

Palo  
Alto

Vol. XXXIV, Number 30 ■ April 26, 2013

# Neighbors oppose senior-housing project

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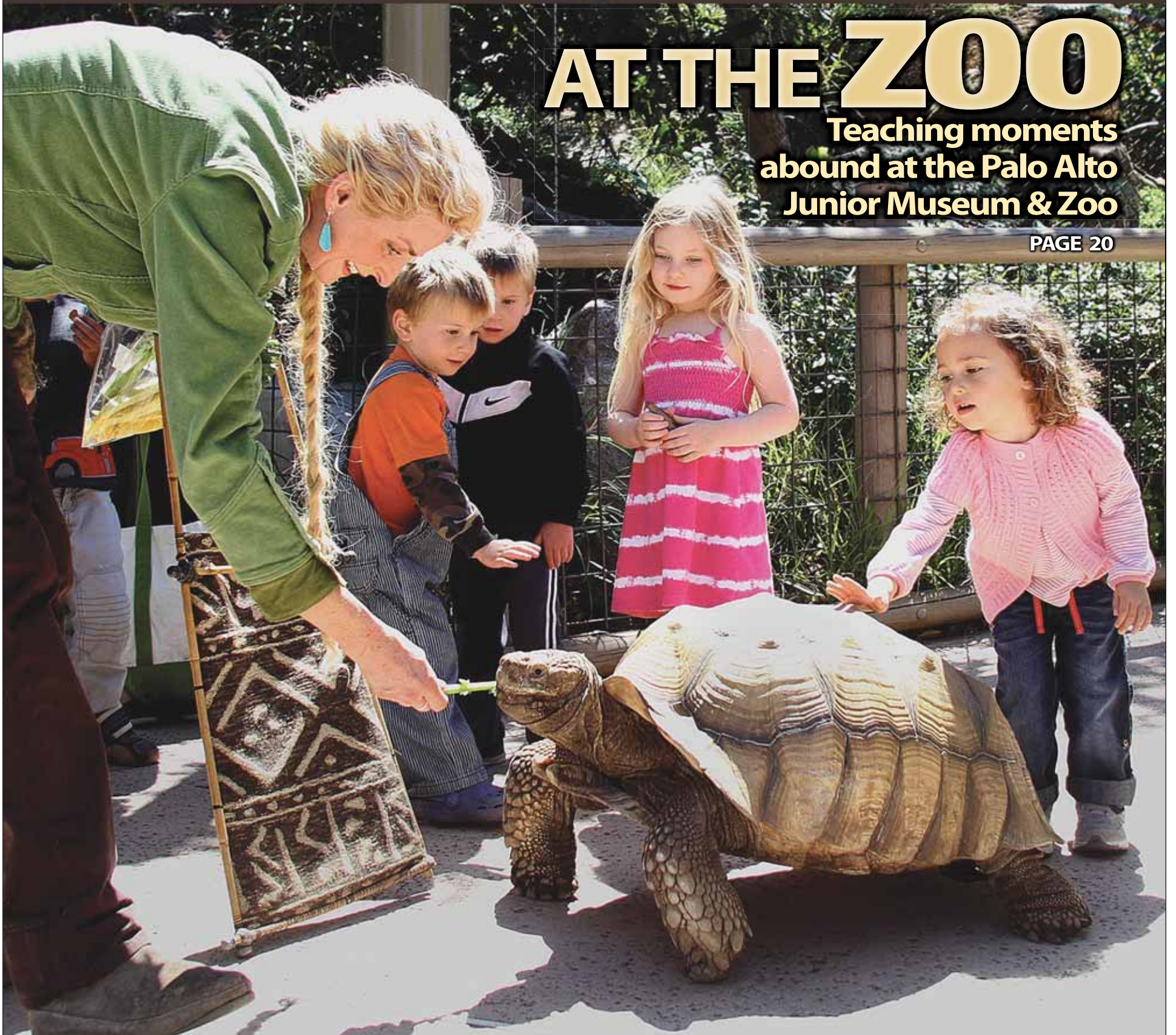
# Weekly

www.PaloAltoOnline.com

## AT THE ZOO

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Junior Museum & Zoo

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# 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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.idteenacademies.com) **1-888-709-TECH (8324)**

**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](http://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 to III, small groups. Great for review or preview. Three sessions starting June 24 through August 2. Perfect for junior high students taking high school level courses. Register online or call us:  
[www.ptstutor.com/Summer2013.htm](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.techknowhowkids.com) **650-638-0500**

**YMCA of Silicon Valley** **Peninsula**  
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/summer](http://ymcasv.org/summer). 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](http://www.ymcasv.org) **408-351-6400**

## Arts, Culture, Other Camps

**Busy Bees & Astro Kids Summer** **Mountain View**  
**Adventure Camps**  
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** **Mountain View**  
**of Music and Arts (CSMA)**  
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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.paccc.org) **650-493-2361**

**Theatreworks Summer Camps** **Palo Alto**  
In these entertaining camps for grades K-5, students enjoy juggling, clowning, puppetry, playwriting, acting, improvisation, music, and dance - present their own original pieces at the end of each session.  
[www.theatreworks.org/learn/youth/camps](http://www.theatreworks.org/learn/youth/camps) **650-493-7146**

**Western Ballet** **Mountain View**  
**Children's Summer Camp**  
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](http://westernballet.org/documents/summer_int_adv.html)

## 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](http://www.alanmargot-tennis.net) **650-400-0464**

**City of Mountain View** **Mountain View**  
**Recreation Division**  
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** **Mountain View**  
**Rengstorff and Eagle Parks**  
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](http://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](http://www.paloaltojcc.org/jcamp) **650-223-8622**

**Kim Grant Tennis Academy** **Palo Alto**  
**& Summer Camps** **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](http://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 Whittinger & Lele Forood. Junior Day Camp run by Brandon Coupe & Frankie Brennan.  
[www.USSportsCamps.com/tennis](http://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](http://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-ll practice, safety around horses, tacking/untacking of own camp horse, and arts/crafts.  
[www.springdown.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.sfhs.com/summer) **650-968-1213 x650**



# Upfront

Local news, information and analysis

## Neighbors riled over proposed housing

Traffic study for Maybell Avenue housing project called flawed by residents

by Sue Dremann

An overflowing crowd of Barron Park and Green Acres II residents vented their frustration with dense housing and traffic problems and told Palo Alto Housing

Corporation officials Wednesday night, April 24, to build a proposed senior housing project elsewhere.

Residents, who spilled out of a meeting room that holds 200

people, said they feared the Maybell Homes and Senior Housing Project would become a traffic and safety nightmare for a neighborhood that is already plagued by cut-through traffic from Arastradero Road.

The nonprofit housing corporation wants to build on a 2.4-acre parcel at Maybell and Clemo avenues with up to 60 one-bedroom units for low-

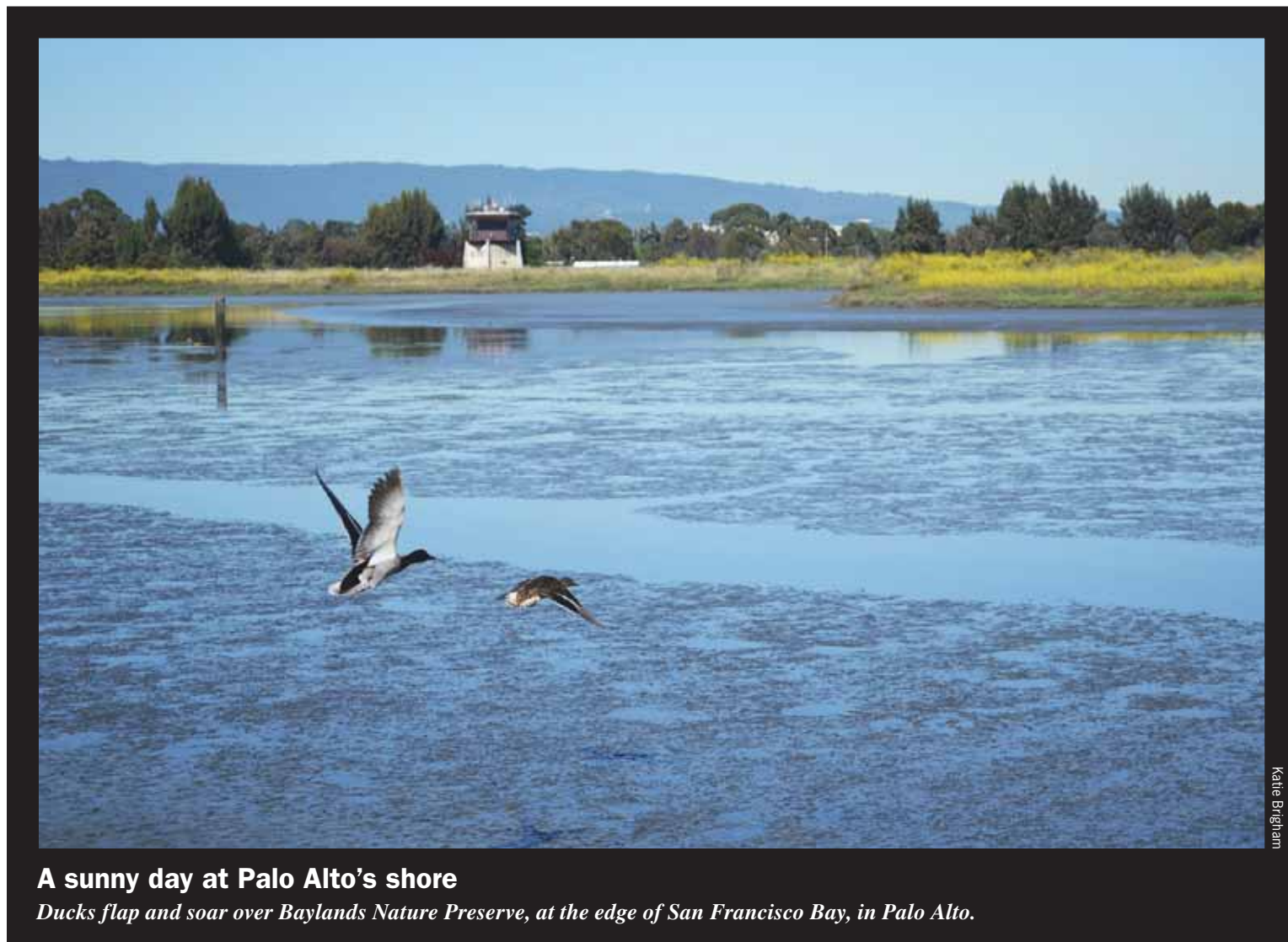
income seniors and 15 single-family homes that would be sold to fund the senior housing.

But residents gave housing-corporation representatives an earful, saying the city has repeatedly ignored their feedback on traffic in the past. The recent Arastradero restriping project, which reduced the number of lanes in stretches along Arastradero to slow traffic, sent 25

percent more cars onto Maybell as a result, according to the residents' Barron Park Association.

Currently, 3,320 cars on average use Maybell each weekday, according to the traffic study by Hexagon Transportation Consultants Inc. The study estimated 120 more vehicles per day would use the street if the

(continued on page 6)



Katie Brigham

A sunny day at Palo Alto's shore  
Ducks flap and soar over Baylands Nature Preserve, at the edge of San Francisco Bay, in Palo Alto.

### EDUCATION

## Do AP classes live up to their promise?

Results are mixed, Stanford researcher says

by Chris Kenrick

Though skeptical of the unequivocal value of Advanced Placement courses, a Stanford University researcher says high schools with well-supported AP programs should not cap or limit the number of AP classes in which students are permitted to enroll.

Stress levels in students are not necessarily correlated to the number of AP classes they take, says Denise Clark Pope, a senior lecturer in the Graduate School of Education. Pope also is cofounder of the Stanford-based Challenge Success, which believes society has become too

focused on grades and test scores, undermining authentic engagement and resilience in teens.

Advocating an open-enrollment policy for AP classes, Pope also cautions that a well-supported program should include thorough consultation with teachers and guidance counselors before students sign up, as well as a "safety net" allowing for course reassignment midstream should a student need to transfer out.

Students should not sign up for AP courses "just to get into college," but only if they feel passionate about a subject and are willing to put in extra time and effort, she said.

Pope's observations came in her review of more than 20 research studies on the College Board's 58-year-old AP program, whose enroll-

ment ballooned nearly 50 percent from 2004 to 2009, reaching 1.6 million students.

She said she undertook the literature review after noting that some schools have dropped the AP program and becoming concerned that AP classes have caused a ramping up of student stress levels.

Her conclusions were mixed.

"In the best of circumstances, the AP program can enrich some students' high school studies and offer opportunities to take challenging college-level courses, with motivated classmates and highly skilled teachers," she said.

"For certain students who would not otherwise have access to these

(continued on page 10)

### LAND USE

## El Camino Park redesign delayed

Commission concerned over dog park, historic building

by Gennady Sheyner

When Palo Alto broke ground in October 2011 on construction of an underground reservoir at El Camino Park, the goal was to complete the work and have the park re-opened to sports teams by this summer.

But while the utilities work is proceeding on schedule, the redesign of the north Palo Alto park remains up in the air. Recent proposals to expand the parking area and build a dog park have necessitated a flurry of design changes and a re-evaluation of planned park amenities.

A proposal by developer John Arrillaga to build a massive office complex and a theater at 27 University Ave. has added another wrinkle. His plan calls for relocating the historic Hostess House, which currently houses the MacArthur Park restaurant, to another site, with the nearby El Camino Park as one of the candidates.

The looming uncertainty over the Hostess House — designed by Julia Morgan, who also designed Hearst Castle — is threatening to hold up El Camino Park's reopening, a fact that doesn't sit well with the city's Parks and Recreation Commission. On Tuesday night, April 23, the commission voted 5-1, with Stacey Ashlund dissenting and Pat Markevitch absent, to endorse a memo that recommends keeping the Hostess House away from the park. The memo argues that moving the building into the small park would effectively leave the park without open space for unstructured play and require a relocation of the park's soccer field to the north.

For the same reason, the commission is recommending not including a dog park, despite direction from

(continued on page 7)





## CITY OF PALO ALTO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Draft Mitigated 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 a minimum 30-day inspection period beginning **April 26, 2013 through May 26, 2013** during the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the Development Center, 285 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

This item is tentatively scheduled to be considered at a **public hearing by the Architectural Review Board, Thursday, May 15, 2013 16 at 8:30 AM.** in the Palo Alto City Council Chambers on the first floor of the Civic Center, located at 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California. Written comments on the Negative Declaration should be provided to Margaret Netto, Department of Planning and Community Environment, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301, or via email at [Margaret.netto@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:Margaret.netto@cityofpaloalto.org), by 5:00 PM on May 26, 2013.

**711 El Camino Real [13PLN-00017]:** Request by HKS on behalf of Pacific Hotel Management LLC for Major Architectural Review of a demolition of a 3,200-square foot, one story commercial building and construction of a new 22,957-square foot, 4 story, 23-unit hotel with one level of partially below grade parking on a 0.26 acre site in the Service Commercial (CS) Zoning District.

\*\*\*

**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.

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ROBSON HOMES



## Palo Alto Weekly

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## Upfront

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“

Something's got to go.

”

**Ed Laing**, Parks and Recreation Commission chairman, on the redesign of El Camino Park. See story on page 3.

## Around Town

**OPEN WIDE! ...** Depending on one's digital prowess and hunger for data, Palo Alto's newest transparency initiative is either a head-scratcher or a reason to rejoice. The city this week unveiled its latest "open data" initiative — **Open GIS**. The project includes dumping dozens (ultimately hundreds) of datasets online and displaying them through maps using **Google Fusion Tables**, a data-visualization application that allows users to display, organize and share large data tables. The utility of these datasets varies.

Tree lovers would likely appreciate a map of every tree in the city, with information about each tree's species and condition available with one click. Similarly, land-use watchdogs and developers might find that the land-use table is far more convenient to click around on than flipping through bulky zoning maps. And the new map of manhole covers might be a boon to local bank robbers or ninja turtles. Open GIS is the latest step in Palo Alto's movement toward becoming what Chief Information Officer **Jonathan Reichental** calls a "digital city." "We're stepping up to our responsibility as the heart of Silicon Valley by not just being a model for open government, but for doing it in the most innovative way," Reichental said in an announcement. "Experimenting with the power of Google Fusion Tables provides us with a free platform to try new ways to extend the data back to those it belongs: our community." City officials to add more data in the weeks ahead. The information will be available at <http://data.cityofpaloalto.org>.

**RUN, RUN, RUN ...** Palo Alto's first ever "**Great Race to Save the Water**" appears to have captured the public's imagination, with registration hitting its limit Wednesday afternoon. The race seeks to promote conserving water, a commodity that is bound to feel particularly precious to runners dashing past the finish line at the sunny **Baylands**. Even though the number of prize-eligible runners is at capacity, the city encourages the community to come out for a stroll, a jog or a free goody bag between 9 a.m. and noon. Among those partaking in the festivities Saturday, April 27, will be City Manager **James**

**Keene**, a veteran marathoner whose running career is briefly on hold because of a collapsed lung he suffered in South Carolina earlier this month. The medical emergency held up Keene's return to Palo Alto and forced him to take a long train trip back to California. Keene, who attended this week's City Council meeting after missing the last few, said that while he doesn't plan on joining the runners this weekend, he might do the walk.

**GEARING UP ...** So how well is the construction of **Mitchell Park Library** going? First the bad news. In the past few months, the city had hired a new contractor, **Big D Builders**, to fix the errors of its original contractor, **Flintco Pacific**, which has just been taken over by another company and which had filed 37 change orders totaling more than \$3 million as of earlier this month. Palo Alto has also brought on board seven different consulting firms, including engineers, attorneys and construction "forensic" experts, to sort out potential disputes between Palo Alto and the contractors involved in building the 56,000-square-foot facility. The good news is that the end is almost in sight. City officials expect the brand-new building, and the accompanying community center, to be open at the end of this year.

**FLIPPING THROUGH** Magazine racks aren't going away from Palo Alto libraries, but many visitors will no longer need them to peruse their favorite periodicals. The city announced this week that all five branches will now offer in-house iPads loaded with more than 20 current magazines, including **National Geographic**, **Sunset**, **Economist** and (of course) **Wired**. Library users can check out an iPad for in-house use for up to two hours. "With the magazine publishing industry transitioning to digital content formats, the Library is pleased to offer the public the most current digital issues of popular magazines inside our libraries," Library Director **Monique le Conge** said in a statement. "Our customers can still continue to check out copies of print magazines to take home and enjoy for up to a week." ■

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LAND USE

# Facing protests, council agrees to public hearing on Cubberley

But decision on south Palo Alto community center must be made quickly, councilman says

by Gennady Sheyner

The future of Cubberley Community Center is too important for the decision-making to be made without further public input, Palo Alto residents adamantly told the City Council on Monday night, April 22.

The council had been scheduled to meet behind closed doors to discuss the hot-button topic of Cubberley, a 35-acre center on Middlefield Road in south Palo Alto. The city currently owns 8 acres at Cubberley and leases the remainder from the Palo Alto Unified School District, an agreement that is set to expire in late 2014. Over the past year, the council has been weighing its options for the well-used but dilapidated center. Last month, a specially appointed Cubberley Community Advisory Committee released a report that advocates for renewing the lease, sharing the facility between the city and the school district and leaving space for a third high school.

On Monday, several members of this citizens committee spoke out before the scheduled closed session and argued against holding the private meeting. According to the council agenda, the council was to discuss property negotiations re-

garding Cubberley and the former Ventura Elementary School.

Jennifer Hetterly, vice chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission and member of the Cubberley committee, told the council that there is "significant concern among residents about not only what will happen there, but about the process we'll follow" to resolve the issue. The council's closed session, she said, "creates an appearance that the council's goals and priorities have already been determined, such that you can provide specific guidance to negotiators."

Diane Reklis, former school board president and member of the Cubberley committee, also counseled officials not to meet behind closed doors. She urged the council to hold a public hearing and give people a chance to understand the committee's report before discussing Cubberley in a closed session.

"There needs to be more openness before you get to the closedness," Reklis said.

Sheri Furman, who also served on the Cubberley committee, called the closed session "premature" and also asked for a public hearing.

The council agreed, with Councilman Larry Klein proposing a public

hearing on Cubberley on May 13 and a closed-session discussion on May 20. Klein, who served on the Cubberley Policy Advisory Committee (which included council members and school board members), said he has heard from various members of the community who urged against the closed discussion. The council should respect their wishes, Klein said.

Vice Mayor Nancy Shepherd, who also sits on the policy committee, told the Weekly that the closed session was scheduled because some council members felt they had received enough information in recent months to enable a "substantive discussion" of the issues. But she agreed Monday that another public hearing would promote government transparency.

While Klein proposed the May 13 public hearing, he also pointed out that the main decisions about the community center will ultimately be made behind closed doors.

"There may be certain basic points — such as, should we have a new lease? — that might be appropriate for a public discussion," Klein said. "But I think the people will be disappointed quite frankly that a public meeting isn't going to result in

what many people would like to see. There isn't going to be a great moment — at least I don't think there should be — where a City Council or a school board member lays out a whole menu of things they'd accept in a particular lease."

Klein also noted, in response to Furman, that the city would like to reach a decision on Cubberley by the end of this year, which doesn't leave officials very much time.

"This is a major issue, and I think we'd need to get moving on it and not put things off and put things off, which is of course a human tendency, but I don't think we can afford it on this issue," Klein said.

