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Upfront Local news, information and analysis

Student journalists investigate 'rape culture' at Paly

Writers: Paly not immune from sexual violence, victim-blaming stereotypes

by Chris Kenrick

The editor of a student magazine at Palo Alto High School said students have received "overwhelmingly positive" reaction to a cover package investigating "rape culture" at Paly published Tuesday. The six-part package in Verde student magazine includes anonymous accounts of two alcohol-fueled sexual assaults of Paly students, interviews with victims and other Paly students about rape, discussion of Paly student attitudes on victim-blaming and an editorial criticizing mainstream media's "sympathetic" portrayal of high school rapists in Steubenville, Ohio. The students found that old ste-

reotypes and victim-blaming atti-

tudes prevail even in a liberal community like Palo Alto. They said they want to "break the silence" and challenge readers' sense of inevitability about rape.

Senior Lisie Sabbag, who wrote the main article, said she was surprised to find in researching the story that rape "is a huge part of our culture (at Paly) — bigger than we realize.

"I started with one source, a survivor of rape, and by the end of it I had almost 10 — that was a huge

surprise to me," Sabbag said.

"There were people that just heard I was writing the story and wanted to talk to me, and I'm sure there are many others out there."

Sabbag said the Paly writers hope to "start a conversation, just get people to start talking about things out in the open."

Verde co-editor Evelyn Wang said Thursday the articles have "generated the productive discourse we hoped it would, and we are grateful that the majority of readers are focusing on the issue rather than the identities of the sources."

Wang said she was upset by some "negative statements" and "vitriol," particularly in anonymous online comments in Palo Alto Online's Town Square but that overall the discussion had been productive.

Online publication of the story Tuesday led to coverage by NBC,

(continued on page 14)

CITY HALL



Fancy feathers

Terry Godfrey sipped a

warm beverage at a cafe near

her home in Evergreen Park

last week, she posed a question she

hopes will challenge Palo Alto resi-

dents in the coming months: "How

would you feel if you were raised in

a neighborhood where adults speak

is part of Project Safety Net, a coali-

tion of city, school and community

leaders — is taking a central role

in a new project intended to help

Godfrey - who heads a team that

to you and look you in the eye?

Li, a male golden pheasant, fluffs his feathers in his enclosure at the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo in April.

YOUTH

Caring Neighborhoods Challenge seeks to spread the love

Latest Project Safety Net initiative for Palo Alto kids begins this month

by Sue Dremann

Palo Alto's youth feel welcome and wanted. She and others have launched a campaign this month to give neighborhoods a stake in bringing up youth to be happy, healthy and cherished.

Dubbed the Caring Neighborhoods Challenge, the effort will roll out a mini-grants program, photo contest with cash prizes and howto kits for hosting block parties and events. The organization's website will have useful ideas for making a neighborhood a fun and welcoming place for youth, she said.

Project Safety Net, which was created after several suicides of Palo Alto students and young adults in 2009 and 2010, is working to foster 41 "developmental assets" — an array of experiences, relationships and opportunities that are essential for youth to thrive, decades of research has shown.

Only 57 percent of fifth-graders, 49 percent of seventh-graders and

(continued on page 12)

Council members: Fraud hotline worth the effort

Committee recommends extending fraud, waste and abuse hotline beyond pilot phase

by Gennady Sheyner

hotline that Palo Alto set up on a trial basis last year to give City Hall whistleblowers a tool to report fraud, waste and abuse should be kept in place permanently, a City Council committee decided Tuesday night, April 9.

The Policy and Services Committee voted 4-0 to endorse a recommendation from City Auditor Jim Pelletier to retain the city's Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline, which is limited to city employees and run by a third-party vendor to ensure anonymity. Since the city established the hotline last spring, it has been used for complaints six times, according to Pelletier's report. Three of those cases are now closed, with two complaints found to be unsubstantiated and a third one involving an inquiry that has been completed.

The other three cases remain open, with investigations in progress. Two of these involve allegations of bribery or kickbacks; the third is listed as "theft of time." Pelletier said he couldn't comment on the substance of the allegations, citing labor laws and the fact that the investigations are ongoing.

"We don't know if they're true or not at this point," Pelletier told the Weekly, adding that if any of these allegations are substantiated, they would be discussed in a future report.

At least one of the open cases was complex enough to require the assistance of an outside firm. Pelletier said a committee of top managers, including himself, City Manager James Keene and City Attorney Molly Stump, considered the complaint and decided to hire an investigator "to do some initial steps and say if there is enough to move forward to the next step."

While cities are not required to have such hotlines, most have adopted them as part of broader ethics programs. These hotlines, he said, "have become the de facto standard for organizations in their establishments of comprehensive (ethics) programs." In 2008, California adopted legislation that allows local city auditors to establish and manage such hotlines, according to Pelletier's report.

Federal guidelines also urge hotlines or other systems that allow anonymous complaints. The Federal Sentencing Guidelines for Organizations, which were designed to promote effective ethics programs, recommend that organizations "have and publicize a system, which may include mechanisms that allow for anonymity or confidentiality, whereby the organizations' employees and agents may report or seek guidance regarding potential or actual criminal conduct without fear of retaliation."

Pelletier also cited a finding by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners that American organizations lose about 7 percent of annual revenues to fraudulent activity.

Although in his report Pelletier outlined the costs in terms of "significant amounts" of staff time that investigations can engender, and delays to other city work that would result, he said Tuesday, "I think there is only upside. And the risk of not having a hotline in place is that we could miss some bad behavior that should not go unnoticed in the city."

The number of complaints that Palo Alto has received thus far is in line with other cities of similar size. The hotline comes with an annual cost of \$2,940.

All four council members agreed that the city should keep the hotline. Councilwoman Liz Kniss said it may deter wrongdoing.

"If it (the hotline) does exist, it's a reassurance to the entire organization," Kniss said. ■



EDUCATION

Extensive survey probes parent, student staff satisfaction with Palo Alto schools

Most satisfied with academic quality, many concerned about consistency

by Chris Kenrick

N inety percent of Palo Alto parents and 93 percent of high school students say they are "somewhat satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the education children receive in the Palo Alto Unified School District.

Eighty-four percent of parents and 78 percent of high school students are "somewhat satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the "social and emotional experience students have" in the district.

Those are among the findings of a survey of nearly 4,000 parents, high school students and school staff taken recently in connection with an update of the school district's five-year-old strategic plan.

A strength of the district is that "satisfaction with PAUSD's overall academic experience remains very high," officials said in a section on "key insights" in the area of academic excellence and learning.

However, survey results indicate the district needs to improve in many areas, particularly regarding expectations and support for under-represented and underperforming students; college and career counseling (especially at Gunn High School); in developing student skills in creativity and writing; and in improving content in English Language Arts, technology and career-technical education.

Parents also said they want more foreign-language instruction for students at an earlier age.

In the area of student personal development, a district strength is that "overall, the social and emotional experience for students in PAUSD is positive (83 percent)," the survey analysis stated.

But "student stress levels are high, particularly due to academic performance concerns" and "students are more stressed out than parents perceive," the report noted.

The analysis, performed by district statistician Diana Wilmot, also said that "parents are a strong source of stress for students but don't perceive themselves as such." Eighty-four percent of parents

Eighty-four percent of parents

and 87 percent of students agreed or strongly agreed that students are well-prepared for college.

Parents cited "overall quality of education" and "teacher quality" among the top-rated aspects of the district but were most critical of "consistency across teachers and courses," "level of academic support required or provided" and the "quality of college and career counseling."

Students likewise rated the "overall quality of education" highly but, like their parents, were critical of the district's "consistency across teachers and courses" and also of the district's support for underperforming students.

Eighty-nine percent of both parents and students said they are "very satisfied" or "somewhat satisfied" with the quality of teachers throughout the school district.

Yet in an analysis of open-ended responses, the most-commented-on topic, with 21 percent frequency, was teacher quality.

Among those commenting, 24 percent were "positive or very positive" while 59 percent were "very negative or somewhat negative."

The category that drew the nexthighest number of comments, at 7.3 percent, was social-emotional health and stress as well as support for high-need students, with the comments overwhelmingly negative.

Only 58 percent of parents and 52 percent of students agreed, or strongly agreed, that "grading is fair across teachers and courses." Even lower numbers, 43 percent and 47 percent, said "curriculum and instruction is consistent across teachers and courses."

"Students enrolling in the same course could receive teachers ranging from bad to good, consequently resulting in inconsistent learning experiences," a student wrote.

In comparing this year's survey results with those in unspecified past years, opinions in most of 75 categories remained essentially unchanged.

(continued on page 13)

How Palo Alto school district is doing

Percent responding "strongly agree" and "agree"							
Statement	Parents	Students	Teachers	Admin	Classified		
Grading is fair across teachers and courses	58	52	50	46	64		
Curriculum and instruction is consistent across teachers and courses	43	47	43	35	49		
Teacher quality and difficulty is consistent across schools and courses	38	33	54	48	38		

Source: Palo Alto Unified School District

However, this year's results showed a decline of more than three points in 18 of the 75 categories, including parent agreement with the statements "students are challenged to excel academically," "students are well prepared for college," "school has high academic expectations for all students, including under-represented" and "underperforming students are well-supported to improve academically."

Only one of the 75 categories showed an improvement of more than 3 percentage points since prior surveys. That was the percentage of students — 69 — agreeing with the

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ANIMAL SERVICES

Harbor seal pup rescued in Palo Alto Baylands

Struggling animal scooped out of San Francisco Bay Tuesday

by Sue Dremann and Jocelyn Dong

baby harbor seal that somehow got stranded in the water in the Palo Alto Baylands was rescued by Palo Alto Animal Services on Tuesday, April 9.

The 14-pound pup was caught up against the Mayfield Slough flood gate at high tide, Animal Services Officer William Warrior said.

A passerby heard the pup's cries as the seal bobbed up and down near the concrete wall, its head periodically disappearing under the water.

We had a concern about the way the baby was struggling," Warrior said. "We were worried about him possibly drowning.'

Climbing down the flood gate, Warrior and another officer lifted the black-and-silver pup out of the bay water using a net and brought the seal to the Palo Alto office of Peninsula Humane Society's Wildlife Rescue Center.

From there, the seal was transported to the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito at about 5:30 p.m. for further care.

Jim Oswald, a spokesman for the Marine Mammal Center, said the female pup, which they've named Floodgate Dolly, is about 5 weeks old. Harbor seal pups are weaned from their mothers when they're between 4 and 6 weeks. The pup probably came from Mowry Slough in Newark, one of the sites nearby where harbor seals gather in groups, he said.

The pup is the first harbor seal from Palo Alto that the center has received since 1991, he said.

Floodgate Dolly appears uninjured. She is resting in the intensive-care unit and has a roommate to help bring her stress level down, Oswald said.

"She's alert but a little emaciated, and she's vocal," he said.

On Thursday Dolly was holding her own and was being tube fed until she can eat fish on her own. She currently weighs about half the normal weight for a pup her age, but she is doing OK, he said.

"She has a way to go to gain weight and strength. She has another harbor seal roommate named Bogey to keep her company. For now, she'll remain in ICU until her health improves enough so that she can go into one of our rehabilitation pools. She's mostly on electrolytes as well as harbor seal formula made of a milk-matrix and salmon oil mixture a fish smoothie," he said.



A harbor seal pup was found bobbing in the water in the Palo Alto Baylands April 9.

Harbor seal pups can become stranded when they are spooked while foraging for food or when they have an underlying problem or illness, Oswald said.

It is pupping season, and the center advises that people don't pick up stranded seals if they are found.

'We remind people that if they come across a sick or injured seal or sea lion, they should give the Marine

"Nine out of 10 times it's because they were spooked by humans or dogs," he said.

(continued on page 12)

CUCINA VENTI RECIPE

All coastal regions of Italy serve some version of this dish. In the north it is Burrida alla Genovese, in Tuscany it's Cacciucco Livornese and along the Amalfi coast it's Zuppe di Pesce. The American dish Cioppino gets its beginning from these dishes. No matter the myriad of names and recipe variations, this dish holds an honored and storied place in Italian cooking.

From our kitchen to yours.

Buon appetito! Chef Marco, Venti's Chef

Zuppe di Pesce (Fish soup)

- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- pinch of red pepper flakes

cut into 1/2-inch rings and

tentacles (about 1 lb when

• 1 cup dry white wine

• 2 large ripe tomatoes,

- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 2 lb squid, cleaned and
 - for 30 minutes and well scrubbed
 - as whiting, monkfish, porgy bream, red snapper, and sea bass, cut into chunks

 - on one side with a garlic clove

Preparation:

cleaned)

In a large saucepan over medium heat, sauté the garlic and pepper flakes in the olive oil until the garlic is slightly golden, about 2 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, remove the garlic. Add the squid and cook and stir until opaque, about 2 minutes. Add the wine and simmer for 1 minute longer. Add the tomatoes, parsley, and salt and cook until the juices evaporate, about 10 minutes longer.

Add the water and bring to a simmer. Add the clams (discard any that do not close to the touch) and fish, cover, and cook until all the clams open and the fish is opaque throughout, about 5 minutes. Discard any clams that failed to open. Adjust the seasonings.

Place a bread slice in each warmed soup plate. Ladle the soup over the bread and serve

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- flat-leaf Italian parsley
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups water
- 1 lb black mussels, soaked in cool water
- 1 lb assorted firm-fleshed fish filets such



peeled, seeded, and chopped • 4 slices crusty bread, toasted and rubbed • 2 tablespoons chopped fresh



EDUCATION

School board cautious about selecting site for new elementary school

Caswell ready to choose San Antonio site, but others request more information

by Chris Kenrick

hile agreeing Palo Alto must open a new elementary school, members of the Board of Education differed Tuesday, April 9, on how much more information they need before deciding to locate it on San Antonio Avenue near the city's southern border or at the old Garland Elementary School

site on North California Avenue. Earlier they had set a timetable to decide by next month in order to open a school by fall 2017, but it was not clear Tuesday whether they will stick with that deadline.

A community advisory committee recently recommended opening a "hybrid" school at 525 San Antonio, the site of the old Peninsula Day Care Center, combined with the adjacent Greendell campus at 4120 Middlefield Road, abutting Cubber-

ley Community Center. The school would combine neighborhood children with students at-

borhood children with students attending a choice program, such as language immersion, and minimally affect attendance at other elementary schools, the committee said.

The proposed "hybrid" model with the type of choice program as yet unspecified — has precedent at Escondido Elementary School, which combines neighborhood children with students who travel from across the district for the Spanish Immersion Program housed there.

But only one board member, Melissa Baten Caswell, indicated Tuesday that she was ready to go with the San Antonio/Greendell option. Caswell argued that location would keep "maximum flexibility" for the district and preserve a rental income stream from tenants at Garland. Other board members were hesitant, several saying they need more certainty as to the exact programming at the new campus before deciding on location.

Concerned that the Mandarin Immersion Program now located at Ohlone Elementary School could be a candidate for moving to the new site, parents from that program turned out to argue that the program would be seriously harmed if it were removed from its host school.

"The Mandarin strand is not separate from Ohlone," said parent Sue Kramer, who has one child in the Mandarin program and another child in the regular English program at the school.

"It cannot be extracted from Ohlone and be expected to survive,"

LAND USE

One option for 13th elementary school



The property at 525 San Antonio Ave., combined with the existing Greendell School, may be incorporated into a 13th elementary school.

Kramer said.

Carla Rayacich, founder of a three-year-old school for children with dyslexia that currently rents the San Antonio property from the school district, said her school would be harmed by loss of the site. Board member Barb Mitchell said she needs more data on how students in other parts of the district would be affected before deciding. "I agree it would be a value to

(continued on page 11)

Hundreds of homes to be built along California Avenue, El Camino

College Terrace neighbors worry about upcoming years of traffic, construction

by Sue Dremann

ong-awaited plans to build 250 homes for Stanford University faculty and low-income Palo Alto residents are expected to have their first airing before the city's Architectural Review Board in May, university officials said on Wednesday.

The 180 single-family homes and condominiums and, separately, 70 affordable-housing units, were proposed eight years ago as part of the Mayfield Development Agreement between Stanford and the city.

In the 2005 agreement, the university leased land at Page Mill Road and El Camino Real to the city for \$1 per year for 51 years in exchange for permission to demolish several buildings in the Stanford Research Park along California Avenue for the faculty and staff homes. In addition, three office buildings along El Camino Real at California Avenue between Wells Fargo Bank and the Bank of America building will be demolished for low-income housing.

But as the university gears up for

the demolition and construction, the carefully crafted agreement could have an Achilles' heel. The city has yet to approve Stanford's construction-management plan the one thing not spelled out in the Mayfield document, residents of the adjacent College Terrace neighborhood said.

That's significant because they want the city to guarantee that trucks and equipment won't constantly rumble down California Avenue during the estimated three years of demolition and construction that would start mid-2014.

Residents also said they might ask the city to require a new traffic study, saying the first was flawed and that conditions have changed since the Mayfield agreement was signed.

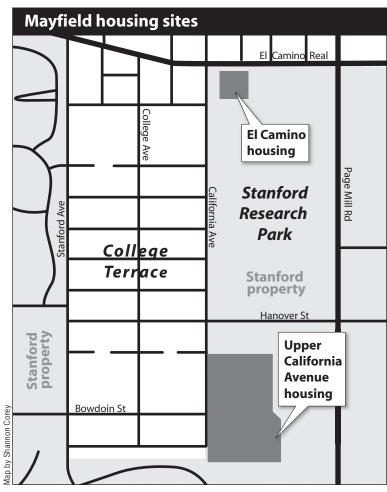
Stanford officials and the College Terrace Residents Association have met to discuss the project. The university plans to divert some traffic onto a makeshift road, but some traffic would still enter and exit the construction site from California Avenue and use Hanover Street to reach Page Mill. Much of the soil planned for removal might be used on site, which would cut down on truck trips, said Jean Mc-Cown, Stanford's director of community relations.

College Terrace residents have asked Stanford to make the temporary road permanent for use by the new residents. But McCown said the permanent road would not be acceptable to Stanford. Residents would then travel through the research park, which is not consistent with the concept of a residential development, she said.

On the face of it, there would seem to be little that residents or city officials could do to impose additional measures to ease traffic problems, Mayor Greg Scharff said at a March 23 neighborhood association meeting.

But attorney Bill Ross, a College Terrace resident, said during a neighborhood association board

(continued on page 13)



Two separate housing developments are planned — 70 units of affordable housing facing El Camino Real and 180 single-family homes and condominiums on Upper California Avenue — as part of the Mayfield Development Agreement between Stanford University and the city of Palo Alto.

Details about the Mayfield housing project

1400-1600 blocks of California Avenue No. of acres: 17

No. of units: 110 condominiums, 70 singlefamily houses

Height: 30 feet for houses, along California Avenue; 35 to 50 feet for two condo complexes at the back of the property **Parking:** Houses have a two-car garage and driveway; condos have two spaces each un-

derground. Features: Designs will be compatible with ad-

jacent neighborhood. Who will live there: Stanford faculty and staff

who will live there: Stanford faculty and star

Construction timeline: Mid-2014 for 22 months

2450-2500 El Camino Real

No. of acres: 1.8 No. of units: 70 below-market-rate units Height: Tiered three and four stories Parking: Parking lot in the rear **Features:** Partial glass front that looks into an inner courtyard; 7,000 square feet of retail space and nonprofit services for tenants **Who will live there:** Very-low and low-income residents

Construction timeline: Starting in mid-2014

— Sue Dremann



CITY OF PALO ALTO 91ST ANNUAL MAY FÊTE CHILDREN'S PARADE 2013

Saturday, May 4, 2013 @ 10 a.m. University Ave. Downtown Palo Alto

Children are born with marvelous imaginations and a keen desire to discover their world.

Our theme, **"What will you Discover?"** aims to **foster that love of curiosity and discovery** in every child and celebrates the finding of that special activity or talent that is a child's **"spark"** and unleashes their energy and joy.

March with your school! Parade with your pets! Join us in **celebrating childhood curiosity and discovery.**

For an entry form, details and general parade information please call Alison Williams at 650-648-3829 or email: ali.williams@cityofpaloalto.org

The Fair is being organized by the **Palo Alto Recreation Foundation and the Kiwanis Club of Palo Alto.** Features include:

fair

at Heritage Park

from 10am-1pm.

- An array of fun children's activities
- A performance stage featuring local groups
- Lots of great food
- Picnic space

In addition, **The Museum of American Heritage**, just across the street from the park, will be hosting their **Annual Vintage Vehicle & Family Festival** with lots of activities from 9:30am-3pm.



Upfront

COMMUNITY

Delivery of Weekly to change

Delays in mail processing force shift to private delivery service

n the wake of new U.S. Postal Service standards that have reduced the reliability of the Palo Alto Weekly being delivered on Fridays, the newspaper will shift to carrier delivery as early as next week in some parts of Palo Alto.

The change stems from the postal service notifying the Weekly that it no longer has enough personnel to handle the processing of the paper early Friday mornings for same-day delivery. The USPS staff informed the Weekly the paper must be delivered to its loading dock on Thursday morning in order to arrive in homes on Friday, which will require the printing be done on Wednesday night.

"It is impossible to publish a viable community newspaper on

Friday with a Wednesday-morning editorial deadline," Weekly publisher Bill Johnson said, "so we immediately began exploring other options."

Over the next few weeks, delivery will be switched out of the mail and managed by California Delivery, a Redwood City-based company that handles deliveries for many daily and weekly newspapers and other publications throughout the Bay Area.

Among the benefits of the new delivery service is real-time GPS monitoring of deliveries, by which the progress and route of delivery personnel can be tracked by supervisors and the Weekly's director of circulation. Custom software also issues audio alerts to drivers when they approach an address for which a vacation stop or non-delivery has been requested.

"The Weekly has always been delivered through the mail in Palo Alto, and we have enjoyed an excellent relationship with the post office," Johnson said. "We are sorry that cutbacks at the post office have led to these service reductions and the need for us to find an alternative, but we are very confident that readers will continue to receive their papers reliably and, in many cases, earlier in the day than is the case now."

Readers may report delivery problems to Palo Alto Weekly's director of circulation, Bob Lampkin, at 650-223-6557 or by email to blampkin@paweekly.com.

— Palo Alto Weekly staff

CIVIC SERVICE

With fewer volunteers to serve on city commissions, Palo Alto ramps up recruitment

City plans to hold fairs, recognition events to spur interest

by Gennady Sheyner

S erving on a citizen commission in Palo Alto may look to an outsider like a thankless labor of love, full of wonky public hearings, PowerPoint slides and constant reminders that some residents will inevitably be upset at the end of the day.

Now, with applications on the wane and vacancies on the rise, the city is looking to show its volunteers that they are needed and appreciated.

Under a sweeping proposal that a City Council committee endorsed Tuesday night, April 9, the city would revamp its long-standing system for recruiting members to its 10 commissions, which advise the council on everything from zone changes and utility rates to public-art and library policies. The plan, which will be implemented by the Office of the City Clerk, includes two regular recruitment periods every year, more staff involvement in recruiting, annual volunteer fairs and recognition events and expanded options for advertising commission vacancies.

