CULTURE FEST TO BRING MUSIC, ART, FOOD TO DOWNTOWN

By Molly Tanenbaum

The weekend of July 22-23, Castro Street will be filled with the rhythmic sounds of samba drumming, the rich smells of Filipino and Caribbean food, and the vibrant sights of colorful African fabrics.

The new street festival, which will benefit the Mountain View Library Foundation, is called Culture Fest, and will showcase an array of art, music and cuisine. "It definitely has an ethnic flavor to it," said festival organizer and library foundation president Rosiland Bivings.

Musical and dance performances at City Hall Plaza will include Tony Lindsay, Grammy winner and former lead singer of Santana, who lived in Mountain View for 12 years before moving to San Mateo.

He described his music as "R&B with a jazz flavor," and said it will be hard for audience members to resist dancing during his set on Sunday at 3 p.m.

Also performing on Sunday will be vocalist Anna Maria Flechero at 12:30 p.m., with a combination of original tunes and jazz standards. Her "neo-jazz" will reveal R&B and Latin influences, she said.

"It always feels good when you're playing for something that you have an interest in and you're able to be a part of supporting that," said Flechero, who added she looks forward to helping raise funds for the library through her music.

Saturday's performances will include local acts, such as Juan's Latin Potpourri—a dance troupe led by Juan Aranda.

See CULTURE FEST, page 8

Samba on Castro Street

With little fanfare, the city council voted on Tuesday to keep open the seat vacated by Matt Neely—and things will remain that way until the November election.

The move turns the seven-member council into a six-member council for at least the next eight meetings following summer break.

Only council member Laura Macias voted against leaving the seat open, saying that appointing someone to fill the seat would provide broader representation of the public's interests.

The council experienced the difficulty of a six-member council the very same night, when it deadlocked 3-3 in a straw vote on where to place affordable housing downtown (see page 7). After nearly an hour of discussion, the council postponed the item.

Council member Matt Pear was disappointed, saying he wanted to decide that night on the affordable housing location.

“We could if you were more reasonable,” joked Mayor Nick Galiotto, who was one of three council members to resist dancing during the council session before appointing Steve Lewis to fill the vacancy.

In the 17 years prior to the Freelen vacancy, the council had seven other vacancies; six were filled by appointment and one by special election.

City staff recommended Neely’s seat be left open, saying that it would be consistent with council actions in the past.

In 1995, council member Maryce Freelen resigned due to poor health with 12 months left in her term. The council advertised the vacancy and interviewed 17 candidates in public session before appointing Steve Lewis to fill the vacancy.

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But since 2004—the year that local water boards started adding chloramine to the water as a disinfectant—some local residents have lost all confidence in the water and in claims that it is safe.

According to Denise Johnson-Kula of Menlo Park, she broke out in a rash in 2004 and almost died from the effects of chloramine on her skin.

Local Group Gains Traction in Fight Against Chloramine

By Daniel DeBolt

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Local Group Gains Traction in Fight Against Chloramine

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το six members
Los Altos ■ Remodeled, spacious 3bd/2.5ba home with gourmet kitchen, family room + hardwood floors. Beautiful landscaped yard. Cui-de-sac locale. $1,398,000

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Sunnyvale ■ Beautiful, completely remodeled 4bd/2.5ba Cherry Chase home. Spacious kitchen opens to living/dining area. Elegant finishes. New landscaping. $1,249,000

Maisy Young

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Helen & Ki Nyborg, & Scott Rutley

Mountain View ■ Two Worlds of Mountain View, 2bd/2.5ba town home. 1300 +/- sf two-story with vaulted ceilings, inside laundry, + large upper and lower patio. $559,000

Helen & Ki Nyborg, & Scott Rutley

Munroe View ■ Spacious 2bd/2ba Parc Crossings condo. New carpet and fixtures, + inside laundry. 1093 +/- sf. Pool + spa. Los Altos School District. $569,000

Mona & Michelle Sander

Sunnyvale ■ Pristine and picture perfect, featuring great curb appeal with fabulous landscaping. Elegantly remodeled 3bd/2ba with high ceilings. $799,000

Elaine Klemm

Menlo Park ■ Enjoy the best in California living in this stylishly remodeled 3 bedroom home. Walls of glass open to a charming front patio and huge backyard. $949,000
Are you concerned about global warming?

“Emphatically yes. Far and away, every single part of our society is in some way tied to our environment.”
Jerome Mills, San Jose

“Yes. I think it’s important that young people especially get involved. This is our problem because it’s the world that we live in. Do you really want to procrastinate on this issue?”
David Lam, Cupertino

“A little bit because of the greenhouse gases. There’ll be more really hot days in the year and maybe a lot of us will get heatstroke and the population will go down.”
Glenna Pasinosky, Mountain View

“I do like it just a little bit, but not on hot days because you could die from overheating.”
Padraig Feain, Santa Clara

“Yes, I think that people nowadays are often short-sighted and don’t think about the future of the earth or future generations. Global warming is the biggest issue at hand at the moment, even beyond politics.”
Jennifer Stomes, Los Altos

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Sabarth School, 10 am

**Wednesday Study Groups, 10:00 am & 7:00 pm**
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9:45am - Church School/Nursery
11:00am - Worship in the Sanctuary
Club Sunday for Children, Nursery

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500 block N. Shoreline Blvd., 7/5

1000 block Tulane Dr., 7/6

100 block N. Whisman Ave., 7/6

700 block E. El Camino Real, 7/6

1100 block W. El Camino Real, 7/8

1500 Montalto Dr., 7/9

**VALDANISM**

1600 block Cornell Dr., 7/4

200 Mountain View Ave., 7/5

1500 block N. Shoreline Blvd., 7/6

400 block Byrnes Ave., 7/6

700 block Emily Dr., 7/7

Mountain Shadows Dr./Saw Mill Ct., 7/9

400 block Franklin St., 7/10

900 block El Monte Ave., 7/10

**BURGLARY (AUTO)**

700 block Continental Circle, 7/5

400 block Sierra Vista Ave., 7/5

700 block W. Middlefield Rd., 7/6

500 block S. Rengstorff Ave., 7/9

500 block S. Rengstorff Ave., 7/9

**BURGLARY (COMMERCIAL)**

GNC, 7/8

2400 block Charleston Rd., 7/10

**ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON**

300 block Sheridane Ave., 7/4

200 block San Antonio Rd., 7/10

**STOLEN VEHICLE**

1500 block W. Middlefield Rd., 7/4

2000 block California St., 7/5

200 block Del Medio Ave., 7/6

200 block Del Medio Ave., 7/6

Wal-Mart, 7/7

Lucky Express Rest, 7/8

400 block Franklin St., 7/10

1800 block California St., 7/10

**CRIME WATCH**

OnRecord

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

“If it isn’t broke, leave it alone.”

— LOUISE KILKENNY

MOUNTAIN VIEW RESIDENT
ON THE ADDITION OF CHLORAMINE TO THE CITY’S DRINKING WATER

**ARMED ROBBERY, PET CLUB, 1010 N. RENGSTORFF AVE., 7/10**
At about 8:10 p.m., two young men entered a pet store. While they appeared to be browsing, a clerk carrying a cash register tray with money walked by. One of the men displayed a handgun and then escorted the clerk over to the counter and took money from two cash registers. Both men then fled the store on foot.

No one else was involved, and there were no injuries. The clerk described the first man as being in his 20s, Hispanic, 5-foot-8 and wearing a black sweatshirt, shorts and a black knit cap. The second man was described as being also in his 20s, either Hispanic or Filipino, and 5-foot-9. He was wearing a white T-shirt, blue pants and a white bandana. Both men are still at large.