The council supported Klein's proposal with an 8-0 vote (Liz Kniss was absent). Councilman Greg Schmid spoke most force-

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How do you think Cubberley Community Center should be used in the future? Share your opinion and ideas on Town Square, the community discussion forum on Palo Alto Online.

fully against the closed session, saying that he found the proposed discussion "striking" and tantamount to a broken promise to the community.

"It's critical we have a process that gains the public's trust and confidence," Schmid said. "Finally, I'm a firm believer that an open and transparent process leads government leaders to better decisions, and I can see no value added by moving to a closed session." ■

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**Saturday, May 4, 2013 @ 10 a.m.**  
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The Fair is being organized by the **Palo Alto Recreation Foundation and the Kiwanis Club of Palo Alto.** Features include:

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**PALO ALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that proposals will be received by the Palo Alto Unified School District for:

**RFP # 13-P-04-M: Pool Chemicals**

Bidding documents contain the full description of the work, and may be requested via email to: [dbuschke@pausd.org](mailto:dbuschke@pausd.org), or at the District Office, Purchasing Department, 25 Churchill Ave Palo Alto, CA 94306.

**There will be a mandatory Conference and walk-through at 10:00 A.M. PT on Wednesday, May 8, 2013.**

All questions concerning this request should be directed to Denise Buschke at (650) 329-3802 or emailed to [dbuschke@pausd.org](mailto:dbuschke@pausd.org).

Interested parties must submit proposals to the Purchasing Department, Attn: Denise Buschke, 25 Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306, by **3 PM PTD on Tuesday, May 28, 2013.**

**BY ORDER of the Business Department of the Palo Alto Unified School District, Palo Alto, California.**

Posted Legal Ads Dated April 26, 2013 & May 3, 2013



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

Please be advised the Planning and Transportation Commission (P&TC) shall conduct a **Special public meeting at 6:00 PM, Wednesday, May 1, 2013 in the Council Chambers, Ground Floor, Civic Center, Palo Alto, California.** Any interested persons may appear and be heard on these items.

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

**Public Hearing**

- 567-595 Maybell Avenue [12PLN-00453]:** Request by Candice Gonzalez on behalf of Palo Alto Housing Corporation, for Planning and Transportation Commission review and recommendation to Council regarding a new Planned Community (PC) zone district and Comprehensive Plan land use designation amendment to allow a 15 single family home and a 60 unit affordable rental project for seniors on parcels having a combined area of 107,392 square feet and zoned R-2 and RM-15. Environmental Assessment: An Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration have been prepared.
- Comments on Draft City of Palo Alto Response to Plan Bay Area Final Draft and Environmental Impact Report

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

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

\*\*\*

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



The proposed Maybell Homes and Senior Housing Project would have up to 60 low-income units in a four-story building, pictured here, as well as 15 single-family homes.

Courtesy Palo Alto Housing Corporation

**Maybell housing**

(continued from page 3)

Maybell project were built — a figure well below the study's criteria for what would be a "noticeable" increase. Traffic could increase by 20 to 30 percent before residents would perceive an increase, according to the study.

But leaders of the Barron Park Association said there's already more traffic on Maybell than is acceptable, according to Palo Alto's neighborhood traffic-calming program. That daily limit is 2,500 cars.

Maybell is also a designated bike route to four schools, residents noted. Mixing senior drivers with kids would be "a disaster waiting to happen," said one resident who has 86-year-old parents.

Hexagon consultant Michelle Hunt admitted the study doesn't take into consideration how pedestrians and bicyclists slow traffic. The city has guidelines about how traffic studies are done, and currently the rules don't require that pedestrians and bicyclists be accounted for, she said. There are newer guidelines that could be adopted that do consider pedestrians and bikes, she said.

Penny Ellson, co-chair of the Palo Alto Council of PTAs' Traffic Safety Committee, said streets along the housing site, as designated school corridors, should get greater scrutiny when it comes to pedestrian and bike safety.

"To say that you're not looking at bikes, I'm really concerned about that," she said.

The heart of residents' frustration is city policies they deem arrogant toward residents and harmful to quality of life.

Doug Moran, a neighborhood-association board member, said the meeting reflected the level of distrust residents have toward city policies that allow tall, dense housing on narrow streets, with buildings

pushed up close against roadways, and with traffic studies that underestimate potential problems. Some residents mentioned the Alma Village development and Arbor Real housing on El Camino Real and Charleston Road as two examples.

"People are tired of the (use of) national averages when there is plenty of local experience that those averages aren't applicable here. There's this arrogance. I worked in safety. They warn you that you don't plan for what you want people to do; you plan for what people will do," he said.

The plan calls for two exits from the housing development: one on Clemo and one on a driveway that leads to Maybell.

Currently, there's a barrier at the end of Clemo near Maybell, so all traffic on Clemo goes to and from Arastradero. But a plan to move the barrier to the east would cut off access to Arastradero and direct all traffic onto Maybell.

The single-family homes would have garages at the rear. Homeowners would exit and enter through the development's Clemo and Maybell exits.

But residents expressed dismay that the two- and three-story homes would be pushed toward the streets with only 12-foot setbacks instead of the usual 20 feet.

Incoming Barron Park Association President Art Liberman questioned the need for such large homes. The housing corporation could finance the project with smaller units that would fit in better with the neighborhood, he said.

Candice Gonzalez, housing-corporation executive director, said the 15 market-rate homes are necessary to fund building the senior housing. The corporation paid \$15.5 million for the 2.46 acres. The property was paid for through the city's Affordable Housing Fund, which market-rate builders pay into.

But residents said the project isn't suitable for the community, given the other traffic and school considerations.



Access to the Maybell housing development would be from Clemo Avenue or from a driveway that leads to Maybell Avenue.

Map by Shannon Corey

"What this community is telling you is this is a site problem," a woman said.

Gonzalez said the need for senior housing is great in Palo Alto and the Maybell property is one of the few open parcels still available.

"Twenty percent of the city's seniors are living below the federal poverty limit. Some are homeless; some are living on couches, and some are living at the (Buena Vista) trailer park," she said. The Buena Vista Mobile Home Park is slated to close next year, displacing about 200 residents. Gonzalez said the hope is to provide housing at Maybell for 20 seniors from the mobile-home park.

The proposed project is scheduled to be heard by the Planning and Transportation Commission on Wednesday, May 22, in the City Council chambers, 250 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto. ■

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at [sdremann@paweb.com](mailto:sdremann@paweb.com).

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CHILDREN

# C is for Craft opens in downtown Palo Alto

*Preschoolers get their own drop-in space to be creative*

by Elena Kadvany

**R**ita Whitney, a mother of one very active 2-and-a-half-year-old girl, always carries paper, crayons and other art supplies with her.

“We can be on a 15-hour plane ride, we can be in a hotel, we can be in a meeting, we can be at a fencing tournament,” Whitney said. “She always has stuff to do.”

The only place Whitney’s preschool-aged daughter, Taylor, didn’t have the same wealth of activities was in her hometown of Palo Alto.

“In Palo Alto, we pride ourselves on our kids and education, but there’s not a whole lot, except for the preschool system, for preschoolers,” Whitney said.

And for busy parents like Whitney and active young children like Taylor, activities at two-day preschool programs might not cut it.

Angela Filo, Whitney’s neigh-

bor and mother of two young girls, agreed.

“My older daughter goes to preschool, but there are a lot of hours in the day with little ones,” she said with a laugh.

Whitney tried to fill those hours by hosting informal arts-and-crafts gatherings with other children at her home, but it became overwhelming to maintain on her own.

So Whitney, who retired from a job at VMware a few years ago, took portable art kits and home art projects to the next level. She created C is for Craft, a craft studio located in downtown Palo Alto dedicated to filling the city’s void when it comes to arts-and-crafts activities for preschoolers.

When she came up with the idea for C is for Craft, Whitney teamed up with Nia Taylor, a Gunn High School graduate who went to New York University to study arts man-

agement and is now the studio’s education director and manager. The two met a few years ago at the downtown Palo Alto store LiveGreene, where Taylor was selling tea from her tea company, Nia’s Tea With A Purpose.

Taylor and Whitney started looking for spaces to rent in November and signed a lease for the Bryant Street studio on Feb. 1. They opened for business on April 8.

C is for Craft, named while practicing the alphabet with Whitney’s daughter, is all about creativity, community and freedom — for both kids and their parents.

For \$20 a pop, parents or caregivers can drop in to the downtown Palo Alto studio, unscheduled or scheduled, and have access to a wealth of arts-and-crafts supplies — that they might not have at home — to do projects with their children for an hour. C is for Craft is not a “drop-off” care center but instead a place where parents and caregivers can go to spend time with their children doing structured arts activities.

Kristy DeRemer, a Palo Alto mother of two and patron of C is for Craft, explained the advantages.

“There’s not much for us to do unless we want to commit to a class for six or eight weeks. There was no day-to-day basis, fun, drop-in kind of thing,” she said. “It’s a really nice option to have.”

A wall running the length of the studio has been transformed into “fun stations,” or preschool-appropriate art canvases: one section covered in felt with animals and shapes that can be stuck and unstuck at will, one a magnet board with magnetic letters and shapes, one a chalkboard and one a whiteboard.



Katie Bringham

Taylor Whitney plays with magnets at C is for Craft, a new drop-in craft studio for preschoolers in downtown Palo Alto.



Katie Bringham

Kristi Sonnenberg reads to her two boys, Milo and Fritz, while Taylor Whitney listens in, at C is for Craft, a new drop-in craft studio for preschoolers in downtown Palo Alto.

At the back of the space is a LEGO station, where kids can build at will, and a reading nook with books and comfortable, miniature chairs.

On the left side of the studio are various sized chairs and tables — one that can be adjusted to fit a high school-sized boy or girl, promising future expansion — strewn with drawings, watercolors and other art projects.

“Nothing’s set in stone,” Taylor

said, commenting that they can adapt to what certain kids want to do, which she said is more flexible and allows for more creativity than a structured class schedule.

What parents won’t find at C is for Craft is any sort of technology — no children staring enraptured at an iPad or iPhone.

“We’re a very tech-focused com-

(continued on page 12)

## El Camino Park

(continued from page 3)

the City Council that this amenity is badly needed in north Palo Alto and should be explored for El Camino. The commission had previously recommended placing the park in a eucalyptus grove that is separated from the rest of the park by Alma Street/Palo Alto Avenue. That option proved unfeasible because of environmental laws (the dogs would be too close to the steelhead trout in the San Francisco Creek). So a redesign shifted the dog area to the park’s mainland. But doing so, the memo states, “compromises the one true open space in the original design.”

The commission’s memo also recommends a possible location for the Julia Morgan building, which once stood in Menlo Park and functioned as a reunion point for World War I soldiers and their families. Palo Alto’s soon-to-be renovated golf course in the Baylands should be considered as the top option, the memo states.

“The historic building would have very high visibility as the only structure in the open space of the new

Baylands course,” the memo states. “The building would enhance and be compatible with the beauty of the new golf course design and replace the eyesore clubhouse/restaurant building currently on the site.”

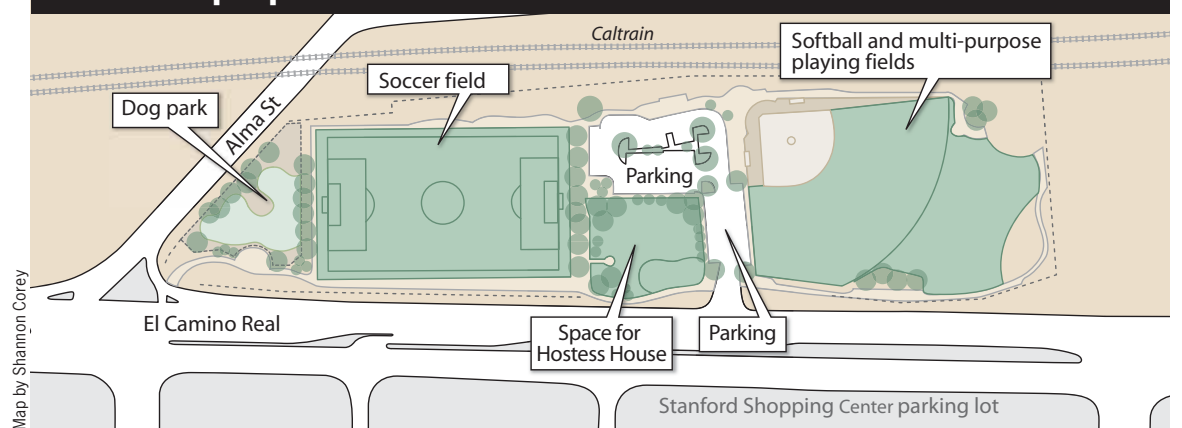
The memo also offers a contingency plan should the council decide to move the Hostess House to El Camino Park: scrapping the dog park and reducing the size of the soccer field to create more space around it. And in case the council doesn’t pursue that option either, Commission Chair Ed Lauing proposed an even more radical step: removing the softball field, which was heavily used before the park closed for renovation.

Lauing, who presented the memo to the commission, said that the fundamental message that should be conveyed to the council is that the Julia Morgan building has become the “driver of the design of the entire El Camino Park.”

“All these problems can be solved by putting the Julia Morgan building somewhere else instead of in front of El Camino Park,” Lauing said.

He added that the building should not “hold hostage” the reopening of El Camino Park.

## Debated proposals for El Camino Park



Map by Shannon Corey

Palo Alto’s Parks and Recreation Commission has proposed eliminating a dog park and the Hostess House from the design of El Camino Park.

The Parks and Recreation Commission isn’t the only local board that has come out against a potential relocation of the Hostess House. Last year, the Historic Review Board blasted Arrillaga’s proposal to move the building, citing the importance of the location to the building’s historical status. The commission’s criticism is based largely on a lack of space at El Camino Park, not the

building.

“Something’s got to go,” Lauing said Tuesday. “There’s just too much stuff jammed in there.”

His colleagues agreed, though Commissioner Keith Reckdahl balked at recommending the closure of the softball field, even as a contingency measure.

The dilemma over the new location for the Hostess House is unlike-

ly to be solved any time soon. The council’s hearing on the Arrillaga proposal was rescheduled several times in March and once again in April. There is currently no set date for a public hearing on 27 University Ave., Councilman Greg Schmid said this week. ■

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at [gsheyner@paweekly.com](mailto:gsheyner@paweekly.com).





Courtesy Palo Alto Library

Palo Alto's renovated Main Library will include a new wing, a new entrance lobby, four glass-walled study rooms, upgrades to air and electrical systems, and landscaping and roadway changes.

## City embarks on Main Library expansion

*Project includes new wing, replaced systems, road changes on prominent campus*

by Gennady Sheyner

With the Downtown Library as good as new and the reconstruction of Mitchell Park Library crawling toward the closing chapter after a series of unwelcome plot twists, officials are now preparing for the grand conclusion of the city's library revival — the renovation and expansion of Main Library.

The Main Library project — the last component of the \$76 million library bond Palo Alto voters passed in 2008 — will officially launch Tuesday, when the Newell Road branch closes for construction. The city will commemorate the occasion with an "Aloha Closure Party" between 3 and 5 p.m. at the patio of the library, which is located at 1213 Newell Road. But the real celebration will come in about 18 months,

when the Main Library and the campus around it re-opens to the public.

For Palo Alto's energetic community of library enthusiasts, the cheering can't come soon enough. After passing the library bond in 2008 and completing the renovation of the small Downtown Library without a hitch, the city has hit a bit of a rut with Mitchell Park, where the construction of a brand-new library and community center has been bogged down in construction errors, unexpected delays and dozens of change orders that have added more than \$3 million to the cost. According to a status report issued earlier this month, the Mitchell Park project is now 82 percent complete. Its opening date, initially set for early 2012, has been pushed to

the end of this year.

The Main Library renovation is in many ways less dramatic than the Mitchell Park reconstruction. At about half the cost of the Mitchell Park project — roughly \$22 million — the renovation includes a construction of a new wing with a program room, restrooms and storage spaces on the south side of the branch; a new entrance lobby; four glass-walled study rooms; upgrades to heating, cooling and electrical systems; and a host of landscaping and roadway changes. Even so, it's a big deal and has gotten bigger since the 2008 vote, as the project expanded and the library has fallen into further disrepair.

"This building is older, and it seems to know that the end is near," Library Director Monique le Conge

said. "There's a door that just broke that would cost \$4,000 to repair and a number of things are failing. I'm glad we're going ahead with the project rather than waiting until Mitchell Park gets done."

Initially envisioned as an \$18 million renovation of the 1958 Edward Durrell Stone-designed library building, the project now extends well beyond the facility. According to a project description from Group 4 Architects, the city's project consultants, the simultaneous improvements to the adjacent Art Center and to the Main Library "have presented a unique opportunity to unify this large City-owned collection of public cultural facilities." This means a new public plaza near the library and a new driveway connecting the library and the Art Center.

"Together with the Community Gardens, this becomes a great community asset capable of hosting events of a much wider scope than what would be defined by the individual programs of each of these three components."

Last year, the City Council and

the Architectural Review Board both signed off on the two most recent changes to the project — a new driveway connecting the library and the Art Center and a new plaza on the campus.

The schedule has also changed, largely because of complications involving the Mitchell Park branch. Initially, the city had hoped to open the new Mitchell Park library before proceeding with Main Library. Now officials plan to work on both branches simultaneously. Once Main Library closes on April 30, most of its contents will be transferred across the campus to the newly renovated Art Center, which will function as a temporary library starting May 3.

Users will notice some differences. The bulk of the Main Library's collection, the largest among the city's five branches, will be put in storage during the construction. The temporary Art Center library, which will bear the address 1315 Newell Road, will offer what le Conge called "express services" during construction. It will include six public-access computers and a

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## What will change with the Main Library's closure

**P**alo Alto's Main Library will officially close for renovation at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30. During the 18 months of construction, patrons can expect the following changes:

- A temporary library will be set up at the Palo Alto Art Center auditorium, 1315 Newell Road, on May 3. It will include best-sellers and nonfiction books and it will be open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays.
- The Art Center space will include six public-access computers and 20 seats. It is intended as a pickup point

for books on hold and a place to browse magazines, rather than a spot to access a large collection of books.

- The Downtown Library will now be open on Mondays. Its Thursday hours will be extended to 8 p.m.
- The College Terrace Library, which is currently closed on Thursdays, will now be open on Thursdays from noon to 6 p.m.
- The temporary Mitchell Park Library will allow users to request books from other library systems through the Link+ system.

total of 20 seats, le Conge said.

"It's really intended to serve as a place where people can just do quick stops — to pick up holds or look at magazines," le Conge said.

Other branches will also step up to fill the vacuum. The Downtown Library will now be open on Mondays and its hours will be extended from 6 to 8 p.m. Its program room will also now be accommodating fewer programs to give patrons more sitting room. And the temporary Mitchell Park Library (located at Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road) will offer Link+ service, which allows library users to request books from other California library systems in the Link+ network. The service, which the city temporarily suspended, will now be resumed.

Le Conge said the recent problems at Mitchell Park have created some complications for library staff, who will be left with a shortage of space once both libraries are under construction. This means staff will be doing more outreach by hosting programs at schools and community centers, le Conge said. It also means staff will devote more time to the system's "virtual branch."

"We're calling this the 'Summer of love,'" le Conge said. "We'll be sitting very close together."

City officials are also working to make sure that the types of problems that have plagued the Mitchell Park Library would not occur at the Main Library. Assistant Public Works Director Phil Bobel said staff has "exhaustively analyzed"

the problems at Mitchell Park and came up with 20 or 30 changes to the way the contract is structured. At the very least, Bobel said, the changes will allow the city to catch any construction problems earlier in the process.

Even with the recent delays and complications, city officials are feeling optimistic. Library use has been rising, le Conge said, and the feedback about the temporary Mitchell Park library has been overwhelmingly positive.

"There's a lot of people who've said to me, 'We're very happy with the temporary Mitchell Park.' I tell them, 'Just wait to see the new one,'" le Conge said. ■

*Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at [gsheyner@paweekly.com](mailto:gsheyner@paweekly.com).*



### PALO ALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that proposals will be received by the Palo Alto Unified School District for:

#### **RFP # 13-P-04-SN: Student Nutrition Consulting Management Services**

Bidding documents contain the full description of the work, and may be requested via email to: [dbuschke@pausd.org](mailto:dbuschke@pausd.org), or at the District Office, Purchasing Department, 25 Churchill Ave Palo Alto, CA 94306.

**There will be a mandatory Conference and walk-through at 8:00 A.M. PTD on Thursday, May 9, 2013.**

All questions concerning this request should be directed to Denise Buschke at (650) 329-3802 or emailed to [dbuschke@pausd.org](mailto:dbuschke@pausd.org).