The effort was prompted by a dwindling number of candidates and an appointment process that has at times frustrated both council members and applicants. At one point last year, an insufficiently deep candidate pool prompted the council to defer commission appointments to a later date, after more applications could be collected.

"I think there's been some dissatisfaction among people applying that it's a long process to get through," City Clerk Donna Grider said Tuesday. "I think it's also cumbersome (for the city) to get through the process to get someone appointed."

Among the most popular staff proposals was an annual "recognition event" honoring all members of boards and commissions. Staff had recommended holding an event once a year, before a council meeting. The council's four-member Policy and Services Committee decided to take the idea a step further and to make the reception a separate, stand-alone event outside the formal confines of City Hall. Councilman Larry Klein said the city had in the past thrown picnics for commissioners at Foothill Park, and he lobbied to make the new recognition event "a bigger deal" than what was proposed by Grider's office. He proposed holding it at a separate location and his colleagues agreed.

"I think it gives off more good vibes than having some little teaand-crumpets event somewhere in the lobby, which, I must say, is not the warmest place for an event," Klein said.

His committee colleagues, Karen Holman, Liz Kniss and Gail Price, all agreed, with Kniss calling the proposed events "motivating."

"It's a good chance to recognize what someone has done and to talk about it at an event," Kniss said.

Another annual event that the committee endorsed is a fair that would bring area volunteers together and allow them to talk to current commissioners and learn about opportunities to serve. Deputy City Clerk Ronna Gonsalves said the volunteer fair would feature tables for boards and commissions and computers set up for applications.

The committee unanimously supported the idea, with Holman saying

the events will bring "more panache and more credibility to the board and commission positions."

The committee endorsed, on a series of votes, a variety of other changes to the existing process. One would limit all council interviews for aspiring commissioners to 10 minutes per applicant (the only exception would be applicants for the Planning and Transportation Commission, who will get up to 15 minutes). Another would align the start and end dates for commission tenures in two batches, with roughly half concluding their terms on April 30 and the other half on Oct. 31 (currently, end dates for different commissions are scattered all over the calendar). The new schedule would allow the city to split its recruiting process into two phases, one in the spring and one in the fall.

Another change would give the city clerk more latitude in advertising for commission openings. Currently, the city is required to run ads for recruitment in a general-circulation newspaper — in this case, the Weekly. While this would remain an option, the committee agreed to modify the Municipal Code to allow the city clerk to "include ads in any newspaper, online ads, e-blasts, fliers or other appropriate media."

"This will allow staff the flexibility to explore new avenues," a report from Office of the City Clerk states. "The goal with this revision is to be less prescriptive with how the recruitment can be advertised while still ensuring a transparent process."

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gsheyner@ paweekly.com.

EDUCATION

Survey: Pluses of new school calendar outweigh minuses

Palo Alto board members disagree on interpretation, say they'll develop 'values' to guide process

by Chris Kenrick

he benefits of recent changes to Palo Alto's school calendar outweigh the tradeoffs, according to high school students, parents and teachers surveyed earlier this year.

Despite vocal opposition by some to the calendar reform - which moved this year's school-start date to mid-August in order to finish the first semester before the December holidays - a solid majority of every group surveyed said the goal of giving students a work-free holiday break was more important than various inconveniences.

But Palo Alto school board members Tuesday disagreed about interpretations of the survey data.

"There are a lot of concerns with the new calendar despite the headlines glowing," said board member Camille Townsend, who opposed the calendar change in an emotional 3-2 vote in 2011. "There are issues here."

Board President Dana Tom, who supported the new calendar, said, "I have a different view of the data."

The survey was designed by an advisory committee of students, teachers, administrators and parents — including some of the most outspoken opponents of the calendar change.

More than 1,385 high school students, 3,600 parents and 520 teachers of all grade levels returned the detailed online questionnaires.

School-district officials said the advisory committee would analyze the raw response data and come up with suggestions for future school calendars, beginning with 2014-15. A second survey is also planned, probably in early fall, to capture opinions about the earlier end of the new school year.

Board members said they wanted to generate a set of "values" about the calendar to provide guidance for the recommendation process.

The board will vote this October or November to determine the district's next set of calendars, which will take effect in 2014-15.

Majorities of all groups in the including elrecent survey ementary and middle school teachers — said, "If I controlled the school calendar I would want - said, "If I controlled first-semester finals to occur before winter break.'

Although many said they'd prefer school to start no earlier than the third week of August, greater numbers in all response categories said that giving students a "schoolwork-free winter break" was the most important factor in designing the next cycle of school calendars.

Questions to teachers probed their level of tolerance for uneven semesters. In order to end the first semester in December an earlier school-start date is needed to create equal, or roughly equal, semesters that add up to the 180-day school year required by state law.

In the first year of the calendar change, students and parents indicated adjustment problems so far had been tolerable, or at least not as dire as some opponents predicted.

More than 60 percent of seniors and nearly 70 percent of all high school parents said they or their children had not had to miss any extracurricular activities in December because of the demands of homework or exam preparation.

About 70 percent of parents of all grade levels said ending the first semester before winter break posted "little or no challenge" in terms of conflict with family activities. Eighteen percent said the new calendar presented a "moderate challenge" and 12 percent said it posed a "substantial challenge" to family activities in December.

'We can give a little when it comes to our summer plans. ... The health and safety of our at-risk, stressedout high school students trumps our scheduling challenges."

—An elementary teacher

Twenty percent of seniors said having finals in December either positively (10.9 percent) or "some-what positively" (9.1 percent) affected their work on college applications.

Thirty-nine percent said December finals "somewhat negatively" (22.5 percent) or "negatively" (16.7 percent) affected their work on college applications.

Thirty-two percent said December finals "made no measurable difference" in submitting college applications.

Twenty-seven percent of high school teachers said the level of stress among their students just before winter break was "higher than in past years," but 44 percent said the stress level was "about the same ... as in past years."

In extensive comment sections, parents expressed wide-ranging views on the calendar, with some requesting alignment with Stanford University's calendar and others asking for conformity with "the Silicon Valley calendar, which goes on vacation in August and shuts down one to two weeks before New Years.'

Others noted that many families

in Palo Alto are from countries where August is the traditional vacation month.

"People outside of the U.S. cannot believe the schedule or the rationale," one parent wrote. "Our families miss out on participating in family events that occur during August in Europe and other countries.'

But many parents expressed satisfaction with the new arrangement.

'I was ambivalent of the new calendar," one parent wrote. "However, after seeing my junior daughter have a stress-free break, (I saw that) the calendar made sense. Also, looking forward to an early end to school in the spring has been a great motivator for the second semester."

Student comments on the new calendar were overwhelmingly positive.

"It was the most amazing feeling to submit all of my college applications by Jan. 1 and have nothing to worry about," a senior wrote.

"I am very thankful that we have finals before winter break, and it allowed me to enjoy the second half of my break immensely more than if I had finals in the back of my mind (regardless of if I would have even studied for them over break)." Teacher comments indicated sup-

port for the change.

'Keep finals before winter break," a high school teacher wrote. "It's tougher on teachers but easier on students."

Said another: "I wholeheart-edly approve of the calendar adopted for 2012-2014. It is one of the most sensible and courageous things that the school board has ever voted to do.'

An elementary teacher wrote: "Student mental health at the high school level must be this community's first priority. As community leaders, PAUSD teachers must acknowledge that we teach in beautiful schools with supportive families and ample resources

"We can give a little when it comes to our summer plans. Summer vacations, matching Stanford's break schedule and arranging child care are luxury problems we are lucky to have. The health and safety of our at-risk, stressed-out high school students trumps our scheduling challenges.'

But another elementary teacher said: "I feel if we want to lessen the stress on high school students the calendar is nearly an inconsequential factor. Community, teacher and parent pressure as well as the onslaught of constant digital communication and the need to be 'perfect' or needing to get into the right college is important."

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

COMMUNITY MEETING

Safe Routes to School for JLS & El Carmelo

Review and comment on Draft Walk and Roll Maps and Route Improvements

Wednesday, April 17, 7:00-8:30 PM JLS Middle School, 480 E. Meadow Drive

Thursday, April 25, 7:00-8:30 PM El Carmelo Elementary, 3024 Bryant Street

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

More info: Contact Sylvia Star-Lack at saferoutes@cityofpaloalto.org or (650) 329-2156





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

Please be advised the Planning and Transportation Commission (P&TC) shall conduct a Special public meeting at 4:00 PM, Wednesday, April 24, 2013 in the Council Chambers, Ground Floor, Civic Center, Palo Alto, California. Any interested persons may appear and be heard on these items.

Staff reports for agendized items are available via the City's main website at www.cityofpaloalto.org and also at the Planning Division Front Desk, 5th Floor, City Hall, after 2:00 PM on the Friday preceding the meeting date. Copies will be made available at the Development Center should City Hall be closed on the 9/80 Fridav.

Special Meeting (4:00 -5:30 PM)

1. Capital Improvement Program Plan FY 2014-18: Review of the 2014-2018 proposed Capital Improvement Programs for Comprehensive Plan Compliance.

Public Hearing (6:00 PM)

1. 395 Page Mill Road Zoning Initiation - Request by Tom Gilman of DES Architects Engineers on behalf of Jay Paul Company to Initiate Zone Change at 395 Page Mill and 3045 Park Blvd to a PC Zone to allow construction of two four-story Office Buildings totaling 311,000 sf at 395 Page Mill, and a three-story 44,450 sf Public Safety Building (public benefit) and associated parking in two basement levels and six above-grade levels in a Parking Garage at 3045 Park Blvd. Current Zoning District(s): ROLM and GM. *Quasi Judicial

Questions. For any questions regarding the above items, please contact the Planning Department at (650) 329-2441. The files relating to these items are available for inspection weekdays between the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. This public meeting is televised live on Government Access Channel 26

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

*** Curtis Williams, Director of Planning and Community Environment



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City looks to add an art requirement to private-development applications

by Gennady Sheyner

ill Palo Alto's wave of new buildings usher in a publicart Renaissance? City officials certainly hope so,

and on Monday night, April 8, they took a step toward making it happen. After a brief discussion, the council voted unanimously to pursue a dramatic expansion of the Percent for Art Program, which currently sets aside 1 percent of construction funds for municipal projects for art. Last week, Mayor Greg Scharff and council members Pat Burt, Gail Price and Greg Schmid issued a memo recommending that the program be extended to all major private developments, as well.

"Great cities have great art, and Palo Alto is a great city," Scharff said Monday night. "And I think this is really gonna enhance the public art and the perception throughout our community of of public art.'

City staff will now design an expanded Percent for Art program and bring it back for review by the council's Policy and Services Committee and ultimately the full council. The memo specified that under the redesigned program, a developer would have to either commission art or contribute an in-lieu fee for art. It did not detail whether the art would be located



"Jungle Jane" by artist Fred Hunnicutt, on display on California Avenue, is among the city's public-art collection.

on the development site.

The applicant would also be responsible for maintenance of art, with staff reviewing the maintenance plan. Furthermore, this artwork would not be "demolished, removed or destroyed without City approval," the memo states

The memo also calls for the city to adopt a fee system to support maintenance of existing public art,

which currently gets funded through the General Fund.

"The goal should be a transition to a self-sustaining robust program that does not rely on general fund contributions," the memo states.

Council members agreed that the city would benefit from a more robust public-arts program, which Price said is a "means to celebrate the ways in which people can ex-press themselves." Their only con-cerns were with the details. Councilwoman Liz Kniss suggested that different rules should apply to different projects. Should the city, for example, demand art at the affordable-housing project currently under construction at 800 Alma St. or the expanding Stanford Hospital and Clinics?

"We have lots of buildings that I think we may indicate they should probably be looked at in a different light," Kniss said.

Councilman Larry Klein agreed and pointed to some of the city's "megaprojects," including Stanford Hospital and VMWare's campus expansion. Applying the "1 percent" formula to these would require extracting many millions of dollars of public art, he said. He suggested that

(continued on page 12)

COMMUNITY

Palo Alto Sea Scouts get surplus Navy boat

Decommissioned 95-foot ship will set sail for adventures around the bay and sea

by Sue Dremann

he Palo Alto Sea Scouts' days of rebuilding decks and maintaining four ship engines is about to walk the gangplank.

A newer ship supplied by the U.S. Navy will make way for adventures that could include trips to the Sacramento Delta and even on the high seas.

The Sea Scouts group, which is part of the Boy Scouts of America, will take possession of the 95-foot Olympic Venture on Sunday, April 14, when it arrives from Seattle. Experienced volunteer adults set sail from the Pacific Northwest city on Wednesday, said Joshua Gilliland, an executive board member of the Boy Scouts' Pacific Skyline Council.

The Olympic Venture began its long, complicated journey to Palo Alto last July, when volunteer Gregor Harden saw the boat was being delisted by the Navy. He and another volunteer, attorney Chris Moropoulos, navigated through red tape and paperwork to understand federal rules on obtaining surplus, Gilliland said. The paperwork took six months to complete, and in January the boat arrived in Seattle. The ship dates to the 1950s. It had

a lighter service life than the Scouts' current boat, the Intrepid. The Intrepid, which is also 95 feet



The Palo Alto Sea Scouts will take possession of a 95-foot former Navy boat on Sunday, April 14.

long, "already had a lot of miles on it," Gilliland said. It had a rough service life in Alaska, and it might have been used by the U.S. Coast Guard and Navy to retrieve torpedoes, he said.

In contrast, the Olympic Venture served the Coast Guard doing vessel inspections in the Bay Area. The boat was transferred to the Navy in the 1970s, and it was used for personnel transfers from nuclear submarines to ports, Gilliland said.

The Olympic Venture will also be

easier to maintain. The older Intrepid had four engines, one of which is irreparable, but the Olympic Venture has two engines, both in good shape, he said.

The new boat will enhance the Sea Scouting experience in ways that weren't possible on the Intrepid, he said.

"Our program is supposed to teach skills. If you only replace deck

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URBAN PLANNING

Palo Alto set to adopt new, belated, housing vision

Years in the making, city's new Housing Element targets transit corridors for new housing

by Gennady Sheyner

alo Alto's newest vision for housing is at once a broad roadmap and an intricate compromise, a document that both expresses the city's values and that complies, however grudgingly, with state requirements.

But the most puzzling and glaring thing about the city's Housing Element — which is perhaps the most critical portion of the city's land-use bible, the Comprehensive Plan — is the time span it covers. With a planning horizon of 2007-14, the document is laying out a vision for a period that began when Barack Obama was a junior U.S. Senator from Illinois and concludes next year. In short, it took a while to put together, and it will soon require another update.

Now, after years of negotiations and revisions, the 236-page document is finally nearing approval. On Wednesday night, April 10, it scored its first victory when the Planning and Transportation Commission voted 6-0, with Greg Tanaka absent, to endorse it.

The reasons for the delay range from the difficulty of finding viable sites where new housing could be built to demands for revisions from the state Department of Housing and Community Development. Among the trickiest assignments for Palo Alto planners was identifying sites for 2,860 units, which includes the 1.217 homes that the city has already approved in the planning period and the 1,643 for which it needs to find space. In late March, after a vigorous backand-forth, the city finally received an endorsement from the state for the draft Housing Element, which is slated to be formally certified in May or June.

The Housing Element seeks to meet the state mandate by concentrating future homes along major transportation corridors — namely. around downtown, California Avenue and El Camino Real. The new document also offers incentives for developing housing under existing zoning while avoiding increasing the density in neighborhoods with single-family homes.

The planning commission on Wednesday praised the document, with Vice Chair Mark Michael calling it "impressive," Commissioner Arthur Keller lauding it as an "excellent report" and Commissioner Michael Alcheck calling it a "good read."

'It's certainly a stretch for Palo Alto to absorb the amount of housing ... if they're fully built.' —Arthur Keller,

planning commissioner, Palo Alto

"If more community members read it, they'd really understand what we're dealing with here," Alcheck said.

Land-use watchdog Bob Moss called the draft Housing Element "the best compromise we can come up with," citing the city's greatest challenge in meeting housing mandates - lack of affordable land. This makes the prospect of having the city fund construction of hundreds of homes highly unlikely, if not impossible. State law doesn't require the city to build the housing, only to plan for it.

When they talk about building

affordable housing in Palo Alto unless the people who are asking for it come up with the money, it isn't going to happen," Moss said.

The Housing Element, available at www.paloaltocompplan2020. org, articulates the city's housing vision as: "Our housing and neighborhoods shall enhance the livable human environment for all residents, be accessible to civic and community services and sustain our natural resources." It considers new incentives to encourage affordable housing, promotes development of "underutilized sites," encourages buildings that mix both homes and retail or office space, and commits the city to give preference, when considering residential projects, to those developments that serve people who have extremely low incomes.

Assistant City Attorney Cara Silver said the city's long journey to complete the Housing Element is now in its "home stretch." Keller used the word "stretch" in a different sense when he commented on the document.

"It's certainly a stretch for Palo Alto to absorb the amount of housing ... if they're fully built," Keller said.

Some voiced concerns about the late date of completion. Even before the document is formally approved, the city is already looking ahead to its next Housing Element revision, which covers the period between 2015 and 2022. Senior Planner Tim Wong said the state deadline for completing the next version is in December 2014.

Advanced Planning Manager Steven Turner attributed the late submission of the document to an extensive public process in the beginning phases (this included meetings with a 15-member stakeholder committee) and to the fact that the vast majority of the work was performed in-house, without reliance of consultants. The length of time to prepare the document, Turner said, 'far exceeded our expectations.'

He also noted that one of the benefits of completing the element at the end of the cycle is that it will allow the city to move much more quickly on the next element, with all the issues and trends still fresh on everyone's minds.

"I think we are ahead of the game for the next element," Turner said. Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gsheyner@ paweekly.com.

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Weekly

Palo Alto

Elementary school

(continued from page 7)

make a decision by June on which site, but I didn't anticipate that would simply mean choosing a location. For me it gets complex," Mitchell said.

Board President Dana Tom and member Camille Townsend both said they need more time to decide on programming at the new campus, which would be difficult to do by June.

"Unless I know what the impact on the boundaries are going to be I can't make a decision," Tom said.

"Introducing a 13th elementary school has huge ripples - it completely changes the ecosystem of our elementary schools. Some choices have much deeper ripples than others."

Superintendent Kevin Skelly said he will work with staff and return to the board April 23 with options for discussion, although he cautioned against expecting a recommendation.

If located in south Palo Alto, the new school would be accessible either from San Antonio or from the Middlefield entrance adjacent to Cubberley Community Center, said Ann Dunkin, the district's chief technology officer who co-chaired the advisory committee.

Under preliminary plans, the new elementary school would be constructed facing San Antonio but would share playground and field space with the existing Greendell campus, which currently houses the district's Young Fives, Pre-School Family, vocational education and other pre-kindergarten activities.

"We hope to be able to continue to accommodate" the pre-K programs at Greendell, Dunkin said.

The school district acquired the 2.6-acre Peninsula Day Care parcel in 2011, paying \$8.5 million and disrupting a developer's plans to build housing there. The day care center closed its doors in June of that year when the owner retired after nearly 40 years in business.

The elementary-site advisory committee convened last fall and evaluated the pros and cons of opening a new school at Greendell/525 San Antonio or at Garland, which is currently leased to a private school. Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can

be emailed at ckenrick@paweekly. com.



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News Digest

Councilmembers want wider sidewalks

Unpopular developments in Palo Alto come in all shapes and sizes, but they tend to have one irksome quality in common — sidewalks that many residents believe are far too narrow.

On Monday night, the City Council will take a step in tackling this problem when they consider a proposal from four council members to review the city's regulations on sidewalk widths. Mayor Greg Scharff, Councilwomen Karen Holman and Gail Price, and Councilman Greg Schmid are urging staff to examine the city's rules on sidewalk widths and to return with suggested zoning amendments.

For land-use watchdogs and neighborhood preservationists, the issue of too-narrow sidewalks has been a hot topic for many years, with the Arbor Real housing development on El Camino Real and Alma Village in south Palo Alto as two commonly cited examples.

The memo argues that the new developments along El Camino Real and Alma "address the street in ways that are inconsistent with the intent and vision of the El Camino Real Design Guidelines and the Grand Boulevard Plan." The plan seeks to create a more pedestrian-friendly experience for El Camino Real by encouraging, among other things, 18foot sidewalks — a width that is 50 percent greater than what Palo Alto currently requires.

While the memo focuses on El Camino and Alma, other parts of the city could also be impacted. The four council colleagues urge staff to also address other thoroughfares — including downtown, California Avenue and Charleston Road — when appropriate.

— Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto city manager suffers collapsed lung

Palo Alto City Manager James Keene is recovering from a collapsed lung, which he suffered while running in South Carolina on Saturday, April 6.

Keene, a veteran marathon runner, was participating in the Transforming Local Government Conference in Atlanta, where Palo Alto is being honored with the Thomas Muehlenbeck Innovation Award for its Open Government: Open Data Initiative. Before the conference, he visited friends in Charleston, S.C., and joined them for a series of runs, including a 10k race last Saturday.

Keene told the Weekly that he wasn't feeling right even before the Saturday race. The prior weekend, while running on a mountain in Flagstaff, Ariz., he noticed that he was having a harder time than usual. He was also feeling a little off during practice runs before Saturday's Cooper River 10k Bridge Run in South Carolina. He assumed it was just a cold and proceeded to run the race, which he completed in 58 minutes.

A collapsed lung, also known as spontaneous pneumothorax, occurs when air fills the space around a lung, preventing the lung from expanding. In some cases, it can occur for no reason. The condition causes sudden chest pains and shortness of breath.

Keene said his conditioned worsened in the days after the race. On Monday, he went to an emergency room in Charleston and learned that his lung is 85 percent collapsed, which means that he has effectively been running with one lung. He had a tube inserted into his ribs to let the excess air out, a common procedure for the condition.

Keene expects to miss Monday night's City Council meeting but to return for the next scheduled meeting. He did not make the trip to Atlanta and is now recovering in the home of his friends in South Carolina. — Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto moves to protect downtown retail

Palo Alto officials turned back the zoning clock on an eclectic downtown block Monday night, April 8, when they passed a law requiring property owners to devote ground-floor space to retail.

The City Council voted 6-3, with Vice Mayor Nancy Shepherd and Council members Larry Klein and Gail Price dissenting, to institute ground-floor protections to the 600 block of Emerson Street. Current tenants on that block, which lies between Hamilton and Forest avenues, include Gordon Biersch, Buca di Beppo and the Empire Grill and Tap Room. Several retailers, most recently Fraiche Yogurt, have moved and the spaces were filled by offices.

The council's vote effectively reverses the trend that the city set out on four years ago. In 2009, with the downtown economy on the wane and the city concerned about vacancies, the council struck down the retail protection for 13 properties on peripheral downtown blocks to give property owners more flexibility.

These days, with the downtown vacancy rate at about 2 percent and rents at historic highs, the main concern is no longer vacancies but a takeover by offices.

The ordinance allows buildings that currently rent to office tenants to retain the space for office use until there's a vacancy for 12 months, at which point the ground-floor-retail requirement would kick in. ■

— Gennady Sheyner



Assets (continued from page 3)

35 percent of high school students in Palo Alto reported they felt their neighborhood is caring, according to a 2010-11 survey conducted by the Palo Alto Unified School District.

