

Palo Alto

Weekly

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Upfront

Local news, information and analysis

Hope dims for Palo Alto's proposed police building

Jay Paul's proposal to build new police headquarters unlikely to meet Palo Alto's needs

by Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto's long search for a new police headquarters took yet another frustrating twist Tuesday afternoon when city officials learned that the latest proposal for a new facility is unlikely to meet the needs of the police department.

The newest wrinkle could shake up the city's drive toward a No-

vember 2014 bond measure to fund infrastructure. It could also throw a wrench into a proposal by San Francisco-based developer Jay Paul to build a dense development at 395 Page Mill Road, a project that includes two 71-foot-tall office buildings and a public-safety building at a nearby site.

Since last fall, police department staff have been working with a consulting architect and Jay Paul to hash out the design of the proposed police building. Recently, the architect, Michael Ross, indicated that the proposed site may not be operationally feasible, Police Chief Dennis Burns told City Council's Infrastructure Committee Tuesday.

"We've continuously tried to make this work," Burns said. "We've come to a conclusion that it's more difficult

than we thought. We thought it would be a solution we can all work with. It doesn't appear to be the case."

The problem, he said, is the site's configuration, which makes it difficult to program the department's operations. Ross, of the Sonoma-based firm Ross Drulis Cusenbery, is scheduled to appear in front of the committee on May 7 to explain in detail why the Park Boulevard site isn't a good fit.

Ross' finding could have a pro-

found influence on the Jay Paul proposal, which figures heavily into the city's aggressive drive to upgrade its infrastructure. To underscore the importance of the development proposal, the committee and planning staff have come up with an accelerated schedule for reviewing and possibly approving Jay Paul's application. The expedited process includes cutting back on the num-

(continued on page 6)



Veronica Weber

Hard at work

Crews are building 26 single-family homes and a hotel at 4329 El Camino Real, the site of the former Palo Alto Bowl.

LAND USE

Palo Alto officials: City needs wider sidewalks

City Council votes unanimously to beef up requirements for sidewalks and buildings setbacks

by Gennady Sheyner

In discussing Palo Alto's sidewalk dilemma, Councilwoman Karen Holman borrowed a line from writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, who famously said that "architecture is frozen music."

Recent developments, she said, suggest that Palo Alto is "out of tune."

Holman was one of four authors of a colleagues memo urging that the city review its requirements for how wide sidewalks should be and how far buildings are set back from the street — a recommendation that the council unanimously and enthusiastically approved Monday night, April 15.

Narrow sidewalks have been a topic of consternation among residents and land-use watchdogs for years, with the Arbor Real townhouse development on El Camino Real and Charleston Road and the new Alma Village on Alma Street as the two recent developments often cited as being built too close to the street. Many residents blamed the uninviting configuration of Alma for the failure of Miki's Farm Fresh Market, a grocery store that closed this month after less than six months of operation.

Holman said that while the city has made great achievements on

environmental and technological issues, its buildings "have been underachieving." The proposal by her, Mayor Greg Scharff and Council members Gail Price and Greg Schmid seeks to address that, she said.

The council's vote directs staff to review the city's sidewalk regulations and make them more consistent with the vision of the El Camino Real Guidelines and the Grand Boulevard Initiative, which recommends a minimum sidewalk width of 18 feet. The city's current sidewalk regulations call for

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EDUCATION

New civil-rights complaints filed against Palo Alto district

Feds launch inquiries into parents' complaints on disability-based harassment and racial discrimination

by Palo Alto Weekly staff

The Palo Alto Unified School District received notification last week that federal investigators are probing two new cases brought to them by district parents last month, according to the district and confirmed by the federal Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights in Washington, D.C.

One of the cases alleges discrimination based on disability and the other alleges discrimination based on race.

Superintendent Kevin Skelly said the district received letters from the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) last Wednesday and he immediately informed school board members.

The letters do not contain details of either complaint, but Skelly said the district is familiar with the disability-based harassment case and has been working with the family for several months to resolve it. Citing privacy concerns, he would not disclose any details, including the age of the student or the name of the school.

But in an email to parents Monday evening, Duveneck Elementary School Principal Chris Grierson disclosed, "We recently received a letter from the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) expressing concerns about bullying behavior."

"The OCR was contacted by a parent, and the district received the letter last week."

Grierson said he is "working closely with the district administration to cooperate fully with the OCR" and intends to "offer a thorough and thoughtful examination of this matter."

Urging parents not to be alarmed by Office for Civil Rights' interest, Grierson said, "As I see it, the OCR is addressing a national rally cry on the issue of bullying. The district and our school are working cooperatively

with OCR, and I am confident that we will be a model for collaborative and positive student-focused discussions and solutions to an issue of critical importance in our children's lives."

In a statement last Friday, April 12, Skelly stated, "The district is committed to providing a safe and nurturing learning environment for all students."

"District and site staff have been working diligently with the family for some time on issues related to their sense of safety for their student. Staff will continue to do so. On the topic of student safety, we never cross a finish line, our work is constant, and we are dedicated to continuous improvement."

The new complaints come as the district is in the process of carrying out terms of a "resolution agreement" in a separate bullying case dating back to 2011 involving a special-education middle school student.

In that case, the Office for Civil Rights conducted an extensive investigation, including on-site interviews of more than 30 students, teachers and administrators. It issued findings that the district had violated federal anti-discrimination laws by failing to respond properly and stop the bullying behavior, allowing a hostile environment that interfered with the student's rights to an education.

Skelly entered into the resolution agreement on behalf of the district last December that admitted no violations of law but pledged to undertake trainings, adopt new policies and procedures, modify handbooks and communicate with students, parents and staff as specified by the Office for Civil

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“It’s where the life of the city really happens.”
—Penny Ellson, bicycling advocate,
on the importance of wide sidewalks in Palo Alto.
See story on page 3.

Around Town

CITY OF CHIEFS ... With Earth Day right around the corner, Palo Alto officials took a victory lap this week and celebrated the city’s significant green accomplishments. These include achieving a carbon-neutral electricity portfolio and cutting emissions from city operations by 53 percent from what they were in 2005 (demolishing its goal of reducing them by 20 percent). But even as they basked in the glory of recent green victories, City Council members indicated that much more work will need to be done. Councilman **Marc Berman** compared this on Monday to winning a pie-eating contest only to be rewarded with more pie. Assistant Public Works Director **Phil Bobel** told the council that the city has already formed a “sustainability board” of key department heads who have been meeting for about eight months and working on green projects. Now, the city is shopping for a conductor of this citywide operation. Bobel said the city is hiring a chief sustainability officer, who would take direction from the sustainability board and implement it. This green czar would be the latest addition to the city’s expanding executive team. This week, City Manager **James Keene** hired the city’s first “chief communication officer,” tapping former California State University Vice Chancellor **Claudia Keith** for the new position.

HANDBAGGED BY THE IRON LADY Former U.S. Secretary of State **George Shultz** missed hosting a lunch at Stanford University’s Hoover Institution Wednesday because he was in London as co-leader of the U.S. delegation to the funeral of former British Prime Minister **Margaret Thatcher**. Lunch co-host **Sidney Drell**, a retired Stanford physicist and Shultz colleague in the quest to eliminate nuclear weapons, said Shultz once was “handbagged” by Thatcher, whose structured, black handbags symbolized femininity and toughness. Thatcher “was one of the people who thought it absurd to get rid of nuclear weapons,” Drell recalled. When she “handbagged” Shultz on the issue, Shultz reportedly told Thatcher that even her great friend and ally **Ronald Reagan** believed in the elimination of nuclear weapons.

ON THE RAIL FRONT ... Palo Alto hasn’t conceded defeat in its long, litigious feud with the **California High-Speed Rail Authority**, but this week it decided not to challenge the rail authority’s latest victory in court. After a closed-session discussion Monday night, the City Council voted unanimously not to appeal a recent decision in favor of the rail authority by a Sacramento County Superior Court judge. Palo Alto was one of the plaintiffs in a suit that claimed the rail authority failed to adequately describe the latest design of the \$68 billion project in its Environmental Impact Report. Judge **Michael Kenny** disagreed and wrote in his Feb. 27 decision that while the rail authority’s process “was not absolutely perfect,” it was good enough to comply with state law. While Palo Alto will not be disputing this ruling, it continues to be involved in an appeal of an earlier decision. That case focuses on the rail authority’s ridership projections, which Palo Alto has long maintained are grossly inflated. ■

Delivery Problems? Need a vacation stop?

If you don’t receive your Palo Alto Weekly or wish to stop it for a vacation, please let us know by calling 223.6557 or emailing circulation@paweekly.com. Vacation stops received by Monday can take effect for that Friday’s paper.

Palo Alto Weekly

Palo Alto urged not to fund Catholic nonprofit

Committee agrees to grant money to Catholic Charities despite protest from Human Relations Commission member

by Gennady Sheyner

With Catholic Charities facing allegations of discrimination from gay-rights advocates in Massachusetts, Illinois and Washington, D.C., Palo Alto officials found themselves debating on Tuesday night whether the organization's local chapter should continue to draw grant funding from the city.

The City Council's Finance Committee decided that it should, despite an impassioned argument from a member of the city's Human Relations Commission. If the council approves the committee's decision in May, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County will receive a \$5,000 grant to provide ombudsman services to seniors at local assisted-living facilities.

The debate over religion and discrimination injected some controversy into what is usually a dry and straight-forward process to allocate more than \$500,000 as part of the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The program, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, focuses on programs that deliver housing, counseling and other social services to residents, particularly those of low and moderate income.

As part of a staff proposal that the Finance Committee approved, Catholic Charities would receive \$5,000, the bare minimum under the block-grant process and far less than most of the other agencies set

to receive funding under the current two-year cycle. The Downtown Streets Team Inc., a nonprofit that offers jobs and training to homeless people, is set to receive \$248,753, far more than any other organization, while InnVision Shelter Network, which runs the Opportunity Center, would receive \$76,662.

But the smallest grant stirred Human Relations Commissioner Claude Ezran to call for the city to stop funding Catholic Charities, citing the parent organization's controversial practices elsewhere in the country. He cited decisions of the organization's Washington, D.C., and Massachusetts chapters not to offer adoption services to same-sex couples and the 2011 lawsuit filed against Catholic Charities by the ACLU and the State of Illinois, which accused the organization of discriminating against gay couples.

Ezran, who was one of two commission members to recommend cutting funding for the local chapter, said he based his recommendation on his view of the organization as one that "discriminates against gays, lesbians and unmarried heterosexual couples."

"Should you fund this local organization when it has not spoken out publicly against the discrimination policies of its parent and sibling organizations?" Ezran asked the committee.

He argued that the city should end its association with the nonprofit and cited Palo Alto's recent deci-

sion to take a formal stance against Proposition 8 and the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

"Hopefully, the city that proudly flies the rainbow flag would follow on this symbolic action with a substantive one — decidedly turning down a funding request from Catholic Charities," Ezran said.

But his comments failed to gain traction with the committee, which voted unanimously to fund the organization. After hearing testimony from Catholic Charities officials and members of other nonprofits that have dealt with the organization, council members concluded the local chapter provides an important, much-needed service and that there is no evidence of it ever having discriminated. While the city keeps a file of discrimination complaints from nonprofits that receive local grants, it has not received any such complaints about Catholic Charities.

To be eligible for the grant funding, each agency under consideration has to follow strict federal guidelines prohibiting discrimination. By all reports, the local chapter of Catholic Charities has done that and has not violated any statutes prohibiting discrimination.

To underscore that fact, Joseph Rodrigues, the long-term care ombudsman from the state's Department of Aging, submitted a letter to Palo Alto's Finance Committee urging it to grant the funding. Rodrigues, whose office oversees the local ombudsman

programs, noted in his letter that local representatives "must place any personal or corporate bias aside in order to advocate for a resident whose choices and desires may conflict with the personal or corporate positions of the ombudsman-representative or entity hosting the local program.

"In the close to 11 years that I have been the California State Long-Term Care ombudsman, I have never received a complaint of discrimination or unfair treatment of residents of long-term care facilities by employees or volunteers associated with the local Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program," Rodrigues wrote in the April 15 letter.

Ezran's position was also a minority one on his own commission, which voted 3-2 to support the grant request (former Commissioner Sunita Verma joined Ezran). Chair Jill O'Nan was one of three commissioners to argue at a Feb. 28 meeting of the commission that the focus should be on the organization's local work rather than on the broader, national issues.

The Finance Committee reached a similar conclusion, with Chair Pat Burt admonishing Ezran for expressing his own opinion rather than that of the commission that he was charged with representing at the Tuesday night hearing. Given the nonprofit's strong service record and no evidence of discrimination, its request should be funded, Burt said.

Councilman Greg Schmid agreed and said there is a "distinction be-

tween a religious organization and delivery of services in our local area."

"I think given the fact there is no evidence of discrimination in our local community, I certainly cannot discriminate against one of the organizations providing services," Schmid said.

Wanda Hale, program manager of Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County's ombudsman program, emphasized that her organization is committed to supporting all residents who need assistance. The organization provides ombudsman services to about 250 Palo Alto residents annually.

Hale cited one case in which she represented a gay man with AIDS who was threatened with eviction from his facility. In another case, Hale said, she provided training to staff members at a facility in which two lesbian residents felt they were being discriminated against.

"I've actually gone out and advocated for gay residents who have been discriminated against in their facilities," Hale said.

Staff from the city's Community Services Department concurred with the three Human Relations Commission members who felt the organization should continue to get funding. In a report, staff cited a concern "that the manner in which the decision was made regarding Catholic Charities does not recognize the substantial merit of the program and

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TERRORISM

Marathoners' accounts: 'It sounded like thunder'

Post-marathon daze meant some Palo Alto runners didn't immediately understand what had just happened

by Eric Van Susteren

When Anne Trumbore finished the Boston Marathon, she, like many of the other runners there, was in a post-run daze. The blasts came as she stood in line, wrapped in a heat blanket to try to stay warm, to get her personal effects from a bus.

"There was this loud bang, the buses shook, and everyone turned around," she said. "People were still suffering the after-effects of the run, and we only saw what looked like white smoke. Everyone thought it was some sort of celebration — like maybe a cannon."

The twin explosions that killed three and injured nearly 200 more came at around 2:45 p.m. Monday near the finish line of the race.

At a Tuesday press conference, Richard DesLauriers, FBI special agent in charge of the investigation, said that the explosions came from bombs — possibly pressure cookers stuffed with explosives and what appeared to be BBs and nails — that were placed in black nylon bags.

DesLauriers said in another con-

ference Thursday that the FBI has identified two suspects from video and photos taken the afternoon of the bombing. The two men were photographed wearing large backpacks. One of them is shown setting his backpack down in front of the Forum Restaurant on Boylston Street, where the blasts occurred.

Trumbore, a Palo Alto resident, said it didn't occur to her or the other runners that something was wrong, partly because of the daze they were in and partly because many of the nearby volunteers didn't appear visibly alarmed. She heard sirens approaching the area but initially dismissed them because they aren't a particularly rare occurrence at the finish line of a marathon.

"You often hear sirens — at the end of a marathon people go to the hospital, get hurt or have heart attacks — but your brain doesn't immediately go to a bombing," she said.

It wasn't until 10 or 15 minutes after the blasts that she realized that something was seriously

wrong. All the race volunteers began running toward the finish line, and the sirens grew more intense as she started hearing passers-by in cell-phone conversations mention the dead and injured.

Dr. George Velmahos of Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston said in a press conference Tuesday morning that several of the victims admitted to the trauma ward received amputations "because of the devastating effects of the bombs."

"Many have severe wounds, mostly in lower parts of the body, related to blast effects of bomb, as well as small fragments that entered the body: pellets, fragments, nails," he said.

Palo Alto resident Riya Susing said she was waiting in line at the marathon's complimentary massage booth about 45 minutes after completing the race when she heard the explosions.

"It sounded like thunder, but it was different," she said. "The staff told all the runners and massage therapists to evacuate. Then we

knew it was serious."

Susing, who was three blocks away from the blasts, said she began hearing signs of the explosions, including sirens and the reactions of passers-by.

"I saw two ladies holding each other, crying, in tears, maybe about a relative," she said. "It turned out not to be a great day, but we're all very fortunate to be safe."

DesLauriers said the investigation "is in its infancy," but more than 1,000 law-enforcement officers from several agencies are chasing the more than 2,000 leads that have been received.

Twenty Palo Alto residents had signed up for the race. Some did not participate due to injuries. Half of those registered had completed the marathon prior to the bomb explosions. Numerous runners checked in with family and friends, or posted via social media, letting people know they were safe.

Palo Alto resident Jessica Williams confirmed Monday that she had finished about 30 minutes before the blasts occurred and that

she and her family were well clear of the area.

Palo Alto resident Felice Kelly went to support her sister, Natalie, at the race. She followed her sister through a late portion of the race until the crowds were too thick for her to continue.

After Natalie crossed the finish line at around 2 p.m., the two sisters went to get a sandwich about three blocks away when someone ran in, saying that shots had gone off.

Neither of the sisters, nor Menlo Park resident Laura Blach, heard the blasts. Blach was also about three blocks away at a public-transportation station.

Kelly said she worries about the effect the blasts will have on the sport.

"In a weird way I hope it doesn't change marathons, partly because they're public and open and free — there's a bit of risk you have to accept." ■

Online Editor Eric Van Susteren can be emailed at evansusteren@paweekly.com.

EDUCATION

National commission: 'School inequality threatens U.S. prosperity'

Panel co-chaired by Stanford professor backs sweeping reforms to education funding, teacher training

by Chris Kenrick

“Not every kid’s going to be as lucky as I was,” says Mariano-Florentino “Tino” Cuellar, whose work ethic and smarts propelled him from a mediocre high school on California’s border with Mexico to Harvard University, Yale University and an endowed professorship at Stanford Law School.

Cuellar’s dismay at outcomes for today’s kids like himself, stuck in underfunded and poorly performing public schools, led him to co-chair a national commission that’s calling for sweeping reforms to the nation’s system of financing education and recruiting teachers.

“Our leaders decry but tolerate disparities in student outcomes that are not only unfair but socially and economically dangerous,” Cuellar and co-chair Christopher Edley Jr., dean of the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, wrote in their foreword to the final report of the Equity

and Excellence Commission.

America’s education system “fails our nation and too many of our children” by not distributing opportunity equitably.

The 27-member commission reported its conclusions to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan in February.

Many traditional American assumptions about schooling remain “rooted in outmoded timetables, methods and schedules” that fall short in comparison to best practices in other industrialized nations, the report states.

The percentage of American schoolchildren living in poverty — 22 percent — is twice the average of other advanced industrial nations and nearly four times that of Finland, often cited as a leader in public education, it notes. Nearly half of American schoolchildren qualify for free or reduced-price school lunches,

another proxy for low income.

And the achievement gap dividing children from high- and low-income families grew dramatically — by 30 to 40 percent — between children born in the late 1980s and those born in 2001, according to the report.

“No other developed nation has inequities nearly as deep or systemic; no other developed nation has, despite some efforts to the contrary, so thoroughly stacked the odds against so many of its children,” the report states.

Low-income students, English-language learners and students of color together form a majority of America’s young people and are the fastest-growing population in the nation.

In an interview with the Weekly, Cuellar said people should take seriously “that their kids’ future depends on the well-being of other kids who are going to other school districts that are not as prosperous.”



Courtesy of Rod Searcey Photography

Mariano-Florentino “Tino” Cuellar

Without major reform the U.S. will “pay a price in smaller GDP, less vigorous democracy, a more polarized country and a country less able to advance its interests abroad,” he said.

The report calls for major redesign of school finance systems to provide the “additional programs, staff and services needed to address the extra academic, social and health needs of students in communities with concentrated poverty.”

It calls for universal access to high-quality preschool and federal incentives to “limit the concentration of poor students in particular schools.”

The report does not prescribe specific remedies, such as more federal funding or busing. Rather it calls on all levels of government to work

together to devise solutions. That’s where Cuellar thinks his expertise in “institutional accountability and how organizations work to implement complicated laws” could be useful.

The report also calls for significant changes to teacher recruitment and training.

“Although the world’s best-performing school systems recruit their new teachers from the top ranks of their high school and college students, only about 30 percent of U.S. teachers come from the top third of their college class,” the report states.

Despite some improvement since the 1980s, “the caliber of student who goes into teaching remains highly variable across the districts,” it states.

Cuellar cited two developments he called promising: California Gov. Jerry Brown’s efforts to channel more resources to low-income and English-learning students through the Local Control Funding Formula and school-finance reform initiatives in Colorado.

But reform will be “a long-term journey,” he said.

He said his school, Calxico High School, had “incredible teachers who worked very hard, but despite their best efforts the courses were not as varied or academically demanding

(continued on page 13)

Jay Paul

(continued from page 3)

ber of reviews in front of land-use boards (each would get one shot at the project rather than the typical two) and getting to a final vote by next spring so that the council would have time to decide whether the police building should be included in the November bond measure.

Councilman Larry Klein suggested Tuesday that if Jay Paul’s project were approved along the lines currently proposed, the city wouldn’t need a revenue measure to fund it.

But Burns’ comments about the architect’s recent findings changed the game and appeared to catch the committee off guard.

“This comes as a surprise to all of us,” Klein said, a comment no one refuted.

An updated police building has been a top priority for Palo Alto for at least a decade, with numerous citizen commissions, consultants and city officials concluding that the existing facility is too small and not earthquake-safe. Most recently, a 17-member Infrastructure Blue Ribbon Commission identified it as a top priority and described the current facility in City Hall as “unsafe and vulnerable.”

