the council.

Before the county stated its disinterest in continuing to operate the airport, it made efforts to expand the airport's runway system and build new hangars. But the city, whose land-use policies prohibit intensification of activity in the Baylands, rejected those plans.

Now, the 2017 expiration of the county's operating lease gives the county little incentive to make long-term investments in the facility.

These factors have prompted the council to ponder an early takeover of the airport. Last year, the city's Senior Financial Analyst Joyce White wrote in a report that the county's decisions to limit its investment in Palo Alto Airport and to raise aircraft-storage fees at the airport "are forcing the City to take back the PAO early."

"If the City were to wait until 2017, there is concern that the airport's condition will be severely impacted without an efficient source of income," White wrote.

Ralph Britton, president of the Palo Alto Airport Association, said the new report demonstrates that an early takeover of the airport by the city would be both feasible and potentially lucrative. Even though the city would not be able to divert airport revenues to other uses, it would be able to use these funds to replace the airport's terminal, develop new hangars and invest in landscaping that would both benefit the facility and create a more scenic entrance into the Baylands.

"The most important thing in the report is that under almost any scenario, the airport is solvent and capable of making money and supporting itself," Britton said. "Instead of having an airport that's underfunded and undermaintained, we can end up with a first-class facility that everyone is proud of." ■

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

News Digest

Conlon, Gordon vie for Assembly seat

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

Michelle Le
Rich Gordon

Michelle Le
Greg Conlon

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

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

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

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

— Jocelyn Dong

Embarcadero Shell station robbed at gunpoint

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

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

The suspect fled north through Edgewood Shopping Center, Brown said. Officers responded immediately and used a K-9 police dog to help search for the suspect, though they were unable to locate him.

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

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

— Tyler Hanley

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- Tuesday, November 9: 7:00 – 9:00 pm

CHILD CPR & FIRST AID
Designed for parents and care-givers of children 1 year of age to adolescence, this class will cover cardio-pulmonary resuscitation techniques, choking and first aid for common childhood injuries.
- Saturday, November 13: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

FETAL AND MATERNAL HEALTH
As part of the Packard Children's Anniversary Lecture Series please join us for tea and a special presentation by Dr. Susan Hintz, Medical Director, Packard Center for Fetal and Maternal Health, and learn more about this unique offering of comprehensive services and support for complex fetal patients, expectant mothers and families. To reserve a space for this free lecture, please visit our online calendar.
- Sunday, November 14: 3:00 pm

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

Online This Week

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

Debate: Is Measure R for safety or a 'power grab'?

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

Judge nixes M-A plans for night football

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

Palo Alto students buck trends on commuting

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

Droid theft in Palo Alto draws police, helicopter

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

Opponents of firefighter measure raise $58,000

A coalition of former Palo Alto mayors has raised more than $58,000 to defeat a ballot measure that would lock in firefighter staffing levels, campaign finance data shows. (Posted Oct. 6 at 9:29 a.m.)

Governor announces new organ-donation law

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

Two robbed in East Palo Alto Tuesday night

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

Victor Frost charges to be swapped for new ones

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

71 Palo Alto students National Merit semifinalists

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

Palo Alto won't limit housing sizes in foothills

Faced with ferocious neighborhood opposition, Palo Alto officials decided Monday to scrap a proposal to limit housing sizes in the foothills. (Posted Oct. 4 at 11:37 p.m.)

Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton sue rail authority

Palo Alto, Atherton and Menlo Park launched a fresh lawsuit Thursday against the California High-Speed Rail Authority, claiming the state agency violated state laws when it approved a comprehensive study evaluating the Bay Area-to-Central Valley segment of the 800-mile high-speed rail system. (Posted Oct. 4 at 8:30 p.m.)

Palo Alto seeks to reclaim bike-friendly reputation

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

Palo Alto fund awards $300,000 in local grants

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

Palo Alto cop identified in 2009 DUI arrest

A Palo Alto police officer has been identified in a 2009 arrest for driving under the influence after he rolled his SUV on U.S. Highway 101, according to court documents. (Posted Oct. 1 at 9:56 a.m.)

CityView

A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

City Council (Oct. 4)

Open space: The council voted not to set maximum house sizes in the open space (OS) district in the foothills. **Yes:** Unanimous

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

Finance Committee (Oct. 5)

Audit report: The committee discussed a report from the City Auditor's Office about the status of prior audit recommendations. The committee recommended changes in the report's format and requested an updated report in six months. **Yes:** Unanimous

Historic Resources Board (Oct. 6)

405 Lincoln Ave.: The board approved, with conditions, an Environmental Impact Report for a proposal to demolish an existing building at 405 Lincoln Ave. and build a three-story home in the city's Professorville neighborhood. The board recommended a project alternative that would modify, rather than demolish, the existing building. **Yes:** Bernstein, Bower, Di Cicco, Kohler, Makinen **Absent:** Loukianoff **Abstained:** Bunnenberg

Utilities Advisory Commission (Oct. 7)

Water studies: The commission discussed a recently completed Water Utility Benchmark Study and the rate structure for water and wastewater collection. **Action:** None

Gas utility: The commission approved an "implementation plan" for the Utility Department's Gas Utility Long-Term Plan. **Yes:** Unanimous

High-Speed Rail Committee (Oct. 8)

High-speed rail: The committee discussed eminent domain and California High-Speed Rail Authority's correspondence with Caltrain about a proposal to build the high-speed rail in phases. **Action:** None

Architectural Review Board (Oct. 8)

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

Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL ... The council has no meetings scheduled this week.

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

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

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

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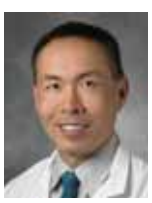
During this program, Daniel Huie, MD, will introduce practical principles of medical disaster preparedness and provide available resources for disaster preparation. You will learn how to be individually prepared for a disaster and what community and government resources are available to you.



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

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Palo Alto
Sept. 28-Oct. 4
Violence related
Battery 1
Domestic violence 2
Theft related
Checks forgery 1
Grand theft 4
Identity theft 3
Petty theft 3
Residential burglaries 2
Shoplifting 1
Vehicle related
Abandoned auto 2
Driving without license 3
Hit and run 1
Lost/stolen plates 1
Misc. traffic 10
Suspended license 3
Theft from auto 8
Vehicle accident/major injury 1
Vehicle accident/minor injury 6
Vehicle accident/property damage 10
Vehicle tow 2
Alcohol or drug related
Drunk in public 10
Drunken driving 1
Possession of drugs 4
Drinking in public 2
Miscellaneous
Casualty/fall 2
Disturbing/annoying phone calls 1
Found property 2
Lost property 1
Misc. penal code violation 1
Missing person 2
Other/misc. 2
Psychiatric hold 3
Sex crime/misc. 1
Suspicious circumstances 1
Trespassing 2
Vandalism 2
Warrants/other agency 6
Warrant/Palo Alto 1

Menlo Park
Sept. 28-Oct. 4
Violence related
Battery 1
Domestic violence 3
Theft related
Fraud 3
Petty theft 5
Residential burglaries 1
Shoplifting 1
Vehicle related
Abandoned auto 1
Auto recovery 2
Auto theft 1
Driving without license 2
Hit and run 5
Suspended license 3
Theft from auto 3
Vehicle accident/minor injury 3
Vehicle accident/property damage 1
Alcohol or drug related
Drunk in public 1
Drunken driving 2
Possession of drugs 1
Narcotics registrant 1
Miscellaneous
Brandishing a weapon 1
Disturbance 1
Found property 1
Information 6
Lost property 2
Missing person 1
Parole arrest 1
Property for destruction 1
Psychiatric hold 2
Threats 1
Trespassing 1
Vandalism 2
Warrant arrest 5

Atherton
Sept. 28-Oct. 4
Violence related
Assault/battery 1
Theft related
Petty theft 6
Vehicle related
Hit and run 1
Parking/driving violation 5
Suspicious vehicle 13
Vehicle accident/major injury 1
Vehicle accident/property damage 4
Vehicle code violation 6
Alcohol or drug related
Drunken driving 1
Miscellaneous
Animal call 7
Citizen assist 4
Construction 2
Disturbance 5
Fire call 3
Found property 2
Hang up 3
Hazard 5
Juvenile problem 1
Medical aid 3
Meet citizen 3
Outside assistance 13
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Perimeter check 2
Psychiatric hold 1
Special detail 1
Suspicious circumstance 1
Suspicious person 4
Town ordinance violation 6
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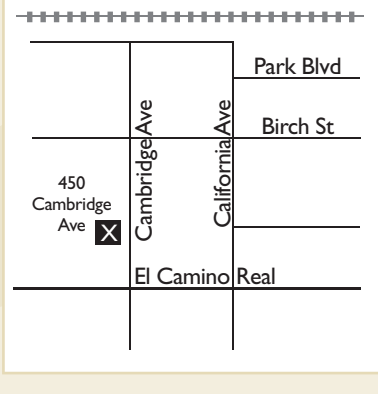

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Transitions

Social, environmental advocate Mary Davey dies

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

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

"It's a forever kind of thing," she said of the district's acquisitions, now approaching 60,000 acres, in an interview with the Weekly in May, 2007, when she was recognized with a Lifetimes of Achievement award by the Avenidas senior organization.

Her involvements included serving as director Midpeninsula Citizens for Fair Housing; assistant to the executive director of Economic and Social Opportunities; chief executive officer of Advocates for Women, Santa Clara County; Executive Offices housing advisor; president and CEO of Peninsula Volunteers, Inc. and Planned Parenthood Santa Clara County; interim executive director of Palo Alto Red Cross; executive director of City of Palo Alto Centennial and Palo Alto Endowment Fund (now Palo Alto Community Fund); and a board member of Hidden Villa.

She served as mayor of Los Altos Hills in 1966, but her advocacy of fair housing caused her to be recalled from the Town Council in 1973.

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

Davey was a native of Columbus, Ohio. An avid reader, she was an English and government major in college.

She married Jack, then in the U.S. Air Force, during the Korean War and the couple moved to Baltimore, Md. — where she ran into pervasive housing discrimination against Jews and racial minorities and first became active in fair-housing advocacy. She served on the city's first Human Relations Commission, and helped open up the schools to persons of color. They moved to Los Altos Hills in 1961.

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

Memorial services are pending.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Donal B. Duncan

A memorial service for Donal B. Duncan will be held Saturday, Oct. 16, at 11 a.m. at Valley Presbyterian Church, 945 Portola Road, Portola Valley 94028. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the church.

Nelee Langmuir

A memorial service for Nelee Langmuir will be held Tuesday, Oct. 12, at 3 p.m. at Stanford Memorial Church.

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Joan Suddjian

Joan Suddjian, a Mountain View resident since 1978, died peacefully in her sleep on September 24th. She was 75.

Joan is survived by her sons Mark, Keith, and David, daughters in-law Margaret and Susan, her five wonderful grandchildren Michelle, Cindy, Aaron, Michael and Stephen, her former husband Steve Suddjian and his wife Nancy Yeend, and her dear friend John Andino. She was a loving and supporting mother and grandmother who was always there when her family needed her.

Joan's career included positions at Addison-Wesley and NEC. Joan was also an avid gardener at the Community Willowgate Gardens in Mountain View and developed many rewarding friendships with her gardening neighbors. In retirement, Joan was an active member of the Friends of The Mountain View Library. Her volunteer activities included purchasing merchandise to be sold at the Mountain View Library Gift Shop. She cherished all the friends she met at the library.

Friends and family are invited to a Celebration of Joan's life to be held in the Community Room at the Cypress Point condominiums located at 505 Cypress Point Drive, Mountain View, on Saturday, November 6th starting at 12:00 Noon.

PAID OBITUARY

Christopher Clay Chandler

Christopher Clay Chandler passed away on September 30, 2010. His family and friends fondly remember Chris as a loving and caring man with a great sense of humor. Born May 12, 1948, at Hoover (Stanford Hospital), Chris was raised in Woodside. He is a graduate of Woodside High School. Most recently, Chris owned his own event planning business, ROI International. Previous employers include Saga and National Semiconductor. Chris loved horseback riding, gardening, trains, walking, and playing with the family's dog, Cammie. His memory lives on through his family: his wife, Jan; his daughters, Courtney, Brittany, and Tyler; his sisters, Helene Williams and Tory Lillie; and his brother, Geoff Chandler.

A celebration of husband, father, brother, and friend will be held on Sunday, October 10th, 5:00 pm, at the Menlo School Athletic Center, 50 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton. The community is welcome to attend. The family requests guests wear flip flops and no black clothing to honor his life and wonderful spirit. In lieu of flowers or donations, the Chandlers request that trees be planted in his memory. Please email the family pictures of planted trees and their locations to: chandlerfamilytrees@gmail.com.