**COMMERCIAL BURGLARY, RITE AID, 1040 GRANT ROAD, 7/6**
Four teenagers, two of them 16 and two of them 17, walked into a Rite Aid store and proceeded to fill two grocery carts with alcohol and run out of the store, pushing the carts in front of them. A police officer in civilian clothing noticed the four boys running out of the store around 9:25 p.m. The officer began pursuing the boys on foot and called for reinforcements. Other officers joined the chase, and they eventually caught the boys.

The alcohol was recovered. Three of the young men were taken to Juvenile Hall, and one was cited and released to his parents.
Domo arigato
By Don Frances

This Saturday, our own Patricia Figueroa, a former council member and mayor, will be given “a musical tribute” at the Warner Theatre in Washington, D.C. as part of a celebration of “citizen diplomats.”

Figueroa, you see, is a longtime leader (and now president) of our sister city program, making her an emissary to both sister cities — Iwata, Japan and Hasselt, Belgium.

“I’ve been involved with the Mountain View Sister City Program for about 25 years,” she told me last Tuesday. “Over that time I’ve had the pleasure of taking kids to Iwata as an advisor,” as well as hosting visitors from there.

“Every other year,” she said, “we send a delegation of students to our sister cities, and the following year we receive a delegation.” Mountain View has been unusually active in this regard. “Our primary focus is the youth exchange program. We just find that it’s a great way for the kids to go and spend two weeks in another country while only having to raise the airfare.”

“It’s amazing,” she added, “the growth you can see in those kids.”

Figueroa’s diplomatic duties keep her globetrotting quite a bit. In fact, she won’t even be able to make her globetrotting quite a bit. In May, she’ll head to Australia. Then she goes back to D.C. this weekend. Instead she’ll be at another conference in Australia. Then she goes back to Iwata at the end of the month “to celebrate the 30th anniversary of our sister city relationship.”

Let the bidding begin
COMMENT PERIOD OVER FOR HANGAR ONE
By Daniel DeBolt

The period for the public to comment on the fate of Hangar One at Moffett Field has ended, leaving the historic structure’s future in the hands of politicians, the Navy and, possibly, the courts.

Demolition is still an attractive option to the Navy, which is responsible for toxic cleanup after leaving the site in 1993. But bids for restoration of the structure’s toxic sidings could turn out to be less expensive...

Hospital vexed by new computer system
By Molly Tanenbaum

El Camino Hospital’s new computerized record system has been off to a rocky start since its launch in March.

Its first few months at El Camino have seen a state investigation, pharmacy errors, dissatisfaction among physicians and nurses, and the departure of the hospital’s chief information officer.

At the Wednesday night meeting, after the Voice went to press, the hospital board addressed some of these issues by discussing a contract with an outside pharmacy management company, and providing funding for upgrades to new system.

ECHO, which stands for El Camino Hospital Online, is the new system that replaced a medical information system that had been in place since 1971. Doctors and nurses must use it daily in the hospital to place orders for medicines and tests, and to track patient records.

Eclipsys Corporation created the ECHO software, which cost El Camino $8 million. The transition has been riddled with errors, however, causing the hospital to bring in an outside pharmacy management company, Cardinal Health.

“We’ve had some issues in the pharmacy, which is one of the reasons Cardinal Health was brought in,” said hospital spokesman Jon Friedenberg, adding, “Issues that predated ECHO made the ECHO implementation that much more challenging.”

Meanwhile, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, or CMS, received a complaint that prompted a state Department of Health Services survey on May 19 to investigate.

“The condition found [to be unmet was pharmacy services],” said Mary Frances Colvin, nurse consultant for CMS. Friedenberg said pharmacy problems were related to “medication order verification and audit,” but that the new computer system was not entirely to blame for lost pharmacy order records.

The Voice has requested full survey results from CMS, which were not available by press time. El Camino Hospital submitted the required plan of correction to CMS on June 21, and because the survey revealed problematic findings, Health Services will conduct a follow-up investigation by early August.

Some argue that dissatisfaction with ECHO can be chalked up to doctors and nurses experiencing an adjustment period while learning the new technology. But others say both the errors and general unhappiness could have been prevented with more training before ECHO’s launch.

“The problem was that the pharmacy could have used more preparation for the introduction of ECHO,” said Edward Bough, a cardiologist and El Camino’s board president, adding that he too would have preferred more training with the system before it launched.

Prior to ECHO’s introduction earlier this year, physicians were told through a December hospital newsletter that the new computer system would allow them to “be prepared for any situation.” The newsletter that the new computer system would allow them to “be prepared for any situation.” The newsletter that the new computer system would allow them to be...
CHLORAMINE
Continued from page 1

lungs during a shower. She now drives to Morgan Hill every week to shower at a relative’s house. As the issue gains more press, people are reporting their problems and concerns to Johnson-Kula and her group. Citizens Concerned About Chloramine, or CCAC. So far, 300 people have documented effects of chloramine to CCAC. These effects range from mild to severe, Johnson-Kula said, with about a third showing severe effects, such as coughing, wheezing, asthma, or blistered and bleeding skin rash.

Mountain View resident Louise Kilkenny has found she is sensitive to chloraminated water. She has lived in her home near Los Altos High School since 1953, and says she never had a problem with the water until recently. The water was added in 2004. After she bathed in the new water, she said, her skin turned chronically dry and itchy.

Her dermatologist recommended she cut down on her fish. But she might be able to move back to her house if they had no symptoms at all from bathing in the tap water. But upon returning to Mountain View, she was reminded of the telltale odor of chloramines in her home. Although not everyone can smell or taste chloramine, Kilkenny says she can even taste it in her food when tap water is used for cooking.

“What did they ever figure out they had in the tap?” asked a “don’t know, but it doesn’t make me very happy. If it isn’t broke, leave it alone.”

SFPUC made the call
The decision to treat Mountain View’s water with chloramine was made by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, which manages all Hetch Hetchy water. Shortly after that 2004 decision, the Santa Clara Valley Water District did the same. Other Bay Area water boards, including in Alameda and Marin, are also using chloramine. Sixty percent of the country is expected to convert in the near future, and another 30 percent is planning to switch eventually.

Among the reasons given for using chloramine is that it lasts longer than chlorine as a disinfectant, and is better at killing bacteria without releasing as many tri-halomethanes, which are suspected of causing cancer. “There’s a body of evidence that goes back decades that chloramine is safe in water,” said SFPUC spokesman Tony Winnicker.

After two years of the chloramine controversy, Johnson-Kula says she still can’t point to a study done on the effects of chloramine by either its proponents or opponents. The EPA admits that there have been no studies on its respiratory and dermal effects in drinking water.

State Assemblyman Ira Ruskin was unsuccessful in pushing a bill through this year to study chloramine in drinking water. The bill, AB2402, died after being held up in the appropriations committee due to cost issues. Ruskin’s staff said a new version of the bill will be introduced next year.

The CCAC gained credibility last fall when the board of the Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, or BAWSCA, sent letters to various governmental agencies asking for studies to prove chloramine is safe. BAWSCA represents 26 cities receiving Hetch Hetchy water. The responses were “spurious” and did not cite scientific studies as proof, said Art Jensen, BAWSCA general manager.

Some doctors, including one by the New Jersey Department of Health and another by the World Health Organization, do suggest that chloramine at higher levels affects people’s skin and respiratory systems. But a general lack of studies done on chloraminated tap water, Johnson-Kula said, means that use of the chemical is really an experiment conducted on millions of people.

Range of effects
Some have reported severe reactions to drinking chloramine, such as Darlene Nappi of Sunnyvale, whose entire digestive system became inflamed. While in the hospital for gall bladder surgery, she was given food cooked in tap water and became sick again, until she had her husband bring in food prepared with bottled water.

Meanwhile, in Alameda, fish and frog habitat have been wiped out by broken water mains. And people with fish ponds and tanks lost fish in 2004, when they weren’t informed that they’d need to take precautions with chloraminated water.

