

Mountain View VOICE

JULY 7, 2006 VOLUME 14 NO. 28

INSIDE: ARTS & EVENTS | PAGE 25

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Where crab is king
Seafood shines at Hunan Home's
WEEKEND | P.17



DANIEL DEBOLT

Farmer Dave Schmitz plants corn on the city's last piece of agricultural land. The hood was raised to make room for a battery to jumpstart the tractor that day. The landowners plan to sell the property to housing developers.

Clock ticks for city's last farm

TILLING PUMPKIN PATCH A WAY OF LIFE FOR SCHMITZ FAMILY

By Daniel DeBolt

As the sun closes in on the mountains, farmer Dave Schmitz gets ready to put fertilizer on the corn he just planted. With development encroaching all around, the farm is one of the last places where you can still see how the city of Mountain View got its name.

Schmitz climbs on an old tractor and is asked what he would miss most about the 15.6-acre farm.

"Honestly," he says.

"Everything."

The farm he started with his family on Grant Road, also known as the Pumpkin Patch, faces possible development by Summerhill Homes — plans

Editor's Note: Dave Schmitz has farmed the 15.6-acre Pumpkin Patch property on Grant Road for nearly 20 years, a connection that may end soon if current plans to build homes there are approved. Sale of the property would end an era for Schmitz, and local residents, who have enjoyed the close connection to one of the last open fields in the area, and raises questions about whether some of the land could be saved for agriculture.

many think are likely to be approved by a city council that hasn't stopped a housing development in years.

When open space reigned

Schmitz gets a phone call from a friend wanting to borrow his pressure-washer. Upon arriving at his friend's home, a conversation ensues about the farm. Paul Skokan lives on a cul-de-sac against the farm property. The farm was an orchard before it became a farm.

"This guy (Schmitz) comes around and bulldozes all the trees," Skokan said. "Ever since then it's been the Pumpkin Patch."

When Skokan walks out onto his driveway most of the farm is in view. It's where he walks his dog. "It's beautiful."

He says the plan to turn the

▶ See **FARM**, page 12

Hospital reduces CEO's bonus plan

NEW CHIEF OF EL CAMINO STILL CAN REACH \$900,000-PLUS A YEAR

By Molly Tanenbaum

Kenneth Graham will take Lee Domanico's place as the new CEO of El Camino Hospital, with a higher salary but fewer benefits than his predecessor.

Graham — whose name was announced on June 27 and who comes from Overlake Hospital in Bellevue, Wash. — will earn an annual base salary of \$543,000 compared with Domanico's \$520,000 salary before he left for Portland, Ore. to run Legacy Health System, a six-hospital chain.

"He'll bring a great deal of credibility and respect to the position," said Wesley Alles, member of El Camino's board of directors.

Graham may receive up to \$162,900 in bonuses, capped at 30 percent of his salary, while Domanico's incentives were capped at 40 percent. While Graham's health and retirement benefits will equal 42 percent of his base salary, or \$228,060, Domanico's amounted to 50 percent.

Additionally, Domanico received a \$9,000 car allowance and a \$850,000 home loan. His total compensation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005 was \$943,104 when his base salary was \$492,291, while Graham's total compensation can reach \$933,960 with a higher base salary but no car allowance and home loan.

Besides being a smaller percentage of his base salary, Graham's incentive pay will be "more measurable," tied to a defined list of goals, such as business growth and nurse and physician satis-

faction, according to Alles, who also sits on the hospital board's compensation committee.

"We determined it needed to be more transparent and it needed to be based on something that was measurable and objective," Alles said.

"The public will know what those items are and will also know whether they were achieved," he added.

El Camino Hospital released Domanico's salary and other

▶ See **GRAHAM**, page 7

Committee approves hospital bill

AB 759 WOULD DEFINE DISTRICT HOSPITAL AS A PUBLIC AGENCY

By Molly Tanenbaum

Soon it may be up to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to decide whether or not El Camino Hospital should behave like a public entity.

Assemblywoman Sally Lieber hopes a bill, which passed through the Senate judiciary committee last Tuesday, would demand that El Camino comply with all public agency standards of financial disclosure and employment laws. But hos-



Sally Lieber

▶ See **LIEBER**, page 6

INSIDE

GOINGS ON 22 | MARKETPLACE 30 | MOVIES 20 | REAL ESTATE 38 | SPORTS 15 | VIEWPOINT 16 | WEEKEND 17

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Reading between the emotional line makes the difference between finding a house and a home.

Tinaz Sheerer



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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in downtown Mountain View. Pictures and interviews by Chelsea Young.

What is your favorite World Cup team and why?



Australians. They're the underdog and they have the best chant. Plus, any team named the Socceroos has to be good.
Kevin Townsend, Palo Alto



I like Brazil because they're really talented and the most fun team to watch.
Will Camp, Mountain View



Japan because it's an Asian team.
Isaac Choi, Mountain View



My favorite team was Ghana but they went home. I'm from Cameroon.
Christina Younibi, Newark



Trinidad and Tobago because this is the first year they've qualified.
Eric Tingleff, Mountain View



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■ QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“It’s not a struggle,
we just do it.”

— DAVE SCHMITZ

WHO FARMS THE PUMPKIN PATCH ON GRANT ROAD

■ CRIMEWATCH

ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON, 2200 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST., 7/1

An intoxicated driver and his passenger recklessly drove into the parking lot of an apartment complex on Sunday evening. Some residents in the parking lot confronted the driver and a heated argument developed between the two parties. The apartment complex residents started to assault the driver and his passenger. The two people in the car received a cut from a sharp object and a blow to the head by an unknown hard object, neither of which were life-threatening. Another resident of the apartment complex, hearing the ruckus in the parking lot, called the police at 8:42 p.m. to

break up the fight.

AUTO BURGLARY, 1000 BLOCK EL MONTE AVE, 7/1

A resident of an apartment complex noticed an unfamiliar, white car occupied by two men in his building’s parking lot. Suspicious, the man telephoned police at 2:44 a.m. When the police arrived, they attempted to speak to the two people in the car. Suddenly, a man ran from the officers, escaping into the night. Police detained the second person in the car. During a search of the vehicle, they found stolen property from another vehicle in the lot that had been burglarized. Officers arrested the second man, but the man who fled remains at large.

■ POLICE LOG

ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON

2200 block California St., 7/1
Molly Mageeis, 7/2

BATTERY

900 block Madison Dr., 6/28
2200 block Latham St., 6/28
400 block Calderon Ave., 6/28
500 block W. Middlefield Rd., 6/29
700 block Waltham St., 6/30
400 N. Shoreline Blvd., 7/2

BURGLARY (COMMERCIAL)

1200 block Bryant Ave., 6/30

BURGLARY (RESIDENTIAL)

1000 block Rich Ave., 6/27

GRAND THEFT

1500 block Fordham Ct., 6/28

STOLEN VEHICLE

1500 block N. Shoreline Blvd., 6/28
300 block Deerwood Ct., 6/29

VANDALISM

2400 block W. El Camino Real, 6/27
1300 block Montecito Ave., 6/27
100 block Castro St., 6/27
1700 block Peartree Ln., 6/30
Whisman Park, 6/30
100 block Moffet Blvd., 6/30
Castro St./Central Expressway, 6/30
400 block View St., 7/1

BURGLARY (AUTO)

2200 block Showers Dr., 6/27
100 block Calderon Ave., 6/27
100 block N. Whisman Rd., 6/27
200 block San Antonio Circle, 6/27
400 block Showers Dr., 6/27
2200 block Showers Dr., 6/27
700 block Continental Circle, 6/28
2000 block California St., 6/29
800 block Independence Ave., 6/30
2000 block Rock St., 7/1
1000 block El Monte Ave., 7/2
600 block Sierra Vista Ave., 7/2
600 block Sierra Vista Ave., 7/2

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Fire bugged

By Don Frances

READERS ARE ASKING if we've learned the cause of the huge fire at Castro Street and El Camino Real, which completely gutted four businesses May 17. The blaze, which apparently started at Super Fluff Cleaners and Laundry, quickly spread to a beauty salon, a Postal Express and a liquor store, and took several hours and dozens of firefighters to contain.

The short answer is: Not yet. Josef Kachman, spokesman for the MVPD, told me recently that "it's an ongoing investigation," and that authorities have nothing new to report.

Interestingly, the investigation is now being handled by the Santa Clara County Arson Task Force, which is run out of the county fire department in Los Gatos. This task force includes MV police and fire investigators, as well as the ATF.

What it all means, I don't know, but Kachman assured me that "as soon as we have some sort of conclusion to it, we'll let you know."

Of course, it's not just readers and fire investigators showing an interest in the site. Two Fridays ago some kids broke into the liquor store to steal what they could from the abandoned coolers. The scallywags didn't get far.

THIS DOESN'T MEAN I can't give an update now and again. How about this: The temporary relocation of the Farmers' Market to the Caltrain parking lot has now been stepped back to Sunday, July 23.

CORRECTION: In last week's column, I implied that the Kangi-e Obon Service and the First Obon Memorial Service at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple were scheduled for last Sunday. In fact, the services will take place this Sunday, July 9, at 10 a.m. at the Temple. Hope this didn't inconvenience anybody. ▣

Don Frances can be reached at dfrances@mv-voice.com.



MICHAEL MULLADY

ROCKETS' RED GLARE: Hundreds of people gathered at Shoreline Amphitheatre on July 4th to watch the fireworks display. At the conclusion of the San Francisco Symphony's performance, an amazing array of colors filled the sky.

Prospects line up for city council

SEVEN POTENTIAL CANDIDATES TO FILL THREE SEATS

By Daniel DeBolt

In November Mountain View will elect three new city council members.

Whoever is elected could swing votes on many different issues, including open space preservation and how the city spends its money.

Greg Perry and Michael Kasperzak will complete terms in December and Matt Neely has already left the council for a job in Italy.

Seven persons have filed papers saying they intend to run, including Perry.

The *Voice* will be following the council race in more depth following the filing period, which ends August 11.

All the potential candidates were asked to write a 100-word statement about their background and why they want to run. Here are the results, in their own words:

ALICIA CRANK

For many years, I've volunteered for community service and diversity-centered groups and organizations, including serving on Human Relations Commission (HRC) since 2002. The HRC has taught me not only about the values of community and diversity, but also about the need to listen to and advocate for those who believe they are not represented. I believe this, combined with several years of corporate trust and investment experience, makes me a viable candidate for city



Alicia Crank

council. The ability to engage with the community, along with understanding budgets and the value of a dollar, are two key components of being a council member.

JOHN INKS

I'm running for city council to join the city leadership in maintaining high-quality city services and judiciously manage the recovering city budget for Mountain View residents. I have been an active city volunteer, mediator, and regularly participate in habitat preservation and trail work. I have worked with many sports and recreation groups and individual residents regarding yard trees, playground design and expanding and preserving park space. I am a current Parks and Recreation Commissioner and am an aerospace engineer. I have the qualifications and experience and am prepared to continue my service to Mountain View as a council member.