PAID OBITUARY

Jane West

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

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

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

In addition to her tireless work on behalf of the Peninsula Volunteers, Jane served for 16 years on the Menlo Park Housing Commission, served on the Girl Scout Council and on the St. Raymond Catholic Church council. She was a member of the Serra Club of Palo Alto, the Palo Alto Jr. Auxiliary to Stanford Convalescent Home, and the Woodside-Atherton Auxiliary for Stanford Children's Hospital. Jane was the recipient of numerous awards and recognition, including the 1995 Golden Acorn Award, presented by the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the Menlo Park community. That same year she was a nominee for the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Jane is survived by her brother, Edward T. Rooney of Sacramento, daughter Katherine Jill McCalister of San Antonio, Texas, five grandchildren, and four great-grand children. A memorial mass will be held on Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 10:00am at St. Raymond Catholic Church, 1100 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, CA, 94025. A reception will follow at 1:00pm at the Menlo Circus Club, 190 Park Lane, Atherton, CA, 94027. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to the Peninsula Volunteers, Inc., The Jane West Memorial Fund for Annual Giving, 800 Middle Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025 or St. Raymond Catholic Church, 1100 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

PAID OBITUARY

Spectrum

Editorials, letters and opinions

Editorial

Rich Gordon ready for state Assembly

Longtime San Mateo County supervisor has the experience and knowledge necessary to do the best job of helping heal California

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

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

The leading candidates are Democrat Rich Gordon, a longtime member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, and Republican Greg Conlon, a retired accountant and lawyer who served eight years on the state Public Utilities Commission.

Voters face a clear choice between Gordon and Conlon: Both acknowledge they diametrically disagree on most issues. It is Conlon's third bid for state or federal office, following a 2002 bid for state treasurer and a 2008 bid for U.S. Congress. His main themes are job creation and opposition to surface or elevated high-speed-rail lines on the Peninsula.

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

In addition to his 12-year track record of addressing problems and building coalitions as a county supervisor, Gordon has statewide connections through his leadership of the county supervisors' association. And he has direct community-level experience as director of the nonprofit Youth & Family Assistance.

He has a solid environmental record, and puts a high priority on reforming state government, including repealing the two-thirds requirement for approving the budget, easing term limits, creating open primaries and tightening the initiative process — intended to help rebuild a missing "moderate middle" in state politics.

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

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

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

County's Measure A will quietly help children

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

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

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

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

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

Thanks to Mary Davey

Editor,

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

When I started a new job at the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, I provided staff support to an organization Mary had long been a member of called the Housing Action Coalition. This group was one more example of Mary's excellent ability to successfully bridge constituencies that often are not on the same side, in this case environmentalism and housing development. After a few months in my new role, Mary sent me a handwritten note, unprompted, that welcomed me to my new role saying she was extremely impressed with me.

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

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

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

Mary's positive perspective was contagious and inspiring and she has many incredible and lasting accomplishments to show for it. Thank you Mary!

Shiloh Ballard
Colony Park Circle
San Jose

Middle College works

Editor,

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

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

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

The state core curriculum is followed for social sciences and English, then students have a choice of the panoply of courses taught at Foothill Community College. A wonderful benefit is that each quarterly course taken at the college is worth a full year of high school credit, and many students are able to graduate with college credits.

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

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

Pamela Economos
DeSoto Drive
Palo Alto

Leave Cal. Ave. alone

Editor,

A final note to beg the Palo Alto Planning Department and whatever civic entities hold sway to please leave California Avenue as it is.

At present it possesses an all-American small-town splendor: Cars drive up and down, bikes ride up and down, people park, people walk. We can now see the distant hills and the whole street has a marvelous open feeling. The proposed narrowing of the street and diddling with the parking to make the whole street more "pedestrian friendly" is another in a 40-year trail of over-designed, chi-chi, ruined urban streets that stretch from coast to coast.

Just look at the Castro Street debacle in nearby Mountain View for a classic example of well-intentioned urban design gone haywire. Castro Street is clumsy, awkward, clunky, ugly, difficult to maneuver as a driver, bike rider or pedestrian and it is visually chaotic with lots of heavy handed street "furniture,", knobby, snaky curbs, and goofy parking opportunities.

Send the well-meaning urban designers back to Seaside Florida — ground zero for their cutesy "New Urbanism." California Avenue has been designed by 70 years of use. It is, at present, a smooth-running and beautiful urban machine. Please do not destroy it.

Jim Blake
Bain Place
Redwood City

YOUR TURN

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

What do you think? Is the Palo Alto Measure R firefighters proposal a matter of assuring public safety or a fire union "power grab"?

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.

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

Superman? We really need more Clark Kents

by Peter Fortenbaugh

"Waiting for Superman," the new documentary that dramatizes the sad state of American education, tells a central truth: Too many of our children are failing in school.

As a Palo Alto resident, I am fortunate to be able to send my own children to an outstanding public school where academic success is the norm. But as the executive director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula, where I've worked for the past eight years, I see first hand the issues raised in the movie.

At BGCP we work daily with 1,400 students to help them understand the importance of education. We help them select the right schools, including private and charter schools. We collaborate directly with five school districts and two community colleges.

We see some of our members thriving at large public schools — and we see too many who are not.

Our community here in Silicon Valley isn't an urban center such as the ones in the movie. But in some of our neighborhoods — right in the technology heart of this country — two-thirds of our kids are not graduating from high school.

"Waiting for Superman" dramatically illustrates this crisis. Are we as a society willing to let this continue?

We can begin to fix our local education system without the cape and tights — as everyday Clark Kents — by getting involved, changing structures and increasing funding.

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

Education is a community responsibility. Schools and teachers are a key part of the solution, not the entire solution. Until we accept that fact, we are just passing the buck. At my children's schools, parent volunteers allow for small reading groups, individual math instruction, field trips, games at recess and other features.

We can begin to fix our local education system without the cape and tights — as everyday Clark Kents — by getting involved, changing structures and increasing funding.

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you can't personally serve, help the best candidates get elected.

Locally, we need a unified K-12 district. In our highest drop-out communities, we have separate K-8 and high school districts. The lower schools claim the high schools are failing and the high schools say the kids arrive too far behind to catch up.

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

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

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

"Waiting for Superman" has done a great service by highlighting the education crisis. Now it's time for us Clark Kents to get into the act and make sure something happens in our school or district. ■

Peter Fortenbaugh is a Palo Alto resident and parent, and executive director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Peninsula. He can be e-mailed at peter@bgcp.org.

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CITY OF PALO ALTO
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Palo Alto City Council will hold a public hearing at the special Council meeting on Monday, October 25, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. or as near thereafter as possible, in the Council Chambers, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, to Consider Certification of Final EIR for the Proposed 405 Lincoln Avenue Single Family Residential Replacement Project and approval of Demolition Delay for the existing residence at 405 Lincoln which is listed as a Contributing Structure in the Professorville National Register Historic District and a contributing resource to the Professorville Historic District on the City's Historic Inventory.

DONNA J. GRIDER, MMC
City Clerk

Answers to this week's puzzles, which can be found on page 59

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Real Estate Matters

THE LONG & SHORT OF IT

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

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

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

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

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

Jackie Schoelerman
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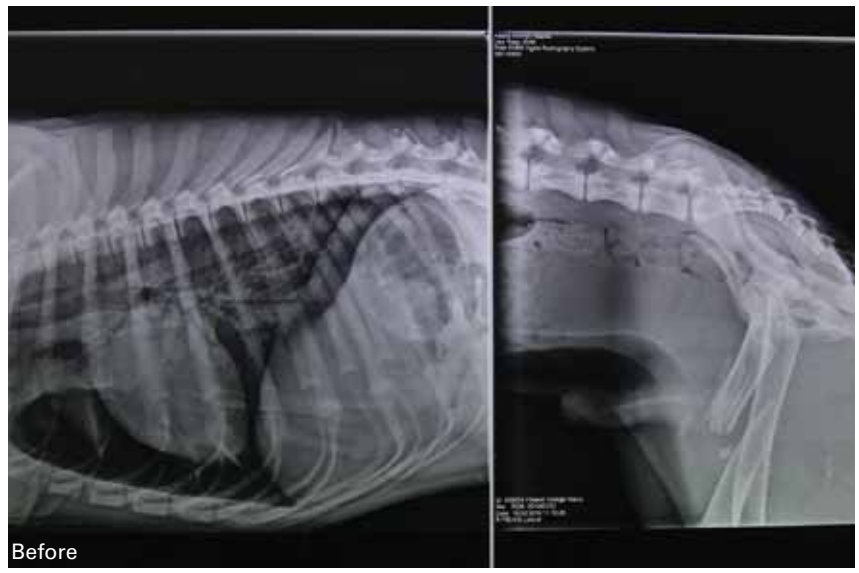
Above, Adobe Animal Hospital's Matt Irons administers anesthesia to Rocky the German shepherd, who requires leg surgery after being hit by a car.



Top, Rocky's digital X-ray show his shattered femur, which is repaired (bottom) with a pin and plate.

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

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

"There's a lot of love for these animals," said David Roos, who founded Adobe in 1964.

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

(continued on page 19)

Veterinary innovations

LOCAL ANIMAL DOCTORS USE EVOLVING TECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGIES TO CARE FOR THEIR PATIENTS

photo essay by Veronica Weber
story by Sally Schilling

Below, Adobe's Brennen Mckenzie performs a spay operation on a Portuguese water dog in one of the hospital's brand-new operating rooms.

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

Vet tech Jennifer Salaiz administers Novocain to Pasha, a cat undergoing dental surgery, at Adobe Animal Hospital in Los Altos.

Baer, a dog with a spinal cord injury, receives acupuncture treatment.

Innovations

(continued from page 17)

reserved for human patients.

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

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

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

Maxwell gazed at an image on the screen of a dog's leg after an orthopedic surgery in which several metal rods were put into the leg to hold the bone in place.

The image was of a golden retriever named Clara, who sat out in the lobby with Jim and Joan Green, residents of San Mateo, who are temporarily fostering Clara.

As Clara waited by the pharmacy window with the Greens, she wagged her tail happily, despite having metal rods protruding from her hind leg.

In a dental room, one dog getting a teeth cleaning had a red inflatable blanket over him to keep him warm while he was under anesthesia.

But veterinary hospitals are not the only animal caregivers using special gadgets.

Scout's House uses an underwater treadmill to improve dogs' mobility. The center focuses on joint range, muscle atrophy, posture, reflexes and movement of the animals. Veterinarians refer their patients to Scout's House to complement other treatments.

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

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

The underwater treadmill is used to give dogs an exercise that is easy on their joints, Niebaum said.

The tank can be filled to different water levels in order to give dogs more or less buoyancy, depending on the size and strength of the dog, Niebaum said.

Dogs typically come in twice a week for six to 10 weeks. A one-hour session costs $95 to $105.

"We do things that look weird,

(continued on next page 22)

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Top, Olivia looks out from Adobe Animal Hospital's new oxygen unit, which administers oxygen to animals with breathing problems while controlling humidity and temperature for comfort.

Above, Clara, a golden retriever with a fractured leg, waits with her foster parents, Jim and Joan Green, for a prescription at Adobe Animal Hospital.

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Innovations

(continued from page 19)

but there is something special that we are focusing on," said Niebaum, pointing to a row of multicolored dog hurdles.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"People are interested in it because they want it for themselves, too," she said. ■

Staff Photographer Veronica Weber can be reached at vweber@paweekly.com and Editorial Intern Sally Schilling can be reached at sschilling@embarcaderopublishing.com.

About the cover:
Scout's House's Krista Niebaum applies an ice pack to the leg of a dog named Chop, who underwent surgery weeks ago. Scout's House is a Menlo Park rehabilitation center for pets.

Arts & Entertainment

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

New Peninsula ukulele jams are drawing singing crowds

Strings on the upswing

by Rebecca Wallace

photos by Veronica Weber

It takes all kinds for a ukulele jam.

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

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

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

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

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

All the while, another Dave — club regular Dave Wenrick, in a Hawaiian shirt and lei — is handing out lyric sheets with chords for simple two-chord tunes: "Down in the Valley," "Clementine." Before long, even the first-timers are matching finger to fret.

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

"It's not magic," he reassures a teenager. "Any fingers you want to use you can use."

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

Sasha Nealand strums a ukulele in her first time playing with Ukulele Club Silicon Valley.

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

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

There are a lot of ukes in that Ladera home now, his wife says. Maybe about 16.

Or maybe more, Fichtner says sheepishly. "I keep a uke in the car, so I can always pull one out wherever I want."

(continued on page 24)

From left, Marianna Raymond, Jean Ivanitsky, Karen Mackey and Cres Cole play and sing. At right, Ukulele Club Silicon Valley founder Dave Fichtner leads the jam session at Dana Street Roasting Company in Mountain View.

Ukulele

(continued from page 23)

For Nick Chaput, the amicable owner of the Dana Street Roasting Company, the ukulele jams are part of the cafe's community. Sometimes 60 to 80 people show up and the place really gets rocking, he says.