Godfrey said volumes of research show that youth who reside in caring neighborhoods have higher grades, display greater self-esteem, experience less violence and are less likely to abuse substances. The Caring Neighborhoods Challenge is aimed at giving youth a sense of having caring neighbors, feeling that community adults value youth, and giving them useful roles in the community, she said.

Improved neighborhood relationships has been a focus citywide for the past year. Former Mayor Yiaway Yeh hosted his year-long "Mayor's Challenge" in 2012, a series of recreational activities aimed at helping neighbors to get to know one another. Last September, the Palo Alto City Council approved a neighborhood mini-grant program that will help neighborhood leaders create intergenerational events and gatherings.

The council is also expected to adopt "youth well-being" this month as one of its "core values" for 2013.

A study of 343 Chicago neighborhoods found that in strong communities where adults are willing to intervene in the lives of youth, the neighborhood has less truancy, graffiti and violence. Other benefits include a greater sense of community, improved community activism around issues and easier disputeresolution among neighbors.

Godfrey said she and other team members will reach out to neighborhood associations and other groups.

"If I could get one-third of neighborhoods to do something this summer, I would be pretty happy. Throw a block party, or have a movie or game night. ... It's something everybody can do. I'm not asking them to boil the ocean," she said.

Some people may argue they're too busy to get involved with people



Ninth graders from Palo Alto High School, from left, Ben Rotblatt, Jeremy Revlock and Yerem Istanboulian paint numbers on curbs in Midtown through Youth Community Service in May 2012.

on their blocks. But Godfrey argues that neighborhoods are important.

"What else is there in life? You have your family, your neighborhood and your community. Even if it's not your kid, don't you want the kid who grows up down the block to be a well-rounded individual?" she said.

Among the activities Godfrey hopes youth will participate in this spring and summer is a photo contest in which the young people will document events taking place in their neighborhood. Each month from May through September a \$50 prize will be awarded for the top two photos.

Initiative leaders will also pay for treats for "Cookies+Conversation" events, which are designed as 90-minute breaks from everyday life with some cookies and lemonade, hosted on a porch or driveway in the neighborhood. The low-key event is a way to take action without a huge time or financial commitment, Godfrey said.

"You don't have to shut down a street or clean your house. Neighbors, young and formerly young, have the chance to meet, chat and catch up. You can say, 'Here's my porch. Here's lemonade and cookies. Let's have a conversation," she said.

Godfrey hosts a very successful Trampoline Tuesday at her home during the summer for Evergreen Park neighborhood kids. The events have brought many children closer to each other and enabled them to know their neighborhood better.

They develop a sense of trust and safety — of knowing which adults have a "safe house" where a child can go in times of trouble, she said.

Getting to know neighbors doesn't have to involve extra time or money, she said. Little things that are already part of one's routine can be a first step: invite another family to come along on a dog walk or join someone while walking theirs; let neighbors know that kids are free to use a basketball hoop or tree swing in the front yard, Godfrey said.

Another way to value a young person is to ask him or her for help, perhaps using technology, Godfrey said. An older resident can ask a young person to teach him something new.

Once people get into the habit of involving youth in their neighborhoods, it will become second nature, she said. But Godfrey said she doesn't have illusions.

"Making that kind of change takes time," she said. ■

More information is available at www.devassetspaloalto.org/neighborhoods.

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.

Harbor seal

(continued from page 6)

Mammal Center a call at 415-289-7325 and not pick up or approach the animal. They might still be weaning, and you don't want to separate the pup from mom," he said.

The center, which covers marinemammal rescue over a 600-mile area from Mendocino to San Luis Obispo counties, is currently inundated with marine wildlife. Food shortages around the Channel Islands in southern California have overloaded rescue centers there.

The National Marine Fisheries Service estimated 1,000 young California sea lions have become stranded. California sea lions wean at 6 to 9 months of age, Oswald said.

The Marine Mammal Center is helping them out and has double the normal number it takes in this year, he said. "The fish are not there for whatever reason. There have been a lot of mass strandings," he said.

The problem could shift to the Bay Area as the sea lions naturally progress north.

"We're not out of the woods yet. We may see more of these strandings here," he said.

Oswald said people can help the center purchase fish for Floodgate Dolly and other patients.

"This spring we're estimating that we'll go through 80,000 pounds of herring, given the 165 patients we're caring for right now and with more on the way."

People can learn how to donate at: www.marinemammalcenter.org.

A video of William Warrior explaining the seal-pup rescue has been posted at http://vimeo. com/63713223

Editor Jocelyn Dong and Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at jdong@paweekly.com and sdremann@paweekly.com. Art (continued from page 10)

religious and nonprofit organizations be exempt from the requirement, a recommendation that his colleagues accepted with no debate.

The memo from the council members cites various other cities, including Emeryville, Sunnyvale, San Jose and San Francisco, that apply percent-for-art policies to private development. It argued that it's time for Palo Alto to do same.

"Palo Alto has fallen behind other cities in fostering public art and providing a dedicated funding source for maintenance of our public art collection," the memo states. "It's time for Palo Alto to take the modest step of extending its Percent for Art Policy to private developments and to provide for a dedicated source for maintenance and administration of our publicart collection." the broad framework to suggest a

more student-centered educational

approach that will place "personal development and support" on par with the category "academic excel-

Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can

be emailed at ckenrick@paweekly.

lence and learning."

com.

Survey

(continued from page 5)

statement that "students are excited about coming to school to learn."

The survey is part of the district's effort to update its 2008 strategic plan, which was broken into cate-

Mayfield

(continued from page 7)

meeting that nothing in the agreement or project's environmentalimpact report defines how to deal with traffic from construction or demolition. Since the Mayfield agreement, conditions in the area have changed — namely, higher density projects to the south of Page Mill Road have added traffic to California Avenue and the surrounding area. The added traffic could necessitate a new traffic study under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Neither City Planning Director Curtis Williams nor Chief Transportation Official Jaime Rodriguez responsed to a request for comment.

But McCown said new traffic studies are not necessary or allowed under the Mayfield agreement.

"CEQA applies only to a public agency's discretionary decisions.

Scouts

(continued from page 10)

planks, there is no sense of adventure," Gilliland said.

The Sea Scouts can now focus on learning all kinds of seafaring skills, including mechanics, rowing, navigation, knot-tying. And the Olympic Venture is big enough to travel the Sacramento and San Joaquin deltas and could even make a trip to Catalina Island, he said.

But before the Scouts set off on their overnight adventures, they'll be making the boat their own. The youths will ready the Olympic Venture with sleeping space for 30 teens, he said.

The ship might also take the name of its predecessor and be rechristened as the Intrepid. A name change will require a series of old mariners' rituals, however, he said.

"It's bad luck to change a boat's name unless you do a number of things first," Gilliland said.

According to legend, vessels are recorded by name in the Ledger of the Deep and are known to Poseidon or Neptune, the god of the sea. The boat's old name must be purged by removal of every trace.

As part of the ceremonies, the captain and other officers pour glasses of champagne into the sea, and another champagne libation is given to the gods of the winds, according to the website BoatSafe.com.

The Sea Scouts will hold an open house on the Olympic Venture on a date to be determined. ■

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweek-ly.com.

Under the Mayfield Development Agreement, Palo Alto deliberately limited its future discretion over the housing projects to issues such as aesthetics and equipment noise, not traffic. Also, the city committed not to add any new mitigation measures (traffic or otherwise) unless they are required by non-CEQA state, regional or federal

gories of "academic excellence and

learning," "staff recruitment and development," "budget trends and infrastructure" and "governance

In this year's update — with vol-

unteer assistance from the consult-

officials are considering tweaking

ing firm McKinsey, as in 2008 -

and communication."

law," she said in a email. "There would be no reason to prepare a new traffic study even if there were no Mayfield Development Agreement. As the 2005 (environmental report) explained, the upper California Avenue housing will cause an enormous reduction in the traffic generated at these sites. If traffic on neighboring streets has worsened since 2005, that would just make the upper California housing more valuable in ameliorating local conditions."

If Stanford receives the green light from the city, demolition and site preparation could begin in mid-2014, said Project Manager Chris Wuthmann. But the shuffling of companies and leases will be a factor in the actual start time,

he said. Theranos, which currently leases 1601 S. California Ave., will move into another building that is undergoing construction on the corner of Porter Drive, McCown said.

Many details for the development were worked out eight years ago, such as the number of units and parking spaces, frontage setbacks, building heights and limitations on the city's design review. Stanford officials hope that work will facilitate the process, Mc-Cown said.

But removing hazardous materials known to exist at some of the building sites could create some snags, Wuthmann and McCown said, including asbestos from buildings and volatile organic chemicals in the soil.

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.

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.

Stanford creates transparent mouse brain

A group of Stanford University researchers have paved the way for increased transparency — literally and scientifically — of one of the least understood organs, the brain. (Posted on April 11, 9:30 a.m.)

Victim stable after East Palo Alto shooting

A man was shot in the head in East Palo Alto during a drive-by shooting Wednesday night, according to police. (Posted on April 11, 8:40

Stanford-Arrillaga plan cuts medical office space

As promised, this week Stanford delivered an overview of the latest revisions to its plan for El Camino Real in Menlo Park. (Posted on April 10, 1:16 p.m.)

East Palo Alto house fire suspicious

A suspicious one-alarm house fire displaced five residents in East Palo Alto Monday morning, according to fire officials. (Posted on April 9, 9:15 a.m.)

County asks to investigate DA Rosen

The California Attorney General has been asked to investigate a pay-compensation policy District Attorney Jeff Rosen has given to supervising attorneys in his office for the past 16 months. (Posted on April 9, 9:10 a.m.)

Tons of tires to repave Palo Alto's Alma Street

About 1,000 tons of recycled tires will cover a 2-mile section of Alma Street as part of a pilot repaying project in Palo Alto. The rubbermeets-the-road project is the first of its kind in the city, said Holly Boyd, lead project engineer with the Palo Alto Public Works Department. (Posted on April 5, 4:15 p.m.)

Want to get news briefs emailed to you every weekday? Sign up for Express, our new daily e-edition. Go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com to sign up.

CityView

A round-up of VPalo Alto government action this week

City Council (April 8)

Art: The council directed staff to consider an expansion of the city's Percent for Art program to require private developments to set aside funding for art and to create a dedicated funding source for maintenance of the city's art collection. **Yes:** Unanimous

Recycled water: The council voted to complete its study of the Recycled Water Delivery System, which includes an analysis of using recycled water for irrigation at Stanford Research Park **Yes:** Berman, Burt, Klein, Kniss, Price, Shepherd **No:** Holman, Scharff, Schmid

Board of Education (April 9)

New elementary school: The board heard a report from the Elementary School Site Location Advisory Committee. Action: None Strategic plan: The board heard an update on progress toward an update of the district's five-year-old strategic plan. Action: None

Council Policy and Services Committee

(April 9) Fraud: The committee recommended retaining the city's fraud, waste and abuse hotline. Yes: Unanimous Commissions: The committee recommended a series of changes to the city's pro-

Commissions: The committee recommended a series of changes to the city's process for recruiting members to boards and commissions. These include having two recruitment periods and holding a volunteer fair and a recognition event for commissioners. **Yes:** Unanimous

Planning and Transportation Commission (April 10)

Housing Element: The commission recommended approval of the draft Housing Element, which includes an inventory of potential housing sites. **Yes:** Alcheck, Keller, King, Martinez, Michael, Panelli **Absent:** Tanaka

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

Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL ... The council plans to go into closed session to discuss labor negotiations with the Palo Alto Police Managers Association and existing litigation with the California High-Speed Rail Authority. The council then plans to hear an update on the city's Climate Protection Plan; revise council protocols concerning the role of council liaisons to local boards and commissions; and discuss a colleagues memo urging revisions to sidewalk-width requirements. The closed session will begin at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 15, at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.). The rest of the meeting will follow in the Council Chambers.

COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to consider an accelerated schedule for reviewing Jay Paul's proposed development at 395 Page Mill Road; and consider grants that may offset the costs of infrastructure projects. The meeting will begin at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss a memorandum of understanding with the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority regarding renovation of the Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course. The committee also plans to issue a recommendation on 2014 Community Development Block Grant allocation and discuss forecasts and rates for stormwater, gas and electric utilities. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

SCHOOL/CITY LIAISON COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to hear an update on a proposal to build a multifamily development at the present site of the Buena Vista Mobile Home Park. The committee also plans to discuss medical benefits and the city's annual Service Efforts and Accomplishments report. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a. m. on Thursday, April 18, in Conference Room A at school-district headquarters (25 Churchill Ave.).

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION ... The commission plans to hear a presentation on the Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course reconfiguration; approve the Municipal Art Plan; approve a donated artwork and consider a Castilleja High School public-art proposal. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 18, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

Upfront

PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL

CIVIC CENTER, 250 HAMILTON AVENUE PALO ALTO BROADCAST LIVE ON KZSU, FM 90.1 CABLECAST LIVE ON GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL 26

THIS IS A SUMMARY OF COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS. THE AGENDA WITH COMPLETE TITLES INCLUDING LEGAL DOCUMENTATION CAN BE VIEWED AT THE BELOW WEBPAGE: http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/knowzone/agendas/council.asp

> (TENTATIVE) AGENDA – SPECIAL MEETING – COUNCIL CHAMBERS April 15, 2013 - 6:00 PM

CLOSED SESSION

- Labor
 Existing Litigation
- STUDY SESSION
- Update on the Progress in Implementing the Climate Protection Plan -Earth Day Report
- SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY
- 4. Proclamations Expressing Appreciation to Terry Godfrey, Rachel Samoff, Rob Steele, and Environmental Volunteers for Outstanding Public Service
- Selection of candidates for Library Advisory Commission for Interviews
 Selection of candidates for Public Art Commission for Interviews
- CONSENT CALENDAR
- 7. Recommendation that City Council Approve a Contract with OPOWER for the Provision of Home Utility Reports to Residents Comparing Energy and Water Use
- Adoption of a Resolution Approving, and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute and Amend the Northern California Power Agency Operating Agreement for Scheduling Coordination Services for Renewable Resources
- Approval of Professional Services Agreements with Various Firms for Building Division On-Call Services
- Preliminary Approval of the Report of the Advisory Board for Fiscal Year 2012 in Connection with the Palo Alto Downtown Business Improvement District and Adoption of Resolution Declaring its Intention to Levy an Assessment Against Businesses within the Downtown Palo Alto Business Improvement District for Fiscal Year 2014 and Setting a Time and Place for a Public Hearing on May 6, at 7:00 PM or Thereafter, in the City Council Chambers
 Approval of Amendment No. 3 to Extend Contract No. C05109138 for
- Approval of Amendment No. 3 to Extend Contract No. C05109138 for Three Additional Years in the Amount of \$62,000 per Year for a Total of \$186,000 With The United States Geological Survey for San Francisco Bay Monitoring
- 12. From Finance: Approval of Finance Committee Recommendation Regarding Adoption of Budget Amendment Ordinance Amending the Budget for Fiscal Year 2013 to Adjust Budgeted Revenues and Expenditures in Accordance with the Recommendations in the Midyear Report
- Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Palo Alto Municipal Code Section 5.35 to Expand Plastic Bag Ban to Retail and Food Establishments, Require Retailers to Charge Fee for Paper Bag Use and Provision of Phased Implementation
- Recommendation to Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Second Amended and Restated Memorandum of Agreement with the Bay Area Recycled Water Coalition to Pursue Federal Legislative Efforts Related to Recycled Water Projects
- to Recycled Water Projects
 15. Adoption of Resolution Approving Amendment Number One to the Water Supply Agreement with the City and County of San Francisco

ACTION ITEMS

- Policy & Services Committee Recommendation to Approve Revisions to Section 2.4 of the City Council Protocols Setting Forth the Conduct of Council Liaisons to Palo Alto Boards and Commissions (Continued from 3/18/13)
- 17. Colleagues Memo From Mayor Scharff, and Council Members Holman, Price, and Schmid Requesting Staff and Planning and Transportation Commission Review Sidewalk Widths with a Focus on El Camino Real and the Grand Blvd Design Guidelines and Return to Council with Suggested Zoning Amendments

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Infrastructure Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 4:00 P.M. to discuss; 1) Accelerated Schedule for J Paul Development, and 2) Update Status of Grants.

The Finance Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. to discuss; 1) Recommendation on Proposed Fiscal Year 2014 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding Allocation and the Draft 2014 Action Plan, 2) Golf Course Reconfiguration Update, 3) Utilities Advisory Commission Recommendation that the Finance Committee Review the 5-year Financial Forecast for the Wastewater Collection Fund and Take Action on Whether to Recommend that Council Approve an Adjustment to Wastewater Collection Rates Effective July1, 2013, 4) Utilities Advisory Commission Recommendation that the Finance Committee Review the 5-year Financial Forecast for the Electric Fund and Take Action on Whether to Recommend that Council Approve an Adjustment to Electric Rates Effective July 1, 2013, 4) Utilities Advisory Commission Recommendation that the Finance Committee Review the 5-year Financial Forecast for the Electric Fund and Take Action on Whether to Recommend that Council Approve an Adjustment to Electric Rates Effective July 1, 2013, 4) Utilities Advisory Commission Recommendation that the Finance Committee Review the 5-year Financial Forecast for the Gas Fund and Take Action on Whether to Recommend that Council Approve an Adjustment to Gas Rates Effective July 1, 2013, 5) Adoption of a Resolution Amending Utility Rate Schedule D-1 (Storm and Surface Water Drainage) Reflecting a 2.2% CPI Rate Increase to \$11.99 Per Month Per Equivalent Residential Unit for Fiscal Year 2014, and 6) Fiber Optic Fund Financial Projections (FY 2014- FY 2018)

The City/School Committee will be meeting on Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 8:30 A.M.

Verde (continued from page 3)

ABC, KTVU, Salon and the Huffington Post, she said.

The investigation by the Verde staff, including Sabbag and writers Will Queen and Savannah Cordova, has been in the works for several months under the supervision of journalism teacher Paul Kandell.

Student reporters and editors consulted with the Ochberg Society for Trauma Journalism, the Student Press Law Center, the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma, and the Poynter Institute in St. Petersburg, Fla. "Our cover package ... examines the many facets of rape culture, from victim-blaming to flawed media coverage of rape to the old 'boys will be boys' cliché," Verde editors Wang, Ana Carano and Sharon Tseng wrote in an editors' note. "By publishing an article on rape

"By publishing an article on rape culture our goal is to increase discussion about the issue, not the individuals involved." the editors wrote.

The main article, by Sabbag, is titled "You can't tell me I wasn't raped." It includes interviews with two female victims — one a sophomore and one a junior — about their sense of confusion after the events and, in the case of the junior, her experience of feeling socially ostracized at school after she told her

Edgar Huffstutler October 8, 1920 – April 8, 2013

Edgar Huffstutler died on April 8, 2013 of heart failure. Born in Denison, Texas on October 8, 1920 to Tracy and Monta Huffstutler, he graduated from SMU (B.D., M.A.), served as a Methodist minister in North Texas, and retired in 1985 in Palo Alto. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; son, Stephen (Colette); daughter, Susan (Mike); and grandson, Jonathan (Amelie). A service will be held on April 14th at 12:15pm at the First Methodist Church of Palo Alto. Donations in memory of Edgar may be made to First Methodist for ministerial education.

PAID OBITUARY

NOTICE TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS

NOTICE INVITING BIDDERS

RONALD MCNAIR SCHOOL ELECTRICAL OUTLET INSTALLATION BID Number 2013-RCSD-SIGELEC

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that The Ravenswood City School District (hereinafter referred to as "RCSD") is requesting bids for the installation of ceiling and wall-mounted electrical outlets and associated electrical in 21 classrooms to power multimedia equipment.

No offer of intent shall be constructed from this legal notice that RCSD intends to enter into a contract with the interested company unless, in the sole opinion of RCSD, it is in the best interest of RCSD to do so. RCSD reserves the right to negotiate the final contractual terms with the successful bidder.

Written bids must be sealed and filed with the Business Office, Ravenswood City School District at 2120 Euclid Avenue, East Palo Alto, CA 94303 (ATTN: Solomon Hill) no later than **12:00PM** noon PST on **Thursday, May 2, 2013**. Any claim by a bidder of error in their submitted bid must be made before the opening.

RCSD reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any irregularities therein. Bids will be studied and a recommendation will be made to RCSD. Bid documents are available online at: http://www.ravenswoodschools.org/rfps. parents and police what happened. She did not press charges.

"Everyone was making me feel like just a lying slut who got herself in this situation," the student told Sabbag. "Even though I know that's not what happened, that's how people were making me feel."

Paly students "aren't as immune to rape culture as they think," Sabbag wrote. "While no one would come out and post a Facebook status in favor of rape, behind closed doors things aren't strictly (politically correct)."

An accompanying article examines Paly student attitudes about blaming rape victims based on their flirtatiousness or level of alcohol consumption.

Kandell said the student journalists began discussing a story on rape culture months ago without being sure whether it would pan out.

"We often do this early in the process of a story and the result is 'No, this is too hard, or too complicated," Kandell said.

"In this case they started to find that in fact they could find people who would tell their stories. As soon as I knew they were serious about it I referred the writer to the Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma," a project of the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

Kandell said he previously notified Paly Principal Phil Winston that students were working on the story.

"I told him he should know this was happening and I wanted to keep the lines of communication open," Kandell said.

"He knows that students in California have tremendous press freedoms. We don't have prior review — he never reviews work."

Winston said he was proud of the student work, adding that the journalism program "approached these articles with a degree of professionalism that rivals well-established magazines.

"The article is well balanced, detailed and full of resources for people," Winston said. "The article also highlights that serious issues are present in all communities."

Verde editors asked readers not to speculate on the students' identities, noting that Sabbag "drew from a number of cases similar to the ones depicted in the anecdotes."

"You may know or think you know those featured in the article," they wrote.

"Please don't name names or speculate as to the victims' or perpetrators' identities either in conversation or online. Not only does it detract from the goal of proactive discussion on rape culture, but it can be defamatory for both victims and alleged perpetrators. ... Speculation can quickly spiral into false accusations, which are damaging to people's lives."

The Verde magazine articles have been posted at http://PalyVoice. com.

TALK ABOUT IT www.PaloAltoOnline.com

What can students, parents, school officials and community members do to change the "rape culture" in high schools? Share your thoughts on Town Square, the community discussion forrum on Palo Alto Online.

A weekly compendium of vital statistics

Theft related

Fraud Petty theft.