Interested parties must submit proposals to the Purchasing Department, Attn: Denise Buschke, 25 Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306, **by 2 PM PTD on Tuesday, May 28, 2013.**

**BY ORDER** of the Business Department of the Palo Alto Unified School District, Palo Alto, California.

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## Public Agenda

### A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

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

**HISTORIC RESOURCES BOARD ...** The board plans to discuss 329 Lincoln Ave., a proposal to redesign and enlarge a Colonial Revival residence and construct a two-story rear addition; and 505 Embarcadero Road, a proposed restoration, alteration and addition to a residence in Professorville. The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, May 1, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

**UTILITIES ADVISORY COMMISSION ...** The commission plans to discuss the future of fiber optics in Palo Alto and the proposed operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2014. The meeting will begin at noon on Wednesday, May 1, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

**PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ...** The commission plans to discuss the recently released draft of the One Bay Area Plan, a vision document for land use and transportation in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD ...** The board plans to discuss 2755 El Camino Real, a proposal by Pollock Financial Group for a preliminary review of a proposed four-story, mixed-use building with three stories of underground parking. The board also plans to discuss 500 University Ave., a proposal by Thoits Bros., LLC, for a new three-story building to replace an existing one-story building. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 2, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

# CityView

A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

### City Council (April 22)

**Cubberley:** The council voted to postpone its closed session on Cubberley Community Center until May 20, after a May 13 public hearing on the topic. **Yes:** Berman, Burt, Holman, Klein, Price, Scharff, Schmid, Shepherd **Absent:** Kniss

### Board of Education (April 23)

**Salaries:** All five board members indicated they will support a 3 percent raise for teachers, staff and managers when it comes to a final vote May 7. The raise, retroactive to the start of the 2012-13 school year, also includes a one-time bonus of 1.5 percent of 2012-13 salary. **Action:** None

### Parks and Recreation Commission (April 23)

**Trees:** The commission heard a presentation from Urban Forester Walter Passmore on the upcoming Urban Forest Master Plan. **Action:** None

**El Camino Park:** The commission approved a memo urging the City Council not to relocate the Hostess House to El Camino Park. **Yes:** Crommie, Hetterly, Knopper, Lauing, Reckdahl **No:** Ashlund **Absent:** Markevitch

**Cubberley:** The commission approved a memo supporting the recent report of the Cubberley Community Advisory Committee. **Yes:** Ashlund, Crommie, Hetterly, Knopper, Lauing, Reckdahl **Absent:** Markevitch

### Planning & Transportation Commission (April 24)

**Capital:** The commission reviewed and approved the capital improvement program for the years 2014-18. **Yes:** Unanimous

### Council Rail Committee (April 25)

**Rail:** The committee heard an update from its Sacramento lobbyist for high-speed rail and considered preliminary cost estimates for studies of grade separation and trenching studies. **Action:** None

## AP classes

(continued from page 3)

kinds of college-level courses, the AP program may be particularly beneficial.

“However, definitive claims about the AP program and its impact on students and schools are difficult to substantiate.”

For example, Pope said more research needs to be done before she could verify the broad claim that taking AP classes makes students more likely to succeed in college.

But she acknowledged that some credible studies “showed positive results of the AP program, especially in the sciences.”

Though advising students not to take AP classes in order to better their chances for admission to college, she cites a 2005 study of 539 colleges and universities that found 91 percent of them considered AP experience in the admission process.

“Increasingly, researchers caution universities and policy makers that the practice of using AP experience for the purposes of admission is potentially problematic because ... the research isn’t clear on whether AP experience alone increases the probability of college success,” she wrote.

Additionally, using APs in admission decisions is “problematic from an equity standpoint” as students from rural, small or lower socio-economic schools tend to have less access, she said.

“So the claim that taking AP courses boosts a student’s chances of college admission needs some qualification: It depends on the college,” she said.

Pope cited research indicating that non-AP students sometimes may “pay the price” for AP programs by getting larger classes and lower instructional quality as the best teachers are siphoned off to teach AP students.

“While some students might benefit from an AP program, several researchers note some hidden or opportunity costs involved in administering an AP program,” she wrote.

Pope also cautioned AP teachers and schools not to “confuse AP rigor with load.”

“We have seen successful teachers who can curb the homework load in their AP courses without sacrificing test scores,” she said.

“Just because a course is rigorous and offers college-level work does not mean that students need to complete hours and hours of homework each night to succeed.”

She said low-income schools cannot rely on introduction of an AP program by itself to narrow the achievement gap but that such a program must be part of broader support efforts that include extra tutoring for students and professional development for teachers.

Pope’s 15-page summary of her literature review, titled “The Advanced Placement Program: Living Up To Its Promise?” can be found on the Challenge/Success website, [www.challengesuccess.org/](http://www.challengesuccess.org/).

Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can be emailed at [ckenrick@pawebly.com](mailto:ckenrick@pawebly.com).

“Nothing behind me,  
everything ahead of me,  
as is ever so on the road”

- Jack Kerouac, On the Road



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# News Digest

## Teachers get 3 percent raise in tentative pact

Palo Alto teachers and school staff members, including managers, will get a 3 percent raise plus a 1.5 percent bonus for the current school year in tentative agreements set for union ratification by May 1.

For the first time, the teachers' contract also calls for required but compensated "professional development" hours and specifies that teachers will provide students and parents with updated information about grades "at least every three weeks."

The tentative raise for Palo Alto's more than 800 full- and part-time teachers will be the first permanent cost-of-living increase since a 2.5 percent boost in 2007-08. It will be retroactive to the start of the 2012-13 school year.

Last year, teachers and staff got a one-time bonus amounting to 1 percent of 2011-12 pay.

All five members of the Board of Education Tuesday indicated they will support the new contracts when they come to final board vote May 7.

In March, district finance officials said the district's situation had "significantly improved" since adoption last June of a \$162 million operating budget for 2012-13 that contained a \$5.5 million deficit.

Projections for county property-tax revenue as of March were \$4.4 million higher than had been assumed in last June's budget, and November's passage of California's Proposition 30 tax package saved the district another \$5.4 million.

Under the current salary schedule, a brand-new teacher in Palo Alto earns \$51,422; the maximum salary for a teacher with 30 years' experience is \$103,836. ■

— Chris Kenrick

## Higher water use still a challenge for Palo Alto

Palo Alto officials had more reasons than usual to smile this Earth Day, with the city recently switching to carbon-free electricity and dramatically cutting its greenhouse-gas emissions.

But the annual celebration is also casting a spotlight on the one blight on the city's pristine environmental reputation — water usage that remains among the highest in the region.

The topic of water conservation has risen in prominence in recent weeks, with council members debating whether to introduce recycled water for irrigation, water rates going up and Palo Altans' water use per capita remaining among the highest in the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency (BAWSCA), a 26-member organization of suburban customers who buy their water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

According to BAWSCA statistics, Palo Alto's average residential customer uses about 100 gallons per day, more than customers in all but three agencies in the regional organization (only those in Bear Gulch, Hillsborough and Purissima Hills use more). This helps explain why the city's water bills are among the highest in the region. According to BAWSCA's 2012 annual survey of partner agencies, the monthly water bill for an average single-family household in Palo Alto stood at around \$65 in fiscal year 2011, well above the average of \$53.

The problems of high bills and heavy usage aren't going away anytime soon. In July, Palo Alto rates are slated to go up by another 7 percent, largely because of capital upgrades to water infrastructure and the high cost of buying water wholesale. And usage, while lower than it has been in the past, is expected to rise along with the city's population.

Though Palo Alto's record on water conservation leaves plenty of room for improvement, the city has already made other major strides on the water front. According to the 2010 Urban Water Management Plan, water use per account in Palo Alto dropped by 27 percent between 2000 and 2010, with industrial customers leading the way with a 46 percent reduction. Water use for single-family-residential customers dropped by 22 percent during this period, according to the plan. ■

— Gennady Sheyner

## Stanford wants to expand undergrad enrollment

Stanford University's undergraduate enrollment could increase if the school can raise the money to build housing for the additional students, University President John Hennessy said last week.

Hennessy characterized the potential growth as a "rebalancing" to bring undergraduate enrollment to rough parity with graduate enrollment but said no "framework" for the expansion is yet in place.

While Stanford's undergraduate and graduate enrollment were about equal 30 years ago, graduate and postdoctoral students today make up about 60 percent (8,796) of the student headcount and undergraduates just 40 percent (6,590).

"We couldn't expand the number of students until we had housing," Hennessy said.

The remarks came in a presentation to the university's Academic Council titled "Stanford: A Thirty-Year View and Some Implications," in which Hennessy presented a series of metrics on Stanford's faculty, students, finances and facilities from 1981-82 to the present.

The number of undergraduate applicants to Stanford has nearly doubled since he became president in 2000, Hennessy said, and this year the university was "the most selective major institution in the entire country" with an admission rate of 5.7 percent. ■

— Chris Kenrick

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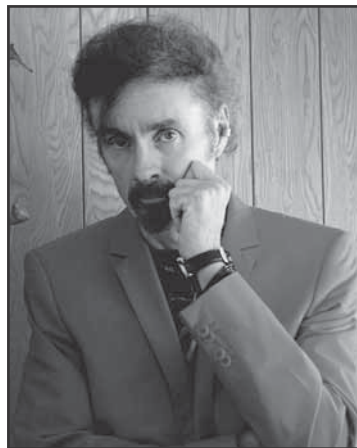
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## C is for Craft

(continued from page 7)

munity, so it's also important for families and young children to know that they can be creative and that they should be creative," Taylor said.

Taylor said they are also open to expanding beyond preschool-aged children but want to remain committed to their original mission as a resource for preschoolers.

Though Whitney is fond of saying "our customer is the child," C is for Craft is, at the end of a day, a business.

Beyond the \$20/hour fee, Whit-

ney and Taylor also sell pre-packaged craft kits (lion and monkey masks, stained "glass" paper kites, tissue paper tulips) for \$5 as well as a selection of Taylor's loose-leaf teas. They also rent out the space at night and on weekends to adult arts-and-crafts groups, such as stitching clubs. Whitney refers to the adult side of C is for Craft as "Studio 540" (the building's address is 540 Bryant St.).

DeRemer said the concept of "paying to play" is "an option of privilege."

"Unfortunately it's something that only if you can afford it, you can do, so that's limiting."

Filo said that though "pay to play"

programs aren't for everyone, Palo Alto is a community where one could thrive.

"If there's a chance for something like this to work, it probably is in this area where there are families who might want to try it that way," she said.

Whitney said that many friends have asked her what she'll do if the business fails.

"If nothing else, it's a great space for Taylor and her buddies to play for two years," she said, joking.

"But I'm committed to this project. I'm committed to it forever." ■

**Editorial Assistant Elena Kadwany can be emailed at [ekadwany@paweekly.com](mailto:ekadwany@paweekly.com).**

## Public Hearing Notice

### Citizens Watchdog Committee on 2000 Measure A Program Expenditures

#### Results of Independent Compliance Audit on FY 2012 2000 Measure A Program Expenditures

**PUBLIC HEARING:** The Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) for the 2000 Measure A Transit Sales Tax Program ("Measure A") is holding a ballot-required public hearing on FY 2012 Measure A expenditures to receive input from the community:

**Wednesday, May 8, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**VTA Conference Room B-104**  
**3331 N. First Street**  
**San Jose, CA 95134**

(This location is served by VTA Light Rail and Bus Line 58.)

The public is encouraged to attend but for those unable, written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on May 8 by email to: [board.secretary@vta.org](mailto:board.secretary@vta.org) or by mail to: Office of the Board Secretary, 3331 N. First Street, Building B-1, San José, CA 95134-1927. Sign language services will be provided. If additional interpreter services are required, please contact VTA Customer Service at least five days prior to the meeting at (408) 321-2300, TTY (408) 321-2330.

Copies of Measure A Program documents and reports are available for public inspection from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays at the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) offices at 3331 N. First Street, San Jose, CA in the Building B lobby. They are also available for viewing at local public libraries and at VTA's website: [www.vta.org](http://www.vta.org) (which includes accessible versions). Questions on the public hearing should be directed to: Stephen Flynn, Advisory Committee Coordinator, at (408) 321-5720 or to [stephen.flynn@vta.org](mailto:stephen.flynn@vta.org).

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT:** Fulfilling its ballot-defined responsibilities, the CWC commissioned an audit of the Measure A Program financial records and schedule for Fiscal Year 2012 (July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012). Macias Gini & O'Connell, LLP, independent certified public accountants, conducted the compliance audit in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. They issued an unqualified ("clean") opinion on Measure A Program compliance with the ballot. Copies of the audit results and other related reports are available at the locations stated above and at [www.vta.org](http://www.vta.org).



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**Adam Lowry**  
Co-Founder and Chief Green-skeeper, Method home care products; former climate scientist, Carnegie Institution for Science

**Jane Lubchenco**  
Former Director, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); Heinz Award and MacArthur Fellowship recipient

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This event celebrates the 40th anniversary of Stanford's Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve. For more information: <http://jrpb.stanford.edu>

## 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](http://www.PaloAltoOnline.com/news) or click on "News" in the left, green column.

### No resolution yet in nurses' dispute

An ongoing contract dispute between Stanford Hospitals & Clinics and the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital and the roughly 2700 nurses who work at both hospitals is intensifying, with the nurses operating under a contract that expired on March 31 and the last day of negotiations quickly approaching. (Posted April 25, 9:53 a.m.)

### Al Gore: 'Democracy has been hacked'

Former Vice President Al Gore said Tuesday at Stanford University that America's democratic system has been "hacked" and if the country wants to resolve the "climate crisis" it has to first reform its political process. (Posted April 25, 9:34 a.m.)

### Paly grad acquitted of burglary charges

A Palo Alto man who suffers from schizophrenia was acquitted of residential burglary on Tuesday, April 23, but he still faces up to 18 months in jail after being convicted of attempted vehicle theft, Cindy Hendrickson, Santa Clara County supervising deputy district attorney said. (Posted April 24, 11:55 a.m.)

### Man charged in Palo Alto hate crime

A man police say described himself as a "white supremacist" allegedly assaulted a black man in downtown Palo Alto last week and has been charged with a hate crime, Cindy Hendrickson, Santa Clara County supervising deputy district attorney said on Tuesday. (Posted April 24, 9:56 a.m.)

### East Palo Alto may sell school land

East Palo Alto's Ravenswood City School District is in talks to sell or exchange acres of property — including its own headquarters — to an office developer. (Posted April 24, 9:50 a.m.)

### Rice says immigration reform essential

Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice led a bipartisan gathering of politicians in Menlo Park on Tuesday to discuss the importance of moving ahead with national immigration reform. (Posted April 24, 9:36 a.m.)

### Hearing postponed on proposed development

Palo Alto has postponed a public hearing on Jay Paul's massive development proposal after learning last week that the main public benefit of the proposal — a new police station — isn't shaking out as the city had hoped. (Posted April 23, 4:41 p.m.)

### Palo Alto lands airport manager

Palo Alto has yet to take over the operations of its namesake airport, but it has already hired the man who will be in charge of steering the small but bustling facility to success. The city announced Monday that it has tapped Andrew J. Swanson, former manager of Nut Tree Airport in Solano County, to be the the city's first airport manager. (Posted April 22, 10:44 p.m.)

### Swelling cash reserves fuel Palo Alto's fiber effort

Palo Alto officials won't be popping champagne bottles this week, when their long-deferred dream of a citywide high-speed Internet finally comes true. That's because the dream will be coming true in Provo, Utah, a city that doesn't claim to be the technological capital of the universe and that hadn't spent the better part of the past two decades watching one effort after another end in heartbreak. (Posted April 22, 4:53 p.m.)

### Mae Mays, wife of Willie Mays, dies at 74

Mae Louise Allen Mays, wife of baseball legend Willie Mays for 41 years, died Friday at their Atherton home after a 16-year battle with Alzheimer's disease. She was 74. (Posted April 22, 9:03 a.m.)

### One injured in Menlo Park drive-by

One person was injured in a drive-by shooting this afternoon in Menlo Park, according to police. (Posted April 20, 8:16 p.m.)

### Inequality threatens prosperity, commission finds

"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. (Posted April 20, 7:07 p.m.)

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# CITY OF PALO ALTO NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That The City Council Of The City Of Palo Alto Will Hold A Public Hearing At The Regular Council Meeting On Monday, May 6, 2013 At 7:00 P.M., Or As Near Thereafter As Possible, In The Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California Declaring Its Intention To Levy An Assessment Against Businesses Within The Downtown Palo Alto Business Improvement District For Fiscal Year 2014.**

**DONNA J. GRIDER, MMC, City Clerk**

Resolution No. 9329

Resolution of the Council of the City of Palo Alto Declaring Its Intention to Levy an Assessment Against Businesses Within the Downtown Palo Alto Business Improvement District for Fiscal Year 2014 and Setting a Time and Place for May 6, 2013 at 7:00 PM or Thereafter, in the Council Chambers

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALO ALTO DOES HEREBY FIND, DECLARE, AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1.** The Parking and Business Improvement Area Law of 1989 (the "Law"), California Streets and Highways Code Sections 36500 et seq., authorizes the City Council to levy an assessment against businesses within a parking and business improvement area which is in addition to any assessments, fees, charges, or taxes imposed in the City.

**SECTION 2.** Pursuant to the Law, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 4819 establishing the Downtown Palo Alto Business Improvement District (the "District") in the City of Palo Alto.

**SECTION 3.** The City Council, by Resolution No. 8416, appointed the Board of Directors of the Palo Alto Downtown Business & Professional Association, a California nonprofit mutual benefit corporation, to serve as the Advisory Board for the District (the "Advisory Board").

**SECTION 4.** In accordance with Section 36533 of the law, the Advisory Board prepared and filed with the City Clerk a report entitled "Downtown Palo Alto Business Improvement District, Annual Report 2013-2014" (the "Report"). The City Council hereby preliminarily approves the report.

**SECTION 5.** The boundaries of the District are within the City limits of the City of Palo Alto (the "City") and encompass the greater downtown area of the City, generally extending from El Camino Real to the East, Webster Street to the West, Lytton Avenue to the North and Addison Avenue to the South (east of Emerson Street, the boundaries extend only to Forest Avenue to the South). Reference is hereby made to the map of the District attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference for a complete description of the boundaries of the District.

**SECTION 6.** The City Council hereby declares its intention, in addition to any assessments, fees, charges or taxes imposed by the City, to levy and collect an assessment against businesses within the District for fiscal year 2014 (July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014). Such assessment is not proposed to increase from the assessment levied and collected for the prior fiscal year. The method and basis of levying the assessment is set forth in Exhibit "B" attached hereto, and incorporated herein by reference.

**SECTION 7.** The types of improvements to be funded by the levy of an assessment against businesses within the District are the acquisition, construction, installation or maintenance of any tangible property with an estimated useful life of five years or more. The types of activities to be funded by the levy of an assessment against businesses within the District are the promotion of public events which benefit businesses in the area and which take place on or in public places within the District; the furnishing of music in any public place in the District; and activities which benefit businesses located and operating in the District.

**SECTION 8.** New businesses established in the District after the beginning of any fiscal year shall be exempt from the levy of the assessment for that fiscal year. In addition, non-profit organizations, newspapers and professional "single-person businesses," defined as those businesses which have 25% or less full time equivalent employees, including the business owner, shall be exempt from the assessment.

**SECTION 9.** The City Council hereby fixes the time and place for a public hearing on the proposed levy of an assessment against businesses within the District for fiscal year 2013 as follows:

TIME: 7:00 p.m. or soon thereafter  
DATE: Monday, May 6, 2013  
PLACE: City Council Chambers  
250 Hamilton Avenue  
Palo Alto, California 94301

At the public hearing, the testimony of all interested persons regarding the levy of an assessment against businesses within the District for fiscal year 2014 shall be heard. A protest may be made orally or in writing by any interested person.

Any protest pertaining to the regularity or sufficiency of the proceedings must be in writing and shall clearly set forth the irregularity or defect to which the objection is made.

Every written protest must be filed with the City Clerk at or before the time fixed for the public hearing. The City Council may waive any irregularity in the form or content of any written protest and at the public hearing may correct minor defects in the proceedings. A written protest may be withdrawn in writing at any time before the conclusion of the public hearing.

Each written protest must contain a description of the business in which the person subscribing the protest is interested sufficient to identify the business and, if a person subscribing is not shown on the official records of the City as the owner of the business, the protest shall contain or be accompanied by written evidence that the person subscribing is the owner of the business. A written protest which does not comply with the requirements set forth in this paragraph will not be counted in determining a majority protest (as defined below).

If, at the conclusion of the public hearing, written protests are received from the owners of businesses in the District which will pay 50 percent or more of the assessments proposed to be levied and protests are not withdrawn so as to reduce the protests to less than 50 percent (i.e., there is a majority protest), no further proceedings to levy the proposed assessment, as contained in this resolution of intention, shall be taken for a period of one year from the date of the finding of a majority protest by the City Council.

If the majority protest is only against the furnishing of a specified type or types of improvement or activity within the District, those types of improvements or activities shall be eliminated.

**SECTION 10.** For a full and detailed description of the improvements and activities to be provided for fiscal year 2014, the boundaries of the District and the proposed assessments to be levied against the businesses within the District for fiscal year 2014, reference is hereby made to the Report of the Advisory Board. The Report is on file with the City Clerk and open to public inspection.

**SECTION 11.** The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to provide notice of the public hearing in accordance with law.