Chaput met Fichtner in a dog park. They got to talking, and before long Chaput had agreed to host the club one night a month. He says it fits in perfectly with the cafe's other live music and the general cast of interesting characters who come in and out the door. "This is like theater every day and I'm the producer," he says, grinning.

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

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

P.A. Moore and Tsukasa Oyama use a song binder to help them take part in the jam.

Traditionally, the club starts its jams with "All of Me." Then come plenty more oldies, many of them mellow golden tunes like "Blueberry Hill" and "Yes Sir, That's My Baby." But "Maxwell's Silver Hammer" is also popular, so you just never know.

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

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

"It's my first time here, but I've been playing for a long time," he says. He first heard about the club at Palo Alto's Gryphon Stringed Instruments, where he's been a regular for 30 years, practicing not only ukulele but also fiddle, guitar, bass and banjo.

Tonight Kaay is playing a Kamaka ukulele from Hawaii, probably from the mid-'70s, purchased on eBay and repaired at Gryphon. It's a soprano uke, smaller than concert, tenor and baritone ukuleles.

Of all the stringed instruments in all the world, what makes the uke stand out? "It's a great instrument to sing with," Kaay says.

And, of course, it has only four strings to keep track of. "You don't have to worry about playing a melody line and a harmony line." ■

What: Ukulele Club of Silicon Valley hosts regular jams/sing-alongs for musicians of all levels.

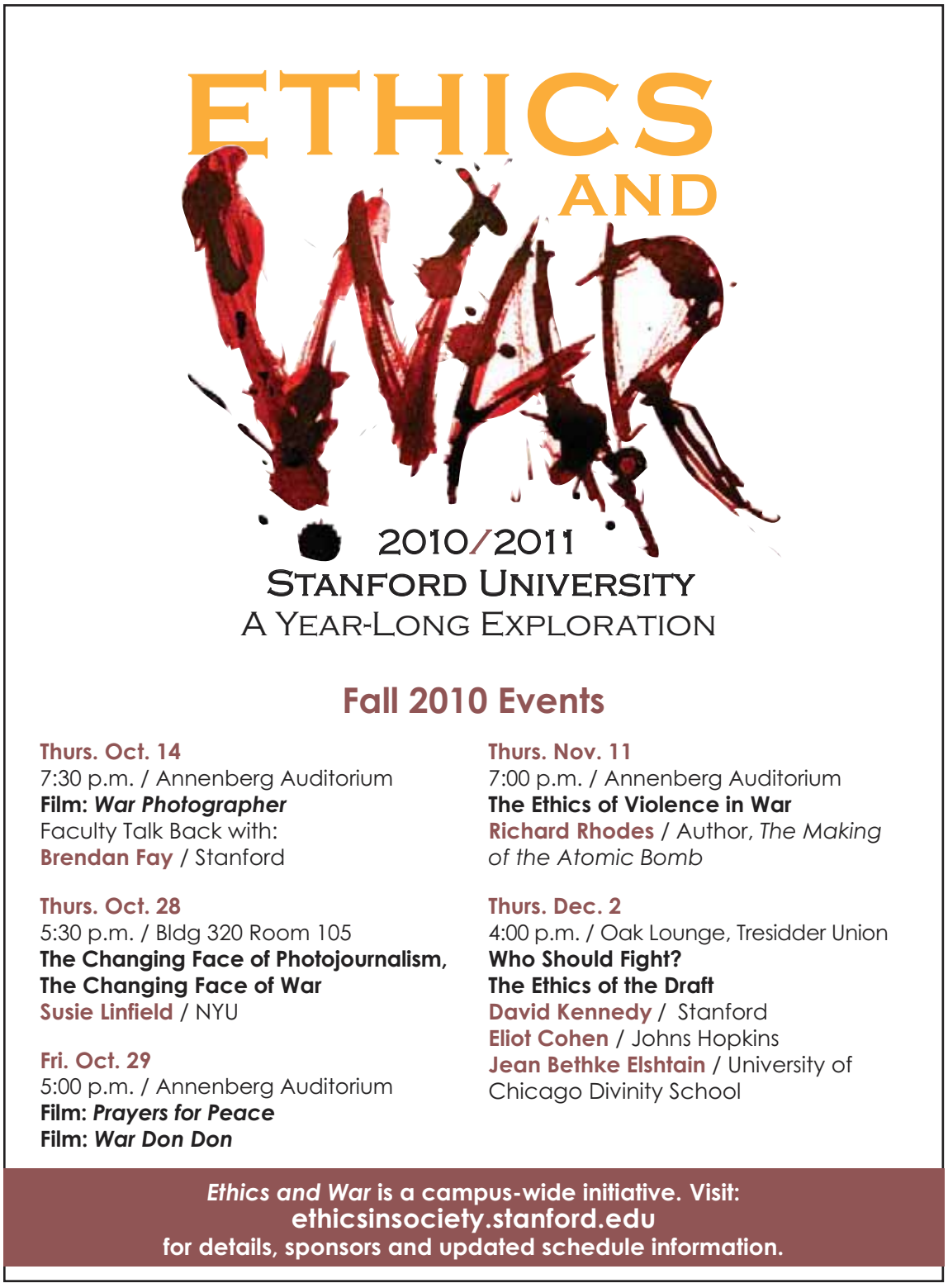
Where: Dana Street Roasting Company, 744 W. Dana St., Mountain View

When: The second Monday of the month, with a group beginner lesson at 6:30 p.m. and jamming from 7 to 9 p.m.

Cost: Free

Info: For more about the club, go to groups.yahoo.com and then search for the UkeJam group. Dave Fichtner also hosts Monday jams from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at his Ladera home; e-mail him at davefichtner@yahoo.com.

Dave Fichtner, who founded Ukulele Club Silicon Valley earlier this year, also holds jams in his Ladera home.



Autumnal art

Palo Alto Art Center's fall shows create drama with careful use of light

by Rebecca Wallace

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

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

In the small Haitian exhibition, a single light trained on each canvas makes the jewel-box hues pop. The strength of the colors is fitting, as this is a show about the resilience of local culture and the enduring belief in Vodou practice. Symbols and shapes, traditional objects and practices figure prominently in the art.

A Vodou priestess stirs a ritual ingredient in a tall bowl in Carlos Jean Baptiste's 1999 acrylic "Mambo" ("priestess"). Glossy, ethereal light seems to illuminate her skin, headscarf and peach-colored dress.

In Gerard Valcin's 1975 acrylic on canvas "Leve Zombi," a ring of worshippers in white dresses and headdresses sways with rhythm. There's a timelessness about the ritual that's reflected in a nearby exhibition card, which points out that Haiti became the second independent republic in the Western Hemisphere, with lasting effects on the culture.

"Their independence allowed the Haitians to maintain their West African cosmology, aesthetics and traditions with less outside interference than any of the other former slave colonies in the Caribbean," the card reads. "The visual arts, along with an oral tradition, are the primary forms of cultural transmission in much of Haitian society. ...

"The signs and symbols of Vodou that are seen in the exhibition paintings provide evidence of the invisible powers of belief that have sustained a culture through centuries of adversity."

Symbols seen in the paintings include the *veve*, abstract drawings that Vodou practitioners create in cornmeal, ash or flour on temple floors. A *veve* can be seen snaking around the ground between worshippers in "Leve Zombi."

Darker symbols fill an untitled oil on canvas by Jacques-Enguerrand Gourge: a book with mysterious writing, a pale-eyed horned beast, sad-looking animals. Despite the eerie feeling, the colors are just as bright as in the other Haitian paintings, the brushstrokes steady.

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

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

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

An untitled oil on canvas by Jacques-Enguerrand Gourge.

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

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

Where: 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto

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

Cost: Free

Info: Go to cityofpaloalto.org/artcenter or call 650-329-2366.

Through a collector's lens

Four photography collectors show their prized possessions

by Rebecca Wallace

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

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

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

By the show's entrance are very human pieces of the past assembled by San Francisco gallery owner Jack Fischer. Several quirky found photos have been scribbled on by their subjects. One is a 1906 postcard of a solemn, bug-eyed man who wrote in part: "Am feeling a little better than I look."

The 1935 Bernice Abbott photo "Blossom Restaurant" captures a restaurant sign that promises, among other things, three large pork chops for 30 cents. (If it was a slow week, one could penny-pinch with the "pig's feet and kraut" for a dime.)

Curator/filmmaker Jane Levy Reed has a collection rich with architectural images. One of the most striking is Abelardo Morell's 1999 "Camera Obscura image of Boston's Old Customhouse in Hotel Room." The artist turned a room into a pinhole camera, with a Boston skyline projected on one wall. The blocky hotel furniture is silhouetted in front of the skyline.

Photographer Linda Connor's collection includes the pioneering female photographer Anna Watkins. Other images include the graceful 2005 David Goldes photo "Five Spoons," with the cutlery just floating in water, barely breaking the surface.

"Five Spoons" by David Goldes.

As for Stefan Kirkeby, his images of choice often focus on individual people, like a girl looking out the window of the Orient Express in a 1952 photo by Ira LaTour.

Leo Holub, the late founder of Stanford University's photography department, is also well-represented in the collection. A lively spirit is evident in Holub's 1963 "Little Girl with Pigeons, Maiden Lane, San Francisco," in which a delighted child chases a crowd of birds, setting them flying. ■

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Pauline W. Chen, MD

Doctor and Patient: *Lost in Translation*

Pauline W. Chen, a liver transplant and liver cancer surgeon, is the author of *Final Exam: A Surgeon's Reflections on Mortality*, a *New York Times* bestseller. Dr. Chen graduated from Harvard University and Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine, completing her surgical training at Yale University, the National Cancer Institute (NIH), and UCLA, where she was most recently a faculty member in the Department of Surgery. In 1999, she was named UCLA Outstanding Physician of the Year. She has been nominated for a National Magazine Award, has written for numerous publications, including *The New York Times*, and speaks regularly to medical and general audiences across the country.

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1. Title of Publication: Palo Alto Weekly
2. Publication Number: 604-050
3. Date of Filing: October 1, 2010
4. Frequency of Issue: Weekly
5. No. of Issues Published Annually: 52
6. Annual subscription price: $60 1 year
7. Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication: 450 Cambridge Ave, Palo Alto 94306-1507
8. Mailing Address of Headquarters of Publisher: Same
9. Publisher: William S. Johnson, 450 Cambridge Ave, Palo Alto 94306-1507
   Editor: Jay Thorwaldson, 450 Cambridge Ave, Palo Alto 94306-1507
   Managing Editor: Jocelyn Dong, 450 Cambridge Ave, Palo Alto 94306-1507
10. Owner/ Stockholders owning or holding 1% or more of the total amount of stock:
    Embarcadero Media, 450 Cambridge Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306
    Stockholders owning 1% or more of the total amount of stock: Jean and Dexter Dawes, Ely Trust, Leonard W. & Shirley Ely, Trustees, Franklin P. Johnson, William S. Johnson, Marion Lewenstein, Trustee, Teresa M. Lobdell, Helen Pickering, Trustee, and Jeanne Ware, all of Palo Alto, California; Walter A. and Margaret P. Haneberg Trust, Margaret Haneberg, Trustee of San Carlos, California; Robert Heinen and E.E. and Russella van Bronkhorst Trust, Russella van Bronkhorst, Trustee of Menlo Park, California; Jerome I. Elkind of Portola Valley, California; Anthony Sloss of Santa Cruz, California; Elizabeth Sloss of Seattle, Washington; Karen Sloss of Bellingham, Washington.
11. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1% or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None
14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: September 24, 2010
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation

	Average no. of copies each issue during preceding 12 months	Actual no. of copies of single issue nearest to filing date
A. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)	33,500	33,500
B. Paid and/or Requested Circulation		
1. Paid/Requested Outside Co. Mail Subscriptions	1,564	1,485
2. Paid/Requested In County	9,660	9,793
3. Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, and Counter Sales Street Vendors	8,131	7,935
C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation	19,355	19,213
D1. Free Distribution by Mail Outside-County	6,105	5,702
D2. Free Distribution by Mail Inside-County	7	11
D4. Free Distribution Outside the Mail	6,119	6,605
E. Total Free Distribution	12,230	12,318
F. Total Distribution	31,585	31,531
G. Copies not Distributed	1,915	1,969
H. Total	33,500	33,500
I. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation	61.28%	60.93%

16. Publication of statement of Ownership: 10/8/2010
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    William S. Johnson, Publisher, Palo Alto Weekly

Worth a Look

Music

Punch Brothers

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

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

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

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

Punch Brothers bring bluegrass with a dash of classical and rock 'n' roll to Stanford University on Oct. 15.

Festivals

'To Life!'