POLICE CALLS

	Fraud
Palo Alto	Petty theft
April 4-April 10	Residential burglaries
Violence related	Vehicle related
Battery1	Abandoned auto
Domestic violence	Driving with suspended license1
Theft related	Hit and run
Checks forgery1	Theft from auto
Credit card forgery1	Vehicle accident/mnr. injury
Fraud	Vehicle accident/non-injury
Identity theft	Vehicle tow
Petty theft	Alcohol or drug related
Residential burglaries	Drug activity1
Vehicle related	Possession of drugs
Auto theft	Under influence of drugs
Bicycle theft	Miscellaneous
Driving with suspended license6	Adult Protective Services referral
Hit and run	Court order violation
Misc. traffic	Disturbance
Theft from auto	Found property
Vehicle accident/minor injury4	Info. case
Vehicle accident/minor injury4 Vehicle accident/property damage10	Juvenile problem
Vehicle impound6	Other/misc.
	Parole arrest/assist
Vehicle tow1	Probation violation
Alcohol or drug related	Property for distruction
Drunk in public	Psychiatric hold
Possession of drugs	Shots fired
Miscellaneous	Suspicious circumstances
Disturbing the peace	Trespassing
Found property3	Vandalism
Lost property1	Warrant arrest
Missing person	Atherton
Other/misc	April 4-April 10
Psychiatric hold	Theft related
Suspicious circumstances	Fraud
Vandalism2	Grand theft
Warrant/other agency6	Petty theft
Menio Park	Vehicle related
April 4-April 10	Misc. traffic
Violence related	Suspicious vehicle
Armed robbery1	Vehicle accident/mnr. injury
Assault with a deadly weapon1	Vehicle accident/prop. Damage
Battery	Vehicle code violation
·····,	

Alcohol or drug related

Drunk in public	. I
Drunken driving	.1
Possession of paraphernalia	.1
Miscellaneous	
911 Hang up	.1
Construction	.1
Disturbance	.5
Disturbing/annoying phone calls	.1
Fire call	.1
Medical aid	.5
Outside assistance	.2

Suspicious person1 Town ordinance violation1 Vandalism.....1 Warrant arrest1

VIOLENT CRIMES Palo Alto

Unlisted block University Ave. , 4/5, 6:19 p.m.; battery/simple Unlisted block Magnolia Dr. I, 4/9, 7:05

p.m.; domestic violence/battery

Helen Kaplan

September 23, 1914 – March 8, 2013 Redwood City, California

Helen Kaplan died on March 8, 2013 at home in Redwood City after a brief illness. She was 98 years old. She was born in the Bronx, New York and soon moved to Brooklyn where she eventually graduated from James Madison High School. She

met her husband, Edward Kaplan, at a cousin's party where they spent the evening dancing together and fell in love. For almost 20 years, she was a devoted teacher at the Nassau Center for Emotionally Disturbed Children in New York, and throughout her life, she was an active volunteer for many causes. In 1977, Helen and Ed moved to Palo Alto to be closer to their children and grandchildren. In California Helen embarked upon a new career. She joined the staff of the Palo Alto

Public Library, where for nearly 20 years she was a familiar face to all, working the front desks at the various branches. When Ed died in 1987, just a few months short of their fiftieth anniversary, Helen continued to live an active and independent life

which included volunteer work at the Palo Alto VA Hospital where Ed had died. In her late eighties she had to stop working at the library when it became too tiring to stand on her feet for long periods. She went on to volunteer her services for several more

> years at the Avenidas Senior Center of Palo Alto, doing jobs that allowed her to sit more. She moved to Menlo Park in 2008 and more recently to Redwood City to live in assisted care residences. Helen leaves behind her son Larry of San Francisco, her son Joel and daughter-in-law Dorothy of Redwood City, her grandsons Aaron and Jared of Hawaii and Redwood City respectively, their spouses Thuy and Mariaelena, her great grandson Zuriel of Hawaii and her great granddaughters Audrey

and Emerson of Redwood City. A funeral service was held on March 12, 2013 at the Hills of Eternity cemetery in Colma. Donations in Helen's memory may be made to Friends of the Palo Alto Library, Avenidas Senior Center or Pathways Hospice.

PAID OBITUARY

Ronald Lee Olive May 14, 1939 – March 18, 2013

Ron Olive, beloved husband, father and grandfather, died peacefully at home with his family. He was born in Harlan, Kentucky and later moved to Lumberton, North Carolina. He earned his bachelor's degree from North Carolina State University. For the past 40 years he lived in the Palo Alto area after attending the Sloan program in the business school at Stanford University.

Ron began his career with IBM after college as a systems engineer and then worked as a manager for the remainder of his 23 years there. He then went on to work for American President Lines and later retired from Visa in 2000.

Ron enjoyed the outdoors, traveling, photography, bicycling, tennis, golf, and especially spending time with his family in both California and North Carolina. Using his artistic gift, he enjoyed participating in the design and construction of his home in Portola Valley, and then a retirement retreat at Badin Lake in North Carolina. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Molly, his two sons, Todd, of Atascadero, California and Foster, of Phoenix, Arizona, their wives, Ronda and Audrey, and his four grandchildren, Colby, Mason, A.J., and Dylan.

A memorial service was held at Menlo Park Presbyterian Church on March 25, 2013. Contributions in remembrance of Ron may be made to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, or Menlo Park Presbyterian Church, 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, California, 94025. PAID OBITUARY

Li Chuan Wang 1919 - 2013

After an adventurous life, Li Chuan Wang, 93, passed away on March 28, 2013 in Palo Alto, Calif. He was born Nov. 10, 1919, near Kai Yuan, China. The middle child and oldest son in a family of seven sisters and brothers, he grew up on a soybean and sorghum farm walled off from bandits and rode into town on horseback.

In 1932, he was forced to leave home as the Japanese invaded China. He traveled and hitchhiked around the country, attending moving schools established by the government during the war. He enrolled in 1940 at National Central University in Chongqing, his studies interrupted when he was drafted into the army for six months as a translator. In 1945, he earned a diploma signed by then-university head Chiang Kai-shek.

It was at school that Li Chuan met Hwa Lih, a fellow student

in the agriculture and chemistry department and on the school basketball team. Together they applied for graduate schools in the United States. They both received Ph.Ds in biochemistry at the University of Wisconsin. Married in 1949, they were together for more than 60 years.

As nomadic in his career as his early life, Li Chuan moved from jobs in Madison, Milwaukee and St. Louis, even



teaching in Alaska before settling into a research position at the USDA Northern RegionalResearchLabinPeoria,Ill.,inthe'60s.He specialized in soil physiology, helping soybeans become a major crop in the U.S. In Peoria, Li Chuan and Hwa Lih raised their two sons: Emil, who attended Princeton and Stanford and became a successful Silicon Valley entrepreneur, and Fred, who

attended Northwestern and is a doctor and professor at Harvard Medical School.

His family expanded with Emil and Patty's children, Brian, Kevin and Katie, and Fred and Rhodinne's children, Alex, Stephanie and Mickey. Under their grandfather's tutelage, the six grandchildren learned to play mah jong and make potstickers.

Upon retirement, Li Chuan and Hwa Lih moved to Palo Alto. He became

a regular at local restaurants, indulged his love of tennis and grew vegetables and fruit trees in his garden. He was an avid fan at his grandchildren's high school sports events.

Li Chuan lived happily for 93 amazing years and died peacefully of natural causes, surrounded by his wife and family. A reception will be held in April. For information, contact lcwangmemorial@ gmail.com.

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Menlo Park

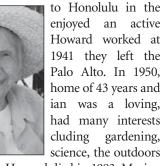
1100 block Carlton Ave. , 4/7, 3:42 p.m.; battery/juvenile case 800 block Bay Rd. , 4/8, 11:08 a.m..; bat-

terv 1200 block O'Brien Dr. , 4/8, 3:22 p.m..; assault with a deadly weapon bike bridge San Mateo Dr. , 4/8, 4:29 p.m.; strong armed robbery 800 block Valparaiso Ave., 4/9, 2:40 p.m.; battery

Marian Laura Hackley February 6, 1915 - March 13, 2013

Marian Laura Hackley, who lived in Palo Alto for 52 years, passed away on March 13, 2013 in Truckee, CA. Marian aged 98 was much loved. She was born February 6, 1915 in Berkeley, California to Harry and Laura Gaston Kloch. Marian graduated from Alameda High School. She married Howard C. Hackley in 1934 and they began an adventurous life together. They lived in Cheyenne WY, then San

Diego, before moving late 1930s. There they life near Waikiki while Hickam Field. In midislands and settled in they moved into their started a family. Mardedicated mom. She throughout her life intennis, reading, poetry,



and a great curiosity about life. After Howard died in 1993, Marian moved to The Forum retirement community in Cupertino. She remarried in 1999 to Norbert Hofman and they enjoyed life together until Norb's passing in 2001. In 2004, Marian relocated to Truckee. She is survived by sons Lance and Scott Hackley, Scott's wife Katrina Veit and their daughter Emily Hackley; niece Julie Merkt; and stepsons Peter and Michael Hofman.

PAID OBITUARY

Transitions

Births, marriages and deaths

John Daniel O'Brien

John Daniel O'Brien, a fourth generation Californian, died on March 2.

He was born in San Francisco on December 31, 1918. His parents were Jack O'Brien and Nadine Eslick O'Brien (later of Burlingame). He grew up in Daly City and Burlingame.

He attended San Mateo Junior College until Stanford admitted him. He graduated with an engineering degree in 1941.

He was then employed by Douglas Aircraft in Santa Monica as a Design Engineer. He married Lois Jean Walker (another Stanford graduate) in 1942 and started a family. He joined the Navy in 1944 as a ship's officer aboard the AGC-10 Auburn, a floating Command Center for Amphibious Landings on Okinawa.

After 50 years on the Peninsula, he and Lois moved to Sonoma County to start the O'Brien Iris Garden. They enjoyed being members of the Sonoma Farm Trails organization. Well into their eighties, they finally retired in 2004. Lois passed away in 2006.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, April 21st at 3 p.m. at the Church of the Roses, 2500 Patio Ct., Santa Rosa, with a reception to follow.

Births

James Walters and Margaret Jamieson, Palo Alto, March 30, a girl.

Memorial Service Robert Smithwick

A memorial service will be held Friday, April 19 at 2 p.m., for Robert Smithwick, a founding trustee of Foothill College who died March 22 at 92.

The service will be in Smithwick Theatre at Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Parking passes are not needed and Foothill will not issue parking citations during the service. Contributions in memory of Smithwick may be made to to the Foothill-De Anza Foundation (foundation. fhda.edu) or the Rotary Club of Palo Alto (www.rotarypaloalto. org.)

John Daniel O'Brien December 31, 1918 – March 2, 2013

He was called Dan, J.D., Uncle Dan, Grampa, Great Grampa and always Dear Old Dad (he signed all birthday cards D.O.D.) Dan was a fourth generation Californian, born in San Francisco on December 31, 1918. His parents were Jack O'Brien and Nadine Eslick O'Brien (later of Burlingame). He grew up in Daly City and Burlingame. After graduating early from high school, he was thought to be too young for college, so he joined the Army Transport Service as an engine oiler. He spent a year traveling down the coast of California and Mexico, through the

Panama Canal and up to New York..the first of many adventures. Then he attended San Mateo Junior College until Stanford finally admitted him. He graduated with an Engineering Degree in 1941. He also became a loyal Stanford football fan.

He was employed by Douglas Aircraft in Santa Monica as a Design Engineer. He married Lois Jean Walker (another Stanford graduate) in 1942 and started a family. Dan joined the Navy in 1944 as a ship's officer aboard the AGC-10 Auburn, a floating

Command Center for Amphibious Landings on Okinawa. He later made an on site inspection of the atomic bomb damage at Nagasaki, Japan.

After the war he worked for FMC in San Jose and "retired" at 34. But he was far too energetic for this early retirement to last....so he joined forces with his father in 1953 in the heating and air conditioning contracting business. They expanded the Atlas Furnace Company and were active in the Santa Clara Valley for 35 years. During that time he also developed several real estate projects, including two industrial buildings, six shopping centers and six stand alone restaurants. He was always interested in new business ventures.

He loved to travel with Lois...and while she painted in watercolors, he would take photographs. He tried watercolors and became hooked. He later became a member of the International Society of Marine Painters and had several shows. He and Lois traveled and painted all over the world. After 50 years on the Peninsula they moved to Sonoma County to start the O'Brien Iris Garden. They enjoyed being members of the Sonoma Farm Trails organization. Well into their eighties, they finally retired in 2004. Lois passed away in 2006.

He is survived by their three children, Dana James of Los Altos, David Michael O'Brien and his wife Marsha of Gulfport, Florida, and P.J.

O'Brien of Sebastopol; his three grandsons Thomas James of Mtn. View, Michael James and his wife, Juliet and their daughters Lois and Lucia of Petaluma, and Matthew O'Brien of Gulfport, Florida; his brother and sister in law, John and Joanne Walker of Pompano Beach, Florida; his nephew John M. Walker of Gulfport, Florida, niece Elizabeth Compton of Bath, Maine and niece Regina Nelson of Sacramento; his grand niece Sarah Compton and her two sons, Charlie and Oliver of Portland, Maine.

He was imaginative, adventurous, very witty, a lover of life and his family and friends....he made a difference in peoples' lives. Knowing him was a pleasure. He was a real gentleman. He always encouraged his family to expand their horizons through education and travel. Life will be a bit dull with Dear Old Dad around.

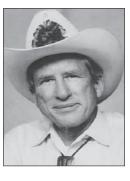
Dan gently passed away on March 2nd with family members at his side. The family wishes to thank his caregiver of seven years, Peggy Ferrara of Sebastopol.

A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, April 21st at 3pm at the Church of the Roses, 2500 Patio Ct., Santa Rosa with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, please make a contribution to your favorite charity.

H. Richard (Dick) Johnson

H. Richard (Dick) Johnson, beloved father and husband, died December 9, surrounded by his loving family. The Co-Founder, President and CEO of Watkins Johnson Company, as well as 55-year resident of Palo Alto, will be remembered for his many extraordinary achievements as family patriarch, businessman, community volunteer, philanthropist and outdoors man. Dick was laid to rest at Alta Mesa cemetery in Palo Alto.



Admitted to Cornell when he was just 16, Dick was then admitted to MIT for graduate school, with an academic reference from Richard Feynman. He completed his PhD in Physics, and in 1957 went on to co-found Watkins Johnson Company, a leading manufacturer of traveling wave tubes and military reconnaissance systems, and transmitting power amplifiers used by NASA missions including Viking to Mars, Pioneer 10, Jupiter, Voyager I, II and Galileo.

Dick was a lecturer at UCLA and Stanford, served on panels for the NSA, was a Fellow of the IEEE, a member of the National Academy of Engineering, was President of the Stanford Area Council for the Boy Scouts of America, Board member of the United Way, Technology Center of Silicon Valley and Santa Clara Manufacturing Group (a group of CEOs concerned about improving Silicon Valley's housing, transportation and education).

Dick is survived by his loving wife Mary Louise Johnson, his five children, fifteen grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

As a strong supporter of the arts, including Opera San Jose, West Bay Opera, Palo Alto Players and the San Francisco Symphony, the family asks the contributions be made in his memory to any of these organizations which game him so much pleasure.

PAID OBITUARY



An online directory of obituaries and remembrances. Search obituaries, submit a memorial, share a photo. **Go to: www.PaloAltoOnline.com/obituaries**

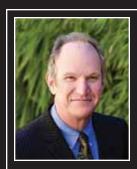
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Derk Brill 650.543.1117 dbrill@apr.com



Palo Alto - The City's premier estate, an endearing tribute to Old Palo Alto's legacy. 8 bedrooms, 5.5 baths with 12,000+- living space on a 37,000sf lot. **Call for Price**



Cathy C. Chao 650.543.1089 cchao@apr.com



Atherton - Under construction. Magnificent contemporary Mediterranean estate spanning over 3 levels on a 1.15+/- acre level private lot. Unmatched quality.

Call for Price



Leika Kejriwal 650.866.5345 leika@apr.com



Mountain View - Turnkey Investment Property with 12 spacious units condo mapped for individual sale. Great location: Close to great schools/downtown/Caltrans. \$13,000,000



Lynn Wilson Roberts 650.255.6987 lwr@wilsonroberts.com



Atherton - Nantucket Shingled Style on a quiet central Atherton street. 1.05 beautifully landscaped acres. Over 6800 sf. 7-8 bedrooms, 8.5 baths, 2 offices, 2 fam. rms. Guest house. Renovated 2010. **\$6,899,000**



Sherry Bucolo 650.207.9909 sbucolo@apr.com



Palo Alto - Exquisitely renovated 1928 Spanish Hacienda. Magnificent English gardens embrace this stunning 3 level home situated on a private lane in one of Palo Altos most Call for Price desirable neighborhoods.



Stephanie Hewitt 650.619.7885 shewitt@apr.com



Palo Alto - Prime Old Palo Alto location. Newer home with beautiful appointments & elegant finishes. 5 Bedrooms, 6 Baths. Not on MLS. Call for a private showing.

Call for Price



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Sherry Bucolo 650.207.9909 sbucolo@apr.com

SOLD

Palo Alto - Sophisticated upscale home in the heart of Old Palo Alto. Spacious 3,500± sf floor plan offers impressive millwork & craftsmanship throughout. \$3,650,000



Jenny Teng 650.245.4490 jteng@apr.com



Los Altos Hills - Set on majestically serene park-like grounds. This stunning 5 bd home was removated in 2000. Outstanding floor plan includes formal living room, dining room and chef's kitchen. \$3,503,500



Suzie Provo 650.465.3800 sprovo@apr.com



Palo Alto - Vintage charm with modern amenities! Fabulous 5 bed/3.5 bath home in prime Old Palo Alto. 9000+/- sf lot, 3000+/- sf home. a rare opportunity for an astute buyer. \$3,295,000



Lynn Wilson Roberts 650.255.6987 Iwr@wilsonroberts.com



Menlo Park - Incredibly charming, 1-story Craftsman style home, substantially rebuilt 11 years ago. Separate guest cottage & separate artist studio on almost 2/3 acre. Represented Buyer. \$3,275,000



Denise Simons 650.269.0210 dsimons@apr.com



Palo Alto - This 4-bedroom, 2.5 bath exquisitely remodeled Eichler located in desirable Community Center sold with multiple offers above the list price.

Call for Price



Dante Drummond 650.400.9390 ddrummond@apr.com



Los Altos - This sophisticated four-year old single level home in North Los Altos close to town, offers a rich environment of peaceful tranquility.

\$2,998,000



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Christy Giuliacci 650.380.5989 christy@apr.com



Palo Alto - Sophisticated custom home with open floor plan is set on one of the most coveted streets in prime Crescent Park. Sold with multiple offers! \$2,850,000



Jenny Teng 650.245.4490 jteng@apr.com



Saratoga - Excellent custom estate home in Saratoga Hills. Brand New Gourmet kitchen. High ceilings. Formal living room & dining room. 3 car garage. 2.57+/- acre lot, 5,200+/-sf home, 5bd/3.5ba. **\$2,800,000**



fed Paulin 650.766.6325 tpaulin@apr.com

 $\mathbf{\Omega}$

Judy Decker 650.799.4292 jdecker@apr.com



Palo Alto - Light-filled, understated elegance & thoughtful details are all marks of this rare Leland Manor find. Spacious perfection on an amazing lot.

\$2,720,000



Julie Tsai Law 650.799.8888 julie@julietsailaw.com



Palo Alto - Julie represented sellers for this exceptional Barron Park newer home, built in 2003. Sold within 1 week, way higher than the asking price.

\$2,680,000



Alan Dunckel 650.543.1074 adunckel@apr.com



Palo Alto- Located in desirable CommunityCenter, on a lovely tree-lined street, this brandnew 4bd, 3ba 2,200 sq ft home on a 5500 sq ftlot has been built with attention to every detail.Close to town.\$2,695,000



Alan Dunckel 650.543.1074 adunckel@apr.com



Palo Alto - Fantastic rare opportunity in the
heart of prestigious Old Palo Alto, on one of the
most sought-after tree-lined streets. Existing
2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath 1,375 sq ft home on a
7,500 sq ft lot.\$2,595,000



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Nadr Essabhoy 650.543.1124 nessabhoy@apr.com



Palo Alto - Wonderful Crescent Park home located near parks, library and Downtown Palo Alto.

\$2,450,000

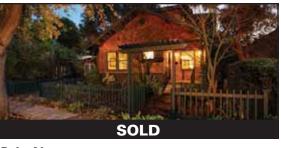


Los Altos - Beautiful 4 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom home on large lot located in North Los Altos.

\$2,450,000



Lori Buecheler 650.387.2716 lori@apr.com



Palo Alto - Beautifully remodeled 4bedroom/2bath steps from University Ave.Gorgeous French Oak floors, kitchen opens tofamily room with French doors looking overspacious backyard.\$2,330,000



Nadr Essabhoy

650.543.1124

nessabhoy@apr.com

Grace C. Wu 650.208.3668 gwu@apr.com



Los Altos - New custom construction in North Los Altos. One level traditional home has 4bd, 3ba offers the premier finishes. Convenient access to stores and schools.

\$2,250,000



Colleen Foraker 650.380.0085 cforaker@apr.com



Burlingame - Represented and negotiated for the buyers of this beautiful 4 bedroom, 4 bath custom built home on a private lot in the Burlingame hills!

\$2,198,000

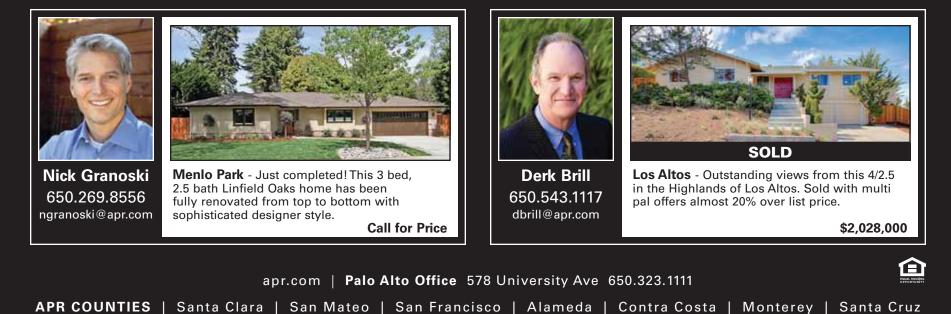


Colleen Foraker 650.380.0085 cforaker@apr.com



Palo Alto - Represented the buyer of this gracious and inviting 3 bedroom, 3 bath Crescent Park gem located on a beautifully cultivated private lot.

\$2,195,000



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Carol Li 650.281.8368 cli@apr.com



Palo AltoOne of the largest lots in Midtown11,000+/-sf. Spacious 3bedrooms/2.5bathrooms,2,100+/-sf, 2 car garages and a den.Conveniently located nearby the parks, schoolsand shopping plaza.Call for price



Arti Miglani 650.804.6942 amiglani@apr.com



Palo Alto - 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage, located in sought after Barron Park neighborhood. Child friendly court location with park like yard & a tree lined street, a must see! \$2,200,000



Nick Granoski 650.269.8556 ngronoski@apr.com



Portola Valley - Fully renovated from top to bottom in 2007, this 4 bed, 3.5 bath home presents a wonderful ambiance at a convenient close-in location. **Call for Price**



Linda Goldstein 650.543.1113 Igoldstein@apr.com



Palo Alto - Charming Crescent Park Spanish style home with 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom, on a large private 7200 sq. ft. lot. Sold with multiple offers.

Call for Price



Julie Tsai Law 650.799.8888 julie@julietsailaw.com



Palo Alto - Julie represented highly qualified buyer for this beautifully remodeled contemporary home in sought after St Clair Garden neighborhood, Midtown. \$1,950,000



Nick Granoski 650.269.8556 ngranoski@apr.com



Palo Alto - Remodeled 4 years ago, this Mid-Century modern is filled with natural light, maple floors throughout, and an open and flowing floorplan.