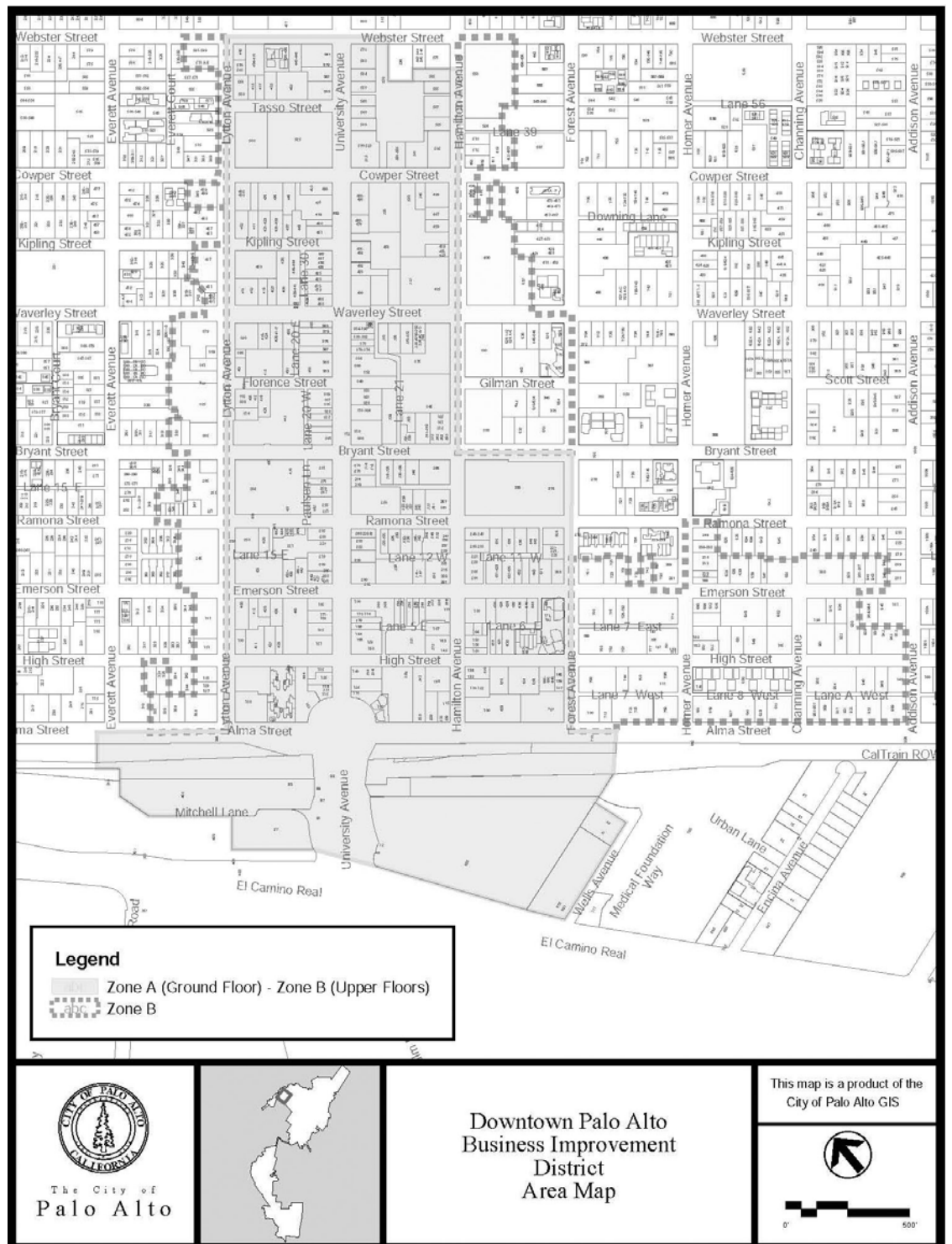
**SECTION 12.** The Council finds that the adoption of this resolution does not meet the definition of a project under Section 21065 of the California Environmental Quality Act and, therefore, no environmental impact assessment is necessary.

**Note 1:** For retail, restaurant, service, and professional businesses, size will be determined by number of employees either full-time or equivalent (FTE) made up of multiples of part-time employees. A full FTE equals approximately 2000 hours annually. Lodging facilities will be charged by number of rooms available and financial institutions will be charged a flat fee.

**Note 2:** Second floor (and higher) businesses located within Zone A, will be assessed the same as similar street-level businesses located within Zone B.

**Note 3:** Assessment amounts are rounded to the nearest ten dollars. The minimum assessment will be \$50.00.

**Exhibit "A"**



**Exhibit "B"**

Downtown Palo Alto Business Improvement District, Annual BID Assessments

	<b>ZONE A</b>	<b>ZONE B</b> (75%)
<b>Retailers and Restaurants</b> (100%)	\$225.00 (Under 6 FTE employees) (50%) \$340.00 (6 to under 11 FTE employees) (75%) \$450.00 (11+ FTE employees) (100%)	\$170.00 \$260.00 \$340.00
<b>Service Businesses</b> (75%)	\$170.00 (Under 4 FTE employees) (50%) \$260.00 (4 to under 7 FTE employees) (75%) \$340.00 (7+ FTE employees) (100%)	\$130.00 \$200.00 \$260.00
<b>Professional Businesses</b> (50%)	EXEMPT (25% or fewer FTE employees, including the business owner) \$ 60.00 (26% to under 1 FTE employees) (25%) \$110.00 (2 to 4 FTE employees) (50%) \$170.00 (5 to 9 FTE employees) (75%) \$225.00 (10+ FTE employees) (100%)	\$ 50.00 \$ 90.00 \$130.00 \$170.00
<b>Lodging Businesses</b> (100%)	\$225.00 (up to 20 rooms) (50%) \$340.00 (21 to 40 rooms) (75%) \$450.00 (41+ rooms) (100%)	\$170.00 \$260.00 \$340.00
<b>Financial Institutions</b>	\$500.00	\$500.00



## Editorial

# Finish El Camino Park

*Uncertainty over potential Arrillaga project shouldn't delay completion of long-planned park improvements*

**P**alo Alto's Parks and Recreation Commission was right earlier this week when it urged the city staff and City Council to drop the idea of relocating the historic MacArthur Park restaurant building from its current location to somewhere in the park.

The commission correctly believes that shoehorning the Julia Morgan-designed building onto El Camino Park would force the elimination of needed recreational field space.

The future of the former "Hostess House," originally built in Menlo Park, is tied to the outcome of John Arrillaga's controversial office proposal for 27 University Ave., because it will need to be preserved and relocated as part of any redevelopment of the area.

With any decision on the Arrillaga proposal a long way off and with no vision for how the building would be used if moved to the park (or anywhere else), it makes little sense to sidetrack completion of the park improvements.

The city is just wrapping up installation of a 2.5-million-gallon underground water-storage tank, a project approved by voters in 2007. It will serve as a backup if the city's connection to the Hetch Hetchy system is closed due to an earthquake or other natural disaster. The 12.2-acre park has been under construction since April 2011 to install the new reservoir. But as the excavation of the tank is covered over the city had planned to put in a new turf field for soccer and lacrosse and a grass field for softball, some open space and 26 additional parking spaces, for a total of 68 at the park.

Last year, before the Arrillaga project was submitted, the city council approved the \$2.5 million in improvements, including a proposal to provide north Palo Alto with an exercise area for dogs, hoping to match three other dog parks at Greer, Hoover and Mitchell parks. The design of the dog park, about the size of half a football field, included a wood-chip base, benches, a water fountain for humans and a special spigot for dogs. But at the time the Parks and Recreation Commission balked, arguing that the city should not spend all its \$2.8 million park development fees on one project.

And as it turned out, the planned location, north of Alma street near the iconic El Palo Alto tree, was later ruled out because of being too close to San Francisquito Creek, which has a small run of steelhead trout.

The commission, which understandably aims to protect the park's core constituents who use the soccer and softball fields, concluded that the dog park would not fit in the main body of the park, saying it "compromises the one true open space in the original design."

The commission also recommended another possible location for the Hostess House, suggesting that it would fit in perfectly at the city's golf course at the Baylands, which will soon be renovated. The building, which at one time was located in Menlo Park, served as a reunion point for World War I soldiers and their families.

"The historic building would have very high visibility as the only structure in the open space of the new Baylands course," the commission memo stated.

Another vote against moving the Hostess House to El Camino Park came last year. The city's Historic Review Board said Arrillaga's plan to move the building from its current location was not in keeping with the building's historic status.

All of these issues go away if the City Council can find an alternative site for the Hostess House and the dog park. Without those encumbrances, a final design for El Camino Park can quickly be formulated, and the park can reopen soon.

As Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Ed Lauing said after the 5-1 vote to turn down the dog park and the Hostess House, "Something's got to go. There's just too much stuff jammed in there."

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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



Where do you think a dog park could be located near downtown?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words to [letters@pawweekly.com](mailto:letters@pawweekly.com). Submit guest opinions of 1,000 words to [editor@pawweekly.com](mailto:editor@pawweekly.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@pawweekly.com](mailto:editor@pawweekly.com) or 650-326-8210.

# Spectrum

Editorials, letters and opinions

## More than a local issue

Editor,

I want to respond to the "local" issue of rape as raised in the "Spectrum" section in the April 19 issue of the Weekly.

Like many difficult issues, the "rape culture" won't go away nor can it be swept under the rug. "Out of sight, out of mind" just doesn't work anymore. Now it has become an issue at Palo Alto High. That's right, let's blame younger people for a deep problem that runs rampant in our larger communities. This really won't go away, so we have to address it or we all suffer in those communities where we find our schools.

Lorin Krogh

Encina Avenue, Palo Alto

## Deeper root causes

Editor,

The editorial and the guest opinion in the April 19 edition of the Palo Alto Weekly addressed two serious problems in Palo Alto: date rape and the impact of divorce. Both suggested remedies to these problems, but neither seemed to talk about underlying causes: alcohol and divorce itself. Maybe there's even a deeper root cause of both these destructive factors: our culture of insanely high expectations and intense competition. If we can promote the concepts of "enough," "sufficient" and "adequate," we might become kinder, more relaxed and more satisfied with life.

Jill Knuth

Vernier Place, Stanford

## Paly sets the bar

Editor,

As a local Bay Area parent recently concerned with the quality and tone of my son's high school newspaper in a neighboring town of Palo Alto, I want to publicly praise Palo Alto High School for their outstanding journalism program and publications. Most impressive to me this school year were the November Paly Voice election edition and the April Paly Verde edition. In both of these publications, student journalists tackled tough, potentially controversial issues and did so with balance, maturity, articulate writing, careful research and respect for their audience.

These young journalists recognize the opportunity to write in their school paper isn't about advocating for their own opinions or injecting their egos or voice, but rather, it is an opportunity to affect their entire school community and the conversations on campus by reporting on relevant

issues in a professional manner that strives for the highest standards of journalism. When student journalists are taught to reach for the highest standards, the journalists showcase not only their own intelligence and capacity, but they also showcase the school and community as a whole.

Hats off to the entire Paly journalism program — teachers, advisers and student journalists for showing the Bay Area community at large how fantastic student journalism can be and how capable the young adults in our communities are at producing quality and meaningful journalism when given the right tools! I look forward to following Paly's publications in the future.

Tabitha Hanson

Berry Avenue, Los Altos

## To the woman assaulted

Editor,

I would like to address the daughter of the writer of the letter "End rape culture" in the April 19 Palo Alto Weekly. I am so sorry she had to endure such a terrible assault, and that she and her parents have been haunted by it for so long. I believe that in cases of "aggravated sexual abuse" there is not a statute of limitations. She would be able to take the assailants to court. If this would help her end her long nightmare, I think it might be worth her while.

In any case, I hope that she and her family can accept the good wishes and prayers of many of us in the community, who hope and pray for their healing and happiness.

Michele Hollar

Adobe Place, Palo Alto

## 'Rape culture,' alcohol

Editor,

During the parties behind the "rape culture" at Paly, and tragic suicide at Saratoga, alcohol was liberally served and consumed. The girls became intoxicated and were assaulted. We all agree "no means no" regardless of the state of the victim.

I am dumbfounded that parents allow teenagers to host or attend parties where alcohol is served, especially in neighborhoods such as Palo Alto and Saratoga, which are supposedly inhabited by sophisticated and highly educated professionals. The legal drinking age in California is 21, yet these teenagers are liberally serving and drinking alcohol to the point of drunken intoxication.

Any parent that permits their teenage child to host a party in their home and serve alcohol, or attend a party where alcohol will be served, should be held culpable for any crime that their child commits.

Jonathan Gershtater

Villa Real, Palo Alto

## Forced to move

Editor,

Although I am aware that high rents have forced out longtime small businesses, it became more apparent when I wanted to purchase items from two stores and they both were no longer there! I think you should have an article in the Palo Alto Weekly, "Where have all the Ma and Pa shops gone?" Community service to provide new addresses, etc. Custom Security Hardware, Baron Park Supply, Stanford Electric moving shortly, and others.

Charlene Flack

Cowper Street, Palo Alto



MUELLER



## 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](http://www.PaloAltoOnline.com). Post your own comments, ask questions, read the Editor's blog or just stay up on what people are talking about around town!

## On Deadline

# Mayor Greg Scharff races ahead with little frustration — yet

by Jay Thorwaldson

**P**alo Alto Mayor Greg Scharff is racing against time, pacing his goals as mayor against the tradition of limiting mayors to one-year terms.

The idea is to pass the prestigious mayorship around to as many council members as possible.

But the practice has left some mayors frustrated at how fast time passes and how slow progress is made on their goals as mayor.

It doesn't help that the mayor is primarily a figurehead position, elected by fellow City Council members to chair meetings, cut ribbons at groundbreaking ceremonies or speak at special occasions, and participate in setting meeting agendas.

Some mayors have made effective use of the Teddy Roosevelt-style "bully pulpit" the office provides, sometimes seen as privately using more bully than pulpit.

Historically, some mayors have been courageous and others timid, even cowed, by other members with private agendas. A few have left the mayor's seat so frustrated they just didn't want to talk about it.

But Mayor Scharff, a third through his term, exudes enthusiasm in his personal drive to move things along. Under his nudging, even council meetings have picked up the pace, most ending well before midnight.

His agenda for the most part matches priorities set by the council at its annual spring retreat and reflects major issues confronting



the city.

The biggest item for Scharff goes under the deceptively simple term of infrastructure.

"We are going to stop underfunding our infrastructure," Scharff declared. "We have earmarked an extra \$2.5 million to \$3 million. That's to the 'keep-up' part of it. Now we're looking at solving the 'catch-up' part. And then we're looking at fixing all of the long-term stuff. That's why we have the Infrastructure Committee, which is going to focus on how we make sure that we catch up, redo all our infrastructure that needs to be done, and then keep up in the future.

"Because what previous councils did, frankly, was take the money and spend it on pensions and benefits, and on other things. ... The easiest thing to do in a bad budget (year) is to cut your infrastructure." The term encompasses two biggies: a new public-safety building (sometimes called the "police building" or "police headquarters"), and a decades-long challenge known as "fiber to the premises," formerly "fiber to the home" — meaning high-speed Internet citywide.

Three other subjects top Scharff's personal agenda: (1) continuing the push to trim city employee pensions and retirement benefits; (2) extending retail commercial areas throughout downtown and filling in "dead zones" where non-retail businesses exist at street level; and (3) extending no-smoking areas beyond to all parks and perhaps even commercial streets and sidewalks.

The new public-safety building by any name is now estimated to cost about \$50 million, trimmed from an earlier high of about \$81 million. If the city needs to fund it, voters must give two-thirds approval to a bond measure, likely part of a larger "infra-

structure bond." Yet surveys show that while a majority of voters would support a new headquarters building, achieving the magic 66.7 percent would be elusive.

Instead, developer Jay Paul has proposed that he pay for the land and headquarters building as a major public benefit in return for a dense development along Park Boulevard just south of Oregon Expressway, replacing a building that housed AOL for a time.

The public-safety building site is across Park, extending to the Caltrain tracks. Yet it has serious problems with access and configuration, Police Chief Dennis Burns last week told the Planning and Transportation Commission in response to a question.

Those problems can likely be worked out, with some compromises, Scharff believes, echoed by City Manager James Keene in a telephone interview Tuesday. Keene said architects for the city and Jay Paul have made "positive progress" to make the building work effectively. An update is scheduled to be made to the city's Infrastructure Committee at its May 7 meeting.

Without the public-safety building, "I'm actually hopeful we don't have to go out to the public for a bond measure" for any infrastructure items, Scharff said.

The other big-ticket item that has stymied Palo Alto officials literally since the 1980s is a high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection to homes and businesses throughout Palo Alto, an off-ramp to the global Internet superhighway, so to speak.

"My belief is that fiber to the premises is the right thing and we should do it," Scharff said. "But we obviously need to have a thoughtful approach and that's why we need to have a committee. We need to decide if

we want to spend the money, and if it makes sense."

In the big picture, "If we're going to do it we should do it and if we're not going to do it we should say why we're not going to do it."

"Then we should have things like — and they're not mutually exclusive — wi-fi (wireless Internet) downtown, or at least wi-fi hotspots like we're doing at Cogswell Park. We should get those kind of things done."

Then comes pensions and benefits.

"The other big push since I've been on the council is pensions and benefits," Scharff noted. "The biggest thing was getting rid of binding arbitration for police and fire. You run into all these equity issues, you see. If you can't make changes in police and fire then everyone else thinks it's unfair. So it affects all of your bargaining groups and it creates huge resentment that they are favored groups."

He sees a growing sense of interest in seeking for "best practices" in lieu of an emphasis on union rules within the Fire Department.

Scharff said he feels especially passionate about extending and reinvigorating street-level retail commercial areas, including working to reduce dead zones of non-retail businesses at street level.

Finally, he would like to see a major expansion of no-smoking areas, beyond small parks to all parks and even, for health and other concerns, to commercial areas generally. Where there's smoke there's ire. ■

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

# Streetwise

## What is your favorite outdoor Palo Alto activity?

Photos and interviews by Audra Sorman. Asked in front of Whole Foods Market on Emerson Street in Palo Alto.



**Polina Levitan**  
Stay-at-home mom  
Kellogg Avenue, Palo Alto

"Watching my son's Little League baseball games."



**Bobby Martin**  
Buyer for Palo Alto Bicycles  
Kenneth Drive, Palo Alto

"It would be cycling by trade and hobby."



**Sarah Gomez**  
Chef  
Alpine Road, Palo Alto

"We like hiking at Windy Hill and Arastradero Preserve."



**Gordon Gibbs**  
Retired  
Cowper Street, Palo Alto

"The Dish is fun to walk."



**Archana Karnik**  
Engineer  
California Avenue

"Biking. I can ride with my kids, it's pretty safe and there are dedicated biking trails. Every time we go on a ride we discover something new."



# Mother's Day Brunch at Allied Arts

Benefiting Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford

ALLIED ARTS GUILD'S ANNUAL  
MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH BUFFET  
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## MENU

Seasonal Fresh Fruit Display  
Assorted Freshly Baked Pastries and Muffins  
Bagels with Cream Cheese, Smoked Salmon,  
Capers, Tomato and Onion  
Cheese Blintzes with Fresh Fruit Compote  
Cinnamon Raisin French Toast with Fresh Fruit  
Compote, Whipped Cream and Syrup  
Eggs Benedict – Poached Egg, Ham, Bernaise  
Sauce over English Muffin  
Mushroom and Spinach Frittata  
Scrambled Eggs  
Bacon and Sausage Links  
Breakfast Potatoes  
Carving Station featuring Roasted Niman Ranch NY  
Strip Loin, Turkey Breast and Smoked Ham  
with Traditional Accompaniments  
Assorted Petit Fours and Cookies  
Beverages: Orange Juice, Cranberry Juice, Coffee, Tea,  
Champagne, Mimosas, Chardonnay and Pinot Noir

# Pulse

A weekly compendium of vital statistics

## POLICE CALLS

### Palo Alto

April 18-24

#### Violence related

Assault with a deadly weapon .....2  
Battery .....4  
Domestic violence .....4  
Strong arm robbery .....1

#### Theft related

Commercial burglaries .....2  
Fraud .....1  
Grand theft .....2  
Identity theft .....2  
Petty theft .....4  
Residential burglaries .....4  
Shoplifting .....3

#### Vehicle related

Auto theft .....2  
Bicycle recovery .....1  
Bicycle theft .....5  
Driving with suspended license .....8  
Hit and run .....1  
Misc. traffic .....5  
Theft from auto .....5  
Vehicle accident/minor injury .....9  
Vehicle accident/property damage .....6  
Vehicle impound .....1  
Vehicle tow .....2

#### Alcohol or drug related

Drunk in public .....9

Drunken driving .....2  
Possession of drugs .....1  
Possession of paraphernalia .....2

#### Miscellaneous

Found property .....6  
Lost property .....2  
Misc. penal code violation .....4  
Other/misc. ....3  
Possession of stolen property .....1  
Psychiatric hold .....1  
Suspicious circumstances .....1  
Vandalism .....2  
Warrant arrest .....1  
Warrant/other agency .....3

### Menlo Park

April 18-24

#### Violence related

Battery .....1  
Domestic violence .....1  
Other .....1

#### Theft related

Fraud .....5  
Grand theft .....1  
Identity theft .....1  
Petty theft .....1  
Residential burglaries .....5

#### Vehicle related

Auto theft .....1

(continued on next page)

# Bring your family here this summer.

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Ladera Oaks is a private club owned by its members. Invitation to membership involves a selection process.

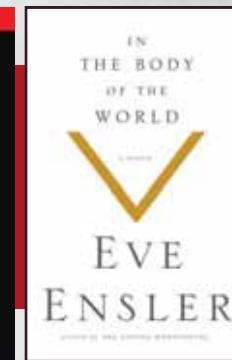
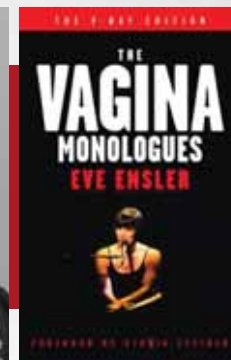


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ARTS / dialogues WINTER/SPRING

## An Evening with 'Vagina Monologues' Author Eve Ensler

Acclaimed playwright, performer and activist Eve Ensler  
will discuss her provocative new book, *In the Body of  
the World*, a visionary memoir of separation and  
connection—to the body, the self and the world.



**Sunday, May 19**  
**8:00 PM**



**OFJCC Schultz Cultural Arts Hall**

\$25 Members & students, \$22 Moldaw residents,  
\$30 Non-Members in advance;  
\$35 at the door

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# Transitions

*Births, marriages and deaths*

## Mother of Joan Baez dies at 100

Woodside resident Joan Chandos Baez, the mother of famed folk singer and Woodside resident Joan Baez, died at home on Saturday, April 20, just a few days after her 100th birthday, her daughter Joan said in a posting at JoanBaez.com.