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

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

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

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

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

Japan Tsuchiura Festival

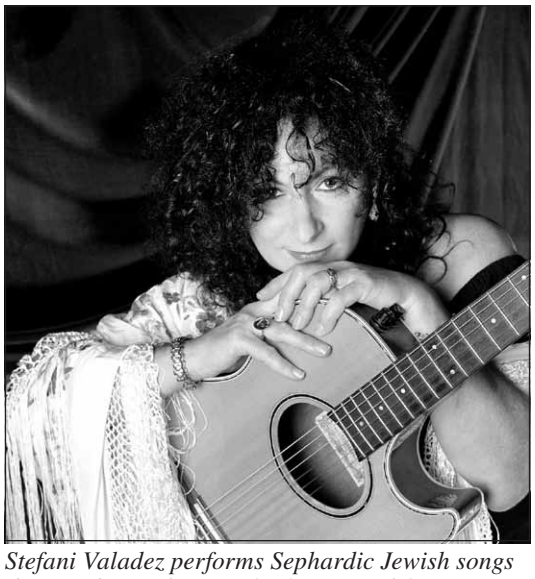
When folks from your sister city are in town, it's high time for a celebration.

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

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

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

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



Stefani Valadez performs Sephardic Jewish songs this Sunday at the To Life! fair on California Avenue.

Art

'Portraits of Initiates'

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

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

Burton took his black-and-white portraits and color photos of shrines in the Republic of Benin, where the religion was born. The Cantor show also includes a documentary video, "VOODOO, the Origins," directed by Samuel Lampaert and featuring some of the initiates Burton photographed.

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

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

'East Meets West'

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

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

"Sansho Dayo (Kabuki Actor)," a woodblock print by Toyokuni III, published in Japan in 1852, is part of the Lyons Limited Antique Prints show.

prints show what Western explorers saw — and illustrate the tales they brought home.

The prints hail back to the establishment of the Dutch East India Company in 1602, Admiral Perry's expedition to the Far East in the 19th century, and other events. An opening reception is set for Oct. 15 from 7 to 10 p.m., with a lecture by gallery owner Leila Phee Lyons on Oct. 17 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Lyons Ltd. is at #10 Town & Country Village at 855 El Camino Real. For more information, go to lyonsltd.com or call 650-325-9010.

The artistic city

San Francisco has been captured in every artistic medium you can think of. An exhibition now at Gallery 9 in Los Altos adds new visions in watercolor and ceramics to the mix, with works by two artists who grew up in Japan.

Miyoko Mizuno, who says she once lived in Nagano "surrounded by prairie flowers and the grand Japan Alps," paints the floral side of San Francisco. Her work includes watercolor landscapes and silk-screens of flowers. Shigemi Sanders depicts city landmarks in ceramic ware, lighting them up with candles or electric lights for a nighttime effect.

The show runs through Oct. 24 at 143 Main St. in Los Altos, Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 4. Go to gallery9losaltos.com or call 650-941-7969.

"Illuminating Ferry Building" is one of the ceramic pieces by Shigemi Sanders on exhibit at Gallery 9 in Los Altos.

Paid political advertisement

An Open Letter to President Obama:
Nine years of war in Afghanistan. Get us out!

October 7, 2001

Dear President Obama,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Get us out of Afghanistan.

Signed and paid for by members and friends of
Peninsula Peace and Justice Center

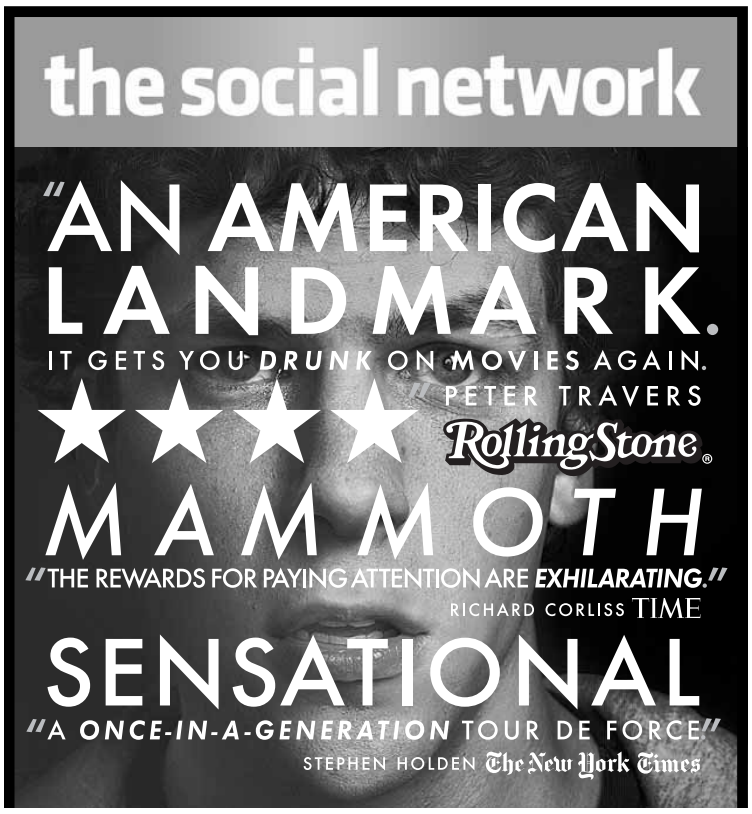
Henry Organ::Paul George and Steffy Reader::Fr. John B. Butcher::Jean and Clarence Shuh::Rush Rehm::Ines Hill::Michael Allan Slaughter::Jean and Clarence Shuh::Charles Drekmeier::Meg Bowman::
Janet Burdick and Scott Miller::Robert B. Perkins::Connie and Tom Hunter::Laura Corbett::Ron Zucker::Barby and Vic Ulmer::Lisa Evens::R. J. Cantoni::Sara Alchermes::B. F. Kalvelage::Rosylin Dean::Theodore L. Glasser::Charles and Margaret Stein::Ruth M. Finkelstein::John M. Kot::Carolyn Frake::Norma Grench::Claire Feder and Ernie Goitein::Muriel Herhold::Betty Ortez::Luise Maier::Lois Salo::Leonard Leving::Mary Klein::Wren Clark::Martin Gorfinkel::Phyllis Cairns::Richard and Dorothy Kogl::Robert Rorden::Judy and John Manton::Rob and Helena Weltman::Roy and Janet Hayter::Alice Richards::S. Brokenshire::Marilyn Burnes::Maggie and Andy Anderson::Richard Cabrera::William T. Barmettler::David Fryberger::Karen Skold::Marcia E. Conklin::Sue Luttner::Scott Chesworth::Spence Everson::Judy and Steve Rock::Leonard Cherry::The McKernan Family::Ken and Sally Cooper::Katherine Franger::Peter and Minako Sano::Jagjit Singh::The Ryan/Elfman Family::B. McBride::Maxine Eggerth::Jack Ford and Family::Sueann Stone::Walker/Moench Family::Shirley Powers::Gilwee Walker, Ph.D.::Don and Carol Kenyon::Jennifer Basiji::Timothy K. Brand::Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Aronson::Prudence Delamater::Rani Fischer::Bob Getsla::The Rev. Dr. Diana Gibson::Dick Clark::James and Christina Stauffer::Janet Peacock::Jean Salmon::Joanne and Steve Rovno::Edward Munyak::Elizabeth Weiss::Jean and Bill McFadden::Sydney Brown::The Bell Family::Mary E. Ayers::Karen Rivers-Sabatini::Karen Meredith, Gold Star Mother::Teri Chin and Salvador Mejia::Diana DeFrenza::Dr. and Mrs. Roger Willey::Philip and Florence LaRiviere::Cosette Dudley::George and Ruth Chippendale::Arden and Hiram Pierce::Ann Teegardin::Bill and Marilyn Bauriedel::Alice Ann Martineau::Glenda M. Jones::The San Mateo County Central Labor Council::Dan Stofle::Ema Currier::Salo Family::Carl Feldman::Patricia Kinney::Ray Schuster and Judy Staton::Ken and Maxine Tucker::Walter L. Hudson::Melinda McGee::Paul Bundy::Carol Osborne::Renee Lynch::The Arbuckle/Crocker Family::Joe and Helen Pickering::Connie Laventurier and Rob Vincent::Holmgren Family::Carolyn Purcell::Carol Cross::Ann P. McElroy::Nancie Sailor::Peter and Leslie Keenan::Cynthia Papermaster::Mary Thomas::Ms. Jeannette Andrews::Michael and Iza Predmore

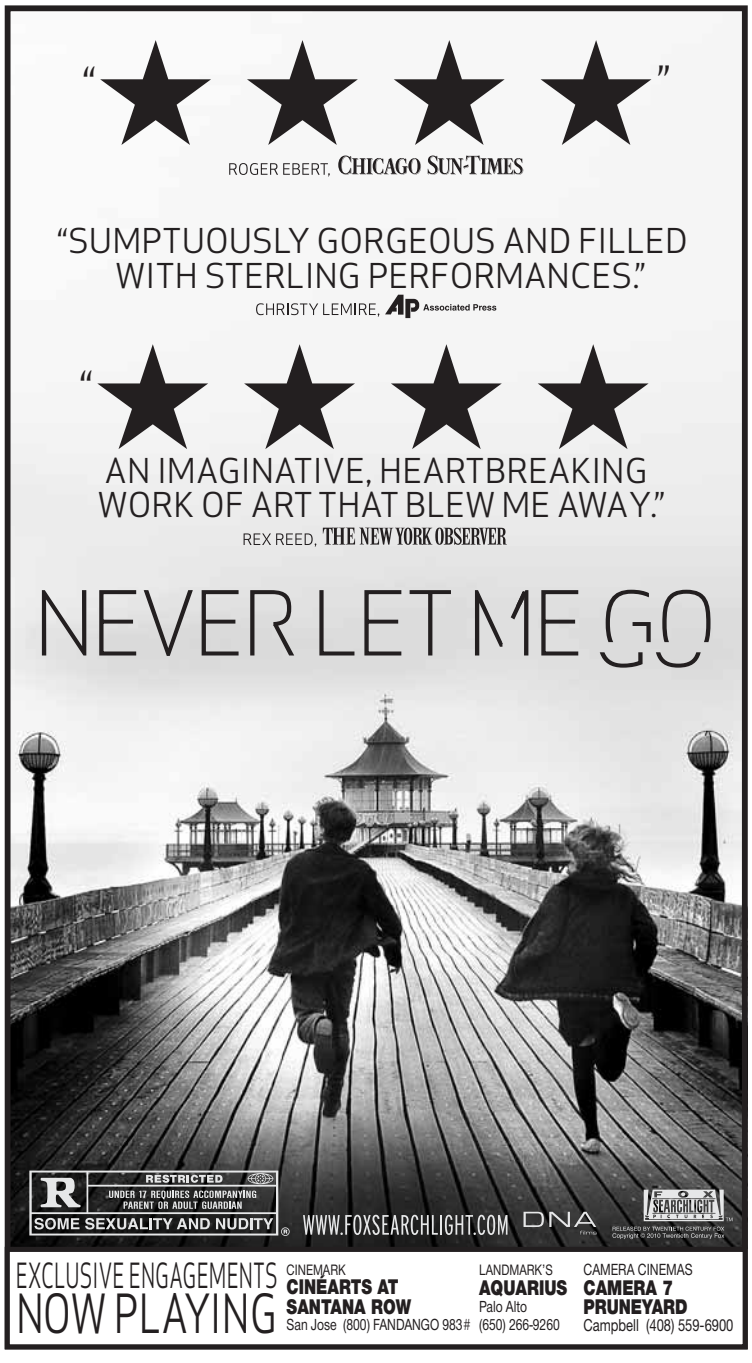
PPJC

Peninsula Peace and Justice Center
www.PeaceandJustice.org
ppjc@peaceandjustice.org

If you would like to add your name and contribute to this effort, please visit www.peaceandjustice.org/nine-years