Johnson-Kula said thousands of people are probably effected by the water, especially older people, but don’t know it or aren’t sure. Kilkenny said she knows many older people in her neighborhood who have allergies more pronounced, but was told by her doctor that her husband was producing too much histamine. Hoppi said antihistamines have helped her.

Johnson-Kula said it is typical for doctors to not consider that water is causing allergies, especially when the symptoms suggest asthma or other allergies. Because of the effects on lungs, chloramine heightens people’s sensitivity to allergies and respiratory problems, she said.

E-mail Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mrv-voice.com

(Coincidentally, Andy has a story in this very paper. He visited every health club in town, and put together a helpful comparison of the different facilities. See it in the Health & Fitness section, page 25.)

DON’T FORGET! ... The Obon Festival is this weekend at the Buddhist Temple on Shoreline Boulevard. Hours are Saturday, 4 p.m. to 10 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 9 p.m. Arigato.

Don Frances can be reached at dfrances@mrv-voice.com.
Several projects on the table

By Daniel DeBolt

The city council discussed various city development projects at Tuesday’s meeting, and found themselves deadlocked in a 3-3 straw vote concerning an affordable housing location downtown.

Eighteen acres were allocated for office space and a hotel in the North Bayshore district, a 39-unit row-house project at Dana and Calderon Streets got lots of attention, and the city decided not to support the county’s Land Conservation Initiative.

Affordable housing without a home

While affordable housing money burned a hole in the council’s pockets, the last three city-owned, undeveloped lots downtown were still up for discussion.

Several housing organizations spoke with enthusiasm about the staff recommendation that a lot on Bryant Avenue near City Hall be used for 66 units of affordable housing. But the idea had the support of only three council members, Nick Galiotto, Laura Macias and Michael Kasparek, with council member Matt Macias presenting a resolution to the council on the lot at Evelyn Avenue and Franklin Street. That space is currently used by VTA for Caltrain overflow parking.

Council member Greg Perry wanted to wait for the new parking garage downtown to be finished before deciding which of the three lots would be best. The third lot on the table is at Villa and Franklin avenues near the Tied House.

City staff recommended that the lots be sold if they are to become housing, but there seemed to be a consensus that the land would be kept by the city and leased long-term.

Change to build a new hotel

On the northwest quadrant of the intersection of Charleston Road and N. Shoreline Boulevard is an 18-acre lot, half of which the council decided to allocate for office space. The move, they hope, would result in 1,000 more jobs.

Perry wasn’t pleased, saying it would undo any balance of the housing-to-jobs ratio created by the long effort to bring 530 units of affordable housing, but there seemed to be a consensus that the land would not be used for 66 units of affordable housing, but there seemed to be a consensus that the land would be kept by the city and leased long-term.

Thirty-nine houses, one driveway

Many neighbors of the Dana and Calderon street intersection showed up to voice concern about the driveway layout for a 39-unit housing plan in the southeast quadrant there.

Neighbors are also concerned about the pedestrian traffic there, which is near Landels Elementary School. There will also be public walking paths through the development towards Landels School and the entrance for the Stevens Creek Trail.

Conservation initiative fails

Council member Macias presented a resolution to the council that has been supported by the Palo Alto City Council and 80 elected official in the county: the Santa Clara County Land Conservation Initiative.

The initiative is designed to preserve hillside, watersheds, ridgelines and agricultural land from development in unincorporated Santa Clara County. Similar initiatives have been successful in Alameda and San Mateo counties.

Only two council members voted in support of the initiative, with three abstaining. Mayor Galiotto said he would support it going to a public vote after more study was done on its potential impacts.
The City of Mountain View announces the release of the 2005 Consumer Confidence Report.

Mountain View’s high quality drinking water continues to meet State and Federal water quality standards.

For more information or to request a copy of the 2005 Consumer Confidence Report, please contact the Public Services Division at (650) 903-6329 or visit the City’s website at: www.mountainview.gov/citynews/pdf/consumer_confidence_report.pdf

CULTURE FEST

Continued from page 1

and featuring salsa, cha-cha, merengue, cumbia and more. He expects from 15 to 40 dancers on Saturday, with a half hour performance and then dancing that will be open to the public.

“There’s a lot of good dancers in town. You’d be surprised,” Aranda said.

Following Aranda and his dancers will be the lively Brazilian drumming group, Sambao Para o Povo, Sambao’s drummers and dancers will wear colorful costumes from their recent performance at San Francisco’s Carnaval. Both Aranda and Sambao offer Wednesday night classes at Rengstorff Community Center and will perform on Saturday between 1 and 3 p.m.

Festival-goers can expect a variety of foods, including Mediterranean, barbecue, Caribbean, and Filipino cuisine. Art vendors will sell “the kind of things you wouldn’t normally see at an Art and Wine festival,” Bivings said. Items include colorful African attire, dolls, music, books and videos, in addition to other artwork.

Though Culture Fest may bear some resemblance to the controversial Afribbean festival, which was cancelled in 2002 after drawing crowds of 200,000 to Castro Street, Bivings does not want this new street fair to earn the same reputation.

“This is a totally new thing and to support a Mountain View nonprofit,” she said.

Bivings hopes that Culture Fest will bring to Mountain View a taste of the ethnic festivals that occur in other parts of the Bay Area.

“When you get outside of Oakland and San Francisco, you don’t really have ethnically focused festivals. People are excited about having an event like this because unless it’s Cinco de Mayo or Juneteenth, you don’t see real diverse crowds at these events,” she said, adding, “I think it’s time we recognize that we do live in a community that has lots of different kinds of people, and this is one of the ways we can support that.”

E-mail Molly Tanenbaum at mtanenbaum@mv-voice.com

IOBITUARIES

JEANNIE EDWARDS DILLEY WOODING

Jeannie Edwards Dilley Wooding, a longtime violinist for the Mountain View Community Orchestra, died peacefully on July 6. She was 88.

Wooding’s parents, Grace and Frederick Dilley, were on a mission in China when Jeannie was born in 1918. Wooding, one of six children, remained in China until 1934, when she returned to the U.S. She later graduated from Wooster College in Ohio. Wooding’s husband, the late Rev. Harry C. Wooding, served as the pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Mountain View for 27 years. The couple reared five children in Palo Alto, two of whom have passed away.

Wooding is survived by her three daughters, Suzanne DUCKET, Dr. Gretchen Wooding (Hsu), and Connie Ring; and by six grandchildren. She loved to share their stories with friends and strangers alike.

Wooding also enjoyed playing tennis and bridge and was known for her wisdom and good advice.

A private ceremony will be held at Alta Mesa Cemetery in Palo Alto. Condolences may be sent to: Connie Wooding R. D. 3113 Alpine Rd., Suite 288, PMB 130, Portola Valley.

FERNANDO T. PLANESI

Fernando T. Planesi, a 35-year resident of Mountain View, passed away on July 11 in Santa Clara. He was 64. Planesi and his wife, Evangelina Planesi, raised a daughter, Elena (Marcos) Garcia, and took great pride in their grand-daughter, Yvette Garcia, both of Mountain View.

Visitations begin on Thursday, July 13 at 5 p.m. at the Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary at 96 El Camino Real. A Funeral Mass will be held Friday, July 14 at 10:30 a.m. at St. Athanasius Church, 160 N. Rengstorff Ave. Interment will follow at Sky Lawn Memorial Park located by Highway 35 and Highway 92 in San Mateo.
Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford has again been named one of the best pediatric hospitals in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

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Learn more about Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital at www.lpch.org
HANGAR ONE

Continued from page 5

than total demolition.

The Navy received 200 messages from the public about Hangar One before the July 5 public comment period ended, said Rick Weissborn, lead remedial project manager for the former Naval Air Station Moffett Field.

The public was told to direct its letters to Weissborn, but who exactly will make the call on the hangar’s fate is uncertain. Weissborn said the Navy will complete the bidding process in six to nine months.