Some 50 friends and family members had gathered at the Baez home to celebrate Ms. Baez Sr.'s birthday a week earlier, the posting said. There were balloons and spring flowers and singing, of course, with an audience that included chickens and oak trees and the denizens of the creek down the hill.

Joan Bridge was a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, and met her husband Albert Baez at a high school dance after the Bridge family moved to Madison, New Jersey, according to VintageVinylNews.com. The couple had three children: Pauline, Joan and Mimi (Farina).

Among the highlights of their lives together, VintageVinylNews.com reported that the "two Joans"

were arrested after helping to block a doorway into a U. S. Air Force induction center in Oakland in October 1967, a time when American involvement in the Vietnam War was escalating.

The web posting includes a message, "When I Join the Heavenly Band," said to be composed by Ms. Baez Sr.

"Friends who want to celebrate my new adventure, please gather round. Don't grieve, for it's only a worn out body that's leaving and the memory of any sad times goes with it. The good memories are in my spirit and my spirit is with you today. I'm in your midst, for there's nothing more valuable to me than to be with you, my beloved family and my gracious friends.

"Take a moment for silence and wish me well. I'll hear you. Then make the bottles pop. You know I love champagne almost as much as I love you!"

"Big Joan"

—Dave Boyce

## Elsa Roscoe

Elsa Roscoe, a resident of Portola Valley for nearly five decades, passed away peacefully at home on February 18, 2013. She was 92 years old.

Elsa gained her German heritage from parents, Max Rautenberg and Elsie Hohner Rautenberg who emigrated from Germany passing through Ellis Island and settling for a brief time in New York before moving to Cleveland, Ohio where Elsa was born. She learned her strong work ethic from her father who spent nights in the library teaching himself English while training to be a landscape architect. She had one brother, Hans Herbert, who served in the Seabees during WWII, later working in civil service in Guam and Washington DC. Elsa's parents instilled a respect for education in their children and Elsa pursued and received a Masters in Economics from the University of Rochester in 1952 a few years after graduating from Ohio University with a degree in accounting.

Elsa lived a rich and rewarding life yet one not without heartbreak. Elsa married three times and outlived three husbands. Her first, Bob Jobe, whom she married in 1943, was killed in 1945 during World War II. She met her second husband, Raymond Spafford, while at the University of Rochester and married him in 1953. Both employees of Eastman Kodak, Elsa and Ray moved to California due to a job transfer with Kodak to Palo Alto in 1953. Elsa and Ray fell in love with the rural nature of Portola Valley and became some of the earliest residents of Alpine Hills. They purchased their lot for \$1200, cleared most of it themselves, then designed and built their dream home. Ray, who was an engineer, did a lot of the work himself. Ray died of cancer in 1967. Elsa was married to John Roscoe, her third husband, for almost 40 years. John was a Colonel in the USMC and a Fellow in the Explorers Club. He and Elsa traveled extensively and had a residence at Air Force Village West in Riverside, where John died of a heart attack in 2007.

Elsa was gentle, funny, had an active intellect and was a lover of music, which could be heard pouring from her windows every Sunday morning during her favorite radio show.

She valued education and supported various students and institutions. Elsa had a natural

curiosity, was interested in knowing how and why things worked and was an avid reader, reading everything she got her hands on; her home an abundance of stacks of articles to be read or reread. Through her connection with Eastman Kodak and responsibility for testing different films Elsa developed a love of photography, which remained with her throughout her life. Elsa, a tall willowy brunette, also modeled for Eastman Kodak in her younger years, in print ads and runway events. She drove the same car, a 1962 Porsche, for many years.

Elsa loved the outdoors (she received her first Kelty backpack from Dick Kelty himself), respected the environment and enjoyed nature especially in her beloved Portola Valley. She practiced sustainability before it became popular and believed in caring for and fixing things, not throwing them out, a true embodiment of "waste not want not".

After dedicating herself to her career with Eastman Kodak for 40 years, Elsa retired but continued her active life. She volunteered for the Sensory Access Foundation and USGS where she did geologic mapping in the Sierra Nevada. She was a follower of the Explorers Club and

through the Earthwatch organization went on archaeological digs to Papeete and Huahine (French Polynesia), and Chaco Canyon, (New Mexico). Additionally, she trekked in Nepal, traveled through Pakistan, Burma, Greenland, and visited China. Her interest in health and nutrition, which she practiced throughout her daily life, led her to take classes in yoga and in recent years to participate in a Stanford Study on Aging.

Elsa is survived by many dear friends and neighbors: her niece and nephew, Peggy Spafford Golfin and Gene Spafford and their children, and stepdaughters, Chellie and Marilynne Roscoe.

A Memorial Service in her honor will be held at 4:00 PM on Saturday April 27 at the Ladera Community Church, 3300 Alpine Road, Portola Valley. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) 222 High Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301.

Via web: [openspacetrust.org](http://openspacetrust.org) "In Memory of Elsa Roscoe"



(continued from previous page)

Driving with suspended license	.5
Hit and run	.4
Parking/driving	.1
Vehicle accident/property damage	.3
Vehicle accident/no injury	.3
Vehicle tow	.2

### Alcohol or drug related

Drunken driving	.1
Possession of drugs	.1
Drug activity	.1
Narcotics registrant	.1

### Miscellaneous

Disturbance	.1
Disturbing/annoying phone calls	.1
Found property	.4
Info. case	.4
Lost property	.1
Medical aid	.2
Missing person	.1
Other/misc.	.6
Outside assistance	.2
Psychiatric hold	.1
Suspicious circumstances	.2
Vandalism	.4

### Atherton

April 18-24	
<b>Violence related</b>	
Assault and battery	.1
Child abuse	.1

### Theft related

Fraud	.1
Grand theft	.1
Petty theft	.2
Residential burglaries	.1

### Vehicle related

Misc. traffic	.1
Parking/driving violation	.6
Suspicious vehicle	.6
Vehicle code violation	.7
Vehicle accident/no injury	.3
Vehicle traffic hazard	.3

### Alcohol or drug related

Drunken driving	.1
-----------------	----

### Miscellaneous

Construction	.3
Disturbance	.4
Disturbing/annoying phone calls	.1
Fire call	.3
Found property	.3
Juvenile problem	.1
Medical aid	.4
Other/misc.	.4

Outside assistance	.6
Probation violation	.1
Suspicious circumstances	.5
Suspicious person	.5
Town ordinance violation	.5
Trespassing	.1
Warrant arrest	.1

### VIOLENT CRIMES

#### Palo Alto

**100 block University Ave.**, 4/18, 12:21 a.m.; assault with a deadly weapon.

**Unlisted block Yale St.**, 4/20, 11:39 a.m.; domestic violence/battery.

**Unlisted block Amarillo Ave.**, 4/20, 7:00 p.m.; assault with a deadly weapon.

**Unlisted block Lytton Ave.**, 4/21, 2:14 p.m.; domestic violence/battery.

**Unlisted block Pasteur Drive**, 4/22, 4:25 p.m.; family violence.

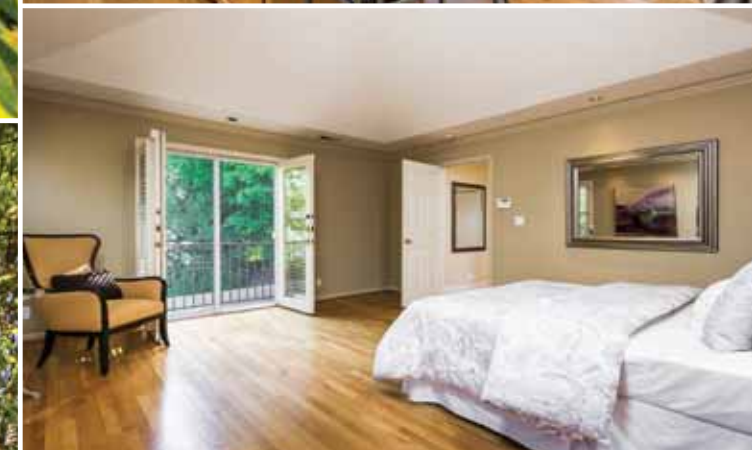
**180 block El Camino Real**, 4/22, 8:42 p.m.; strong arm robbery.

**Unlisted block El Camino Real**, 4/23, 9:30 a.m.; domestic violence/battery.

Join us to hear about its story of love, law, redemption and hope in a whole new way.  
**Saturday, May 4 5pm & Sunday, May 5 8, 9:30, 11am**  
 Menlo Park Presbyterian Church 950 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park  
[www.mppc.org](http://www.mppc.org)



# A Gracefully Modern Home in Palo Alto



Come and join us for  
**Lunch & Lattes at the Open House!**  
 OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY & SUNDAY 12PM - 5PM

## 1856 Mark Twain Street

P A L O A L T O

This 4 bedroom, 3 bath home sits on a wonderfully manicured 7,434 sq. ft. lot (per assessor) in the lovely Leland Manor area of Palo Alto. When you step foot into this 2,590 sq. ft. (per assessor) home you will immediately feel the warmth and coziness that exudes all around. The inviting living room features a beautiful marble fireplace, big picture windows, and romantic lighting that will create the perfect ambiance for entertaining your guests. Every chef will love cooking in this gourmet kitchen featuring top-of-the-line appliances, granite countertops, and ample storage cabinets. Soaring ceilings and bright skylights enhance the home's sophisticated modern design and open floor plan. The beauty of this home extends from the unique interior coved ceilings to the exterior lush gardens and private master balcony. Conveniently located near schools, Palo Alto Art Center, Rinconada Park and Pool, Palo Alto Children's Theater, Palo Alto Children's Library, and Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo! Excellent schools include: Walter Hays Elementary (931 API), Jordan Middle (947 API), and Palo Alto High (905 API) (buyer to verify enrollment).

Listed at \$2,798,000



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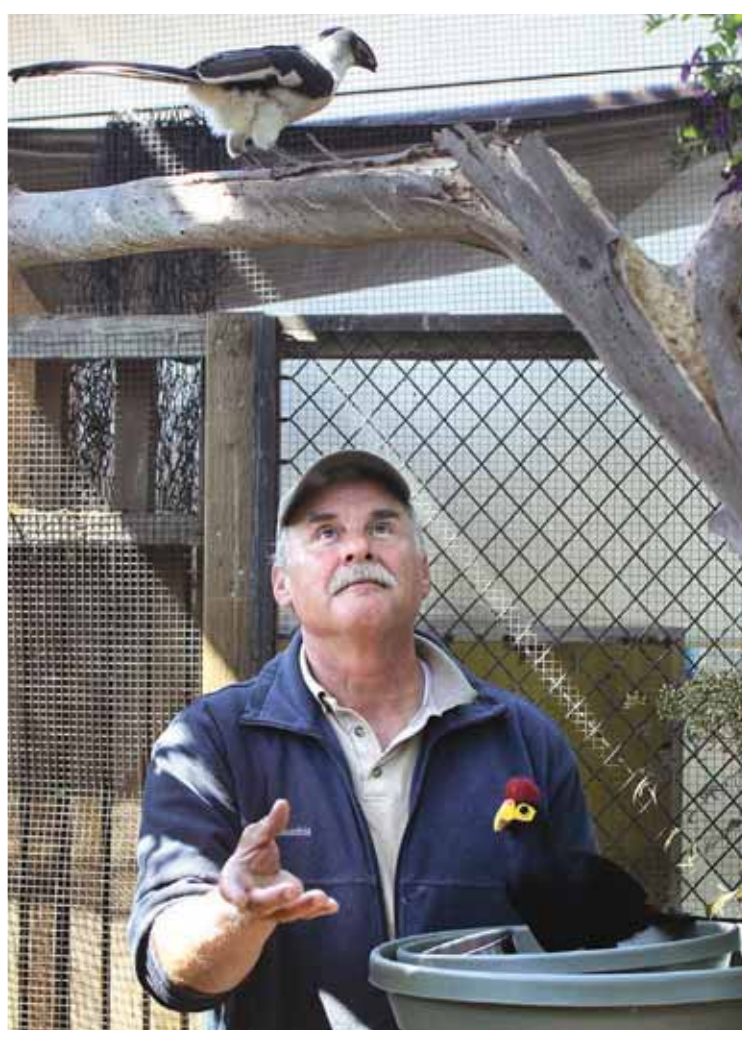
**www.1856MarkTwain.com**







Zookeeper and volunteer L. Lee Harper gently holds Edward the Galapagos tortoise's head while feeding him at the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo.



Zoo director Robert Steele feeds Congo, right, a Ross's Turaco, and Dogo, top left, a Von der Deken's Hornbill, a meal of fruit and mealworms at the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo.

# Zoo story

Teaching moments abound at the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo

Photos and text by Veronica Weber

**O**n a recent afternoon, between feeding the animals their dinners and putting them to bed, part-time zookeeper L. Lee Harper excitedly recalled one of her favorite moments in the three years she's been at the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo.

One morning last fall the zoo's director, Robert Steele, asked her to give a tour to about 40 blind and visually impaired students and their families. As she led the children one-by-one into a gated area beside an animal enclosure, she instructed them to kneel down and place their palms gently under the gate, where a small paw reached out and touched their hands. The children had just been introduced to one of the zoo's newest inhabitants, Loki, a young playful one-eyed raccoon.

"The children were meeting another visually impaired animal, and it just blew their minds, and I'm seeing parents and they're all shook up," Harper said. "It's just magical — one of the best days ever."

Harper's story reflects the many different roles the small local zoo fills both in the community and in the lives of its

passionate staff members and volunteers. It's part zoo, part wild-animal refuge, part classroom, part family destination, part learning center for young veterinarians in training and part sanctuary for those ardent about animals.

Founded in 1934, the Palo Alto Junior Museum is one of the oldest children's museums west of the Mississippi. The zoo was added in 1969. When Steele came aboard in 1989, the place looked vastly different.

The old incarnation of the zoo, described by Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo Executive Director John Aikin as a "concrete basin," had a collection of about 20 indigenous rescued animals mostly placed in cages and "bathtub exhibits" with little space for them to hide from public view. In those days the zoo was maintained by the museum's janitor and was designed to be easy to clean for a one-man crew.

Steele, who has a background in education and animal services, set to work with limited resources and began transforming the enclosures himself to make them more naturalistic.



Tule, a female bobcat, sits in her enclosure at the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo on a sunny afternoon.



“As more emphasis on animal husbandry was placed in zoos throughout the years, we came to realize that there can be a happy medium between having an enclosure that’s easy to maintain and, more importantly for the animals, areas to run and hide and play,” Aikin said.

Steele set to work, rented one of the city’s jackhammers and taught himself to use it to tear up the concrete so he could place dirt and trees in enclosures. He disassembled half of a large aviary to make room for what is now the current bobcat area. He oversaw the implementation and construction of a new raccoon home, which Harper and husband Miguel Martinez designed and built, along with the renovation of an old owl’s cage, which became a nesting area for colorful weaverbirds purchased from the Oakland Zoo.

“I’m very proud of this place,” Steele said. “I wouldn’t be here nearly as long if I didn’t love the work.”

One of Steele’s major areas of pride has been the construction of a home for bobcats Rufus and Tule, filled with large rocks, trees and logs for the cats to roam and climb, funded by the \$450,000 raised by the nonprofit Friends of the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo.

Steele felt compelled to add bobcats to the zoo in the mid-1990s, after a series of mountain-lion attacks and sightings led to many cases of mistaken identity for the smaller wildcats.

“I wanted the public to see what a bobcat really looked like,” he said.

Rufus and Tule are third-generation declawed bobcats specifically bred in captivity for placement in zoos. Aside from the cats, Steele has helped to bring in 50 different species, including flying foxes, exotic birds, hedgehogs, geese and waterfowl, lizards, a tortoise, a red-tailed hawk, a bald eagle with a paralyzed tail and two one-eyed raccoons — which, like many of the animals in the zoo, were found injured or abandoned and rescued.

“We’ve been able to get these animals into our zoo because we’ve been able to accommodate their special needs, whereas in other zoos you probably wouldn’t be able to do that with an eagle that can’t fly or a raccoon missing an eye,” fellow zookeeper Marlon Kasberg said.

Occasionally Steele gets questioned about the ethics of keeping animals in captivity. Though he said he can agree with people on some concerns about animal welfare, he explained, “Most of our animals are non-releasable (into the wild). So is it better to keep them here so

we can educate the public about them or would it be better to euthanize them?”

Unlike his predecessor, Steele has much-needed daily help from a devoted staff of four part-time zookeepers and about 20 volunteers from local high schools, colleges and a vet-tech program at Foothill College.

On a typical day, zookeepers start at 7 a.m. and tackle a series of seemingly endless tasks, including preparing all the animal’s food, cleaning the enclosures, landscaping, watering plants, repairing anything that broke in the middle of the night, talking to the zoo’s young visitors about the animals, coordinating the animals who go out to the elementary schools as part of the museum’s science program and what the staff calls “working” the animals to check their health and to stimulate the animals.

“Working” usually involves going inside an animal’s enclosure to play with it, taking it out for walks or flights, and hand-feeding or handling it. Though it might seem like play, it’s actually a chance for zookeepers and volunteers to check animals for bumps and scrapes or a decreased appetite and loss of weight, Steele said. Larger zoos have an on-site veterinarian to care for injured animals right away, but staff at the Palo Alto zoo has to be extra vigilant about any differences in animal behavior or appearance since the mammals’ vet is located in south San Jose and the birds and reptiles are cared for in Portola Valley.

One of Harper’s favorite methods of working an animal is taking Edward, a 13-year-old, 136-pound donated Salcata tortoise, for his daily walk. She uses the time not only to let Edward get some exercise and treats but also to educate preschoolers who are eager to pet the reptile’s smooth shell.

“It’s this little romp we go on, and I see how much joy it brings people,” she said.

(continued on next page)



Zoo volunteer Miguel Martinez feeds Sequoia, a 30-year-old bald eagle with a paralyzed tail. Martinez and Sequoia’s handler, John Flynn, fly her most days at Byxbee Park, combining feeding and exercising.



Zoo Director Robert Steele gives Dozer, a ferret with bone cancer, his daily treatment of Prednisolone, a steroid to help increase his appetite.



Zookeeper and volunteer L. Lee Harper hand feeds Dozer a high-calorie liquid diet in the zookeeper’s office at the Palo Alto Junior Museum & Zoo.



## Zoo story

(continued from previous page)

“My thing is I love just elevating people’s worlds. Who in the world gets to touch a giant tortoise? How cool is that?”

Another thing that really touches Harper is the sense of ownership and intimacy that children create through their interactions with the animals.

“I hear kids, and they’ll see Edward and say ‘I touched him; I know him! Edward’s my friend.’” Harper beamed. “I love being able to foster that. Now I have a kid that’s out in the world that has a friendship with a giant tortoise, and when they hear about the tortoises needing care in the future, they’re going to have the empathy for them.”

Zookeepers and staff agree that the zoo’s small scale allows children and adults to foster relationships with the animals,

which visitors to a larger zoo wouldn’t necessarily experience.

“On this level, they’re kind of like rock stars, these animals, because people come here specifically on weekends to see them,” Kasberg said. “When an animal’s been here, say, for 30 years, and a person’s been coming here since they were a child or teenager or an adult, they’ve been growing up with that animal and it makes it more personal.”

Still, not every visitor has as much respect for the zoo’s inhabitants. Steele explained that he’s witnessed a number of bad behaviors, like rowdy kids chucking large rocks at animals swimming in the duck pond, preschoolers banging on the hedgehog’s glass, adults tossing beer bottles into enclosures, high school kids sneaking in after hours, and even parents who reach their hands into the bobcat enclosure trying to pet them.

“Ninety-nine percent of the people who

come through here you love, but you remember those 1 percent who don’t treat the animals with respect above all else,” he said. “You have to be professional about it, as much as you want to run over there and scream at them,” he said. “Sometimes you need to talk to the parent just as much as the child.”

One teaching opportunity Steele enjoys is helping to “dispel myths” with children as he lets them pet the snakes and tarantula — creatures many adults fear. He also loves how the zoo allows people to get to know the unique personalities of creatures often seen as “problem animals,” like the raccoons.

Aikin agrees and stresses that maintaining an up-close and personal experience for young zoo visitors is pivotal in the museum and zoo’s plans for expansion in the near future.

“If we can change the hearts and the minds of these kids at a very young age

and get them enthusiastic about these animals, which some older people grapple with, then conservation will happen,” Aikin said.

Among the potential plans the museum is considering in the next five years, Aikin said, are rebuilding and expanding into a two-story, environmentally friendly building with “green” roofs and a bigger parking lot; devoting space to house the museum’s vast (and currently buried) natural-history collection to better augment its current collaboration with K-5 science classes; adding space for classrooms and large groups; establishing a conservation program for native species; and designing an immersive zoo layout in which kids would be able to crawl through tunnels to see root structures or climb to the top of trees to better understand how animals live in the wild.

A conceptual master plan is under development and will be presented to the city soon, Aikin said. Private donations are expected to come largely from the Friends of the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo.