Past attempts focused on purchasing sites on Park Boulevard and expanding the department’s space at City Hall by using a mezzanine for police operations. The first plan fizzled in 2009, during the Great Recession, when the council decided that it would be too costly to retain a purchase option on the properties. The second died after consultants determined that the mezzanine is too small to accommodate the department’s needs.

Jay Paul’s proposal provided a glimmer of hope. The company offered the police building as a “public benefit” in exchange for permission to build the two office towers at the site of AOL’s Silicon Valley headquarters. The two buildings would contain about 311,000 square feet of office space, making the development one of the biggest “planned community” projects in Palo Alto. Because it would significantly exceed the zoning regulations at the site (which, under existing law, is already built out to the limit), approval would require Jay Paul to offer public benefits, with the police building topping the list.

‘This comes as a surprise to all of us.’

—Larry Klein, city councilman, Palo Alto

The Jay Paul plan has already undergone several changes since the developer made his pitch last September. Initially, Jay Paul had offered to pay for a shell of the police building, with the city footing the bill for interior improvements. More recently, the company offered to swallow most of the bill for the project, which is expected to cost more than \$40 million.

Under the plan the company unveiled in September, the police building would be located at 3045 Park Blvd. It would be across the street from Jay Paul’s new office buildings and would be connected to a parking garage, which would be shared by the police department and the commercial developments.

But the stumbling block in this case isn’t the funding but the location. Burns said that while the

department is still working with Jay Paul in hopes of making the proposed police building work, he is concerned that the city may be “shoehorning” things to make it happen.

One possible resolution from the city’s standpoint is having Jay Paul build the new police headquarters at a different site. The developer has recently purchased two properties on the 2700 block of Park Boulevard, the very sites that the city has previously considered for a new police building. During a February review, Planning and Transportation Commissioner Arthur Keller argued that this would be better option for the police department.

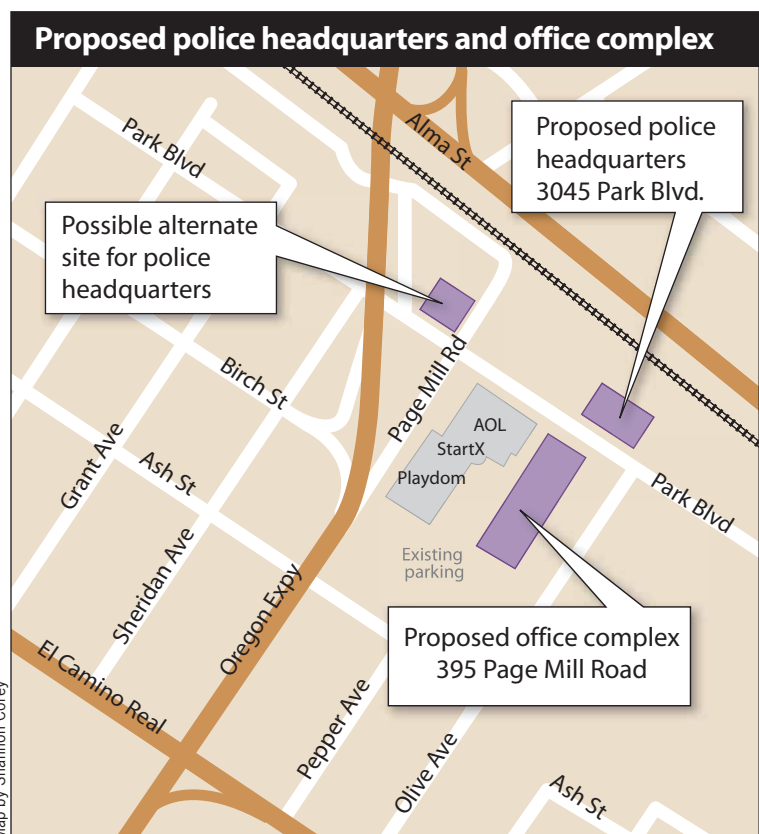
Burns concurred on Tuesday night that such an option would be well worth considering.

“If they can be responsible for financing a building in another location that would be more suitable for us, we’d be interested in that,” Burns said.

Members of the council committee stressed Tuesday that the city needs to move quickly to determine whether a public-safety building is feasible at the site Jay Paul proposed. If it isn’t, the city should inform Jay Paul as soon as possible so that the application can be revised, Mayor Greg Scharff told Burns.

“If it’s not operational on that site, you have to be very blunt with Jay Paul (about what would work),” Scharff said.

Even as they tacitly approved an accelerated timeline for reviewing the Jay Paul application, council members were adamant that the project remains far from a done deal. Vice Mayor Nancy Shepherd said she wouldn’t want to have a badly designed project just to get a



Map by Shannon Corey

A plan to build a new public-safety building at 3045 Park Blvd. is running into difficulties. The city is now showing interest in reviving an old plan to locate the police headquarters in the 2700 block of Park, land that is owned by Jay Paul Co., the developer who has offered the headquarters at 3045 Park.

new police building. And Councilman Marc Berman offered an assurance that even though the city is “getting creative with the process” it’s not losing any quality.

“We’re still taking the same steps we’d normally do, we’re just doing them on an accelerated time frame,” Berman said.

Berman also agreed with his colleagues that it would be important

for council members to hear from Ross as soon as possible so that they can better understand their options for infrastructure improvements.

“Given that we’ve gone this far, if the decision is to abandon the project — it’s a big deal,” Berman said. ■

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

NUCLEAR SAFETY

Experts warn women leaders of nuclear risk

Former defense secretary: 'World is slipping backward on nuclear safety'

by Chris Kenrick

Had Monday's explosions at the Boston Marathon contained nuclear material, tens of thousands of people could have been killed, Stanford University experts told a group of Bay Area women business and philanthropy leaders Wednesday.

With terror groups avowedly seeking to make a bomb, that nightmare scenario is less remote than most people realize, Cold War-era leaders and the current U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense told the women in a two-hour lunch discussion at Stanford's Hoover Institution.

The group of about 40 women, organized by investment manager Alison Davis and retired publishing executive Chris Boskin, included executives, investors, consultants, lawyers and philanthropists.

Former U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry urged the women to use their influence to push for Senate ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty and for ambitious U.S. goals at next year's international nuclear summit

in the Netherlands.

"As a group you could be very powerful and persuasive," Perry told them.

Former Secretary of State George Shultz, who had been scheduled to co-host the meeting along with Perry, was in London Wednesday as co-leader of the U.S. delegation to the funeral of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Perry, who was U.S. Secretary of Defense from 1994 to 1997, recounted several close calls with nuclear weapons he witnessed during his career that convinced him "the danger of a nuclear holocaust is very real."

"It's not academic to me," he said.

And "as nations like Iran and Pakistan get nuclear bombs, the likelihood increases that they will fall into the hands of terrorists," he said.

Perry said the world has slipped backward over the past two years in the quest to safeguard and destroy nuclear materials.

He lauded President Barack Obama's 2009 declaration of commitment to "a world without

nuclear weapons" and the 2010 signing of a new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty between the U.S. and Russia.

"But in the last two years all that momentum is gone, and we're perhaps moving backwards, highlighted by events going on in Iran and both Russia and China," he said.

"What's needed is a large-scale education project about the dangers we face today and what steps can be taken to reduce those dangers and working for total elimination of nuclear weapons."

Ashton Carter, currently the Deputy Secretary of Defense, said nuclear security is not high on many people's list of problems but "you can never, ever take your eye off this because it's the single most consequential security problem we face as humankind."

Physicist and arms control expert Sidney Drell, a retired Stanford professor and a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, co-hosted the talk, which was moderated by former New York Times writer and editor Philip Taubman, author of the 2012 book, "The Partnership: Five Cold Warriors and Their Quest to Ban the Bomb."

Perry and Shultz, along with former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and former U.S. Sen. Sam Nunn, formed the Nuclear Security Project to generate global momentum among governments, leaders and the public for a vision to reduce the risks posted by nuclear weapons and to address the technical issues involved.

Davis and Boskin asked the women to consider becoming activists in the campaign to reduce nuclear risks and to get their friends to sign a communiqué on the issue for presentation to U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein and other members

of Congress.

They asked them to spread the word by hosting events in their own homes and showing the film "Nuclear Tipping Point," produced by the Nuclear Security Project in an effort to raise awareness about the threat. ■



REAL ESTATE TRENDS

by Samia Cullen

Median Home Prices Reach New Record Highs

The first quarter of 2013 produced new record prices in our local housing market. Inventory remained low, demand has been off the charts, and the influx of cash buyers willing to pay well above the list price is astonishing.

The result is an incredible increase in median home prices from a year ago. The median price for single family homes went up 27% in Palo Alto (from \$1,727,000 to \$2,195,000), 6.4% in Menlo Park (from \$1,325,000 to \$1,410,000), and 19% in Atherton (from \$3,075,000 to \$3,600,000). There were few sales to chart in the first quarter in Portola Valley and Woodside. The median price was \$2,025,000 in Portola Valley and \$2,055,000 in Woodside.

The sale price was 109% of list price in Palo Alto, 104.3% of list price in Menlo Park, 100.6% of list price in Atherton, 97% of list price in Portola Valley and 98.5% of list price in Woodside. During the first quarter, there were only 102 new listings in Palo Alto, 102 in Menlo Park,

43 in Atherton, 23 in Portola Valley and 59 in Woodside.

The off-MLS market has also been active, with most homes selling with multiple offers.

Consequently the spring season is proving to be very challenging for local home buyers. The average buyer is facing fierce competition from investors and other cash buyers. Almost a third of local home buyers were cash buyers.

The townhouse/condominium market was not as strong as the market for single family houses during the first quarter. 24 units sold in Palo Alto, with a 1% increase in median price (to \$893,000), and 16 units sold in Menlo Park with a 4% increase in median price (to \$963,000).

Today's market is the ultimate seller's market. If you are thinking about selling your home it is a great time to sell. If you are a buyer, make sure that you have an agent with intimate knowledge of the local market to help you compete with other potential buyers.

If you have a real estate question or would like a free market analysis for your home, please call me at 650-384-5392, Alain Pinel Realtors, or email me at scullen@apr.com. For the latest real estate news, follow my blog at www.samiacullen.com



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ENVIRONMENT

Poppy project seeks to restore hills to native full bloom

The green hills of the Pearson-Arastradero Preserve are not what they seem, ecologist says

by Audra Sorman

Standing in the Pearson-Arastradero Preserve parking lot, ecological restorationist Craig Dremann held up a California postcard, aligning its picturesque landscape with the hills before him. The postcard, a photograph of a stretch of hills along Interstate 5, showed land awash with splashes of vibrant orange and purple, the wild poppies and lupines native to California. When he lowered the postcard, he was faced with acres of non-native grass.

"People see green grass growing on the hills and they don't see the problem there. They don't realize that's not what's supposed to be there."

The problem, according to Dremann, is that the many species

of non-native European weeds, which cover the hills, keep California's native flora at bay and increase the flora's chances of extinction. In response, Dremann has started The Poppy Project, a bid to restore the 70 acres of grassland overlooking the preserve's parking lot to a native state, full of perennial bunchgrasses and wildflowers.

For the past three years Dremann, who is a co-owner of both an ecological-restoration consulting business and a mail-order seed company out of Redwood City, has been experimenting with different ways to kill off the non-native weeds covering the hills. Last year, he discovered that if he cut down the weeds

and used them as a ground cover, he could deter new weed growth.

Dremann made his experiment come to life last September, when he cleared a 40-by-20-foot swath of land at the preserve. Dremann harvested a tablespoon of seeds from the poppies around the preserve and sowed them into the plot after determining that he had killed the weeds.

Today, the plot is home to 1,000 California poppy blooms and counting, and Dremann is waiting for the City of Palo Alto to approve an expansion of his project. Curt Dunn, a Palo Alto park ranger who has been a liaison to The Poppy Project since January, said that the city is "eager to see what the outcome is in the long run."

"So far it looks promising. We're encouraged," Dunn said.

But Dremann's vision of wildflower-covered hills, Dunn acknowledged, "would take a serious commitment of funds."

According to Dremann, The Poppy Project's major expenditures are hiring people to help with the project as well as obtaining more wildflower seeds. Donations to The Poppy Proj-



Craig Dremann, ecological restorationist, sits in a bed of golden poppies he planted at Pearson-Arastradero Preserve in Palo Alto as part of The Poppy Project. He's hoping to cover 70 acres in poppies and other native flowers and grasses.

ect are being handled through the private, San Francisco nonprofit organization Planet Drum Foundation.

Currently, the wildflowers local to the Arastradero Preserve are not available in bulk form, and seeds harvested from the preserve would need to be sent off to a seed company where they would be sown, harvested, tested for purity and resown over a number of years until there would be enough seed to cover the 70 acres, Dremann said.

The land became inundated with non-native weeds because of centuries of cattle over-grazing. Today it is susceptible to non-native species like the medusahead, which has been steadily creeping into

the preserve, said Claire Elliott, a senior ecologist at Acterra, a local environmental nonprofit. Acterra is the official steward of the city-owned preserve.

But native bunchgrasses — like purple needlegrass, the official California state grass — are unlike most of the non-native annuals covering the hills. The purple needlegrass is better for the environment because its deep roots allow water to more easily infiltrate the soil, Elliott said. This infiltration ensures less soil erosion and decreases the amount of water runoff, which keeps the water flowing from the mountains to the

(continued on page 11)

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Neighborhoods

A roundup of neighborhood news edited by Sue Dremann

AROUND THE BLOCK

SENIOR HOUSING MEETING ...

The Palo Alto Housing Corporation will host a neighborhood meeting on the **Maybell Homes Senior Housing Development** on April 24 at 6:30 p.m. The nonprofit housing corporation has proposed 60 apartments for extremely low- and low-income seniors and 15 single-family homes for sale at market rate at the corner of Maybell and Clemo avenues. The meeting will discuss traffic and revised designs and will take place at the Arastradero Park Apartments Community Room, 574 Arastradero Road. A traffic study was commissioned by the housing corporation in February. The study and a summary can be found on the Barron Park Association website at www.bpa-paloalto.org (click on April 24 under "Upcoming events").

IN A FIX ...

Broken toasters, frayed cords and other household objects will be repaired at **Repair Cafe Palo Alto** on Sunday, April 21, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. The event is free and helps keep broken items out of the landfill. More information is available at repaircafe-paloalto.org.

THE BATTLE IS OVER ...

A two-and-a-half-year-old legal battle over the name of a liquor store in Barron Park came to an end on April 5, when both sides settled and the **Ernie's Liquors** name became the property of two stores — in slightly different forms. The store at 3871 El Camino Real, where Ernie's had been located for more than 56 years, will keep the name Ernie's Liquors, and the previous proprietor, **Antony Puthanpurayil**, will use the name **Ernie's@Century Liquors**, he said. Puthanpurayil moved out of the original Ernie's building in 2010 after his lease expired and his rent was raised. He took the Ernie's name with him, moving yards away to a storefront across Military Way at 3866 El Camino Real. He claimed he paid nearly \$1 million for the "good will" and merchandise after his lease was up at the original location, so the name and liquor license belonged to him. But original Ernie's property owner **Johny Mathew** sued to keep the name. Puthanpurayil has moved his El Camino store, buying out **Century Wine and Liquor** at 3163 Middlefield Road in Midtown, which is a block away from his residence, he said. ■

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



Veronica Weber

Steve Staiger, Palo Alto's historian, keeps some of his 250 variously shaped and sized bells on a shelf.

OVER THE BACK FENCE

Ringling in history

Steve Staiger has collected 250 bells of all sorts

by Sue Dremann

Palo Alto Historian Steve Staiger clanged the old bell in his garden. He jerked the pull on a series of four mini bells that jangled musically under the porch overhang. On a hill above his home a train bell dinged, and a stiff wind bonged a small brass gong suspended above his patio.

Bells resonate with Staiger, 62. The former city reference librarian said they have a special place in history. In fact, the Liberty Bell traveled through Palo Alto not once, but twice, he said.

Perhaps that bit of trivia gives added significance to his souvenirs of the famous bell, including the metal one that also serves as a pencil sharpener. Staiger has a collection of 250 bells. They range from the kind schoolmarm rang in a one-room schoolhouse to ship and train bells and even one from El Camino Real.

Staiger, who is best-known around the city for his knowledge of Palo Alto history, acquired his first bell in 1964 from his family's farm in south Indiana.

"We picked up the bell and put it in the back of a Chevy Impala Super Sport convertible with three kids

and two tortoises," he said.

The bell remained at his parents' Marin County home until about several years ago when his mother began divesting of possessions.

"It was probably from a school, and they used it on the farm," he said.

Bells are an attraction because they make noise; there is a masculine quality about the loud, resonating sound of a big bell, he said.

Historically bells were a primary means of communication. Bells sounded a warning that a train was coming or a ship was passing; they summoned children to school and field hands home to supper. Mission bells were a kind of clock the padres used to tell Indian slaves to come in for prayer or dinner, and bells helped find lost sheep and cattle.

Staiger's three young grandchildren love to discover and ring the 30 or 40 bells in the garden, he said. Of course, he has his favorites. The large El Camino Real bell came from a man who sells them to the state to mark the historic roadway. And he is particularly fond of an old bell-shaped sign from the California Mission Trails Association, he said.

Staiger recently wrote a story about the Liberty Bell's local journey, which is published in the April issue of *The Tall Tree*, the Palo Alto Historical Association's newsletter. The iconic cracked bell traveled by train from Philadelphia to the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco, coming through Palo Alto on the Southern Pacific tracks, he said. It was the last time the bell had left Philadelphia, since souvenir seekers kept chipping off small pieces.

"The kind people of Philadelphia had a history of loaning the Liberty Bell to other cities for notable events. ... Each time the Liberty Bell returned to Philadelphia, the crack was bigger and the bell had lost some weight," he said.

Staiger also purchased a souvenir Liberty Bell button and ribbon from the 1915 exposition. He has a collection of smaller, desk-top-sized El Camino bells from the 1920s and '30s, and he is trying to collect a complete set of souvenir mission bells. If he gets one of each, he might create a campanile similar to one in a church bell tower, he said.

Staiger climbed the pathway to

his terraced garden and clanged a large, black train bell. The sound resonated with a richness that seemed to fill the air in waves.

More utilitarian bells that are not designed for beautiful sound are made from iron, ceramic or steel. But "good" bells are made from a specific mixture called "bell metal." Churches paid big money for the glorious sound of such bells, which reminded parishioners of the heavens, he said.

Staiger and his wife, Luana, scour for collectibles at antique shops, fairs and flea markets. In addition to bells, he collects golf putters, flags and small replica boat models. Luana collects shelf-sized totem poles and other miniature replicas.

"This is what my wife and I do instead of hanging out at the local saloon," Staiger said.

There is one bell he does not have in his collection, however, and others he won't collect. He doesn't have a telephone bell, and he isn't interested in little glass bells that tinkle.

"The little ones don't make a manly sound," he said. ■

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

Peery Foundation gives \$1 million for disability playground

Magical Bridge to provide play equipment for adults and children of all abilities

by Sue Dremann

The Peery Foundation will donate a \$1 million matching grant to build a playground for disabled children and adults at Mitchell Park in Palo Alto, it was announced Wednesday.

The Magical Bridge playground will offer special equipment for children and adults with physical and cognitive disabilities, autism, sensory problems and visual limitations. Allowing people of all abilities to play together, it would be the first of its kind in the country, founder

Olenka Villareal said.

The Magical Bridge Project has received \$1.1 million in other donations toward its \$3.1 million goal. The Peery Foundation will match up to \$1 million in donations received on or after April 19.

The grant and matching funds would allow the project to break ground by this fall, Villareal said. The Friends of the Magical Bridge Playground hope to secure all funding by June 15.

"We are inspired by the vision

for this park. Palo Alto is full of wonderful parks, but this will be the first that allows all children, many who have had to watch from the sidelines, to fully participate in play with friends and family. We invite existing and new donors to find the generosity needed to make this park a reality," Peery said in a statement.

More information about the matching grant and the Magical Bridge Project is posted at www.ra-zoo.com/story/Magical-Bridge. ■

Poppies

(continued from page 8)

Bay prurer, she said. Additionally, the perennial bunchgrasses hold on to their water throughout the dry summer months, which would make potential grassfires less intense.

"They stay green longer," Elliott said, "so they're not as flammable as the oat grasses that dry up totally in the summer."

Dremann plans to eventually plant bunchgrasses among the poppies, and his project has already begun to attract attention. Lately, it is not uncommon to see preserve visitors taking pictures of the striking orange blossoms.

For now, Dremann's goal is to have 40-50 species of native wildflowers covering the preserve's hills. He hopes that if he transforms Arastradero's hills, they "can be a genetic resource for the Peninsula." The flowers could be harvested and sown elsewhere locally.

One of the challenges Dremann faces is making sure that any seeds sown into the weed-free soil contain local genetic material. He said the newly planted native seeds will have a better chance of survival if they are used to the immediate local environment.

In addition to harvesting and re-sowing seeds that are from flowers scattered around the rest of the preserve, Dremann noted there are dormant native seeds buried beneath the non-native weeds. This week, Dremann saw some of these native dormant seeds come to life. Along with the poppies Dremann planted, there are now four sprouts of native tarweed, a yellow wildflower, which he did not plant. Without the removal of the non-native weeds, these sprouts from the dormant tarweed seeds would have never been able to sprout, Dremann said.

Dremann believes that time is running out when it comes to rediscovering native seeds.

"Every day we're not taking those exotics (non-native plants) off the hillside, the dormant native seeds that have been there for at least 100 years are losing their viability."

After watching insects feed on the poppies' protein-rich pollen on an unseasonably warm April afternoon, Dremann noted that he

had seen a swallowtail butterfly, its presence formerly unlikely on a flowerless part of the preserve.