Call for Price



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Nick Granoski 650.269.8556 ngranoski@apr.com

SOLD

Palo Alto - Vaulted ceilings and floor-to-ceiling windows, hardwood flooring and numerous updates are some of the amenities of this 4 bedroom home.

Call for Price







Palo Alto - This 3 bedroom 2 bath home with with 1900 sqft of living space located on a 8000 sq ft lot close to the community center sold with multiple offers and over the list price. Call for Price



Shari Ornstein 650.814.6684 sornstein@apr.com



Stanford - Available to QUALIFIED Stanford Faculty Staff Only. Tasteful Traditional Styling in this 6 bd/ 2.5 bath, updated home, on beautifully landscaped lot. \$1,799,000



Denise Simons 650.269.0210 dsimons@apr.com



Palo Alto - Spacious 3 bed, 2 bath Eichler with updated kitchen, high ceilings and radiant heated floors. Sold with multiple offers above the list price.

\$1,775,000



Lynne Mercer 650.906.0162 Imercer@apr.com



Palo Alto - This absolutely adorable 3BR/2BA home sold with multiple offers, well over list price. It is definitely a seller's market. Call for details.

\$1,760,000



Suzie Provo 650.465.3800 sprovo@apr.com



Palo Alto - Greenmeadow Eichler with loads of upgrades! 3 bed, 2 bath, family room- lovely slate floors. Indoor/outdoor living at its finest Sold with multiple offers!

\$1,660,000



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Pam Page 650.400.5061 ppage@apr.com



San Carlos - Three year old beautiful Craftsman. 4bd/3ba, FR, basement, fully wired, ample storage and landscaped grounds. Top end finishing, custom cabinetry and appliances. Call for Price



Denise Simons 650.269.0210 dsimons@apr.com



Palo Alto - 4 bed, 2 bath updated Brown and Kaufman home. Amenities include high ceilings, dual-pane windows, central A/C & foam roof. Gunn High School.

\$1,595,000



Liz Rhodes 650.575.3632 Irhodes@apr.com



Redwood City - Stunning Mediterranean style with old world charm. Bright and open floor plan, gourmet kitchen and great room. 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Brazilian Walnut floors. A must see. \$1,449,000



Umang Sanchorawala 650.543.1033 usanchor@apr.com



Palo Alto - Located in Community Center, this 2bd/2ba charming bungalow is beautifully accented, warm hardwood floors and sun drenched windows.

\$1,430,000



Nick Granoski 650.269.8556 ngranoski@apr.com



Menlo Park - Beautiful nearly new home in desirable Linfield Oaks neighborhood. 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths and one half bath. Impeccable maintained!

Call for Price



Greg Celotti 650.740.1580 gcelotti@apr.com



Foster City - 5 beds, 2.5 baths. Beautiful 5bd/2.5ba home w/ beautifully remodeled kitchen, family room, new hardwood floors, solar, 2,680+/-sf, great neighborhood & excellent schools! **\$1,295,000**



Tricia Soliz 925.719.0259 tsoliz@apr.com



San Carlos - Unique vintage 1930 Spanish in White Oaks District. 3 bedroom, 2 baths, stylish newer kitchen, beautifully landscaped backyard, 1740 sf. \$1,250,000



Julie Tsai Law 650.799.8888 julie@julietsailaw.com



Los Altos - Julie represented well qualified buyers for this home in highly desirable neighborhood in Los Altos with excellent schools.

Call for Price

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Julie Tsai Law 650.799.8888 julie@julietsailaw.com

San Carlos - Julie represented highly qualified buyers from Stanford to purchase this wonderful home in San Carlos with excellent views and schools. \$1,150,000



Ali Rad 650.543.1105 arad@apr.com



Mountain View - Resort-style living in Cuernavaca. Remodeled and updated. 3 Bedrooms, 2 ½ Baths, 2,249 SF. Open floor plan, located near Palo Alto Medical Center and shopping area, top schools. **\$1,098,000**



Colleen Foraker 650.380.0085 cforaker@apr.com



San Mateo - Stylish and inviting 3bd/2ba home with panoramic bay views sold well over list price with 15 offers!

\$1,050,000



Janie and John Barman 650.759.1189 Janie@apr.com



Redwood City - Spacious and updated 5 bed, 3 bath home in highly desirable west of Fernside location. New Kitchen. Terrific backyard. Walk to Stulsaft Park.

Call for Price



Pamela Rummage Culp 415.640.3293 pculp@apr.com



Sunnyvale - Located on a sunny lot this 4 BR 2BA ranch style home has large rooms for comfortable living. Pending Sale had 46 offers!

\$998,000



Dante Drummond 650.400.9390 ddrummond@apr.com



Palo Alto - Dramatic 3br/2.5ba, 1800+ sf with FR, DR, new carpet/paint. Garden Patio, 2 car garage. Palo Alto Schools. Near JCC and Mitchell Park Com Centers.

\$988,000



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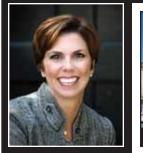




Riette Fallant 650.543.1040 rfallant@apr.com



Burlingame - Stylish & Elegant spacious condominium located right in the heart of Downtown. Warm and welcoming. Represented Buyer. **\$769,000**



Andrea Schultz 650.575.3632 aschultz@apr.com



Mountain View - Stunning 4 yr old condo in fabulous Mtn. View location. Shows light & bright. 3bd, 2.5ba with attached 2 car garage. Convenient location near, park, shopping and freeways. \$719,000



Nancy Mott 650.255.2325 nmott@apr.com



Jennifer Buenrostro 650.224.9539 jbuenrostro@apr.com



Mountain View - Stunning unit, 2 bed, 2.5 bath. Sold in 9 days with multiple offers over the asking price. If you or someone you know wants to sell, please give us a call. \$689,000



Emely Weissman 650.543.1057 eweissma@apr.com



Sunnyvale - Smashing luxury townhouse at Danbury Place. 1610sf, air conditioned, hardwood floors, great light and location. Call for details!

Call for price



Colleen Foraker 650.380.0085 cforaker@apr.com



Menio Park - Represented and negotiated for the buyers of this 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome located very close to all of the conveniences of downtown Menio Park!

\$639,000



Jennifer Buenrostro 650.224.9539 jbuenrostro@apr.com



Mountain View - Desirable end unit townhome, 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Sold in 8 days with multiple offers for over the asking price. If you or someone you know wants to sell, please give us a call. **\$580,000**



Arts & Entertainment

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



Lean, green, waste-fighting machines

Eco-warriors take their causes to the silver screen and the fashion runway

by Rebecca Wallace

hink globally, act locally" becomes a lifestyle when you turn your property into a sanctuary for hundreds of birds, or decide to produce most of your food in your backyard. Or turn into Eco-Man.

OK, so the last guy is fictional. But Michele Raffin, the former high-tech executive who runs Pandemonium Aviaries in Los Altos Hills, is real. So is Forrest Linebarger, who heads the green Palo Alto design and construction firm Inhabiture and has a yard resplendent with fruit trees, goats and chickens.

Environment warriors both real and imagined are the heroes of 15 films being shown on colorful works often incorporate woven recycled fabric (above) and reused telephone wires.



"The Adventures of Solar Man," one of the films being shown at the Greenlight Earth Day Film Festival awards ceremony, was created by four students from Graham Middle School in Mountain View: Lucas Forgy, Ethan Onyett, Braydon Ross and Sam Sayer.

April 18 at the eighth annual Greenlight Earth Day Film Festival awards ceremony at Palo Alto's Cubberley Theatre. This year's contest drew 66 film entries; judges chose 15 finalists. There will also be a new component to the event this year: an "eco fashion show" spotlighting designs by students and by San Francisco fashion designer Tuan Tran, who is fond of turning old telephone and electrical wire into dresses and purses.

"Life cannot be taken too seriously," Tran notes on his website.

The annual event is fueled (and televised) by the Midpeninsula Community Media Center, with further sponsorship by the Weekly and the cities of Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale and San Jose. This year, the young filmmaker finalists come from middle and high schools in Palo Alto, Atherton, Los Altos, Mountain View and Sunnyvale.

Films include "Pretty Mama," produced by Nate Becker from Los Altos High School. He follows Raffin and her bird sanctuary, which she started in 1996 by rescuing a hurt dove.

A longtime animal lover, Raffin continued

(continued on next page)

Arts & Entertainment



In "Eco-Man," a film by Palo Alto High School's Jack Brook, a boy tries to save the planet by recycling.

- Jack Kerouac, On the Road



Michele Raffin, founder of the Pandemonium Aviaries bird sanctuary in Los Altos Hills, is the subject of a film by Nate Becker of Los Altos High School.

(continued from previous page)

taking in birds in need, and her sanctuary grew. Now the aviary also focuses on promoting the survival of endangered species — as well as providing lifelong care for all its

"Nothing behind me,

everything ahead of me,

as is ever so on the road"

feathered charges. Some of the rarest birds are green-naped pheasant pigeons and bleeding-heart doves. In "The Lands of Forrest Linebarger," Lauren Salinero of the Freestyle Academy of Communication Arts and Technology and

PALO ALTO

BICYCLES

Mountain View High School looks at Linebarger's green lifestyle (and his pink home-grown strawberry guavas).

In the lean, green, waste-fighting machine category, Palo Alto High School's Jack Brook created "EcoMan," about a boy trying to save the planet by recycling. And Solarman battles Dieselman in "The Adventures of Solarman," by Graham Middle School students Lucas Forgy, Ethan Onyett, Braydon Ross and Sam Sayer. Other topics covered in the finalist films include: the importance of shopping and eating locally, ways to re-use old T-shirts, and how to catch a litterbug. Finalists are competing for bragging rights and cash prizes.

Students are also playing a major role in the environmentally themed fashion show, serving as both designers and models. The hats and clothing on display will have their roots in donated and recycled textiles.

Meanwhile, Tuan Tran's recycledwire fashions will serve as a backdrop for the show, with the designer himself as emcee. The evening's co-hosts, former Palo Alto councilman Peter Drekmeier and Media Center host and producer Louise Pencavel, will be decked out in Tran's creations.

A native of Vietnam, Tran finds inspiration in the Japanese arts of ikebana (flower-arranging) and sakiori (recycling old cloth). His wire dresses have such names as "Orangina," "Saturn Rings" and "Wisteria," while his recycled-fabric looks include hemp suits, a woven-satin dress and a white evening gown with ostrich feathers. He also makes intricate wire sculptures that can have low-watt bulbs hung inside.

Tran writes on his website that he feels he's part of a long tradition of utilizing found objects in art, going back to Marcel Duchamp: "My art is an embodiment of the forefathers' idea of recycling, re-purposing and reusing. The idea of viewing and appreciating that which our society has produced, but no longer values."

What: The Greenlight Earth Day Film Festival awards ceremony, with an "Eco Fashion Show"
Where: Cubberley Theatre, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto
When: April 18 from 7 to 9 p.m.
Cost: Admission is free.
Info: Go to cityofpaloalto.org/greenlight. The event will be shown live via the Media Center; to watch it, or to find information on later showings, go to midpenmedia.org/watch/stream/.
For more about fashion designer Tuan Tran, go to zhibit.org/tuantran.

Correction

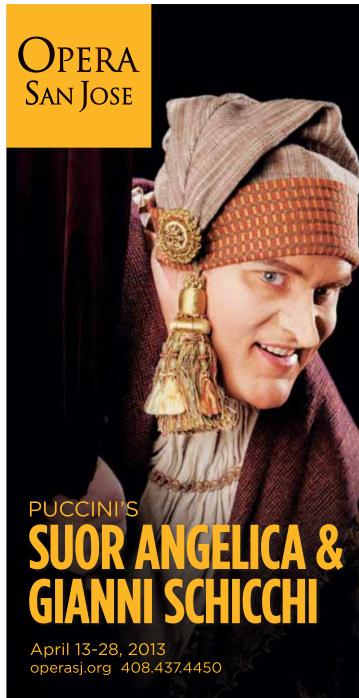
An article in the April 6 Weekly mistakenly stated that Palo Alto Art Center curator Lisa Ellsworth had worked at the Museum of Craft and Design, which was not the case. To request a correction, contact Editor Jocelyn Dong at 650-223-6514, jdong@ paweekly.com or P.O. Box 1610, Palo Alto, CA 94302.



1930

SINCE

PALO ALTO



Page 28 • April 12, 2013 • Palo Alto Weekly • www.PaloAltoOnline.com

Absolutely perfect fun

'Emma' creator has another hit at TheatreWorks with 'Earnest' by Jeanie K. Smith

THEATER REVIEW

he TheatreWorks recipe for a successful new musical: Take one brilliant comedy that has withstood the test of time, toss in catchy tunes with charming and witty lyrics to match the script, and cast it with wonderful singer-actors perfectly suited to their roles. Add an inventive set and eye-popping period costumes, and voila: You'll have a thoroughly enjoyable evening's entertainment, and a hit show.

TheatreWorks has done it again, bringing to fruition a budding musical spotlighted at its 2012 New Works Festival and staging the newly developed work superbly well. Composer-lyricist Paul Gordon (known to local audiences for previous hits "Emma" and "Daddy Long Legs") and Grammy- and Emmy-nominated composer Jay Gruska have concocted an update of the venerable comic masterpiece "The Importance of Being Earnest," by Oscar Wilde. Setting the story in 1965 London, with the backdrop of mod fashion, rock music and shifting morality, Gordon and Gruska wisely keep a significant percentage of Wilde's original dialogue, yet manage to augment and enhance it with delightful songs.

The wacky Wildean plot has two young men, Jack Worthing (Hayden Tee) and Algernon Moncrieff (Euan Morton), posing as other than themselves and using the name "Earnest" in order to woo lovely young women, Gwendolen Fairfax (Mindy Lym) and Cecily Cardew (Riley Krull). Gwen's mum, Lady Bracknell (Maureen McVerry), negates Jack's proposal of marriage when he appears to have less than stellar parentage. In turn, Jack will make his ward, Cecily, into an old maid and Algy a professional bachelor if he can't have Gwendolen.

When all meet at Jack's country estate, including slightly odd governess Miss Prism (Diana Torres Koss) and slightly randy Reverend Chasuble (Brian Herndon), various truths come spilling out - of the handbag, so to speak. Whether you're unfamiliar with the play or you've seen it dozens of times, you're in for a treat with the staging of the final reveal.

It's hard to imagine songs complementing Wilde's urbane wit, but these provide musical interludes sure to please the master comedian himself, with a light sentiment and sweet romantic touches.

Gwendolen's ode to the name Earnest, "Age of Ideals," appeals with wit and with Lym's saucily flawless delivery. Algernon's adoring ballad of "Cecily" reveals his new heart in a dreamy endorsement of love. "Absolutely Perfect" unites Morton and Krull in a charmingly funny duet, later reprised to great comic effect by McVerry. The musical motif first introduced in "No Romance" by the two young men becomes familiar



Jack (played by Hayden Tee) and Gwendolen (Mindy Lym) make a '60sstyle connection in "Being Earnest."

and catchy by the end; you'll find yourself humming it after.

"Absolutely Perfect" might also be sung about this cast — not a weak link among them. They're all so well-matched to their roles, with terrific vocals in addition to obvious comedic skills. Morton's velvety voice particularly stands out, and he has numerous opportunities to shine. Lym's smooth, liquid delivery at first hides the lovely surprise of her humorous abilities, and she and Krull do great justice to the famous Cecily-Gwendolen garden scene. Krull's youthful brashness as Cecily comes across in her vivacious vocals and endearing demeanor.

Tee, playing the more conservative of the men, is no less attractive with solid voice and droll expressions. Torres Koss and Herndon add delicious color and comedy in their roles as well as strong ensemble vocals.

Joe Ragey's gorgeous set morphs into various locales rather effortlessly, establishing a familiar midcentury British context. Fumiko Bielefeldt's mod costumes are another character unto themselves; they're fun and memorable. Musical direction by William Liberatore and sound design by Jeff Mockus

Oxpress

achieve a near-perfect balance of instrumentation and voices - no easy feat with amplified instruments. Kudos to director Robert Kelley for bringing it all together in such smart staging.

You may want to see this one more than once before it takes Broadway by storm. It's great fun, and great humor, and adds up to a terrific evening. In Act Two, the authors pay homage to Wilde himself with insertions of his famous witticisms, and projections of Wilde seem somehow appropriate. He would no doubt approve of the ending projections; don't rush too quickly for the exit.

What: "Being Earnest," a new musical based on the play by Oscar Wilde; book & lyrics by Paul Gordon, music by Paul Gordon & Jay Gruska; presented by TheatreWorks

Where: Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, 500 Castro St. When: Through April 28, with shows at 7:30 pm Tuesdays & Wednesdays; 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturdays; 2 p.m. Saturday & Sunday; and 7 p.m. . Sundays

Cost: Tickets are \$23-\$73. Info: Go to theatreworks.org or call 650-463-1960

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Lease-Up Announcement - 801 Alma Apartments



801 Alma is a brand new property of 49 affordable family apartments offering 1,2&3 bedrooms. It is located at the corner of Alma Street and Homer Avenue on the combined Ole's Car Shop site and the former City of HOUSING Palo Alto Substation Site near shopping and public transportation.

Construction is scheduled to be completed in July 2013. We will begin accepting applications for the lottery Monday, April 1, 2013 up until 5pm, Tuesday, April 30, 2013.

For more information please go to www.edenhousing.org April 1, 2013 and click on "Now Leasing". You may also contact Julissa Johnson, Management Agent at (650) 322-2061 or TDD/TTY 1-800-735-2929.





Palo Alto Unified School District

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

Contract No. JLS-13 Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School -New Landscape and Site Improvements

DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK: Work includes but is not limited to: Construction of new landscaped areas and modernization of existing walkways , demolition, excavation, site work, irrigation, landscaping, fencing, concrete, miscellaneous metals, framing, lath and plastering, plumbing, finishes etc. Bid documents contain the full description of the work.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference and site visit at 02:00 p.m. on April 17, 2013 at the Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School, 480 East Meadow Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94306

Bid Submission: Proposals must be received at the District Facilities Office Building D, by 10:00 a.m. on April 30, 2013.

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

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

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

Bidders may examine Bidding Documents at Facilities Office, Building "D". Bidders may purchase copies of Plans and Specifications at ARC Reprographics located at 1100 Industrial Rd. Unit 13, San Carlos, CA 94070. Phone: (650) 517-1895

All questions can be addressed to:

Palo Alto Unified School District 25 Churchill Avenue, Building D Palo Alto, CA 94306-1099 Attn: Patrick Downey Phone: (650) 329-3927 Fax: (650) 327-3588



FOOD FEATURE

A cut above

Local chef and author teaches knife skills to job-seekers hoping to rise in the food industry

by Rebecca Duran

The hum of an oven fan blends with chatter and interspersed clatter in the JobTrain kitchen in Menlo Park. Groups of four rotate to and from one table, where they learn the skills of slicing and dicing vegetables, taught by Palo Alto chef and author Peter Hertzmann.

"The same cut can be used on a lot of different veggies," Hertzmann advises.

Hertzmann shows his students various techniques of cutting onions, carrots and other vegetables. When money allows, he also demonstrates butchering techniques with meat. The class is an introduction to basic concepts of knife skills, where he shows students how to hold a knife, how to hold the food and how to cut.

Students absorb a variety of tips for more effective knifework, including cutting the onion in half and peeling it first, and they learn how to make sure the knife is properly sharp for best results. They're hoping the skills pay off in future employment in food service, perhaps with restaurants or catering companies.

The classes contain a mix of students, including some from the San Mateo County Jail's minimum-security transitional facility, who are at the JobTrain nonprofit as part of the jail's work-furlough program. Students make two meals a day, breakfast and lunch, and also learn life skills, such as how to dress for a job interview.

Hertzmann started teaching the class in 2007 after he wrote the book "Knife Skills Illustrated: A User's Manual." He has also written and illustrated his e-zine "a la carte," which focuses on French cooking,



A culinary-arts student at JobTrain slices an onion.

since 1999. Hertzmann saw a photo of Adam Weiner, an instructor at JobTrain, and got inspired to join the effort. He emailed Weiner and before he knew it, he was walking in the door to teach his first four students

Hertzmann also taught at the

county jail, which has a relationship with JobTrain and Weiner, for almost two years.

He says it is rewarding to him when he sees progress, something he experienced with the women he taught last summer who volunteered to stay week after week. One of his



Culinary-arts teacher Peter Hertzmann, bottom left, leads a demonstration on knife techniques at JobTrain in Menlo Park. Page **30** • April 12, 2013 • Palo Alto Weekly • www.PaloAltoOnline.com

classes was particularly small, and he was also asked to teach fractions and ratios for baking, which he said is also useful for different aspects of life in general.

Hertzmann has been teaching on and off for many years. Until 2012, he worked at Sur La Table, where he taught self-designed classes in his specialties: Chinese, Japanese and French cooking.

French cooking. "Cooking is a very relaxing thing," he said. It's also a social thing: He enjoys spending time with other people while cooking, and making many small dishes for parties.

'Cooking is a very relaxing thing.' —Peter Hertzmann

Hertzmann learned some of his knife skills from other chefs, including picking up tips from Martin Yan on a carrot-shredding technique and how to hold a knife. Some he came up with on his own.

He has taught knife-skills classes in cities including Vancouver, Toronto and New York City. He's also conducted multi-hour knife-skills demonstrations at places such as the Exploratorium in San Francisco and at events such as the Eat Real Fest in Oakland.

When he taught basic knife-skills classes at Sur la Table, the class size was usually 16 people and he would demonstrate to students for them to repeat. He's also occasionally led a

Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW



Diners enjoy lunch at Palo Alto's new Chinese cafe, Steam.

Full steam ahead

Tai Pan owners bring casual modern Chinese to downtown Palo Alto

by Sheila Himmel

eannie Lee found a need and filled it with Steam, little-sister restaurant to her family's elegant Tai Pan in downtown Palo Alto. Now you can get dim sum, the Cantonese tea snacks, and a variety of modern Chinese dishes, in a chic, casual and cozy setting. Steam seats just 55 people.

In olden days, you had to go to Millbrae or San Francisco for dim sum, which was brought around on rolling carts but served only at certain times, usually weekend brunch. At Steam, you can watch flames



A spicy wine seafood noodle soup.

Alto	Steam , 209 University Ave., Palo Alto; 650-322-1888						
HOL	urs: 11 a.m	9:30 p	o.m. dally				
	Reservations		Banquet				
	Credit cards	✓	Takeout				
	Street & city lots parking	✓	Catering				
	Alcohol		Noise level: medium loud				
	Children		Bathroom cleanliness:				
	Outdoor dining		excellent				

leaping and chefs wielding giant woks at all hours. Steam's centerpiece is a gleaming stainless-steel open kitchen.

At Tai Pan, the entry is marble and the extensive menu features a full bar. Steam is progressive, with clean lines and long wood strips hanging from high ceilings. The only spot of color is a striking pink orchid. Except for the one long family table, blocky wood tables and chairs can easily be rearranged. The acoustics aren't great.