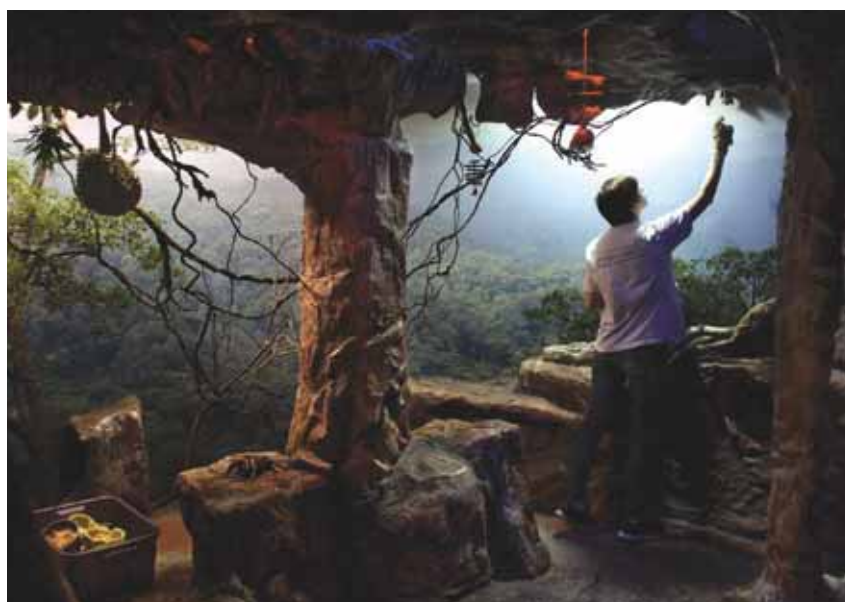
Despite the big changes in store, Aikin stresses that the museum and zoo’s core mission of educating children up to 9 years old will remain its key focus.

“It really is a gem that the city has preserved this long. The zoo really resonates with people of every imaginable age who all grew up here and have memories of this place. We want to keep up that relationship with the community.” ■

*Staff Photographer Veronica Weber can be emailed at [vweber@paweekly.com](mailto:vweber@paweekly.com).*



Zookeeper Marlon Kasberg gives Loki, one of two one-eyed raccoons, a grape in the raccoon’s new enclosure while young children and parents watch.



Volunteer Ruth Likens gives African flying foxes a treat in the bat-cave enclosure at the zoo. Likens, who began at the zoo leading “Zoo Camp” in 2010, now aspires to become a veterinarian working with exotic animals.



Zoo Director Robert Steele wades in the duck pond, scooping up turtles along the way, to put the goose and waterfowl to bed underneath the rainbow bridge. All of the animals must be tucked away in the evening to avoid natural predators.



# Arts & Entertainment

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



Left: Gleaming brass cuff bracelets created by Stanford artist Diana Dutton. Below: Several of Dutton's necklaces on display in her home studio.



## Behind the scenes

by Rebecca Wallace | photographs by Katie Brigham

At Silicon Valley Open Studios, visitors can learn the stories behind the art



Dutton shapes a bracelet, above, and solders a piece of metal, above right, in her home studio.



Creating jewelry is an art of many active verbs. It's about hammering, rolling, cutting, sawing, soldering, anodizing, twisting, heating, dipping, etching, buffing, polishing. Can the word "patina" be crafted into a verb? If anyone can patina-ize, jewelry artists can.

The beauty of an event like Silicon Valley Open Studios is that visitors not only see the finished art, but get to ask the artists about all those lovely verbs. And tools, and inspirations, and whatever other facets of the artist's life that they're curious about.

Silicon Valley Open Studios happens the first three weekends in May. That means that as we write, hundreds of artists on the Peninsula and in the South Bay are prepping to open their home studios to the public, or to show off their work and speak to visitors at art centers and other communal venues. Media include photography, painting, drawing, sculpture, collage and, of course, jewelry.

Diana Dutton is one of the many jewelry artists taking part. At the moment, she's upstairs in her Stanford home studio surrounded by the myriad tools of her trade. There's the tool she calls "the work-horse": a little spinning grinder powered with a footpedal. It can bore a hole, brush a surface, polish a piece. Nearby are hammers, pliers,

(continued on page 23)





## Vintage Vehicles and Family Festival Antique Car Show

Saturday May 4, 10am to 2:30pm  
At the Palo Alto May Fete Fair  
Homer Ave. and Waverely St.

Antique and Vintage Cars  
Museum open house and science activities

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Museum of American Heritage ≈ Phone: 650-321-1004 ≈ mosh.org



## Palo Alto Unified School District

Notice is hereby Given that proposals will be received by the Palo Alto Unified School District for the **Palo Alto High School Synthetic Track Resurfacing and Striping (PAST-13)**.

### Description of the projects/work is as follows:

Synthetic track repair as needed, resurfacing and striping of the synthetic track at Palo Alto High School.

**Mandatory Job Walk: May 1, 2013; 10:00 a.m.** for all bid packages. All participants required to sign in at **Building D, Palo Alto, CA 94306**. Failure to attend or tardiness will render bid ineligible.

**Bid Submission:** Sealed bids will be received on May 21, 2013; 10:00 am at the District Facilities Office, Located at 25 Churchill Ave, Palo Alto, California, Building "D".

**Bidding Documents:** Plans and specifications are available for pick up, free of charge, at the District Facilities Office located at 25 Churchill Ave, Palo Alto, California, Building "D".

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

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

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

For more details on obtaining plans and specifications, the mandatory job walk, bid submission, prevailing wage laws, or the bid documents, please contact:

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



Bracelets and dangling earrings on display in Diana Dutton's Stanford home studio.

## Jewelry

(continued from previous page)

cutters and a saw. Torches used for soldering wait in a corner.

Other rooms host a vise, a rock polisher, a sander and a buffer. Dutton can put metal through a rolling mill to imprint it with a pattern, or use a warming tray to help apply a patina. She even has a specially lit photography area to take pictures of her finished earrings, bracelets and necklaces.

Retired from Stanford Medical School, where she taught health policy, Dutton is a longtime artist who once considered art school. After retirement, she took a multitude of art classes, in drawing and painting and other media.

"It was jewelry that captured me and never let me go: making something with your hands and seeing it come into being," she says.

Now she sells her creations at Shady Lane and New Coast Studios in Palo Alto, and also through her website. For Open Studios, she'll be at the Pacific Art League at 227 Forest Ave. on May 4 and 5, and at New Coast at 935 Industrial Ave. on May 11 and 12.

Dutton has always been a visual person. She might find inspiration for a piece of jewelry in a sidewalk crack, or in one of nature's organic curves. She adores the design aspect above everything else: having an idea and bringing it to life in metal and stone. "I don't draw it beforehand," she says. "It's a very intuitive, very visual way of proceeding."

Dutton is also clearly a person who enjoys organization, as evidenced by

the tons of neatly labeled drawers and compartments surrounding her main work area, containing silver earring wires, posts, hoops, chains and other accoutrements of jewelry. On a table, green chrysocolla stones gleam.

Besides using silver and gold, Dutton is particularly fond of brass, and her brass cuffs, many of them imprinted with patterns, are popular. Some gleam like gold; others have various patinas applied by the artist. They're surprisingly flexible and light.

Other pieces are fashioned from titanium, niobium and copper. Earrings may be adorned with complex designs or dangle with turquoise beads, antique bronze, freshwater pearls or gold-filled discs. Necklaces can feature brushed-silver balls or any number of colorful stones.

To find her materials, Dutton regularly attends the International Gem and Jewelry Show when it comes to the San Mateo Event Center, or simply goes online. "Then you have to figure out how to store it all," she says with a smile.

Now in her second year taking part in Silicon Valley Open Studios, Dutton joins many veterans. This is the 27th annual year, and some Palo Altans have been active for a good chunk of that time. Martha Castillo, for example, will be showing her clay monotypes for the 18th year, and pastel artist Marguerite Fletcher is back for the 25th time.

Artists who are showing in Palo Alto during Open Studios for the first year include pottery artist Thomas Arakawa, who makes ikebana vessels, bonsai pots and din-

nerware, drawing on his Japanese culture. He'll be showing his work at Gallery House at 320 S. California Ave. on May 4 and 5 (and in Los Altos and San Jose on subsequent weekends).

Sarah Nuehring brings modern sensibilities to her photography, often digitally layering images of architecture and nature together, sometimes printing them on wood and glass. She'll be at the Pacific Art League on May 4 and 5 (and later in Los Altos).

Arena Shawn, a physicist turned watercolor painter, will take part all three weekends at 229 Hamilton Ave. Another of the Palo Alto newcomers to the event is sculptor David Canavese, who describes his works as "strange life forms." He'll be at New Coast Studios on May 4 and 5. ■

**What:** Silicon Valley Open Studios, in which more than 350 artists open their studios or congregate at group sites to show and sell their art, as well as speak with the public.

**Where:** Sites range from Burlingame to Gilroy. The first weekend focuses on the areas of Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton and Redwood City; the second weekend moves south to the Mountain View, Los Altos and Sunnyvale areas; and the third weekend is in San Jose and the vicinity.

**When:** The first three weekends in May, Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Cost:** Admission is free, with art for sale.

**Info:** For a full schedule, go to svos.org. For more about Diana Dutton's jewelry, go to duttonartjewelry.com.

## A&E DIGEST



Jonathan Tilley plays Alexis and Elizabeth Corson is Aline in "The Sorcerer."

**FORTY YEARS OF GILBERT & SULLIVAN ...** This spring, the operetta-performing troupe known as the Stanford Savoyards celebrates the group's 40th year of putting on Gilbert & Sullivan shows on campus. The group is planning a reunion reception at Stanford on the afternoon of Saturday, May 11, and is sending out the call to all Savoyards past and present to attend. Photos, memorabilia and stories are welcome. Also in May, the troupe is performing "The Sorcerer," the G&S tale of love potions and mismatched couples. After doing "H.M.S. Pinafore" set in the world of "Star Trek: The Next Generation," the performers are placing "The Sorcerer" in "a magical fantasyland." Shows are in Dinkelspiel Auditorium at 8 p.m. on May 10 and 11 and at 2 p.m. May 12; tickets are \$20 general, \$15 for seniors and \$10 for students. For more about the production, and to RSVP for the reunion, go to stanford.edu/group/savoyards.



# Worth a Look

## Community

### Festival and parade

Traffic in Palo Alto takes on a whole new — and festive — meaning on May 4, when downtown will be flooded with antique autos, floats, kids parading pets, marching bands and strolling folks in costume.

At 10 a.m., the May Fete Children's Parade heads down University Avenue. Now in its 91st year, the event is held every year on the first Saturday in May. Participants decorate parade floats to join the multitudes of kids and families heading down the avenue on skates, bikes and feet. The parade ends at Heritage Park at 300 Homer Ave.

In the same block, the Museum of American Heritage at 351 Homer Ave. is hosting its annual Vintage Vehicles and Family Festival from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



Jim Nelson's 1941 Packard shines at a past Vintage Vehicles and Family Festival.

Enthusiasts bring in retro vehicles from many decades; past offerings have included steam cars and vintage motorcycles along with muscle cars and other carefully polished wheeled beings.

The museum will also hold an open house during the festival, with visitors invited to view hands-on science demonstrations and other activities along with seeing the current exhibit, "From Fiber to Fabric: A History of American Textile Production."

Both events are free. For more about the parade, go to [cityofpaloalto.org](http://cityofpaloalto.org) or call 650-648-3829. For more about the festival, go to [moah.org](http://moah.org) or call 650-321-1004.

## Books

### Nathan Englander

Nathan Englander's latest collection of short stories, "What We Talk About When We Talk About Anne Frank," will be the center of an upcoming evening at Palo Alto's Oshman Family Jewish Community Center. The author is scheduled to speak on Monday, May 6, in conversation with Sue Fishkoff, the editor of the Northern California Jewish weekly newspaper j.

Englander previously published another story collection, "For the Relief of Unbearable Urges"; the New York Times has described both books as "poised at the trapdoor between spiritual thirst and physical hunger," containing tales dealing with Jewish life, vengeance and mercy, family and the past. The title story, the Times writes, "is a cordial, stoned salute to Raymond Carver, transposing New Mexico to South Florida, gin to vodka," a piece about a war between two couples.

Englander is also the author of the novel "The Ministry of Special Cases" and a new translation of the Haggadah.

The event is scheduled for 7 p.m. at 3921 Fabian Way. Advance tickets are \$10 general and \$7 for seniors and students; admission is \$15 at the door. Go to [paloaltojcc.org](http://paloaltojcc.org) or call 650-223-8699.

## Art

### 'Meditations on the Sacred Journey'

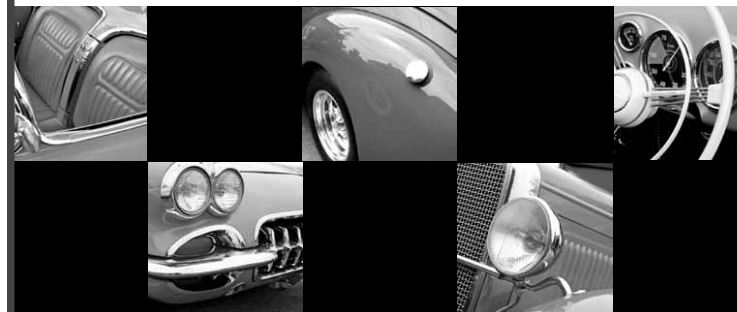
Besides hosting graduate classes in psychology and spirituality, Palo Alto's Sofia University is also home to periodic author talks and art exhibits. The current exhibit, "Meditations on the Sacred Journey," features the work of Palo Alto artist Gary Bacon.

In his digital artworks, Bacon seeks to create a narrative about humanity's physical and spiritual path through the millennia, along with Earth's own journey. His colorful works are like mandalas, rich with tapestry-like patterns. To create them, he weaves images from his photography together electronically.

In fact, Bacon was originally inspired by fiber arts. He remembers watching his grandmother create quilts, embroideries, rugs and other textiles, and now works similar patterns into his own art.

The exhibit is open every day through June 30 at 1059 E. Meadow Circle. Bacon plans to give artist's talks and exhibit tours at three upcoming receptions: April 27 from 1 to 3 p.m., May 9 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and May 23 from 7 to 9 p.m. For more information, call 650-493-4430 or go to the artist's website at [www.ba-ez.org/art.htm](http://www.ba-ez.org/art.htm).

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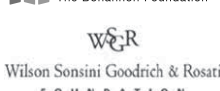
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### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING of the City of Palo Alto

#### Historic Resources Board [HRB]

**8:00 A.M., Wednesday, May 1, 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.

**329 Lincoln Avenue [12PLN-00210]:** Application by Talon Design Group, on behalf of Scott and Nicole Hawkins, for Historic Resources Board review and recommendation regarding an extensive proposed redesign, enlargement, and a new two-story rear addition, of a Colonial Revival residence, originally constructed circa early twentieth century, that is located in the Professorville National Register Historic District and in the R-1 (10,000) zone district. The existing house is defined in the Professorville National Register Nomination Form as a "nonconforming intrusion detracting from the integrity of the district" whose date is "indeterminable due to alterations." The redesign of the house would be in a traditional Colonial Revival style similar to the style of the existing house. The project would require Individual Review and a Home Improvement Exception for 84 square feet of additional floor area over the maximum allowed for the site.

**505 Embarcadero Rd [12PLN-00206]:** Request by Heather Trossman, on behalf of Nicholas Jitkoff and Ty Ashford, for Historic Resources Board review and recommendation regarding proposed restoration, alteration and addition to a residence listed on the City's Historic Inventory in Category 4 and located in the Professorville Historic District. The project includes Individual Review for a second story addition of more than 150 square feet, a Home Improvement Exception for a small two-story encroachment in the rear yard, and a fence variance.

**Certified Local Government Report 2011-2012:** HRB review of the CLG Report for 2011-2012 as required by the State Office of Historic Preservation.

**Steven Turner, Advance Planning Manager**



# Movies

## OPENINGS

### Renoir

★★★1/2

(Palo Alto Square) Perhaps it's damning "Renoir" with faint praise to call it agreeable, but Gilles Bourdos' film — about the waning days and household entanglements of Impressionist painter Pierre-Auguste Renoir — shows an admirable restraint, quiet simplicity and lush pictorial beauty.

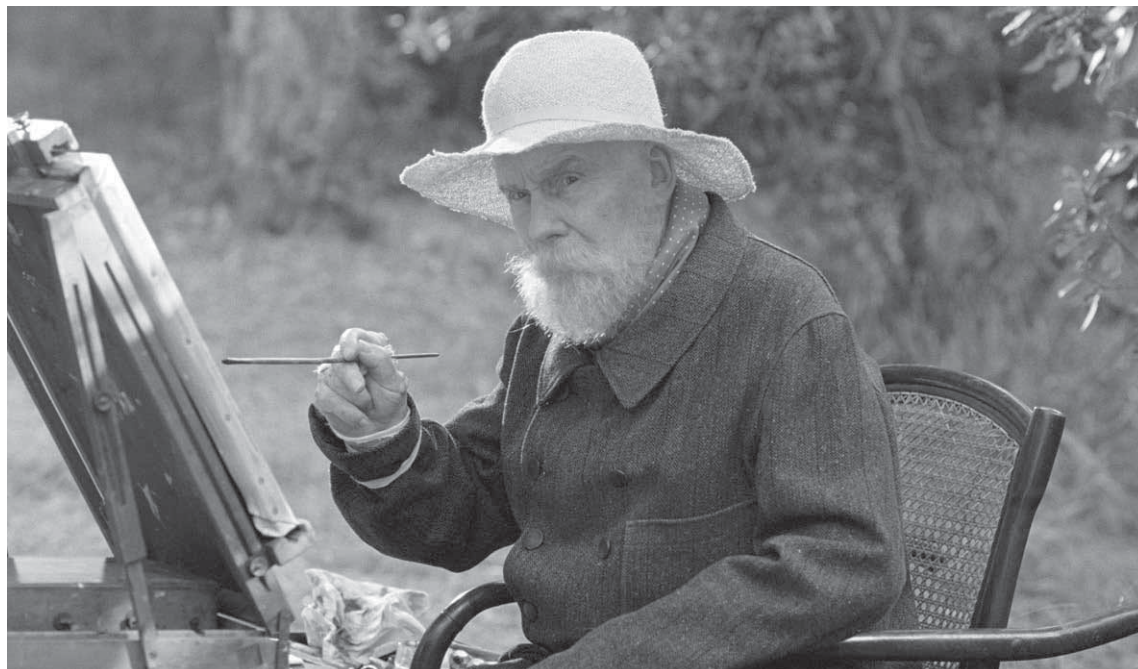
So if the dialogue can be a bit clunky and the psychoanalysis a bit thin, it is enough, evoking the living rhythms of the Renoirs' home in Cagnes-sur-Mer, on the French Riviera. It helps that Bourdos and leading cinematographer Mark Ping Bing Lee shot on location at the Renoir family estate, finding the filmic equivalent of the rich color and play of sunlight found in the artist's work. (That work is cleverly recreated here by painting double — and convicted art forger — Guy Ribes.)

Screenwriters Jérôme Tonnerre, Michel Spinosa and Bourdos walk us through the summer of 1915, when 74-year-old Renoir (Michel

Bouquet) receives his latest muse: "a girl out of nowhere, sent by a dead woman." She is Andrée Heuschling (Christa Theret), a teenage aspiring actress referred by the painter's recently departed wife. Andrée quickly establishes herself as a free spirit who punctures pretension and wants to seize "everything life has to offer," starting with men.

Added to her beauty (and nude posing), these traits make her the archetypal French fantasy girl. The film touches on the relentlessness of "the male gaze" (of not one but three Renoir men) and more than once draws the Freudian connection of paintbrush to penis. Andrée draws the focus not only of "the boss" but his sons Jean (one day to become the great filmmaker of "Grand Illusion" and "The Rules of the Game") and Claude, aged up to puberty here, though the kid nicknamed "Coco" was but 1 and a half at the time.

That latter flourish both allows Bourdos to cast Thomas Doret (the young talent from "The Kid with a Bike") and to interpolate a relatively innocent observer to the sex-



Michel Bouquet as the master Impressionist in "Renoir."

and-death crudity of Darwinism: from bloody animal remains in the kitchen to the debilitating war wound that older brother Jean (Vincent Rottiers) brings home on sick leave, to the competition for Andrée's attention. Still, teen Claude dilutes the film's historical authority and the dramatic development of the other characters.

All the Renoir men betray their neuroses about their own and the others' uncertain futures, particularly Jean's should he return to war duty and Auguste's should his shaky hand refuse to cooperate. Despite all the opportunity for (figurative) hand-wringing, "Renoir" tends to the understated and accentuates the positive.

"A painting should be something pleasant and cheerful," says Auguste. "There are enough disagreeable things in life. I don't need to create more." With the inherent interest of its subjects and its every frame a painting, "Renoir" is, indeed, agreeable enough.

*Rated R for sequences of art-related nudity and brief language. One hour, 51 minutes.*

— Peter Canavese

### To the Wonder

★1/2

(Aquarius) Terrence Malick can guide us to the "Wonder," the magnificent Abbaye du Mont-Saint-Michel situated on a tidal island off France's Normandy coast, but he cannot guarantee his cinematic pilgrims a transcendent experience.

Cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezki's rapturous images, paired with a litany of whispered voiceovers, don't build a staircase to heaven. Nor do the celestial musical selections of Bach, Wagner, Berlioz and Gorecki. You don't have to understand the intricacies of reception theory to realize that what profoundly moves a filmmaker may induce utter boredom in a viewer. Malick's follow-up to "The Tree of Life" is the most impressionistic — and most intolerable — film of his 40-year career.

The shards of a story must be pieced together. An unnamed single Parisian mother (Olga Kurylenko of "Quantum of Solace") and an unnamed American (Ben Affleck) have fallen deeply in love. Her inner voice speaks softly about melting into the eter-

nal night and being brought back to life by him, while enchanted footage of the City of Light and Mont-Saint-Michel graces the screen. She twirls and prances, whether in the Tuileries Gardens or a grocery store. And he serves as a silent, decorative object, a square-jawed enigma who asks the free-spirited woman and her 10-year-old daughter (Tatiana Chiline) to live with him in the flatlands of Oklahoma.