"The world looks a lot different when you're aware of it," he said. "It's amazing." ■

Editor's note: Craig Dremann is the husband of Weekly Staff Writer Sue Dremann.

Editorial Intern Audra Sorman can be emailed at asorman@pawebly.com.

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BY GIUSEPPE VERDI



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News Digest

Palo Alto adds 'chief communications officer'

Palo Alto added a new position to its leadership team this week, tapping a former California State University executive to serve as the city's first "chief communications officer."

Claudia Keith, who was vice chancellor for public affairs for the CSU system before launching her own consultancy, started her new job on Tuesday, April 16, the city announced. Her annual salary will be \$175,000.

City Manager James Keene called Keith's position the "missing link in our ability to the very best" in promoting government transparency. The City Council had approved the job last year as part of its fiscal year 2013 budget.

"We are committed to open government and transparency and intend to set the standard for communication, collaboration and civic participation in local government," Keene said in a statement. "To ensure this, we must add capacity to be proactive in our efforts and to work across boundaries within our organization and within our community and region."

Keith's duties at CSU included directing the activities of the public-affairs office, according to the city's announcement. This included media relations, strategic-communications planning, issues management and public policy and integration of communication with state and federal advocacy efforts. She also ran her own consulting practice from 1998 to 2006, serving a clientele that included public agencies and a large financial institution, according to the city. ■

— Gennady Sheyner

Police nab suspect in Saturday's bank robbery

Palo Alto police have made an arrest in connection with Saturday's bank robbery on El Camino Real after tips from two other law-enforcement agencies led officers to the suspect at the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care Systems on Tuesday morning, April 16.

Eddie Boyce Jr., 50, was arrested and charged with robbing the Provident Credit Union at 2390 El Camino Real. He is the same man who crashed through a police barricade at President Barack Obama's motorcade, Santa Clara County Supervising Deputy District Attorney Cindy Hendrickson said.

Boyce allegedly walked into the bank at about 9:40 a.m. Saturday wearing a backpack and handed a teller a note claiming that he had a gun and demanding cash, according to the police. The teller handed over an undisclosed amount of money, and Boyce allegedly fled on foot.

The Palo Alto Police Department issued an alert with surveillance images of the robber to law-enforcement agencies throughout the area. The department then received tips from two different agencies. One was a deputy in the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, who said he was familiar with the suspect from a prior booking. The other tipster, according to the police, was the suspect's own probation officer from the San Mateo County Probation Department.

On Tuesday, Palo Alto officers had little trouble arresting Boyce, whom they described as a "transient."

After following up on the two tips from San Mateo, local officers located him at the VA facility at 3801 Miranda Ave. and arrested him without incident and with assistance from the Veterans Affairs Police Department, according to the police. He was booked into the Santa Clara County Main Jail for one count of robbery.

The robbery at Provident Credit Union was the second at the bank this year. Another robbery occurred on Jan. 9. Hunter D. Thompson, 32, of San Jose, has since been arrested and charged with that crime. ■

— Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto to install dozens of defibrillators

A network of defibrillators — devices that restore regular heart rhythm to victims of cardiac arrest — will soon be installed at police cars, parks, community centers and other public facilities throughout Palo Alto.

The City Council voted unanimously April 15 to buy 37 automatic external defibrillators (AEDs), portable devices that detect irregular heart rhythm and, through a shock, restore normal rhythm to victims of sudden cardiac arrest. The purchase of these devices, which will cost the city about \$92,500, sailed through as part of the council's vote to amend its budget for fiscal year 2013.

The council's Finance Committee had previously recommended buying the defibrillators after encouragement by residents who form the nonprofit group Racing Hearts, which has been donating defibrillators to racing events throughout the Bay Area and raising awareness about sudden cardiac arrest. Stephanie Martinson, founder of Racing Hearts who has undergone eight surgeries for a hereditary heart disease, said installing defibrillators throughout Palo Alto will "raise the standard of care for the entire community."

"The use of AEDs is critical during a chain of survival during a sudden cardiac arrest because a sudden cardiac arrest can happen to anyone, any time," Martinson said.

She noted that the Palo Alto school district is also planning to install defibrillators at all local schools by June 2014.

The city's plan is to install 27 defibrillators in eight police vehicles and 19 prominent city locations. ■

— Gennady Sheyner

Professor

(continued from page 6)

as the school 15 or 20 miles away.

"No matter how much the students or teachers tried, if there wasn't a commitment to curricular equity — that even in Calexico you should be able to take AP physics — some kids won't have the opportunities," he said.

He said he beat the odds by taking classes at a community college and having "extraordinary teachers who let me know they'd work with me to do extra work."

He earned an undergraduate degree from Harvard, a law degree from Yale and a doctorate in political science from Stanford.

Cuellar, an expert on administrative law and governance, public organizations and transnational security, worked as special assistant to President Barack Obama for justice and regulatory policy in the Domestic Policy Council and chaired Obama's transition team on immigration.

In July he will become director of Stanford's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies.

Stanford Graduate School of Education Professor Linda Darling-Hammond and Hoover Institution Senior Fellow Eric Hanushek also were among the 27 members of the Equity and Excellence Commission. ■

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



City of Palo Alto ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Draft Negative Declaration has been prepared by the Palo Alto Department of Planning and Community Environment for the project listed below. In accordance with A.B. 886, this document will be available for review and comment during an **extension of the inspection period through May 14, 2013** during the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. at the Development Center, 285 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California. The original notice was published on April 5, 2013.

Written comments on the Negative Declaration will be accepted until 5:00 PM on May 14, 2013 in the Planning and Community Environment Department Civic Center offices on the fifth floor of City Hall.

Housing Element Update: The project consists of the update of the City of Palo Alto's Housing Element, a mandated element of the General Plan. The Housing Element provides policy direction for accommodating Palo Alto's housing needs through 2014. The Association of Bay Area Government's (ABAG) has assigned a Regional Housing Needs Allocation number of 2,860 housing units to the City of Palo Alto for the period from 2007-2014. During this period, the City has entitled 1,217 units however it still must plan to accommodate 1,643 housing units. The policies and programs in the updated Housing Element include recommendations for changes in the land use regulations pertaining to residential development, the creation of incentives to encourage the development of a variety of housing types, and an increase in density within certain residential and mixed use zoning districts.

Curtis Williams,

Director of Planning and Community Environment

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

Sign up for the Palo Alto Citywide Yard Sale

**Saturday, June 8
from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.**



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- We'll send you a fact sheet with tips for a successful sale and a list of reuse organizations.
- Your address and sale merchandise will be included in a full-page map listing all participating sales. The map will be printed in the June 7, 2013 edition of the Palo Alto Weekly and online at www.PaloAltoOnline.com/yardsale

For more information about the Yard Sale
www.PaloAltoOnline.com/yardsale
zerowaste@cityofpaloalto.org
(650) 496-5910



Civil

(continued from page 3)

Rights. He failed to inform the school board or public about the findings and agreement until the Weekly published details about the case provided by the family.

Some of the required trainings have already taken place, and the district is awaiting feedback from the Office for Civil Rights on new draft policies on bullying, discrimination and harassment. The student received a placement in a special school five days after the story was published.

As long as complaints are filed in

a timely manner and pertain to federal civil-rights laws enforced by the Office for Civil Rights, an investigation will be conducted to determine if any violations of law occurred. According to the federal letter to the district, "Opening allegations for investigation in no way implies that OCR has made a determination with regard to their merits."

Under Office for Civil Rights policies, if an investigation concludes the district was out of compliance with civil-rights laws, the district has an opportunity to resolve the matter by negotiating a resolution agreement prior to formal findings being issued by the government.

In the new disability harassment

case, the Office for Civil Rights has requested the district turn over a large number of documents, including notes from all conversations and meetings and emails with the family, all complaints made by other families at the school, student and staff rosters, attendance records, transcripts and a description of the process school administrators are supposed to use to investigate disability harassment complaints. The request asks the district to reply by April 25.

In the other case, the Office for Civil Rights' notification letter to the district indicates a data request would be forthcoming. ■

Catholic

(continued from page 5)

incorrectly emphasizes the religious affiliation of the organization, which could be construed as a denial of equal access to federal funding."

Finance Committee member Marc Berman Tuesday spoke of the city's growing senior population and the deep need for the type of services Catholic Charities is providing. Vice Mayor Nancy Shepherd voiced a similar sentiment.

"It's been my understanding that Catholic Charities works at a very basic level of human need," Shepherd said. "The people who are here tonight and the people who are out in the field are doing things that (most) people will never do or will never want to do." ■

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 professor Adam Johnson wins Pulitzer

Adam Johnson, associate professor of English at Stanford, won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for fiction for his novel, "The Orphan Master's Son." (April 16, 9:16 a.m.)

Veterinarians discover: It's a boy!

First there was a boy named Sue; now there's Floodgate Dolly. The tiny harbor seal pup that was rescued from San Francisco Bay by Palo Alto Animal Services on April 9 turns out to be male, Jim Oswald, a spokesman for the Marine Mammal Center, said. (April 15, 6:03 p.m.)

Paly team heads to Science Olympiad nationals

Fifteen students from Palo Alto High School will compete in the national Science Olympiad in Dayton, Ohio, next month after taking first place Saturday against teams from more than 20 other schools in the California finals. (April 15, 9:48 a.m.)

Morning Palo Alto manhunt ends in two arrests

After an hour-long search, police apprehended a man at 9:15 a.m. who may have been involved in a south Palo Alto theft. (April 15, 9:48 a.m.)

Pacifist, Kepler's legend Ira Sandperl dies at 90

Ira Sandperl, a well-known pacifist who worked for decades at Kepler's bookstore in Menlo Park -- from the 1950s into the 1980s -- died April 13 at his home in Menlo Park. He was 90. (April 15, 9:04 a.m.)

Traffic delays expected on Foothill, Junipero Serra

Traffic along Foothill Expressway and Junipero Serra Boulevard may be impacted for months as Pacific Gas and Electric replaces natural gas lines in the area. (April 14, 9:56 PM)

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CityView

A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

City Council (April 15)

Sidewalks: The council directed staff to explore revisions to the city's regulations on sidewalks and building setbacks to make the regulations more consistent with the El Camino Real Grand Boulevard plan. **Yes:** Unanimous
Environment: The council heard a presentation about the city's recent environmental accomplishments, including reducing municipal greenhouse emissions by 53 percent from the 2005 baseline level. **Action:** None

Council Infrastructure Committee (April 16)

Jay Paul: The committee discussed an accelerated timeline for reviewing a proposal by developer Jay Paul for two office complexes at 395 Page Mill Road. **Action:** None

Council Finance Committee (April 16)

Golf course: The committee voted to authorize City Manager James Keene to complete negotiations with the San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority over financing for the proposed revamp of the Palo Alto Municipal Golf Course. **Yes:** Unanimous
Grants: The committee endorsed a staff recommendation for distributing the Community Development Block Grant funds for 2014. **Yes:** Unanimous
Utilities: The committee reviewed and approved financial projections for electric, gas, wastewater and fiber utilities. **Yes:** Unanimous

Architectural Review Board (April 17)

537 Hamilton Ave.: The board voted to approve the design of a proposed 14,657-square-foot, two-story office building at 537 Hamilton Ave. but directed the applicant to make changes to some colors and materials and to consider other options for the proposed stair tower. The board also requested revisions to the building's proposed canopy, which would be approved at a later date. **Yes:** Lippert, Malone Prichard, Popp **No:** Alizadeh, Lew

Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL ... The council plans to meet in closed session to discuss real property negotiations involving Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road, and Ventura School site, 3990 Ventura Court. The negotiating parties are the city and the Palo Alto Unified School District. The closed session will begin at 6 p.m. on Monday, April 22, at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

BOARD OF EDUCATION ... The board will hold a study session to discuss site selection for a new elementary school projected to open around 2017. The meeting will be from 1 to 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23, in portable room 25C adjacent to school-district headquarters (25 Churchill Ave.).

BOARD OF EDUCATION ... The board will hold public hearings and discuss proposed labor-contract agreements with the Palo Alto Educators Association and the California School Employees Association. The board also will hear a presentation on the Common Core State Standards as well as a report on the district's strategic-plan-update activities. The regular meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23, in the boardroom of school district headquarters (25 Churchill Ave.).

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION ... The commission plans to discuss the Urban Forest Master Plan, hear a presentation from the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, consider design changes to the El Camino Park renovation project and review a memo in response to the Cubberley Community Advisory Committee final report. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 23, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ... The commission plans to discuss the city's capital improvement program for 2014-18 and consider a "planned community" zone change initiation for 395 Page Mill Road, a proposal by Jay Paul for two office buildings totaling 311,000 square feet and a public-safety building. The meeting will begin at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, April 24, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.). The Jay Paul discussion is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

COUNCIL RAIL COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to hear updates about recent meetings of the California High-Speed Rail Authority and the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board; discuss the preliminary cost estimates for grade separation and trenching studies; and consider a draft letter to the PCJPB concerning the board's member configuration. The meeting will begin at 9 a. m. on Thursday, April 25, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

LIBRARY ADVISORY COMMISSION ... The commission plans to discuss the fiscal year 2012 City Performance Report and discuss the libraries' policies on circulation and read-and-return services. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 25, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

Sidewalks

(continued from page 3)

12-foot-wide sidewalks, which includes a 4-foot-wide planting strip.

The Grand Boulevard Initiative is a strategic document created by planning agencies from Santa Clara and San Mateo counties that urges a better pedestrian experience for the major thoroughfare.

The council memo argues that recent new developments, particularly along El Camino Real and Alma, "address the street in ways that are inconsistent with the intent and the vision of the El Camino Real Design Guidelines and the Grand Boulevard Plan."

"This has generated consternation in the community and a strong negative reaction by members of the public as to ... how the buildings turn their backs on the public right of way," the memo states. "New Urbanism principles and/or use of the PC (planned-community zoning) have often incorrectly been identified as the reason for these buildings being characterized as unfriendly and overwhelming."

Bob Moss, a land-use watchdog and a leading critic of the recent developments (most notably, Arbor Real and Alma Village), lauded the council for addressing sidewalks. The problem isn't New Urbanism, he said, referring to a philosophy that encourages dense development near transit hubs, but what he called "New Uglyism."

"People who talk about losing Miki's don't just talk about Miki's going out of business; they talk about what an ugly, oppressive building it is," Moss said.

Penny Ellson, a longtime advocate for bicycling improvements in school corridors, also praised the memo and argued that sidewalks are critical components of

city life. Sidewalks, she said, "are places where things happen."

"It's one the edge of where the cars run, the vehicles move, but it's also a really important place," Ellson said. "It's where kids play; it's where neighbors run into each

other; it's where the life of the city really happens. And I think it's important that people of Palo Alto have that space." ■

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



CITY OF
**PALO
ALTO**

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

8:30 A.M., Thursday, May 2, 2013 Palo Alto Council Chambers, 1st Floor, Civic Center, 250 Hamilton Avenue. Go to the Development Center at 285 Hamilton Avenue to review filed documents; contact Diana Tamale for information regarding business hours at 650.329.2144.

2755 El Camino Real [13PLN-00138]: Request by the Hayes Group on behalf of Pollock Financial Group, Inc. for preliminary Architectural Review of a new four story mixed use building with three stories of below grade parking on a 19,563 square foot lot. The Council conducted a preliminary review session in February 2013 regarding the potential project. The Planning and Transportation Commission has not yet conducted the Planned Community initiation. Zone District: PF.

500 University Avenue [13PLN-00112]: Request by Thoits Bros. LLC for Preliminary Architectural Review of a new three-story 26,806 square foot commercial building with below grade parking, replacing the existing one-story commercial building. The concept design would require a Design Enhancement Exception (DEE) to allow additional height over the limit for a corner tower element. Zone: CD-C(GF)(P).

180 El Camino Real [13PLN-00064]: Request by Fergus, Garber, Young Architects, on behalf of the Leland Stanford Junior University, for a Minor Architectural Review of façade improvements and signage for a commercial recreation use for SoulCycle at the Stanford Shopping Center. Zone District: CC (Community Commercial). Environmental Assessment: Exempt from the provisions of CEQA, 15301 (Existing Facilities).

Amy French
Chief Planning Official

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Editorial

Paly journalists sound alarm

Verde magazine courageously and sensitively raises issue of teen sexual assault and its ugly aftermath

When Palo Alto High School journalism students published its issue on teen “rape culture” last week, they knew it would send shockwaves beyond the campus.

But they had no way of knowing the incidents they described occurring to 10 Paly girls would be followed days later with revelations that a similar date-rape of an intoxicated 15-year-old Saratoga High School student led to the ultimate tragic outcome, suicide.

The result has been extensive news coverage and commentary over the last 10 days about a teen culture that all too frequently makes the victim suffer twice, once during an unwanted sexual assault and again by being ostracized by friends and bullied and shamed by other students, often in vicious posts on social media.

The Verde magazine staff has performed a courageous public service for its school and the community by bringing this teen culture out into the open.

The package of stories (available online at palyvoice.com) is anchored by a story entitled “You can’t tell me I wasn’t raped,” which tells the stories of two young Paly girls who were sexually assaulted by older high school boys after all four were intoxicated.

The stories paint a powerful picture of how easily friends of victims can turn against them and accuse them of inviting sex by the way they dress and respond under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The goal of the Verde staff was to promote an open discussion among students and parents on the dangers of making assumptions about another person’s desires and their inability to consent to behavior while impaired. It sent a clear and important message that consent cannot be given by the clothes we wear, our body language or flirtatious comments. It is the responsibility of both individuals to affirmatively consent and to recognize when alcohol or drug use makes consent impossible.

It also poignantly shows how devastating it can be when friends take sides and magnify the hurt through social media.

These are not easy concepts for teens to absorb or put into practice, as comments published in the Verde articles and on Palo Alto Online’s Town Square forum show. A shocking number of teens and adults persist in the belief that an intoxicated teen girl (or boy) who doesn’t say “no” is welcoming a sexual experience and is capable of making that decision and knowing all its consequences.

It is also not easy for school officials to know what to do when off-campus behavior becomes an on-campus, “everybody is talking about it” phenomenon. But schools have a legal obligation to take immediate action if a hostile learning environment is created for any student, and administrators need to aggressively respond under these circumstances by addressing them as forcefully as they would any other campus disruption.

Coincidentally and worth noting is that today is the National Day of Silence, started in 1996 at the University of Virginia and now the largest student-led effort aimed at creating safer schools for all, regardless of sexual orientation. The concept is to draw attention to anti-LGBT bullying and harassment in all schools by remaining silent all day except when required to speak during class time.

The Verde story got a wide range of media coverage, including on local television and in Salon and the Huffington Post. Paly students Lisie Sabbag, who wrote the piece, and co-editors Evelyn Wang and Sharon Tseng, along with faculty advisor Paul Kandell, all were interviewed on KQED Radio’s Forum program.

High school students and administrators everywhere are facing the issues addressed in the Verde stories, but mostly without openly discussing them. Thanks to the careful efforts of these young Paly journalists, our school community is taking that important first step.

Correction: Former school supe resigned

A Palo Alto Weekly editorial published on March 8, 2013, pertaining to current school controversies incorrectly stated that former Palo Alto Unified School District Superintendent Mary Frances Callan had been fired from her position in 2006. In fact, Callan submitted her letter of resignation to the school board on Dec. 1, 2006, and retired from the district in August 2007. The Weekly regrets the error.

Spectrum

Editorials, letters and opinions

End rape culture

Editor,

It’s time the rape culture that has existed at Paly for decades is exposed. My 36-year-old daughter was raped by a group of Paly boys when she was 15. It was right before she began her sophomore year. PAPD notified us one evening that she was there filing a report. A caring and sensitive policewoman was by her side shepherding her through the grueling process of describing the horrific chain of events.

My daughter was reporting what began innocently enough but, fueled by alcohol, quickly got out of hand and ended in her being brutally raped multiple times by a group of Paly boys behaving like savages. Social media had yet to explode, but word spread quickly and she felt ostracized and alone. The policewoman remained by her side long after the terrible event offering her support. She worked tirelessly to make those responsible accountable for their actions. My husband and I stayed in contact with her, but the case hit a dead end and no charges were filed. Although we made certain our daughter received counseling to address the damage done by this traumatic event, we never sought an attorney to defend her and go after the perpetrators. We failed her.

Counseling hasn’t yet been able to undo the damage done to my daughter by those vicious boys, but I hope she has gained perspective as life moves her away from that fateful day. I have never forgiven myself for not having been more proactive on her behalf, nor has she.

I hope those responsible are racked by unrelenting shame and guilt. I wonder if they have sons and daughters.

Name withheld on request
Palo Alto

The citizens lose

Editor,

The only surprise about the closing of Miki’s Market was how fast it happened. The layout is a textbook example of how NOT to design a retail grocery store — position the store with its back to the street and crowded against it; provide inadequate and invisible parking that can only be accessed by a constricted and easily missed alley. I had read and heard good things about the store and wanted to check it out, but when passing by I could never force myself to turn down the very unappetizing entryway.

Thank you for your editorial about Miki’s, which clarified a number of things for me. I had thought that this was yet another horrible example of the new urbanism, or whatever it’s called, that the planning department keeps advocating. But it seems that our City Council is responsible for replacing one type of blight at Alma Plaza with another. I think it’s long past time for our city government

to stop providing exemptions to the zoning for so-called public benefits. The developers are only interested in maximizing their profits, and the citizens of Palo Alto always lose when these massive projects are built — as epitomized by the Alma Plaza project.