John Inks

JAC SIEGEL

I am running for city council because I love our city and want to help keep it wonderful and improve it. My professional experience as a mechanical engineer and senior aerospace business manager for three major corporations makes me uniquely qualified. My wife and I have lived here for 39 years while



Jac Siegel

► See **ELECTION**, page 7



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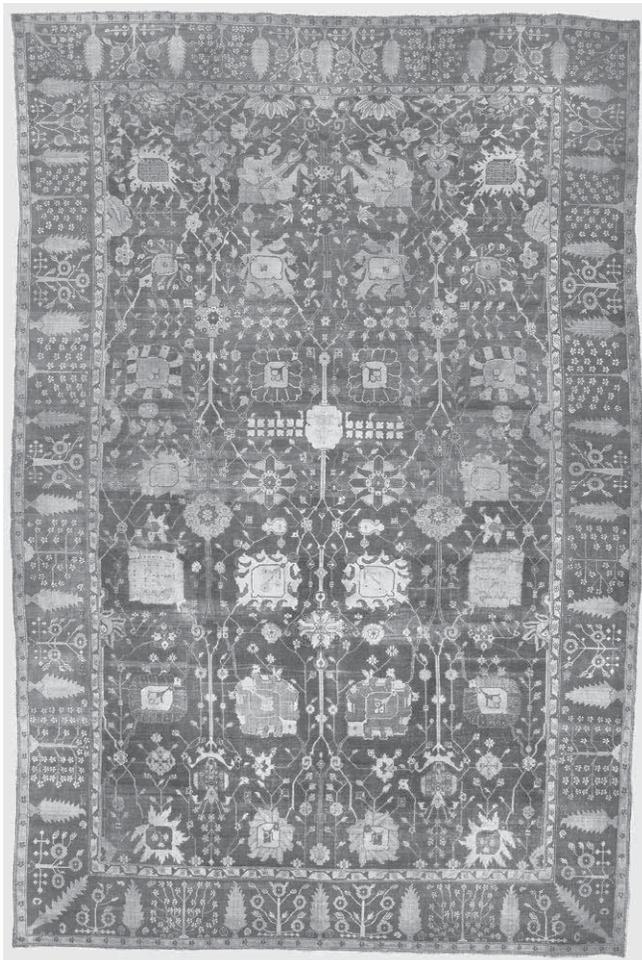
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LIEBER

► Continued from page 1

pital officials claim her bill only serves union interests.

"We would not be required to provide any information publicly that we're not already providing," said hospital spokesman Jon Friedenber.

Lieber's district bill passed 3-1 in the Senate committee and is specific to the El Camino Hospital District.

"What we're really driving at with this bill," Lieber said in a phone interview, "is to see that the district and the non-profit fulfill all the responsibilities to the public that would be required if they didn't have the non-profit entity as a middle man."

El Camino Hospital District created a 501c3 corporation — with the same name and the same five elected officials on the board — to operate the 395-bed hospital. Recently, El Camino has come under scrutiny for a lack of transparency with financial and operational decisions, such as CEO compensation and the upcoming termination of subacute, long-term care.

But hospital officials argue that the sole reason for the proposed legislation is to allow the Service Employees International Union to force all employees to pay union dues by permitting another agency shop election where only union members would vote.

The hospital held the last election in 2003 and an attempt to form an agency shop failed to get the majority of employees to vote in favor of it, said Friedenber, who traveled to Sacramento last Tuesday to speak out against Lieber's bill. The last two-year contract was ratified in September 2005.

"I don't understand how you can justify singling out El Camino. It's hardly a public policy issue," Friedenber said.

Lieber denies that her bill is simply a gift to the SEIU; she argues that it addresses more than a decade of the hospital's history of a lack of public accountability.

"Jon Friedenber is trying to cast this as a bill about the agency shop issue and I think the change to agency shop is a

minor part of things," Lieber said, adding, "There needs to be some accountability here so we think the legislation is needed."

In committee, the no-vote came from the lone voting Republican, Tom Harman, R-Huntington Beach, who agreed with Friedenber.

"It would be better to have this dispute resolved by way of a lawsuit than introducing a special bill and special legislation," Harman told the *Voice* in a phone interview. "I didn't think it was an appropriate topic for legislation."

The bill's approving votes came from state senators Martha Escutia, D-Montebello, Sheila Kuehl, D-Los Angeles, and Joe Dunn, D-Garden Grove. The fifth committee member and the second Republican, Bill Morrow, R-Oceanside, was absent.

Now that the bill has passed through the first hurdle of the Senate Judiciary Committee, it must gain approval from the Senate and then the Assembly before reaching Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

And AB 759 has a good chance of making it there, according to Gloria Ochoa, deputy chief counsel for the Senate judiciary committee.

"Generally, with district bills, when they get through policy committees not too much interference happens from the other people," Ochoa said.

"It just makes sense," she continued, "when they receive public assets and they operate them with public money, they should be subject to restrictions that public agencies are required to comply with."

Lieber said the bill should reach the Senate floor by the second week in August, and after passing through the Assembly, Gov. Schwarzenegger would have until Oct. 15 to sign it. Assembly member Ira Ruskin has signed on as a joint author, Lieber said.

"We're very hopeful we can get the bill all the way through the process," Lieber said. "It's definitely a high priority bill for us and reflects an issue that's been in the community for years, of trying to get more transparency, more openness." ■

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

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GRAHAM

► Continued from page 1

compensation last year after the *Voice* filed a lawsuit requesting the information. The League of Women Voters has also been critical of the hospital on issues regarding public transparency, and most recently, Assemblywoman Sally Lieber proposed a bill specific to El Camino that she said will require public financial disclosure (see page 1 story).

Hospital officials say Graham's salary will be around the 75th percentile nationwide for hospital CEOs. Nancy Farber, CEO of Fremont's district hospital, Washington Hospital, receives a base salary of \$424,557 and can earn up to 25 percent of that salary in bonuses.

Graham, who has been CEO for 12 years at Overlake Hospital Medical Center in Bellevue, Wash., a non-profit hospital similar in size to El Camino, will not require a home loan because he already owns a home in Los Altos Hills. His three children reside in the Bay Area and are Gunn High School graduates, and his wife has been a part time nurse at Stanford Hospital for the last 20 years.

"We are looking forward to trying to live and work in the same community and it's going to be a great family thing," Graham said in a phone interview.

While at Overlake, Graham has overseen construction of 6,000 square feet of new office buildings on the campus. El Camino Hospital recently broke ground on its \$480 million, earthquake-safe hospital that is expected to be complete in 2009.

"This is all a lot of work to do so we'll just go get it done," Graham said.

Though Overlake does not have public board, Graham said he has 10 years of experience at the San Diego area Grossmont Hospital, a district hospital with public board meetings.

Graham's last day at Overlake will be July 28 and he will begin work at El Camino on Aug 7.

"I'm hoping to really create an excellent tone for people to get their work done in a professional manner," he said. "They've got a good tradition of that and I'd like to extend that into the future." ■

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

ELECTION

► Continued from page 5

raising our two sons and educating them in Mountain View public schools. I stand for good and fair city government, more parks and open space, especially in under-served areas, neighborhood preservation, smart growth, more affordable housing, financially responsible management, excellent police and fire protection while paying fair wages and benefits, and listening to the citizens of our community. I am a member of the Environmental Planning Commission (chair last year) and co-chair of the Mountain View Mediation Services.

RONIT BRYANT

I am running for city council because I want Mountain View to keep its identity as a small, diverse city where people build their lives and innovative technologies emerge. I'll focus on improving livability, building community, and nurturing the city's economic standing, making Mountain View better for all residents. I've worked collaboratively to resolve community issues as a leader in the public schools, my neighborhood, and the Parks and Recreation Commission. I've lived on four continents, speak six languages, work as a technical editor, and am an avid gardener. My husband and I raised our three children in Mountain View. See www.RonitBryantforCityCouncil.com.



Ronit Bryant

JIM LOHSE

See www.electjim.us for all my positions, promises and ideas. I want a call tracking system to make the city more responsive. I want more people to make public comments at meetings. I want you to be more involved. I will hold quarterly town hall meetings with no staff present. Check out the other candidates, then please vote for me. Other candidates are insiders. I am the only real loyal opposition.



Jim Lohse

GREG PERRY

I'm on the council now, and believe in strong environmental and fiscal policies. I suggested reducing pesticide use, and the city now uses less toxic pesticides on city parks and playgrounds. I've also won approval for annual programmatic cost reviews of city departments, and my suggestion of standardizing park restroom design has reduced predicted costs by about 30 percent. I'd like to build on those policies. We should end the use of developmental toxins on parks. We need to implement the suggestions of those annual cost reviews. The savings could help pay for new parks in areas that don't have many.



Greg Perry

MARGARET ABE-KOGA

I am running for Mountain View City Council because I want to help make Mountain View an even better place to live, work, do business and learn. I would like to use my combination of leadership skills, experience and vision to collaborate with community members and fellow decision-makers to promote balanced growth, build a strong local economy, and offer outstanding human services to our residents. My experience includes: city government leadership as a Mountain View Environmental Planning Commissioner and former Human Relations Commissioner and chair; elected office experience as former trustee on the county Board of Education representing Mountain View; and legislative experience as a congressional aide to Representative Anna Eshoo for six years. ■



Margaret Abe-Koga

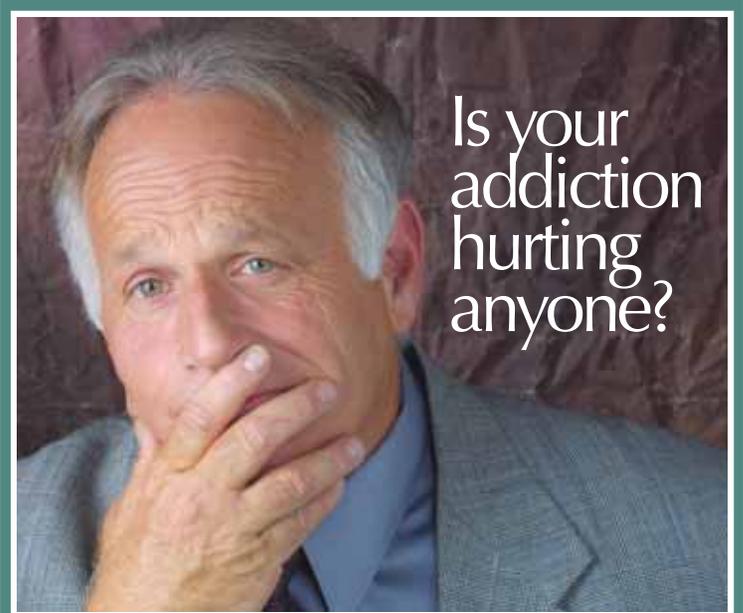
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Resident Mike Hatch flips burgers at neighborhood block party last week near Sleeper Avenue.

CHELSEA YOUNG

Neighbors turn out for block party

GOOD FOOD, ACTIVITIES BRING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

By Chelsea Young

My friends said California was no place to raise a family because they thought it was full of nuts, fruits and flakes," said Woodleaf Way resident Ann Benett.

On the contrary, Benett feels that California can be a great place for kids to grow up, and her neighborhood's second-ever block party, held on Sunday, June 26, affirms that sentiment.

On a sunny afternoon, the residents of Garden Terrace and Woodleaf Way, found off of Sleeper Avenue, gathered in the street under the shade of some overhanging trees to celebrate the old-fashioned sense of neighborliness that still exists in their modern community. Despite everyone's busy schedule, the 70 or so participants in this year's block party set aside a few hours of their day to catch up with old friends, meet new friends and enjoy some home-cooked food.

Adults sat to chat and eat or tended the grills, while children played on a lawn, had their faces painted, played with water balloons, and explored a fire truck that had stopped by for the celebration. To finish off the party, the kids took part in a parade led by the neighborhood's first resident and developer, Don Bahl.

Chatting with the residents of Garden Terrace and Woodleaf Way, one immediately picks up on the pride they feel for the close

community they have managed to create on the 36-home circular street. The residents cannot say enough about the benefits of knowing one's neighbors.

Twelve-old Sarah Benett, daughter of Ann, expressed gratitude that she always has young kids to baby-sit, peers to play with or adults to ask for aid. "If you need something or something's wrong, there's always someone there to help you," she said.

Her mother grew up on the East Coast in a community much like the one where she lives today. She can list various perks that come with living in a friendly neighborhood, including carpooling, baby-sitting, pet and house-sitting, playmates and security.

Instead of taking their neighbors for granted, Benett and others decided to capitalize on the talents of its members. Joel and Anne Kusian created a neighborhood map listing the names and numbers of each family-member, as well as a spreadsheet with emails, addresses and kids' ages. Finally, they copied the business cards of all willing residents onto a single sheet. If they ever need advice on subjects ranging from real-estate to health to computers, the residents have a friend to call.