Congresswoman Anna Eshoo also sent a letter to Weissborn, but it was addressed to the person with ostensible authority over the hangar, the Secretary of the Navy, Donald C. Winter. The letter advocates the complete restoration of the hangar, or “Alternative 10,” and is signed by 11 other members of Congress.

“We believe the hangar is worth far more than the funds needed to save it,” she writes. In the letter, Eshoo introduces a new option for the hangar’s use, which has been closed and fenced off since 2002. Once restored, it could be used as a base for disaster relief in the event of a large emergency, such as an earthquake, she said.

EL CAMINO

Continued from page 5

easier and more intuitive way.”

This was not the case for many at El Camino, who found the new system to be unwieldy and not user-friendly, and voiced their grievances through a grass-roots survey of doctor and nurses.

“When I go over [to the hospital], I can’t even find my patient in the computer system,” said Larry Epstein, an internist at El Camino. “It’s not intuitive.”

At the Wednesday night board meeting, the board was scheduled to vote on an additional $2 million in upgrades to make ECHO more user-friendly for physicians, among other improvements, according to Friedenberg.

At that meeting, the board was to vote on whether to allow interim CEO Marla Gularte to negotiate a three-year contract with Cardinal Health.

New system, no CIO

On May 23, Bough met with Gularte and Eclippsy representatives to discuss issues related to the state investigation of the pharmacy, as well as physician and nurse dissatisfaction with the new computer system.

“He added, “In fairness to Eclipse, a significant part of the problem was also the relative lack of resources which Mark Zielazinski and El Camino had devoted to the actual implementation of ECHO.”

Zielazinski, El Camino’s chief information officer (putting him in charge of information technology), launched ECHO in March, then left at the end of April to become chief operating officer at Sensitron, Inc. in San Mateo. Former CEO Lee Domanico serves on the advisory board of Sensitron, which brought a new wireless data transmitter called CareTrends to the hospital in 2004.

Originally hired to work for El Camino by Domanico — who left in January to head Legacy Health Systems in Portland, Ore. — Zielazinski followed in his boss’ footsteps and left four months after Domanico.

“I was tied pretty tightly to him,” he said. “It just seemed to me to be the appropriate time, given where Sensitron was, to go off and try something like this.”

But leaving shortly after ECHO’s launch, Zielazinski left problems with the new computer system for other hospital employees to resolve.

“Do I have to commit my whole life to stay at El Camino?” he asked. “In my opinion, it’s never a convenient time to leave an organization.”

Zielazinski said he is helping with the transition to ECHO despite already starting his new job at Sensitron. Diana Russell, vice president of patient care services, has taken over his responsibilities regarding ECHO on an interim basis.

E-mail Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com
(SAY) for 19 years, beginning as an individual counselor and eventually becoming the director of Casa SAY on View Street. On the side, Burnett teaches in Sunnyvale through a mandatory program that educates youth who are first-time offenders, and their parents, about the law.

It is the latter program, called Choices, which he hopes to import to cities nationwide in the coming years, with the purpose of lowering recidivism rates among teens.

“I love it because it’s beautiful and different,” Burnett said, adding, “It seems so simple and basic and real that you’d think people would be doing it, but they’re not.”

Burnett, 50, plans to live in Paris for six months out of the year and to spend the other half back in the U.S., working with cities and counties to develop similar classes for their restorative justice programs. He’ll start where he grew up, in Maryland, and already has cities interested in Georgia, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and elsewhere in California.

Those who know Burnett say they’ll miss his “constant presence,” his openness, and his ability to connect with people — especially teens — on a personal level.

“He’s definitely one of the more popular speakers,” said Bill Bonnell, a Sunnyvale probation officer who teaches through Choices with Burnett.

“He has a great ability to communicate on their level, so they identify with him and hear the message,” he added.

Tony Dixon has known Burnett since he came to Casa SAY as a troubled teen. He later became a counselor, and credits Burnett with adding stability to his life. He brought his three young sons to Burnett’s party at Cuesta Park last Friday afternoon to say goodbye.

“He’s the voice of reason. It’s Friday afternoon to say goodbye. He’s the voice of reason.”

Dixon still calls Burnett frequently to talk about his life. “I’m sure my wife will thank him because I’m less dramatic,” Dixon said with a smile.

Due to financial difficulties, Social Advocates for Youth recently merged with another organization, EHC LifeBuilders, which provides similar services to both youth and adults in the county. And when Burnett leaves, Casa SAY, which houses up to eight youth ages 11 to 17 with the ultimate goal of reuniting them with their families, will get a new director.

“He’s created a family,” said Steven Richmond, a therapist at Casa SAY. “He’s going to be irreplaceable.”

Choate has observed what she calls the “home feel” that Burnett brings to Casa SAY, to reassure the kids that the house is a safe place for them to open up and work on their problems. But she is also grateful to Burnett for how he has helped her to develop both personally and professionally. “He’s not just my boss and supervisor. He’s one of my closest friends,” she said. “He has so much patience and tolerance and he always challenges you to step up. The best thing I learned from him is to take care of yourself so you can do your job better.”

Burnett fell in love with Paris at age 20 and promised himself that if he wasn’t going to Paris, he’d be doing it, but people would miss him. “If I wasn’t going to Paris, I’d be doing it, but people would be doing it, but they’re not.”

Burnett leaves, Casa SAY, which eventually becomes the director of Casa SAY. “I’m sure my wife will thank him because I’m less dramatic,” Dixon said with a smile.

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A tale of a fateful trip

MOUNTAIN VIEW FAMILY SPENDS TWO AND A HALF YEARS ON THE HIGH SEAS

By Chelsea Young

For some families, a two-week road trip may seem like the ultimate trial. But one Mountain View family has set the bar substantially higher: a two-and-a-half-year sailing trip halfway around the world.

“We thought it would be really great to just have a couple of years and hang out with the kids,” said Lou Deitz, who, along with his wife, Mary Heeney, took their two young kids Emily and Martin on an extended sailing trip.

The family sailed their 42-foot vessel from the Bay Area to New Zealand, dropping anchor in Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, the Galapagos and Fiji, among other locales.

Deitz, a Stanford alumnus, was working full-time as the director of engineering at a medical device group — and Heeney part-time as a librarian at Castro School — when the idea for a trip struck them as an opportunity for some serious family bonding. They originally allotted up to five years for the journey.

Emily was nine and Martin seven when the family embarked in 2003. “We wanted them to be old enough to enjoy it, to participate and remember it, but young enough to still want to hang out with their parents,” explained Deitz.

The couple first met “cruisers” — those who sail from coast to coast for long periods — when they visited the Sea of Cortez in the late 1980s. “That was where we first encountered people that were out cruising, and we started hatching this plan because they seemed to be enjoying this life,” said Deitz.

The family had purchased their boat “Ace,” a Passport 42, back in 2000, which left them three years to prepare her and themselves for the journey.

They practiced their sailing technique, and the kids were enrolled in the Dual Language Immersion Program at Castro School to start learning Spanish for the trip. Then they sold their house on Shoreline Boulevard — something they now regret, since housing prices rose dramatically during the two-and-a-half years they were out of the country. (Heeney estimates that the trip cost, on average, about $2,500 per month, mostly for food, health care and insurance.)

Understandably, the kids were averse to the idea of leaving their school, friends and activities, like sports and ballet, to be confined to a small space with their parents for extended periods of time. Heeney took charge of the home schooling, using as her aids a book called “The Well-Trained Mind” and a math program called Saxon.

“We just kind of did our own hybrid form of curriculum,” she said. Her online log of the trip indicates that the home schooling effort was difficult, especially in the beginning. But Martin thought it went alright.

“It was fine. It took a lot less time, so you would just wake up and finish your math and go hang out on the beach,” he said.

The whole family read an impressive number of books, and Emily even started a few novels and co-authored an article on their journey.

