

Mountain View VOICE



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Report: ECHO caused problems for hospital

EL CAMINO'S NEW
COMPUTER SYSTEM LED
TO MEDICATION ERRORS,
AGENCY FINDS

By Alexa Tondreau

A government report on El Camino Hospital has found that the hospital's new computerized records system contributed to a spike in medication errors, including higher-than-recommended doses, immediately after its launch.

The computer system, called El Camino Hospital Online, or ECHO, was introduced in late March. It met criticism almost

immediately, especially after Mark Zielazinski, the executive responsible for launching the system, left the hospital only a month after the launch.

The report was issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), a federal agency. Complaints to CMS had prompted an on-site survey of the hospital in May by the state Department of Health Services.

The report, which includes El Camino's response plan, says that before the hospital was using ECHO, the average number of medication problems was 25. After the computer system was put in place, the number rose to 71 for the last week of March and the month of April.

According to the report, the misuse of ECHO, combined with other pharmacy errors, caused medication problems, inadequate monitoring of drugs by the pharmacy, and failure to document patient care plans.

Jon Friedenberg, vice president of resource development and a hospital spokesman, described El Camino as the first hospital on the planet to use such technology. He said the error increase was due to "the steep learning curve" involved with implementing the new technology on such a large scale.

"Most hospitals only use them part of the time. Our utilization is over 90 percent. It's a very powerful tool and with it comes a new system, language, format and interface," he said.

Medical staffers use ECHO to record all relevant information pertaining to a patient, including medication orders and care



NICHOLAS WRIGHT

HALL OF STONE: Arnd Herz, co-founder of House of Stone, stands among Zimbabwean artwork in the Mountain View City Hall rotunda. Herz founded the nonprofit organization to help African children orphaned by AIDS. **See Arts & Events, page 29.**

Council candidates get real

SALARIES, ACTIVISM AND SMART GROWTH DISCUSSED AT CITY HALL FORUM

By Daniel DeBolt

The eight candidates competing for three seats on the Mountain View City Council this November were put on the spot for the first time at a Chamber of Commerce candidate forum Aug. 31.

In a calm question-and-answer session in the city council chambers which was broadcast on KMVT, candidates were asked six questions, including whether to increase council pay, what kind of city projects they would like to fund and what is the difference between an activist and a council member.

"Your life is no longer your own," said Human Relations Commissioner Alicia Crank about transitioning from activist to council member. "You've

given it to the people and you have no one to blame for that decision but yourself."

Tian Harter, a Green Party activist, was candid on the subject.

"As an activist working with

when answering a question about balancing housing, businesses and open space. It might take "some homework," he said, "but I went through engineering school, I could probably do it."

Councilman Greg Perry, Harter said, "is the one I'd most like to emulate on this topic." At the Aug. 26 council meeting, Perry advocated for turning a 10-acre parcel considered for development near Whisman Station into a much-needed park. "I'd like to be the one who does that," Harter said.

Another underdog, John Webster, a Libertarian, was more theoretical in response to questions about city development. The city should not "restrict

volunteers, people will flake on you for the slightest excuse," he said, comparing council work to running a business with employees.

Harter got the biggest laughs

▶ See **CANDIDATES**, page 7

**Candidates
were asked six
questions in a calm
Q & A session.**

EDUCATION

Castro makes a comeback

NEWLY RELEASED
TEST SCORES SHOW
PROGRESS FOR
DISTRICT

By Alexa Tondreau

The Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) and Academic Performance Index (API) reports were released last week for Mountain View's 2005-06 school

▶ See **SCORES**, page 8

▶ See **ECHO**, page 12



Cindi Kodweis



SANTA CLARA ■ Fantastic Killarney Farms Home on beautiful street! Remodeled throughout. Gorgeous kitchen with granite counters. 3bd/2ba. **\$749,000**

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Judy & Jana Faulhaber



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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in Downtown Mountain View. Pictures and interviews by Andrea Pyka.

What do you like most about art-and-wine festivals?



"It depends on the kind of art. I always like good wine."
Gleb Frank, Mountain View



"I like looking at the handmade crafts."
Diane Fernandez, Sunnyvale



"The art, such as the paintings and photography. I also like the food, especially the crepes."
Sandy Chargin, Mountain View



"The community aspect. I like that it is a community-based event that doesn't feel very corporate."
T.G. Ricker, Mountain View



"I like the paintings and wine best."
Vladimir Mendoza, Redwood City



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■ QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“It will be interesting to see which comes first on the agenda.”

— COUNCIL MEMBER TOM MEANS,

ON TWO ITEMS FOR NEXT WEEK'S COUNCIL MEETING — ONE EXAMINING PROP. 90, THE OTHER STATING THAT COUNCIL MEMBERS SHOULD AVOID DISCUSSING NON-LOCAL MEASURES LIKE PROP. 90.

■ CRIMEWATCH

ARMED ROBBERY, 608 BLOCK SAN ANTONIO ROAD, 9/2

The Mountain View Police Department is still looking for a man who robbed the Citibank on San Antonio Road on Sept. 2. The man, wearing a blue, black and white windbreaker and a black ski mask, entered the bank at 10:21 a.m. and pointed a gun at the bank teller, demanding money. After receiving an undisclosed amount, the man ran towards the west driveway of the bank and disappeared.

He was described as a white male, 6 foot 2 and around 225 pounds. Anyone with information about the incident is asked

to call the department's investigations unit at (650) 903-6344.

STOLEN VEHICLE, CENTRAL EXPRESSWAY AND THOMPSON AVENUE, 8/31

On Aug. 31, a Mountain View police officer stopped a car that had run a red light and was speeding along Central Expressway. After pulling the car over, the officer discovered that the vehicle had just been reported stolen from Redwood City. Although one of the two women in the car gave the officer a false name, the officer was able to find their identities and both were arrested and charged with stealing the car.