Less tangibly, the residents also benefit from an exchange of cultures and religions in this

modern neighborhood. Garden Terrace and Woodleaf Way are very representative of Mountain View itself in that they house people who come from all over the world, including India, Russia, China, Ukraine, Vietnam, England, Iran and Iraq.

Benett calls the neighborhood a "United Nations," and the block party food represents this: tandoori chicken roasts right next to hamburgers and salmon steaks.

Benett claims that the key to close-knit neighborhoods is "streetlights and sidewalks." While she finds other houses beautiful, she would never live somewhere without those two community-building elements.

"I think there's a richness to living this way," she said.

Meeting for two months to prepare, a neighborhood committee organized the party, the second in four years, as an attempt to reach out to newer members of the community. Everyone present wore a nametag. "I've met about 15 new people," said organizer and long-time resident Dena Stein.

Stein also feels proud of her close-knit community and wants to see other neighborhoods become closer as well. "This barbeque was so easy. Any neighborhood can organize something like this," she said. ▀

E-mail Chelsea Young at cyoung@mv-voice.com

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Call (650) 723-4600 or visit www.lpch.org to register or obtain more information on the times, locations and fees for these and other courses.



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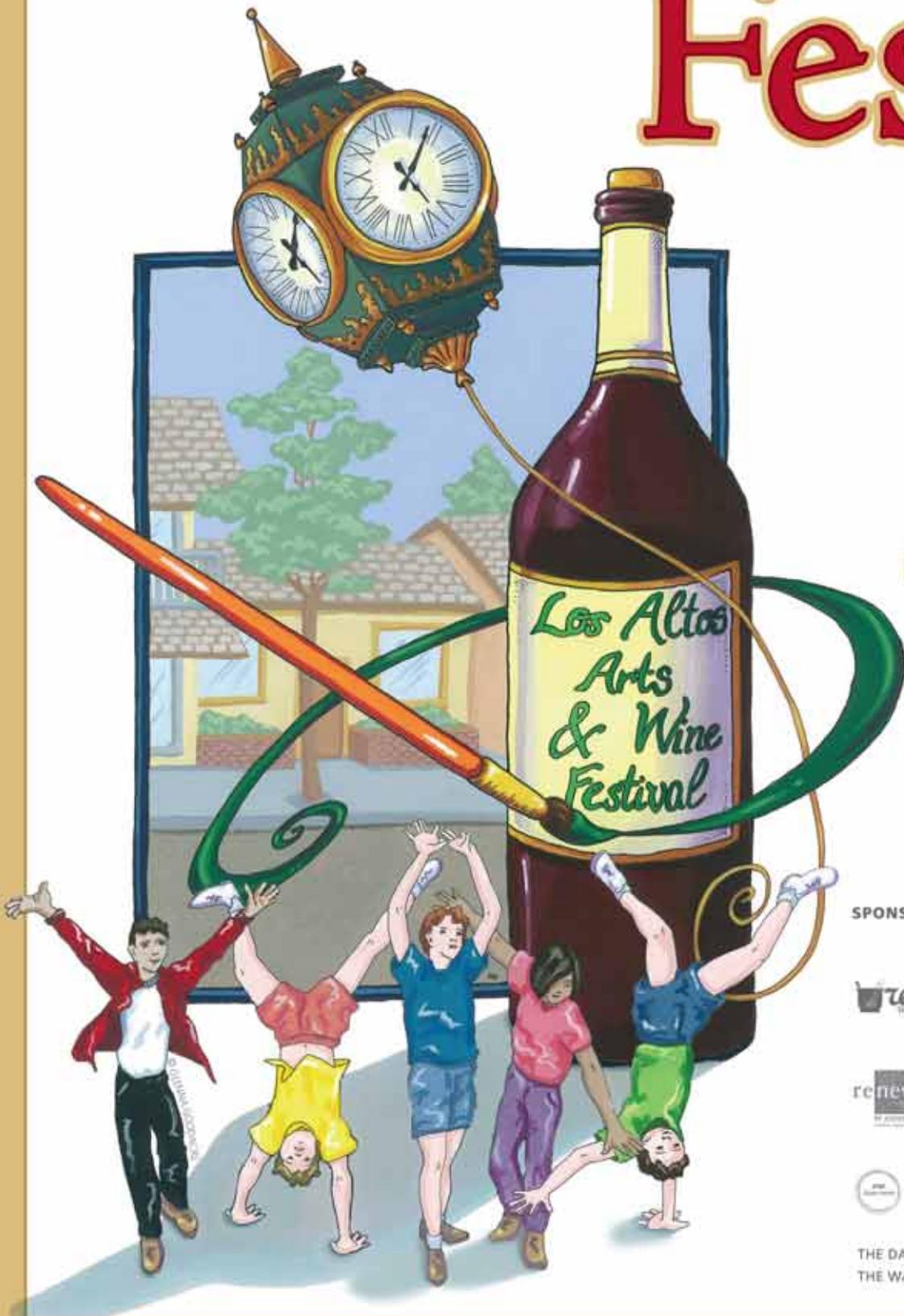


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Grant will push trail to Sleeper Avenue

STEVENS CREEK TRAIL GETS \$874,000 STATE GRANT

By Daniel DeBolt

As you drive south on Highway 85 and look right after El Camino Real, you will catch a glimpse of some open space that will finally be made accessible to the public with help from a state grant awarded last week.

The Stevens Creek Trail will take residents through this area if the city matches an \$874,000 state grant. The grant may be the largest of its type the city has ever received, said City Manager Kevin Duggan. It will help complete the final, southern-most-section of the trail, which connects Shoreline Park to Mountain View High School. It currently ends just north of El Camino Real at Yuba Drive.

"Its excellent news," Duggan said. "This trail is one of the most popular things we've done in many years."

If matched by the city, Duggan said the \$874,000 will specifically go to a trail section which ends at the Sleeper open space area, a small park in a residential neighborhood on the west bank of the creek at Franklin and Sleeper Avenue.

But to connect to the Sleeper open

space area will require a bridge over the creek, which will also finally give easy access to the large open space on the east side of the creek for neighborhood residents — currently left only to the few who wish to traverse the creek's steep banks.

To make the trail accessible from Cuesta Park, a new stoplight and crosswalk could be installed at Grant Road's intersection with Sleeper Avenue, Duggan said, which would bring pedestrians down Sleeper Avenue to the trail. When complete, the city's two largest parks, Cuesta and Shoreline, will have a pedestrian-friendly connection.

Design will begin this year on the new trail section, said Kathy Lazarus, public works director, but could take two to three years to complete. The city plans to "restore as much native vegetation and habitat in the area as possible," she said.

The under crossing at El Camino Real will be a challenging construction project, Lazarus said. It accounts for \$3 million of the \$15 million project and will have a glass block in its ceiling that will allow light to come through the meridian at El Camino Real.

When more funds are available,

trail construction will continue past the Sleeper open space area to Mountain View High School. Stevens Creek then continues south through Sunnyvale, Cupertino and Los Altos, where private property issues have kept those cities from pushing the trail through. The creek is fed in part by Stevens Creek Reservoir.

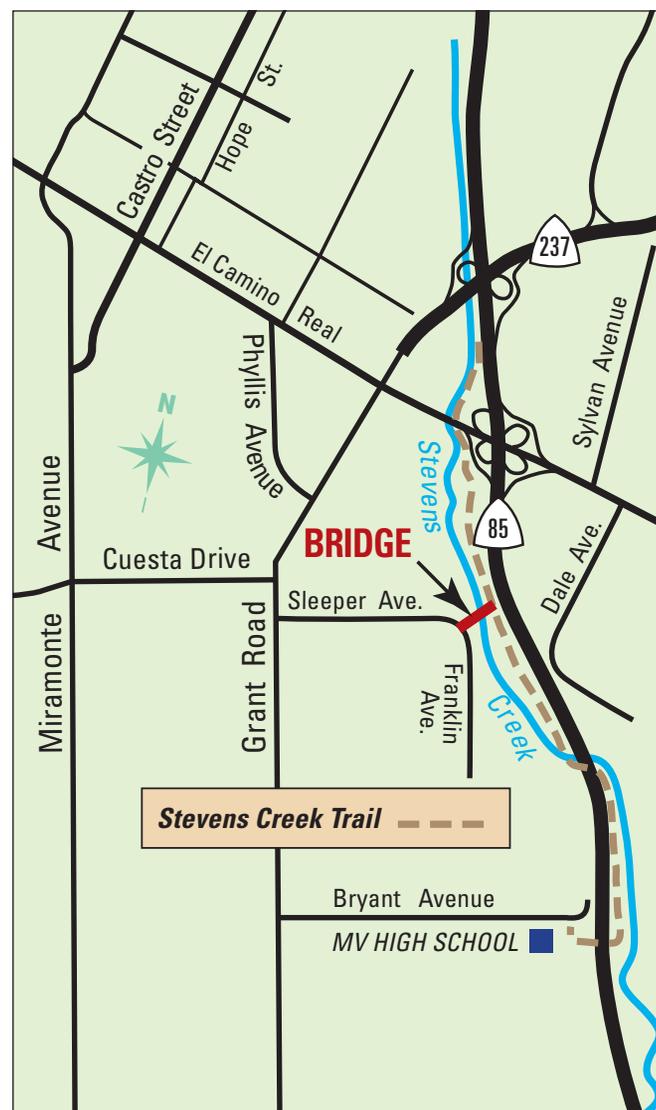
Built in sections, the last piece of the Stevens Creek trail was completed in 2002 and extends from Shoreline Park to its current end at Yuba Drive, which is just north of El Camino Real.

In 2004 the city certified an environmental impact report for the final 1.7 mile section from El Camino Real to Mountain View High, leaving funding as a final obstacle to its completion.

As more funding becomes available, a large pedestrian bridge will be built west over Highway 85 near the Sleeper open space area to connect the trail to yet another neighborhood.

Trail maps and other information can be found at www.stevenscreek-trail.org.

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FARM

► Continued from page 1

farm into homes is “very bad, terrible, horrible.”

He dreads it becoming a development and losing the quiet atmosphere of the cul-de-sac. Traffic is already a problem when he tries to get onto Grant Road at nearby Preston Avenue during rush hour.

The Grant Road farm is one of the remaining vestiges in the city of a time gone by. As a boy, Schmitz and his friends rode motorcycles in the fields that lined the neighborhood before houses and stores sprang up. It was a time when young families inhabited the new neighborhood and the sort of creative energy that started Silicon Valley filled the air while teenagers tinkered away in their garages on motorcycles and cars.

Schmitz owns many remnants of the era. It isn't uncommon to see him using tractors that are many decades old. At his house, a few blocks away, was a 1948 Ariel 500 motorcycle and a 1930's era Ford truck. The home itself was originally built around the turn of the century. Schmitz saved it from destruction in the late 1980's for \$10 and towed it through the neighborhood, removing telephone poles along the way, to restore it on the plot next to his parents' home.

Schmitz got his introduction to farming from his father in Minnesota, but worked at local farms after high school. At Navarro farms he met his wife,

Diane, daughter of his boss, Jim Navarro. He and Schmitz approached the owners, Paul and Anne Mardesich, in the late 1980's to inquire about farming the land that is now the Pumpkin Patch, or more properly, “Mountain View Farm Fresh Produce.”

Although Schmitz's wife, Diane, preferred not to talk to the *Voice*, her mother, Theresa Navarro, said it should be emphasized that the farm wouldn't exist without Diane, — acting as the glue that holds the farm together, making sure paperwork is taken care of and that things run smoothly. Theresa works at the produce stand every week, but not as much now that Schmitz' children help as well. Theresa said the hard work of operating the farm has set a positive example for them.