Diane Moore
Colorado Avenue, Palo Alto

No ‘growth at any cost’

Editor,

There is no doubt that big buildings are being OK’d at the public’s expense. I’ve lived here since the 1970s, and the change has been enormous, with an obvious direct correlation between the number and size of buildings erected and the amount of traffic and other congestion. The city wants more money and they figure that’s the way to get it; I’d prefer that they instead figure out ways to cut wasteful spending. And how about focusing on the hundreds of people who get away with dangerous driving practices every day in this city? I avoid being on the road during rush hours, yet I can’t go even a few blocks without seeing extreme speeding and lane-weaving, red-

light violators, drivers using mobile devices, and more.

Like so much around here, the traffic and driving weren’t nearly as bad back when this was a much less crowded city. Palo Alto has steadily been becoming less peaceful and safe, with no signs of reversing this trend. Shame on our leaders and their “growth at any cost” attitude!

Caroline Rose
Paradise Way, Palo Alto

Thank you, City Council

Editor,

On behalf of those of us who live in the residential areas immediately adjacent to Palo Alto’s ever-expanding downtown business district, our appreciation and thanks to the six members of the City Council who had the courage to take a first tentative step toward restoring the character of the downtown neighborhoods by voting in favor of instituting ground-floor level retail protection for the 600 block of Emerson Street.

The City Council’s vote effectively took a first step toward slowing the

(continued on next page)

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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

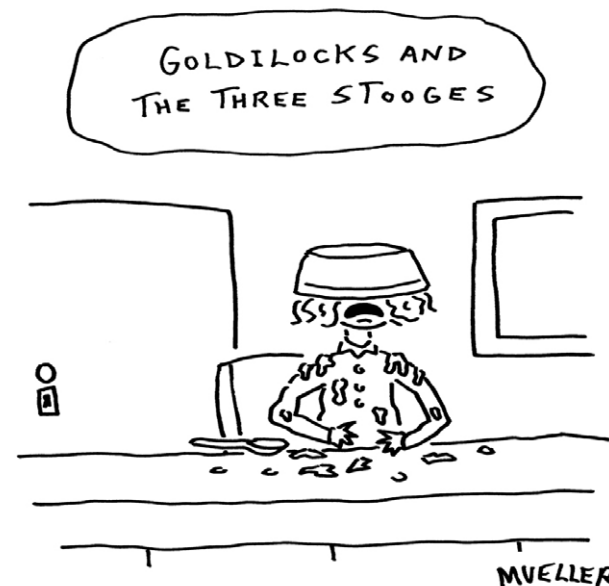


What do you think can be done to change the “rape culture” in high school?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words to letters@pawebly.com. Submit guest opinions of 1,000 words to editor@pawebly.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@pawebly.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!

Letters

(continued from previous page)

advancement of intrusive parking that has been burdening our neighborhoods since the downtown two-hour parking zones and the practice of allowing the developers to buy their way out of employee parking requirements by making so-called in-lieu payments to the city were implemented ... payments that have to date never been used to mitigate the burgeoning downtown parking deficit.

While admittedly piecemeal efforts such as the one enacted Monday night by the City Council are not the ultimate path to a workable solution, the fact that this step was taken in the interest of the community as a whole may bode well for a more integrated proposal that the city staff is scheduled to bring before the City Council in September.

In the meantime it is incumbent on those of us who reside in the Downtown North and University South residential neighborhoods to actively participate in the series of neighborhood meetings with residents that the city staff is scheduled to announce in the near future.

Michael Hodos
Bryant Street, Palo Alto

Yes on smoking ban

Editor,

I was reading the newspaper for the first time a few days ago, and I really liked the article you did ("Palo Alto looks to ban smoking at small parks," March 22). I really thought that Palo Alto should ban all smoking because I feel that smoking is really bad for people. I would be pretty mad if someone burned down my shop.

When one person smokes, it affects other people around them when they breathe in the smoke. My dad and I both agree that the smell of cigarette smoke stinks, cigarettes are a source of litter and cigarette butts cause a lot of fires.

Kevin Oghalai
Mayfield Avenue, Palo Alto

Guest Opinion

City needs to consider impact of divorcing families

by Jeffrey Blum

My service with a range of community organizations, including the Human Relations Commission, school site councils and YMCA board of directors has made me a firm believer in strategic planning.

But I must say that the city's long-range strategic plan is incomplete because it fails to address divorce, a major issue impacting our residents' social, economic, housing and other needs.

The strategic plan helps determine residents' long-term needs. It helps the city plan budgets, infrastructure needs, housing and social needs. While the strategic plan looks at city's demographic makeup to develop needs assessments for youth (how many school classrooms will we need?), the aged (how many senior citizen units will we need?), the disabled (how can we make our street crossing zones safer?) and the ethnic and racial makeup of the community (what cultural services do we need to provide?), it does not address the impact that divorce will have on our community.

It is a given that divorce is prevalent here and elsewhere in California. I know that from my own experience as a family law attorney. Recessions come and go. Divorces just seem to come unceasingly. According to recent surveys the divorce rate in California is as high as 75 percent, a staggering number of failed marriages. So when the city designs its strategic plan it must con-



sider the needs of all its citizens, including its divorcing families.

Divorces cause displacement. They frequently damage relationships with friends and family and to the community at large. Divorces strain the city's resources. People embroiled in divorce are often forced to relocate at a time when they are facing serious emotional and financial problems. These relocations impact the local real-estate market. Schools, child care centers, and local charitable organizations, already financially strapped, must deal with issues of domestic violence, child care needs arising from broken families, and child and adult depression caused by divorce. Yet the city's strategic plan does not address divorce and the impact divorce creates.

Perhaps the failure to address the impact of divorce on the city's resources in its strategic plan stems from the fact that we are a wealthy community with many residents who are financially able to hire professionals to address the issue of divorce. Palo Alto has plenty of divorce attorneys. I know that because I am the co-chair of the Family Law Section of our local bar. At last count Palo Alto had more than 60 attorneys who handle divorce cases. Palo Alto also has plenty of experts who mediate divorce cases and handle other aspects of divorce such as child-custody evaluations and therapeutic intervention.

These private services are expensive so not everyone can afford them, and even if they can it can create serious financial strains and losses to all but the wealthiest members of our community. Moreover, these services often fail to provide an integrated method of addressing the adverse

consequences of divorce.

Such a plan to address our city's divorce-related needs could include Palo Alto's adult-education program offering classes to assist parents who are going through divorce. These classes could provide a step-by-step lesson about the divorce process and divorce financial planning. The city's youth recreation program could offer divorce support classes and child care services to children of divorcing couples. As the city develops housing needs assessments it may also want to consider how many less expensive and smaller housing units are needed to address the divorcing population.

We need to go much further than these suggestions in our strategic planning around divorce and its consequences if we are to continue thriving as a city.

I am addressing just one aspect of this need for inexpensive divorce resources. Along with a group of other like-minded attorneys we are creating a referral panel available through the Palo Alto Area Bar Association to offer initial low-cost mediation services to divorcing parties (and to other parties having different legal issues).

I do not see the divorce rate in our community changing much in the next several years since it has not changed much during the past 34 years or so that I have been a family law attorney. Given this trend I urge our city leaders to devote more time and effort to addressing divorce and its impact on our community when the next strategic plan is written. ■

Jeff Blum is a family law attorney practicing in Palo Alto. He can be reached at Blumesq@aol.com.

Streetwise

Do you think the Boston bombings will have an effect locally or will cause worry?

Asked at Town and Country Village and on Emerson Street, Palo Alto. Interviews and photos by Rebecca Duran.



Francis Castano
Stay-at-home mom
Chabot Terrace, Palo Alto

"I think people will keep living their lives. If you do let it affect you, you let them win."



Loreto Ponce de Leon
Stay-at-home mom
Portola Avenue, Palo Alto

"Security will maybe increase. I think it should. To me, it seems like a single event."



Thomas Harrison
Biotechnology
Curtner Avenue, Palo Alto

"I actually ran a marathon last month in Portland. It's a little more real for me and I can't help that it bothered me. But, overall, I feel safe."



Alayne Greenwald
Retired
Channing Avenue, Palo Alto

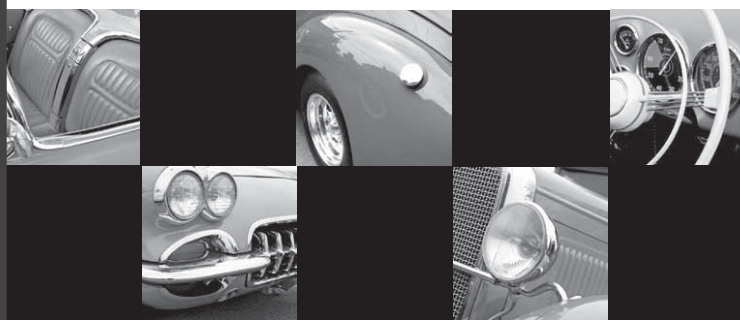
"I became a little more worried after listening about it on the radio. I have a granddaughter who lives in Boston."



Peter Noone
Stay-at-home dad
Jackson Drive, Palo Alto

"I think it's just a wacko. I think they targeted Boston because of the day and because of its liberalism."

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Transitions

Births, marriages and deaths

Fred W. Carnes

On the morning of April 7, Fred W. Carnes died from complications from pneumonia in Carmel Valley, Calif. He was surrounded by his daughters and his wife of 71 years, Carolyn Carnes. He was 93 years old.

Carnes was the owner of Carnes Piano in Town and Country Village, which was open from 1955 to 2006.

He was born on March 24, 1920 in St. Cloud, Mich. to Blanche and Winfield Carnes. He was one of three brothers, the other two named Jack and Merk, and had one sister, Viola. They all preceded him in death. The Carnes family moved to Pocatello, Idaho in the 1920s and he attended College at the University of Idaho, where he met his wife, Carolyn Meloy. They were married around 1941. He was a World War II veteran and served the country from "Fort Ord" in Monterey, Calif. The Carnes family was widely known in Idaho in the 1920's through 1955 as he and his family operated Carnes Music Company in Pocatello. He would, soon after the war, move to Idaho Falls to open his own music store, operated under the name of Carnes Music. During his time in Idaho Falls, he also operated the "Idaho Piano Exchange" on the

Yellowstone Highway. In 1956, Fred sold his business to partner Owen Hammond and moved to Beaverton, Oreg., then Palm Springs, Calif., and finally settled his family in Palo Alto, where he remained in business until he was 90 years old.

He operated stores in Palo Alto, San Leandro, San Francisco and San Jose. He had a complete shop in which he could rebuild pianos, as well as teach studio classes to make sure everyone who purchased a piano or organ had the chance to learn to play it properly. He closed his business in the California Avenue area in 2011. His son-in-law, Scott McBain, operates the only store left, in San Jose.

He also received many awards from piano manufacturers, as well as national music associations, for all he did for the music industry. He was a member of the Elks Club on El Camino in Palo Alto for many years. He and his wife had homes in Palo Alto, Sun Valley, Idaho, and most recently, Carmel Valley, Calif. Fred and Carolyn had a summer home in Island Park, Idaho, which they have had since getting married.

He was a hunter and horseman in his younger years.

He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; son, Jeff Carnes (Cristina);

daughters, Claudia (John McCotter) and Tani (Scott McBain); grandchildren, Nick, Chris, Britni, Kati, Dylan, Kellen, Lindsay McBain and Kristi McBain; great-great grandsons, Otis and Clive; and many nieces and nephews.

The family will hold private services at a later date in Idaho.

Births

Jeffrey and FangFang Paulson, Menlo Park, April 6, a girl.

Michael and Adriana Torosian, Woodside, April 6, a boy.

Lasting Memories

An online directory of obituaries and remembrances. Search obituaries, submit a memorial, share a photo.

PaloAltoOnline.com/obituaries

What will you discover?

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May Fête Fair

at Heritage Park from 10am-1pm.

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

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

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.

For general parade information please call Alison Williams at 650-648-3829 or email: ali.williams@cityofpaloalto.org

Pulse

A weekly compendium of vital statistics

POLICE CALLS

Palo Alto	
April 11-April 17	
Violence related	
Battery	1
Domestic violence	3
Suicide	1
Theft related	
Grand theft	2
Identity theft	2
Petty theft	3
Residential burglaries	3
Vehicle related	
Abandoned auto	2
Bicycle theft	2
Driving with suspended license	5
Hit and run	1
Misc. traffic	2
Theft from auto	8
Vehicle accident/minor injury	2
Vehicle accident/property damage	6
Vehicle tow	3
Alcohol or drug related	
Drunk in public	5
Possession of paraphernalia	1
Miscellaneous	
Animal call	2
Coroner case	1
Found property	4
Lost property	1
Other/misc.	2
Property for destruction	1
Psychiatric hold	2
Suspicious circumstances	2
Vandalism	1
Warrant/other agency	6
Menlo Park	
April 11-April 17	
Violence related	
Battery	3
Child abuse	1
Theft related	
Attempted theft	1

Credit card forgery	1	Alcohol or drug related	
Fraud	1	Drug activity	3
Petty theft	2	Drunken driving	2
Residential burglaries	3	Possession of drugs	1
Theft undefined	1	Miscellaneous	
Vehicle related		Disturbance	1
Auto recovery	1	Disturbing/annoying phone calls	1
Driving with suspended license	4	Found property	1
Hit and run	2	Info. Case	2
Theft from auto	3	Lost property	3
Vehicle accident/minor injury	2	Other/misc.	1
Vehicle accident/prop. Damage	1	Possession of stolen property	2
Vehicle tow	1	Psychiatric hold	2

Suspicious circumstances	1
Threats	1
Vandalism	2
Warrant arrest	8
VIOLENT CRIMES	
Palo Alto	
Unlisted block Pasteur Dr., 4/11, 8:13 a.m.; domestic violence	
2390 El Camino Real, 4/13, 9:06 a.m.; unknown suspect entered a bank and demanded money	
Unlisted block El Camino Real, 4/14,	

8:01 a.m.; domestic violence	
460 Emerson St., 4/14, 2:33 a.m.; battery	
Unlisted block El Camino Real, 4/16, 9:02 p.m.; domestic violence	
Menlo Park	
600 block Willow Rd., 4/11, 4:07 p.m.; juvenile victim reports being assaulted by known juvenile suspect	
800 block Bay Rd., 4/13, 3:53 p.m.; battery	
400 block Willow Rd., 4/14, 7:19 p.m.; battery on spouse	

Benjamin Charles Tobin

April 19, 1984 – April 6, 2013

Just shy of his 29th birthday, Ben Tobin passed away in his Palo Alto birthplace. A fourth generation native Californian, Ben was nurtured at Preschool Family Preschool, Ohlone Elementary School, and JLS Middle School. He attended Gunn High School until he was a junior. As a senior, Ben graduated from Foothill Middle College. Following high school Ben attended College of the Siskiyous and graduated from Firefighter I Academy in May of 2004. Ben worked at Lenz Technology fabricating and performing quality assurance on custom precision metal components. He was taking a series De Anza College courses in Manufacturing and Computer Numerical Control to enhance his skills.



Ben loved nature. He was most happy when he was at the beach, hiking through a forest, swimming in a lake, or sitting around a campfire with his many beloved friends. Timber, his Siberian Husky, was his loving companion. Ben precedes his parents, Joanne and Robert Tobin; his brothers, Michael and Matthew Tobin; his grandfather, Charles Yaeger; and his aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Ben was laid to rest at Alta Mesa Memorial Park, 695 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto, near his deceased grandmother, Patricia Alice Yaeger.

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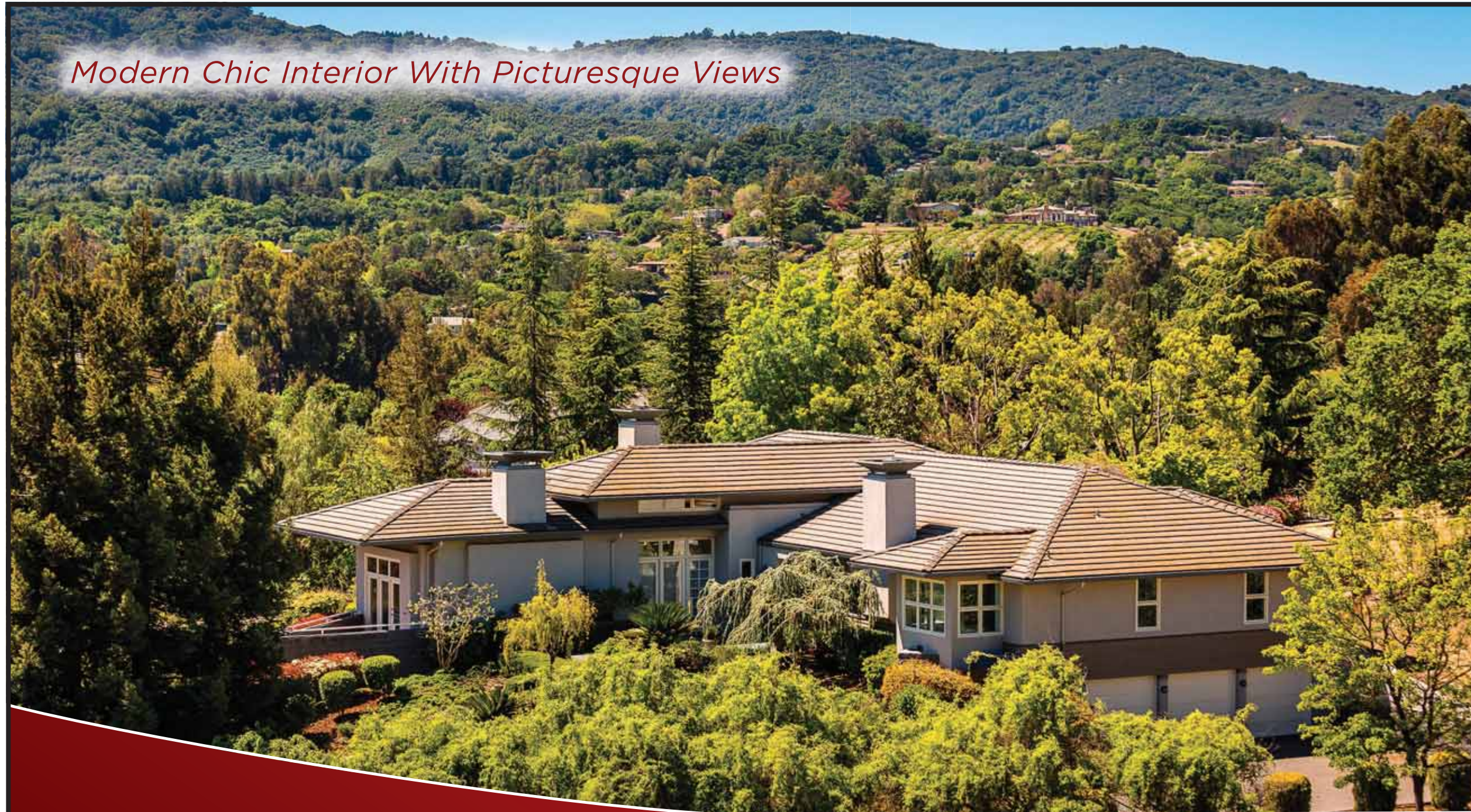
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Katie Brigham



Veronica Weber

Top: College Terrace Residents' Association board members, from left to right, Fred Balin, Doria Summa, Brent Barker (president), Margit Aramburu, Travis Giggy, Ed Schmitt and Ingrid Shu gather outside the College Terrace Library on April 12.

Left: Sheri Furman, left, and Annette Glanckopf, leaders of the Midtown Residents Association, sit in a recently renovated area of Greer Park.



File photo/Veronica Weber

From left, Noël Bakhtian, who serves as "Stanford University observer" for the College Terrace Residents' Association board of directors, walks through the Stanford campus with Irina Cross and Leslie Browne during a "Follow Me to Stanford" tour last year.

Getting hard to replace

After years of service, Palo Alto neighborhood leaders would like to step down, but who will take their place?

by Sue Dremann

When the Barron Park neighborhood association in Palo Alto sought to recruit more members recently, board member Lydia Kou launched Celebrate Cultural Diversity, a series of events designed to embrace residents from different backgrounds. More than 100 people attended the inaugural event on Feb. 9, a celebration of the Chinese Lunar New Year.

Women of Chinese heritage taught neighbors how to make dumplings, and people shared "trays of togetherness" laden with traditional foods. Based on its success, Kou set about organizing a second event — a spring Holi festival to celebrate the neighborhood's Indian population.

But just two weeks before the March 23 date, Kou canceled the festivities. She hadn't received any help and said she couldn't take on all of the work herself.

"It seems so hard to bring in new members," she said.

Neighborhood associations throughout Palo Alto are facing the same conundrum: how to get people to do some of the hard lifting that makes a neighborhood flourish.

Leaders from even the strongest and most visible associations said they are struggling to get new recruits. Many said they remain in leadership roles for years by default. They stay because they are passionate about the value of associations as

the neighborhoods' glue, but they are seriously concerned about the future viability of the associations.

For all the leaders' decades of hard work and volumes of email and newsletters sent out, some residents don't know that an organization exists to inform them and help them get connected.

"I still meet people at parties, and they are clueless. They say: 'Oh? We have a neighborhood association?'" Midtown Residents Association Vice Chairwoman Annette Glanckopf said.

Associations often accomplish significant change for their neighborhoods: Barron Park Association, worried about chemical leaks at

nearby Communications and Power Industries (CPI), forced the company to reduce the amount of hazardous materials stored on the site; Green Acres II residents successfully lobbied for a plan to calm traffic along the Charleston-Arastradero corridor in 2006; Midtown Residents Association worked to revitalize the deteriorating Midtown shopping district; the College Terrace Residents Association succeeded in fighting traffic problems and developed the city's first residential-parking-permit program; Professorville neighbors prompted the city to study parking that was spilling over into their neighborhood from downtown.