Heeney was able to send and receive e-mails using a radio
transmitter, and a friend created a Web site, www.malindi.com, with the family’s travel log, photos and a tracker that could display their position at any time. Also, Internet access was available in most ports. In addition, the family used radios to contact other cruising families, even when they were hundreds of miles away. Emily acted as moderator for a daily radio program for other cruiser kids.

Cruising families would often arrange to rendezvous. “We were kind of magnets to each other because it just made the children happy,” said Heeney.

Emily and Martin became close with a number of cruiser kids and also befriended many of the locals. However, both Emily and her mother cited friends from home as the thing they missed most during the trip.

When asked what he missed most from home, Deitz said, “I didn’t miss anything.”

While the family avoided any big storms or serious life-threatening situations, the trip did have its share of dangerous adventures. In Mexico, Martin smashed his two front teeth when he slipped on a dock slick with algae. As one of her closest calls, Heeney mentioned a time when Deitz had to yank her into the boat, away from the jaws of an approaching shark.

Though bonding was the original motive, the family cited close contact as one of the most difficult aspects of their adventure. After their fast-paced life in Mountain View, Heeney said, “To now be together on a small boat was the only thing that made us sometimes think maybe we made the wrong choice.”

Even so, she said, “I think that we know each other very well, we’re more aware of our consumption, and we’re more open to other people that are not from this country.”

The family has now been back in Mountain View for several weeks, and adjusting has not been easy. Deitz works from home, doing consulting and contracting for several medical instrumentation companies. For him, the question since they’ve returned home is, “Well, what do we do now?”

The family had considered moving to New Zealand, but abandoned that idea. They are trying to sell their beloved Ace, because they know they won’t be taking another long sailing trip for quite some time.

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Council race set to launch

With two of the seven city council members leaving, and a third seeking reelection, Mountain View voters will have an opportunity to substantially change the course of city affairs on Nov. 7.

Three members will be elected from what now adds up to a field of seven candidates, although that may change when the nomination period opens next Monday, July 17.

The council was reduced to six members last week when Matt Neely resigned to take a new job in Rome. On Tuesday, the council decided to work with a six-person team, despite losing the ability to break a 3-3 tie. The council made the right decision to not appoint a temporary member, who would have gained an advantage in the November race by running as an incumbent.

Although Nov. 7 is three months away, the candidates are starting to line up for the three open seats. The Voice helped get the ball rolling last week by providing space for the seven prospects who have filed forms at City Hall to state their reasons for running and their qualifications.

With one exception, the seven bring substantial public service to their campaigns, including terms on the Environmental Planning Commission, the Parks and Recreation Commission or the Human Relations Commission.

One candidate, Jim Lohse, may have difficulty proving he is a Mountain View resident when filing officially opens Monday. Lohse has said he sleeps in Cupertino but has registered to vote and picks up mail in Mountain View. If he is not permitted to run as a homeless candidate, he has said he will sue to get on the ballot.

Besides making sure all candidates are registered voters and live in the city, City Clerk Angee Salvador administers other facets of the election code, including disclosure of donations of $100 or more, which are then published in the Voice and elsewhere. She also oversees the city’s voluntary campaign expenditure limit, which is $1,350 in city assistance to help pay for a statement about $1,350 in city assistance to help pay for a statement. In return for abiding by the limit, candidates can qualify for an additional acre of parkland, which your June 30 article mentioned is allowed for “if a private or public party can pay for it.”

The city of Mountain View not long ago received an extra $4 million for its approval of the medical foundation building at the old Emporium site, and a $6.1 million settlement with the Shoreline Amphitheatre operators. In addition, the Shoreline operators agreed to an increased annual rent, and the city is seeking additional money from the Shoreline auditor. And then there is Google’s positive effect on Mountain View’s office rent income.

Surely, the city should invest in an additional acre of parkland in the Monta Loma neighborhood while it has the money and the land available to purchase. I hope other Mountain View residents will request that our council use part of the city’s general fund surplus this year to buy more parkland for a neighborhood that has expressed this need to the city for over a decade.

Robert Schick
Park Drive
Thanks a billion

By Cecily Joseph and Carl Guardino

“What if?”

These two words form the cornerstone of Silicon Valley. Whether it describes the innovators who launched Hewlett Packard or Apple Computer in their garages, or simply allows a family to secure a home with a garage of their own, “What if?” is often the starting point.

Seven years ago, the County Collaborative on Housing and Homeless Issues asked the same question: “What if … we formed a housing trust fund to help families secure an affordable place to live in high-cost Silicon Valley?” Reaching out to the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and the Board of Supervisors, the dream of a housing trust quickly became a reality.

With an ambitious “phase one” goal to raise $20 million in voluntary contributions in just 24 months, the housing trust met and exceeded that target on July 31, 2001.

In our first five years, another benchmark has been achieved: With just $22 million loaned to date, the housing trust has leveraged $1 billion in private development. For every $1 invested, we have produced nearly $50 in housing opportunities.

Equally important, the trust has assisted nearly 5,800 families to secure an affordable place to live; including 1,600 first-time homebuyers, 1,300 affordable rental homes, and for the most vulnerable in the valley, 2,800 opportunities for those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

In Mountain View, this partnership between the public and private sectors has already helped 149 families. In fact, the city has contributed $1 million to the trust. That contribution has leveraged $29 million for housing opportunities in this community. This includes first-time homebuyer assistance for 29 families, and funds to help construct San Antonio Place, the 120-unit development by Catholic Charities in Mountain View.

While assisting nearly 5,800 families is a great start, we all know there is much work to be done. Phase two of the housing trust, a 12-month effort in 2003, generated an additional $5 million. Phase three, launched in February of 2005, is an ambitious three-year plan to raise an additional $10 million on top of the $25 million already secured in the first two phases. After only 16 months, we have raised an additional $7 million.

We are proud that Mountain View employers have played a key role in the housing trust’s success. Synopsys and Symantec are among the Mountain View employers who have generously contributed to the trust. Yet just as the innovators and entrepreneurs who founded HP and Apple did not rest on their laurels, neither will the Housing Trust of Santa Clara County. We have homes to build, with many families of all incomes ready, waiting and eager to occupy them.

Yet the trust is helping to build more than just homes. By working together for the good of our valley, we are building better communities in the process.

For more information on the housing trust, please visit our Web site at www.housingtrustsc.org.

Cecily Joseph is Symantec’s director of corporate social responsibility and a board member of the housing trust. Carl Guardino is CEO of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group and co-founder of the Housing Trust of Santa Clara County. He can be reached at www.svlg.net.

Kay Boynton Moorpark Way

LETTERS

Continued from previous page

ed revenue in taxes that will come into the city's general fund. This city is becoming money-hungry and its citizens indifferent. We need a viable shopping center at San Antonio to serve the needs of the people. Over the protests of the Monta Loma neighbors, the city leaders voted to go ahead with 530 housing units at the old Mayfield Mall/Hewlett-Packard site. Those future Mountain View residents and the San Antonio Station residents would appreciate walking to their local shopping center. Trains, buses and bikes could carry these folks to their jobs. Car traffic could be reduced, eliminating smog and accidents.

Europeans have this kind of living-working neighborhood. But the city leaders will once again be tempted by the almighty dollar, and citizens be damned. This was, and is, a nice town. Let’s keep it that way and keep Big Box on the commercial areas near freeways and easy-access overpasses.

Kay Boynton Moorpark Way
Pal Alto has plenty of places to linger over coffee and places to buy croissants. Douce France has it all, with friendly owner Victor Marku to boot.

And parking is easy. At the moment, Douce France is flanked by empty stores in the Town & Country Shopping Center, so parking isn’t competitive. Worst case, you park in the vastness beyond Sushi House and the Village Cheese Shop. Douce France is where the sidewalk tables begin.