■ POLICE LOG

AUTO BURGLARY

100 block Fairchild Dr., 8/31
Century 16 Cinema, 8/31

BATTERY

200 block Showers Dr., 8/29
3500 block Truman Ave., 8/29
200 block San Antonio Circle, 9/3
800 block San Lucas Ave., 9/3

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

2300 block Leghorn St., 8/30
1900 block Old Middlefield Way, 9/1

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

W. Dana St./View St., 9/3
700 block Continental Circle, 9/3

GRAND THEFT

100 block Castro St., 9/3

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

600 block Tyrella Ave., 8/29

STOLEN VEHICLE

2000 block Plymouth St., 8/31
Central Ex/Thompson Ave., 8/31
200 Central Ave., 9/3

VANDALISM

Eagle Park, 8/30
Belshaw Dr./Dierick Dr., 8/30
600 block Franklin St., 8/30
Dierick Dr./Kern Ct., 8/30
2300 block Latham St., 8/31
2600 block Miller Ave., 9/3

■ CORRECTIONS

An article in last week's *Voice*, "All that jazz in Mountain View," misquoted Michael Silver as saying that one in 20 people has cystic fibrosis. Silver actually said that one in 20 people is a carrier of the cystic fibrosis gene.

Also last week, the phone number of the Stanford Patient Education Research Center was inad-

vertently cut off. The full number for the center is (800) 366-2624.

Due to a typographical error, the name of a food vendor in the Art & Wine Festival guide's map was mislabeled. The vendor at Space F3 is called Armenian Trex Fraternity, and sells lamb kebobs.

The *Voice* regrets the errors.

Inspirations

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9:45 am Church School Nursery
11:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary,
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Foodie's friend redux

By Don Frances

YET MORE food news: Leadership Mountain View, a program of the city's Chamber of Commerce, has hit upon an idea to help diners dine while kicking cash back to the Chamber.

The program, called Dine Mountain View, works like this: Purchase a Dine Mountain View card for \$20 and get 20 percent off at participating restaurants through the month of October.

Simple enough. A list of the participating restaurants can be found at www.chambermv.org/leadership, or by calling (650) 968-8378. ...

Incidentally, the cards are available at any of the Chamber's info booths during the 35th Annual Mountain View Art & Wine Festival this weekend. Which reminds me to remind you to come on down to Castro Street this weekend for some art and wine. ...

SPEAKING OF restaurants online, one reader, who identified himself only as Andrew, did a bit of enterprise reporting and seems to have discovered the maker of the Mountain View restaurants Web site I described last week:

"I saw your recent article 'The foodie's friend' about the handy site www.mountainviewca.net," he wrote. "For what it's worth, the site appears to be registered to one Jeffrey Zolotar of Mountain View. I just pulled that from information freely available via a WHOIS query (<http://www.register.com/retail/whois.rcmx>, in my case)."

Thanks, Andrew. And as for you, Mr. Zolotar, the gig is up. You may as well step forward and face the music — in this case, a lot of appreciative thanks from local residents. ▀

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



NICHOLAS WRIGHT

Al Stuetzle sits in his home at the Sahara Mobile Home Park. He recently settled a court case with his neighbor Iris Lubitz.

Court ends Sahara cat fight

ROUND 2 OF SPAT IN MOBILE HOME PARK RESOLVED WITH FINE

By Daniel DeBolt

An old cat fight at Sahara mobile home park has reared its head once again, resulting in two residents appearing in court Aug. 28 in a case of defamation.

The judge ruled in favor of Al Stuetzle, 85, who charged neighbor Iris Lubitz with defamation for distributing letters around the park claiming Stuetzle abused and killed cats and was under investigation by the Humane

Society and Animal Control of Palo Alto. Both agencies provided letters saying Stuetzle was not under investigation.

Lubitz, who was ordered to pay fines, declined to comment. Another resident, Paula Dorst, said in an e-mail that she didn't believe Lubitz distributed the letters.

Stuetzle showed the judge that the signature on the letter matched one in a letter Lubitz wrote to the park management on the issue. The letter to management says the police came

three times to Stuetzle's house to investigate calls that he was abusing cats. Stuetzle was not found to be abusing cats, and police spokesman Jim Bennett said there have been no reports of cat abuse in the park for over a year.

As result of the recent rumors spreading around the park, Stuetzle found yellow paint poured on his porch and received anonymous letters threatening him if

► See **MOBILE**, page 14

Barbeque ashes ignite St. Francis blaze

Bay City News

Ashes from a barbecue grill discarded in a Dumpster accidentally started a fire at St. Francis High School and caused thousands of dollars in damage early Tuesday morning, the Mountain View Fire Department reported.

A passerby reported the two-alarm blaze at 1:21 a.m., fire spokesman Lynn Brown said.

Brown said several people had a barbecue at the school on Friday night during a football game, and that some people returned Monday for a Labor Day roast. They discarded the still-smoldering ashes into a Dumpster stand-

ing next to a loading dock for the school's kitchen.

The charcoal ashes, which Brown said can smolder for days unless properly disposed of in a metal container or soaked with water, flared up and reignited cardboard dumped in the trash container. The flames licked the wall of the kitchen and cafeteria while spreading upward toward the roof and attic.

Brown said firefighters had to pull down several ceilings to extinguish the hot attic fire, which damaged the school's heating and ventilation system.

Brown said several classrooms were unusable, but that construction crews worked hard to

restore power to the classrooms by Wednesday.

Graffiti reading "The Da Vinci Code" drawn on a school building appeared to be unrelated to the fire, and someone could have written the graffiti on Friday, when a lot of people were roaming the campus, Brown said.

The people who discarded the ashes were unlikely to face any penalties, such as fines for negligence, because the incident was an accident, Brown said.

He did, however, urge people to use barbecue grills with caution, noting that ashes should always be soaked with water and disposed of in metal containers away from flammable materials. ▀

Day workers in support of S.F. rally

By Daniel DeBolt

Speaking out against immigration reform bills being considered in Congress, about 36 people gathered at Mountain View's worker center Sept. 1, giving a preview of the larger Labor Day demonstration to come in San Francisco.

The Friday press conference was one of 40 happening simultaneously across the country, said Renee Saucedo, director of the San Francisco day laborer program. Speakers promised that the San Francisco rally would be a continuation of the rallies held earlier this year.

"Believe in us, we come to this country to work," said Abel Aguilar Hernandez, who spoke for the workers at the Mountain View day worker center.

The press conference was attended by several media outlets, mostly TV stations. Day laborers and their families lined up in front of the center at 1800 California Street, holding signs that read "amnesty for immigrants" and "reunification for immigrant families."

Speakers denounced H.R. 4437, which would "criminalize our communities and our day labor centers," said Carlo Mares of Oakland's day worker center. They also denounced anti-immigrant activist groups, and cities that would pass laws kicking day workers off street corners.

"The problem begins at the top of the economic ladder, not at the bottom, as they would like to think," said Davin Cardenas, a protest organizer from Sonoma.