Walking the line

In his early days Schmitz was known for his daring nature, said Theresa Navarro. As a young man Schmitz rode his dirt bike off dirt jumps to incredible heights, amazing his friends. He was rarely fazed by intimidating people, friends say.

But it may be that the daring act he is most known for is running a farm in the middle of a Mountain View suburb.

For nearly two decades Schmitz said he's farmed the land, knowing it could be sold anytime. Ever since he started farming it he said there have been threats that it would be sold to developers. Residents of Mountain View are fortunate to have had the farm around this



DANIEL DEBOLT

Grant Road farmer Dave Schmitz framed by two fertilizer dispensers on the back of a tractor before fertilizing corn to be harvested in October.

long, he said.

The inheritors of the farm, Betty Moore and Pauline King, say Mountain View's last farm must be sold to housing developers for financial reasons. The 15.6 acres have been valued at \$30 million. In a letter to the city council in May they said they are facing an “economic reality

that the property is far too valuable for us to continue to hold as an unproductive, money-losing asset.”

Schmitz did not say the farm was losing money, but he did say it barely scrapes by every year, mostly because of a \$20,000-a-year water bill and high rent. The Pumpkin Patch and Christmas

tree sales are what pull it out of a financial hole every year, he said.

Residents who want to save the farm say the landowners could save it if they wanted to. They say the business would be viable if the landowners had obtained a conservation easement and hadn't opted out of the Williamson Act, which gives a property tax break for agriculture use, as well as lower water rates.

Schmitz said he believes the sisters would keep the farm if they could. He said they grew up on the farm, and have as many childhood memories there, if not more, than anyone else. He thinks his landlords have the right to do whatever they want with the land.

Those fighting to save the farm are proposing to keep a third of it for agriculture while developing the rest into houses. They say the farm could make more money than it currently does, pointing to a 12-acre farm in Goleta called Fairview that makes \$750,000 a year by farming the land more aggressively.

A piece of cake

The famous train that kids ride on every year during October was built by Schmitz and a friend. He said he used a toy train as a guide, scaling it up from one inch to one foot. It's powered by a lawn mower-type engine and runs on rails once used for carting apricots when orchards reigned in the valley. Schmitz said he found the rails as orchards left the area one by one.

“It was a piece of cake,” he said.

He says the equipment on the farm, tractors included, is like his toys.

Schmitz and his wife work the farm while also working full time jobs. Schmitz works 56 hours, three days a week as a firefighter.

“Its not a struggle, we just do it,” Schmitz said.

The work is something they enjoy, said Theresa Navarro, or they wouldn't have been able to do it as long as they have.

The farm employs four members of the Mendoza family, who have been with the farm since the beginning. Now the family's second generation is working the land.

“We must be doing something right,” Schmitz said.

Schmitz said it would be hard to imagine anyone else farming the property. He said he's kept going all these years partly because, “once you stop, you can't start again.”

The future

Schmitz and his tractor crawl over the bare dirt, planting

► See **FARM**, page 13



Restoration Advisory Board Meeting Former NAS Moffett Field

The next regular meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for the former Naval Air Station (NAS) Moffett Field will be held:

On: Thursday, July 13, 2006, 7 to 8:50 p.m.

At: ** MEETING LOCATION CHANGED ******

**Moffett Field, Building 943, Eagle Room
Mountain View, CA**

(Building 943 is located just before the main gate on NASA Parkway.)

The RAB reviews and comments on plans and activities about the ongoing environmental studies and restoration activities under way at Moffett Field. Regular RAB meetings are open to the public and the Navy encourages your involvement.

To review documents on Moffett Field cleanup projects, please visit the information repository located at the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin Street, Mountain View, CA 94041, 650-903-6887. For more information, contact Mr. Rick Weissenborn, Navy BRAC Environmental Coordinator, at 619-532-0952 or richard.weissenborn@navy.mil.

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

FOOTHILL GALA TO HONOR BERNADINE FONG

After 12 years as president and 36 years of service, Bernadine Chuck Fong will finally say goodbye to Foothill College.

In celebration of her long career, the sixth annual Foothill Commission Gala on Sunday, July 30, will feature a "Happy Trails Tribute" to Fong. The event begins at 1:30 p.m., with the award-winning Foothill Music Theatre production of "Annie Get Your Gun."

Following the show, guests can enjoy premium wine-tasting, silent and live auctions, and an al fresco dinner at the Library plaza. Past events have raised more than \$300,000 for Foothill College programs such as Foothill Music Theater, Honors Institute, Dental Hygiene Program and Heritage Rooms project. All proceeds from this year's event will go to a fund dedicated to college initiatives that carry on Fong's tradition of innovation.

Single tickets are \$150 and \$250. Table sponsorships go

for \$2,500 to \$10,000. Tickets can be purchased by calling the Foothill-De Anza Foundation at (650) 949-6230 or visiting www.foundation.fhda.edu. Ticket sales end on Monday, July 24.

— Chelsea Young

CALTRAIN TO HIKE FARES, PARKING FEES

Feeling the pinch of fuel prices that are as much as 20 percent higher than a year ago, Caltrain will increase fares and fees for parking.

The Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board recently decided to increase the price of monthly passes by \$15 to \$20 a month, and parking at Caltrain lots will jump from \$1.50 to \$2 a day, beginning Oct. 1.

The board also granted Caltrain Executive Director Michael Scanlon permission to raise or lower parking fees at specific train stations up to a maximum of \$5 per day. Fare prices will increase by 25 cents per zone starting April 2, 2007.

— Chelsea Young

NASA AWARDS FIRE SERVICE CONTRACT AT AMES

The leading supplier of security services to the U.S. government, Wackenhut Services Inc., will now be serving NASA's Ames Research Center at Moffet Field.

NASA awarded Wackenhut a one-year base contract with four one-year options, worth a maximum of \$38.7 million. Wackenhut will manage the Ames Fire Department, participate in the Santa Clara County fire rescue mutual aid plan, aircraft rescue, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response services, fire prevention planning and public education.

— Chelsea Young



DANIEL DEBOLT

FARM

► Continued from page 12

seeds for corn, a crawl very different from the hustle and bustle on Grant Road, just a few feet away. In October kids from schools all around will arrive to pick this corn at Halloween. They learn about agriculture

first hand — "that food actually comes from a plant," Schmitz said.

But this year's Halloween may be the last children will enjoy here.

What Theresa Navarro said she would miss the most are the people who come regularly to the produce stand, where people can buy vegetables grown in their

neighborhood.

As the sun sets on the farm, many say the people of Mountain View may be losing a piece of history - the small farm in the middle of a suburb - a landmark that gives Mountain View character. ■

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

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Charges detailed against Shoreline auditors

CITY CLAIMS COMPANY
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By Jon Wiener

The city of Mountain View filed suit June 20 against the auditors it had hired to conduct annual audits at Shoreline Amphitheatre, asking for more than \$5 million in damages for allegedly working for the venue's promoters as well, in secret.

The civil suit, filed in San Francisco County Superior Court, has six charges including breach of contract, malpractice, false claims and theft of public funds. It names as defendants Daoro, Zydell & Holland, and several corporate ancestors, including Wilson, McCall & Daoro; Wilson, McCall & Associates; and Creed & Associates, as well as auditor Robert Yoshioka.

According to the lawsuit, concert promoter Bill Graham Presents, now owned by Clear Channel spin-off Live Nation, directed the auditors to exclude

the value of barter agreements and deduct fees charged to concertgoers for the company's charity. City Attorney Michael Martello believes that this began as far back as 1986, when the amphitheater opened. He also believes auditors helped conceal tens of millions in revenues over the ensuing decades.

"We have evidence, back in the late 80's and early 90's, that they were taking direction from BGP's attorneys without telling us," Martello said.

The auditors have not returned numerous phone calls from the Voice.

The city owns the land underneath the Shoreline amphitheater and helped finance its construction with an \$8 million loan in exchange for an agreement from BGP to pay a percentage of its "gross receipts" as rent. Failure to report revenue effectively lowered the lease payments the city received.

The city settled its legal battle with Live Nation in May for \$10 million, as well as a \$1.8 million flat annual payment and a shortened lease term. ■

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW



NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a General Municipal Election will be held in the City of Mountain View on Tuesday, November 7, 2006, at which there will be submitted to the voters the following offices:

Three (3) Members of the Mountain View City Council for full terms of four years each

and the following Charter Amendment Measure:

Should the City of Mountain View amend Section 503 of the City Charter to set the base salary of City Council at \$1,500 per month, with an automatic annual adjustment, to become effective on January 1, 2009?

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO Article 3, Chapter 3, Division 9 of the Elections Code of the State of California, the legislative body of the City, or any member or members thereof authorized by the body, or any individual voter or bona fide association of citizens, or any combination of voters and associations, may file a written argument not to exceed 300 words in length, for or against the City measure.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that, based upon the time reasonably necessary to prepare and print the arguments and sample ballots for the election, the City Clerk has fixed **July 17, 2006, during normal office hours**, as posted, as a reasonable date prior to the election after which no arguments for or against the City measure may be submitted to the City Clerk for printing and distribution to the voters. Arguments may be changed or withdrawn until and including the date of **July 17** as fixed by the City Clerk.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that rebuttal arguments, as submitted by the authors of the opposing direct arguments, may be filed by the date of **July 27, 2006** with the City Clerk not more than 10-calendar days after the final date for filing direct arguments. Rebuttal arguments may not exceed 250 words.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that any impartial analysis, or direct argument filed under the authority of the Elections Code will be available for public examination until **July 27, 2006** in the City Clerk's Office, a period of not less than 10-calendar days from the deadline for filing arguments. Any rebuttal argument filed under the authority of the Elections Code will be available for public examination until **August 7, 2006** in the City Clerk's Office, a period of not less than 10-calendar days from the deadline for filing rebuttal arguments. Any court-ordered revisions to the ballot arguments or rebuttals must be filed no later than the end of the 10-calendar day public examination period on **July 27, 2006 and August 7, 2006**, respectively.

The proposed revised Charter section is available upon request in the City Clerk's Office, (650) 903-6304.

Nomination papers must be obtained from the City Clerk's Office located at City Hall, 500 Castro Street, 3rd Floor, Mountain View, during the filing period beginning **Monday, July 17, 2006, at 8:00 a.m. and ending Friday, August 11, 2006, at 5:00 p.m.** If an incumbent does not file nomination papers by August 11, 2006, the filing period will be extended for nonincumbents for five (5) days, ending **Wednesday, August 16, 2006, at 5:00 p.m.**

If no one or only one person is nominated for an elective office, the City Council may appoint someone to the office.

The polls will be open between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

For further information, please call the City Clerk at (650) 903-6304.

Angelita M. Salvador
City Clerk

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Daniel Wood at the entrance of the Roman Baths in front of the Abbey in Bath, England

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2 MV players to play in all-star classic

METSERS, NELSON CHOSEN FOR WEDEMAYER GAME JULY 19

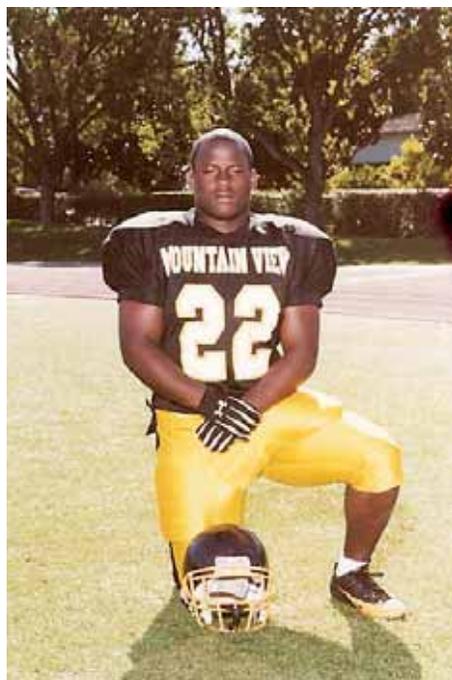
By Justin Bull

For 32 years, the Charlie Wedemeyer All-Star Football Game has featured the best high school seniors in Silicon Valley, as both an exhibition of new talent and as a benefit to charity.