No matter. The food is very good and Steam is fun. They have actual servers, not the impersonal take-anumber system of so many chain restaurants pouring into Palo Alto. Strictly authentic it is not. Nor as cheap as you'd find at one of the

dim sum giants in Cupertino or San Jose. But listen: This is a Chinese restaurant that serves lattes. Don't go expecting shark-fin soup. Dim sum dumplings are served

in bamboo steamers on strips of steamed cabbage, to which they do not stick. Cooked to order, they don't sit around on carts and get gummy. Har gow (three for \$3) were fresh and hot — a little too hot to eat right away — with shrimp peeking through translucent rice-paper skins. Fried shrimp balls (three for \$3) were a little greasy, but not annoyingly so, crusted in shredded wonton skins. All were small, including scallop with seafood (two for \$3) but sweet and fresh.

More innovative, spicy wine seafood noodle soup (\$8) was chili-inflected but not too hot, with one green lip mussel, a scallop, some prawns,

(continued on page 32)





Chef Alan Yao prepares a meal at Steam in Palo Alto.

A cut above

(continued from page 30)

class about breaking down chickens and butchering supermarket meat, and been invited by restaurants to work with cooks on their skills.

Student Adrian Perkins came to JobTrain to do research on unemployment, and ended up seeing documents about the culinary-arts class. He has been in the class since January. He didn't have much previous experience in cooking or cutting, but since taking the class, he takes more pride in his cuts and how they can make the overall meal look

Full steam ahead

(continued from page 31)

surimi and chunks of fish. Again, nothing was cooked to death.

A good-size portion, eggplant and minced chicken in clay pot (\$10) had meltingly tender eggplant with chewy skins. Textures also hit the mark in sticky jasmine fried rice with chopped beef (\$10).

There's beer, of course, and a good variety of wines by the glass (\$6).

A couple of friends walked in as we were getting our first course. As we were seated at the family table with no neighbors, they were able to sit down with us and demonstrate how Steam works for vegetarians who eat fish. better. "He's very precise on teaching," he said of his teacher. "He can be walking through and say, 'That's how I taught,' or, 'That's not how I

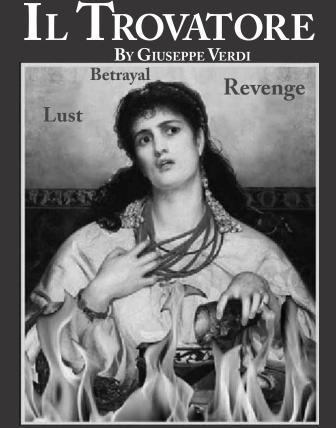
taught you." How food is affected by knife skills and how it ends up tasting is something Hertzmann said is important to learn. Once students understand general concepts, they might not need to follow recipes as closely and can use these skills all across cooking. "My goal in life is not only to

"My goal in life is not only to teach people how to cook, but also to learn principles to use in other things," he said. ■

There's a good mix of vegetables,

and they aren't overcooked. The spinach dumplings (three for \$3) had a nice mineral kick; sauteed broccoli (\$8) was salted just enough and free of goopy sauce; and the only downside of the mu shu vegetable (\$12) was an uneven number of pancakes for an even number of diners. Best of all, when one of them asked if the beef chow fun could be made vegetarian, the server "didn't look at me like I just came in from outer space." However, service is far from

seamless. There were a lot of servers, a lot of to-and-fro, but occasional gaps in delivery. Only the proprietor understood a question about gluten-free items, the answer being to special-order. Still, Steam is a breath of fresh air.



Keith Kreiman, San Mateo City Times 02' "Liliane Cromer, as Carmen with her beautiful lyric voice, dominates the stage in the most definitive interpretation since Rïse Stevens the great Met Diva..." Liliane Cromer returns to the Fox as a riveting Azucena

Sunday, April 28, 2013 at 2pm Tickets \$22 - \$24, 650 -Fox-7770 or <foxwc.com> Fox Theater, 2223 Broadway, Redwood City, 94063 Chamber Orchestra and English Supertitles verismoopera.org and bslopera.com

CANTOR ARTS CENTER AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY



REVISITING THE SOUTH: RICHARD MISRACH'S CANCER ALLEY MARCH 27-JUNE 16, 2013

Take a journey around the world: from Africa to the Americas to Asia, from classical to contemporary. There is something for everyone at the Cantor, and admission is free. $650-723-4177 \cdot museum.stanford.edu$

Richard Misrach, Swamp and Pipeline, Geismar, Louisiana, negative 1998, print 2012. Inkjet print. High Museum of Art, Atlanta. © 2012 Richard Misrach Revisiting the South: Richard Misrach's Cancer Alley is organized by the High Museum of Art, Atlanta. We gratefully acknowledge support for the exhibition's presentation at Stanford from the Clumeck Fund, the Contemporary Collectors Circle, and Cantor Arts Center Members.

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323-7700

543 Emerson Ave, Palo Alto

www.ThaiphoonRestaurant.com



Linda Salter

After three decades on college campuses, Linda Salter is based in another favorite place: the portrait studio. Now retired, she's able to devote her time to her love of painting the people in her life, capturing the tiny curl of a half-smile or a chin balanced on a hand.

"I love the challenge of capturing the essence of the person sitting with me," she said in an artist's statement.

Salter worked for more than 30 years in California's community colleges as an instructor and administrator, including a stint as president of Skyline College in San Bruno. By the time she retired more than a decade ago, she was chancellor of the West Valley-Mission Community College District in Santa Clara County.

This month, Salter is showing her oil and pastel portraits of animals and people at the Portola Art Gallery at Menlo Park's Allied Arts Guild. The free exhibition is up through April 30, Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at 75 Arbor Road. For more information, go to portolaartgallery.com or lindasalter.com.

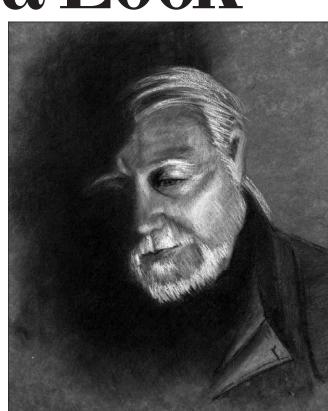
The House of Blue Leaves'

"The House of Blue Leaves' has a lot of laughs, and some of them are among the nastiest in town," the New York Times' Clive Barnes wrote in 1971 about the John Guare play when it opened off-Broadway.

Little wonder. This is a tale of a zoo-



Jeff Swan (playing Artie), Pat Tyler (as Bananas) and Deb Anderson (as Bunny) in "The House of Blue Leaves" at Bus Barn Theatre.



The pastel "Yesterday's Poem" is on exhibit at the Portola Art Gallery with other portraits by Linda Salter.

keeper, but there doesn't seem to be much cute here. Queens zookeeper Artie dreams of being a songwriter, while being dragged down by his schizophrenic wife, a son who wants to blow things up and a mistress who lives downstairs. And, as Barnes put it, "he is invaded by nuns." The play is both farce and drama, refusing to be classified, but it definitely cracked up the Times.

"The House of Blue Leaves" opens locally this weekend at the Bus Barn The-

atre, directed by Palo Altan Jeanie K. Smith (a Weekly theater critic). The cast includes Jeff Swan as Artie, Pat Tyler as Artie's wife Bananas, and Deb Anderson as Artie's girlfriend Bunny.

Performances are Wednesday through Sunday (no shows April 14 and 17) through May 5 at 97 Hillview Ave. in Los Altos. Tickets are \$18-\$30. For details, go to busbarn.org or call 650-941-0551

Music Indian classical music

Along with offering new courses on South Asian music, Stanford University's music department is also bringing three Indian classical musicians to campus this spring to present concerts.

At 8 p.m. this Saturday, April 13, the Minneapolisbased musician Pooja Goswami Pavan shares Hindustani vocal music, which has its roots in Northern India. She will be accompanied by tabla player A. Pavan and harmonium player Sri Vivek Datar. The free concert will be in Campbell Recital Hall.

The second show of the series features carnatic vocalist Sikkil Gurucharan from southern India. His free concert is planned for 4 p.m. on April 28 at Dinkelspiel Auditorium.

The third event, "Song of the Divine," is billed as a multimedia introduction to the devotional song and storytelling tradition known as kirtan. North Indian classical vocalist Mahesh Kale will sing kirtan songs, accompanied by Suryakha Deshpande on tabla and Anand Karve on harmonium. Meanwhile, Anna Schultz, a Stanford assistant professor of ethnomusicology, will narrate histories to put the kirtans in context.

"Song of the Divine" will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. May 4 in Dinkelspiel Auditorium. Tickets are

\$15-\$20 general, \$6-\$10 for non-Stanford students, and \$5 for Stanford students.

The music department is also holding a May 5 symposium studying kirtan in modern India. "Translated Tunes," a free event, is planned from 8:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. in the Humanities Center Board Room on campus.

For details about the event and to buy tickets, go to music.stanford.edu or call 650-725-2787.

Radio

Spontaneous composition? Well, it's better than the alternative.

On April 14, from midnight to the end of the day at 11:59 p.m., the Stanford University radio station KZSU pays tribute to "live experimentation and improvisation" in music with its 11th spate of "Day of Noise" programming. The 24 hours will be devoted to live bands playing improvised, noise, drone and experimental music, and perhaps any combination possible of these.

"Noise is the liberation of sound from the narrow rules of conventional music; calling a project 'noise' frees you up to include any kind of sound in the artwork," the KZSU DJ Voice of Doom said in a press release. "The 'Day of Noise' event has always been about the freedom of non-commercial radio to deviate from the standardized conceptions of what the audience wants or needs."

The diverse mix of performers includes: the music collective 3 Leafs, electronic musician Antimatter, improvised-drone artists Chen Santa Maria, ambient duo En, psychedelia-electronic band Li Xi, electricguitar duo M22, and synth artist Brandon Nickell.

Programming can heard on 90.1 FM in

the Bay Area and at kzsulive.stanford.edu beyond.

Books 'A Company of Authors'

A university campus is a fine place to find a flock of published authors, and Stanford is no exception. On April 20, many of them will even be in the same room.

For the 10th year in a row, the event "A Company of Authors" hosts university authors speaking about their recently published books, and then sticking around for a little chitchat and book-signing. This year, Stanford Continuing Studies presents the event from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Stanford Humanities Center at 424 Santa Teresa St. on campus, hosted by retired history professor Peter Stansky.

The authors scheduled to appear are: Stephen Hinton ("Weill's Musical Theater: Stages of Reform"), Nancy Huddleston Packer ("Old Ladies: Stories"), Peter N. Carroll ("A Child Turns Back to Wave: Poetry of Lost Places"), Tanya Luhrmann ("When God Talks Back: Understanding the American Evangelical Relationship with God"), John Bender ("Ends of Enlightenment"), Adrian Daub ("Uncivil Unions: The Metaphysics of Marriage in German Idealism and Romanticism"), Scott Hutchins ("A Working Theory of Love"), Herant Katchadourian ("The Way It Turned Out: A Memoir"), Irvin Yalom ("The Spinoza Problem"), Marilyn Yalom ("How the French Invented Love: Nine Hundred Years of Passion and Romance"), Nancy Kollmann ("Crime and Punishment in Early Modern Russia") and Richard Meyer ("Art and Queer Culture.")

No registration is required for the free event. For more, go to events.stanford.edu or call 650-725-2650.



As the Palo Alto Art Center exhibit "Community Creates" closes, the center is hosting an afternoon of art activities in the spirit of the multi-artist show. At Spring Family Day on April 14, families with kids ages 5 and up can take part in activities led by teachers, artists and volunteers from 2 to 4 p.m.

Artist Lars Howlett will help participants build a big labyrinth from tree branches; kids will make photo collages with pictures from photographer Angela Buenning Filo's "The Palo Alto Forest"; and people will screen-print their own advice posters like the ones featured in Susan O'Malley's work "Community Advice."

All activities are free and held at the art center at 1313 Newell Road in Palo Alto. For more information, go to cityofpaloalto. org/artcenter or call 650-329-2366.

A&E DIGEST

CRAFTY KIDS DOWNTOWN ... C is for Craft, a studio space where children and parents can do crafts together, has opened at 540 Bryant St. in downtown Palo Alto. Established by Rita Whitney, formerly of the high-tech world, the center includes a "felt wall," a "magnetic wall" and a "book nook," and organizers plan to hold craft classes and sell craft kits. Activities are meant for kids ages 20 months to 6 years. For more, go to cisforcraft.com or call 650-321-8808.

lovies

OPENINGS



Ryan Gosling in "The Place Beyond the Pines."

The Place Beyond the Pines $\star \star \star 1/2$

(Palo Alto Square, Century 20) The new drama "The Place Beyond the Pines" announces with its first shot that it is a film with risk on its mind, both in front of and behind the scenes. The three-minuteplus tracking shot follows a tattooed motorcycle stunt rider through carnival fairgrounds, through a tent and into the "globe of death" that is his workplace.

It helps that the director is Derek Cianfrance and the actor is Cianfrance's "Blue Valentine" star Ryan Gosling. Laden with stigmata that include a dripping-dagger tattoo by his left eye, Gosling's Luke Glanton will prove violent and reckless but also highly sensitive, traits that could describe the actor-director team's volatile approach to cinematic narrative. Glanton's latest stint in Schenectady unexpectedly reunites him with an ex-lover (Eva Mendes' Romina), who in turn introduces him to the 1-year-old boy he didn't know he had.

The storyline that follows plays out in cycles resembling the old Dutch proverb "When a door closes, a window opens." Luke quits his job to be a father to the child and, under largely self-imposed pressure to be a breadwinner, embarks on a new life of crime as a bank robber. This pursuit brings him into contact with Avery Cross (Bradley Cooper), a police patrolman who's been on the beat for only six months.

Without forgetting about Luke, the film's point of view shifts to Avery, whose story of uneasy ambition also comes with paternal concern: Avery pondering what he will mean to his own 1-year-old son or, perhaps, what that son will mean to Avery. Also in this new picture is Avery's patriarch, a former state supreme court judge (Harris Yulin) whose great expectations weigh on his son.

There's a third act, with a baton pass to another set of characters, but perhaps I've already said too much. "The Place Beyond the Pines" offers the most satisfying cinematic experience we've had at the multiplex thus far this year, and largely through its disinterest in playing along with movie trends. Rather, it's complicated - and proudly so, big-heartedly embracing timeless themes with the bold dramatic impact of an ancient Greek tragedy writ 20 feet tall.

Cianfrance underlines the at-times absurd vagaries of fate (with too little privilege to go around), and competing definitions of masculine honor, implicitly inviting the audience to consider whether criminal Luke or the ostensible "hero" cop Avery is the better man. That the script by Cianfrance and Ben Coccio has an excess of story to handle in 141 minutes is both a liability - eliding some points of character motivation — and the film's strength of ambition, making the film the equivalent of a book you won't want to put down, even when it's through. (Is an expanded Director's Cut on home video too much to ask?)

Even those who find the story or characters sketchy will have to concede the textures supplied by Cianfrance's throwback visual approach, and Mike Patton's moody score (yes, that Mike Patton, of Faith No More). The fine cast also includes Ben Mendelsohn ("Animal King-dom"), Dane DeHaan ("Lawless"), Avery Cohen, Ray Liotta, Bruce Greenwood, Rose Byrne and Mahershala Ali. Though rough around the edges, "The Place Beyond the Pines" proves entirely absorbing.

Rated R for language throughout, some violence, teen drug and alcohol use and a sexual reference. Two hours, 21 minutes.

- Peter Canavese

MOVIE TIMES

All showtimes are for Friday through Sunday only unless otherwise noted. For other times, as well as reviews and trailers, go to PaloAltoOnline.com/movies.

42 (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 11 a.m. & noon & 2, 3:10, 5, 7, 8:20 & 10:20 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:50 a.m. & 2:45, 5:50 & 8:50 p.m. In XD 1:20, 4:20, 7:20 & 10:25 p.m.

Admission (PG-13) **1/2 Century 16: 12:10, 3:40, 6:50 & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: 12:50 p.m.

Baadshah (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 12:20, 4:10 & 8:30 p.m.

The Call (R) (Not Reviewed) Century 20: 11:25 a.m. & 5 & 10:45 p.m.

The Company You Keep (R) (Not Reviewed)

Guild Theatre: 1, 4, 7 & 9:55 p.m.

The Croods (PG) **1/2

Century 16: 11 a.m. & 3:45 & 8:50 p.m. In 3D 1:20 & 6:15 p.m. Century 20: 11 a.m. & 1:30, 4, 6:30 & 9 p.m. In 3D 12:05, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40 & 10:05 p.m.

Evil Dead (2013) (R) **1/2 **Century 16:** 11:30 a.m. & 2:10, 4:30, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:40 a.m. & 12:50, 2, 3:10, 4:20, 5:35, 6:50, 8, 9:15 & 10:25 p.m.

From Up on Poppy Hill (PG) ***

Century 16: 11:15 a.m. & 1:35, 4, 6:40 & 9:05 p.m.

G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13) (Not Reviewed) Century 16: 11:25 a.m. & 4:40 & 10:25 p.m. In 3D 2:05 & 7:40 p.m. Century 20: 12:35, 3:15, 5:55 & 8:35 p.m. In 3D 11:15 a.m. & 1:55, 4:35, 7:15 & 9:55 p.m.

High Society (1956) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: Fri 7:30 p.m The Host (PG-13) 1/2

Century 20: 1:45 & 7:40 p.m.

Jurassic Park (2013) (PG-13) (Not Reviewed) Century 16: 2:20 & 9:50 p.m. In 3D 11:20 a.m. & 12:30, 3:30, 5:20, 7 & 10:10 p.m. Century 20: 3:15 & 9:20 p.m. In 3D 11 a.m. & 12:15, 1:50, 4:45, 6:15, 7:45 & 10:40

Life of Pi (PG) ***1/2 Century 20: 3:50 & 10:05 p.m. In 3D 7 p.m.

Not Today (PG-13) (Not Reviewed) Century 20: 11:20 a.m. & 2:15, 5, 7:45 & 10:30 p.m.

Oblivion (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 20: 8 & 11 p.m

Olympus Has Fallen (R) (Not Reviewed) Century 16: 11:50 a.m. & 3:20, 7:10 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 11:30 a.m. & 2:15, 5:05. 7:55 & 10:45 p.m.

Oz the Great and Powerful (PG) **1/2 Century 16: 2:40 & 9:10 p.m. In 3D 11:10 a.m. & 6:05 p.m. Century 20: 3:45 &

9:50 p.m. In 3D 12:30 & 6:50 p.m.

 The Place Beyond the Pines (R) ***1/2

 Century 20: 12:30, 3:45, 7 & 10:10 p.m.
 Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 3:20, 4:40, 6:30

 & 8 p.m. Fri & Sat also at 9:40 p.m.

The Sapphires (PG-13) (Not Reviewed) Aquarius Theatre: 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.

Scary Movie 5 (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 11 a.m. & noon & 1:30, 2:30, 3:50, 4:50, 6:30, 7:30, 9:30 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 11:05 a.m. & 12:05, 1:20, 2:30, 3:35, 4:45, 5:55, 7, 8:05, 9:15 & 10:20

Silk Stockings (1957) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed) Stanford Theatre: Fri 5:20 & 9:30 p.n

Silver Linings Playbook (R) (Not Reviewed) Century 16: 11:40 a.m. & 3, 6:20 & 9:20 p.n

Stage Fright (1950) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed) Stanford Theatre: Sat-Sun 5:30 & 9:40 p.m

Starbuck (R) ** Century 16: 11:05 a.m. & 1:40, 4:20, 7:20 & 10:05 p.m.

Trance (R) (Not Reviewed)

Aquarius Theatre: 1:30, 4:15, 7 & 9:30 p.m. Century 20: noon & 2:30, 5, 7:35 & 10:10 p.m.

Tyler Perry's Temptation (PG-13) (Not Reviewed) entury 20: 11:55 a.m. & 2:35, 5:10, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m Witness for the Prosecution (1957) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed) Stanford Theatre: Sat-Sun 3:20 & 7:30 p.m

\star Skip it $\star\star$ Some redeeming qualities $\star\star\star\star$ A good bet $\star\star\star\star\star$ 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 (493-0128)

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/movies

NOW PLAYING

Admission ****1/2** Who doesn't want the inside track to the brutally competitive college-admission process? At its best, director Paul Weitz's uneven comedy skewers students, parents and the Ivy League alike over the fat-enve lope frenzy endured by so many. Adapted from Jean Hanff Korelitz's novel of the same title, the narrative focuses on admis-sions officer Portia Nathan (Tina Fey). Fey excels at character-driven comedy, whether portraying the quirky "30 Rock" heroine Liz Lemon, whom she created, or stepping into the more sensible shoes of a woman who has spent 16 years recruiting students and reviewing heaps of paperwork. But even Fey can't overcome the awkwardness of Karen Croner's screenplay when Portia sleeps with former Dartmouth classmate John Pressman (Paul Rudd), who contends that the most gifted student (Nat Wolff) at his alternative high school might be the biologi-cal son that she secretly gave up for adoption while in college. There's nothing wrong with the chemistry between Fey and Rudd — and everything is more than right about Lily Tomlin's show-stealing performance as Portia's no-nonsense, feminist mother. Yet the comedy feels surprisingly flat, consider-ing Weitz's comic chops as the director of "American Pie" and the more nuanced "About a Boy." Thousands of our nation's best and brightest lead fulfilling lives, despite once being denied entry into the ivy-covered universities of their choice. Nor will the disappointing "Admission" define the future of tis talented ensemble cast. Rated PG-13 for language and some sexual material. 1 hour, 57 minutes. — T.H. (Reviewed March 22. 2013)

The Croods ★★1/2 Monty Python alum John Cleese once cowrote a book called "Families and How to Survive Them." Given that, I suppose my jaw shouldn't have dropped, then, to see his co-story credit on the animated adventure "The Croods," in which a bickering modern Stone Age family daily enthuses, "Still alive! Nevertheless, Cleese's name comes as a surprise after an hour and a half, given the degree to which "The Croods" — though set in a world of mortal danger — plays it safe. Writer-directors Kirk DeMicco and Chris Sanders (the latter best known for "How to Train Your Dragon") carry the rock over the finish line with enough slapsticky action and mild gags to hold kids' attention. But discerning audience members will wish for more in the plot department and greater courage in convictions. Even as it panders to kids, "The Croods" takes care not to offend parents too badly for being behind the times, as there's also a theme of parental sacrifice and unspoken love, rewarded with hugs all around at the end. It's just disap-pointing that "The Croods" feels an obligation to be reassuring and noncommittal, wrapping up with the thought "Anyone can change. Well, sort of." Rated PG for some scary action. One hour, 38 minutes. (Reviewed March 22, 2013) – T.H.