On Labor Day, the march in San Francisco filled three blocks on Market Street. Another March in San Jose was by far the largest in the Bay Area, with 25,000 people stretching 10 blocks. ▀

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

Council may drop endorsements

MEANS SAYS MEMBERS LACK TIME, EXPERTISE TO STUDY NON-LOCAL MEASURES

By Daniel DeBolt

On Sept. 12, the city council plans to discuss the idea of rejecting all requests to endorse propositions on a county, state and federal level, in order to focus on supporting measures from within the city, such as the one it passed in support of Hangar One's restoration.

The proposal is being advanced by council member Tom Means, who thinks the council doesn't have time to fairly evaluate many endorsements.

When the council considered backing the county's open space initiative in July, which would protect open space outside city limits, the endorsement failed because half of the council abstained from the vote. Abstaining members said the initiative wasn't worth expending city resources on since it didn't directly impact the city.

Galiotto said he wouldn't support Means' "blanket" proposal, but would support one that considers a proposition's impact on the city.

"State and federal issues are a distraction for local officials,"

said Vice Mayor Greg Perry. "It may make a city official feel more important if he or she issues a proclamation about key issues of the day, but our job is to read the garbage contract and think about how to find funds for more parks."

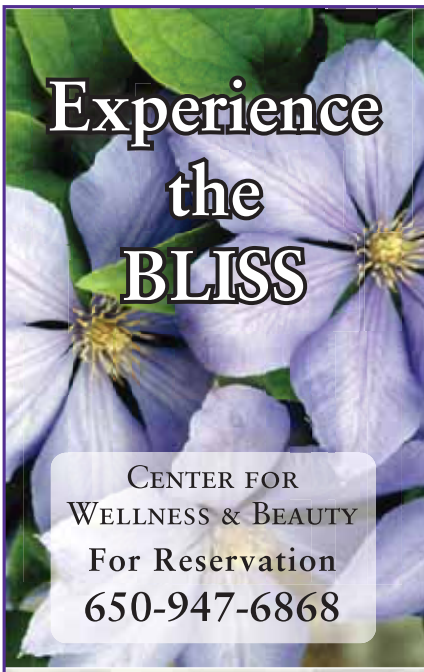
Council member Laura Macias said it was sometimes important to take stands on issues beyond the city boundaries.

"We are not an island separated from the rest of civilization," she said. "Not every issue needs to be vetted, but certainly issues such as Prop. 90, the 'endless lawsuit prop,' or AB 2987, which greatly eases the way for telecom providers to enter the statewide cable market, are worth taking positions on for the continuing fiscal welfare of our city."

The proposal will be discussed the same day that council member Mike Kasperzak raises Proposition 90 for discussion. Prop. 90 is a November ballot measure that is intended to restrict eminent domain, but has many worried about provisions that would paralyze the city with lawsuits from property owners.

"It will be interesting to see which comes first on the agenda," Means said. ▣

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



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CANDIDATES

► Continued from page 1

zoning” and “stop the free market” as the city grows, he said.

When the council was asked how the city should grow, John Inks, a parks and recreation commissioner, said he regarded the Mayfield development as a good example of smart growth, which he characterized as centralizing growth in the city “so we don’t create pressure” to develop open spaces at the edge of town.

Jac Siegel, chair of the environmental planning commission, said in his opening remarks that he put parks and open space at the top of his priorities. But he added that a strong local economy was the way to raise money for parks.

A recent report by the Bay Area Council, which gave Mountain View an “F” for meeting housing needs, was blasted by some for the candidates, including Inks, who called Mountain View a model for affordable housing.

Ronit Bryant agreed, saying that she wanted to work for quality of life in Mountain View instead of making new housing a priority.

Candidates balk at raise

Residents will decide on Measure C in November, which would triple council members’ salaries to \$1,500 per month.

Crank said she thought increasing council pay was important.

“It opens it up to the community as a whole,” she said. Silicon Valley is “the land of milk and

honey, but for everyone that’s not the case. Doing something like this would be out of the picture for them.”

Margaret Abe-Koga said she wouldn’t support an increase in council pay. But the longtime activist and former human relations commissioner said she would support empowering the city’s various commissions to take on more of the council’s work, so that council members wouldn’t need to be compensated for so much work.

Inks and Siegel said they also were opposed to raising pay. “I don’t need the money,” Inks said. Both have experience as engineering managers at aerospace companies; Siegel said he managed as many as 1,000 people.

Human relations commissioner Kalwant Sandhu responded with the one jab — albeit a good-natured one — between opponents that night:

“I wish I was in the position of John [Inks], he doesn’t need the money.”

But Sandhu said he would give his first year’s salary to schools, if elected.

When the candidates were asked what city projects need more money, several seemed caught off guard. Inks, Siegel, and Sandhu said they want the city to consider finding cheaper water sources when the Hetch-Hetchy system undergoes repairs. Water rates could increase by 200 to 300 percent, Siegel said.

At the end of the night, when the candidates gave closing remarks, Sandhu said, “I could get used to sitting in this chair another four years.”



Margaret Abe-Koga



Ronit Bryant



Alicia Crank



Tian Harter



Jac Siegel



Kai Sandhu



John Inks



John Webster

sitting in this chair another four years.”

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

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Eshoo prods Navy on Hangar One

By Daniel DeBolt

Reading between the lines, advocates for saving Hangar One at Moffett Field are calling a letter from Congresswoman Anna Eshoo to Secretary of the Navy Donald Winter a “severe indictment” of the Navy’s actions regarding the historic structure, which the Navy may still demolish.

The letter, sent Aug. 10, commends the Navy’s decision in July to reevaluate its options for cleaning up the toxic siding on Hangar One and come back to the public for additional comment.

But since July the Navy has not commented on its process, saying only that the public will be notified when a new environmental evaluation and cost analysis is finished. Eshoo calls for “a fully transparent and open process,” in the letter, something Hangar One advocates have been seeking for years.

Also in the letter, Eshoo prods the Navy for answers to 11 pointed questions. She asks why the Navy’s estimate for demolition for the Hangar is \$19 million lower than NASA’s estimate, which is thought to be more comprehensive.

She asks when the new environmental and cost analysis will be released, what new information will be made public, and whether the public will get another 60-day public comment period. And she asks what criteria will be used for selecting an option for cleanup, how much the public will be informed of the options, and whether the Navy is on track to complete the project in a timely manner.