Among the young stars on this summer's roster are recent Mountain View High graduates Alec Nelson. Joining them will be 88 other recently-graduated seniors from across Silicon Valley, who will compete in the event's 32nd annual exhibition on July 19 in San Jose. Sponsored by the Almaden Valley Rotary Club, the event uses all proceeds to help fight Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease) and to benefit other local charities. The two Mountain View all-stars will try to help improve the North squads 12-17-2 record.

Alec Nelson will represent the Spartans at the Silicon Valley Youth Classic as a powerful presence at fullback and linebacker. He said he is excited about the opportunity to be the second member of his family to participate in the Charlie Wedemeyer All Star game. "My brother played in it. He told me all about it and I think it's going to be a lot of fun," he said.

Nelson boasts a long list of high school football accomplishments, including two consecutive years as a first team all leaguer in the Silicon Valley Athletic League. The Spartans recognized Nelson as the team's most valuable offensive player at the end of the fall season, and during his junior year, the league recog-

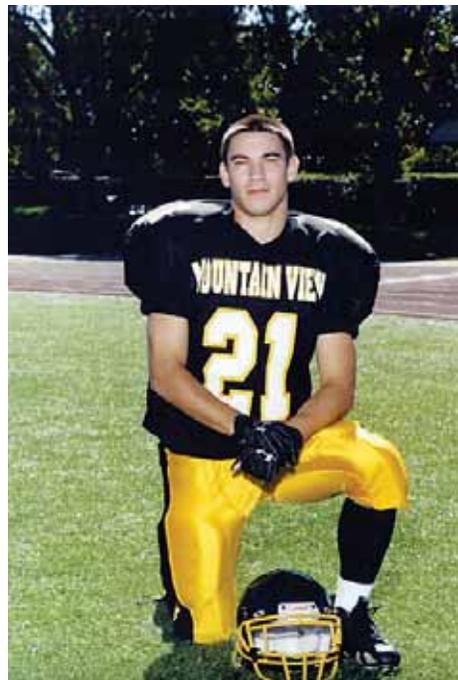


Fullback and linebacker Alec Nelson

nized Nelson as all mid-Peninsula and as most valuable back.

"Alec is very strong," said North head coach Carlos Boles, "you know you can rely on him to carry the ball those few extra yards for the first down." Nelson plans to play football while attending West Valley College next fall.

Joining Nelson is teammate Kevin Metsers, who earned his All-Star selection due to his speed and skill at cornerback. He was a first team all-league defensive back in the fall season, and also received honors as co-defensive player of the year for a Mountain View team that specialized in defense.



Cornerback Kevin Metsers

Metsers' athleticism didn't end on the football field. He was named school athlete of the year after participating in three varsity sports. Metsers started at point guard for the MVHS basketball team and was also a perennial track star in the 100 meter sprint and the long jump. He broke a 10-year-old MVHS long jump record this spring on multiple occasions, eventually setting the top mark at 22-5. He was also the second fastest in the 100 meters at the league finals in May.

"Being an accomplished track and field athlete has proven to help Kevin out on the football field," said Coach Boles. "With his speed, no one can get past him."

In the fall Metsers will attend San Jose State, where he hopes to walk onto the Spartan football team. For now, he's preparing for the Charlie Wedemeyer game later this month. "I haven't worked out in a while," he said after a Friday practice in June. "It's hard but I'm getting back in shape."

Players are selected for the youth classic based on recommendations of head coaches from schools across the region. Final rosters are determined by the coaches of the North and South squads, who try to represent each high school with at least one athlete.

Some of the game's recent Mountain View High School alumni include Dustin Johnson, Sean Manson, current Stanford defensive back Trevor Hooper, and Alec Nelson's older brother, J.D Nelson. A handful of NFL stars have also played in the Youth Classic, including former 49ers Andre Carter and Jeff Garcia as well as former Arizona Cardinal Pat Tillman.

Several other local players are slated to participate in the exhibition. St. Francis will send five athletes: tackle Mark Boskovich, offensive lineman Sioeli Fakalata, defensive back Ryan Perry, quarterback Rich Scudellari, and linebacker Matt Taufou. Representing Los Altos are linebacker Pete Cronin and defensive back Adam Pittman.

The 32nd annual Charlie Wedemeyer All-Star Football Game will take place on July 19 at 7:30 p.m. at San Jose City College. Tickets for can be purchased at the San Jose Box Office for \$15.

"It's 90 of the best high school graduating seniors," said the game's spokesperson Stephanie Dreyer, "it will be fun to see them come together and play a really good game of football." ■



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■ EDITORIAL
THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Time to put brakes on housing?

Last week the city council approved 530 new housing units at Mayfield Mall despite intense opposition from neighbors, who argued for lower density and lower rooflines around the perimeter to ease transition to their mostly single-story homes next door.

The 26-acre former HP office site is one of the largest chunks of open land remaining in the city and will be developed by Toll Brothers, a nationally-known homebuilder. The neighbors had hoped for fewer homes, but their arguments fell on mostly deaf ears at the marathon council meeting.

Only council members Laura Macias and Tom Means opposed 530 units with Macias advocating for less. And then there was Greg Perry, who fought every step of the way for even higher density, up to 700 units, in keeping with his view that the city should do everything possible to reduce the imbalance in the housing-jobs ratio by approving maximum-size projects. Perry's effort to get more units slowed the approval process to a crawl, and kept the council on the job until 2 a.m., one of the longest meetings on record.

Given Mayfield's location, at San Antonio Road and Central Expressway near a Caltrain stop, the neighbors were fighting against the current trend of building housing next to mass tran-

sit. The council underlined its support of the concept by requiring the developer to build a pedestrian underpass so residents can cross Central Expressway to get to nearby shopping centers.

City officials and the neighbors disagreed fiercely about the traffic impact of the 530 housing units. The development would not produce as many car trips as the former HP offices, if they were fully-occupied, the city told the council. But Monta Loma neighbors disagreed, and said their own traffic study showed more impact, particularly from cars cutting through neighborhood streets on their way to Highway 101.

Despite being unable to agree on traffic impact, the council could have helped the project by saving a grove of heritage redwood trees and by accommodating the lower roofline on the perimeter of the project requested by neighbors. The council did approve a neighbor-friendly rule that second-story windows next to existing homes must be installed near the ceiling or be opaque glass, and donated a sliver of land that will help add an acre of parkland to the subdivision.

Now, with Mayfield out of the way, the big question is whether the city — and the council — will continue the trend of approving virtually any high-density housing project proposed. Soon the council will be grappling with other housing plans, like the 15.6-acre Pumpkin Patch off Grant Road. Given that there are nearly 3,000 housing units in the pipeline, it is time for the council to consider slowing down or even stopping new development until the community can catch its collective breath.

Now would be a good time to take a serious look at the request by neighbors and others to preserve some open space at the Pumpkin Patch or other locations if small pieces of land become available. There is no "manifest destiny" to cover all the remaining open space of the city with housing or commercial development.

We say this with the understanding that this city is doubly blessed with wonderful parks and recreation venues at many locations, particularly at Shoreline and Cuesta parks. But more open space could be built into neighborhoods and new housing developments without major sacrifices.

The city wants to make sure it is attractive to businesses by providing adequate housing, but there are CEOs out there interested in a certain quality of life that may quickly be lost along with the city's old trees and open space, if full-speed-ahead development continues. It would be nice to look back at the Mayfield approval as a time when the city eased back from its current "build until we drop" attitude to a more measured and selective approach to development.

■ GUEST OPINION

Home Depot a good fit at San Antonio

By Fred Thoits

As the owner of the commercial retail property at San Antonio Shopping Center where Home Depot is proposing a new store for Mountain View, I wanted to share our thoughts on why we believe this store will be an excellent addition to the community.

As soon as we learned that Sears would not be renewing its lease, we began to search for another retailer that would fit at the site. As a local, family-owned real estate company it was important to us not to let the site sit vacant and possibly deteriorate. We sought a quality tenant to replace Sears as quickly as possible. Home Depot was very interested in the site, and they have a strong desire to become a part of and to serve the Mountain View shopping community.

This is an exciting time for the shopping center. With the recent closures of San Antonio Hobby Shop and Gospel Books and Music and the proposed closure

of Albertson's, it is an opportunity to revitalize the center as a neighborhood shopping destination and bring new options to the community.

We are delighted that Home Depot may be a part of this and believe that a Home Depot store will help draw exciting new tenants to the center. This future is much brighter than empty storefronts and dilapidated buildings that could occur if no businesses are attracted to the shopping area.

We are working closely with both Home Depot and the city to reach out to other tenants of the shopping center and the community to get feedback about the proposed store. With input from all stakeholders, we truly believe that Home Depot will be a positive addition to the existing shopping center and to the Mountain View business community.

Fred Thoits speaks for Thoits Bros Inc., the owners of San Antonio Shopping Center.



■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Seafood is supreme at Home's

TAKE THE LUSCIOUS ROUTE TO FRIENDLY CHINESE SPOT IN LOS ALTOS

by Sheila Himmel

Hunan Home's is almost invisible, next to Jack in the Box where Los Altos has a brief encounter with El Camino Real. That is, nearly Mountain View. Its name seems to say the restaurant belongs to someone named Home. Not impossible, given the current TV series featuring a doctor named House, but unlikely.

In fact, the Yuan family, originally from Taiwan,

► See HOME'S, page 18



NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

Honey glazed walnut prawns, giant crab baked in spiced salt and yellow chive sauteed with cherrystone clams are among the seafood specialties at Hunan Home's in Los Altos.



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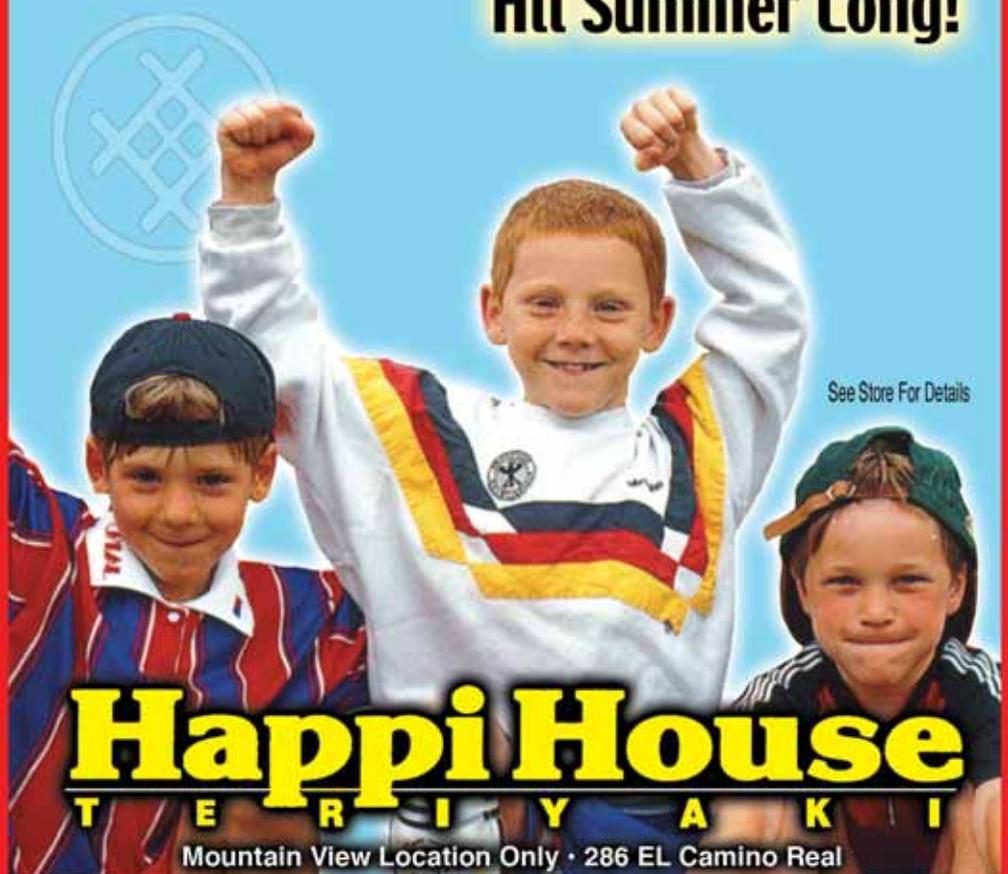
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HOME'S

► Continued from page 17

owns this Hunan Home's and the one in San Francisco's Chinatown. They opened in Los Altos in 1990, San Francisco in 1983. This one seats 110 diners, a Mini among the Hummers seating 800 to 1,000 for Chinese banquets. There is a nice private room off the kitchen, also relatively tiny.