Inside, it’s a Bermuda Triangle for anyone trying to avoid butter and sugar. To your left, a long case holds all the tarts, éclairs, cookies and cakes you could ever want. To your right, croissants, Danishes and other flaky treats. Line up along them and pay at the top of the triangle.

Cakes and tarts form platoons of mini- ($1.50) and individual sizes ($3.50). The signature two-bite minis hold one plump strawberry, three juicy blackberries, or a squadron of blueberries atop a dab of custard in a fluted pastry cup. Each sandwich comes with a mini-tart.

Croissants are good, too, but one morning there were no plain-Jane croissants, only fancy ones with fillings. The only other flaw I could find at Douce France is that pastry prices aren’t posted. You have to ask.

Sandwich and coffee prices are listed on a chalkboard overhead. A well-made single cappuccino goes for $2.50. Espresso drinks are made with Via Café, a mellow coffee from Southern Italy.

Sandwiches are French as can be.
That is, something less scary than a bacon cheeseburger and more substantial than the inexpensive Vietnamese-French versions you find at Lee’s Sandwiches and many other stores in the South Bay. The French-French sandwich’s appeal is on an interplay of flavors. Mostly upwards of $7 each, Douce France’s sandwiches are not for the bargain hunter. (But for the accompanying mini-tart.) The Angelo sandwich ($7.85) plays salty prosciutto against creamy mozzarella cheese, between slices of fresh baguette. It comes with a couple slices of roasted bell peppers. The focaccia has a crusty ciabatta bottom and a soft top, the better for toppings to melt in. A quick turn through the oven (not microwave) crisps the focaccia top and bottom. For a well-balanced lunch, soup of the day ($4) and the veggie or ham-and-cheese focaccia ($3.75 each) maybe be more than enough. The soup recently was vegetable barley, well-stocked with cabbage, corn, carrots, celery, potatoes and peeled tomatoes. It comes with a couple slices of soft baguette, and butter. Individual quiches ($3.25) are cost-effective, and a haven of variety for vegetarians. Cheese basil, sliced baby roma tomatoes, mixed baby greens and mozzarella cheese. For a little more kick, the Alina ($7.25) gives you goat cheese, artichoke hearts and roasted bell peppers.

The community paper.
Pet cage liner.
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The community comes first.
Douce France minds the details of salad-making. The spinach salad ($5) dresses baby spinach, goat cheese and lots of chopped walnuts in an appropriate lemon-juice dressing. The mixed greens ($5) get light balsamic.

If pastries are off your diet and you don’t want to run into your cardiologist, Douce France may not be the best choice for a guilty pleasure. Lots of doctors from the Palo Alto Medical Foundation hang out here.
MOVIE TIMES

A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION (PG-13) ★★1/2
Century 16: 2:20, 4:45 & 7:05 p.m.

A SCANNER DARKLY (R) (NOT REVIEWED)
Guild: 2:10, 4:30, 7 & 9:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 11:50 a.m.

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH (PG) ★★★1/2
Palo Alto Square: 2, 4:25, 7 & 9:35 p.m.; Sat. & Sun. also at 11:40 a.m.

CARS (G) ★★★1/2
Century 16: 11:05 a.m.; 1:45, 4:35, 7:30 & 10:05 p.m.
Century 12: 11:20 a.m.; 2, 4:45, 7:40 & 10:25 p.m.

CLICK (PG-13) ★★★
Century 16: Fri., Sun.-Tue. at 12:15, 2:40, 5:20, 7:55 & 10:20 p.m.; Sat. at 11:30 a.m.; 1:50, 4:25 & 9:10 p.m.
Century 12: 12:10, 2:50, 5:25, 7:55 & 10:35 p.m.

THE LAKE HOUSE (PG)
Century 16: 11:20 a.m. & 9:25 p.m.

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA (PG-13) ★★★
Century 16: 11 a.m.; noon, 1:35, 2:35, 4:10, 5:10, 6:45, 7:45, 9:20 & 10:10 p.m.
Century 12: 11:55 a.m.; 2:40, 5:20 & 8 & 10:30 p.m.

THE LAKE HOUSE (PG)
Century 16: 11:25 a.m. & 1:40 p.m.
Century 12: 12:05, 2:25, 5:05, 7:35 & 10:10 p.m.

LITTLE MAN (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)
Century 16: 11:55 a.m.; 2:25, 5:05, 7:40 & 10 p.m.
Century 12: 11:45 a.m.; 2:15, 4:45, 7:10 & 9:45 p.m.

MONSTER HOUSE (PG) (SNEAK PREVIEW)
Century 16: Sat. at 7 p.m.

NACHO LIBRE (PG) ★★1/2
Century 16: 11:10 a.m.; 1:15, 3:30, 5:40, 8:05 & 10:15 p.m.
Century 12: 12:05, 1:30 a.m., 2:20, 5:10, 7:25 & 9:50 p.m.

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN’S CHEST (PG-13) ★★★
Century 16: 11 & 11:40 a.m.; 12:30, 1:20, 2:15, 3, 3:50, 4:40, 5:30, 6:30, 7:10, 8 & 8:50, 9:40 & 10:30 p.m.

STRANGERS WITH CANDY (R) (NOT REVIEWED)
Palo Alto Square: 2:20, 4:40, 7:25 & 9:45 p.m.; Sat. & Sun. also at noon.

SUPERMAN RETURNS (PG-13) ★★★1/2
Century 12: 12:15, 3:35, 7 & 10:15 p.m.

WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR? (PG) ★★
Aquarius: 2:20, 4:30, 7 & 9:20 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 12:10 p.m.

WORDPLAY (PG) (NOT REVIEWED)
Aquarius: 3, 5, 7:30 & 9:40 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 1 p.m.

YOU, ME AND DURPEE (PG-13) ★★
Century 16: 11:15 a.m.; 12:05, 2, 2:45, 4:30, 5:15, 7, 7:50, 9:30 & 10:20 p.m.
Century 12: 11:15 a.m.; 1:50, 4:40, 7:15 & 10 p.m.

Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

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CENTURY CINEMA 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (960-0970)
CENTURY PARK 12: 557 E. Bayshore Blvd., Redwood City (365-9000)
CINEARTS AT PALO ALTO SQUARE: 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (493-3456)
GUILD: 929 El Camino Real, Menlo Park (266-9260)
SPANGENBERG THEATRE: 780 Augastadero Road, Palo Alto (354-8263)
For show times, plot synopses and more information about any films playing at the Aquareus, Guild and Park, visit www.landmarktheatres.com

MOVIE REVIEWS

CLICK ★★★ (Century 16, Century 12) Adam Sandler plays it straight as architect/family man Michael Newman. Michael is at odds with himself. He wants to spend more time with his gorgeous wife, Donna (Kate Beckinsale), and two adorable kids, but thankless work for his sleazy boss (David Hasselhoff) usually takes priority. Late one fateful evening, Michael embarks on a mission to find the perfect universal remote control for the family’s array of high-tech devices when he finds himself wandering into the “beyond” section of Bed Bath & Beyond. There he meets eccentric scientist Morty (Christopher Walken), who offers Michael a non-returnable universal remote to help control his frantic life. But there’s something unbelievable about this unique gadget: he can use it to mute his barking dog or fast-forward through arguments with Donna. Too bad the remarkable invention begins to program itself based on Michael’s tendency to fast-forward, leaping him into a future he doesn’t want and forcing him to reflect on a life he zipped through. Fans of Sandler shouldn’t skip past this surprising treat, a soulful and silly comedy with plenty to pause and appreciate. Rated: PG-13 for language, crude and sex-related humor, and some drug references. 1 hour, 37 minutes. — T.H.