“Others have noted that the Navy did not address how it will protect the public from exposure to contamination during the cleanup,” she writes. “Will the Navy respond to these concerns in the new evaluation and

will the Navy propose any new alternatives to address these concerns?”

Navy spokesman Rick Weisenborn said in July that the environmental evaluation and cost analysis were pulled in July because of public comments, which delighted preservationists. He also said new information from contractors confirmed that demolition would be cheaper than restoration, but that the difference between the two costs was lower than previously thought.

Neither the Navy nor Eshoo’s office returned calls about the letter by press time. Its full text can be read at www.nuqu.org.

A Moffett Field Restoration Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Sept. 14 at City Hall. Hangar One has an unusually short five minutes reserved for it on the agenda. ■

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

SCORES

► Continued from page 1

year. Both districts saw overall improvement, and Mountain View Whisman’s Castro Elementary, which had been designated “program improvement” for the past two years, turned in excellent results.

By raising its score 37 points and meeting all of its AYP goals, Castro has made a critical move in reversing the process of cor-

rective action that comes with No Child Left Behind.

Schools that do not make the AYP are given a “program improvement” status by the federal government. Any school that is designated program improvement — or “PI” for short — for two or more years must offer eligible children other educational options, such as tutoring, placement in a higher-performing school in the district, or access to after-school programs.

It will take Castro two years of meeting AYP goals to exit from PI status altogether. For now, Associate Superintendent Mary Lairon says the district is “very excited about Castro’s dramatic improvement.”

The scores did indicate some problems for Mountain View Whisman: Neither Crittenden nor Graham met API growth goals in mathematics for 2006. In response, the district will carefully analyze individual student data and grade-level data in relation to the various math topics covered by the testing. Additionally, MV Whisman plans to administer its own testing at the end of the first and second trimesters of this school year. That way, Lairon explained, teachers “can improve students’ achievement along the way rather than waiting until we get the state test results back in the summer.”

For the long term, MV Whisman has partnered with a research-based collaborative called WestEd which will provide researchers and practitioners to assist the school with math achievement in the fourth and fifth grades, and especially for the English language learning

population in the district.

The standards for middle school grades in math are very rigorous, and WestEd, which is in part funded by the federal government, should “have a significant effect on how our students do in middle school and beyond,” Lairon said.

One feature of the API and AYP score reports is that they provide a breakdown of progress based on significant sub-groups, including gender, ethnic and economic status. The API report showed that the Mountain View-Los Altos School District, which met all of its math and language-arts requirements overall, had seen a small decline in the growth score for its socioeconomically disadvantaged students and students with disabilities. MVLA was somewhat surprised, Associate Superintendent Brigitte Sarraf said, since educators felt that “we had done all the right things.” MVLA intends to explore its possibilities for fixing the problem, including reexamining the curriculum with these sub-groups in mind. There were 394 students in the district considered to be socioeconomically disadvantaged for 2006, and 237 who had disabilities.

Sarraf went on to explain that the two sub-groups are traditionally difficult to help. For the disabled students, “the severity of disabilities varies” year to year, and the district often finds that socioeconomically disadvantaged students arrive in the district “with significant gaps in their education that take time to fill.” ■

E-mail Alexa Tondreau at atondreau@mv-voice.com



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Relay kicks off fire prevention month

DEPARTMENTS HOPE TO RAISE AWARENESS IN ANNUAL DRIVE

By Andrea Pyka

A parade of retired fire engines drove up the Peninsula Thursday morning for the annual Burn Relay, an event benefitting the Alisa Ann

Ruch Burn Foundation.

Every year, Bay Area fire departments, together with foundation officials and other agencies, hold relays in five different locations, including the Peninsula, to show support and raise awareness about fire dangers.

On Aug. 31, firefighters and other community members gathered at Moffett Field to begin

the rally, which traveled up El Camino Real all the way to San Francisco.

"There was an old ambulance that was like the one from the 'Ghostbusters' movie, it was very sixties-era," said Lynn Brown, a spokesman for the Mountain View Fire Department.

The burn foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to burn prevention and

survivor assistance. Established in 1971, the group derived its name from 8-year-old Alisa Ann Ruch, who died from a fatal burn received in a backyard barbecue accident.

"The Burn Relay is the kick-off event for fire prevention month in October," said Brown.

As part of the campaign, the Mountain View department will host a pancake breakfast

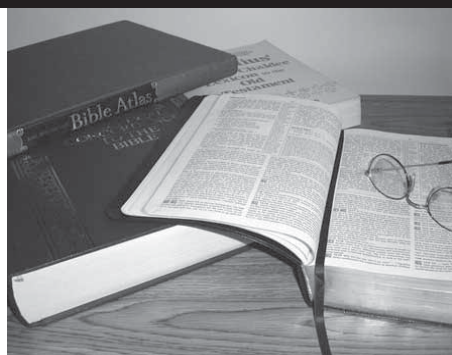
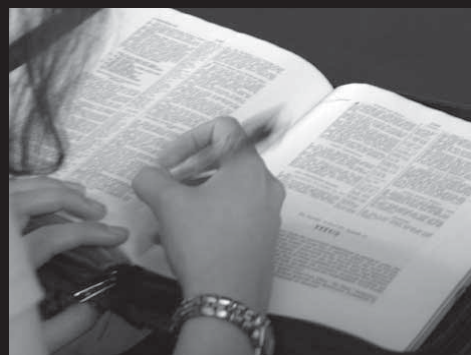
Oct. 7 to benefit the burn foundation.

"Last year we raised \$7,000 at the pancake breakfast, and this year we hope to raise \$10,000," said Brown.

For more information about the burn foundation, visit their Web site at www.aarbf.org.