Evil Dead **1/2

Let's put it this way: There are two types of people in the world. Those who should never, under any circumstances, see the horror sequel/reboot "Evil Dead" and those who just gotta see it. Based on Sam Raimi's charmingly raggedy 1981 debut film "The Evil Dead" (infamously funded by Detroit dentists and doctors), Fede Alvarez's cover version is a different beast. Whereas Raimi's initial "Evil Dead" gave off a sense of its filmmaker's irrepressible fun in mak-ing it, Alvarez's version gives off a vibe of with the grimy grottiness modern viewers expect from remade '70s and '80s horror films, before moving on to gonzo horror with astonishingly disgusting imagery. The basic plot remains the same: Five friends abscond to a cabin in the woods, where a book of the dead unleashes demons determined to possess their souls and thereby unleash apocalypse. Gore fans and "Evil Dead" fans are likely to agree that, in an age where "PG-13" rules the multiplex, this horror picture delivers the goods. It easily qualifies as one of the most audaciously revolting movies ever made, one that keeps daring you not to look away. Rated R for strong bloody



The nostalgic hand-drawn style of "From Up on Poppy Hill."

violence and gore, some sexual content and language. One hour, 31 minutes. - P.C. (Reviewed April 5, 2013)

From Up on Poppy Hill ***

There's nothing supernatural about the lat-est film from Hayao Miyazaki's legendary animation house Studio Ghibli. No one flies; animals don't speak; and the only sparkles come off Tokyo Bay. Still, there's magic in the craft of hand-drawn animation, a defiantly old-fashioned style here applied to a nostalgic story. The story concerns Umi Matsuzaki (dubbed by Sarah Bolger), a high-schooler living and working in a boarding house overlooking the bay. In the absence of her mother, a medical professor studying abroad, Umi looks after her grandmother and younger siblings. Entirely unlike the au-dio-visual onslaught customary in American animated features, "From Up On Poppy Hill" feels like a nature walk with friends. That will be some folks' knock against the movie, a Jteen romance that's unabashedly sentimental and could just as easily have been filmed in live-action. It's fair to say that the film will appeal less to the jaded and more to tween-ers who still dream in chastely romantic terms about having someone to hold hands with. Taken on its own terms, "From Up on Poppy Hill" is plain nice, and there's nothing wrong with that, Rated PG for mild thematic elements and incidental smoking images. One hour, 31 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed March 29, 2013)

The Host 1/2 "Kiss me like you want to get slapped." When a character comes out with this howler in "The Host," it's enough to make you wonder if writer-director Andrew Niccol — adapting Stephenie Meyer's YA novel — is having a laugh at someone's expense as in taking the money and running. The film proposes a future in which an alien invasion has left most Earthlings possessed by delicate-tendriled light slugs. No, really, that's the plot. How slugs that can fit in the palm of one's hand achieved interstellar travel and conquered, y'know, Earth, maybe they'll explain that in the prequel. "The Host" proves inept at character development and even worse at developing any tension. The picture feints in the direction of philosophy: The alien "Souls" see their symbiosis as entirely natural, and instead of changing the culture of each world, they "experience it and perfect it." On Earth, they've eliminated hunger, healed the environment and ended international conflict. Of course, they've also mind-raped most of humanity into some-thing near brain-death. Do not consume "The Host" before operating heavy ma-chinery. Fits of giggling may ensue. Rated PG-13 for some sensuality and violence. Two hours, five minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed March 29, 2013)

Life of Pi ***1/2 In Ang Lee's exhilarating "Life of Pi" —



based upon the bestselling novel by Yann Martel — a boy adrift reads a "Survival at Sea" manual. "Telling stories is highly rec-ommended," it says. "Above all, do not lose hope." In the hands of Ang Lee, "Life of Pi" elegantly walks Martel's philosophical line while also brilliantly using every modern cinematic tool to tell an epic yarn. Most prominent among these tools is 3D. Lee joins the ranks of auteurs using new 3D cameras, gainfully employing the technology for its full ViewMaster "pop" effect, but also in more magical ways. Suraj Sharma plays the teenage Piscine Molitor (aka "Pi"), who, having been raised in South India, winds up in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, warily sharing a lifeboat with a zebra, an orangutan and a Bengal tiger. As a boy, Pi (Ayush Tandon) becomes something of a "Catholic Hindu," who sees the gods of various religions as his "superheroes." Pi's spiritual picaresque shifts into a high gear once he's fighting for survival on the "life"boat. Pi's attempts to reach detente with the tiger create a fearful intimacy analogous to some people's experience of God. "I have to believe there was more in his eyes than my own reflection staring back at me," Pi says, but the film's visual motifs of mirrored surfaces might just as well suggest that people under suf-ficient emotional duress see what they want to see. Bated PG for emotional thematic content throughout, and some scary action sequences and peril. Two hours, seven min-- P.C. (Reviewed Nov. 23, 2012)

Oz the Great and Powerful $\star\star 1/2$

The "sound-alike" has long been a practice of those looking to borrow the cachet of a piece of music. Well, Disney has a shiny new "Oz" movie that's a "look-alike" of Warner property "The Wizard of Oz." This prequel

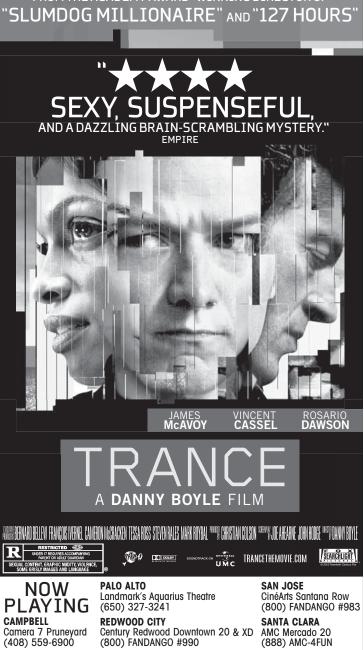
tells how the Wizard installed himself in the Emerald City. James Franco plays roquish carnival magician Oscar Diggs (aka "Oz"), whose balloon gets whipped by a tornado into the magical land of Oz. There he meets fetching witch Theodora (Mila Kunis), who informs him that he must be the wizard foretold in prophecy to inherit the Emerald City throne. Theodora takes Oz to meet her sister Evanora (Rachel Weisz), who regards him with suspicion but sends him on a mis-sion to kill witch Glinda (Michelle Williams) and earn his position. In story terms, this sort of connect-the-dots prequel is a dead end, doomed to a foregone conclusion. The script by Mitchell Kapner and Pulitzer Prize winner David Lindsay-Abaire ("Rabbit Hole") mostly settles for revisiting every trope of the original story. "Oz" gets saved from the junk heap by Franco and especially by director Sam Raimi, who happily treats the enter-prise as a sandbox. Like Ang Lee and Martin Scorsese before him, Raimi finds his first foray into 3D creatively invigorating, at least in visual terms. Rated PG for sequences of action and scary images, and brief mild language. Two hours, 10 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed March 8, 2013)

Starbuck **

One logical conclusion to the genealogy trend of recent years has just made its way to American theaters: the French-Canadian film "Starbuck." The high concept of Ken Scott's comedy-drama is to reverse the curiosity about those linked to us by DNA, making the investigation not about ancestors but descendants. To be exact, 533 of them. Twenty-three years ago, David Wozniak (an amiably goofy Patrick Huard) deposited enough in a sperm bank to unwittingly sire hundreds of children. Now 142 of those pi-geons have come home to roost in the form of a class-action lawsuit by those determined to uncover their father's identity. The case captures the public imagination, and soon everyone in Quebec seems to have an opinion about David, pseudonymously known as "Starbuck." The film initially shows some bite and reasonably strong comic and visual sensibilities, but it grows cutesier and cutesier, revealing director Ken Scott's mainstream instincts. There's an intriguing point at the heart of the picture, about the ultimate responsibility of conceiving a child, but the way in which it's underlined with the fresh pregnancy emblematizes the film's unsubtle agenda, hurtling toward an unsur-prisingly sentimental resolution. Rated R for sexual content, language and some drug material. One hour, 49 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed April 5, 2013)







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Editorial

Hopeful first reactions on new school calendar

After all the hoopla, Palo Alto parents, teachers and high school students say they think it's working so far

hile half-way into the first year of a new school calendar is too soon to make any definitive conclusions, a just-completed survey shows strong support across all groups for moving the mid-year semester break from January to December.

The survey, with responses from more than 5,000 parents, teachers and high school students, was designed to get early feedback on how well these groups thought the first semester worked out this year.

The school district implemented a two-year trial calendar beginning with this school year that shifts the start of school a week earlier into mid-August, creates the semester break when school gets out for the December holidays, and has school letting out at the end of May.

The changes were recommended in 2011 by Superintendent Kevin Skelly and adopted on a 3-2 vote by the school board (Tom, Mitchell and Klausner voting "yes" and Townsend and Baten Caswell voting "no") after a long and emotional community debate.

The idea of moving the end of the first semester to coincide with the December holiday break has been vigorously discussed in Palo Alto for years while many other school districts quietly made the change without controversy, divisiveness or horrible consequences.

The theory is that middle and high school students and their families are better served by having a winter break with no school obligations, projects or finals hanging over them during vacation and return to start a new semester more motivated when they don't face final exams in mid-January with no break afterwards.

Unfortunately, the school board's first opportunity this week to discuss community reactions to the calendar changes showed signs of trustees retreating to their earlier views rather than focusing on the data and what it means, or merely reserving judgment.

Administrators had intended to merely summarize the survey results for the board and send them on to its calendar advisory committee for review and analysis, but trustees Heidi Emberling and Camille Townsend, both of whom opposed the calendar changes, wanted to be directive to the committee.

They argued the board needed to determine its "values" around the calendar so the advisory committee could properly formulate its recommendations regarding future calendar changes with the board's direction in mind.

Without citing any specific survey results, Townsend told her colleagues "there are issues here" and that "there are a lot of concerns with the new calendar.'

The competing "values" surrounding the calendar have been exhaustively identified and debated over the last two years, and we see no benefits to the board creating another process that will only rehash them and rekindle the emotions of prior debates.

At a time when this board has many other policy and administrative challenges, it doesn't need to go looking for another.

While it is important to defer judgment on the effectiveness of the new calendar until another survey is done after the school year concludes, the most overwhelming finding of the survey just completed is that a large majority of parents, teachers and high school students liked having finals before the holidays and found that it did not have major impacts on extracurricular activities, family time and, for seniors, the college-application process

Predictably, respondents were more divided over the start and ending times of the school year, with 55 percent of parents wanting school to start later in August and end in early June, but a majority of high school teachers wanting the opposite.

As we editorialized in May 2011, the problem with this debate from the beginning is that it set up a false trade-off: In order to move semester break to December the start of school must move to mid-August.

A number of creative ideas were offered by parents, including having different-length semesters, that would enable school to start in late August and have the semester break in December.

And given the otherwise positive reviews regarding the move of semester break, that should be the simple direction given to the calendar advisory committee: Develop alternatives for achieving a calendar in which school commences in late August yet ends first semester in December.

The district is to be commended for the transparency offered by the immediate and full posting of the calendar survey results, allowing anyone interested to study the survey results and the more than 1,000 comments made, mostly very thoughtful and constructive. This should set a new standard for such data-sharing in the future.

(Survey results can be found at pausd.org//community/Committees/ Calendar/)

Perfection in a school calendar is an impossible goal, but ensuring that all stakeholders have a voice in the process is not.

This well-designed survey does that, and combined with a second survey at the end of the school year, should provide a helpful, and hopefully clear, path forward.



Editorials, letters and opinions

No real public benefits Editor.

How ironic that in the same issue as your story on public benefits, you also highlight the fallacy and failure of such collectivist ideology with news of the closing of Miki's market and vet never make the connection between the two.

There is no such thing as a "public benefit" because the public is only a collection of individuals, each with their own preferences, priorities and choices. So to define anything as a public benefit is to deny the individual's right to choose their own way of living their life.

Miki's Market is just one example of the ridiculousness of government deciding that having another supermarket available to customers on Alma Street is the right solution. The best (and only true) judge of whether or not Palo Alto would benefit from a market like Miki's is the free market itself, when individuals are free to open a store where they think it will be profitable and where people freely spend their money. Willing (or legislating) a supermarket to succeed is just another example of how Palo Alto is deteriorating into a collectivist state.

Seavan Sternheim Ross Road Palo Alto

Question on air rights Editor,

I can't keep up with the various evolutions of opinion, rumors and facts about tracks, costs, funding and timing; and there is one issue that I have not seen in any consistent manner.

It is clear to me that one significant funding source will be air rights above the tracks. Does anyone know how air rights will be awarded?

One artist's rendering of stations indicates that there will be dozens and dozens of stations and large office/condo buildings above the trenched tracks, a la the Pam Am/Met Life Building over Grand Central Station in New York City.

I lived in New York City during the time when preservationists and developers compromised over the demolition of the historic train station. The economic drivers in mid-Manhattan are not too different from the eventual air rights over our own humble train tracks and stations.

I predict that the high speed rail is the Peninsula's future one way or the other, and sooner rather than later, given the long term demand for office and housing. Just watch the current development density and heights in downtown Palo Alto and along El Camino Real.

Neilson Buchanan Bryant Street Palo Alto

City business only? Editor,

Our City Council meetings are atrociously long. According to certain residents and council members, City Council should narrow its attention to city business, and not get caught up in the heady idealism that comes with taking positions on state and national issues. I disagree with their conclusion.

Discussing national issues remains only a very small part of the City Council agenda. Reducing meeting hours will rather require City Council to trust, not second guess, the judgment of appointive bodies and delegate more decision-making authority to them. And if City Council obligations remain as onerous as they are now, they should be accompanied by adequate parttime member salaries. None of this requires muzzling City

Council's voice on the broader issues.

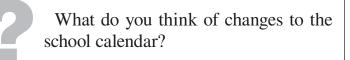
For-profit corporations are encouraged by law to actively defend their economic interests to state and federal governments, and they do. Why should municipal corporations, which represent people rather than dollars, hesitate to participate? When cities speak, assemblymembers and representatives listen.

The "War on Terror" and the bloated national security apparatus drain millions each year from Palo Alto taxpayers. California discriminates against gay, transgender and queer Palo Altans who seek legal benefits from marriage. And Proposition 13 will continue to inflict upon constraints upon city revenue-raising and hinder state contributions to education. We could go on and on. It is City Council's civic responsibility and moral obligation to amplify resident voices on these pressing problems of our times. I applaud City Council for understanding that.

Jules Brouillet Verdosa Drive Palo Alto

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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



Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words to letters@paweekly.com. Submit guest opinions of 1,000 words to editor@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. Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Palo Alto Weekly and Embarcadero Media to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square. For more information contact Editor Jocelyn Dong or Editorial Assistant Eric Van Susteren 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!

On Deadline A big transition coming in the long urgency of local environmental activism

by Jay Thorwaldson he impending retirement of Michael Clos-

son after a decade leading the Palo Alto-based environmental organization Acterra marks the beginning of a search for a replacement.

As executive director of Acterra — created from a merger of the once-staid Peninsula Conservation Center

with the youthful Bay Area Action group (once known for street-theater protests in front of the federal building in San Francisco) — Closson has been a steady hand for the sometimes fractious environmental movement.

His low-profile emphasis has been on creating positive new programs in outreach and education coupled with a nuts-and-bolts approach to working with staff, other "green" groups and financial supporters (as the Weekly's cover story last Friday detailed).

Closson plans to stay active on behalf of the environment but to spend fewer hours doing so and to "play more." Now in his early 70s, he is part of the rich legacy of those — many from Palo Alto — who care enough about their communities, their region, their state, their nation, their world to invest personal time trying to improve environmental well-being.

It's not an easy job, as scores of individuals before Closson have discovered over the past half century, in the environmental hotbed of Palo Alto and beyond.

Closson has personified the almost shopworn mantra, "Think globally, act locally." Yet rather than confrontation, he has focused on reaching out to raise awareness, especially to educate and energize the next generation, those young students who will someday inherit our world and communities around the world.

Some of those veterans have achieved remarkable success in their efforts. Others have suffered bitter defeats, burnout and bitterness. Many have experienced both.

Much has been written about the accomplishments of national activists such as landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted in the mid-1880s, John Muir at the turn of the last century, David Brower and other Sierra Club leaders over decades.

But far fewer people today know of the efforts of Catherine Kerr (wife of University of California President Clark Kerr) and friends, many based in Berkeley, to save San Francisco Bay from death-by-landfill in the early 1960s. Their Save San Francisco Bay Association stimulated creation of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission and later the Coastal Commission. The group ultimately battled a massive giveaway of salt-pond ownership under the 1967-75 administration of then-Governor Ronald Reagan, but lost a costly court battle leaving behind deeply discouraged (and some completely burned-out) environmentalists.

Palo Alto was not far behind, and often ahead, on the environmental front. Shocked by a proposal to run a giant power line through Palo Alto's foothills up to Skyline Ridge, the late Lois Hogle and Ruth Spangenberg — then selfdescribed "PTA moms" — in 1962 formed the Committee for Green Foothills. Hogle's three children and Spangenberg's six cut their teeth on door-to-door canvassing for support against the PG&E powerline, with the support of later Congressman Pete McCloskey and others. Their battle later spread to preventing extensive development of the hills.

It was in the 1960s that the growth-versus-

slow-growth (or no-growth) issues came to a head. The 1963 battle over the narrowly approved Oregon Expressway (replacing a jammed two-lane Oregon Avenue) split Palo Alto. It was soon followed by Enid Pearson's proposed Parks Dedication Ordinance 1965, which received strong voter support and catapulted Pearson onto the 13-member City Council, along with later state Assemblyman and Senator Byron Sher.

A bitter 1967 all-council election decimated the six-member "residentialist" or slow-growth side. But in the early 1970s, that philosophy and Sher himself — made a political comeback on the council that began Sher's rise to state office. By the mid-1970s, the local "two-party system" faded in Palo Alto and a peace agreement was negotiated by current Councilman Larry Klein, representing residentialists, and Mike Cobb, representing "the establishment" side. The slower-growth advocates had made their point, although the community continued to grow — then as now.

Attention shifted to regional and national/ international issues in 1970, when two matters of importance occurred: The first "Earth Day" was declared at Stanford University, with card tables set up in White Plaza and Time Magazine made it a cover story; and the generally conservative Palo Alto Times in February ran an editorial strongly urging environmentalists to shift from attempting to control growth by zoning and shift to the model of the East Bay Regional Park District.

The East Bay district was created circa 1933, in the depth of the Great Depression, to collect a modest tax and buy land for open space. The Palo Alto Times' editorial support prompted housewife Nonette Hanko to convene a meeting at her home to which Councilman Klein, the late Councilman and Mayor Stan Norton and others were invited.

Voters in Santa Clara County approved the district in 1972, and followed several years later with a petition-drive annexation of southern San Mateo County, bypassing the bitterly opposed Board of Supervisors. The district now has more than 62,000 permanently dedicated acres of open space.

There are many more early environmentalists who made real differences. The late Lucy Evans, a diminutive former history teacher, and her friend Harriet Mundy, tall and broadshouldered, were an impressive duo in defense of threats to their beloved baylands in the Midpeninsula, a role later assumed by former councilmembers Enid Pearson and Emily Renzel. Long-ago Planning Commission member Mary Gordon proposed creation of a Bay Trail ringing the bay a half century ago — a vision now nearly complete.

Many are still involved, concerned about climate change's potentially catastrophic impacts and, locally, what can be done.

Closson's successor will have many shoes — or footprints — to fill.

Here's an invitation: Those who have been left out of the above or who know someone whom they feel deserves recognition may add anecdotes under the story on the Weekly's community website, www.PaloAltoOnline. com.

Former Weekly Editor Jay Thorwaldson can be emailed at jthorwaldson@paweekly. com with a copy to jaythor@well.com. He also writes blogs posted on the Weekly's community website, www.PaloAltoOnline. com (below Town Square).

Streetwise

How do you think the display of public art impacts the Palo Alto community? Photos and interviews by Audra Sorman. Asked in front of the "Go Mama" sculpture at Ash Street and California Avenue in Palo Alto.



Ron Tambussi Retired College Avenue, Palo Alto "It's refreshing and the kids love it. It's good for their souls."



Catherine Wolff Retired Lathrop Drive, Stanford

"It adds to a festive spirit, is aesthetically pleasing and speaks to a community that cares about things like art."



Gary Cordell Medical insurance broker Woodland Avenue, East Palo Alto "The art stands out and is a positive statement about the community."



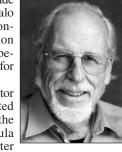
Jason Ambrose Architect Rinconada Avenue, Palo Alto "We have a very positive outlook on art

and think it is a great contribution to

the public realm and streetscape."



Michela Stribling Marketing Yale Road, Menlo Park "It think it's nothing but goodness. But I come from Rome. We're used to public goodness everywhere. It's part of life."



Sports Shorts

OAKS' NOTES It was a productive week for Menlo College athletes, as three different athletes earned Player of the Week honors in their respective sports. Jimmy Bosco earned his award for his role in leading the Oaks' baseball team to a 4-0 record over Corban University. Bosco had seven hits on the weekend, including four home runs and a double. Alyssa Holland continued the Oaks' dominance of softball honors, marking the third consecutive week Menlo has won the award. Holland was 2-for-5 with a stolen base in the Oaks' doubleheader split with William Jessup. James Walsh of the Menlo College golf team also was honored. Walsh finished seventh in the Simpson University Invitational to earn Cal Pac Golfer of the week . . . The Menlo women's volleyball team has signed a number of players recently, the latest being Jamie Nurenberg. The 6-foot-1 middle blocker joins the Lady Oaks following a successful stint with American River College in Sacramento where her team was ranked in the top eight in junior colleges in Northern California. Prior to her time with American River College, Nurenberg was a three-year letter winner at Roseville High. Solano College's Lainey Brown also has signed to attend and play at Menlo College in the fall. During her two-year tenure at Solano. Brown recorded 853 digs and 115 service aces.

OF LOCAL NOTE . . . Sacred Heart Prep seniors Nico Robinson and Cameron Van have made their marks in track and field while becoming the best in their respective events in SHP history. The standout efforts of both seniors on the track and in the classroom have been rewarded with respective opportunities to compete at the next level after graduation this May. Robinson will be attending Dartmouth University next fall, where the Big Green hopes to leverage his sprint/jump skills as a top-tier decathlete. Van, meanwhile, will attend Claremont-McKenna College, where he'll participate in the high jump and triple jump for the Stags . . . Stanford men's basketball coach Johnny Dawkins knew he had a good player in Marcus Allen, a 6-foot-4 senior guard from Centennial High in Las Vegas. That was confirmed recently when Allen was named the Nevada's Gatorade Player of the Year for boys' basketball. Allen averaged a state-best 28.2 points per game.

ON THE AIR

Friday

College baseball: Washington at Stanford. 5:30 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM) Saturday

College baseball: Washington at Stan-ford, 1 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

Sunday

College baseball: Washington at Stan ford, 1 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)



College baseball: Stanford at Pacific, 6 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

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Stanford's 2012 U.S. Olympians (top to bottom) Annika Dries, Melissa Seidemann and Maggie Steffens will square off with USC's Olympians on Saturday in a showdown for first place in the MPSF and the nation's top ranking.

Gunn boys' tennis has plenty to celebrate

Titans closing in on SCVAL El Camino Division title and will have new home courts to play on next season after being displaced for two years

by Keith Peters

he 2014 high school boys' tennis season will mark a special anniversary for the Gunn High boys' tennis program. It will be 35 years since the Titans saw their state-record win streak come to an end.