Eventually the non-communicative, emotionally unavailable man explodes in flashes of anger, and she stops having fun wearing lampshades on her head and jumping on the bed. Their relationship reeks of contamination, as poisoned as the nearby land oozing with industrial toxins. Why? Who knows and who cares?

Compounding feelings of loss and aloneness, Javier Bardem glides into America's heartland as a Spanish priest undergoing a crisis of faith while ministering to the poor and the poor souls. He yearns to experience God as he once did. But God remains as silent as in an Ingmar Bergman film. Rachel McAdams also appears briefly, amidst fields of grain and bison, as a renewed love interest for Affleck's flat character.

As the philosopher-poet of American cinema, Malick repeatedly poses the same queries about love, loss and spirituality — without providing any insight.



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Sat 4/27 Renoir - 2:00, 4:45, 7:25, 10:05  
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Sun-Mon 4/28-4/29, Wed-Thurs 5/1-5/2  
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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](http://PaloAltoOnline.com/movies).

- 42 (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** 11 a.m. & noon & 2, 3:10, 5, 7, 8:15 & 10 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:50 a.m. & 1:20, 2:45, 4:20, 5:50, 7:20 & 8:50 p.m.
- Ben-Hur (1959) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Stanford Theatre:** Sat-Sun 2 & 7:30 p.m.
- The Big Wedding (R) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** 11:15 a.m. & 12:35, 1:55, 3:15, 4:25, 5:35, 7:05, 8, 9:20 & 10:15 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:45 a.m. & 12:55, 2, 3:15, 4:30, 5:40, 7:15, 8:25, 9:45 & 10:45 p.m.
- Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (1958) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Stanford Theatre:** Fri 7:30 p.m.
- The Company You Keep (R) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 20:** 1, 4, 7:35 & 10:35 p.m. **Guild Theatre:** noon & 2:45, 5:30 & 8:15 p.m.
- The Croods (PG) ★★1/2**  
**Century 16:** 11:10 a.m. & 1:30, 3:55 & 6:20 p.m. In 3D 12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 7:45 & 10:20 p.m. **Century 20:** 11 a.m. & 4:10 & 9:30 p.m. In 3D 1:35 & 7 p.m.
- Disconnect (R) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** 11 a.m. & 1:40, 4:20, 7:30 & 10:10 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:25 a.m. & 2:15, 5, 7:55 & 10:40 p.m.
- Filly Brown (R) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** 11:20 a.m. & 1:45, 4:15, 7:25 & 10:10 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:45 a.m. & 2:25, 5:10, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m.
- G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 20:** 11:15 a.m. & 4:35 p.m. In 3D 1:55, 7:15 & 9:55 p.m.
- The Graduate (1967) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** Wed 2 & 7 p.m. **Century 20:** Wed 2 & 7 p.m.
- Jurassic Park (2013) (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** 11:40 a.m. In 3D 3:30 & 6:40 p.m. (Sat-Sun also 9:40 p.m.)  
**Century 20:** 11 a.m. & 4:45 p.m. In 3D 1:50, 7:45 & 10:40 p.m.
- The Long, Hot Summer (1958) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Stanford Theatre:** Fri 5:20 & 9:30 p.m.
- The Lords of Salem (R) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 20:** 10:25 p.m.
- Met Opera: Giulio Cesare (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 20:** Sat 9 a.m.
- Mud (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** 12:20, 3:45, 7:20 & 10:20 p.m. **Century 20:** 1:15, 4:15, 7:25 & 10:25 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 & 1, 2:55, 3:55, 5:50, 6:50, 8:45 & 9:45 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:** 9:10 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 20:** 3:45 & 9:50 p.m. In 3D 12:30 & 6:50 p.m.
- Pain & Gain (R) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** 11:05 a.m. & 12:45, 2:30, 4, 5:40, 7:15, 9 & 10:25 p.m. **Century 20:** 11 a.m. & 12:30, 2, 3:30, 5, 7, 8 & 10 p.m.
- The Place Beyond the Pines (R) ★★★1/2**  
**Century 20:** 12:30, 3:45, 7 & 10:10 p.m. **Palo Alto Square:** 4:15 & 7:15 p.m. Fri also 1 & 10:15 p.m. Sun also 1 p.m.
- Renoir (R) ★★1/2**  
**Palo Alto Square:** Fri-Sat 2, 4:45, 7:25 & 10:05 p.m. No 10:05 p.m. Sun.
- The Sapphires (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Aquarius Theatre:** 6 & 8:30 p.m. Sat-Sun also 1 & 3:30 p.m.
- Scary Movie 5 (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** 11:30 a.m. & 2:15, 5:05, 7:40 & 9:50 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:05 a.m. & 5:55, 8:05 & 10:20 p.m. Fri and Sun also at 1:20 & 3:35 p.m.
- Silver Linings Playbook (R) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** 9:40 p.m.
- To The Wonder (R) ★1/2**  
**Aquarius Theatre:** 1:30, 4, 7 & 9:45 p.m.
- Wait Wait ... Don't Tell Me! (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)**  
**Century 16:** Thu 8 p.m.

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

**Internet address:** For show times, plot synopses, trailers, theater addresses and more information about films playing, go to [PaloAltoOnline.com/movies](http://PaloAltoOnline.com/movies)

His signature technique of using subjective voice-overs to deliver semi-coherent fragments of the characters' thoughts fails to illuminate the human condition. Even when paired with fleeting flashbacks or his visual preoccupation with nature, the experiment in form tends to frame everything in unanswered questions.

Although a gifted maverick, Malick seems lost in personal reveries. As a result, "To the Wonder" functions as an obstacle rather than a bridge from Earth to heaven, from human malaise to a state of grace.

Rated R for nudity and some sexuality. In English and French, Spanish and Italian with English subtitles. One hour, 52 minutes.

— Susan Tavernetti

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# Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW

## Two chefs, one kitchen

*Brothers share duties at Pompeii in Los Altos, cook as one*

by Dale F. Bentson

The clatter of knives and forks etching across plates is all one needs to hear upon entering. All one needs to smell are the heavenly scents of garlic, oregano and baked lasagna wafting throughout the dining room. High hopes, and the promise is quickly fulfilled with attentive service, large delicious portions and a convivial ambience.

Pompeii's menu does not provoke memories of tiny trattorie in Italy. No octopus, not much seafood at all. No flatbread either, but pizza, good pizza. It's a spaghetti-and-meatballs Italian restaurant, sans red checkered tablecloths, but the food is worthwhile, honest and earnest, in pleasant surroundings.

What's special about Pompeii is that there isn't anything particularly special. No over-the-top decor, no signature dishes, no house-made salumi, gooey burrata, flown-

in branzino or just-gathered funghi from the slopes of Vesuvius. Instead, Pompeii emphasizes cozy Italian cuisine that is tasty, fresh and pleasingly aromatic, as if mamma mia herself were cooking in the kitchen.

Not a hidden gem, Pompeii was discovered long ago, and even weeknights without a reservation can be challenging. Many patrons address the waitstaff by name. There are regulars and lots of them. The interior is small, seating about 40. Weather cooperating, which it usually does in Los Altos, the patio nearly doubles capacity.

Owners and brothers Felipe and Gabriel Gutierrez share cooking duties. The self-taught chefs learned the restaurant business working around the Bay in Italian eateries for over a decade, and opened Pompeii in 2007. Almost everything is made in-house including their own dough for bread and



Veronica Weber

Spaghetti carbonara with pancetta and peas.

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pizza.

The menu is chockablock with old standards: antipasti, pastas, pizzas, panini, salads and veal and chicken entrees. In all, a sizable menu for a small kitchen. Yet there are enough common ingredients to allow for a broad bill of fare. In addition, there are a half dozen daily specials, appetizers to desserts.

On a recent visit, the spongy-fresh ciabatta was served with a tempting dipping sauce of roasted eggplant and garlic blended with olive oil and sun dried tomatoes. It was complimentary and easy to overindulge in. Patience had its virtues.

The special appetizer one day was grilled artichokes (\$9.50) served with red bell pepper aioli sauce. The sauce was good but unnecessary. The trio of char-grilled baby half artichokes had been drenched in melted butter with a hint of garlic, with the tough outer leaves removed for easy eating. The charred buttery flavor suited the delicate, slightly fibrous thistles. Yes, I licked my fingers.

Carpaccio cipriani (\$9.50) had all the tantalizing ingredients: razor-thin slices of tender red beef, capers, a squiggle of house-made

mayo, flakes of just-grated Parmesan, diced red onion and lemon. Both sweet and slightly acidic in the mouth, it was the perfect appetite provoker.

The generous portion of spaghetti Bolognese (\$11.50) was topped with two tennis-ball-sized meatballs. This was no walk-away-hungry dish. It stuck to the ribs and negated my plan for ordering dessert that evening. The meatballs were made mostly from beef with some pork that amped up the flavor.

Spaghetti carbonara (\$12.50) was cheesy, bacon-y and hot, topped with fresh peas and chopped Italian parsley. The sauce was thick enough to coat the pasta without pooling on the plate. The pancetta was just salty enough, and the fresh peas added color without detracting from flavor.

Melanzane parmegiana (\$15.50) was sauteed breaded eggplant topped with marinara sauce and mozzarella cheese, served with soft polenta and vegetables. The fruit (in case you've forgotten, eggplant is a fruit of the nightshade family) was fleshy, tender and savory. The

cheese was melted into the marinara sauce with no bitterness from the eggplant skin, which had been removed before breading.

Of the many pizza options, the Margherita pizza (\$10.50) seemed the most authentically Italian. Although Pompeii's version wasn't what one would find in Naples, the house-made pizza dough topped with olive oil, mozzarella, basil and fresh tomatoes did not leave me wanting for anything — except maybe a quick trip to Napoli.

Veal is high-priced both in supermarkets and restaurants. Happily, the vitello picatta (\$17.50) at Pompeii was not extortionate. The veal was sauteed in garlic, lemon butter and caper sauce. The lean meat was milky delicate and subtly flavorful. The generous portion came with soft polenta and sauteed vegetables.

Most of the desserts were made in-house including bread pudding and tiramisu (\$6). Light and sweet enough to conclude any dinner.

The wine list consisted of two dozen assorted reds and whites from California and Italy. Prices

were in keeping with the tenor of the restaurant, \$24-\$38, and most were available by the glass. The \$10 corkage fee is more than fair if you want to bring along that 40-year-old Biondi-Santi Brunello you've been saving.

Pompeii is the perfect neighborhood Italian spaghetti-and-meatballs restaurant — and I mean that as a compliment. The food is well-prepared, the portions generous, the service spot-on, and the ambiance cozy and inviting. ■

**Pompeii Ristorante**  
 100 State St., Los Altos  
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John Merrow's latest film, based on 6 1/2 years of filming in post-Katrina New Orleans, reveals how a failing school system has become a fair-to-middling system of public charter schools. The cast of characters in the one-hour documentary includes Britne Jackson, a 19-year-old senior who has failed the graduation exit exam about a dozen times; Bobby Calvin, an engaging young man chafing under the harsh behavior code at his charter high school; two Teach for America corps members having dramatically different classroom experiences; and Clarke Bordelon, a special needs student whose mother cannot find a charter school willing to take on the challenge of teaching her son. As the film reveals, real change is possible, but anyone looking for a silver bullet will be disappointed. Merrow and Professor Carter will use the film as a springboard to a broad range of issues. Audience participation will be encouraged.

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# Sports Shorts

**SWIM HONOR . . .** Former Stanford men's swimming head coach **Skip Kenney** has been named the 2013 recipient of the Speedo Lifetime Achievement Award, as announced by the College Swimming Coaches Association of America Executive Board of Directors. The honor is given annually to the individual whose efforts best exemplify the integrity and ideals of collegiate swimming and who has achieved significant success in the sport while still imparting the educational and character building qualities of the collegiate swimming experience. The award will be presented at the CSCAA Annual Banquet on May 16. Kenney developed some of the top swimmers in the world during his time on The Farm. Through his three decades at Stanford he proved to be one of the most successful coaches in the history of collegiate athletics. In 2004, he was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame, and a year later, he was elected into the American Swim Coaches Hall of Fame. Before retiring in 2012, Kenney served three times as the United States Olympic Team head coach, was recognized as the NCAA Division I Coach of the Year six times and was honored as the Pac-10 Coach of the Year 20 times. In 33 years at Stanford, Kenney led the Cardinal to seven NCAA Men's Championships and 31 straight conference titles. Kenney coached 134 All-Americans to 1,086 such citations and developed 72 NCAA champions. Out of the pool, 100 percent of Kenney's student-athletes earned their degrees.

**THIS AND THAT . . .** Former Castilleja Athletic Director **Jez McIntosh** has moved on from his job in the Stanford Athletic Department and is now the Director of Athletics at the Miss Porter School in Connecticut. The all-girls boarding school is located just outside of Hartford. McIntosh has been on the job for nearly three weeks and already has subbed in as the tennis coach . . . Stanford grad and USA beach volleyball star **Matt Fuerbringer** has joined the US men's volleyball team staff as an assistant coach, as announced by new coach.

## ON THE AIR

### Friday

**College softball:** Utah at Stanford, 5 p.m.; Pac-12 Networks

**College baseball:** Stanford at Oregon, 7 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

### Saturday

**Women's lacrosse:** Stanford at Cal, 1 p.m.; Pac-12 Networks

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

### Sunday

**College baseball:** Stanford at Oregon, 12:30 p.m.; ESPN; KZSU (90.1 FM)

**College softball:** Utah at Stanford, 1 p.m.; Pac-12 Networks

### Tuesday

**College baseball:** St. Mary's at Stanford, 5:30 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

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Former Castilleja water polo coach Ted Minnis has his Harvard women's team ready to compete for an NCAA berth this weekend at the CWPA Eastern Championships in Ann Arbor, Mich.

## Minnis has Harvard water polo Boston strong

Ex-Castilleja coach has Crimson women vying for NCAA berth less than two weeks after bombings at Boston Marathon

by Keith Peters

In just his third year as head coach of the Harvard women's water polo team, Ted Minnis and the Crimson will be involved in the 2013 NCAA Championships.

That's quite a step up from his days of coaching the girls' team at Castilleja, where Minnis had his squad battling for Central Coast Section Division II honors year in and out.

Now, Minnis is on the biggest stage for collegiate water polo. He's also hoping to be playing.

Harvard is the host for the national finals but the Crimson is not guaranteed a berth. Minnis and his squad has to earn that by winning the Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) Eastern Championships this weekend in Ann Arbor, Mich. The tourney winner will earn one of six automatic berths for the

eight-team NCAA field. Two other teams will receive at-large berths for the tournament, set for May 10-12 at Blodgett Pool on the Harvard University campus in Cambridge, Mass.

Harvard's chances of playing for a national title in its own pool are, well, not quite as good as nationally No. 1-ranked Stanford's chances of winning a third straight crown.

"But, my girls are ready and we'll

play hard like we always do," said Minnis, who recently got his 50th career win with the Harvard women (he also coaches the Harvard men).

Minnis has something special planned for this weekend. His team members will be wearing shirts emblazoned with "Boston...4-15-13." It also will have a design of a runner's bib, in honor of those who lost

(continued on page 33)

## STANFORD ROUNDUP

### Cardinal women golfers ready to host NCAA regional

by Rick Eymier

Freshman Mariah Stackhouse became the first Stanford women's golfer to earn first team All-Pac-12 Conference honors in 12 years. Imagine what she could do on a course where she feels even more comfortable.

Stackhouse, a co-leader after two rounds of the Pac-12 Championships that wrapped Wednesday at the Valencia Country Club, shot a 1-over 73 on the final day and finished with a 3-under 213.

The 11th-ranked Cardinal hopes to carry the momentum of its best conference finish since 2001 into the NCAA West Regional, which will be held on the Stanford Golf Course beginning May 9.

Stanford also saved its best for last, firing an even-par 288 to climb into a fourth-place tie with No. 6 Arizona. The Cardinal began Wednesday in seventh place. The 288 matches the fourth-best round of the season

(continued on next page)



Menlo School senior Andrew Buchanan shared medalist honors Wednesday with an even-par 35.

## PREP GOLF

### Menlo, Palo Alto boys ace their league seasons

by Keith Peters

Perfection was the rule of the day for the Menlo School and Palo Alto boys' golf teams as each wrapped up their respective dual-match league titles with perfect records on Wednesday.

At Palo Alto Hills Golf & Country Club, Menlo improved to 10-0 in the West Bay Athletic League with a 198-201 triumph over runner-up Sacred Heart Prep.

In San Jose, Palo Alto finished 11-0 after posting a season-low round of 184 at Coyote Creek to defeat runner-up Gunn (200).

Menlo earned its third consecutive WBAL championship after posting its second undefeated season in the past three years. The Knights next will represent the league in the CCS Regional II Tournament on May 8 at Rancho Canada (West) in Carmel Valley.

Sacred Heart Prep (8-2) can advance to the CCS Regional I Tournament on May 7 at Rancho Canada (West) with the league's second

(continued on page 32)



## Stanford roundup

(continued from previous page)

for Stanford.

Stackhouse, who won one of her two titles on her home course, was Stanford's best performer a fourth consecutive tournament and for the sixth time in nine starts overall.

"Mariah will be a much better player because of the pressure and stress she played under," Stanford coach Anne Walker said. "This won't be the last event she has a chance to win and next time she will be twice as ready."

Stackhouse recorded her eighth top-10 finish and earned a spot on the first team All-Pac-12 team. The last Stanford women golfers to receive that honor were best friends Hilary Homeyer and Stephanie Keever, both in 2001. Homeyer went on to win a U.S. Open title.

"The round was pretty steady all around," said Stackhouse, who holds a 71.7 stroke average in 25 rounds of competition. "I made the best of an off ball striking day and placed in the top three. I am more than pleased with my play this week."

Stanford's Mariko Tumangan finished tied for 14th after firing three birdies for a 2-under 70 on the final day of the conference championships. Tumangan, Lauren Kim and Sally Watson also have been Stanford's best player in a tournament this year.

Watson won the Sonoma State Invitational, playing as an individual, and has finished in the top 10 twice. Kim has also been in the top 10 twice, while Tumangan and Danielle Frasier have each appeared once.

"We have to continue to work on our attitude and fight," Walker said. "We have a lot of talent on our team but trusting that talent, letting it work and fighting to compete are characteristics we want to have ingrained before the NCAA Regional."

The NCAA championship tournament will be held on the Georgia Golf Course beginning May 21. Georgia last hosted the championship in 1993.

Meanwhile, Watson was named the Pac-12 Women's Golf Scholar-Athlete of the Year. The senior becomes the first Stanford women's golfer to earn the honor since its inception in the 2007-08 academic year.

The award, which is presented in each of the 22 sports the conference sponsors, was established to honor collegiate student-athletes who are standouts both academically and in their sports discipline.

"I feel extremely honored to be named Pac-12 Scholar-Athlete of the Year," Watson said. "It always feels good to have your hard work on and off the course recognized."

Watson, an International Relations major, holds a 3.75 cumulative GPA. She earned honorable mention All-Pac-12 and first-team Pac-12 All-Academic as a junior in 2012, as well as being selected as a NGCA Academic All-American her sophomore and junior year. As a freshman, Watson received second-team All-Pac-10 honors and was an honorable mention All-America selection by the National Golf Coaches Association.

### Men's golf

Stanford opens play in the Pac-12

Championships Monday at the Los Angeles Country Club. The tournament runs through Wednesday.

In its most recent action, the Cardinal finished third at the Western Intercollegiate and won the U.S. Intercollegiate.

Patrick Rodgers, a semifinalist for the Ben Hogan Award and selected to play on the United States Palmer Cup team, has won three titles, finished second once, and finished among the top 10 six times. He carries an average score of 70.5. He has shot rounds of 69 or better six times.

David Boote and Cameron Wilson have each finished among the top 10 four times this year, with Wilson finishing second at the Gifford Collegiate Championship and Boote recording a third-place finish at the Pac-12 preview, twice shooting rounds of 69.

Wilson shot a 10-under 61 during the Gifford Collegiate. Menlo School grad Patrick Grimes shot a 5-under 66 at the same tournament.

Andrew Yun and Steve Kearney have each recorded a pair of top-10 finishes. Grimes have been a steady player, with a 16th place finish and a three-day round of 217 his best of the season.

### Baseball

Stanford senior pitcher Mark Appel has been named one of 10 NCAA Division I baseball players selected as a finalist for the Senior CLASS Award, as announced Wednesday.

The Senior CLASS Award is given to student-athletes who excel both on and off the field. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence: community, classroom, character and competition.

The Houston, Texas, native has been Stanford's Friday night starter for the past three seasons. As a junior, Appel was named the NCBWA Pitcher of the Year and garnered numerous All-America accolades from the NCBWA, Collegiate Baseball and Baseball America.

A first team All-Pac-12 selection in 2012, Appel posted a 10-2 record and led the Pac-12 Conference with 130 strikeouts en route to being named a Golden Spikes Award finalist and a Dick Howser Trophy semifinalist.

The preseason All-American has gone 7-2 in nine starts for the Cardinal this season and boasts a 1.54 ERA and a .188 opposing batting

average. Appel leads the Pac-12 with 84 strikeouts.

After being selected eighth overall in the 2012 MLB Amateur Draft, Appel opted to return for his senior season at Stanford and last month earned his degree in management, science and engineering.

Appel is expected to be on the mound Friday night when Stanford takes on host Oregon in the first of three Pac-12 games.

The Cardinal, coming off a 17-2 romp over visiting San Jose State on Tuesday, is hitting .348 with a .629 slugging percentage over its past six games and seeks a fifth straight Pac-12 series win when it visits the Ducks.