If Hunan Home's had a slogan it would be: "Great value, friendly service, excellent seafood. Other items on the menu, so-so."

The place itself is not beautiful. Putting-green carpet lines your way to the front door, which makes the chandeliers and white tablecloths a surprise. The fish tank is a bit murky.

But I like a place where the

server says "Good, good, good!" when you order, indicating you're on the right track.

The seafood extravaganza called Luscious Route (\$58) easily feeds four people. I also like a Chinese restaurant that explains the special meals in English, so you don't have to ask the server to let you in on the Chinese menu, which often has the best stuff. The special meals keep going, from Supreme Delight (\$95) on up to Deluxe Treasure (\$288). Call your friends.

All the items on Luscious Route are also available on the regular menu, starting with Assorted Seafood With Bean Curd Soup (\$6.95). If you find a favorite dish it can be yours again. The soup is pure comfort, peas and carrots in a just-slightly peppered seafood broth.

On you go, through fabulous



Yellow chive sauteed with cherrystone clams.

NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

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Prawns Baked in Spicy Salt (\$10.50), crisp and hot with their shells still on, and the sublime Yellow Chive Sauteed With Squid (\$10.50). Only the Sauteed Clams With Black Bean Sauce (\$10.50) and the Sizzling Eel (\$14.95) carry the hot chili-pepper warning label, and they are terrific. This is a whole eel, which looks like a fish and not a snake, topped with shredded pork and water chestnuts in slightly sweet sauce.

Luscious Route is a smooth intersection of flavors and textures.

Before dessert, your server will wipe the table clean and bring out sesame balls or red bean soup. You can also just have oranges.

On the page labeled Chef's Selection, only a handful of the 48 specialities aren't fish or seafood. One of them, Pork with dried Bean Curd (\$9.50), was nothing special.

Also ho-hum, Hunan Home's Beef (\$8.95) drowned in brown sauce along with limp baby corn and snow peas.

Much better, Hot Spiced Crispy Chicken (\$9.50) is a delicious half a chicken, and the Eggplant With Spicy Garlic

Sauce (\$7.95) features long, chewy strips instead of a gloppy mess. Spicy Chicken With Orange Peel (\$8.95) is another good choice.

Also above par, peppery but with other flavors coming through, the "small" portion of Hot and Sour Soup (\$5.50) fills three good-size bowls.

A full meal could be made of soup and one of the fried rice dishes. But remember, seafood is the specialty. Get the shrimp fried rice. ■



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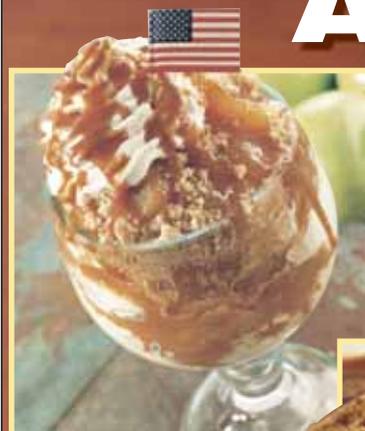
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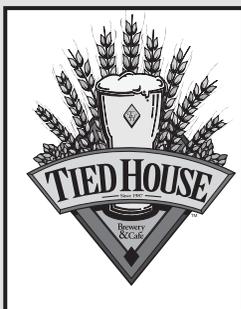
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MOVIE TIMES

A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION (PG-13) ★★★1/2

Guild: 1:45, 4:15, 7 & 9:40 p.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, 4:55, 7:40 & 10:25 p.m.

CLICK (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: 12:15, 2:40, 5:20, 7:55 & 10:20 p.m.

Century 12: 12:10, 2:50, 5:25, 7:55 & 10:35 p.m.

THE DA VINCI CODE (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: 3:55 & 7:05 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 10:05 a.m.

Century 12: 3:45 & 7:05 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 FAST AND THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 12: 1 & 10:20 p.m.

THE LAKE HOUSE (PG) ★

Century 16: 11:50 a.m.; 2:20, 4:30, 7 & 9:25 p.m.

Century 12: 12:05, 2:25, 5:05, 7:35 & 10:10 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: 11:40 a.m.; 2:25, 5:10, 7:25 & 9:50 p.m.

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 11 & 11:40 a.m.; 12:30, 1:20, 2:15, 3, 3:50, 4:40, 5:30, 6:20, 7:10, 8, 8:50, 9:40 & 10:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 10 a.m.

Century 12: 11:10 a.m.; noon, 12:50, 1:40, 2:30, 3:20, 4:10, 5, 5:50, 6:40, 7:30, 8:20, 9:10 & 9:55 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 16: 11:15 & 11:55 a.m.; 12:45, 1:35, 2:30, 3:15, 4, 4:55, 5:45, 6:35, 7:15, 8:15, 9:05, 9:55 & 10:25 p.m.;

Fri.-Sun. also at 10:15 a.m.

Century 12: 11:15 a.m.; 12:15, 2:35, 3:35, 5:45, 7, 9:05 & 10:15 p.m.

WASSUP ROCKERS (R) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 12:05, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40 & 10 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.

X-MEN: THE LAST STAND (PG-13) ★★★1/2

Century 16: 1:10 & 10:15 p.m.

Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

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

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

SPANGENBERG THEATRE: 780 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto (354-8263)

For show times, plot synopses and more information about any films playing at the Aquarius, Guild and Park, visit www.LandmarkTheatres.com

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

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



MOVIE REVIEWS

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH

★★★★1/2

(CineArts) Director David Guggenheim strikes a nerve in this searing documentary about the frightening state of global warming and Earth's questionable future. Former Vice President Al Gore didn't just sit on his thumbs after losing the 2000 presidential election. His controversial defeat and a family emergency were the wake-up calls Gore needed to pour his turbulent emotions into a fiery traveling roadshow focused on a planetary emergency. The facts, as presented in the film, are startling. In less than a decade there will be no more snows of Kilimanjaro to soothe the soul, and our frosty glaciers will have dwindled to mere puddles. Tornadoes and torrential flooding will continue to peak at a devastating rate — Katrina was just a warm-up. The truth hurts when it comes to global warming, but Guggenheim has an equally important and inconvenient truth up his sleeve: Al Gore has charisma, truckloads of it. Passionate and world-weary, Gore works a room with multi-media splendor. We missed the boat and neither director nor star is going to let us forget it. Illuminating and distressing, "Truth" is a grave message indeed. *Rated: PG for mature themes. 1 hour, 40 minutes.* — J.A.

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 unearthly 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.

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA ★★★

(Century 16, Century 12) 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

Weekend

polyblend instead of Chanel, lands the job that a million young New York women would kill for. She sells her soul the first day she slips on a pair of designer shoes. 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." Despite themes as outdated as last season's wardrobe, the 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. *Rated: PG-13 for some sensuality. 1 hour, 35 minutes.* — S.T.

NACHO LIBRE ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 12) Absurdist humor hits the squared circle in this whimsical ode to lucha libre (Mexican wrestling). Funnyman 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 ingredients he's forced to cook with make the meals so disgusting even he can't swallow a bite without gagging. If only he could pursue his lifelong dream of becoming a famous luchadore and use the earnings to provide the children food they can actually stomach. Enter Esqueleto (Hector Jimenez), a wiry and agile vagabond who Nacho convinces to become his lucha libre tag-team partner. But the beautiful Sister Encarnacion (Ana de la Reguera) is forced to remind Nacho the monastery forbids wrestling, sending him into a spiral of internal doubt. Does he do what he loves, or what the monks demand? For audiences able to set their brains to "low-brow" for 100 minutes, the ridiculous moves of "Nacho Libre" will leave

stomach muscles and swollen cheeks sore from laughter. *Rated: PG for rough action, and some crude humor including dialogue. 1 hour, 40 minutes.* — T.H.

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 planeload 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. *Rated: PG-13 for some intense action violence. 2 hours, 37 minutes.* — T.H.

MOVIE CRITICS

S.T.-Susan Tavernetti,
J.A.-Jeanne Aufmuth, J.S.-Jim Shelby,
T.H.-Tyler Hanley

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August 16, 10:30-Noon
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Control Asthma Now

Learn about signs and symptoms of asthma, how medications work and correct use of inhalers and peak flow meters.

July 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Fee: \$20

Mind-Body Stress Management

Three-week session on mindful breathing, stretching and balancing work, family and life issues.

July 17, 7-9:00 p.m.
Fee: \$100 plus
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Goings On

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ HIGHLIGHT

SUMMER SINGS MOZART

Presented by Schola Cantorum. July 10, 7:30 p.m.
Conducted by Greg Wait. \$10. Los Altos United Methodist Church,
625 Magdalena Avenue, Los Altos. Call 254-1700.
www.scholacantorum.org

ART GALLERIES

"JOURNEYS" Construction, paintings and mixed media collages by Gerald Huth. On display through Aug. 6. Hours: Thu.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free to Public. 1870 Art Center, 1870 Ralston Ave., Belmont. Call 261-1086. www.1870artcenter.com

"TERESA STANLEY: WORKS ON PAPER" EXHIBITION Through July 29. Gallery hours: Thu.-Fri., 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m., or by appointment. Stellar Somerset Gallery, 539 Bryant St., Palo Alto. www.stellarsomersetgallery.com

A MONOTYPE AND PAINTING RETROSPECTIVE Over four decades of work by Bay Area artist, Maida Kasle. A two-part retrospective featuring monotypes, paintings and other works on paper. Through July 22; meet the artist through July 14, 5-8 p.m. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Gallery 9 Los Altos, 143 Main St., Los Altos. www.gallery9losaltos.com

INAUGURAL EXHIBITION: JULIA PARKER AND THEA SCHRACK Through Aug. 26. Parker's recent works resembles Nathan Oliveira's paintings with shadowy figure diffuse into the background. Schrack's mixed media photography recalls the works of the 19th Century Eng master painter W. Turner. Art Mirage Gallery, 435 University Ave., Palo Alto. www.art-mirage.com

NEW LINES: DRAWN, STITCHED AND SCULPTED Exhibit explores the vitality of lines that have their origins in the unique properties of drawing. Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Through July 14. Spur Projects, 888 Portola Rd., Portola Valley. Call 529-2040. www.spurprojects.com

SMALL BRONZES New bronze works by Parisian sculptor, Yermia. Event includes live music and complimentary refreshments. July 7-31. Hours: Wed.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. ART21 Gallery, 539 Alma St., Palo Alto. Call 566-1381. www.art21.us

TORRID TROPICS Watercolors of Kauai, Costa Rica, St. John's and Florida. Hours: Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Through July 29. Viewpoints Gallery, 315 State St., Los Altos. Call 941-5789. www.viewpointsgallery.com

AUDITIONS

"GRAND HOTEL" THE MUSICAL Audition by appointment, prepare Ballad and up-tempo Broadway show tune. July 8, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; July 9, noon-6 p.m. Hillbarn Theatre, 650 Shell Blvd., Foster City. www.hillbarntheatre.org