Movies





MOVIE TIMES

Alpha and Omega (PG) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 20:** In 3D at 11:20 a.m.; 1:35, 3:50, 6, 8:15 & 10:30 p.m.
Case 39 (R) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 16:** 11:10 a.m.; 1:50, 4:35, 7:40 & 10:15 p.m. **Century 20:** Noon, 2:40, 5:25, 8 & 10:35 p.m.
Catfish (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 16:** 11:50 a.m.; 2:30, 5:05, 7:45 & 10:20 p.m.
Easy A (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 16:** 11:40 a.m.; 2:20, 4:45, 7:15 & 9:40 p.m. **Century 20:** 12:25, 2:45, 5:10, 7:30 & 10 p.m.
Heartbreaker (PG) ★★★	**Aquarius Theatre:** 3:30 & 8:30 p.m.
It's Kind of a Funny Story (PG-13) ★★★	**Century 16:** 11:30 a.m.; 2:15, 4:55, 7:50 & 10:35 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:25 a.m.; 1:55, 4:35, 7:15 & 9:45 p.m.
Jackass 3 (R) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 20:** In 3D Thu. at 12:01 a.m.
Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole (PG) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 16:** In 3D at 11:20 a.m.; 1:45, 4:15, 7 & 9:25 p.m. **Century 20:** In 3D at 11:30 a.m.; 1:55, 4:20, 6:50 & 9:15 p.m.
Let Me In (R) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 16:** 12:50, 3:55, 7:05 & 9:50 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:40 a.m.; 2:20, 5:05, 7:55 & 10:35 p.m.
Life As We Know It (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 16:** 11 a.m.; 1:40, 4:30, 7:30 & 10:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:35 a.m.; 12:55, 2:15, 3:45, 4:55, 6:30, 7:35, 9:10 & 10:15 p.m.
Mao's Last Dancer (PG) ★★	**Aquarius Theatre:** 1 & 6 p.m.
The Metropolitan Opera: Das Rheingold (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 20:** Sat. at 10 a.m. **Palo Alto Square:** Sat. at 10 a.m.
My Soul To Take (R) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 16:** 11:25 a.m.; 2:05, 4:50, 8 & 10:40 p.m. **Century 20:** 12:20, 2:55, 5:30, 8:05 & 10:40 p.m.
Never Let Me Go (R) ★★★	**Aquarius Theatre:** 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:30 p.m.
Red (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 20:** Thu. at 12:01 a.m.
Resident Evil: Afterlife (R) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 20:** In 3D at 11:15 a.m.; 1:50, 4:25, 7 & 9:35 p.m.
Secretariat (PG) ★★1/2	**Century 16:** 11:15 a.m.; 12:15, 2:10, 3:20, 5:10, 7, 8:20 & 10:05 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:15 a.m.; 12:40, 2, 3:35, 4:50, 6:25, 7:40, 9:20 & 10:30 p.m.
The Social Network (PG-13) ★★★1/2	**Century 16:** 11 a.m.; noon, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6:10, 7:10, 8:30, 9:20 & 10 p.m. **Century 20:** 12:15, 1:15, 2:10, 3:15, 4:05, 5, 6:10, 6:55, 7:50, 9:05, 9:55 & 10:40 p.m.; Fri., Sun.-Thu. also at 11:20 a.m.
The Town (R) ★★★1/2	**Century 16:** 12:30, 3:40, 7:20 & 10:10 p.m. **Century 20:** 1:25, 4:15, 7:20 & 10:10 p.m.
Waiting for Superman (PG) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 20:** 11:45 a.m.; 2:25, 5:05, 7:45 & 10:25 p.m. **Palo Alto Square:** 1:45, 3, 4:30, 5:45 & 7:15 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 8:30 & 10 p.m.; Sun. also at 8:30 p.m.
Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 16:** 12:20, 3:50, 7:25 & 10:25 p.m. **Century 20:** 12:50, 4, 7:05 & 10:05 p.m.
You Again (PG) (Not Reviewed)	**Century 16:** 12:40, 3:45, 6:50 & 9:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:50 a.m.; 2:35, 5:15, 7:50 & 10:20 p.m.
You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger (R) ★★★	**Guild Theatre:** 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:30 p.m.

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

Aquarius: 430 Emerson St., Palo Alto (266-9260)

Century Cinema 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (800-326-3264)

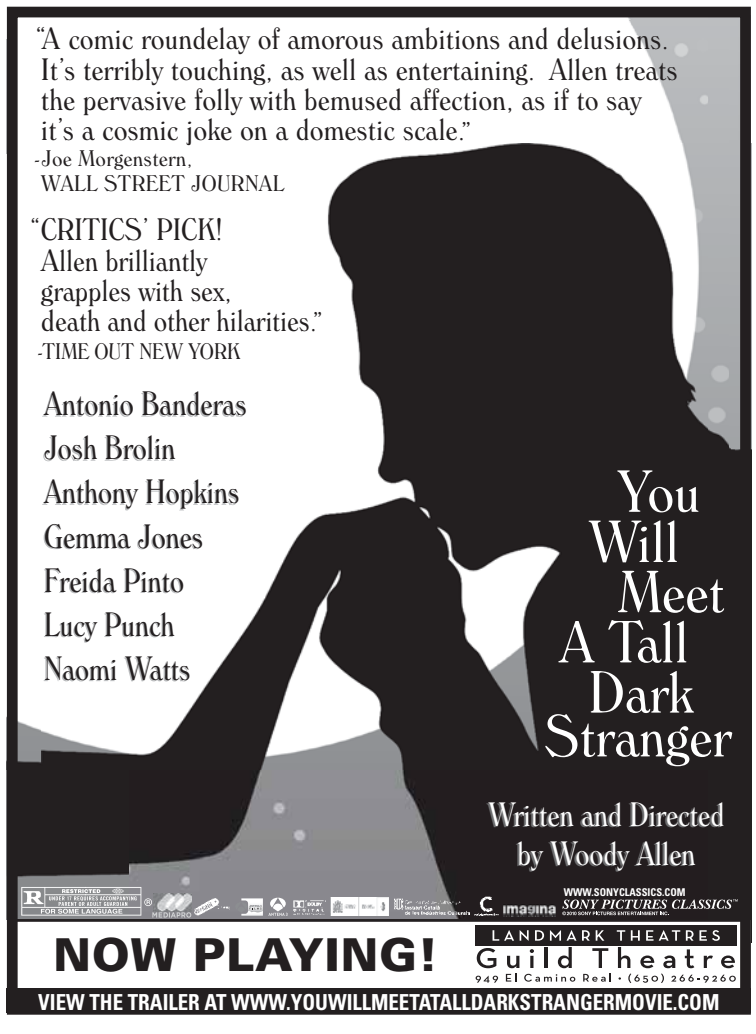
Century 20 Downtown: 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City (800-326-3264)

CinéArts at Palo Alto Square: 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (493-3456)

Guild: 949 El Camino Real, Menlo Park (266-9260)

Stanford: 221 University Ave., Palo Alto (324-3700)

Internet address: For show times, plot synopses, trailers and more information about films playing, go to PaloAltoOnline.com.



OPENINGS

Secretariat ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20)

(To the tune of "Mister Ed":)

We've had us a film about a horse.

"Seabiscuit" got Oscar nods, of course.

So another race horse on us they'll force: "Secretariat"!

Directed by him that wrote "Braveheart"

But written by somebody else, with "heart":

Disney schmaltz, more "pop" than art ... "Secretariat"!

Diane Lane's the dame, the horse she'll claim as Penny Chenery;

For eccentric kitsch, John Malkovich, a trainer with esprit!

Middle-classy docudrama's fine,
And "I Am Woman" as theme defined,
She shows the malign she'll win ev'ry time, with Secretariat!

A spoiler alert: so eyes avert!
The horse and his mistress hit pay dirt.
Though Failure flirts, a Triple Crown spurt for Secretariat!

People yakkity yak a streak; clichés they do accrue
If only they were like Mister Ed, and talked like real people do!

Phony suspense and corn perforce,
The flick serves sports "history" as main course.
But for fam'ly fun, do I endorse?

Well, listen to this:
See "Secretariat."

Rated PG for brief mild language. Two hours, two minutes.

— Peter Canavese

It's Kind of a Funny Story ★★★

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

In "It's Kind of a Funny Story," the writing-directing team of Ryan Fleck and Anna Boden ("Half Nelson") addresses these serious issues in an approachable, viewer-friendly way. It's so good in so many of its parts that there's a temptation to forgive the comedy-drama when it veers in the wrong direction, a path initially taken in Ned Vizzini's young-adult novel of the same title.

Keir Gilchrist (Showtime's "United States of Tara") is one of the best things about the movie. From the moment his voice-over narration introduces 16-year-old Craig teetering on a New York bridge, wanting to kill himself after feeling depressed for a year, the likable actor makes you care about what happens to him.

Gilchrist brings honesty and realism to the role of Craig, playing a character who can't quite put his finger on why his ongoing issues have suddenly triggered such an intense desire to commit suicide. His well-meaning dad (Jim Gaffigan) always asks the wrong questions; he's obsessed with the girlfriend (Zoe Kravitz) of his best friend (Thomas Mann); and, despite a looming deadline, he hasn't even started filling out the application for summer session at Manhattan's exclusive Executive Pre-Professional High School.

But Craig knows one thing: He needs help. Now.

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

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

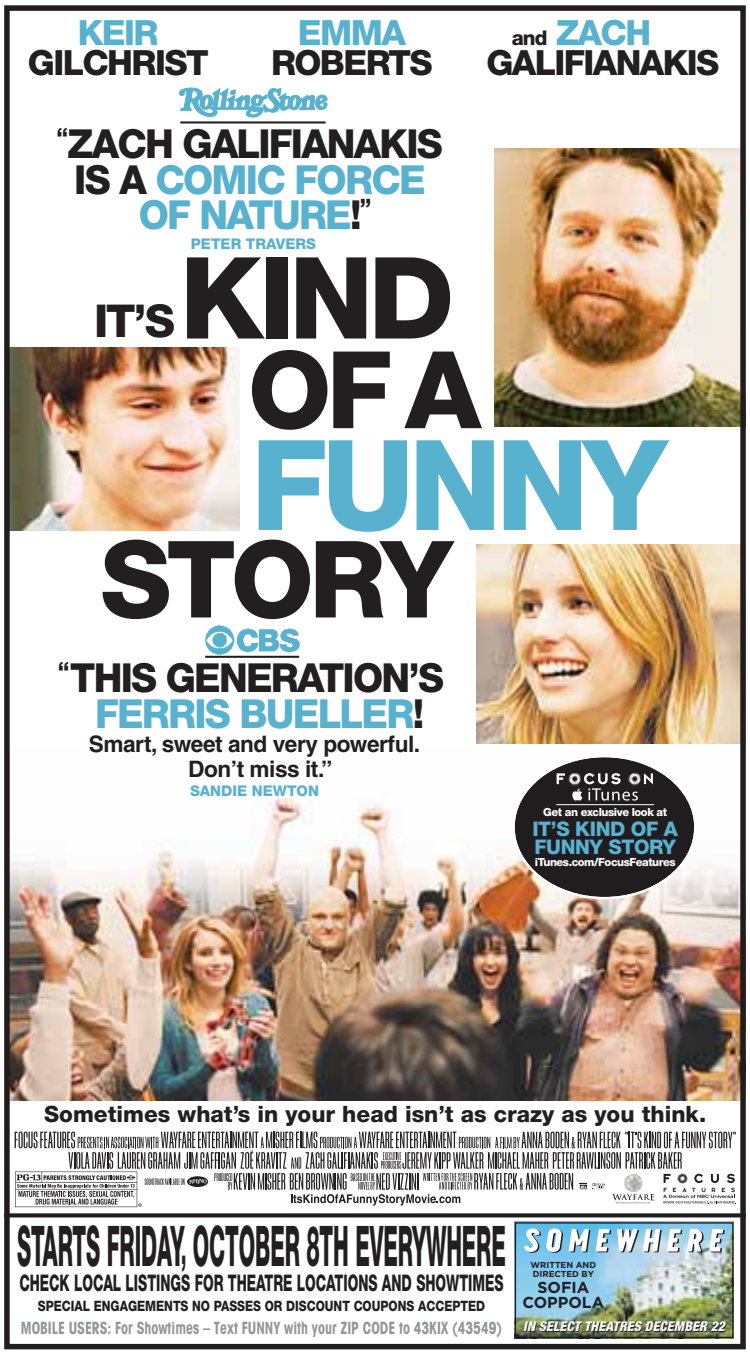
But the film offers simplistic solutions in suggesting that problems can be cured in less than a week, and that a well-intentioned teenage boy with some cash, courtesy of his parents, can accomplish what medical professionals (including Viola Davis) cannot.

Attempts at light-hearted stylization are a mixed bag, too. The directors' effective use of Guy Ritchie-like freeze frames, sometimes followed by quick montages of images connected by voice-over, amusingly get us into Craig's head. His worries about not getting into the esteemed summer-school program result in a cause-and-effect scenario that has him winding up in the hospital forever. Unfortunately, one segment that should be a showstopper simply stops the show: Craig takes his turn singing during group therapy in a scene more visually flat than "Glee"-ful.

Still, the movie's message of hope — that you're not alone, can talk about your problems and get support and help — is certainly worth the price of admission for viewers of all ages.

Rated PG-13 for mature issues, sexual content, drug material, and language. 1 hour. 41 minutes.

— Susan Tavernetti



Eating Out

The real deal

After 62 years, Kirk's is still serving up great burgers with a no-frills attitude

by Dale F. Bentson

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

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

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

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

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

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

"Bill Sincere was irascibly tough, adamant about his menu," Withers said. "'Want fries?' he once scowled, 'Go somewhere else.'"

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

The burgers are pleasing, dense and juicy, and are made to order. My first visit, fool that I was, I ordered Kirk's Big Griller ($8), a half-pound heavyweight burger topped with grilled onions and Swiss cheese. I added a medium-sized side of steak fries ($2.69) and a soda. It was 24 hours before I was remotely hungry again.