E-mail Andrea Pyka at apyka@mv-voice.com

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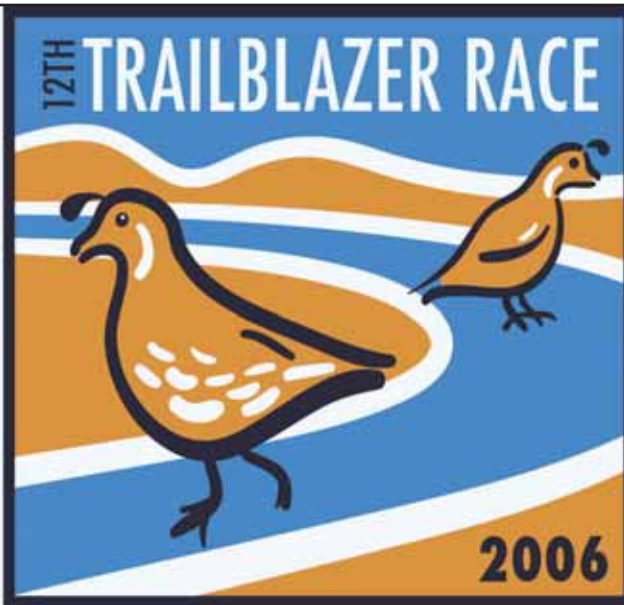
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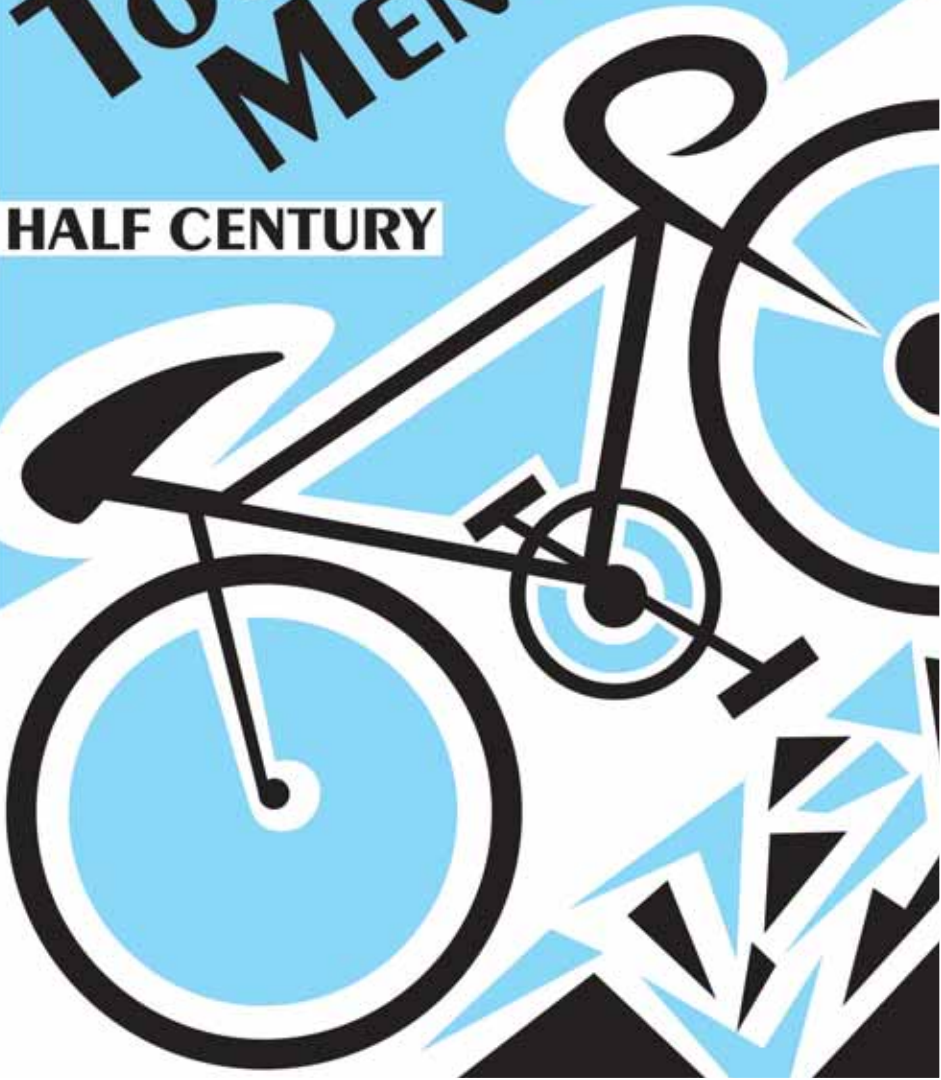
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ECHO

► Continued from page 1

instructions. The \$8 million system features a computerized physician-order entry which is intended to do away with illegibly written prescriptions. It also automatically helps to monitor medication dosage, including harmful drug combinations. It can be accessed all over the hospital, including on wireless tablets and mobile work stations.

One of the problems CMS surveyors found in their visit to El Camino was that the increase of medication errors

was not being addressed with an effective plan of action by hospital staff. In response to the survey, El Camino pledged to do daily reviews of medication administration

reports for six months, to hire additional pharmacy support, and to reactivate its ECHO Super User system, which provides 24-hour assistance to staff.

The CMS report documents several patients who received a greater dose of medication than the recommended amount, and says some patients received the doses for long periods before mistakes were caught. One patient, the report says, was subject to a medication error for two days — until the mistake was finally caught by a CMS surveyor.

Friedenberg said he had no knowledge of any injuries that have resulted from pharmaceutical mistakes.

“El Camino is extremely safe,” he said. He noted that similar instances can be found in all hospitals.

Friedenberg explained ECHO as part of an “overall system of checks and balances” that includes the participation and communication of the pharmacy

with doctors and nurses.

In June, CMS notified El Camino that “serious deficiencies” had been reported in the hospital’s pharmaceutical services. As a result, the hospital temporarily lost its status as a provider meeting Medicare’s “conditions of participation.”

That same month, the hospital hired a pharmacy management company called Cardinal Health, which provided a consultant and its own interim director. Cardinal Health is working to address ECHO and other problems, and will be with El Camino for an indefinite period of time.

CEO Ken Graham said in a statement that “The implementation of a system like ECHO is an ongoing process. Our physicians, nurses, pharmacists and IT staff continue to work

successfully with our vendor to enhance our new computer system.”

ECHO is scheduled to undergo its first series of customizations next year, allowing the hospital to adjust the software to fit its needs. While certain documents still must be physically written out, the hospital hopes to become paperless in the future, recording everything on its computer system.

For now, the hospital awaits the results of a second survey done in early August, which checked to see that the appropriate corrections were put in place. Upon passing this inspection, El Camino will have its Medicare provider status restored.

In the past two years, El Camino has been rated among the top five hospitals in the country by the Commonwealth Fund and the American Hospital Association Quest for Quality. ▀

‘El Camino is extremely safe.’

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Lieber's hospital bill clears Senate

STATE LEGISLATION
WOULD DECLARE
EL CAMINO A
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By Alexa Tondreau

The state Senate passed a bill last week that declares the El Camino Hospital District, and the hospital itself, a public entity.