NACHO LIBRE ★★1/2 (Century 16, Century 12) Absurdist humor hits the squared circle in this whimsical ode to lucha libre (Mexican wrestling). Funnymen Jack Black hams it up to perfection as Nacho, the humble chef at a dilapidated Mexican monastery. Nacho cares immensely for the orphans in his stead but the expired hams it up to perfection as Nacho, the humble chef at a dilapidated Mexican monastery. Nacho cares immensely for the orphans in his stead but the expired

CLICK for show times, plot synopses, trailers and more movie info, visit www.mv-voice.com and click on movies.

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Fashion victims

LIGHTWEIGHT AS ITS RUNWAYS MODELS, ‘THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA’ IS STILL PLENTY OF FUN

By Susan Tavernetti

Lauren Weisberger’s 2003 best-selling satire of the fashion world gets a fresh makeover by David Frankel. The director of several “Sex and the City” episodes knows his Manolos from his Jimmy Choos — and he struts them across the screen with the slick, glossy veneer of a Vogue fashion spread in motion.

But what begins with attitude and energy eventually suffers from an anorexic plot as thin as the fashionista who proclaims, “I’m just one stomach flu away from my goal weight.” A staff of size 0s in stilettos surrounds Miranda Priestly (Meryl Streep), the high-powered and intimidating editor of the fictional Runway Magazine. Except for one: Priestly takes a chance and hires “the smart fat girl” as her assistant. Andy Sachs (Anne Hathaway), a size 6 with a closet of polyblend instead of Chanel, lands the job that a million young New York women would kill for.

Similar to the novel, the story focuses on the wide-eyed (and whiny) Andy, whose transformation from frumpy aspiring journalist to Miranda’s stylish slave comes with a hefty price tag. But Aline Brosh McKenna’s script fleshes out the Anna Wintour-inspired Miranda, engendering sympathy for the demanding fashion diva and suggesting that successful men never get tagged with labels equivalent to “snow queen” or “dragon lady.”

Meryl Streep commands attention. She has never looked so fabulous in almost 30 years of walking the Academy Awards red carpet. Her character may bark at hapless assistants (including the marvelous Emily Blunt) for everything from hot coffee to haute couture samples, but the power of Streep’s performance and catty, formidable lines comes when she purrs.

Compared to Stanley Tucci’s nuanced Nigel — a longtime creative contributor to Miranda’s fashion empire and Andy’s personal mentor — the model-like male characters (Adrian Grenier and Simon Baker) function as subplot window dressing. Nigel can chide Andy’s choice of corn chowder for lunch (noting cellulite as a main ingredient), while dishing gossip and fashion tips with dollops of kindness.

Despite themes as outdated as last season’s wardrobe, this comedy delivers lightweight entertainment. The Devil may wear Prada, but so does the Pope, so a guilty summer pleasure probably won’t send you straight to Hell.

MOVIE REVIEW

Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest ★★★ (Century 16, Century 12) Director Gore Verbinski returns to continue the high-seas tale of Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp), Will Turner (Orlando Bloom) and Elizabeth Swann (Keira Knightley). All compasses point to a fabled dead man’s chest. Captain Jack, who is “acting a bit strange,” owes the legendary Davy Jones (Bill Nighy) a blood debt. To escape eternal damnation in Davy Jones’ Locker and aboard the spooky Flying Dutchman ship, Sparrow must recover the key to the chest. Meanwhile, pirate hunter Lord Beckett (Tom Hollander) of the imperialistic East India Trading Company interrupts Will and Elizabeth’s wedding, arresting them on false charges and threatening death — unless Will can beat Jack to the booty. The adventure leads to encounters with Will’s long-lost dad, Bootstrap Bill (Stellan Skarsgard), a bayou soothsayer (Naomie Harris), sea monsters, an unfriendly island tribe and plenty of swashbuckling. Depp maintains his delightfully eccentric comic performance, but the element of surprise is gone. Ultimately, the action adventure plays like a too-long version of the Disney theme park ride that inspired it in the first place. Rated: PG-13 for intense sequences of adventure violence, including frightening images. 2 hours, 31 minutes. — S.T.

Superman Returns ★★★ 1/2 (Century 16, Century 12) It has been five years since the people of Metropolis last saw Superman, enough time for ace reporter Lois Lane (Kate Bosworth) to pen
a Pulitzer Prize-winning expose and give birth to a baby boy. But Superman hasn’t been twiddling his thumbs at the speed of light; he’s been traversing the universe in hopes of learning more about his obliterated homeworld, Krypton. It matters little to a heartbroken Lois. She’s hot on her next assignment, barely noticing as Clark Kent (Brandon Routh) drifts back into town after a — you guessed it — five-year vacation.

Criminal genius Lex Luthor (Kevin Spacey) also reappears following a five-year hiatus, though his sojourn was spent in a prison filled with sociopaths and serial killers. So it’s reunion time for the denizens of Metropolis. Superman, decked out in stylish new duds, makes his triumphant homecoming by rescuing a plane-load of panicked onlookers. Meanwhile, Luthor hatches his latest plan for world domination — one that includes flooding North America and killing billions of people. The visual effects, costuming and set design are all stunning.

Finally, Superman really flies. Bullets bounce off his chest like rubber balls. And his X-ray and heat-vision powers are captured perfectly. The eye-popping picture drags a bit at a lofty two-and-a-half hours, but neither bird nor plane can rise above the return of comic lore’s king.

— T.H.

WHO KILLED THE ELECTRIC CAR? ✭✭✭

(Aquarius) Rising prices at the gas pumps are certain to make this incisive documentary de rigeur summer viewing. Writer/director (and Palo Alto native) Chris Paine’s requiem for the electric automobile takes the country’s reluctance to accept the serious nature of our future (as we continue to pour massive amounts of CO2 into the atmosphere) and runs with it. Are we addicted to oil? Are we afraid of an environmentally clean future? Yes, say the brains behind General Motors’ EV1, the first electric car to be manufactured on these shores. In 1996 the original electric car appeared on the backroads; 10 years later they are all gone despite California legislation requiring automakers to manufacture a portion of future assemblies with zero-emission engines. What’s wrong with this picture? With well-crafted momentum and a modicum of suspense, Paine analyzes the conspiracy involving the untimely death of the EV1. Paine goes to great lengths to wholly examine his theories, resulting in a too-long running time and a surplus of facts and figures. Yet the specifics create a sit-up-and-take-notice aura of doom that pervades the narrative much like Al Gore’s impending disaster in “An Inconvenient Truth.”

Rated: PG for mature themes. 1 hour, 32 minutes.

— J.A.

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Also go online to learn more about Music@Menlo’s fine series of concerts and conversations.
CLASS/WORKSHOPS

ARTIST ACCES 3rd Thursdays through Octo-
ber, 7-9 p.m. Artists and photographers have
access to the gardens after hours. Limited to
artists who work with watercolor, pen, pencil,
charcoal, pastels and photography. No oils
or acrylics. Pre-registration recommended. $15
members/$20 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada
St., Mountain View. Call 969-4110.

DISASTER SEARCH AND RESCUE Learn to
assess damage, search, a building. If heavy
objects and shut off utilities. For adults and
children 14 and up with parental supervision.
Sun., July 16, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Free. Ladera
Community Church, 3300 Alpine Rd, Portola

FUN WITH SIMPLE MACHINES Investigate three
machines: the lever, the pulley, and the
inclined plane. Learn about machines
and construct your own trebuchet, a type
of medieval siege engine. Instructor: Michael
Glenn, Saturdays, July 22 and 29, 1-3 p.m.
Ages 9 and up. Members $30/non-members

IRRESISTIBLE MAGNET FOR MIRACLES Learn
how to be an "Irresistible Magnet for
Miracles." Register and pay in advance
by mail or in person. July 15, 10:30 a.m.-12:30
m. $23. Common Ground Organic Garden
Supply, 559 College Ave, Palo Alto. Call
493-6072. www.commonground
ca.org

PAINTED FLOOR CLOTHS July 15, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
All materials included. Students will design and paint their
own floor cloth on canvas. $100 members/$120
non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada
Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

PETITE BALLET Class for boys and girls
Mountain View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St.,
Mountain View. Call 969-9010.