BENEFITS

VINTAGE AFFAIRE WINE AUCTION Annual wine auction benefiting Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired. Silent auction with wine tasting and hors d'oeuvre pairings, and live auction following by a sunset gourmet supper. July 22, 2:30 and 8:30 p.m. \$225 per person Private estate, Atherton. Call 858-0202, ext. 124. www.vintageaffaire.org

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

55 ALIVE MATURE DRIVING CLASS Wednesdays, July 12 and 19, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Attendance at both meeting required. Payment and registration at Community Service desk. \$10. Little House, 800 Middle Avenue, Menlo Park. Call 326-2025. www.peninsulavolunteers.org

BEAUTIFUL SUMMER PARTY ARRANGEMENTS July 8, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All materials included. Demonstration designs and hands-on instruction. \$55 members/\$70 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

BEEES, FLOWERS, FRUITS AND HONEY July 22 ■ MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE ■ JULY 7, 2006

8, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Learn how fruit blossoms help bees make honey and keep our orchard producing fruit. Includes orchard walk. \$25 members/\$35 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

DESIGNING FOR SUPERHEROES Class explores the history and continuity of early industrial designs. Projects include the design of objects for video games and Superhero characters of today using historic design concepts. Saturdays, July 8 and 15, 10 a.m.-noon. Ages 10 and up. Members \$30/non-members \$40. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. Call 321-1004. www.moah.org

EARLY MUSIC CHORAL WORKSHOP Sing and learn about Jean Mouton's "Missa Alleluia" and motets of Josquin des Prez under the direction of Suzanne Elder Wallace. July 22, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$45, includes music and lunch. Register by July 8. Private location, address given upon registration, Palo Alto. www.calbach.org

FORA IN FOCUS WORKSHOPS: FOX-GLOVES July 13-15, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Learn how to observe and paint Foxgloves. \$180 members/\$220 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

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 \$40. Register by July 12. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. Call 321-1004. www.moah.org

LAVENDER WANDS AND MORE July 12, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All materials included. Participants will make a variety of lavender wands, taste lavender cookies, receive recipes for using lavender in foods and learn which lavenders to plant at home for craft projects. \$45 members/\$55 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.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, ages 7-10. July 18-31. \$50 for a series of four. Mountain View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St., Mountain View. Call 969-4110.

CLUBS/MEETINGS

WOODSIDE BOOK CLUB "THE MARCH" BY E. L. DOCTOROW In the last years of the Civil War, Gen. William Tecumseh Sherman marched 60,000 Union troops through Georgia, and the Carolinas, cutting a 30-mile swath of pillage and destruction that effectively ended the Confederate rebellion. July 11, 11:15 a.m. Woodside Library, 3140 Woodside Rd., Woodside.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

GOURMET VEGETARIAN DINNERS Mondays at 6:30 p.m., \$14. Call to reserve by 9:30 a.m. Lecture each month. Hosted by Peninsula Macrobiotic Community. \$14. First Baptist Church, 305 N California Ave, Palo Alto. Call 599-3320. www.peninsulamacro.org

CONCERTS

"FIRST THURSDAY" ORGAN CONCERT A free lunchtime recital of Baroque organ music. First Thursdays monthly, 12:15-12:45 p.m. All Saints' Episcopal Church, 555 Waverly St., Palo Alto. www.asaints.org/parishlife/activities/yoga.html

CHRIS POTTER'S UNDERGROUND Recordings by Dave Holland, Danilo Perez, Marian McPartland, and Steely Dan. Sat., July 8, 8 p.m. \$36 general/\$18 students. Campbell Recital Hall, 541 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Call 725-2787. www.stanfordjazz.org



"DISS HARMONY IN RED," OIL ON CANVAS, 24X24, KENNEY MENCHER

BEING THERE: July 7, Clayprint monotype demonstration at 7 p.m.; artist reception 6-9 p.m. Kenney Mencher solo show in Norton Gallery. Free. Pacific Art League, 668 Ramona St, Palo Alto. Call 321-3891. www.pacificartleague.org

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT JAZZ Jazz education pioneer Jim Nadel leads an ensemble of veteran Bay Area jazz artists in an entertaining concert, enhanced with commentary and conversation. Sun., July 9, 2:30 p.m. \$10 general/\$5 students. Campbell Recital Hall, 541 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Call 725-2787. www.stanfordjazz.org

JAZZ AND THE MUSIC OF BRAZIL: CELIA MALHEIROS Fri., July 7, 8 p.m. \$28 general/\$14 students. Campbell Recital Hall, 541 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Call 725-2787.

TAIPEI PHILHARMONIC CHAMBER CHOIR Chinese and Taiwanese folk and popular songs, blending traditions and thousands of years of history. Sponsored by San Francisco Choral Artists. July 7, 8 p.m. \$15. First United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto. www.sfca.org/tfcc.html

TWILIGHT CONCERT SERIES Aja Vu, the music of Steely Dan. July 11, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Rinconada Park Bowl, 777 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. Call 463-4940. www.cityofpaloalto.org/concerts

DANCE

CHURCH OF ECSTATIC DANCE Barefoot boogie. Free instruction. No children. Sundays, through Aug. 20, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$10. Flex-It-Gym, 425 W. Evelyn Ave., Mt. View. Call (408) 245-4543.

JACKI'S AEROBIC DANCING Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9-10 a.m. Strength training, ab work, and aerobic routines for all ages and abilities. Childcare provided. Mt. View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St., Mountain View.

EXHIBITS

"FOUR ARTISTS" Pastel drawings by Kelvin Curry; paintings by Daniel Gautier; mixed media by Midori McCabe; paintings and drawings by Olga Tsareva. Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Through July 13. Paul Allen Center for Integrated Systems, 420 Via Palou, Stanford. Call 725-3622. cis.stanford.edu/~marigros

AFRICA COMES TO PALO ALTO Local artist Tracy Ferea's photographs capture the contrasts of beauty and harshness in southern Africa. Through July 31, Tue.-Wed., 11 a.m.-

6 p.m.; Thu., noon-7 p.m.; Fri.-Sat., 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Downtown Library, 270 Forest Ave., Palo Alto. Call 248-0655.

CREATIVE COMMERCE: GERMAN LITHOGRAPHIC LABELS, 1920-1938 Explores an unparalleled time in commercial printing and showcases the lithographic processes of the time. Through Sept. 10. Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m.; Thu., 7-9 p.m. Free admission. Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Rd., Palo Alto. Call 329-2366. www.paacf.org

FILOLI'S EIGHTH ANNUAL BOTANICAL ART EXHIBITION Through July 30. Featuring a collection of plant portraits by artists from the United States and abroad. The Filoli Florilegium and the Banks Florilegium will also be on display. Free. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

FINE ART PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT Color photographs by Judy Kramer exhibited through July 10. Free. Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Fire House Gallery, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 289-5499 ext. 430.

IDEO PROTOTYPES THE FUTURE Showcasing the comprehensive collection of recent concepts and prototypes created by Ideo. Through Sept. 10. Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m.; Thu., 7-9 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Rd., Palo Alto. Call 329-2366. www.paacf.org

MANUEL SANTANA, PAINTINGS, ETCHINGS AND LITHOGRAPHS Through July 26. Body of 40 works. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat., 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Call 917-6800. www.arts4all.org

MARC SILBER PHOTOGRAPHY RECEPTION Local photographer Marc Silber presents his photographs, spanning 40 years. Reception July 7, 6-9 p.m. during the Palo Alto Art walk. Free. Great American Framing Co., 229 Hamilton Ave, Palo Alto. Call 248-7232. www.silberstudios.com

OKSANA V. JOHNSON: FLORALS AND LANDSCAPES IN OILS Art Exhibit by Russian-American Impressionist Oksana Valentinova Johnson. Through Aug. 31. Atherton Library, 2 Dinkelspiel Station Lane, Atherton. Call 592-7267. www.athertonlibrary.org

PAINTINGS AND COLLAGE Work of Susy Siddens. Open daily, 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Showing through Aug. 31. All pieces available for purchase. Canyon Coffee Roastery, 3203 Oak Knoll Dr.,

Redwood City. www.paintingsandcollage.com

PHOTO EXHIBIT "Floral Fantasy" by local photographers Bob and Joy Rewick. An array of over 70 close-up floral images transformed into designs. Through Aug. 27. Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m. Coyote Point Museum, 1651 Coyote Point Drive, San Mateo. Call 254-0110. www.coyoteptmuseum.org

REGINALD RICE: WATERCOLOR PAINTINGS Paintings, mostly of landscapes, on exhibit weekdays through Aug. 31, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Little House, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park.

SAILING THROUGH HISTORY WITH MODEL SHIPS The Museum of American Heritage in partnership with South Bay Model Shipwrights tell the story of maritime heritage from ancient to modern times through a collection of two dozen exquisite ship models and related objects. Fri.-Sun., through Sept. 24, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. Call 321-1004. www.moah.org

THE GALLERY SHOP Continuous exhibits of ceramics, glass, jewelry and fiber by American artists. Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Tue.-Thu., 7-10 p.m.; Sun., 1-5 p.m. Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Rd., Palo Alto. Call 329-2366. www.paacf.org

THE PERFUME OF SADNESS: SYMBOLIST ART FROM THE KIRK LONG COLLECTION The 30 works offer a succinct introduction to Symbolism, a short-lived but immensely influential literary and pictorial movement. Through July 23. Wed.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thu. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. Call 723-4177. museum.stanford.edu

FAMILY AND KIDS

AN INTRODUCTION TO JAZZ FOR KIDS An annual event designed as an entertaining introduction to the wonderful world of jazz. Saxophonist and Stanford Jazz Workshop founder Jim Nadel and a group of musicians will lead a tour through basic jazz concepts and instruments. Free. Sat., July 8, 10 a.m. Dinkelspiel Auditorium, 471 Lagunita Ave., Stanford. Call 736-0324. www.stanfordjazz.org

LACROSSE CLASSES Offered by Atherton Lacrosse. No experience needed. Camps July 10-Aug. 18, 9 a.m.-noon and 5-8 p.m. Holbrook Palmer Park, 150 Watkins Avenue, Atherton. Call 799-3600. www.athertonlacrosse.com

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

TWILIGHT HIKE July 12-13, 6-8 p.m. Nature education docents will lead hikes. Space is limited, advance registration is recommended. \$10 members/\$15 non-members.; \$1 children ages 5-12. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

WATERCOLOR MARBLING July 15, 10 a.m.-noon. All materials included. Learn the art of marbling by floating paint on water and transferring onto paper to make patterns. Students will produce and take home a print. Children ages 8-12 are welcome. \$30 members/\$35 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

FILM

"KULTUR" MOVIES Wednesdays, 1 p.m.: July 12: "Much Ado About Nothing"; July 19: "Lost in the Stars"; July 26: "Shower." 1-3 p.m. \$1 members/\$2 non-members. Little House, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. Call 326-2025. www.peninsulavolunteers.org

LICENSED TO THRILL FILM SERIES The Wicked Wit Rakes and Rebellion in the Restoration Festival presents films. Licensed to Thrill focuses on the period's fascination with rakes, libertines, and sexual liberation, featuring

post-film discussions led by Stanford faculty and theater company. Mondays, through Aug. 21, 7 p.m. Free Cubberley Auditorium, 485 Lausen Mall, Stanford. Call 725-5838. <http://summertheater.stanford.edu>

MONDAY MOVIES 1 p.m.: July 10: "Constant Gardner"; July 17: "Duma"; July 24: "Wallace & Gromit"; July 31: "Miss Congeniality". \$1 members/\$2 others. Little House, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. Call 326-2025. www.peninsulavolunteers.org