But by its nature, association ac-

tivity is often cyclical. When a major issue surfaces, latent activists step forward, but they drop out again when the issue is resolved, leaders said.

University South Neighborhood Association was its most active from 1998 until about 2003, when high-density housing projects were popping up in the area south of Forest Avenue near downtown. The association took an active role in the discussions over the Summerhill Homes development on Channing Avenue, the 800 High St. condominiums, a proposed police building, and development plans commonly known as SOFA 1 and SOFA 2, which included the former Palo



Lynn Melena, president of the Barron Park Association, and Art Liberman, vice president, stand in Bol Park. As neighborhood leaders, both play many roles.



Clockwise from bottom: Claudette Klein, Carol Cleary-Schultz, Karen Pauls and Lisa Knox of the Greenmeadow Community Association sit in front of the neighborhood's heated pool, which is accessible to association members.

Alto Medical Foundation property, the AME Zion Church and historic French Laundry.

The Fairmeadow Neighborhood Association in south Palo Alto saw a resurgence in membership when issues such as the Alma Plaza redevelopment and regulating second-story additions to homes arose.

University South President Elaine Meyer still comments before the City Council on major developments proposed for downtown. But otherwise, both associations are currently in quiet mode, their leaders said.

"While there were about 200 folks active in Fairmeadow Neighborhood Association during the days of the Friends of Alma Plaza, we now have about 50 active members on our email list," said Len Filppu, president of Fairmeadow's association.

"I am now what I refer to as 'the placeholder leader,' a natural organizational outgrowth from my efforts with Friends of Alma Plaza, although I've not been formally elected. Basically, I'm volunteering to keep things moving forward," Filppu said.

Lynn Melena, president of the Barron Park Association, said she initially joined her association in 2007 because she was interested in the formation of an environmental Green Team.

A retired city planner, Melena has lived in Barron Park for 42 years.

"Community building is my constant theme. The value of the association is so you feel like you're a part of this physical place. Your world isn't just your work or school. And you're there when an issue comes up; you're ready to go or almost ready to go.

"I think the city government respects the neighborhood that is organized. When you go to a meeting to present an idea, you're not just one person who stands up," she said.

Melena threw herself into the work, first as a board member, then as president.

"I was retired and I was used to going full steam. I had the time, so I did," she said.

But more than five years later Me-

lena is weary. She will step down in June.

"I could not get anybody to replace me. I just threw down the gauntlet. You only get it to happen when you do that," she said.

Art Liberman, vice president and membership chairman, has been the neighborhood watchdog regarding hazardous materials at CPI, but he is also the membership chairman and helps with the newsletter and website. Almost all board and committee members must wear multiple hats to cover all necessary neighborhood activities, he said.

Barron Park's membership has more than doubled from 200 a decade ago to 450 to 500 members. But while the organization is growing, getting people to take on one of the 10 board or 11 committee positions is more challenging, he said.

"In reality there will never be a large percentage of people involved. But those that are represent the thinking of a lot of people," he said.

Barron Park's association is strong because the neighborhood has a special history of being more "ram-bunctious" than others, Liberman said. Resident activists take charge of issues such as cut-through traffic, bicycle safety, creek contamination and the planned closure of Buena Vista Mobile Home Park.

The problem remains getting people to commit time, Melena said. When the association wanted to upgrade its website, the board sent out a notice asking for members' help.

"We have some of the smartest Internet people in the world in the neighborhood, but we couldn't get anybody to put together the website," Melena said.

Liberman said the neighborhood is going through a transition, with more new families moving in. On Melena's street alone there are five new households with kids, and three more homes are being sold.

Attention to family, education and jobs leaves little time for residents to take on added responsibilities. And land prices are so high that new families have an added pressure to just keep up with the mortgage, Melena said.



Children jump into the Greenmeadow community pool on Parkside Drive, which neighborhood leaders are hoping will be a draw for new association members.

Glanckopf of Midtown agreed. In a recent neighborhood survey, 57 percent of residents said they are too busy to take on association duties.

Elaine Uang, 34, a Downtown North resident, recently became interested in the effects of large commercial development on her neighborhood. But she said she understands the general sentiment against community involvement. Raising a family, working a full-time job and taking care of a home leave little time for community activism, she said.

Being in a leadership role means attending meetings and representing the neighborhood's interests in front of the Palo Alto City Council.

"Who has time to spend four hours every Monday night? It takes too much effort. You have to be kind of a masochist or a weird urban nerd like me to go looking for it," said Uang, an architect who works in San Francisco.

The amount of time one dedicated individual puts in can be the equivalent of a second job.

At one point, Sheri Furman, Midtown Residents Association chairwoman, worked her full-time Silicon Valley job and easily dedicated 40 hours a week to the association, she said. But that was the price of accomplishment.

"You have to have leaders who are willing to put in the time," she said.

Evergreen Park Neighborhood Association President David Schrom agreed.

"I can tell you exactly how much time I put in: 7,000 hours of my personal life and 3.5 years of full-time work over a decade," Schrom said.

Those hours pertained to just one issue: cut-through traffic. Schrom and other residents worked relentlessly in their neighborhood just east of El Camino Real and north of California Avenue in the 1970s.

"In the absence of a committed fanatic, you're not going to get the job done," he said.

Demographic shifts also play a role in lowering participation, neighborhood leaders said.

Melena said the board has had "many, many discussions" around how to include new immigrants and to make them feel a part of the community. Barron Park has had a large influx of Chinese, Koreans, Indians and Russians.

According to Kou, the newcomers moved to Palo Alto for a fine education for their children, and that is where their focus remains. The concept of community involvement might not be a part of some immigrants' culture, she added.

The Greenmeadow Association is likewise trying new strategies to increase participation among immigrants. Exclusion due to cultural differences has the potential to split the neighborhood, Karen Pauls, membership committee chairwoman, said.

"They are under-represented. We don't seem to be connecting with them," she said.

The membership committee will try a "targeted recruitment" to bring new people into each committee "so we don't end up with a divided community. We need to look around for the right individual who is the cross-over between the two communities," she said.

Greenmeadow is also looking at its heated pool as a big draw for membership, she said.

Developer Joseph Eichler built the 270 homes around a small park, pool and community center. On March 23, a swim party kicked off the pool season — and a membership recruitment drive.

Due to the economic downturn, membership — which costs money but gives access to the pool and the right to vote on association issues — dropped 25 percent in 2012, Pauls said, so the association is adding dif-

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

ferent levels of membership.

For 60 years, Greenmeadow memberships have been based on households. A family membership costs \$1,050 per year. But some homes have only one swimmer in the family, so a pilot program now offers individual memberships for \$650. Seniors can join for \$225 to \$300 per year.

The association also offers memberships to residents outside the original subdivision, although those households do not have voting rights.

"We'll get fliers out to the schools. We're hopeful. Things are looking up this year," Pauls said.

'Community building is my constant theme. The value of the association is so you feel like you're a part of this physical place.'

—Lynn Melena, president, Barron Park Association

Neighborhood leaders said involvement in an association, for some, takes not only time but also expertise due to the complexity around issues such as traffic, changes in land use and hazardous waste. There are meetings, strategizing and negotiations that can go on for months or years.

College Terrace Residents Association has fought a tireless battle against overparking and thorny traffic. Surrounded by Stanford University to the north, Stanford Research Park to the south, and the California Avenue business district to the east, the neighborhood has been inundated with dangerous speeders, noise and streets clogged by workers who park their cars all day.

Residents fought for and received speed bumps along Stanford Avenue to slow cars and bollards to prevent cut-through traffic. They designed a parking program that allows residents to purchase a permit to park in front of their homes; others have to keep moving their cars throughout the day.

College Terrace Association President Brent Barker said it often takes

professionals to deal with city processes, legalities and consultants' reports. College Terrace has professionals in key liaison positions with the California Avenue District, City Hall, Research Park and Stanford. Retired planner Margit Aramburu understands the ins and outs of city development; Ed Schmidt, a retired chemist, has an analytical mind and is spearheading a traffic study.

Carefully cultivating relationships with all of the players in any issue takes time. Building relationships builds respect, Barker said.

College Terrace is now working to prevent traffic and parking problems it anticipates will result from an expansion of the research park and construction of the 250-unit Mayfield Housing Development starting next year.

The association's leaders are sifting through a morass of paperwork, meeting with Stanford and city officials and hosting presentations for residents. As a result, more than 100 residents attended a March 14 meeting with Stanford officials to discuss the Mayfield development, some attendees well-armed with information, Barker said.

While the association does the grunt work, he emphasized it does not usually take a stand.

"You're not imposing your will. The association provides an outlet for people to come with concerns and grievances. It's an early-warning system; it's like a magnet. I think what's important is to encourage freelance activists," he said.

Barker has been president for four years. He recently reflected on how taxing the role can be.

"You get trapped. You get invested. I think about stepping away, but I've got this Mayfield thing," he said.

The results of such hard work are often worthwhile, Schrom said. The Evergreen Park street barriers eliminated 10,000 car trips through the neighborhood, he estimated. With increased traffic, that figure could be much more today.

Evergreen Park residents also planted dozens of trees. The projects have had a lasting effect on neighborhood cohesiveness, he said.

"Getting the trees planted, getting the streets closed, we came together for the common good. These were achievements you could see. It planted the seed of sociability. For a new resident today, if you met one of us, you were instantly introduced to a dozen of us," Schrom said.

Trading chats over the back fence for email blasts

Social networking makes inroads with some neighborhood groups, taking precedence over formal organizations

by Sue Dremann

Getting to know one's neighbors is just a mouse-click away, or so a host of new Web services would have one believe. But will Twitter, Nextdoor and email replace the traditional neighborhood association?

Some residents think so, while others see social media as a way to enhance — but not replace — neighborhood associations.

The City of Palo Alto introduced rBlock.com, an information-sharing site, two years ago. Nextdoor.com, a social network for neighborhoods through which people can post event information, make recommendations and discuss topics, made its debut in Palo Alto in late 2011.

The Duveneck/St. Francis, Barron Park, Crescent Park and College Terrace neighborhoods all have active group-email lists. Residents use them to share everything from recommendations for refrigerator-repair outfits to news about donation drives for charities to residential-burglary alerts.

The Community Center neighborhood uses Google groups and leaflets to keep residents informed, association President Rick Ferguson said. Nextdoor has proven the most durable, though.

Meadow Park Residents Association uses Nextdoor to recruit new members and for disaster preparedness, President Cathy Swan said.

For University South President Elaine Meyer, "Email is the way to go." She publishes an e-newsletter, which is also offered to new residents as they move in.

Richard Brand of Professorville, who is part of University

South Neighborhood Association, said he isn't happy with Nextdoor, however. The service is mostly a collection of people offering to share items or look for services. But it hasn't connected people on a deeper level, he said.

Sheila Tucker, assistant to the city manager, said the city is evaluating its pilot project with rBlock, which concludes in June.

"It has not been able to garner the interest and density we hoped," she said.

But she said she has never worked in a city where neighborhoods were so organized. With the city's changing demographic of seniors and Asians, the government will continue to provide a support platform for new groups to communicate, she said.

"That type of connection helps government. If you know your neighbors, you are less likely to call the police for a barking dog," she said. Residents will know their neighbors' patterns and cars, so they can report suspicious activity, she added.

Are neighborhood associations waning?

"I think they are changing," said Sally-Ann Rudd, a Downtown North neighborhood leader. "I have lots of friends who state quite publicly that their 'neighborhood' is a virtual one of intersecting circles — school, church, sports activities, gym memberships, classes, hobbies — and geographic proximity is just another of those intersecting circles."

Downtown North's neighborhood used to have an association with officers and a formal structure, but the association has been relatively defunct for 10 years, ever

since the neighborhood became deeply divided over measures to reduce cut-through traffic.

While many residents find the idea of a structured association off-putting, online social networks allow people to read about issues more passively, said resident Elaine Uang, 34.

"Do you have to get together one time a month on a Sunday to meet your neighbors? Maybe not," she said. People have ever-increasing commitments to work and family; staying on top of issues or running an association is like another full-time job, she said.

Now, neighborhood organizers are looking at a looser association structure, which disseminates information and ideas largely through email, Uang said.

Longtime Downtown North resident Neilson Buchanan said social networking provides an opportunity to connect without going back to a formalized association, he said.

"No one wants to go back to that kind of by-law organization. In a social-media world like Nextdoor, you can put anything on it and create a specialized group," he said.

Rudd has been working to bring an association together in an organic way. She hosts meetings at her home for about 15 people. About 230 households use Nextdoor for emails, she said. The association doesn't have any board or committee positions.

"We have been very successful finding people to do things ad-hoc," she said.

But "Nextdoor has been great. People can join, lurk, sell stuff. It is like a virtual neighborhood for the computer age," she said. ■



Homes on Columbia Street look out onto the Stanford Research Park on California Avenue, the site where 180 homes will be constructed as part of the Mayfield Housing Development. College Terrace residents are concerned about the traffic and parking problems the development will cause.

Furman said because of association activism, neighborhoods have gained credibility with city leaders.

"At least they're not hostile anymore," she said.

Glanckopf, who was an association founder in 1994, said it helps when City Council members reach out. She credits former mayors Sid Espinosa and Yiaway Yeh in particular for a recent attitude shift.

Yeh instituted a Mayor's Challenge of recreational events last year and co-authored a just-funded neighborhood-grants program. Grants of up to \$1,000 each will be made to support neighborhood projects that build a sense of community, the city announced on April 12.

Furman, who is chairwoman of an umbrella group known as Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN), said there is also strength in numbers, which has been satisfying. Neighborhood groups formed PAN, which she called "an action-oriented support group," in 1998. Leaders represent-

ing 38 neighborhoods share with one another how they've approached similar neighborhood concerns. Through Glanckopf, PAN developed a robust emergency-preparation program that pushed the Block Preparedness Coordinator program. The program is now embraced by the police department and has integrated emergency response with the city's Office of Emergency Services.

PAN also lobbied for government transparency by having the city release public documents the Thursday before council meetings. Residents now have time to be informed and comment on important matters.

PAN has given residents more clout by raising the visibility of neighborhoods overall, Furman said.

"In 15 years we've gained credibility. When we do come forward on an issue like Arrillaga (the proposed development at 27 University Ave.), they pay attention."

Furman wishes more people would be committed to the association.

Over time, she and others won't be able to keep up the pace, she said.

But she remains a leader as a labor of love.

"You do it because somebody has to represent the neighbors' interests. You always have to be there — even if they're not."

When she looks out over Matadero Creek, where the city once wanted to build a gigantic cement retaining wall, Furman said she feels gratified.

"I can't change things on the state or federal level. But I certainly can do one or two little things at the local level to improve the quality of life in this town. Every time I look out and see a wall that is 5 feet instead of 7 feet and a raised sidewalk that still lets children look into the creek, I feel I influenced that." ■

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

About the cover: Illustration by Shannon Corey

Arts & Entertainment

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

SHAKE IT UP, BABY

by Rebecca Wallace

Jimi Hendrix had his Fender Strat. Milkshake has a confetti cannon. See, in the kid-rock business, you're nothing without props.

Lisa Mathews, the lead singer of Milkshake, learned that years ago at one of the band's first gigs. "Our competition was a moon bounce and chocolate-chip cookies, and that's stiff competition," she says. To wow tots, musicians need visuals and interaction. They have to talk to the crowd, mix it up, throw glitter stars.

"I realized I can't play my guitar as much anymore, because I have to go out and dance with the kids," Mathews says. "When we do a cover of 'Love Train,' I can't stay on stage, because I'm the engine."

Tots and tweens groove to the kid-rock sound of Milkshake

(continued on page 26)



Milkshake, a rock band for kids, plays the Center for Performing Arts at Menlo-Atherton High School on April 27.



Vintage Vehicles and Family Festival Antique Car Show

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Palo Alto Unified School District

NOTICE TO SENIOR CITIZENS ABOUT PARCEL TAX EXEMPTION

DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2013

On June 5, 2001, the voters approved Measure D, a special parcel tax assessment of \$293 per parcel for five years. On June 7, 2005, voters approved an increase to \$493 per parcel and extended the tax through the 2010-11 tax year. On May 4, 2010, voters approved an increase to \$589 for six years beginning as of July 1, 2010, with annual two percent escalation adjustments. The funds are used to attract and retain qualified and experienced teachers and school employees, maintain educational programs that enhance student achievement, and reduce the size targeted classes. A parcel is defined as any unit of land in the District that receives a separate tax bill from the Santa Clara County Tax Assessor's Office.

An exemption is available for any senior citizen who owns and occupies as a principal residence a parcel, and applies to the District for an exemption. For the 2013-14 tax year, a senior citizen is defined as a person 65 years of age and older by June 30, 2014. Please apply for the exemption by May 31, 2013.

If you were exempt from paying the PAUSD parcel tax for the 2012-13 tax year, you should have received an exemption renewal letter in early April. To renew your exemption for the 2013-14 tax year, please sign and return the letter.

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

HOW TO APPLY FOR A SENIOR EXEMPTION

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

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

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

Milkshake

(continued from page 25)

Mathews and her cohorts — band co-founder and guitarist Mikel Gehl, bass player Cord Neal, electric guitarist Michael Sheppard, drummer Tom Moon and accordion and keyboard player Brian Simms — are used to having a happy mess following them wherever they tour. On April 27, the destination for the Baltimore band is the big Performing Arts Center at Menlo-Atherton High School.

All of Milkshake's musicians are also veterans of grown-up rock music. Mathews and Gehl had an indie-

rock band called Love Riot for 10 years before they both had children with their respective spouses. Suddenly, instead of playing smoky bars and singing about the dating life, they found themselves writing lyrics like "Come on along, sing a Happy Song / Put a skip in your step and you can't go wrong." Milkshake's first album, appropriately named "Happy Songs," came out in 2002. "It was a natural evolution," Mathews says.

It also wasn't bad for their careers. Mathews and Gehl have found themselves playing to large crowds and in venues that far exceeded their earlier grown-up dreams. "The biggest venue we ever did (as Love

Riot) was the Lilith Fair, and that was at the very opening of the fair at like 9 o'clock in the morning," Mathews says.

Now the musicians play at sites on the order of the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles and the Wells Fargo Center for the Arts in Sonoma County. Milkshake has released five CDs, including 2009's "Great Day," which was nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Musical Album for Children. Milkshake music videos have been shown on the Nickelodeon preschool site Noggin (now Nick Jr.) and on PBS KIDS.

The rewards go beyond venues and honors, of course. Besides getting to have fun performing for enthusiastic youngsters, Mathews and Gehl have found more musical freedom in children's music. Kids aren't limited by genre; they don't care if you throw a little ragtime, country or pedal steel guitar into your rock band. On the most recent Milkshake album, "Got a Minute?," the musicians even enlisted a child rapper to contribute to a tune called "Baltimore."

Kyf Brewer from the Irish band Barleyjuice makes a number of appearances on the new album as well, including singing the lyrical, peaceful duet "Starry, Starry Night" with Mathews. The two of them sound like wistful kids staring up at the heavens.

The album also experiments with song length. Nearly all the songs on the album are two minutes or less: nice for youthful attention spans (or perhaps everyone's, nowadays).

As the years go by, Milkshake is growing up along with the musician's children. Mathews' daughter was once a baby gurgling at the beginning of a song called "When You Were Born"; now she's 12 and sings her own original song, "One Day," on "Got a Minute?"

The subject matter on Milkshake albums has matured as well, from songs about the joy of pancakes and learning to count to tunes about tolerance and anti-bullying, friends and enemies.

"Our kids are getting older, and Milkshake was meant to end when they were no longer interested," Mathews says. She allows that she does think about life after Milkshake, about singing her own grown-up songs again, giving performances that don't require wearing a tutu.

But for the time being, it's back to the confetti. As Mathews chats on the phone from her Baltimore home, there's a big box of the stuff nearby just waiting to be opened.

The band has a show that night, and Milkshake can't play "Bottle of Sunshine" without a cannon exploding yellow confetti onstage. Kids can't resist scooping the stuff up. "I remember one mother saying, 'You leave that sunshine there,'" Mathews said, laughing. ■

What: The kid-rock band Milkshake performs a concert at the Center for Performing Arts at Menlo-Atherton High School.

Where: 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton.

When: Saturday, April 27, from 1 to 2 p.m.

Cost: Tickets are \$8.

Info: Go to menlopark.eventbrite.com

PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL

CIVIC CENTER, 250 HAMILTON AVENUE
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THIS IS A SUMMARY OF COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS. THE AGENDA WITH COMPLETE TITLES INCLUDING LEGAL DOCUMENTATION CAN BE VIEWED AT THE BELOW WEBPAGE:
<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/knowzone/agendas/council.asp>

(TENTATIVE) AGENDA - SPECIAL MEETING - COUNCIL CHAMBERS
April 22, 2013 - 6:00 PM

CLOSED SESSION
1. Cubberley Community Center

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The City Council Rail Committee will be meeting on Thursday, April 25, 2013 at 9:00 A.M. to discuss: 1) Preliminary Cost Estimates for Grade Separation and Trenching Studies, and 2) Draft Letter on PCJPB Member Configuration.

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Worth a Look



Oscar Landi

Playwright Nilo Cruz's words are part of the musical work "Journey of the Shadow."

Music

'Journey of the Shadow'

Swirling with magical realism, a brand-new musical work with its roots in an Andean folk-tale premieres this month.

"Journey of the Shadow" combines the music of composer Gabriela Lena Frank and the words of playwright Nilo Cruz. It's the tale of a boy who sends a letter to his soldier father

in Afghanistan, only to have his own shadow slip into the post as a stowaway.