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

Most of the steakburgers are available with single or double patties. The smallest burger on the menu is a third-pound steakburger for $5.25. The biggest is the double Big Kirk with cheese. That's two half-pound patties of beef with jack, Swiss and cheddar cheeses ($12.30) — definitely not for the faint of heart or those with mature-adult cholesterol levels.

Kirk's Big Melt ($9.50) is a belt-buster burger on rye, blanketed with grilled onions and topped with three cheeses. I could have added additional cheese, grilled onions, bacon, mushrooms, pineapple or chili ($0.75-$1.60) but thought better of it.

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

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

I admired the steak fries: thick-cut, fried to perfection, non-greasy and begging for salt and ketchup. Three sizes are available ($1.69-$3.69). There are also garlic fries, chili-cheese fries, bacon-cheese fries, garlic-onion strings and a combo of onion strings and fries. My onion strings were heavy with grease and tasty, but not for the health-conscious.

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

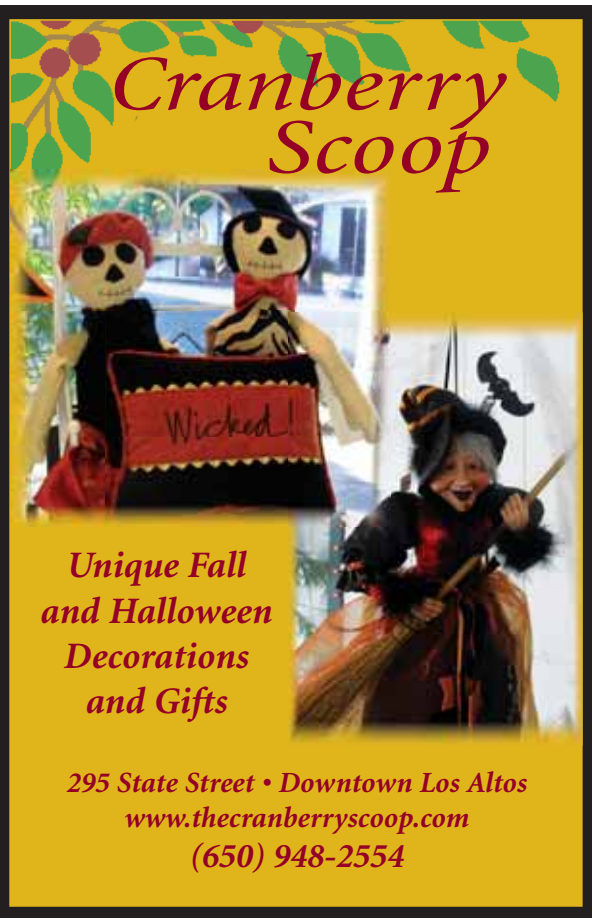
Kirk's shakes come in America's favorite flavors: vanilla, strawberry and chocolate, with regular and child's sizes. ($2.70-$3.90). Ten Torani-flavored shakes broaden the options.

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

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

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

(continued on page 31)



ShopTalk

by Daryl Savage

MIDTOWN GOES MODERN ... Midtown is on the cusp of getting what some might consider an architectural gem, and it's going into the unlikely location of the former Arco Gas Station at 3995 Middlefield Road. "It's a fresh new look for Midtown. Lots of glass, rooftop terraces and a glass-enclosed atrium," said Ken Hayes, whose company, Hayes Group Architects, is the creative force behind the modern building. The structure is surrounded on three sides by the Winter Lodge property. "It's like a little island," Hayes said. The construction, which began three weeks ago, is expected be completed next March. The 7,000-square-foot, two-story building is zoned for first-floor retail, which means possibilities for a new tenant include a restaurant, a retail store or a service-oriented business, such as a bank. The second floor is zoned for commercial space. Plans for the building call for a public space in the front, featuring benches, tables and umbrellas.

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

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

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

Kirk's

(continued from page 30)

various Little League and Stanford teams; a couple of booths, tables and chairs; bus your own table — there are no rollerskating carhops. When my number was called, I fetched my order from the pickup counter. The place wasn't built for lingering.

But after more than 60 years, Kirk's is still here, and it has three locations, including Santa Clara and Campbell. Kirk's isn't a return to Happy Days; rather, the happy daze comes from the superior burgers, shakes and fries. ■

Kirk's Steakburgers,
75 Town & Country Village,
Palo Alto; 650-326-6159
www.kirks-steakburgers.com

Hours: Daily 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Reservations: no
Credit cards: yes
Parking: shopping-center lot
Alcohol: beer and wine
Children: yes
Catering: no
Takeout: yes
Outdoor dining: sidewalk tables
Party facilities: no
Noise level: low
Bathroom cleanliness: excellent

#9 Workshop Series by Harrell Remodeling

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Book Talk

JIMMY CARTER AND MORE ... President Jimmy Carter's edited, annotated diary has been published, and Carter will sign copies of "White House Diary," at Kepler's, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, on Tuesday, Oct. 26, at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at www.keplers.com. Earlier in the month, Menlo Park author **Barry Spector** will talk about his book, "Madness at the Gates of the City: The Myth of American Innocence," on Tuesday, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. According to Spector, his book "looks at America through the lenses of Greek mythology, indigenous wisdom and archetypal psychology." Stanford University Professor **Ian Morris** will talk on Wednesday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m. "Why the West Rules — for Now: The Patterns of History, and What They Reveal about the Future" spans 50,000 years of history and concludes that it is the effects of geography on the everyday efforts of ordinary people that explain Western dominance, not the strivings of great individuals.

NORMALIZING CANCER ... Sue Glader, a Mill Valley writer, will be reading from her children's book, "Nowhere Hair," on Sunday, Oct. 17, at 7:30 p.m. at Books Inc., Town & Country Village, Palo Alto, with 20 percent of sales that evening going to the Palo Alto nonprofit Breast Cancer Connections. Glader said she wrote the book to help people talk to their children about cancer, after her own bout with breast cancer at 33. Information: www.nowherehair.com.

SUBS ... Carol Gilbert, a Palo Alto resident, recently self-published an illustrated children's

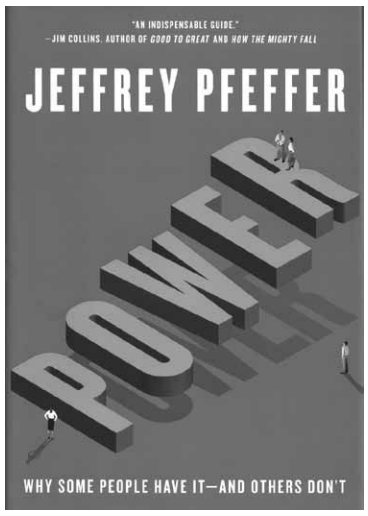
(continued on next page)

Title Pages

A monthly section on local books and authors, edited by Jocelyn Dong

No more Mr. Nice Guy

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



Courtesy of Stanford University Graduate School of Business

Business Professor Jefferey Pfeffer examines the concept of power in his new book.

by Jocelyn Dong

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

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

And yet, in September 2008, Crew found himself voted out by a fractious school board that was more interested in the district's racial issues than improving the school performance.

Crew learned the hard way that doing a great job does not equal job security. What counts instead is power.

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

Though local bookstore shelves are filled with leadership texts on climbing the corporate ladder, Pfeffer provides a guidebook that is exceedingly readable, grounded in social-science research and filled with both local and national examples to bring his points to life.

Pfeffer's work draws on 35 years of research and teaching on power, which he defines as "the ability to get your way — to overcome opposition and resistance to implement the decisions that you think are best for making your company, and you, successful."

In Silicon Valley, where business is king, "Power" will attract readers interested in unlocking the secrets behind the political realities that affect them each day in their own workplaces.

To be sure, Pfeffer aims his advice at employees of strongly hierarchical organizations, though he gives the disclaimer that his principles are not one-size-fits-all. Staff at companies that are relatively flat might find themselves picking and choosing from among Pfeffer's advice — or applying the principles to advance in an industry rather than a specific firm.

In 13 chapters, Pfeffer covers seven essential qualities that bring influence, what sources of power are, how to overcome opposition, the downsides of power, whether there's a connection between personal power and organizational effectiveness, and more.

Some of Pfeffer's advice will sound familiar: Get noticed, flatter your boss, act with confidence, network with people and manage your reputation.

But he also seeks to debunk some myths, such as that intelligence and likeability are keys to success in the workplace. Intelligence, he says, has been found to account for only 20 percent of variation in a person's performance on the job. In addition, intelligence comes with potential downsides, including the tendency for brilliant people to rely too heavily on their own competencies and sometimes to lack empathy for those who are not as smart.

Likeability can be a useful quality, Pfeffer says, but fear and the ability to help others accomplish their goals correlate more strongly to power. While likeability can create power, power almost certainly creates likeability, he asserts, explaining that people want to associate themselves with other people who are perceived as successful.

As Crew's story outlined, doing a good job and achieving power are also more tenuously linked than people might believe. Pfeffer quotes research that shows a weak relationship between job performance and success: In one Dutch study, white-collar workers who were rated "very good" at their jobs were only 12 percent more likely to be promoted than those rated only "good."

Similarly, the converse is true: CEOs whose businesses performed poorly for three consecutive years and then went bankrupt were only 50 percent more likely to be fired, Pfeffer reports.

Despite the research that Pfeffer highlights in his book, he says that systematic academic research on personal power in organizations has not been plentiful. So Pfeffer proposes his own list of the personal qualities of powerful people: ambition, energy, focus, self-knowledge, confidence, empathy and capacity to tolerate conflict.

He details in his book how each quality leads to power, giving examples of people who have successfully used the skills to achieve their goals. He doesn't necessarily explain how to acquire these seven skills, however — noting only in the section on

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tolerating conflict, for example, that those who can handle stress-filled situations have an advantage over others.

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

To address the quandary some feel, Pfeffer starts the book with a bracing declaration: The corporate world isn't a fair one. The workplace as it exists is one in which there is zero-sum competition for status and jobs, and rivalry is intense, he writes.

This flies in the face of what most people want to believe, that "'people get what they deserve'; that is, that the good people are likely to be rewarded and the bad to be punished," he writes, quoting a book review of "The Belief in a Just World."

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

Sometimes it's a matter of career survival.

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

"Power and political processes in organizations are ubiquitous."

Pfeffer is not advocating that everyone embark on an all-out pursuit of power. He cautions his readers to find the right work situation given their aptitude and interests.

"Although it is possible and desirable to develop your power skills, few people are comfortable changing their likes and dislikes. Yes, you can evolve and change ... within limits," Pfeffer writes.

Whether it is worth it to gain power is for the reader to decide. Even so, Pfeffer's "Power" contains thought-provoking insight that will challenge workers to consider how they act in the workplace and how they can increase — or at the very least not squander — the power they have.

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

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

Book Talk

(continued from previous page)

book called "The Day the Sub Came." Information: www.amazon.com.

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

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

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING
of the city of Palo Alto
Architectural Review Board (ARB)

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

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

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

Amy French
Manager of Current Planning

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THIS IS A SUMMARY OF COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS. THE AGENDA WITH COMPLETE TITLES INCLUDING LEGAL DOCUMENTATION CAN BE VIEWED AT THE BELOW WEBPAGE:

www.cityofpaloalto.org/knowledge/agendas/council.asp

(TENTATIVE) AGENDA-SPECIAL COUNCIL APPOINTED OFFICERS MEETING COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM - OCTOBER 12, 2010 - 6:00 PM

1. Discussion and Recommendation to City Council Regarding the Appointment of the Acting City Auditor
2. Discussion and Recommendation to City Council Regarding the Appointment of the Interim City Attorney

(TENTATIVE) AGENDA-SPECIAL MEETING-COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM OCTOBER 13, 2010 - 6:00 PM

1. Interviews of Candidates for the Library Advisory Commission for Two Unexpired Terms, One Ending January 31, 2011 and One Ending January 31, 2013
2. Interviews of Candidates for the Public Art Commission for Two Unexpired Terms Ending on April 30, 2011

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Policy and Services Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 12, at 7:00 p.m. regarding 1) Project Safety Net and 2) Federal and State Legislative Program

1ST PLACE BEST SPORTS COVERAGE
California Newspaper Publishers Association

Sports Shorts

CARDINAL CORNER . . . The No. 6-ranked Stanford men's water polo team will make its home debut and open its Mountain Pacific Sports Federation season by hosting top-ranked and defending national champion USC on Saturday at Avery Aquatic Center at 3 p.m. The Cardinal (6-4) will be looking to end a 17-game losing streak to the Trojans (1-0, 15-0), dating to the 2005 season. The last time Stanford beat USC was Nov. 27, 2004 when **Tony Azevedo** scored four goals in an 8-5 victory in the MPSF Tournament semifinals. The Trojans currently are on an 18-game win streak, dating to last season . . . The No. 1-ranked Stanford womenís volleyball team (4-0, 13-0) hits the road as it takes on No. 8 USC and No. 12 UCLA in Los Angeles. The Cardinal will face the Trojans on Friday and the Bruins on Saturday, both at 7 p.m. (KZSU, 90.1 FM) . . . The nationally No. 1-ranked women's soccer team (9-0-2) will be at USC on Friday and UCLA on Sunday. Stanford senior forward **Christen Press** has been selected as one of 10 finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award, which recognizes student-athletes for their contributions both on and off the field.