Stanford is tied for third with UCLA in the conference standings at 9-6 with Oregon State (11-4) and Oregon (13-5) leading the pack. Stanford has yet to play any of the three teams.

### Men's volleyball

Brian Cook has become the 18th player in Stanford history to be named first-team All-American.

The junior opposite hitter from Santa Cruz was joined by teammate Steven Irvin on the two 10-player All-America teams announced by

the American Volleyball Coaches Association on Thursday. This is the first All-America honor for either player. Irvin made the second team.

The 6-foot-5 Cook ranks fourth in the nation with 4.01 kills per set while totaling 417 kills this season. Cook was a consistent performer with a total of six matches of 20-plus kills.

Cook becomes the eighth Stanford junior to earn first-team AVCA honors, joining Canyon Ceman (1993), Matt Fuerbringer (1996), Dave Goss (1992), Mike Lambert (1995), Brad Lawson (2011), Erik Shoji (2011), and Kawika Shoji (2009).

Irvin, a 6-5 junior outside hitter from Pacific Palisades, had 331 kills for a per set average of 3.31. In early February, he had a streak of three consecutive 20-kill performances, including a team season-high 27 kills with only four errors in 42 attempts, for a .548 hitting percentage in a five-set victory at Hawai'i on Feb. 1.

With the additions of Cook and Irvin, Stanford's all-time All-America list now totals 25 for a program that began varsity play in 1976. ■

— (Stanford Athletics contributed)



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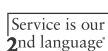
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## Prep golf

(continued from page 30)

automatic berth by winning Tuesday's 18-hole WBAL Tournament at Half Moon Bay's Old Course.

Menlo coach Dave Buchanan said his team's commitment to golf over the summer, and during the fall by most of the team members, has made "a dramatic impact" on a team that had quite a few spots to fill after graduating four seniors from last year's team.

Senior co-captains Max Garnick and Andrew Buchanan again led the Knights to victory in their final WBAL match.

Buchanan was co-medalist with SHP's Bradley Knox as both shot even-par 35. Buchanan closed out a perfect season for him as he was never beaten in the WBAL regular season. His final match was memorable as he ripped a 358-yard drive on the downhill, 383-yard par-4 third hole that reached the green came to rest just 25 feet from the hole. He made birdie there and added another on the 480-yard, par-5 seventh.

Garnick shot 39 but got off to a slow start and was 4-over after four holes. He remained confident and finished even par for the last five holes. Garnick birdied the tough closing hole to seal a lead from the first tee group.

Menlo freshman William Hsieh also shot 39, which included an eagle on the third hole. Hsieh drove the ball to the right side of the fairway and had 140 yards in to the green. His 8-iron approach shot hit short of the green bounced up toward the hole and then rolled in for the eagle.

Jeff Herr added a 42 and Riley Burgess shot 43 to round out the Knights' scoring.

While Menlo will lose more key players after this season, Dave Buchanan says he has stockpiled some players for next year — like juniors Carter Burgess and Jordan Stone plus sophomore Teddy Breyer, who missed much of the season to in-

jury.

Meanwhile, Sacred Heart Prep's Taylor Oliver had two birdies but offset that with four bogeys to leave him with a 2-over 37.

Teammate Derek Ackerman shot 41, Willy Lamb 42 and Bradley Keller a 46.

The best team effort of the day came in the Palo Alto-Gunn match as the Vikings had all five scorers within three shots of par.

Grant Raffel fired an even-par 35 to tie Gunn's Avinash Sharma for medalist honors.

Palo Alto also got a 36 from Pat-

rick Fuery, a 37 from Alex Hwang while Michelle Xie and John Knowles each shot 3-over 38 to wrap up the winning performance.

Herbert Sadler-Wong shot 40 for Gunn while Zack Tevanian shot 41, Curran Sinha a 42 and Jack Jaffe a 42.

Paly and Gunn will return to Coyote Creek on Monday for the first day of the SCVAL Tournament. The teams will

wrap up Wednesday at San Juan Oaks in Hollister. Gunn can earn the league's second automatic berth into the CCS Tournament by taking the two-day event.

On Tuesday, Menlo set the stage for its showdown for first place with a 197-212 victory over Harker at Palo Alto Municipal.

Menlo was led by Buchanan, who shared medalist honors with Harker's Maverick McNealy. Both shot even-par 36. Buchanan is headed to SMU while McNealy will play at Stanford next season. Buchanan birdied the first hole but bogeyed the second before shooting par on the remaining seven holes.

Garnick and Burgess each shot 38. Garnick got off to a rough start with five straight bogeys, but registered birdies on No. 6, 7 and 8 to turn things around as he made consecutive putts for 10, 13 and 40 feet. Unfortunately for Garnick, his five-foot birdie putt on No. 9 lipped out.

Burgess made an 18-footer for birdie on the par-3 eighth hole and he reached the par-5 ninth hole in two when his hybrid 5 from 255 yards out found the back of the green. Menlo's scoring was rounded out by William Hsieh's 42 and Ethan Wong's 43. Wong found the fairway on his first two holes, but lost balls down gopher holes.

Sacred Heart Prep set the stage for a showdown for first place in the WBAL following a 202-249 victory over King's Academy at Sharon Heights Golf & Country Club on Monday.

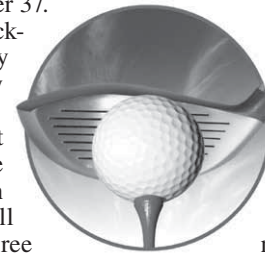
Knox set the pace against King's with a 1-under 35 as he made two birdies and just one bogey. Ackerman shot 39 for the Gators with Lamb (42), Keller (42) and Kevin Donahoe (44) rounding out the scoring.

In the SCVAL De Anza Division, Sharma fired an even-par 35 and Cheng was just two strokes back as Gunn registered a 195-211 victory over host Homestead at Sunnyvale Muni on Monday. The Titans also got a 38 from Sadler-Wong while Shai Mohan shot 41 and Sinha carded a 44.

Senior Matt Tinyo earned medalist honors with a 1-over 37 to pace Menlo-Atherton to a 213-255 victory over Aragon in PAL Bay Division action Monday at Sharon Heights Golf & Country Club.

The Bears still have the PAL Tournament next week, another qualifying event for CCS. The two regional tourneys will send the top qualifiers to the CCS Championships on May 14, also at Rancho Canada (West).

The NorCal Championships will be held at Diablo Grande Resort GC (Ranch Course) in Patterson on May 20, with the CIF State Championships set for Quail Lodge in Carmel Valley on June 5. ■



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## Water polo

(continued from page 30)

their lives and suffered injuries at the horrific bombing at the Boston Marathon on April 15.

"It's just our way of being Boston strong," said Minnis, who lives in Watertown, where the surviving terrorist bomber was arrested last week.

Minnis lives less than a mile from where the suspect was apprehended. He spent that day in front of TV set in his apartment in a security building, but could hear the commotion and see the police presence. He spent a lot of time returning phone calls from family, friends and his players who knew he lived in Watertown.

"It was crazy . . . a stressful time," Minnis said. "It was the most insane thing I've every experienced in my life. Everybody was affected. Everyone knew someone at the Boston Marathon."

While the cities of Watertown, Boston and the surrounding communities are trying to return to normal, "It's a slow process, but we'll get there," Minnis said. "It's still fresh."

Wearing the T-shirts at the Eastern Championships likely will allow emotions to surface again and perhaps provide a rallying cry for Harvard.

"It will be nice," he said. "I'm excited. We'll be representing the university and Boston and the sport that we love."

Harvard will be busy competing in one of six qualifying tournaments this weekend. In addition to the CWPA in Michigan, automatic berths will be earned the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, Women's Water Polo Association, SCIAAC, MAC and Big West tournaments.

The MPSF tourney will get under way Friday at Cal with No. 2 seed USC facing No. 7 CSU Bakersfield at 11 a.m., No. 3 ASU taking on No. 6 San Jose State at 12:45 p.m. and No. 4 UCLA meeting No. 5 Cal at 2:30 p.m.

Stanford, the No. 1 seed, has a first-round bye. The Cardinal (26-1) will open Saturday against the UCLA-Cal winner at 2:30 p.m. The championship match will be Sunday, also at 2:30 p.m.

Stanford's roster includes freshmen Emily Dorst from Menlo-Atherton and Skylar Dorosin of Palo Alto; San Jose State has freshman Brittany Krappe from M-A; UCLA has junior Becca Dorst from Menlo-Atherton, and USC's roster includes senior Constance Hiller from Priory.

At Santa Clara University, the WWPA will hold its championship tournament at the same time.

Friday's opening round finds No. 1 UC San Diego against No. 8 CSU San Bernardino at 9:30 a.m., No. 4 Colorado St. against No. 5 Sonoma State at 11 a.m., No. 2 Loyola Marymount taking on No. 7 CSU East Bay at 12:30 p.m. and No. 3 Santa Clara facing No. 6 CSU Monterey Bay at 2 p.m.

Santa Clara features Gunn grads Jenny and Elizabeth Anderson, Sacred Heart Prep grads Stephanie Clements and Erin Sheridan plus Palo Alto grad June Afshar.

Clements, a senior goalie, recently received honorable mention on the All-WWPA team while Elizabeth Anderson was named to the All-Freshman team.

The WWPA championship match will be Sunday at 2 p.m.

In Ann Arbor, Indiana is the No. 1 seed while Princeton is No. 2. Harvard is the No. 6 seed and will open against No. 11 Notre Dame College.

Princeton, which features freshman Pippa Temple from Sacred Heart Prep and senior Laura Martinez from Castilleja, will open Friday against the winner of No. 7 George Washington and No. 10 Gannon.

Princeton is coming off a 12-4 win over Brown in the CWPA Southern Division championship match two weeks ago. The Tigers outscored three opponents, 41-10, during the tournament.

Brown is led by senior co-captain Kat Booher from Castilleja. She scored two goals against Princeton. Brown also has sophomore goalie Evan Cranston from Castilleja and junior Malaika Drebin from Palo Alto.

Opening the Eastern Championships will be No. 8 Bucknell and No. 9 Mercyhurst. Bucknell features senior Tara Murao from Palo Alto High. She leads the Bisons with 19 assists this season and recently went over the 100-point mark for her career. Other local players include Castilleja grads Barbara Peterson and Sayeh Bozorghadad plus Sacred Heart Prep grad Heather Smith.

In Los Angeles, Caltech will host the SCIAAC Championships this weekend.

Top-seeded Claremont Mudd Scripps includes sophomore Haley Conner of Palo Alto and freshman Emily Gran from Menlo-Atherton. Second-seeded Pomona Pitzer has sophomores Sarah Westcott (Sacred Heart Prep) and Sallie Walecka (Castilleja).

La Verne's roster includes junior Katie Lacek from Gunn while Caltech has Gunn grads Soumya Kannan and Connie Hsueh.

At UC Irvine, the Big West Championships will be held this weekend with the winner advancing to the NCAA Championships.

The host Anteaters have sophomore MJ O'Neill from Menlo-Atherton while UC Davis has senior Hannah Breen, also from M-A. Hawaii is the top seed. ■



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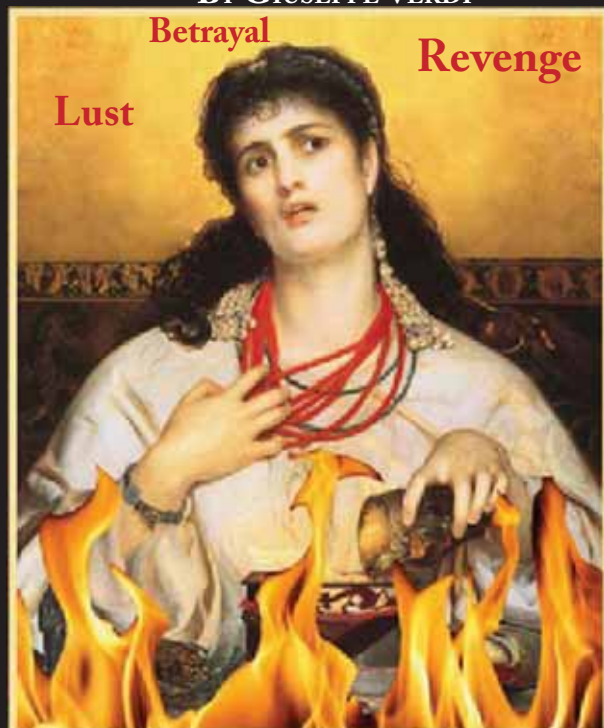
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BY GIUSEPPE VERDI



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## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



**Brooke Bullington**  
Menlo School

The senior scored 11 goals and assisted on 11 others while helping the Knights register three lacrosse victories, one over previously unbeaten Sacred Heart Prep, to remain unbeaten and atop the WBAL Foothill Division standings.



**Nick Sinchek (L),  
Tyler VauDell**

Sacred Heart Prep  
The two seniors helped the Gators win three baseball games -- Sinchek getting five hits and four RBI while VauDell pitched a complete-game five-hitter to beat defending champ Menlo as SHP took over first place.

### Honorable mention

**Malia Bates**  
Menlo softball

**Caroline Cummings**  
Sacred Heart Prep lacrosse

**Annalisa Crowe**  
Menlo-Atherton track & field

**Ali Kim**  
Menlo lacrosse

**Maddy Price**  
Menlo track & field

**Sarah Robinson**  
Gunn track & field

**Andrew Buchanan**  
Menlo golf

**Reed Fratt\***  
Menlo-Atherton tennis

**Matt McGarry**  
Menlo-Atherton baseball

**Saul Menjivar**  
Menlo-Atherton tennis

**Cole Plambeck**  
Palo Alto diving

**Jack Wise**  
Sacred Heart Prep lacrosse

\* previous winner

To see video interviews of the Athletes of the Week, go to [www.PASportsOnline.com](http://www.PASportsOnline.com)

## Sign up for the Palo Alto Citywide Yard Sale

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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](http://www.PaloAltoOnline.com/yardsale)

For more information about the Yard Sale  
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## PREP ROUNDUP

# SHP baseball still controls its destiny in WBAL race

by Keith Peters

**S**acred Heart Prep is two winnable games away from setting the stage to make some program history. Yes, the Gators are sitting in the driver's seat in the West Bay Athletic League baseball race.

Should Sacred Heart Prep beat visiting Pinewood on Friday and knock off host Crystal Springs on Wednesday — both very likely — then the Gators will host second-place Menlo on May 3 with an opportunity to accomplish something special.

Sacred Heart will have a chance to give head coach Gregg Franceschi his first home win over the Knights and his first-ever regular-season sweep of Menlo. Should the Gators accomplish that, they'll hold a two-game lead with two WBAL games remaining — against Harker and King's Academy.

The ability to beat both those

teams showed up Wednesday on two fronts. SHP defeated visiting King's Academy, 8-4, and Menlo routed Harker, 24-2.

Since losing to SHP on April 17 (4-0), Menlo's offense has come alive at the expense of Pinewood and Harker. In those two games, the Knights have combined for 47 runs and 43 hits. That's something Franceschi should be aware of as the two rivals move closer to their showdown.

Menlo School exploded for 18 runs over the last two innings in Wednesday's rout of host Harker. The Knights (4-1, 14-7) were led offensively by junior Joe Farnham, who had three hits and five RBI. He had the key hit of the game, a two-out bases-loaded triple that gave the Menlo a 4-0 in the fourth.

Brock Cozad added a grand slam in the seventh when the Knights

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scored 10 runs. Menlo finished with three homers (Mikey Diekroeger, Austin Marcus and Cozad) and seven triples as 13 different players got hits.

Chris Atkeson picked up his fifth win of the season as he, Jack Redman and Marcus combined to throw a two-hitter with nine strikeouts.

While Menlo was romping, Sacred Heart was doing its best not to let first place slip away against visiting King's Academy, which chipped away at an early 5-0 deficit and made it a 5-4 game in the top of the sixth.

The Gators, however, rallied for three runs in the bottom of the inning as Hank Robson and Chris Lee each had RBI singles before Mike Covell plated two more with a single, one of 12 hits by the Gators.

The Gators (5-0, 14-7) got six strong innings from senior starter Tyler VauDell while winning their sixth straight. Nick Sinchek and Will Reilly each had a pair of hits and Will Johnston drove in a pair in the fourth.

In the SCVAL De Anza Division, a three-way tie for first place is now a two-way deadlock following victories by Palo Alto and Homestead on Wednesday.

The Vikings (10-3, 15-11) kept their share of the lead with a 9-3 win over host Santa Clara while Homestead (10-3, 14-10) did likewise with a 5-4 triumph over visiting Wilcox (9-4, 18-8). Austin Poore had two hits and drove in two runs to pace Paly to its crucial victory while Rohit Ramkumar improved to 8-2 with a complete-game six-hitter that ended a three-game losing streak.

Palo Alto will host Santa Clara on Friday to complete the regular season while Wilcox hosts Homestead. Should the Chargers defeat the Mustangs and Paly wins again, the Vikings will capture the division's regular-season title.

In Half Moon Bay, Menlo-Atherton started quickly by scoring two runs on three hits in the top of the first inning. Unfortunately for the Bears, they managed only two hits the rest of the way en route to a 10-2 defeat. The loss snapped a three-game winning streak for M-A, dropping the Bears to 14-8 overall and 4-5 in PAL Bay Division play. Half Moon Bay improved to 14-8 and 4-5.



Sacred Heart Prep's Tyler VauDell delivered a strong six-inning effort in an 8-4 WBAL win over King's Academy on Wednesday.

Keith Peters

**Girls' lacrosse**

Menlo School won its sixth straight and improved to 7-0 in the WBAL (Foothill Division) with an 18-11 victory over visiting Castilleja on Tuesday. The Knights moved to 9-6 overall while winning their 45th straight league match since joining the WBAL for the 2009 season. Menlo also is riding a 57-match league win streak since last losing a league match, to Menlo-Atherton in 2007.

Menlo out-shot Castilleja, 40-18, with freshman Parvathi Narayan tallying five goals.

Castilleja fell to 3-4 in league (5-4 overall) despite getting a career-high eight goals from senior captain Katherine Hobbs.

In San Francisco, Sacred Heart Prep got three goals each from Caroline Cummings, Libby Muir, Ally Mayle and Brigid White in a 15-2 victory over host Sacred Heart Cathedral at Crocker-Amazon Park. The Gators improved to 6-1 in league (14-1 overall) and remained just a game back of first-place Menlo.

SHP will host Menlo in another showdown for first on Thursday (May 2) at 4 p.m.

In Atherton, host Menlo-Ather-

ton used a 10-0 run to blow open a close match and roll to a 20-9 victory over visiting Burlingame. Meredith Geaghen-Breiner scored four times during the run while finishing with five goals. M-A, however, was led by senior Emily Carlson career-high 11 goals. She also assisted on two others while consistently winning the draw. The Bears (2-5, 4-10-1) cruised to a 14-5 halftime lead against the Panthers (3-4, 3-10).

In the SCVAL, Palo Alto High removed another roadblock in its way of a possible perfect league season with a 9-5 victory over host Gunn in girls' lacrosse action Tuesday night. The Vikings improved to 11-0 in league (13-2 overall). Paly held just a 4-3 halftime lead, which disappeared when Gunn scored twice to open the second half and take a 5-4 lead.

Palo Alto then stepped up its aggressive play at both ends of the field as the Titans were held scoreless the remainder of the night. Senior co-captains Charlotte Biffar and Nina Kelty each scored twice, as did junior Kristen DeStefano. Kelty added four assists. Gunn junior Victoria Nguyen tallied three goals to lead the Titans (8-3, 10-4-2).

**Boys' lacrosse**

Sacred Heart Prep remained just a game back of first-place Menlo-Atherton in the SCVAL following a 15-7 victory over host Mountain View on Wednesday. Andrew Eifert scored six goals on seven shots to lead the Gators (9-2, 11-8) while freshman Andrew Daschbach added three goals.

Junior Frankie Hattler had 10 points, with eight assists and two goals, while Ryan Morrison finished with two goals and two assists. Austin Appleton returned from a recent injury and finished with nine saves in goal.

Elsewhere, Palo Alto improved its playoff status in the SCVAL with a 13-6 victory over host Menlo School on Wednesday. The Vikings improved to 6-4 in league (11-5 overall). Paly also beat Los Gatos on Monday, 15-10.

**Softball**

In a wild game filled with 34 runs, 26 hits and eight errors, visiting Gunn prevailed in a 23-11 victory over Fremont in a SCVAL El Camino Division game Wednesday.

The Titans (6-3, 10-10) got out to an early lead in the first inning with five runs. By the end of the second

inning it looked like as easy win for Gunn with an 8-2 lead. But, the Firebirds came up with seven runs and seven hits in the fifth inning to grab an 11-9 lead. The Titans bounced back with seven runs in the sixth and seven more in the seventh to cruise to victory. Iris Chin had three hits for Gunn.

**Swimming**

The Sacred Heart Prep boys and girls put the finishing touches on unbeaten dual-meet seasons in the WBAL by sweeping visiting King's Academy during Senior Day on Wednesday. The girls won, 110-60, and the boys prevailed, 116-52.

SHP juniors Selby Sturzenegger (100 free, 200 free) and Ally Howe (200 IM, 100 back) were both double winners in addition to swimming legs on the winning 200 medley and 400 free relays.

In the boys' meet, Chris Hinrichs produced a solid 49.70 victory in the 100 free and senior Scott Jollymour surprised the 200 field with a 1:51.10 win. He also swam legs on the winning 200 free and 400 free relays.

SHP will host the WBAL trials on Wednesday and the finals on Thursday. ■



SHP junior Ally Howe won the 200 IM and added the 100 back as the Gators won the WBAL dual-meet title.

Keith Peters

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