The San Francisco Chamber Orchestra commissioned the piece, and will perform it on Saturday, April 27, at the First Palo Alto United Methodist Church. The group is conducted by Benjamin Simon, who also leads the Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra.

Nilo Cruz's name has been heard a few times in Palo Alto as well. His play "Anna in the Tropics," which won the 2003 Pulitzer for drama, came to TheatreWorks in 2006. Frank is a Berkeley native who often draws on her Peruvian/Chinese/Lithuanian/Jewish heritage. Frank and Cruz previously wrote the song cycle "La Centinela y La Paloma," a "re-imagining" of Frida Kahlo's afterlife, for soprano Dawn Upshaw and the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra.

Frank will perform the narration at the April 27 concert. The program will also include music by Samuel Barber and Mozart, with singers from the San Francisco Opera Center's Adler Fellows program.

Admission is free. The concert begins at 8 p.m. at 625 Hamilton Ave. in Palo Alto. Go to sfchamberorchestra.org or call 415-692-3367.

'Let's Misbehave!'

Two Ellens, a Cole and a Cy will join forces April 27 to present a show of cabaret, the timeless art that's part music, part acting and part storytelling.

Singer Ellen Ciompi, who will be in town from North Carolina, will take the stage with

Oakland pianist Ellen Hoffman to perform an evening called "Let's Misbehave!" Songs by Cole Porter and Cy Coleman will be in the mix to create a program that extols the virtues of healthy vice.

Ciompi is a registered nurse and longtime singer, with a master's degree in music and a history of creating and putting on cabaret shows for the last decade. A fan of classic show tunes, she also has been known to throw in a little Paul Simon and Lady Gaga. Hoffman directs the chamber orchestra at Contra Costa College, where she's a faculty member, and serves as music director of the 75-member Berkeley Broadway Singers.

The April 27 concert, which starts at 7:30 p.m., is in a private home in Palo Alto; email bloom.claudia@gmail.com to reserve a seat and get directions. Tickets are \$15.



Cabaret singer Ellen Ciompi has an April 27 gig planned in Palo Alto.

tive has said the work reflects his poignant memories of life in Russia and Germany.

Also on the program are "Chuntian" and "Surfside," choreographed by Menlowe's artistic director, Michael Lowe.

Performances at 555 Middlefield Road in Atherton are scheduled for 8 p.m. April 19 and 20, and 2 p.m. April 21. Tickets are \$28-\$45. Go to menloweballet.org or call 800-595-4849.

Art

'Hats Off to Dr. Seuss!'

Poor Bartholomew Cubbins. Every time he tried to take off his hat in respect to the king, another hat appeared. Fortunately, the classic Dr. Seuss tale "The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins" has a happy ending. And things are looking pretty good for the late author's hats. These days, they're getting to see the country in a new traveling exhibit called "Hats Off to Dr. Seuss!"

The author (whose real name was Theodor Seuss Geisel) loved the magic powers of hats, and collected scores of them, according to a press release. Now his widow, Audrey S. Geisel, has allowed many treasures from the hat closet to go on tour, in honor of the 75th anniversary of "Bartholomew Cubbins." The exhibit also includes newer artwork adapted from the good doctor's paintings, drawings and sculptures, authorized by his estate.

The show opened at the New York Public Library in February. Later this month, it comes to Peabody Fine Art at 603 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park. It will commence with an opening event from 5 to 8 p.m. April 27, and continue through May 12, with artwork for sale.

For more information, go to peabodyfineart.com or call 650-322-2200.

Dance

Menlowe Ballet

Two-year-old local dance company Menlowe Ballet has found a home of its own: the spacious Performing Arts Center at Menlo-Atherton High School. This weekend, the company of 15 dancers, directed by Atherton resident Lisa Shiveley, will present the first performances in Menlowe's new home.

The program "Reverie" features the world premiere of guest choreographer Viktor Kabanjaev's "Sweet Sadness," set to Sibelius' Violin Concerto in D minor. The Russian na-

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Eating Out

FOOD FEATURE

A night in Morocco

Casablanca Market's Moroccan-cooking classes celebrate good food, community

by Andrea Gemmet

The cooking class starts with a pop quiz. "Chef Casablanca" invites her group of students to gather around an inviting spread of appetizers and try to identify the spices and flavors in three kinds of fig spread, marinated orange segments and spiced strawberries dressed in a creamy sauce of Greek yogurt and creme fraiche.

The fig spread proves the group's undoing, as no one correctly guesses that one of the spreads is laced with chocolate.

The Moroccan cooking classes led by Chef Casablanca take place in a Peninsula home. Katia Essyad, the owner of Casablanca Market in Mountain View, teaches classes that offer a full sensory experience. Students smell fresh ground spices and touch the fresh vegetables as they chop, peel, seed and dice them, and then, at the end of

the evening, tuck into the feast that they helped prepare.

With Berber-made plates on the table, hand-knotted rugs on the floor and a tiled nook furnished with vibrantly colored cushions and pillows, it's like entering another world.

Born in Rabat, Morocco, Essyad is a self-taught chef who says she draws inspiration from her mother and the women with whom she grew up. She keeps her menus authentically Moroccan, but has plans to expand her offerings to include classes in Mediterranean and Israeli cuisine.

Essyad uses only local and organic produce and olive oil. And everything must be fresh. She has no canned food in the kitchen, and the freezer is virtually empty, save for ice-cube trays. She urges her students to emulate Moroccans, who go to the market every day.

"I want people to take pleasure in

the process of making things," she says. "Basically, I believe in gourmet food."

The half-dozen apron-clad attendees make their way into kitchen in their stocking feet and get put to work. There are peppers and tomatoes to chop for the taktouka, a vegetarian side dish laced with garlic, smoked paprika and cumin. A bowlful of floppy baked eggplants needs to be cut up and cooked with tomatoes for the zaalouk, described as eggplant salad, which has the soft consistency of a spread.

The evening's main course, chicken with preserved lemons and olives, is already marinating in a tagine, the traditional ceramic cooking vessel with a conical lid. Knives drop as everyone heads to the stove to take a whiff of its enticing smell before heading back to the chopping boards.

Essyad peppers her cooking in-



Katia Essyad, the owner of Casablanca Market in Mountain View, shows students how to make taktouka during a cooking class in her home.

structions with travel advice (go to Marrakesh in the spring, before it gets too hot), tidbits about the artisans whose handiwork stocks Casablanca Market (she's in the process of getting fair-trade-certified), and her philosophy of the importance of coming together as a community around the dinner table.

She refers to everyone as "honey."

"I want to create a community where people can get together and enjoy a nice meal they've prepared," she says.

The three-hour-long evening class devotes at least as much time to enjoying the food as it does to preparing it. As students pass around the bottles

(continued on page 30)

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From our kitchen to yours. Buon appetito!

CHEF MARCO SALVI, EXECUTIVE CHEF



SPAGHETTI ALLA CARBONARA

- 4 EGGS, AT ROOM TEMPERATURE
- 1 CUP PECORINO ROMANO, PARMIGIANO-REGGIANO, OR A COMBINATION
- 1/8 TEASPOON FRESHLY GROUND BLACK PEPPER
- 3 OUNCES PANCETTA, CUT ABOUT 1/4-INCH THICK, SLICES CUT INTO 1/2-INCH LONG STRIPS
- 1 TABLESPOON SALT
- 1 POUND IMPORTED SPAGHETTI

PREPARATION:

IN A SMALL BOWL, LIGHTLY BEAT THE EGGS. ADD THE CHEESE AND BLACK PEPPER AND SET ASIDE.

IN A MEDIUM SKILLET OVER LOW HEAT, COOK THE PANCETTA SLOWLY, TURNING THE PIECES OCCASIONALLY, FOR UNTIL THEY ARE COOKED THROUGH AND BEGINNING TO CRISP.

MEANWHILE, BRING A LARGE POT OF SALTED WATER TO A BOIL OVER HIGH HEAT. ADD THE

SPAGHETTI. COOK, UNTIL THE PASTA IS AL DENTE. SAVE 1 CUP HOT PASTA WATER. DRAIN THE PASTA, ADD BACK THE HOT PASTA WATER AND RETURN IT IMMEDIATELY TO THE SKILLET. STIR TO COMBINE PASTA AND PANCETTA.

STIR IN THE EGG AND CHEESE MIXTURE AND TOSS WELL TO COAT THE PASTA THOROUGHLY TO DISTRIBUTE IT EVENLY. SERVE WITH A SPRINKLE OF PECORINO CHEESE.

(continued from page 29)

of wine they've brought, conversation flows. The diners swap stories and discover mutual friends, and food quickly disappears from plates.

"I think she was quite good at explaining the process of each dish that she created and was trying to introduce to us," says Marli Szpaller, one of the students. "I do enjoy learning about different cultures; I felt I was able to learn a little bit about the items they use, how they prepare things."

Eve Marie Moltzen, another student, has taken other cooking classes, but says this was the first time she's tried her hand at Moroccan cooking.

"It's on the pricier side, comparatively, but it was a lovely evening and wonderful food," she says.

Moltzen says she didn't know anything about Moroccan cuisine going into Essyad's class. "I loved the fact that she gave us the history, the cultural relevance of it all, and put it into context. She got everybody thinking about travel," she says, adding that she usually doesn't find that in other classes.

Info: Casablanca Market is at 793 Castro St. in Mountain View. Upcoming cooking classes, which cost \$95, are scheduled for May 17 and June 21. Go to casablancamarket.com.

Has the class inspired her to head to a Moroccan restaurant or get her own tagine? "Absolutely," Moltzen says with a laugh. "I think I want to go to Morocco." ■

Orange Blossom Mint Tea

Ingredients:

- 2 Earl Grey tea bags
- 2-3 tablespoons of organic sugar
- 1 1/2 cups packed fresh mint leaves
- 8 cups boiling water
- 1-2 tablespoons of orange blossom water

Directions:

Combine tea bags, mint leaves and sugar, cover with boiling water and steep for 5 minutes. Add orange blossom water. Stir, and adjust sweetness to taste. Strain and pour into cups.

Serves 8-10 people.



ShopTalk

by Daryl Savage

KEEN GARAGE STEPS INTO PALO ALTO ...

Look for a mid-May opening for the footwear company **Keen Garage**, coming to 278 University Ave. in downtown Palo Alto. Finishing touches are being put on the recently constructed building at the corner of University Avenue and Bryant Street. The original building, which once housed Noah's Bagels, was demolished to make way for the new four-story structure. Keen Garage's other three stores are in Tokyo, Toronto and its home base of Portland, Ore. The company has a commitment to sustainability. "Every store is made from locally re-harvested products. Our wood floor, for example, is made from scrap wood from local homes that have been torn down," spokeswoman Christa DePoe said. Although Keen is known for its high-quality sandals, it also has unusual socks: Each is made to fit either the left or the right foot. Pricing for the fitted socks starts at about \$17, and shoes and sandals average \$100 to \$125, DePoe said. As for the other tenants in the building, a city permit has been issued to San Francisco-based **InVitae** for the second floor. InVitae is a firm of scientists, engineers and medical professionals working to make clinical genetic testing accessible and affordable. **Emerson Collective** has a permit for the top two floors. Little information is available about Emerson, but a Google search reveals that Laurene Powell Jobs, the widow of Steve Jobs, is the founder and CEO. It's a nonprofit that advocates on behalf of under-served students and supports social entrepreneurs and organizations

working in education, social justice and conservation. And it is coincidental that this is the third Keen enterprise of sorts in Palo Alto. First is City Manager **James Keene**, and second is High Street's **Hotel Keen**, which opened in 2010.

JUDAICA STORE CLOSED ...

Palo Alto's only remaining Judaica store is gone. **Miriam's Well**, a small shop tucked inside the **Oshman Family Jewish Community Center** at 3921 Fabian Way, closed its doors March 10 after a three-year run. "We haven't made any plans yet for the space. Because of its central campus location, we are considering options from retail to office to exhibit space," said JCC spokesperson Mimi Sells. Meanwhile, Ellen Bob, who knows the business well (she was co-owner of the former **bob and bob Fine Jewish Gifts**, which was first in Palo Alto and then Los Altos), said, "It's really disappointing that the store has closed, but it's a hard business." She added, "I don't see how a retail store like that can survive in this current climate of online shopping." Bob is now executive director of Palo Alto's **Congregation Etz Chayim**. Bob had to close her own store in January 2009, after 26 years in business, leaving a void in the Judaica market. It was hoped that Miriam's Well would help fill that void.

Heard a rumor about your favorite store or business moving out or in, down the block or across town? Daryl Savage will check it out. Email shoptalk@paweekly.com.

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Movies

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. & 1:20, 2:45, 4:20, 5:50, 7:20, 8:50 & 10:25 p.m.

Admission (PG-13) ★★1/2

Century 16: 12:10, 3:40, 6:50 & 9:50 p.m.

Anastasia (1956) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: Sat 5:35 & 9:55 p.m. Sun 5:35 & 9:55 p.m.

Artists and Models (1955) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: Fri 5:30 & 9:15 p.m.

Baadshah (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 12:20, 4:10 & 8:30 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: 11:10 a.m., 1:30, 3:55, 6:20 & 9:10 p.m. In 3D 12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 8:10 & 10:35 p.m. (No 10:35 p.m. Sun.)

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.

Disconnect (R) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 11 a.m., 1:40, 4:20, 7:30 & 10:30 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:** 12:50, 3:10, 5:35, 8 & 10:25 p.m.

Filly Brown (R) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 11:20 a.m. & 1:45, 4:15, 7:30 & 10:10 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:45 a.m. & 2:25, 5:10, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m.

From Up on Poppy Hill (PG) ★★★

Century 16: 11:15 a.m., 4:25 & 9:30 p.m.

G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 11:25 a.m. & 4:40 & 10:35 p.m. In 3D 12:05 & 7:40 p.m. **Century 20:** 12:35, 3:15 & 5:55 p.m. In 3D 11:15 a.m. & 1:55, 4:35, 7:15 & 9:55 p.m.

Jurassic Park (2013) (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 11:40 a.m. In 3D 3:30, 6:40 & 9:50 p.m. **Century 20:** In 3D 11 a.m. & 1:50, 4:45, 7:45 & 10:40 p.m.

The King and I (1956) (G) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: Sat 3:10 & 7:30 p.m. Sun 3:10 & 7:30 p.m.

Life of Pi (PG) ★★1/2

Century 20: 1:50 p.m. In 3D 7:30 p.m.

Living It Up (1954) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: Fri 7:30 p.m.

The Lords of Salem (R) (Not Reviewed)

Century 20: Fri 11:55 a.m. & 2:35, 5:15, 7:55 & 10:35 p.m.

Oblivion (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 11 & 11:50 a.m. & 12:40, 1:50, 2:50, 3:50, 5:10, 6:10, 7:10, 8:30, 9:30 & 10:30 p.m. **Century 20:** noon & 2:55, 5:50 & 8:45 p.m. In XD 11 a.m. & 1:55, 4:50, 7:45 & 10:40 p.m.

Olympus Has Fallen (R) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 12:20, 3:20, 6:30 & 9:55 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: 11:10 a.m. In 3D 4:55 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 & 9:40 p.m.

Raging Bull (1980) (R) (Not Reviewed)

Century 20: Wed 2 & 7 p.m. Thu 2 & 7 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: 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:20, 8:20, 9:40 & 10:35 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 p.m.

Side Effects (R) ★★★

Century 16: 1:35 & 6:50 p.m. Sun also at 9:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 1:35, 6:50 p.m. Sun 1:35, 6:50, 9:30 p.m.

Silver Linings Playbook (R) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: 2:10 & 8:10 p.m.

Star Trek: The Next Generation: The Best of Both Worlds (PG) (Not Reviewed)

Century 20: Thu 7 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)

Century 20: 8:40 p.m.

THEATER ADDRESSES

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

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

From Up on Poppy Hill ★★★

There's nothing supernatural about the latest 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 audio-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 J-teen 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 tweeners 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 something near brain-death. Do not consume "The Host" before operating heavy machinery. Fits of giggling may ensue. Rated PG-13 for some sensuality and violence. Two hours, five minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed March 29, 2013)

Oz the Great and Powerful ★★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 him-

USA TODAY
"ONE OF THE YEAR'S BEST FILMS!"
 A brilliantly acted crime thriller. BRADLEY COOPER is superb. RYAN GOSLING is pitch-perfect. He and EVA MENDES have palpable chemistry. Riveting."
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★ Skip it ★★ Some redeeming qualities ★★★ A good bet ★★★★ Outstanding

(continued on next page)

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(continued from previous page)

self in the Emerald City. James Franco plays roguish 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 enterprise 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)

JASON BATEMAN PAULA PATTON ANDREA RISEBOROUGH ALEXANDER SKARSGÅRD

"THE BEST FILM OF THE YEAR. TREMENDOUSLY ACTED."
-Anna Klassen, Newsweek

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
HIGHEST RATING
-Mick LaSalle, San Francisco Chronicle

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The Place Beyond the Pines ★★1/2
This new drama 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-minute-plus 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. There's a third act, with a baton pass to another set of characters, but perhaps I've already said too much. The film 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. Rated R for language throughout, some violence, teen drug and alcohol use and a sexual reference. Two hours, 21 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed April 12, 2013)

Side Effects ★★★
From A to Z — from the fictional antidepressant Ablixa to the real drug Zoloft — Steven Soderbergh toys with drugs, duplicity and their side effects. The message movie grows tiresome in its indictment of Big Pharma's hold on pharmaceutical research and sales, the effectiveness of particular drugs, and the medical community's questionable ethics. Then moments before inducing sleep, the social-issue film surprisingly twists into a noir thriller. The narrative splinters time by starting luridly in a blood-splattered New York apartment before flashing back to three months earlier. Emily Taylor (Rooney Mara) prepares for her husband's (Channing Tatum) release from prison after serving four years for insider trading. They have lost everything of the upscale lifestyle that Emily had loved. Close-ups linger on her expressionless face and capture her edginess, conveying a sense of severe depression, anxiety and suicidal tendencies. But psychiatrist Dr. Jonathan Banks (Jude Law) has a pill, or two or three, to stop her brain from sending out so many "sad" signals. The well-intentioned shrink even consults with Emily's previous therapist, Dr. Victoria Siebert (Catherine Zeta-Jones). Things go terribly wrong. "Side Effects" portrays contemporary society as ruthlessly competitive, greedy and devoid of meaningful values. But as the plot unknots, the film itself feels empty — an exercise in narrative gymnastics and a misogynist throwback to 1950s noir. Rated R for sexuality, nudity, violence and language. 1 hour, 45 minutes. S.T. (Reviewed Feb. 8, 2013)

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Sports Shorts

IN THE POOL . . . Sacred Heart Prep junior **Ally Howe** went from being a big fish in a small pond to quite the opposite, yet held her own during last weekend's Arena Grand Prix long course swim meet in Mesa, Ariz. Competing against numerous members of the 2012 U.S. Olympic swim team, Howe finished sixth in the women's 200-meter back stroke in 2:15.87, trailing (among others) Olympic champion Missy Franklin's 2:09.35). Howe also won the consolation heat of the 100 fly in 1:00.78, while finishing ahead of Olympic medalist Rachel Bootsma and 2013 NCAA Swimmer of the Year Elizabeth Pelton, both from Cal. Elsewhere in the meet, 25-year-old **Bernard Thompson** of Palo Alto Stanford Aquatics (PASA) won the men's 200 breast in 2:14.51 and finished third in the 100 breast in 1:02.68. Stanford grad **Eugene Godsoe** was third in the men's 100 fly (53.28) with former teammate **Bobby Bollier** fourth in 53.82). Bollier also took third in the 200 fly (1:59.80) and Godsoe was third in the 100 back (54.77). Stanford freshman **Tom Kremer** from Sacred Heart Prep was the top qualifier in the 200 fly, but did not swim the final. He did compete in the 200 free, where he finished eighth in 1:51.73. Menlo Park resident (and St. Francis student) **Curtis Ogren** splashed to a fourth place in the men's 400 (M (4:27.75) in addition to winning consolation honors in the 200 IM in 2:05.87, a time that would have gotten him sixth had he raced in the finals.

ON THE FIELD . . . Four-star football safety **Brandon Simmons**, a member of the Class of 2014, verbally committed to Stanford University on Saturday, bootleg.com reported. Simmons made visits to five schools in six days on the West Coast before telling Cardinal coach **David Shaw** of his intentions. Simmons (6-0, 175) reportedly received offers from more than 40 colleges, including seven other Pac-12 schools. The junior at Timberview High School in Arlington, Texas is ranked among the top recruits at his position . . . Menlo School grad **Ryan Cavan** had two hits and raised his batting average to .382 while helping the San Jose Giants hold off the Stockton Ports, 2-1, Tuesday night at San Jose Municipal Stadium.

ON THE AIR

Friday

College baseball: Arizona at Stanford, 7 p.m.; Pac-12 Networks; KZSU (90.1 FM)

Saturday

College baseball: Arizona at Stanford, 2 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

Sunday

College baseball: Arizona at Stanford, 2 p.m.; Pac-12 Networks; KZSU (90.1 FM)

Tuesday

College baseball: San Jose St. at Stanford, 5:30 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

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Menlo School seniors Ali Kim (25) and Brooke Bullington (23) celebrate a 13-6 win over visiting Sacred Heart Prep on Tuesday, ending the Gators' perfect season while moving the Knights into sole possession of first place in the WBAL.

Taking down a perfect season

Menlo girls ruin Sacred Heart Prep's unbeaten lacrosse season with a big win

by Keith Peters

After losing its starting goalie and leading scorer to injuries, the Menlo School girls' lacrosse team opened the season with an 0-4 record. Suddenly, the Knights' years of domination seemed at an end.