SOCCER HONORS . . . Three former Stanford players — all teammates for the Women's Professional Soccer champion FC Gold Pride — were named to the league's Best XI, signifying All-Pro status. Goalkeeper **Nicole Barnhart** and defenders **Rachel Buehler** and **Ali Riley** were among five Gold Pride players named to the team. Barnhart and Buehler are both vital players on the U.S. National Team. Both started for the U.S. in a 1-1 friendly against China on Wednesday in Chester, Pa., and are preparing for the 2011 World Cup. Riley, the reigning New Zealand and Oceania Federation Player of the Year, is in Auckland, N.Z., with her national team. New Zealand is playing Papua New Guinea on Friday in the grand final of the Oceania Nations Cup.

ON THE AIR

Friday

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

Saturday

Football: USC at Stanford, 5 p.m., ABC (7); XTRA Sports (860 AM); KZSU (90.1 FM)

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

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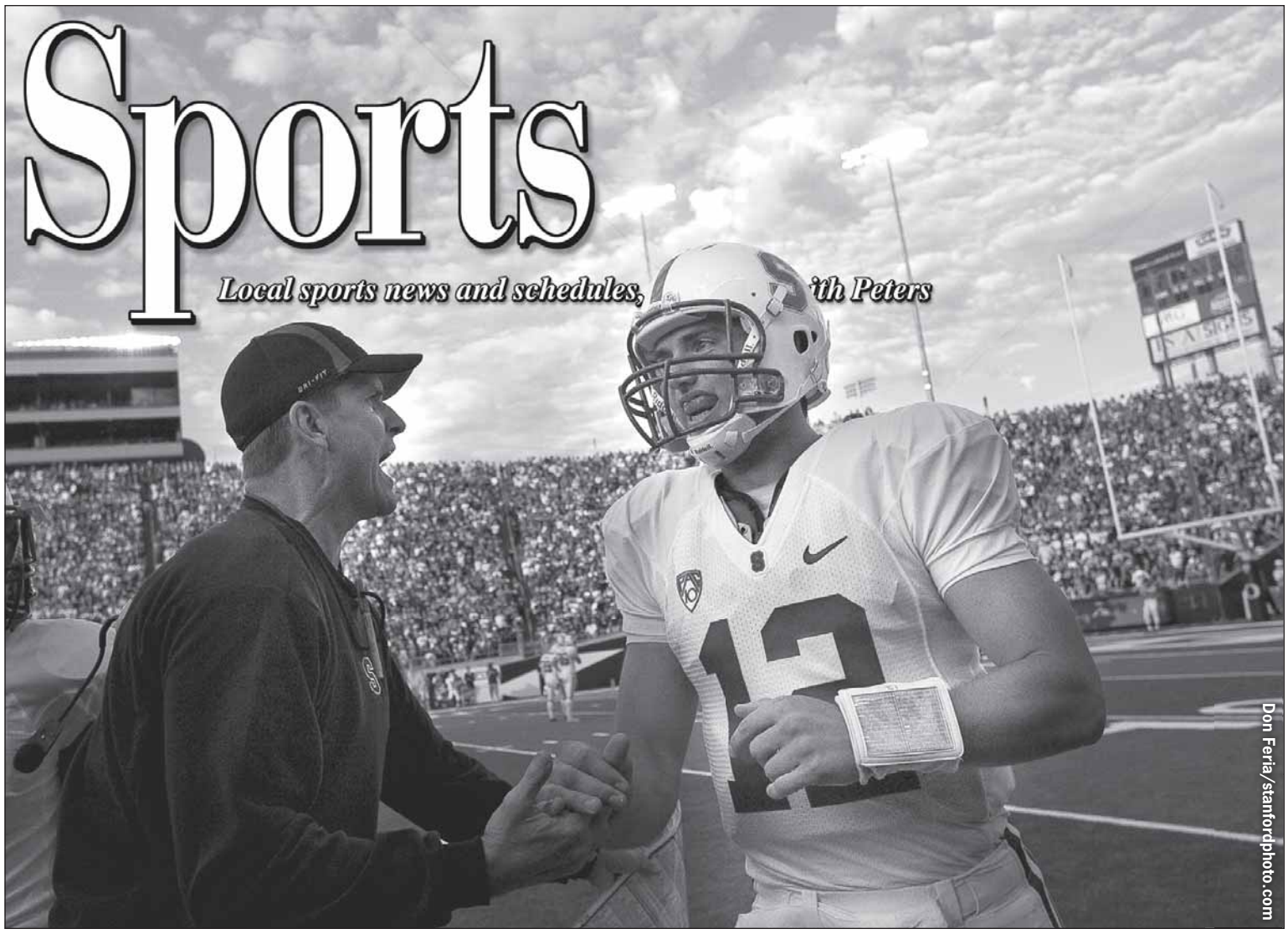
Sports

Local sports news and schedules, ith Peters



Don Feria/stanfordphoto.com

Stanford coach Jim Harbaugh had reason to congratulate quarterback Andrew Luck last weekend during the loss at No. 4 Oregon. Luck completed 29 of 46 passes for 341 yards and two TDs. The completions and pass attempts were both career highs. Luck and the Cardinal will host USC on Saturday.

Luck hopes his studies pay off against USC

Stanford's studious quarterback will be all about the details in Saturday's crucial Pac-10 showdown

by Rick Eymer

Andrew Luck, better known as Stanford's starting quarterback, saved a touchdown with a body tackle on Oregon's Eddie Pleasant during the Cardinal's 52-31 setback to Oregon last Saturday. That the Ducks scored on the next play is irrelevant.

"All you need to see is the way he made that tackle at the three-yard line," Stanford coach Jim Harbaugh said. "I think he can faster than he can to make that play. He competes with the heart of a champion."

Luck critiqued the tackle as "F for form but it got the job done."

The redshirt sophomore was put into the position of stop gap defense because of Javes Lewis' bone-jarring helmet-to-helmet hit on receiver Chris Owusu, who lost the ball because he was rendered unconscious by the blow.

Pleasant alertly grabbed the loose ball and took off the other way. Luck was the only Stanford player with any chance of catching him. He threw his body at Lewis, pushing him out-of-bounds before the goal line. He may think poorly of his form, but there are plenty of free safeties who would take it in an instant.

It just goes to show that a "courageous competitor" is his own worst critic. Luck has turned that self-questioning into a major strength.

He's a student of the game and has many influences upon which he can rely. He also takes responsibility for his own actions, and, sometimes, for

(continued on page 37)

GIRLS' WATER POLO

M-A's tuneup for PAL title chase is a real winner

by Rick Eymer

Senior MJ O'Neill thinks the Menlo-Atherton High girls' water polo team has gotten a lot better since losing to Castilleja at the St. Francis Alumni Invitational early in the season.

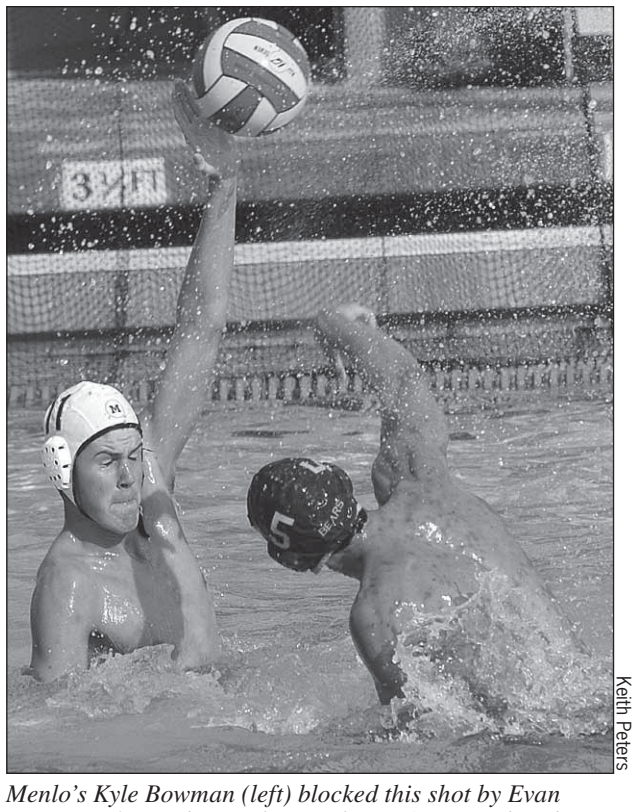
"Hopefully we won't make the same mistakes," she said. "We lost but it wasn't a crumbling loss. It's always great to show how we've improved as a team."

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

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

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

(continued on page 38)



Keith Peters

Menlo's Kyle Bowman (left) blocked this shot by Evan Navarro of M-A during the Knights' 5-1 win Wednesday.

BOYS' WATER POLO

Menlo's defense helps determine big win over M-A

by Rick Eymer

Nick Hale and Jack Finch didn't do any scoring for the Menlo School boys' water polo team Wednesday and, quite frankly, senior goalkeeper Keegan Williams doesn't care if they ever score another goal this season.

They are just as valuable, says Williams, when they're making his life a little more comfortable.

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

Everything went according to plan in Menlo's 5-1 PAL Bay Division victory over host Menlo-Atherton, settling the issue of who's best in Atherton and, possibly, the

(continued on page 39)

GIRLS' PREP VOLLEYBALL

Palo Alto (23-0) grabs control of division race with big win

by Keith Peters

If there was one team that Palo Alto girls' volleyball coach Dave Winn feared heading into the SCVAL De Anza Division season, it probably was Los Gatos. Winn knew the Wildcats would be a formidable foe.

The first showdown between the teams arrived Tuesday night. Both teams came in undefeated in division play, with Los Gatos ranked No. 36 in the state by MaxPreps.com and Palo Alto ranked No. 21. The Vikings also are ranked No. 74 in the nation (overall) and No. 15 in the state for Division I teams.

In addition to their lofty ranking, the Vikings' perfect record was at stake. That record and ranking, however, are safe following a grueling four-game victory by Paly.

"This was a very big win for earning the inside track toward the De Anza league title for 2010," Winn said following his team's 19-25, 25-14, 25-19, 28-26 triumph on the Wildcats' home floor.

Palo Alto improved to 5-0 in league and 23-0 overall and remains the only unbeaten team among the state's top 25 squads. Harvard-Westlake i No. 1 for all divisions at 10-1 while La Costa Canyon is No. 2 at 12-1.

Paly, however, is the No. 1 Division I team in the CCS and showed why after a shaky start on Tuesday. The Vikings squandered a 17-11 lead in Game 1 and lost. Paly bounced back convincingly in Game 2 and took a 19-9 lead. Game 3 was close, but Paly junior Melanie Wade produced some key blocks to give her team a 22-18 lead that held up. In Game 4, Paly never led until earning match point at 27-26. After a long rally, the Los Gatos middle attacker touched the net to give the Vikings the victory.

Wade finished with 21 kills while hitting .588 (only one hitting error). She also had four digs and four assists. Senior Trina Ohms added 16 kills and three digs while junior setter Kimmy Whitson had 38 assists and seven digs.

In San Jose, Castilleja opened its West Bay Athletic League (Foothill Division) season with a closer-than-expected 21-25, 26-24, 13-25, 25-19, 15-6 triumph over host Harker. The Gators (1-0, 22-2) got 16 kills from Laura Rose, 12 kills from fast-improving Abby Thornburg, 23 digs and three aces from Lindsey Wang and 36 assists from Hannah Hsieh.

In Atherton, host Sacred Heart Prep (1-0, 11-7) also opened WBAL (Foothill Division) action with a 25-19, 25-19, 17-25, 25-13 victory over Notre Dame-San Jose. Jesse Ebner produced 19 kills for the Gators while Sarah Daschbach had 18 digs.

In Cupertino, Gunn (5-0, 17-4) continued to roll in the SCVAL El Camino Division as the first-place Titans swept the Pioneers, 25-14, 25-9, 25-22, despite having a short bench due to illness and injuries.

The Gunn offense was extremely balanced on the evening, with Kiana Choroski and Allison Doerpinghaus each notching nine kills, Adrienne Thom getting eight and Molly McAdam seven. Monica Cai had 33 assists on the evening with eight digs, while Julia Li had 21 digs.

In Millbrae, Menlo-Atherton swept host Mills in PAL Bay Division action, 25-14, 25-11, 25-16. The Bears (4-1, 11-6) got 15 assists and seven digs from Sofi King. ■

Stanford football

(continued from page 36)

mistakes that are quite frankly not in his control.