REVERSE MORTGAGES A discussion by Dan
Hilden, Reverse Mortgage Specialist with
Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Eucalua
Avenue, Mountain View. Call 903-6330.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

100 YEARS AFTER 1906: A CENTURY
OF PROGRESS IN UNDERSTANDING
EARTHQUAKES AND THEIR EFFECTS
Mark and Mary Louis Zakob explain the current
status of earthquake prediction, including the
potential for breakthroughs. July 20, 7-8:30
p.m. Free. Stanford University, Leave
Outside Cantor Arts Center, Stanford. Call 723-7957.
http://continuingstudies.stanford.edu/

2ND PALO ALTO WEEKLY MOONLIGHT
RUN & WALK For runners, athletic groups
and families. Prize giveaways and refresh-
ments. 5K run begins at 7:30 p.m.; 10K run
begins at 8:15 p.m.; 5K run begins at 8:45 p.m.
Deadline to pre-register is July 28. See
website for details, Oct. 6, 6:15 p.m.-10 p.m.
pre-
registration before Sept. 29/$25 day of event.
www.cityofpaloalto.org

GOURMET VEGETARIAN DINNERS
Mondays at 6:30 p.m., $14. Call to reserve by 9:30
a.m. Lecture each month. Hosted by Peninsula
Macrotropic Community. $14. First Baptist
Church, 305 N California Ave, Palo Alto.
Call 329-3320. www.penninsulamacro.org

SUMMER SINGs: FAURE AND HAYDN
Choirs present by Schola Cantorum. July 17, 7:30 p.m.
Conducted by Claire Giovannetti. $10. Los
Altos United Methodist Church, 625 Magda-
lena Avenue, Los Altos. Call 254-1700.
www.scholacantorum.org

COFFEE ROASTERY, 3203 Oak Knoll Dr., Redwood
City. www.penninsulamacro.org

PAPA NEW GUINEA SCULPTURE GAR-
DEN Created on site at Stanford by artists from
Melanesia, works of art carved in wood and
coral illustrate the clan stories
and magical beings that illustrate clan stories
and creation myths. Tours available 3rd Sunday,
2-4:30 p.m. Free. Meet at the corner of Santa Teresa and
El Camino. For information, call 951-0100.
http://www.museum.stanford.edu

PHOTO EXHIBIT "Floral Fantasy" by local
photographers Bob and Joy Rehman. An array
of over 70 close-up floral images transformed
into designs. Through Aug. 27. Tue.-Sat.,
11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thu., noon-7 p.m.; Fri.,
11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Downtown Library, 270 Forest Ave.,
Palo Alto. Call 248-0655.

EVERYDAY FLOWERS Exhibition of spon-
taneous floral watercolors by Palo Alto artist
Gale Hemrich. Through August. 2, 9 a.m.-11 p.m.
Free. Books Inc. Cafe Gallery, 301 Castro St.,
Mountain View. Call 428-1234.

IDE A: POTTERIES EXHIBIT Showcasing
the comprehensive collection of recent
concepts and prototypes created by Idea.
Through Sept. 10. Tue.-Sat., 1-5 p.m.

"SCIENCE AND THE RE-ENCHANTMENT OF THE COSMOS"
Sun., July 16, 2 p.m. Free. Author, philosopher and scientist Ervin Laszlo
presents a theory that bridges the divide between science and spirituality.
East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View.
Call 988-9800. www.eastwest.org

FAMILY ART DAY Children and their families
will explore all kinds of fun art activities
through a story with cut-outs to creating
a painting together. Supplies will be provided by

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**GOING ON**

The arts league, July 16, 1:30-3 p.m. $40 family of four/10 for additional children Pacific Art League, 668 Ramona St, Palo Alto. Call 321-3891. www.pacificalt.org

LACROSSE CLASSES Offered by Atherton Lacrosse. No experience needed. Camps through Aug. 18, 9 a.m.-noon and 2-8 p.m. Holbrook Palmer Park, 150 Watkins Avenue, Atherton. Call 799-9801. www.athertonlax.com

NATURE HIKES Saturday, 10 a.m. Call or e-mail visitor services tour@fid.org. Covers 3 miles of trails. Nature docents describe wildlife, plants, endangered species, and the historical background of the area. Free. Fidi, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.fid.org

WATERCOLOR MARBLING July 15, 10 a.m. All materials included. Learn the art of marbling by floating paint on water and transferring onto paper to make patterns. Students will pre- and take home a print. All ages welcome. $30 members/$35 non-members. Fidi, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.fid.org

**LIVE MUSIC**

JOHN RENBOURN Thu., July 20, 8 p.m. $18 advance/$20 at the door. Little Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 369-4119. www.foxdream.com

PENINSULA WOMEN’S CHOIR PRE- TOUR CONCERT The Peninsula Women’s Chorus presents a concert opening their European Tour and participation in the Béla Bartók International Choir Competition in Debrecen. Presented by the Peninsula Women’s Choir, Stanford Campus, Stanford. Call 327-3095. www.penwomen.org

SAN FRANCISCO SUMMER OF LOVE REVUE Fri., July 13, 8 p.m. $12 advance/$14 at the door. Little Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 369-4119. www.foxdream.com

SISTA MONICA PLUS THE SHEIKS OF R&B Sat., July 22, 8 p.m. $16 advance/$18 at the door. Little Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 369-4119. www.foxdream.com

TOMMY EMMANUEL PLUS TRACY RICE Tue., July 24, 8 p.m. $20 advance/$22 at the door. Little Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 369-4119. www.foxdream.com

**ON STAGE**

“A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD KIDS” A Hostling Supertimne Show. Bring a picnic or purchase food there. The musical follows the friendship of a frog and grumpy Toad through four seasons. July 14-15, 6:30 p.m.; July 14-15, 8 p.m. $10 adults/$5 students. Palo Alto High School, 50 Embarcadero Rd., Palo Alto. Call 213-0150. www.advancedacting.org


“WATERCOLOR” and adaptation of Lewis Carroll’s “Through the Looking Glass,” presented by Peninsula Youth Theatre. Through July 16. 11:15 a.m.; Wednesday-Fri- days, 8 p.m.; Saturday, 1 and 7 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. $20-62. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. www.theatreworks.org

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

CONNOISSEURS’ MARKETPLACE 20TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL Includes live jazz, R&B, and rock. It’s music, fine art and crafts by 200 artists, cuisine, wines, microbrews and margaritas, specialty food tasting tents, kids’ fun zone, LED TV Luxury Lounge. July 15-16, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park. www.eastwest.org

**NEWS**

Newcomer’s Group An orientation and tour to welcome newcomers. Tue., July 18, 11:15 a.m. An overview of classes, upcoming events, social services and general information will be presented. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Eucalyptus Avenue, Mountain View.

Talks/authors


Gilberta Guth “The Fighter Pilots’ Wife” A memoir is the story of a couple, deeply in love, sharing military life with all the good and bad: the upheaval of moving; excitement of foreign lands, the military community of support and fellow friends. Tue., July 18, 7:30 p.m. Free. Keper’s Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 321-2084. www.keplers.com


**SENIORS**

Seeking Volunteers to Visit the Elderly A Christian based 501 non-profit needs volunteers of all ages and walks of life to visit the elderly forgotten in nursing and convalescent homes for more information contact by email. Locations include Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale and other cities in the Santa Clara County.

**VOLUNTEERS**

For a complete listing of local events, see our website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com.

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**MORE LISTINGS**

For a complete listing of local events, see our website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com.
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Space is limited, please RSVP by Monday, July 24th. Seminar is complimentary with light refreshments served.

Crowne Cabana Hotel
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