Gunn set the record from 1969-79, winning a remarkable 200 dual matches in a row. According to the Cal-Hi Sports record book, it remains the longest streak in any prep sport in state his-

The current Titans' tennis team will have something to celebrate, too - new courts. The Gunn boys and girls have been without

their campus courts since they were dug up in the summer of 2011 to make room for the school's new gymnasium. The new courts will be built

behind the new gym. Gunn coach Jim Gorman can't wait to get back

to campus. For the past two years, his teams have called the Cubberley Community Center courts as home — and not as home, sweet home.

T've had more problems this year than last year," Gorman said. "I don't get as many kids coming out because it's hard to get here.'

With school letting out at 3:35 p.m., and matches (and practices) at Cubberley starting at 3, getting enough players out in time has been task Gorman didn't have to worry about with oncampus courts. Last season the Gunn boys and girls practiced at 6 a.m.

"I've got 16 players and I don't think I've yet to play a full team," Gorman said. "Today, all three doubles teams have never played together.'

Gorman said there have been five matches this season where he has had to pull up at least one

(continued on next page)



No. 1 USC, No. 2 Stanford match their medalists in crucial showdown

by Rick Eymer

hree American Olympians on the same team is a good thing, and yet it guarantees the Stanford women's water polo team absolutely nothing as the second-ranked Cardinal looks to Saturday's showdown with top-ranked and undefeated USC in Los Angeles.

Stanford (4-0 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, 23-1 overall) has an opportunity to avenge its only loss of the season and to better position itself for a top seed in postseason play when the teams meet at Uytengsu Aquatics Center at 4 p.m.

In the first meeting between the teams, the Trojans piled a 13-10 loss on the Cardinal more than a month ago in the UC Irvine Invitational.

"We owe it to ourselves," Cardinal senior Alexis Lee said. "We didn't play our best game then."

The Women of Troy (4-0, 20-0) have a pair of Olympians of their own and an Olympic (interim) coach in Jovan Vavic.

Stanford Olympians Melissa Seidemann, Annika Dries and Maggie Steffens faced USC's Olympians Anni Espar of Spain and Floria Bolonyai of Hungary during the American's run to the gold medal at the 2012 London Olympics.

Steffens was the leading scorer in the Summer Games with 21 goals, including seven in one match. Espar, who owns a silver medal, was the second-leading scorer. Bolonyai is considered one of the top goalies in the world.

Stanford coach John Tanner also has appeared in the Olympics, giving this weekend's contest the feel of an international tournament. Australian Junior National Team

members Jayde Appel and Hannah

(continued on page 40)



Gunn's Jake Chua-Gozani helped the Titans clinch at least a co-title this week.



Gunn's Ameya Rao has been a fixture at No. 1 singles for the Titans during their 10-1 league season in 2013.

Prep tennis

(continued from previous page)

frosh-soph player in order to complete this lineup. The Titans actually had to default one individual match when not enough players were available.

Practice can be even worse.

"I typically get eight players," Gorman said. "One day, only four showed up. Last year was worse for practice."

Gorman said the late class dismissal, coupled with having to drive down busy Arastradero after school and dealing with the pressures of getting high grades have contributed to often not fielding the strongest team possible.

"Tennis is their last priority," Gorman said of his varsity team members. "Kids beg to be the last match on the court at Cubberley so they can stay in class later."

Despite all the problems, Gunn has fashioned a successful 10-1 record in the SCVAL El Camino Division (11-5 overall) and should be headed back to the De Anza Division next season.

The Titans' 5-2 victory over visiting Homestead on Tuesday clinched no worse than a tie for the division title with one league match remaining. Second-place Mountain View is reportedly 8-2 with both losses to Gunn. The Spartans have two matches remaining and need to win both while Gunn loses, in order to forge a co-championship.

The Titans, however, defeated Santa Clara in their first meeting on Feb. 27 by 7-0.

Gunn took care of Homestead





Menlo senior Andrew Ball won twice for the 16-1 Knights this week.

quickly by sweeping the singles in straight sets behind victories by Ameya Rao, Jake Chua-Gonzani, Daniel Jacobson and Mario Khosla. For good measure, the Titans' No. 1 doubles team of Avner Kreps and Alex Matthys posted a fast 6-1, 6-0 triumph to get things rolling.

Gunn will be in Davis on Friday for a rare tri-meet with its host and Monte Vista (Danville). Then the Titans will turn their attention to making their league title official with a match at Santa Clara next Wednesday.

"I've never emphasized winning a title, just matches," said Gorman. "I've never put it to them as an honor, but maybe I should . . . I'm always happy to win league."

Gunn's title should be one of three for local teams this season.

Menlo School (9-0, 16-1) all but wrapped up a 17th consecutive title under coach Bill Shine with a 7-0 romp over visiting Priory on Wednesday in a makeup match. On Tuesday, Menlo topped visiting King's Academy by the same score. The Knights lost only three games against King's and just four against Priory while dominating play.

The Knights have never lost a league match during Shine's tenure, which began in 1997. That streak now stretches to a remarkable 191 straight over three different leagues — Private Schools Athletic League, PAL Bay Division and West Bay Athletic League.

Menlo-Atherton is closing in on yet another PAL Bay Division crown after defeating visiting Burlingame on Tuesday, 5-2, and host Hillsdale on Wednesday, 7-0. The Bears (11-1, 15-2) began the week with a 5-2 win over Mills and will play a total of four times this week.

Menlo-Atherton, however, saw its streak of four straight undefeated league seasons end last week in a 5-2 loss at Carlmont. That snapped a streak of 65 straight league victories for the Bears, who lost two starters (academically ineligible) just minutes before the match with the Scots.

Menlo-Atherton will host Sacred Heart Prep in a nonleague match Monday at 4 p.m. The Gators tuned up with a 6-1 win over Pinewood this week while improving to 6-3 in the WBAL and 10-7 overall.

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Water polo

(continued from page 38)

Buckley also play for USC. Buckley was Australia's Junior Water Polo Player of the Year for 2012.

Both teams have other highly regarded individuals playing for them. Stanford senior goalie Kate Baldoni has established herself as a dominant force in the net and sophomore Kiley Neushul was last year's national Player of the Year. Freshman Anna Yelizarova has played for Canada's senior national team. "We always pride ourselves on

defense," Baldoni said. "USC is always a big match. They are tough competition and we have to play defense."

USC's top player, arguably, is Monica Vavic, a powerful offensive weapon and the coach's daughter. She has a team-leading 59 goals for the year.

Both schools have high-powered offenses, with Stanford spreading the wealth a little more, and both have excellent defenses.

The 13 goals Stanford allowed in

its loss to USC more than a month ago in the UC Irvine Invitational matches the most a Cardinal has ever allowed in a single game to a college team.

The only other time it happened was in a 13-12 overtime loss to California on March 19, 1997. The 2004 United States women's Olympic team beat Stanford, 14-7, in a 2004 exhibition.

'That's embarrassing," Tanner said of the 13 goals allowed. "They shot the ball well, they were thoroughly prepared and we were sloppy on defense.

Overall, Stanford outscores its opponents by a 14.4 to 4.92 margin while the Women of Troy own a 15.8 to 4.95 advantage.

"We're going to have to be surer, stronger and more determined with the ball to create high-percentage shots," Tanner said. "They have shooters and they can put a lot of pressure on us. It will be interesting to see them again. They have a different look this year."

Stanford drew a pretty good crowd in its 8-1 victory over UCLA last weekend, and USC traditionally



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The No. 2-ranked Stanford women's water polo team will put its 23-1 record on the line Saturday when it faces top-ranked USC in Los Angeles. The Trojans are the only team to beat the Cardinal this season.

draws well, particularly when it's a game of this magnitude. Saturday's game means a lot to

both teams, though it's more important for Stanford in the long run. A win by USC likely would mean a No. 1 seed not just in the MPSF tournament but also the NCAA tournament.

A Cardinal victory likely would mean the top seed for the MPSF championships (Stanford already

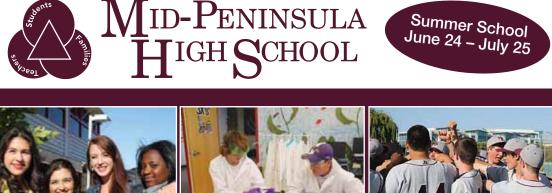
has clinched no lower than a No. 2 seed) but would also help the Cardinal potentially earn a top seed for the NCAAs.

"They are a strong team and have proven themselves," Tanner said. They are especially talented on offense. It is exciting to have a game like this as a bellweather of how we're doing. Win or lose, it will spur us to get back to work."

ner's 400th as Stanford's women's coach. He owns a 400-59 overall record entering Saturday's action.

Woodside Priory grad Constance Hiller, who competed with the Stanford Water Polo Club team, is in her senior year at USC.

Stanford finishes the regular season with an MPSF game at California next Friday. The Bears also host the MPSF championships beginning April 26.



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Sports

Stanford hopes to fatten batting averages vs. Huskies

Ogwumike named to a fourth All-American team; Watson wins another golf title and Rich celebrates her birthday with two homers in a softball victory

by Rick Eymer

alo Alto resident Alex Blandino has put together a modest four-game hitting streak as the No. 23 Stanford baseball team prepares to host Washington in a three-game Pac-12 Conference series that begins Friday at 5:30 p.m.

Games Saturday and Sunday are scheduled to start at 1 p.m.

Blandino is hitting .241 overall, which may not sound like much, but compared to the .203 batting average he had before starting the streak, it looks rather cozy.

He'll get a chance to continue his improvement against a Washington pitching staff that ranks seventh in the Pac-12 with a 3.77 ERA.

Stanford, on the other hand, has the benefit of a 2.80 team ERA, third in the conference. Cardinal pitchers average a Pac-12 leading 8.4 strikeouts a game and a conference low 2.7 walks.

Blandino hit .389 (7 for 28) during his current hot streak, driving in three runs and scoring seven times for Stanford (5-4, 17-10), which rests in fourth place in the conference behind Oregon State, Oregon and UCLA.

Blandino's current batting average is only slightly less than that of the Huskies (2-7, 8-22) as a team. Washington ranks last in the Pac-12 with its .244 batting average and averages a conference low 3.4 runs a game.

The Huskies are also last with 34 doubles, two triples and six home runs. They are also 4-18 on the road this season.

Stanford's team average of .263 ranks seventh in the conference and its 4.4 runs per game is better than only the Huskies.

The Cardinal has scored 120 runs this year, with Washington (103) the only Pac-12 team scoring fewer runs. Stanford is the second-toughest team in the conference to strike out though.

Stanford's pitching, and its timely hitting, have helped keep the Cardi-nal in contention. Since losing six of seven. Stanford has won six of its past eight, including four of five.

Washington enters the series on a three-game losing streak and have lost six of its past eight.

Women's basketball

Stanford junior forward Chiney Ogwumike was named to the WBCA Coaches' All-America Team for the second straight year, the organization announced during the weekend in New Orleans.

It was the fourth All-America Team that Ogwumike has been named to over the past week. She earned first-team Associated Press honors as well as being named to the USBWA and John R. Wooden Award All-America Teams.

Women's golf

Stanford's Sally Watson carded a 4-over-par 220 for an eight-stroke victory in the Sonoma State Spring Invitational that concluded Tuesday at the Foxtail Golf Club (North Course) in Rohnert Park.

Watson (77-70-73) posted the lowest scores in the second and third

round to lead and clinch the tournament. The senior locked her third collegiate title after previously winning the 2011 WSU Cougar Cup and the 2010 Peg Barnard Invitational.

Gymnastics

The Stanford men's team received the No. 4 seed for the 2013 NCAA Championships hosted by Penn State on April 19-21, as announced Wednesday by the NCAA.

This will be Stanford's 15th con-secutive appearance and 30th overall at the NCAA Championships, as it pursues its sixth national title.

Meanwhile, the Stanford women's team received the No. 9 overall seed for the NCAA Championships, which begin April 19 at UCLA. The Cardinal finished second at last Saturday's NCAA Regional meet in Norman, Okla.

Softball

Jenna Rich sure knows how to cel-

ebrate a birthday. The senior shortstop hit two home runs on her special day Wednesday to help the Cardinal beat visiting San Jose State, 7-1, in a nonconference contest. Rich has hit five of her 39 career home runs on her birthday.

The Cardinal (28-12) takes the weekend off and will host St. Mary's next Wednesday at 6 p.m.

Rich was 3-for-4, adding a single and driving in two runs. The game marked the third straight year in which she has hit a homer on her birthday and the second consecutive two-home run output.

Her 39 homers ties former Cardinal catcher Rosey Neill for third all-time, one behind Michelle Smith for second place. Three-time Olympian and four-time Stanford All-American Jessica Mendoza holds the record with 50.

Rich also has driven in 195 runs, six shy of tying Sarah Beeson for first on Stanford's all-time RBI list.

Men's tennis

Stanford will need a strong finish to qualify for the NCAA tournament after dropping a 5-2 decision to visiting Pepperdine on Wednesday.

The Cardinal (8-9 overall) plays its final four regular-season matches at home, beginning with Friday's contest with Arizona and following Saturday with a 1:30 p.m. match against Utah. Stanford also has matches against Pacific and California next week.

Stanford can only make it to the NCAA tournament with at least a .500 record. The Cardinal has participated in the past 24 NCAA tournaments, and has missed the postseason only twice since the current

The Cardinal singles ladder currently consists of thee freshmen, two sophomores and a junior. Senior Matt Kandath, who was playing at the No. 2 spot, has not played since

Feb. 9 because of a broken arm.

Women's tennis

Nationally No. 13 Stanford finishes the season on the road, with matches at Arizona on Friday and at No. 21 Arizona State on Saturday. The Cardinal (6-1, 14-3) is at California next Friday.

Stanford's No. 1 singles player Nicole Gibbs is a day-to-day decision as far as her availability. She should be fully ready by the Pac-12 Championships in Ojai, which begin April 25.

Men's vollevball

No. 8 Stanford (11-11, 14-11) has two home matches to finish the regular season, hosting Cal Baptist Friday at 7 p.m. and Mountain Pa-cific Sports Federation leader BYU on Saturday at 7 p.m.

The Cardinal currently owns the sixth seed for the MPSF tournament.



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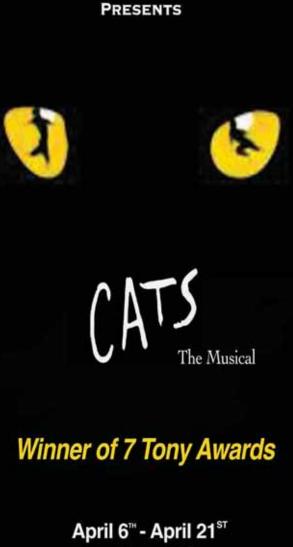
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Menlo baseball opens title defense in a big way with 20-0 WBAL romp

by Keith Peters

fter coming away from last week's Bishop Gorman Desert Classic with just a pair of losses, Menlo School needed something to jump start its West Bay Athletic League season on Wednesday.

The Knights got what they needed with a 14-run third inning while opening their title defense with a 20-0 rout of visiting Crystal Springs.

Senior captain Adam Greenstein led the Knights (1-0, 11-6) with a solo homer in the third to start the wild inning. Other key hits in the frame included a two-run double by Graham Stratford and a three-run triple by Brock Cozad.

Chris Atkeson picked up his fourth win of the season as Wyatt Driscoll and Jack Redman each contributed scoreless innings of relief

as the Gryphons were held to just two hits.

Cozad finished with four RBI and Stratford three for Menlo, which visits King's Academy on Friday.

On Tuesday, Sacred Heart Prep sophomore Cole March not only had a big game, but a huge inning, as he slammed two home runs and drove in five to pace the Gators to an 11-0 romp over host Pinewood in WBAL action.

March led off the top of the second with a solo homer and came back in the same inning to rip a grand slam as SHP (9-7) scored eight times in its WBAL opener. March finished with three hits, as did teammate Mike Covell. Brad Gritsch contributed two RBI while Tyler VauDell and Alec Bradford limited the Panthers (0-1, 5-4) to five hits.

In PAL Bay Division play, Terra Nova scored eight runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to defeat Menlo-Atherton, 9-1, Wednesday in Pacifica in the opener of the teams' two-game series. The loss dropped M-A to 11-7 overall and 1-4 in league play, while Terra Nova improved to 11-2 and 4-1.

Boys' golf

With senior Andrew Buchanan firing a 4-under 31, Menlo School remained unbeaten in the WBAL with a 191-221 victory over visiting King's Academy at Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club on Wednesdav.

Buchanan recorded six birdies on the front nine and missed a putt on the ninth hole that would have given him a 29. Instead, he four-putted for a double bogey.

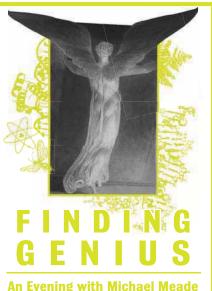
Menlo's Ethan Wong shot even-par 35 with only one bogey on a threeputt, wiping that out with a birdie on the par-5 seventh. Co-captain Max Garnick also birdied the seventh and finished at 38. Carter Burgess made his debut at PA Hills with a 41 while Drew Kim shot 46 to wrap up the scoring as the Knights improved to 6-0 in league (6-2 overall).

Sacred Heart Prep bounced back from its first WBAL loss of the - to Menlo on Monday season -- to defeat host Crystal Springs, 194-236, at Burlingame Country Club on Tuesday. The Gators (5-1, 7-1) got a 1-over-par 37 from Bradley Knox while Taylor Oliver and Bradley Keller each shot 38. Derek Ackerman's 39 and Willy Lamb's 42 rounded out SHP's scoring.

In the SCVAL De Anza Division, Grant Raffel of Palo Alto shared medalist honors with a 1-over 36 at Sunnyvale Muni to pace Palo Alto to a 192-200 victory over Home-stead on Wednesday. The first-place Vikings remained perfect at 10-0.

Boys' lacrosse

Menlo-Atherton and Sacred Heart Prep both brought three-game losing streaks into their showdown for first place in the SCVAL on Wednesday. Obviously, something had to give. The Bears overcame a one-goal halftime deficit and posted a 12-10 victory to remain on top of



The Palo Alto girls' lacrosse team suffered its first loss of the season on Wednesday, despite two goals by Allie Peery (14).

the league at 7-0 (10-5) while the Gators dropped to 5-2 (7-7).

In Burlingame, Palo Alto (8-3 overall, 4-3 league) gained some small measure of redemption for an earlier season loss to Burlingame by posting a 13-8 win over the host Panthers on Tuesday night in SCVAL action.

The Vikings (4-3, 8-3) got a season-best five goals from Jordan Gans while Jonny Glazier added four goals and four assists. Paly jumped out to a quick 6-1 lead in the first quarter, and then never looked back.

Girls' lacrosse

Brooke Bullington scored seven goals and added two assists to pace Menlo School to a 17-4 victory over visiting Burlingame in WBAL action on Tuesday. The Knights (3-0, 4-6) remained tied for first place with Sacred Heart Prep.

Ali Kim added five goals and one assist for Menlo while freshman Parvathi Narayan contributed three

Also in Atherton, Caroline Cummings scored six goals to pace Sacred Heart Prep to a 17-2 romp over visiting Menlo-Atherton. The Gators remained tied for first place

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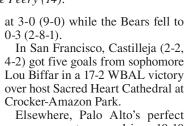




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goals.

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season came to an end in a 19-10 nonleague loss to visiting St. Ignatius on Wednesday. The Vikings fell to 10-1 as the SI defense swarmed Paly's top offensive players, Charlotte Biffar and Nina Kelty, and held them to a combined three goals.

Boys' track and field

In the first head-to-head meeting between rivals Menlo School and Sacred Heart Prep, the Gators came out on top in the third WBAL meet by tallying 218 points at Bellarmine Prep in San Jose on Wednesday. Menlo finished second with 155 points

SHP was led by Ricky Grau's 15.86 win in the 110 high hurdles, Andrew Segre's 45.20 win in the 300 intermediate hurdles, Nico Robinson's 22.39 win in the 200 that tied him for second in the Central Coast Section. Jhed Yuzon's win in the shot put at 44-11 1/4, and Cameron Van's 6-2 victory in the high jump.

Menlo won the 400 relay in 44.37 and 1,600 relay in 3:41.18, Matt Myers took the 400 in 52.66, Keaton Shiveley won the 800 in 2:13.77, and Paul Touma won the long jump (20-1 1/2) and triple jump (41-5).

Girls' track and field

Menlo junior Maddy Price ran the fastest girls' 200 meters in the Central Coast Section this season to help the Knights take second in the third WBAL meet of the season on Wednesday at Bellarmine.

In the first meet where Menlo and Sacred Heart Prep competed against each other, Price raced to a 25.10 victory in the 200 and clocked a season best of 12.26 to finish second in the 100 as the Knights scored 125 points and finished second to Notre Dame-San Jose's 212.50. Sacred Heart Prep was third with 100 points.



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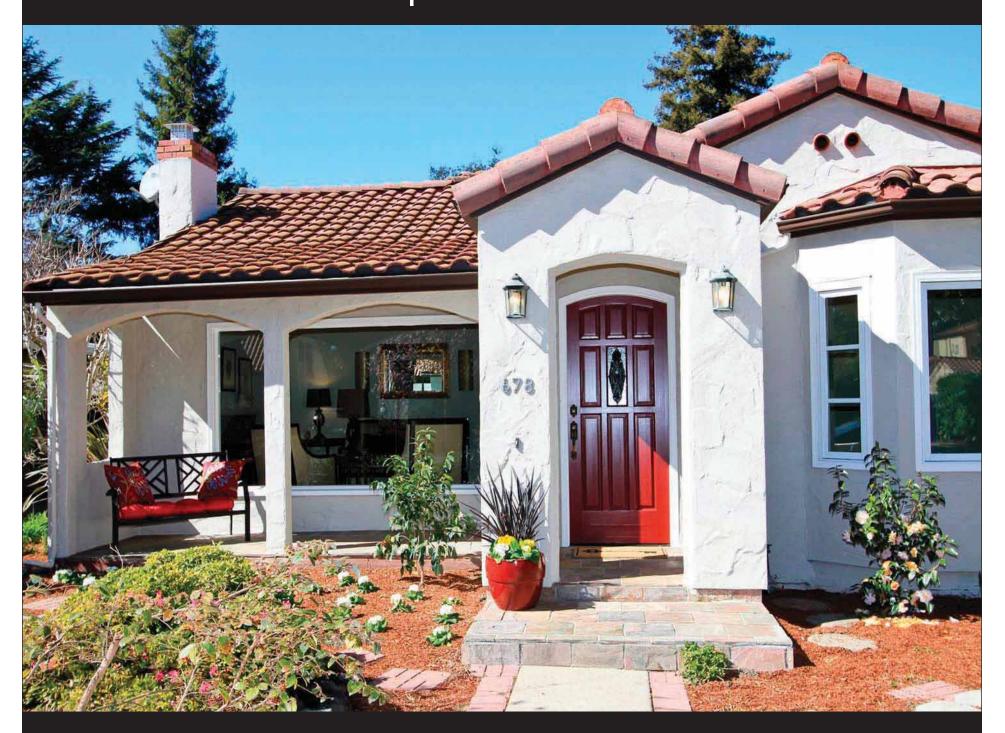
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