HEALTH

"FITNESS 9 TO 5 WORKDAY EXERCISES TO DE-STRESS" Shirley Archer will teach how to incorporate tone-ups and stretches into the workday. Includes book "Fitness 9 to 5." Tue., July 11, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$35 includes book. Kissick Auditorium, Arrillaga Family Sports Center, 641 Campus Dr., Stanford. Call 725-4416. <http://hip.stanford.edu>

"THE BEST DIET EVER" Dr. John Farquhar, scientist and Joyce Hanna, nutritionist will discuss topics in a 2-part course. See website for detailed description. Thu., July 13, noon - 1:15 p.m. \$30. Hoover Pavilion #400, 211 Quarry Rd, Stanford. Call 725-4416. <http://hip.stanford.edu>

LIVE MUSIC

CONCERT SERIES July 12, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Featuring Gary Tackett. Free. Fremont Park, Santa Cruz at University Avenue, Menlo Park. Call (209) 835-5656. www.garytackett.com

FIDDLING CRICKET CONCERTS WELCOMES Ledward Kaapana Tues., July 11, 8 p.m. \$16 advance/\$18 at the door. Little Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 369-4119. www.foxdream.com

MIGGS, SHAWN EVANS BAND AND FRED Sat., July 8, 8 p.m. \$12 advance/\$14 at the door. Little Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 369-4119. www.foxdream.com

MONTALVO PRESENTS HOOTIE & THE BLOWFISH Fri., July 14, 8 p.m. \$55. Fox Theatre, 2215 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 369-4119. www.foxdream.com

PETER ROWAN THE SINGER AND THE SONGS Thu., July 13, 8 p.m. \$18 advance/\$20 at the door. Little Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 369-4119. www.foxdream.com

REDWOOD CITY BLUES JAM Wed., July 12, 7 p.m. Free. Little Fox, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. Call 369-4119. www.foxdream.com

THE HEARTBEATS PLUS THE GROOVE KINGS Fri., July 7, 8 p.m. \$12 advance/\$14 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 Hotdog Suppertime Show. Bring a picnic or purchase food there. The musical follows the friendship of a Frog and grumpy Toad through four seasons. Wed.-Sat., July 7-8; Tue.-Sat., July 11-15, 6:30 p.m.; gates open at 5:45 p.m. \$4 children/\$8 adults Palo Alto Children's Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.

"BY JEEVES" A Wingspread Show. Bertie Wooster tries to help his friends find love, but ends up in predicaments from which only his clever manservant Jeeves can free him. A musical based on the books by P.G. Wodehouse. July 7-8, 7:30 p.m. \$4 children/\$8 adults Palo Alto Children's Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.

"WONDERLAND" Musical adaptation of Lewis Carroll's "Through the Looking Glass," presented by Peninsula Youth Theatre. Thu.-Sun., July 7-16. \$16/\$14/\$10 Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto.

"MOSCOW, UTAH" BY KRISTA KNIGHT The story of two sisters Janel and Irene Stevens who work from home to care for their sister Laura. July 7-8. Thu.-Sat., 8 p.m. \$12. Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Call 941-0551. www.busbarn.org

AN EVENING OF SHORTS 3 short acts in one night. "Red Telescope" by Trevor Allen.; "Tea in Miami" by Jeff Carter; "Leave a Message" by Fred Hartman. July 13-15, 8 p.m. \$12. Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Call 941-0551. www.busbarn.org

PLAYWRIGHT, PAMELA GIEN "THE SYRINGA TREE" Presented by Commonwealth Club Silicon Valley and TheatreWorks. About South African early racial oppression, challenging authority and a nation reborn. July 12, 7-8 p.m. \$15 general/\$9 Commonwealth Club members. Palo Alto Arts Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. www.commonwealthclub.org/sv.html

THEATREWORKS PRESENTS Its 37th season with the World Premiere musical "Vanities." The comedy captures the spirit of a bygone era and the eternal complexities of friendship. Through July 16. Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.; Wednesdays-Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 and 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 and 7 p.m. \$20-62. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. www.theatreworks.org

SENIORS

SENIOR HEALTH CHAT "Odds and Ends of Insurance" with Judy Duport of State Farm. Tues. July 11, 1-2:30 p.m. Sponsored with Senior New Ways. Free. Los Altos Senior Center, 97 Hillview Ave., Room 12, Los Altos. Call 947-2797. www.seniornewways.org

SENIOR HEALTH CHAT "Healing Vibrations" with Arlene Goetz. July 7, 10 a.m.-noon. Sponsored by Senior New Ways. Free. Los Altos United Methodist Church, Creekside Center, 655 Magdalena Ave, Los Altos. Call 209-1119.

MORE LISTINGS

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

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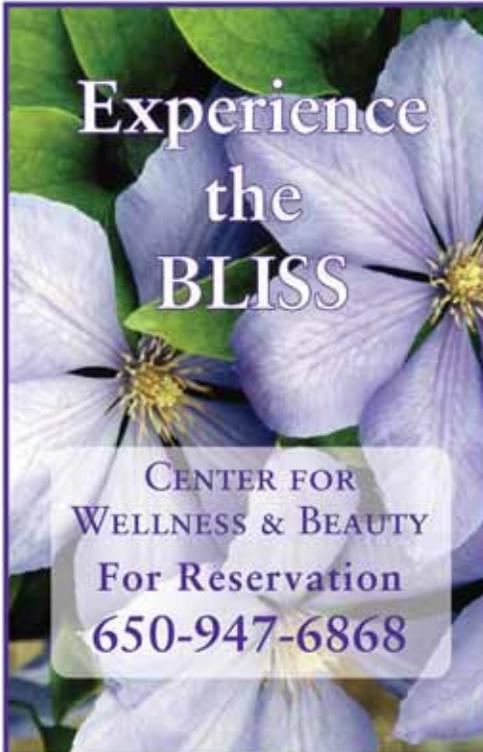
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■ OPEN SUNDAY 7/9, 1:30-4:30PM • 201/209 Mariposa Ave.
MOUNTAIN VIEW... There are 2 splendid homes on this non sub-dividable lot. The lovely Craftsman style cottage is a 2BR/1BA. Elegant River Rock frplc in LR, large eat-in kitch. 2nd home is a remodeled 3BR/2BA. New granite kitchen, French door to patio.
\$1,149,000



■ OPEN SUNDAY 7/9, 1:30-4:30PM • 2404 Sharon Oaks Drv.
MENLO PARK... Elegance in its finest! This townhouse tucked away among Oak & Redwood trees in desirable Sharon Heights! Sep. Dining room, Kitchen w/granite slab counters, custom Maple cabinets, beautiful hardwood flrs, Security alarm Sys., & more!
\$1,628,000



■ OPEN SAT&SUN, 7/8 & 7/9, 1:30-4:30PM • 1519 Quail Meadow Rd.
LOS ALTOS... Gracious LA country club Hm boasts 4BR, 3.5BA, Well appointed inside & out. Bay, city-lights & mtn vu. can be enjoyed from the property Loc. on flat lot surrounded by lush Grdn. Oak & redwd trees feat. a blk bottom pool, hot tub & gazebo.
\$3,489,000



MOUNTAIN VIEW... Beautiful 2BR/2.5BA+lrg loft. Cheerful eat-in kitch, lrg mstr ste w/walk-in closet, vaulted ceil, DBL paned windows, AC, low maintenace yd, lg 2 car gar w/storage cabinets. Close to Castro St & clatrain/lightrail, easy freeway access.
\$789,000



MOUNTAIN VIEW... Not to be missed opportunity! Own Rarely offered Office/Retail Condo in Prestigious Two Worlds Complex! Prime MV Location! High profile location w/most windows facing El Camino Real. Please NOTE that existing Bus. is NOT for sale.
\$630,000



■ OPEN SUNDAY 7/9, 1:30-4:30PM • 14482 Oak Place Ave.
SARATOGA... Brand new, sophisticated custom 4BR/3.5BA home in lovely dntwn neighborhood. Close to shops, rest. & park. Formal entry, LV w/marble frplce & DR w/wet bar. Skylights, vaulted ceilings. Travertine & hrdwd floors, in-law unit!
\$1,795,000



■ OPEN SAT&SUN, 7/8 & 7/9, 1:30-4:30PM • 250 Santa Fe Terrace #217
SUNNYVALE... Charming 2nd flr 3BR/2BA Condo & balc. Spacious LR w/frplc, high Ceil, new cpt, fresh paint, Mstr BR w/walk-in closet, new appl & marble kitch flr, upgraded Dbl sinks in Mstr BA, secured underground prkng, Pool & Jacuzzi in complex
\$549,000

ATHERTON

Prime West Atherton flag lot boasts sunny, approx. acre + level lot. Lot is cleared and ready for you to build your dream home. A perimeter of mature trees lends privacy to this lot. Menlo Park Schools. **\$3,950,000**

CUPERTINO

Spacious 5BR/3BA home luxuriously & extensively remod. Kitch w/brkfst nook, 3 cust BA w/claw ft tubs or waterfall shower. FR w/frplc, formal entry, hardwood flrs, crown molding & recessed lighting thru-out. Beautiful yards & 2 car gar. **\$1,542,000**

LOS ALTOS

Extraordinary 2 bedroom, 3 & a half bath home, w/dramatic architectural details & designer style in a private & serene setting. Great spaces for entertaining, out door frplc, spa, lap pool, koi pond and lush gardens shaded by oak trees **\$2,000,000**

LOS ALTOS HILLS

Elegantly designed estate. 5BR/5.5BA. Limestone/Slate & Pecan flrs., 5 Limestone flrplc's Formal ofc., Media Rm, Wine cellar, Exercise room, Hobby Rm, Entertainment Rm, 8-12 car garage. Completed guesthouse. **\$13,500,000**

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Opportunity Awaits! Existing 2BR/1BA house & outbuildings are to be considered "tear-downs". This parcel is waiting for Contractors/Developers to build investment properties. **\$990,000**

PACIFICA

Exceptional 5BR/3BA bay-view home on a fully fenced corner lot. Spacious MB w/large soaking tub, views, & walk-in closet. Kitchen/great room w/Granite countertops & Maple cabinetry. Soaring ceil. in LR/DR. FR w/fireplace, 2-car garage **\$1,188,000**

PALO ALTO

10,000 sq. ft lot, can Rbld sep unit. Sq. Ft. has not been verified by seller or Cashin Co. If sq. ft. is important to buyer, buyer should verify. In old PA, great potential build new/or Remod. Home has sep FR/DR. Deep lot w/big bkyd **\$1,999,900**

Fabulous location for this freshly painted 3BR/2BA Eichler. Remodeled eat-in kitchen w/breakfast bar, new carpeting, fireplace in living room. Sunny and bright generous yard, 2 car garage, Palo Alto Schools. **\$1,149,000**

Open Sat/Sun, 7/8&7/9, 1:30-4:30, 108 Ferne Ave. 2 bedroom/2 bath, cathedral ceilings, walls of glass, hardwood floors, living room with fireplace, the best Palo Alto schools, inside laundry and patio. **\$605,000**

SAN JOSE

Truely a unique 2BR/2BA home! Spectacuallr views of Santa Clara Valley to SF Bay, yet just minutes to SJ Airport! "State of the Art" Redwood design. Separate LR & FR, eat-in Kitch, pantry, den/study, 2 car gar & more! **\$879,000**

Elegant tri-level town home w/designer touches thru-out, features include cathedral ceil & frplc in LR, separate formal DR, expansive kitch w/ breakfast bar & great room, 2 luxurious mstr Ste, & attached two-car gar. Commun pool & spa. **\$615,000**

SUNNYVALE

Multi Units-Excellent Investment opportunity-10 units (1BR/1BA) Apartment Complex in Heart of Sunnyvale. Close to El Camino, stores & major freeways. New dual pane windows, new carpets, tile countertops, A/C, lots of parking! **\$1,665,000**

Well located town home-style condo in quiet sought after complex. 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath with nice front patio, spacious Living Room, Eat-in kitchen, 2 car attached garage with laundry. **\$585,000**

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