Now, if Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signs the bill into law by the Sept. 30 deadline, it will make El Camino more accountable to the people it serves, according to Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, who wrote the legislation. But hospital representatives say the bill is just a shill to unions hoping to enact "agency shop."

The nonprofit hospital, which is supported by taxes and bond measures, is run by the El Camino Hospital District, which has a publicly elected board of directors and holds open meetings.

The district also has its nonprofit board, which handles the corporate operations of the hospital and meets in private. In the past this board has been hesitant to release some of its financial information to the public, leading to separate lawsuits filed by the Voice and the Service Employees International Union Local 715.

Lieber says she designed the legislation in response to these suits, and as a way to determine whether the hospital should follow public agency or nonprofit rules for financial disclosure. Lieber stressed that the bill in itself doesn't make the hospital a public entity — because it already is — but "clarifies that they are one and that they have the same obligations as any other

public entity."

The SEIU's lawsuit is being processed by the courts, and the union is still rallying for the hospital to allow a new election to determine agency shop status. If passed by employees, agency shop would force all of the hospital's employees to be represented by the union.

California's Public Employment Relations Board, an agency that oversees the collective bargaining statutes covering public employees, recently made the decision that El Camino workers can have an agency shop election. Gayle Tiller, the union's communications director, said the SEIU "is hopeful that El Camino doesn't play any legal tricks and appeal the election."

While there is no word what El Camino's next move will be, Jon Friedenberg, the hospital's spokesman, said Tuesday that "our position hasn't changed," and that the hospital believes the SEIU continues "to impose agency shop on our employees without their consent."

Tiller believes that Lieber's bill would "make the case stronger" for an election. The bill received bipartisan support in the Senate, and Lieber, who stated that she has a good working relationship with the governor, thinks the bill "has a very good chance." ▀

E-mail Alexa Tondreau at atondreau@mv-voice.com

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MOBILE

► Continued from page 5

he didn't leave the park.

The incidents have their roots in a conflict that raged from 2001 to 2004, when then-resident Betty Galin allegedly assaulted Stuetzle and vandalized his home after she thought she saw him abusing a cat with a stick. Stuetzle said he had caught a skunk in a park-issued trap, and was trying to let it out from a distance.

A judge dropped the charges on Galin after she came to a settlement with Stuetzle. She was forced to leave the park, and Stuetzle took out a restraining order against her.

According to George Whittaker, district manager of Sahara Village and several other parks owned by Los Altos resident John Vidovich, trapping feral cats at the park is a common practice, because many people dump cats in the open space along Highway 85 next to the park. "It's what we've always done," he said, adding that he doesn't believe the accusations made against Stuetzle are true.

For his part, Stuetzle said he hasn't had a trap since the 2001 conflict.

He showed the *Voice* threatening letters from neighbors who believed Stuetzle was killing cats. One told Stuetzle to get out of the park "if you know what's good for you," and another called him a "cat killer." Garbage and paint were thrown on his porch.

Neighbor Petra Ebangi said she was surprised that the issue, which she thought was resolved in 2004, was being brought up again. She said Stuetzle was a nice guy on the

whole, and would never abuse a cat — in fact, she leaves her cat with him, and he "spoils it," she said.

The real cause of conflict, Stuetzle says, is a longstanding feud between him and a handful of neighbors convinced the park's management is trying to close the park and turn it into high density housing. Stuetzle said he took the residents to task on the issue because many elderly residents were distraught, knowing they had nowhere else to go. The old accusations were brought up again, he said, after he countered the claims about the park closing.

Stuetzle said he is in the process of installing a video surveillance system.

"We're desperate for closure on his thing," he said.

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

OBITUARY

FRANK JIMENEZ

Frank Jimenez, a World War II Veteran, passed away on Thursday, Aug. 31, at the age of 82.

A native of San Leandro and a longtime Mountain View resident, Jimenez was a loving husband to his wife of 58 years, Gabriella Jimenez. He is survived by his two children, Judy Varley and Daniel Jimenez, as well as his grandson Blaine Johnson and sister Pauline Gibson.

Visitation was on Wednesday, followed by a funeral service at Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary in Mountain View. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the American Heart Association.

BEFORE THE AFTER

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Harry and Ida Pinto, husband and wife, passed away on same day

By Andrea Pyka

Harry and Ida Pinto, Mountain View residents married for 67 years, died within 12 hours of each other on Aug. 26. Both were both 91 years old.

The family did not disclose the cause or place of death, although according to the couple's daughter, Ida did not know that her husband's death had occurred before she passed away.

Harry was born April 30, 1915, in San Francisco. He was raised in Mountain View and went to Mountain View High School. He met Ida in 1938, and they married a year later at St. Joseph Church in Mountain View.

As a Marine during World War II, Harry became a prisoner of war at Cabanatuan in the Philippines. He was awarded a Silver Star, two Bronze Stars and two Purple Hearts.

He retired as a 2nd lieutenant in 1960, later studied at Santa Clara University and became an assis-

tant tax assessor for Santa Clara County. He was also the proprietor of Hallmark Stationary in downtown Mountain View.

Ida was born July 17, 1915, in Vacaville. She was a star basketball player for the woman's basketball team at Vacaville High School, and won many speed typing contests in the Sacramento area.

She later moved to Mountain View and became assistant city clerk. She attended Healds Business College and, after graduating, became head bookkeeper for her family grocery store chain, Escano.

Harry and Ida had two daughters and one son. Both were lifelong members of the Mountain View Historical Society.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations for Ida Pinto be sent to hospice or Alzheimer's organizations, and for Harry Pinto to Special Olympics or Paralyzed Veterans of America. ♣

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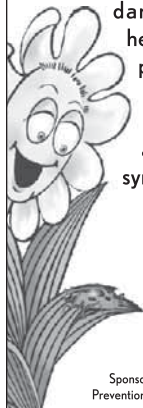


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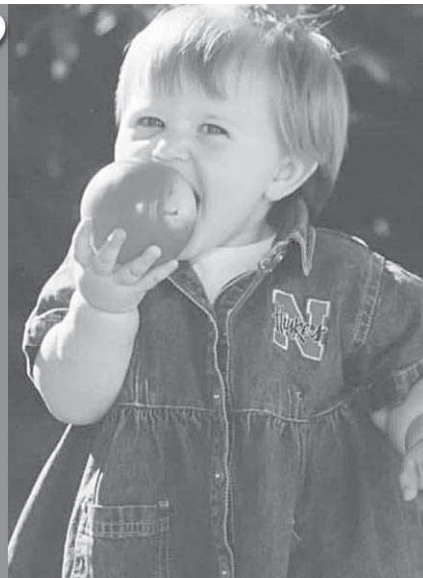
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State Assembly passes pedicure safety bill

Bay City News

Legislation is headed for Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's desk that would strengthen sanitary standards for pedicure providers and increase fines for noncompliance, following reports of skin infections linked to Northern California salons.