The responsible part comes in the form of watching game tapes as he looks for ways to improve, things to avoid, or how he can maintain calm decision-making in the heat of the moment.

In other words, Luck does his homework. Not only does he study his opponents, he studies himself with a sharp, analytical mind zeroed in on the minute details.

"First of all I never watch tapes of the previous game more than one day later," he said. "I'm done with Oregon, but I do watch to figure out fundamental things I can work on. I take notes for the beginning of the practice week where I can fix little issues to techniques I'm using and go from there."

Luck has a chance to become the first Stanford quarterback to beat USC in consecutive seasons since Randy Fasani did it in 2000-01. The Trojans (1-1, 4-1) come to Stanford Stadium for a 5 p.m. kickoff Saturday against the 16th-ranked Cardinal (1-1, 4-1) and whoever wins has a better chance of remaining in the conference championship hunt this season.

Never mind the Trojans are ineligible for a postseason bowl game, this contest will still go a long way in determining where Stanford will wind up in the postseason.

Luck and USC sophomore quarterback Matt Barkley are also the top two in efficiency rating in the conference, with Barkley holding a slight edge, 163.8 to 157.5. Luck tops the Pac-10 in total offense.

The Trojans are the conference leader in total offense, averaging 548.5 yards a game, more than 100 yards better than Stanford's 440.0. The Cardinal, however, ranks No. 4 in the nation in scoring.

The USC offense won't be nearly as confusing or dangerous as Oregon's offense. Still, the Trojans are productive and move the ball.

"USC is quite different," Stanford defensive end Thomas Keiser said. "Oregon is a very unique offense. USC has a lot of talented players overall. Their offensive line is very good and they seem to move especially well."

Stanford enters the game ranked higher than the Trojans for just the fifth time, and the first since 1986. The Cardinal has been in the rankings five straight weeks, its longest stay since the final nine weeks of the 2001 season.

The goal, of course, is for Stanford to be there again next week. ■

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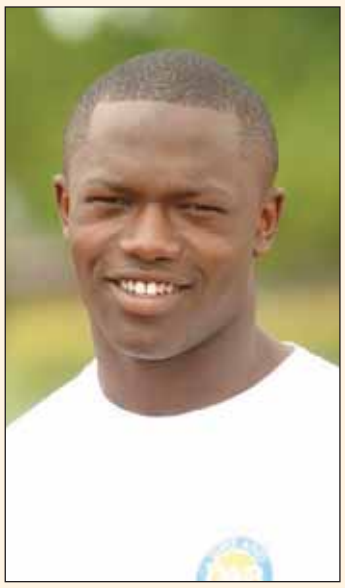
ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

Jazmin Moledina
Menlo School

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



Josh Jackson
Gunn High

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

Honorable mention

Catherine Donahoe
Sacred Heart Prep water polo

Trina Ohms*
Palo Alto volleyball

Erin Robinson
Gunn cross country

Laura Rose
Castilleja volleyball

Lucy Tashman
Castilleja volleyball

Pippa Temple
Sacred Heart Prep water polo

Henry Ayala
Gunn football

Christoph Bono
Palo Alto football

B.J. Boyd
Palo Alto football

Anthony Cannon
Gunn football

Willy Fonua
Menlo-Atherton football

Devonte Piper
Menlo-Atherton football

* previous winner

To see video interviews of the Athletes of the Week, go to www.PASportsOnline.com

Girls' polo

(continued from page 36)

helped M-A (2-0, 7-4) reach the CCS title match, where they lost in overtime to St. Francis for the second consecutive year. M-A won the CCS title in 2007.

Menlo School (0-2, 3-9) has not gotten past the CCS quarterfinals since winning the last of three straight titles in 2006.

They are both making the best of their situations. McNeill and Fero, each of whom scored three times against the Knights, joined the NorCal club team so that they could play with their current teammates over the summer. They were both members at Stanford Water Polo Club (ironically led by Menlo-Atherton graduate John Tanner) previously.

While M-A goalie Emily Dorst (six saves against Menlo) played with the 18U team that finished fourth in the nation at last summer's Junior Olympics, the rest of the team played together on the 16U team that went 4-2-1 and finished 19th out of 92 teams.

The extra effort has been paying off for the Bears, coached by Chris Rubin, also an alumnus of the Stanford Water Polo Club team and an M-A graduate.

"This is a new team with new starters," O'Neill said. "We're filling new roles cohesively and everyone has stepped up."

M-A finally shook Menlo with a series of four goals in the third period that eventually led to a five-goal advantage.

Katherine Liang, Emily Gran, Danielle Flanagan and Marie Popp also scored for the Bears.

Menlo coach Sean Nolan also saw a lot of good things out of his team. The Palo Alto grad and Olympian has a roster comprised of two seniors, three juniors, five sophomores and four freshmen.

"This was our best game of the year," he said. "We were in the game and competitive with them. M-A and Castilleja are the top two teams and if we can finish strong it would be an accomplishment."

Senior Hailey Smith led the Knights with four goals and junior Ilana Crankshaw added two.

In another PAL Bay Division match Wednesday, Castilleja got seven goals from senior Natasha von Kaeppler in an 18-2 swamping

(continued on next page)

THIS WEEKEND'S PREP FOOTBALL

Gunn (0-0, 3-1) at Paly (1-0, 4-0), Friday, 7:30 p.m.

The Vikings bring a seven-game winning streak over the Titans into their annual grudge match, which counts in the SCVAL De Anza Division standings. That means Palo Alto can take a step closer to defending its division crown by taking care of business in this Homecoming game. In the past seven games against Gunn, the Vikings have won by an average of 37-8. Both teams are coming off big tuneup victories. Paly held off always-tough Wilcox, 28-15, last Friday to open the division season while Gunn crushed Cupertino, 56-14, to conclude nonleague play. This will be an important game for Paly senior quarterback **Christoph Bono,** who suffered a broken clavicle in his right throwing shoulder in last season's 27-7 win. Bono missed the remainder of the season. He is healthy again, as evidence of his 676 passing yards (on 53 of 80 attempts) with seven TDs. The key for Bono is to get past this game in good shape while continuing to improve and take his team into the postseason. Bono was tackled for a safety and threw a first-quarter interception last week against Wilcox, but bounced back with nine completions for 173 yards and two touchdowns. Junior running back **B.J. Boyd** made his long-awaited contribution by rushing for one TD and returning a kickoff for another. Paly also took advantage on defense with a fumble recovery in the final 4:41 and an interception by **Davante Adams** with than two minutes to play. Gunn, meanwhile, is coming off a school record-tying 56-point outburst against Cupertino while rushing for 476 yards. The last time Gunn scored 56 points in a single game was in 2002 (against Lynbrook). That season also was the last time the Titans defeated Palo Alto (40-19). Gunn seniors **Josh Jackson** and **Anthony Cannon** led the onslaught against Cupertino, with Jackson carrying eight times for 156 yards and Cannon adding 148 yards on nine hauls for the best one-two run punch of the season. Cannon also threw for 151 yards and Jackson, who was named Homecoming king at halftime, scored touchdowns on runs of 41 and 63 yards plus an 89-yard kickoff return. **Henry Ayala,** returning to the field (from injury) for the first time since the opening game, also scored three TDs for the Titans. "It was a great night," said Jackson. "Winning the game and winning Homecoming king, it doesn't get much better than that." Actually, it may. The Titans have allowed only 35 points this season.

Burlingame (2-2) at SH Prep (4-0), Friday, 3 p.m.

Both teams will open their respective PAL Bay Division seasons. The Panthers are coming off a 42-12 win over Woodside while the Gators had a bye last week. SHP is averaging 300 rushing yards per game with **Colin Terndrup** leading the way with 136.3 yards per game. Senior QB **John Geary** has completed 37 of 51 passes (an efficient .725 percent) for 756 yards and seven TDs while **Tomas O'Donnell** has caught 15 passes for 278 yards, making the Gators tough to defend. This game will be a tuneup for SHP's showdown with King's Academy on Oct. 16.

Menlo (3-1) at Half Moon Bay (3-1), Friday, 6 p.m.

Both teams open PAL Ocean Division play. The Cougars are coming off a 34-21 win over El Camino while the Knights were idle last week. Menlo quarterback **Robert Wickers** needs to generate offense through the air once again after compiling 898 passing yards on 60-of-89 (.674) in the first four games. Knights' wideout **Tim Benton** has caught 18 passes for 374 yards while averaging 20.78 yards per catch. Menlo senior **Beau Nichols** leads the run game with 353 yards on 45 carries.

-- compiled by Keith Peters

(continued from previous page)

of visiting Aragon. The Gators (2-0, 7-3) also got three goals from senior Barbara Peterson and two each from Megan Costello, Camille Zubizaretta and Sydney Molano.

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

Sacred Heart Prep (4-0, 12-1) tuned up with a solid 14-3 triumph over host Valley Christian (San Jose) on Wednesday. Pippa Temple led the Gators with three goals while Bridgette Harper, McKenzie O'Holleran and Erin Sheridan all scored twice.

In the SCVAL De Anza Division this week:

If they don't already, the Gunn girls should have Oct. 19 circled on its calendar. That's when the Titans play host to Los Altos with the regular-season title on the line.

All the Titans need to do is keep the momentum going, like they did Tuesday in a 9-6 victory over visiting Palo Alto.

Juniors Elizabeth Anderson and Casey Lincoln each scored two goals for Gunn, as did senior Shelby Newman. The Titans jumped out to a 5-0 lead and never trailed. Anderson gave the Titans the lead with a goal just 22 seconds into the match.

"We moved the ball very well early on," said Gunn coach Mark Hernandez, whose team improved to 5-1 in league and 8-1 overall — the only loss coming to Los Altos (6-0 league). ■

Boys' polo

(continued from page 36)

league's best.

There's still more than half the league schedule to be played but it won't be much of a surprise should Menlo (2-0, 8-4) and Menlo-Atherton (1-1, 9-7) finish the season first and second, respectively.

Williams was working on a shutout well into the final period before Jake Bercow finally wiped the zero off the scoreboard with a nifty shot from long range.

The Bears had another chance to score when they awarded a penalty shot in the late going. Williams blocked that five-meter attempt to put the exclamation point on the defensive stand.

"You don't hold M-A to one goal without a good goalie," Menlo coach Jack Bowen said. "But you do have to give a lot of credit to guys like Hale (four steals, two blocks) and Finch, Brad Haaland, Jack Lucas and John Holland-McCowan. To watch all those guys going at it, that allows Keegan to step up and make blocks."

Williams seconded his coach's critique.

"It means I have less to do," he said. "When they are taking care of everything in front of me, I can focus on blocking."

Menlo-Atherton junior goalie Alex Gow made things difficult for Menlo at the other end of the pool. Scoring was at a premium all day.

"The goalies were the best players in the pool," M-A coach Marco Palazzo said. "The way we shot the ball, we weren't sharp. That was not the way to play a game of this magnitude. When you have a system and are organized, you get results."

Wade Avery led Menlo with three goals. Holland-McCowan and Kyle Bowman also scored.

In the West Catholic Athletic League, Sacred Heart Prep (3-1, 7-2) remained a game behind first-place St. Francis with a 19-8 dunking of host Valley Christian (San Jose). Seniors Philip Bamberg (seven goals) and Robert Dunlevie (five) took care of the host team by themselves while sophomore goalie Will Runkel was a standout defensively with a season-high 17 saves.

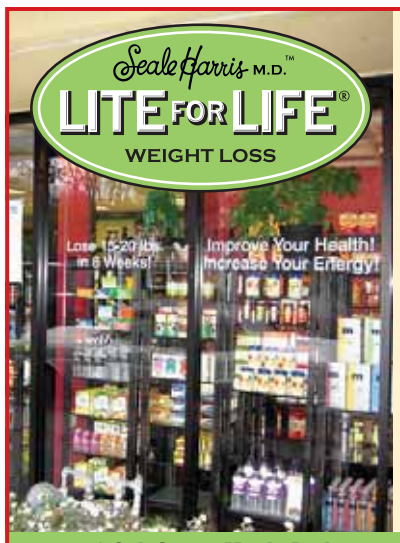
In the SCVAL De Anza Division this week:

In the first meeting between Palo Alto and Gunn, the visiting Vikings pulled off a wild 15-14 victory on Tuesday.

Aaron Zelinger led the Vikings (4-2, 5-5) with five goals and four steals. He converted five of six shot attempts. Bret Pinsker added three goals while Ken Wattana, Jack Smale and Marcos Motta all tallied twice. Goalie Daniel Armitano had nine saves for Paly.

In PAL Ocean Division action, host Priory registered a 15-9 victory with a six-goal outburst in the fourth period, four of them coming from Eric Turnquist. Michael Wan led the Panthers (3-3) with six goals while Kyle Walden matched Turnquist's tally of four scores.

Priory trailed by 4-2 after one period and 6-5 at the half before holding the Bearcats scoreless in a crucial third-period turnaround. ■



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