"If I'm an opposing coach, I'm

thinking Menlo has a crack in its armor and that there's a window of opportunity," said Menlo head coach Jen Lee.

Sacred Heart Prep had to be thinking along those lines as it appeared to have everything going in its favor heading into Tuesday's showdown against the host Knights.

The Gators were undefeated in the West Bay Athletic League (Foothill Division) at 5-0 and were 11-0 overall, in addition to being ranked No. 3 in the state and West Region by laxpower.com. The Knights, meanwhile, had lost six times and were

(continued on page 37)



Menlo defenders Lizzy Lacy (6) and Iman Salty (19) not only helped take down Sacred Heart Prep's unbeaten season, but the Gators' Caroline Cummings. She was held scoreless in Tuesday's match.

TRACK & FIELD

Big Meet is always a big deal

Atchoo leads Stanford men against Cal in annual showdown

by Rick Eymmer

Stanford junior Michael Atchoo was among the first in his family to break with tradition and attend college. First-year Cardinal track and field coach Chris Miltenberg is grateful to the Atchoo family, even if it took thousands of years to embrace education.

"My mom went to college but she was a stay-at-home mom," Atchoo said at a luncheon held earlier this week in conjunction with the annual Big Meet, a traditional dual meet between Cal and Stanford that has bucked its own tradition.

"My dad never went to college and there aren't many of my relatives, other than my generation, who attended college," Atchoo said. "It was my grandfather who finally approved it. He thought a college education would help us avoid feeling inferior."

Atchoo's three older sisters all have college degrees, are married, and enjoy their own careers. There's no chance of an inferiority complex in the family.

Atchoo just completed an indoor track and field season that included two school records, one in the mile and the other with the distance medley relay.

He raced to a 3:57.14 clocking to win the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation title and better a mark set by Olympian Michel Stember (3:58.40) in 2000.

It's the fastest mile run by a Stanford athlete, indoors or outdoors, in 27 years. In fact, only Olympian Jeff Atkinson, who went 3:55.16 in 1986, has run the mile faster than Atchoo.

Individual achievements have been put on hold this week as both Cal and Stanford prepare for the 119th running of the Big Meet on Saturday at Stanford's Cobb Track and Angell Field, with field events beginning at 10:15 a.m. Running follows at 1 p.m., with the men's 1,600 relay wrapping things up at 4:10 p.m.

Stanford swept last year's meet, the men winning for a sixth straight time (106-57) and the women for a second straight season (122-41).

The dual meet is a relic of older days, when the emphasis was on competition rather than qualifying for the NCAA meet and running at major invitationals.

"This is all new to me," Miltenberg said. "This will be the first dual meet I have ever coached. It's extremely exciting. When I first saw it on our schedule I thought it would throw a wrench in our seasonal planning. The more I learn about it, the more I get fired up."

And just like in most sports, the

(continued on next page)

Big Meet

(continued from previous page)

Cal-Stanford rivalry takes on a life of its own leading up to the meet.

"My freshman year I didn't know what to expect," said Atchoo. "I never thought a dual meet could be such a big deal. You learn quickly it's a lot of fun. You just compete and you don't have to worry about marks."

While the meet might be a new experience for Miltenberg, who came to Stanford from Georgetown, it's old hat for Cal coach Tony Sandoval, who is in his 30th year with the Bears' program.

"For one week, the world stops," Sandoval said. "There's nothing more important than the Big Meet. It's a very special event. Dual meets used to be the cornerstone of development."

(Sandoval spoke before news of the Boston Marathon bombing and the Waco factory explosion broke. His sentiments were echoed by all participants at the luncheon, who were all shocked at the subsequent news. Former Stanford women's coach Dena Evans participated in the marathon and returned home safely).

Atchoo will run both the 1,500 and 800. The oldest Big Meet record is in the 800. Stanford's Ernie Cunliffe sprinted to a 1:47.7 in 1960. Atchoo's personal best is 1:52.82.

Teammate and Atchoo's training partner Tyler Stutzman has a better chance at the record. He has a best of 1:50.59.

More importantly is the hope Atchoo and Stutzman can finish 1-2 in the middle distances to help the Cardinal men in what is considered a toss up. The women's competition also will be close.

Stutzman shares the distance relay record with Atchoo, and owns the seventh-fastest indoor mile (3:58.85) in Stanford history.

Stutzman swept the 800 and 1,500 in last year's Big Meet, clocking his PR to win the two-lapper.

Meanwhile, look for Stanford's Geoffrey Tabor to score in the shot out and discus — he won both last



Stanford's Kori Carter remains No. 1 in the world in the women's 400 hurdles heading into Saturday's annual Big Meet at Stanford.

season — and expect surprises.

"What swings the meet is who finishes second and third," Sandoval said.

Junior Kori Carter is easily Stanford's marquee female competitor. She was recently added to the women's watch list for the Bowerman Trophy, collegiate track and field's highest honor.

Carter has the fastest time in the

world in the 400-meter hurdles this year, after blazing to a 54.71 to win the recent Jim Click Shootout in Tucson, Ariz. The time, coming in her season outdoor debut in that event, broke her own school record by 2 1/2 seconds.

Carter beat 2012 Olympic fifth-place finisher Georganne Moline in the race on Moline's home track. Carter's time would have been fast enough to win the 2012 NCAA championship and place her on the U.S. Olympic team.

Carter also ranks No. 15 on the season collegiate list in the 100 hurdles, with a best of 13.28.

The Cardinal is also strong in the distances and middle distances, highlighted by Justine Fedronic, who set the school record in the 800 last year and ran a personal best in the 1,500 at the Stanford Invitational.

Atchoo, who traces his family roots to Chaldea and Babylonia, kingdoms which existed somewhere between the 24th century and 6th century B.C. in present day Iraq, could have ended his athletic career before he began.

He was also Troy High's (Michigan) star running back in football and sustained two concussions during his senior year.

Atchoo also trained for his track and field season by running the streets of his hometown, even in the snow. He often found himself face down in it after slipping on black ice.

Running around a track just seems safer. ■



Stanford's Michael Atchoo (left) hopes to help the Cardinal defeat Cal in the Big Meet for a seventh straight year.

STANFORD ROUNDUP

Cardinal teams have a very Big weekend on tap

To start with, tennis squads, women's water polo plus track and field all take on their counterparts from California

by Rick Eymers

It's another "Big Week" for Stanford athletics, literally. There's the "Big Splash," two "Big Serves," and the "Big Meet."

And then there are two very big meets for Cardinal gymnasts. The men are competing for the NCAA title this weekend at Penn State, and the women compete for a spot in the finals at UCLA's Pauley Pavilion.

The softball team travels to Washington for a three-game Pac-12 series and the baseball team hosts defending NCAA champion Arizona in a three-game conference series.

Still not satisfied? How about a little rowing, women's lacrosse, sand volleyball? It's all happening this weekend.

The top-ranked Stanford women's water polo team completes the regular season Friday with the Big Splash at No. 5 California.

The Cardinal (25-1 overall, 5-0 Mountain Pacific Sports Federation) clinched the top seed for next week's MPSF tournament with a 6-4 win at then-No. 1 USC last Saturday.

Stanford looks to extend its current 32-game winning streak against California. It's been awhile for the Bears, who last beat Stanford on March 26, 2000. The rivalry is not as lopsided as it seems though. Cal has taken the Cardinal to overtime on several occasions over the years.

Stanford is led by 59 goals from senior Melissa Seidemann, the reigning MPSF Player of the Week for helping the Cardinal beat USC and No. 11 Loyola Marymount.

Maggie Steffens (48 goals), Kiley Neushul (44) and Anna Yelizarova (43) are also over the 40-goal mark this year for the Cardinal.

California (16-5, 2-3 MPSF), which will be seeded fifth at the MPSF Championship, is on a four-game winning streak.

Women's tennis

No. 12 Stanford (16-3, 8-1 Pac-12) is streaking down the stretch, entering Friday's matinee against No. 9 California (14-5, 8-1 Pac-12) in Berkeley having won five in a row.

The Cardinal hopes to climb back into the national top 10 for the first time since early February, though understanding ITA national rankings can be quite a challenge.

Friday's winner will finish no worse than second in the Pac-12, and could possibly tie for the conference title depending on what happens between UCLA and USC, both ranked in the top seven. The Women of Troy are unbeaten in Pac-12 competition while the Bruins have lost only to Cal and Stanford.

Stanford has beaten Cal in their seven previous meetings, including once in a nonconference match earlier this year.

The stakes will of course be higher on Friday, with California hosting its Senior Day and also eyeing a share of the conference title.

Stanford is once again well rep-

resented in the latest edition of the national rankings, with five singles players (No. 17 Krista Hardebeck, No. 20 Nicole Gibbs, No. 34 Kristie Ahn, No. 76 Ellen Tsay, No. 94 Stacey Tan) and two doubles teams (No. 7 Ahn-Gibbs, No. 47 Tan-Tsay).

Men's tennis

Stanford (11-9, 3-3 Pac-12) continues its late-season run, having won three in a row heading into Saturday's 1 p.m. contest against No. 18 California (12-8, 4-1 Pac-12) at Taube Family Tennis Stadium.

The postseason push shouldn't come as a surprise. Head coach John Whitlinger's troops have made an annual habit of finishing strong, most recently winning six of eight regular-season matches last year.

What makes this year even more impressive is the fact Stanford is doing it with a relatively inexperienced lineup that regularly features five underclassmen in the singles lineup.

Stanford is chasing an at-large NCAA Tournament berth and the race will be close. The Cardinal would feel a little safer with a top-40 ranking, overall winning record and conference record of .500 or better. All of those benchmarks are still in play, and California would represent Stanford's highest-ranked victim of the year if the Cardinal can pull out a win.

Saturday's match will also serve as Senior Day for Sam Ecker, Matt Kandath, Denis Lin and Walker Kehrer. The foursome has led Stanford to a 72-30 record and back-to-back NCAA Tournament quarterfinal finishes among three postseason appearances overall.

Women's gymnastics

Stanford competes at the NCAA Championships for the sixth time in seven years, and 13th time overall, as it heads to UCLA for Friday's semifinal.

Stanford is ranked ninth in the 12-team field and will compete in the first of two six-team groups at noon in Pauley Pavilion.

The top three teams from each semifinal advance to the Super Six team finals on Saturday at 4 p.m. The top four individual finishers (including ties) will qualify for the individual event finals on Sunday at 1 p.m.

Stanford is seeking its seventh Super Six berth, all since 2002.

Men's gymnastics

Stanford received the No. 4 seed for the NCAA Championships hosted by Penn State beginning Friday.

This is Stanford's 15th consecutive appearance and 30th overall at the NCAA Championships, as it pursues its sixth national title.

Stanford will compete in the second semifinal round at 4 p.m. (PT) and will be joined by top-seeded Penn State, No. 5 Ohio State, No. 8 Iowa, No. 9 California and No. 12 Temple. ■

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PREP BASEBALL

Big win puts Paly into first

Vikings continue their success against Wilcox; SHP takes WBAL lead

by Andrew Preimesberger

As long as Erick Raich has been head coach of the Palo Alto baseball team, his Vikings have been forever linked with Wilcox — whether during the regular season or postseason playoffs.

In Raich's first three seasons, Palo Alto has needed to beat Wilcox to either win the SCVAL De Anza Division regular-season or playoff titles or advance to the finals.

Fortunately for Raich, his Vikings have been very successful in doing just that.

In 2010, Paly defeated Wilcox twice during the regular season and twice in the playoffs to win the overall division title. In 2011, Paly lost twice during the regular season, but went 2-1 in the playoffs to reach the finals. In 2012, the Vikings won both regular-season meetings and went 2-1 in the playoff semifinals while advancing.

How this season plays out is yet to be seen. Paly, however, is off to a good start following Wednesday's 8-5 win over the Chargers in Santa Clara. Raich is now 11-4 all-time against Wilcox.

More important, the Vikings' victory moved them into sole possession of first place in the De Anza Division as Paly moved to 9-2 in league (14-8 overall) while Wilcox fell to 8-3 (16-7).

Seniors Isaac Feldstein and Austin Poore combined for six hits and four RBI to lead Palo Alto, which snapped a rare three-game losing streak.

"That's big that we took first place," said Paly senior pitcher Rohit Ramkumar. "We just have to go for the sweep and put them (Wilcox) away so we can solidify ourselves at the top."

Feldstein took charge in the first inning when he roped a double into the left-center field gap, scoring senior Michael Strong from second base and giving the Vikings a 2-0 lead.

Paly junior pitcher Danny Erlich struggled to find the zone to start the game as he walked five out of the 10 batters he faced. The lefty went only 1 2/3 innings after being replaced by Ramkumar. Paly pitchers combined for nine walks in the game.

"You can't blame the umpires for the strike zone," said Raich. "We were inconsistent in locating and hitting our spots today."

In the third inning, Poore hit a towering solo home run to center field just out of the reach of the leaping center fielder, giving the Vikings a 3-1 advantage. The senior had a big game and went 3-for-5 including

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Jenna Campbell
Gunn High

The sophomore won four individual events -- setting a school record in the 200 free -- and swam on four winning relays in wins over Homestead and Palo Alto to stay tied for first in the De Anza Division.



Reed Fratt
Menlo-Atherton High

The freshman helped cap an important 4-0 week in tennis by winning all his matches at No. 1 singles while helping the Bears remain in first place and clinch no worse than a co-title in the PAL Bay Division.

Honorable mention

Brooke Bullington

Menlo lacrosse

Caroline Cummings

Sacred Heart Prep lacrosse

Claire Klausner*

Gunn softball

Maddy Price

Menlo track & field

Sarah Robinson

Gunn track & field

Brigid White

Sacred Heart Prep lacrosse

George Baier

Menlo-Atherton track & field

Andrew Buchanan

Menlo golf

Alex Iyer-Danny LaPorte

Menlo-Atherton tennis doubles

Andrew Liang

Palo Alto swimming

Nico Robinson

Sacred Heart Prep track & field

Ethan Wong

Menlo golf

* previous winner

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

two RBI, bumping his average up to .354 on the season.

Feldstein came through again for Paly when he hit a line-drive double down the left-field line, bringing home Strong from second base, putting the Vikings up 6-3 in the sixth inning. Austin Kron also scored on a bases-loaded walk.

Jack Cleasby doubled in James Foug in the seventh to cap the Vikings' scoring.

Ramkumar (7-2) had a solid outing as he threw 5 1/3 innings with four strikeouts and held off Wilcox for the win.

"Rohit was good today," said Raich. "He showed us that he wants to be the guy to go to on the mound."

The Vikings will host the Chargers on Friday at 3:30 p.m., with a chance to grab a two-game lead.

"It's not over yet," said Raich, who improved to 98-28 in his fourth year at Paly. "Friday is a huge game for us; we need to start inching closer to that (CCS) playoff spot."

In the West Bay Athletic League, Sacred Heart Prep shocked defending champion and host Menlo School, 4-0, while grabbing sole possession of first place.

Tyler VauDell pitched a complete-game five-hitter with eight strikeouts while improving to 4-1, and

Nick Sinchek had three hits for the Gators (3-0, 11-7) as head coach Gregg Franceschi won his 100th career game in his sixth season at SHP.

The win by the Gators ended a three-game losing streak to Menlo and gave Franceschi a 3-5 all-time mark against the Knights.

Sacred Heart Prep's last win came in the team's first meeting in 2011. Menlo, however, bounced back to win the second game as the Knights did in 2010. While the Gators have yet to sweep the Knights during Franceschi's tenure, Wednesday's victory was their first at Menlo.

"I hate to say that one game can make a bigger difference than another, but we played real well against a very good team, so that should give us the proof and confidence we need moving forward," Franceschi said. "We talk about being capable of playing like that, but yesterday showed us all we really can."

SHP sophomore Cole March is a big believer and delivered a big hit as he blasted a two-run homer in the top of the seventh on a 3-2 count with two out. It was his third homer of the season, all during

(continued on page 38)

Lacrosse

(continued from page 34)

ranked No. 16 in the region.

If there was ever a better time to take down the defending champion Knights, it was now.

The Gators, however, are still looking for their first-ever win over Menlo as the Knights pulled away from a close first half to post a 13-6 triumph.

"It was a wonderful opportunity for them," Lee said of the Gators. "But, if you look at our schedule, which may be the most difficult we've ever had, my team is battle-tested."

Lee, figuring she had veteran goalie Hannah Rubin and scoring leader Michaela Michael back leading the team, put together an appropriately tough schedule. When both players went down with injuries — Michael for the entire season — the preseason schedule became house-of-horrors as the Knights gave up 114 goals and were outscored by an average of 19-9 in their six losses.

Menlo's players, however, got tough in a hurry and benefited from the experience. Thus, the Knights' big win over Sacred Heart Prep shouldn't have been that much of a surprise.

"It was a measuring stick for us," Lee said. "We proved our mettle."

Menlo took over sole possession of first place at 5-0 while improving to 6-6 overall. The Knights are also 55-0 in league play since their last league loss, to Menlo-Atherton, in April of 2007, and are 99-6 in league play since the Peninsula Athletic League began girls' lacrosse in 2004. Menlo is 43-0 in the WBAL regular season since joining in 2009.

The Knights, meanwhile, jumped ahead of the Gators in the West Region rankings at No. 3 while SHP fell to No. 4. Amador Valley and Carondelet rank No. 1 and 2, respectively. Those top four also make up the state leaders. Menlo lost to Amador Valley on March 19, 20-5.

Moreover, Menlo still hasn't suffered a loss to SHP since the teams began their rivalry.

Tuesday's match seemed a perfect time for that to happen as the Gators trailed by only 6-4 at halftime. Menlo, however, turned up the level on its aggressive play in the second half and contested everything.

The Knights also went on a 5-0 run in less than 10 minutes to open the second half and an 11-4 lead. Senior Ali Kim scored twice, followed by junior Alyssa Sherman, freshman Parvathi Narayan and senior Sam Hoag.

Sherman added a second goal with 11:44 left to play as Menlo completed a 6-0 run in less than 14 minutes.

Sacred Heart Prep didn't score its first goal in the second half until freshman Libby Muir found the net with 10:41 remaining. The Gators' Brigid White, who scored three times in the first half, managed just one goal in the second — with 2:50 left to play.

Menlo's defense was that outstanding as Iman Salty, Annaliese Yukawa, freshman Chelsea Sahami, Lizzy Lacy and Sherman helped shut down the Gators' offense. Nor-



Menlo senior Brooke Bullington (white) fires one of her four goals past Sacred Heart Prep defender Katie Lim (17) while Caroline Cummings (20) and Lauren Diefendorf (5) watch during the Knights' 13-6 win on Tuesday.

mally high-scoring Caroline Cummings was held scoreless.

Menlo senior Brooke Bullington led the victory with four goals and four assists while Kim and Narayan each tallied three times. The two combined for seven of Menlo's 10 draw controls and four of the team's seven takeaways.

"She (Bullington) has come SO far this spring," Lee said. "We always knew she was going to have a big spring, but she has really stepped it up and has come incredibly far as a leader. The beginning of the season was hard for her, and the rest of the team as they began to get their bearings — and they all had to do so in an extreme environment of the toughest opponents . . . She (Bullington) has done a wonderful job.

"Ali Kim has also blown us away with her leadership this spring . . . She crushes it at the center draw and has outright won 61 draws on the season. . . both Kim and Bullington are exceptional players."

Rubin, meanwhile, made her first appearance of the season an important one after missing 11 matches with a knee injury suffered during soccer season. She came up with five big saves while anchoring the defense.

Menlo-Atherton improved to 1-4 in league (3-9-1 overall) with a 22-5 win over host Sacred Heart Cathedral. The Bears grabbed an 8-0 lead as Emily Carlson scored all four of her goals and Meredith Geaghan-Breiner added three. Madison Frame also tallied three times for M-A as did Cybele Reed.

In the SCVAL, Gunn (6-2, 8-3-1) posted a 12-4 victory over host Pioneer while winning its fourth straight.

Boys' lacrosse

Menlo-Atherton held on to its lead



Sacred Heart Prep sophomore Brigid White takes aim on one of her four goals while Menlo goalie Hannah Rubin (99) defends.

in the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League with a 13-7 victory over host Menlo School on Wednesday. The Bears improved to 9-0 in league (12-5 overall) while the Knights dropped to 3-5 (5-8).

The Bears, just three wins from wrapping up a perfect league season, overcame a 6-5 halftime deficit as Drew Uphoff, Duncan McGinnis and Keifer O'Hara all tallied three goals. Kotaro Kihira, Nick Schlein, Peyton Uphoff and Jordan Zuk all scored once. Matt Bradley led Menlo with three goals while Jack Ferguson tallied twice. Hank Strohm and Jack Marren each scored once for the Knights.

On Tuesday, Sacred Heart Prep got a last-second goal from Brian White and posted a 14-13 victory over visiting Palo Alto in SCVAL action. White scooped up a loose ball and found the net with just two seconds to play as the Gators improved to 7-2 in league (9-8 overall). Paly fell to 4-4 and 9-5.

Frankie Hattler and Noah Kawasaki tallied four goals each for SHP with freshman Andrew Daschbach adding three. Backup goalie Jack Wise had seven saves, as starter Austin Appleton had to leave the match after aggravating an injury suffered during a loss to state-ranked Redwood on Saturday. ■

PREP ROUNDUP

Tennis trio heads to CCS

M-A, Menlo and Gunn earn automatic bids by winning division titles

by Keith Peters

The Central Coast Section boys' tennis playoffs don't begin until May 1, but the field is already filling up after Menlo-Atherton, Menlo School and Gunn all wrapped up league titles this week.