AB 409, which passed the state Assembly last Wednesday on a 55-20 vote, was re-introduced as urgency legislation by Assembly Speaker Pro Tem Leland Yee, D-San Francisco, according to his spokesman Adam Keigwin, in response to recent allegations that a Sunnyvale woman died in June from a pedicure-related infection. The woman's family claims she contracted the infection from a Mountain View nail salon.

The legislation would establish minimum cleaning requirements for pedicure equipment and increase fines to as much as \$500 per unsanitary foot-spa chair, as well as authorize the state barbering and cosmetology board to immediately suspend a business' license without an advance hearing, if violations discovered pose a significant threat to public health and safety.

In Santa Clara County in 2004, an outbreak affected a total of 143 customers traced back to 33 different salons, all of

which had improperly washed foot-spas that harbored transmittable bacteria, according to the state regulatory board.

In 2000, more than 100 customers developed skin boils after visits to a single Watsonville salon, the state regulatory board reported.

The bill would go into effect immediately if approved by the governor, who has until Sept. 30 to sign the bill, according to Keigwin.

The governor has vetoed similar legislation before; however, in his veto memo, he requested that the Department of Consumer Affairs develop a "working group on foot spa safety."

Department of Consumer Affairs Director Charlene Zettel in June unveiled the working group's recommendations, including new cleaning requirements and increasing fines, which are incorporated in Yee's bill.

The bill's crafters originally wanted to include a provision that would require businesses found in violation to post a sign on their doors explaining the infractions. But Keigwin said the governor indicated he would veto such a bill, because it would be unfair to those businesses that corrected the violation immediately but could not remove the sign until the next inspection. ■

NEWS BRIEFS

SANTA CLARA COUNTY TO EXPAND AIDS TESTING

Free HIV/AIDS testing will soon be available for Santa Clara County residents in several high-risk areas, the county Board of Supervisors decided last week when it approved \$375,000 to fight the disease.

Nearly 900 people infected with HIV/AIDS in the county are unaware that they have the virus, according to estimates by the Centers for Disease Control and local officials.

County officials hope to reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS by reaching out to high-risk populations, such as intravenous drug users, who may not know that they are infected and could transmit the virus to others.

"This effort will reach across cultural, economic and social boundaries," Supervisor Blanca Alvarado said. "It will help to make our community safer."

The county currently has two HIV/AIDS testing sites, but from January to October next year, testing will be expanded to areas including San Jose, Sunnyvale, Mountain View, Palo Alto and Los Altos.

County officials estimate that the program will yield 7,000 additional HIV/AIDS tests, of which an estimated 2 percent, about 140 people, will test positive.

The money will also pay for four additional counselors who will provide information about prevention and treatment.

CALTRAIN'S VISION: 10 FAST, ELECTRIC TRAINS AN HOUR

Caltrain officials have offered a peek into their far-ranging plan for the next 20 years, a system-wide capital improvement project for Peninsula train service known as Project 2025 — including up to 10 fast, electrified trains per hour.

The main goals are to improve safety and reliability throughout the system to make way for future expansion, including faster and more frequent trains, Caltrain spokesman Jonah Weinberg said.

Specific projects include improvements to the North Terminal in San Francisco and the South Terminal in San Jose, and by 2012, replacing diesel trains with electric ones and opening the Dumbarton Rail Corridor over the Bay between Menlo Park and Union City.

"The U.S. is a third world country when it comes to rail travel, but this will make Caltrain a world-class rapid rail transit system."

Weinberg said that project planners expect this "multi-billion dollar undertaking" could be funded from a variety of sources, including the San Mateo County half-cent sales tax used for transportation projects, as well as federal and state funding.

Caltrain staff is scheduled to deliver a final plan to the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board at its Oct. 5 meeting.

— Bay City News



Len Tillem Esq.

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■ EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Prop. 90's bait and switch

Local government officials all over the state are worried about a little-known initiative — Proposition 90 — that could cause a sea change in the way cities do business. And property owners should worry too.

The November ballot measure aims to convince voters that they must back Prop. 90 to protect their private property from being “taken” by evil government agencies. That charge is bogus, and we hope Mountain View residents oppose the measure, which is backed by New York millionaire Howard Rich, who is also funding similar measures in five other western states.

Using the highly charged title “Save Our Homes Act,” proponents of Prop. 90 are attempting to traffic in the fear spread by a recent Supreme Court decision that authorized a local government to take several small homes in order to build a commercial development in Connecticut. A close read of Proposition 90 shows that its real purpose is not to oppose eminent domain, but to hamstring agencies that routinely pass zoning ordinances and other regulations that impact private property.

If Proposition 90 were to pass, any action by a government agency in California could force that agency to pay damages to an owner who successfully proved in court that his or her property lost value as a result of the action. This part of Prop. 90 runs far afield of any perceived threat of property being taken by eminent domain.

Mountain View City Manager Kevin Duggan said information indicates “that it goes well beyond what some might view as eminent domain reform.” He added, “It is sufficiently vague to probably create a whole new area of litigation” and is one of few such measures to be opposed by the California League of Cities.

Area residents are already experiencing the pain of similar property rights litigation filed by Saratoga resident Aaron Katz, which stymied sale of \$148 million in bonds for El Camino Hospital's expansion project until Katz was paid \$200,000 to back off. Another suit by Katz has left in limbo the sale of nearly \$500 million in voter-approved bonds for the Foothill-De Anza Community College District, and the Mountain View Whisman School District has spent thousands of dollars defending a parcel tax opposed by Katz.

Local governments and special districts were formed and approved by voters to act in the public interest, a fact many private property advocates have lost sight of in recent years. In virtually all cases, the taking of any property or the so-called “down-zoning” of private holdings is avoided or adequate compensation is provided. Attorneys like Mr. Katz would have a field day suing local governments if Prop. 90 is made into law.