Menlo-Atherton clinched its fifth straight PAL Bay Division regular-season title and earned an automatic berth into the section playoffs with a 6-1 victory over host Woodside on Tuesday. Second-place Aragon (10-3), meanwhile, dropped a 7-0 decision to host Carlmont.

The Bears improved to 12-1 in league (18-2 overall) before taking on visiting El Camino on Thursday to close out the regular season.

Freshman Reed Fratt led the Bears at No. 1 singles with a 6-3, 6-3 victory with Saul Menjivar posting a 6-0, 6-1 win at No. 2. Richie Sarwal returned to the lineup following a brief absence and contributed a 6-3, 6-2 win at No. 3.

In doubles, Alex Iyer and Danny LaPorte continued their recent win streak — the duo won four straight matches last week — by posting a 6-4, 6-2 win at No. 1.

Just a few miles away, host Menlo School wrapped up its 17th straight league title in coach Bill Shine's 17 years with a 6-1 win over Pinewood in the West Bay Athletic League.

The Knights improved to 11-0 in league, 18-1 overall and now have won 192 consecutive league matches under Shine. The Menlo seniors, meanwhile, improved to 100-2 in their careers.

Menlo went after another perfect league season on Thursday at Harker and will close its regular season on Friday by hosting Clovis in a non-league match starting at 3:30 p.m.

Menlo also will host the WBAL Individual Tournament on Monday and Tuesday.

On Wednesday, Gunn wrapped up its second SCVAL El Camino Division title under head coach Jim Gorman with a 7-0 romp over host Santa Clara on Wednesday. The Titans finished 11-1 in league (12-7 overall) and will head to CCS after competing in the league's singles and doubles tournament.

Boys' golf

With Andrew Buchanan shooting even-par 35 and Max Garnick adding a 37, Menlo School rolled to a 196-201 victory over Pinewood in a WBAL dual match at Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club on Wednesday. The Knights held on to first place at 8-0 (8-2 overall).

Playing in windy conditions on the hilly course, Garnick hit 4-iron

(continued on next page)



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Sports

Prep roundup

(continued from previous page)

off the tee four times and even hit a 6-iron off the tee on the par-4 third hole. Despite giving up some length off the tee, Garnick didn't pick up a bogey until his par putt lipped out at No. 4. He got that back with a two-putt birdie on the par-5 seventh hole.

Menlo also got a fine 39 from William Hsieh while Ethan Wong shot 42 and Jeff Herr 43. Despite a recent struggle with his irons, Hsieh showed his composure by getting up and down for par on four of the first five holes before going double-bogey and bogey on No. 6 and 7 before finishing with pars.

On Tuesday, Menlo posted a 197-244 dual-match victory over host Crystal Springs at Burlingame Country Club as Buchanan earned medalist honors with a 1-under 35.

Also in the WBAL, Sacred Heart Prep senior Willy Lamb made a clutch three-foot putt on the last hole to seal a closer-than-expected 206-207 victory over Pinewood on Monday at Los Altos Golf & Country Club. Strong, gusty winds made scoring difficult for both teams, with putting even being affected. Nonetheless, the Gators (6-1, 8-1)

prevailed behind as Lamb (43) and Taylor Oliver (43) both finished ahead of their respective competitors to help secure the victory and keep SHP in second place behind unbeaten Menlo School. Colton Bares of Pinewood earned medalist honors with a 1-over 36.

In the SCVAL De Anza Division, Avinash Sharma fired an even-par 36 and Curran Sinha added a 38 to help Gunn win a tri-meet with Los Altos and host Mountain View on Wednesday at Shoreline Golf Links in Mountain View. Anson Cheng added a 39 for Gunn (8-1-1) while Jack Jaffe shot 40 and Herbert Sandler-Wong a 41.

Softball

Menlo School rallied three times before finally pulling out a 12-11 victory in eight innings over visiting King's Academy in WBAL action Tuesday. The Knights improved to 4-3 in league and 7-4 overall. Harker sits atop the league with a 5-0 mark.

Malia Bates tied the game three times for Menlo, while getting two hits and two RBI. Teammate Priya Medberry had three hits and three RBI to support winning pitcher Kelly McConnell.

Menlo scored the winning run in the bottom of the eighth when McConnell reached second base and

scored when Amanda McFarland's ground ball to short was misplayed for an error.

In the SCVAL El Camino Division, Gunn senior Claire Klausner registered 10 strikeouts but her teammates managed just four hits and no runs as the Titans dropped a 6-0 decision to visiting Milpitas on Wednesday. The Titans dropped to 5-3 in league (8-10 overall) while first-place Milpitas improved to 7-1 (12-9).

Track and field

The Palo Alto boys and girls set the stage for possible title-clinching wins next week by sweeping host Milpitas on a windy Tuesday. The boys won, 71-56, while the girls prevailed, 88-33.

Nick Sullivan won the 400 (50.89) and 200 (23.13) in addition to running on the Vikings' winning 400 relay. Grant Shorin added victories in the long jump (20-5 1/4) and high jump (6-0) as Paly improved to 5-0.

The Palo Alto girls also moved to 5-0 as Audrey DeBruine swept the 1600 (5:29.40) and 800 (2:25.07) to help lead the way. Charlotte Ali-pate added victories in the shot put (321-4 1/2) and discus (101-3) while Katie Foug took the 3200 (12:15.65) and triple jump (31-2) for another double win. ■

Prep baseball

(continued from page 36)

league play.

March scored the first run in the first after lining a double to center. Mike Covell's liner to center was dropped for an error, with March holding at third. He scored moments later on Will Reilly's single.

Sinche singled home Will Johnston in the fourth.

Mikey Diekroeger had two hits for the Knights (2-1, 12-7), but was thrown out trying to steal in the first. Menlo stranded a number of

baserunners.

In the PAL Bay Division, visiting Capuchino was in a giving mood on Wednesday afternoon at Bettencourt Field, and Menlo-Atherton took full advantage of the visitors' generosity to defeat the Mustangs 9-2.

Eight errors, five walks, and two hit batters — combined with seven base hit hits by the Bears — proved too much to overcome for Capuchino as M-A won its second straight division contest. The Bears are now 13-7 overall and 3-4 in league play, while Capuchino fell to 8-10 and 2-5.

Starting pitcher Erik Amundson

improved his season mark to 4-2, allowing two runs and three hits over the first four innings while striking out four. M-A received solid, scoreless relief pitching from sophomore AJ Lemons (two innings, three hits, two strikeouts) and junior Jordan Long (one inning, no hits, two strikeouts).

Senior catcher Charles Grose and junior third baseman Brett Moriarty each drove in two runs for the Bears, with shortstop Alex Aguiar, Long, and center fielder Charlie Cain also collecting RBI. Moriarty and Grose lead M-A in RBI with 17 and 13, respectively, this season. ■



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

8:30 A.M., Thursday, May 2, 2013 Palo Alto Council Chambers, 1st Floor, Civic Center, 250 Hamilton Avenue. Go to the Development Center at 285 Hamilton Avenue to review filed documents; contact Diana Tamale for information regarding business hours at 650.329.2144.

2755 El Camino Real [13PLN-00138]: Request by the Hayes Group on behalf of Pollock Financial Group, Inc. for preliminary Architectural Review of a new four story mixed use building with three stories of below grade parking on a 19,563 square foot lot. The Council conducted a preliminary review session in February 2013 regarding the potential project. The Planning and Transportation Commission has not yet conducted the Planned Community initiation. Zone District: PF.

500 University Avenue [13PLN-00112]: Request by Thoits Bros. LLC for Preliminary Architectural Review of a new three-story 26,806 square foot commercial building with below grade parking, replacing the existing one-story commercial building. The concept design would require a Design Enhancement Exception (DEE) to allow additional height over the limit for a corner tower element. Zone: CD-C(GF)(P).

180 El Camino Real [13PLN-00064]: Request by Fergus, Garber, Young Architects, on behalf of the Leland Stanford Junior University, for a Minor Architectural Review of façade improvements and signage for a commercial recreation use for SoulCycle at the Stanford Shopping Center. Zone District: CC (Community Commercial). Environmental Assessment: Exempt from the provisions of CEQA, 15301 (Existing Facilities).

Amy French
Chief Planning Official



NOTICE OF PROPOSED PLAN AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR SITE 26

**FORMER NAVAL AIR STATION MOFFETT FIELD
MOFFETT FIELD, CALIFORNIA**



The Department of the Navy, in coordination with state and federal environmental regulatory agencies, encourages the public to comment on the Proposed Plan for Installation Restoration Site 26 at the former Naval Air Station Moffett Field in Moffett Field, California.

The Proposed Plan presents the Navy's preferred remedial alternative to modify the Site 26 groundwater cleanup remedy. The current remedy in place at Site 26 is "pump-and-treat", which consists of groundwater extraction, aboveground treatment, on-site discharge, groundwater monitoring, and industrial controls. To optimize cleanup of the groundwater, the Navy proposes to implement an alternative remedy of biostimulation/bioaugmentation in portions of the groundwater plume, along with monitored natural attenuation, and institutional controls.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The Navy invites interested members of the public to review and comment on the Proposed Plan during the 45 day public comment period from **April 15, 2013, through May 29, 2013**. Public comments may be submitted in writing and postmarked or e-mailed no later than May 29, 2013. Please send comments to Mr. Scott Anderson, BRAC PMO West, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900, San Diego, California 92108-4310, scott.d.anderson@navy.mil, fax: (619) 532-0940, phone: (619) 532-0938.

PUBLIC MEETING

The Navy will host a public meeting to present the Site 26 Proposed Plan and will accept verbal and written comments at the meeting. The Navy will conduct a brief formal presentation at 7:00 p.m. and then take public comments.

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2013
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Location: Mountain View Senior Center
266 Escuela Avenue
Mountain View, California 94040

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Site 26 Proposed Plan is available on the Navy Base Realignment and Closure Program Management Office website, www.bracpmo.navy.mil. The Proposed Plan and other site documents, including the focused feasibility study and the treatability study technical memorandum, are available for review at:

Mountain View Public Library
585 Franklin Street
Mountain View, California 94041
(650) 903-6337

Camp Connection

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

Academics

Early Learning Camp Connection listing

Palo Alto

Write Now! Summer Writing Camps
Emerson School of Palo Alto and Hacienda School of Pleasanton open their doors and offer their innovative programs: Expository Writing, Creative Writing, Presentation Techniques, and (new!) Test-Taking Skills. Call or visit our website for details.

www.headsup.org

Emerson 650-424-1267

Hacienda 925-485-5750

Foothill College

Los Altos Hills

Two Six-Week Summer Sessions Beginning June 10. These sessions are perfect for university students returning from summer break who need to pick up a class; and high school juniors, seniors and recent graduates who want to get an early start. 12345 El Monte Rd.

www.foothill.edu

650-949-7362

Harker Summer Programs

San Jose

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

www.summer.harker.org

408-553-0537

iD Tech Camps - Summer Tech Fun

Held at Stanford

Take interests further! Ages 7-17 create iPhone apps, video games, C++/Java programs, movies, and more at weeklong, day and overnight programs held at Stanford and 60+ universities in 26 states. Also 2-week, teen-only programs: iD Gaming Academy, iD Programming Academy, and iD Visual Arts Academy (filmmaking & photography).

www.internaldrive.com

1-888-709-TECH (8324)

iD Teen Academies

Gaming, Programming & Visual Arts

Stanford

Gain a competitive edge! Learn different aspects of video game creation, app development, filmmaking, photography, and more. 2-week programs where ages 13-18 interact with industry professionals to gain competitive edge. iD Gaming Academy, iD Programming Academy, and iD Visual Arts Academy are held at Stanford, and other universities.

www.iDTeenAcademies.com

1-888-709-TECH (8324)

ISTP's Language Immersion Summer Camp

Palo Alto

ISTP Summer Camp is designed to give participants a unique opportunity to spend their summer break having fun learning or improving in a second language. Students are grouped according to both grade level and language of proficiency. Our camp offers many immersion opportunities and consists of a combination of language classes and activities taught in the target language. Sessions are available in French, Mandarin, Chinese and English ESL and run Monday through Friday, 8am-3:30pm, with additional extending care from 3:30-5:30pm.

www.istp.org

650-251-8519

Mathnasium of Palo Alto-Menlo Park

Menlo Park

Prevent Summer Brain Drain with Mathnasium Power Math Workouts. During the summer months, many students lose 2 to 2.5 months of math skills learned during the school year. Mathnasium of Palo Alto-Menlo Park is offering 8 and 16-Session Flexible Summer Passes which will keep your child's math skills sharp and provide a boost for the school year ahead. Open to grades 1st - 10th grade. Summer Passes on sale now and expire Sept. 7, 2013. Center located at 605 A Cambridge Avenue, Menlo Park (next to the Oasis, one block north of Stanford Shopping Mall).

www.mathnasium.com/paloalto-menlopark

650-321-6284

Professional Tutoring Services of Silicon Valley

Los Altos

Academic camps offering Algebra I & II, Geometry, and Spanish I, II, & III in small groups. Three sessions starting June 24 through August 2. Sign up for all three or just one. Perfect for junior high students taking high school level courses. Register online.

www.ptstutor.com/Summer2013.htm

650-948-5137

Stratford School - Camp Socrates

17 Bay Area Campuses

Academic enrichment infused with traditional summer camp fun--that's what your child will experience at Camp Socrates. Sessions begin June 24 and end August 9, with the option for campers to attend all seven weeks, or the first four (June 24-July 19). Full or half-day morning or afternoon programs are available.

www.StratfordSchools.com/Summer

650-493-1151

Summer at Saint Francis

Mountain View

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

www.sfhs.com/summer

650-968-1213 x446

TechKnowHow Computer

& Lego Camps

Palo Alto

Menlo Park/Sunnyvale

Fun and enriching technology classes for students, ages 5-14 Courses include LEGO and K'NEX Projects with Motors, Electronics, NXT Robotics, 3D Modeling, and Game Design. Many locations, including Palo Alto, Menlo Park and Sunnyvale. Half and all day options. Early-bird and multi-session discounts available.

www.techknowhowkids.com

650-638-0500

YMCA of Silicon Valley

What makes Y camps different? We believe every child deserves the opportunity to discover who they are and what they can achieve. Y campers experience the outdoors, make new friends and have healthy fun in a safe, nurturing environment. They become more confident and grow as individuals, and they learn value in helping others. We offer day, overnight, teen leadership and family camps. Financial assistance is available. Get your summer camp guide at ymcasv.org/summercamp. Youth camps (ages 5 - 17) run June 17 - Aug. 16. Half-day and full-day options. Fees vary. 1922 The Alameda 3rd Floor, San Jose

www.ymcasv.org

Peninsula

408-351-6400

Arts, Culture, Other Camps

Busy Bees & Astro Kids Summer Adventure Camps

Mountain View

Join us for these half-day camps designed for 3-8 year olds as we have fun, participate in games and crafts, and go on fun field trips! Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Avenue

<http://mountainview.gov>

Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA)

Mountain View

50+ creative camps for Gr. K-8! Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Musical Theater, School of Rock, Digital Arts, more! One- and two-week sessions; full and half-day enrollment. Extended care available. Financial aid offered.

www.arts4all.org

650-917-6800 ext. 0

DHF Wilderness Camps

Rancho San Antonio

Open Space Preserve

Children ages 6-14 can meet the livestock, help with farm chores, explore a wilderness preserve and have fun with crafts, songs and games. Older campers conclude the week with a sleepover at the Farm. Near the intersection of Hwy 85 and Hwy 280

mountainview.gov

Pacific Art League of Palo Alto

Palo Alto

PAL offers morning and afternoon art camps in cartooning and comics, printmaking, glass fusing, mixed media and acrylic and watercolor painting for children 5-18 years. It is a great place to explore imagination and creativity in a supportive, encouraging and fun environment with a lot of personal attention. Scholarships are available. 227 Forest Avenue

www.pacificartleague.org

650-321-3891

Palo Alto Community Child Care (PACCC)

Palo Alto

PACCC summer camps offer campers, grades kindergarten to 6th, a wide variety of fun opportunities! K-1 Fun for the youngest campers, Neighborhood Adventure Fun and Ultimate Adventure Fun for the more active and on-the-go campers! New this year: Sports Adventure Camp for those young athletes and Operation Chef for out of this world cooking fun! Swimming twice per week, periodic field trips, special visitors and many engaging camp activities, songs and skits round out the fun offerings of PACCC Summer Camps! Registration is online. Open to campers from all communities! Come join the fun in Palo Alto!

www.paccc.org

650-493-2361

Theatreworks Summer Camps

Palo Alto

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

www.theatreworks.org/educationcommunity

650-493-7146

Western Ballet

Children's Summer Camp

Mountain View

Students attend ballet class and rehearsal in preparation for the recital of either Peter Pan or The Little Mermaid at the end of the two week session. Separate Saturday classes are also offered. Ages 4-9. 914 N. Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View

<http://westernballet.org/documents/summerchildrens.html>

Western Ballet

Mountain View

Intermediate Summer Intensive

Students obtain high quality training in ballet, pointe, character, jazz, and modern dance, while learning choreography from the classical ballet Paquita. The students dance in featured roles in a final performance. Ages 9-12. Audition required 914 N. Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View

<http://westernballet.org/documents/summerpre-intermediate.html>

Western Ballet

Mountain View

Advanced Summer Intensive

Students obtain high quality training in ballet, pointe, character, jazz, and modern dance, while learning choreography from the classical ballet Paquita. The students dance in featured roles in a final performance. Ages 13-23. Audition required. 914 N. Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View

http://westernballet.org/documents/summer_int_adv.html

Summer at Peninsula School

Menlo Park

This is a child's delight with trees to climb, rope swings, and unpaved open spaces. Our engaging and creative program includes time to play and make friends. Peninsula School, 920 Peninsula Way. Visit website for class listings.

www.peninsulaschool.org/pensummerschool.htm 650-325-1584, ext. 39

Athletics

Alan Margot's Tennis Camps

Atherton

Alan Margot's Tennis Camps provide an enjoyable way for your child to begin learning the game of tennis or to continue developing existing skills. Our approach is to create lots of fun with positive feedback and reinforcement in a nurturing tennis environment. Building self-esteem and confidence through enjoyment on the tennis court is a wonderful gift a child can keep forever! Super Juniors Camps, ages 3-6; Juniors Camps, ages 6-14.

www.alanmargot-tennis.net

650-400-0464

City of Mountain View Recreation Division

Mountain View

Discover fun with us this summer through the many programs available with the City of Mountain View Recreation Division. From sports to traditional day camps, to cooking camps, dance camps and art camps... we have it all! Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Avenue

<http://mountainview.gov>

City of Mountain View Swim Lessons Rengstorff and Eagle Parks

Mountain View

We offer swim lessons for ages 6 months to 14 years. Following the American Red Cross swim lesson program, students are divided into one of the 11 different levels taught by a certified instructor. Rengstorff Park Pool, 201 S Rengstorff Ave and Eagle Park Pool, 650 Franklin St.

<http://mountainview.gov/>

Club Rec Juniors & Seniors

Mountain View

Club Rec Juniors and Seniors is open for youth 6-11 years old. These traditional day camps are filled with fun theme weeks, weekly trips, swimming, games, crafts and more! Monta Loma Elementary School, 490 Thompson Ave.

<http://mountainview.gov>

Foothills Day Camp

Palo Alto

What will you discover? Foothills Day and Fun Camps, for youth ages 8-10 and 5-7 respectively, includes canoeing, hiking, animal identification games, crafts, and more- all for less than \$5 an hour. Registration begins February 15th for residents. (February 22nd for non-residents.) Hurry, spaces are limited!

cityofpaloalto.org/enjoy

650-463-4900

J-Camp

Palo Alto

Exciting programs for kindergartners through teens include swimming, field trips, sports and more. Enroll your child in traditional or special focus camps like Surfing, Archery, Animal Adventure, Circus Camp and over 50 others! Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way

www.paloaltojcc.org/jcamp

650-223-8622

Kim Grant Tennis Academy & Summer Camps

Palo Alto

Menlo Park/Redwood City

Fun and Specialized junior camps for Mini (3-5), Beginner, Intermediate 1&2, Advanced and Elite Players. Weekly programs designed by Kim Grant to improve players technique, fitness, agility, mental toughness and all around tennis game. Camps in Palo Alto, Menlo Park and Redwood City. Come make new friends and have tons of FUN!!

www.KimGrantTennis.com

650-752-8061

Nike Tennis Camps

Stanford University

Dick Gould's 43rd Annual Stanford Tennis School offers day camps for both juniors & adults. Weekly junior overnight & extended day camps run by John Whitlinger & Lele Forood. Junior Day Camp run by Brandon Coupe & Frankie Brennan.

www.USSportsCamps.com/tennis

1-800-NIKE-CAMP (645-3226)

Spartans Sports Camp

Spartans Sports Camp offers multi-sport, week-long sessions for boys and girls in grades 3-6 as well as sport-specific sessions for grades 6-9. There are also strength and conditioning camps for grades 6-12. Camps begin June 10th and run weekly through August 2nd at Mountain View High School. The camp is run by MVHS coaches and student-athletes and all proceeds benefit the MVHS Athletic Department. Lunch and extended care are available for your convenience. Register today!

www.SpartansSportsCamp.com

650-479-5906

Spring Down Camp Equestrian Center

Portola Valley

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

www.springdown.com

650-851-1114

Stanford Water Polo Camps

Stanford

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

StanfordWaterPoloCamps.com

650-725-9016

Summer at Saint Francis

Mountain View

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

www.sfhs.com/summer

650-968-1213 x650

Summer at Saint Francis

Mountain View

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

www.sfhs.com/summer

650-968-1213 x650

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