Besides adding red tape and expensive lawsuits, Prop. 90 could drive up the costs of virtually any public works project, including schools, roads, and public safety buildings. Environmental groups fear Prop. 90 could block enactment of environmental protections at all levels of government.

There is no good reason for Prop. 90 to be enacted today. Government agencies are not running roughshod over California property owners. Eminent domain is not a terrorist threat to private property rights. But Prop. 90 could easily be a costly thorn in the side of local governments, and at the same time line the pockets of attorneys who would gladly use it to their own advantage.

■ LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

STANDARDIZED TESTS A POOR TOOL TO RATE SCHOOLS

Editor:

As a resident of Mountain View for 16 years, I was pleased to read that our public schools scored well in the last round of California STAR testing. But as an educator, I believe that standardized tests are poor tools for evaluating schools, and using test data this way is invalid.

The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires California to judge our schools primarily on standardized testing data. This is unfair because the STAR exams do not test what we teach. Instead, they sample a large body of knowledge and are not well aligned to the curriculum taught in our schools.

In addition, aggregate test scores for a school or a grade level within a given school tend to reflect non-school

factors such the percentage of students who are English-language learners, live in poverty, or have gone to multiple schools because their families move frequently, rather than the quality of instruction or classes.

When used properly, data from standardized testing can help us evaluate curriculum, improve instruction and make policy decisions. But we should not use standardized test scores to grade our schools because it is unjust.

Joseph Chee
Ada Avenue

BIG FAN OF GOOGLE WIRELESS NETWORK

Editor:

I just finished reading your Aug. 25 article titled “Express-Nets extends reach of Google WiFi,” and wanted to comment on how great this service offered

► See **LETTERS**, page 18





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SPEAKING UP SINCE 1992

Mountain View VOICE

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, Sept. 14, 2006, 7 to 8:30 p.m.
At: Mountain View City Hall, Fourth Floor
500 Castro Street
Mountain View, CA 94041

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.

LETTERS

► Continued from page 17

by Google truly is.

I have grown up in California, and my husband and I are both in our late 20s and have college degrees. We just moved to Mountain View from the South Bay, work full time, and found that what we could afford in the Bay Area was ... well ... a mobile home.

Our budget is such that we have elected to not have television, a landline telephone (as we have cell phones), or Internet, because it would simply be too expensive.

I work in eCommerce, so this decision was tough. Though I am on the Internet at my place of employment all day, we do not have the time for personal business. When I read that Google launched its WiFi for Mountain View, I was so ecstatic it is impossible to put into words.

The Internet has become such an indispensable part of modern life, both business and personal, that it seems almost counter-intuitive for companies to *not* want individuals to have the ability to access the Web for free.

The amount of money spent on online consumer goods is staggering. The money that a company would have to spend to provide Internet service to a city is paltry by comparison. To make a long story short, I am so grateful to Google as I type this up on the couch in my living room that I hope that other companies follow suit, mainly because we have a problem in California with too many individuals being overqualified and underemployed.

Companies will profit from these individuals when the time comes that they need people to fill positions, buy products, or promote services. If people are denied something as basic as Internet connectivity because of the price tag, it is the companies, and ultimately the community, that will lose in the end.

Christina Paul
Space Park Way

'BUTTERFLY' DESERVED BETTER

Editor:

I'm glad I didn't read Julie O'Shea's lukewarm review of "M Butterfly" before I saw this extraordinary play at TheatreWorks. I hope no one passes up the chance to see "M Butterfly" because of this reviewer's opinion.

Esther Erman
Wyandotte Street

- RESTAURANT REVIEW
- MOVIE TIMES
- BEST BETS FOR ENTERTAINMENT

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Let them eat Satura Cakes

SUBTLE, ARTISTIC CONFECTIONS ABOUND AT LOS ALTOS, PALO ALTO BAKERIES

By Dale F. Bentson

Marie Antoinette said, "Let them eat cake," but she might have added, "cookies, tarts, brioche and donuts too." Of course, if 18th century Paris had Satura Cakes, the populace might not have revolted.

Satura, a Japanese-owned bakery of artistically inspired pastries and other toothsome delights, opened its second store in June on

University Avenue in Palo Alto. The Los Altos location, where baking for both stores takes place, had opened six months earlier.

The two locations are inaugural outlets for the innovative company. Two more bakeries are slated to open in Hawaii this fall. The name Satura, not Japanese at all, derives from an ancient Roman sweet cake.

Satura's founder, Hironobu Tamaki, has teamed with famed Japanese pastry chef Masahito Motohashi to start a U.S. bakery operation that combines the best of European pastry technique with the Japanese eye to meticulous



MICHAEL MULLADY

Clockwise from top: Satura shortcake, green tea roll, strawberry tiramisu and the caramel mocha.

► See SATURA, page 20

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SATURA

► Continued from page 19

preparation and presentation. While many of our bakeries offer cakes, few bakers specialize in them. In Europe and Japan, cake making has risen to a fine art. Satura has introduced cakes that are elegant, delicate, beautiful to the eye and delicious to eat. Motohashi sent his top pastry chef, Seung Ho Jung, to launch the operation.

The Hina cake (\$7 a slice) is a gorgeous arc of chocolate cream layered with chocolate mousse and embedded with hazelnuts, caramel, passion fruit and mango.

The Yuna cake (\$4.95 a slice) is bittersweet chocolate sponge cake with layers of ganache (chocolate and heavy cream) and two kinds of milk chocolate.

Mont Blanc (\$4.95 a slice) is not the traditional French fluffy mound of sweetness. Here, it is a flat cake of Japanese confit chestnuts (cooked pureed chestnuts, sugar and water) tucked inside a subtle layer of Kyoto chestnut paste under a scrumptious blend of pastry and whipped cream.

A wedding-cake specialist is available to help design the perfect nuptial showpiece. All too often, wedding cakes look inviting but taste like icing on cardboard. Satura makes cakes from eggs, butter, sugar (often organic), wheat flour, olive oil and fresh dairy products. Hydrogenated oils, sweeteners, bakery premixes and artificial ingredients are never used, the Satura folks say.

There are tables and chairs for indoor eating, and sweets can be



Head pastry chef Seung Ho Jung prepares a hina roll.

MICHAEL MULLADY

boxed for take-home. Most cakes and tarts are sold by the slice. Larger cakes are made to order, so calling ahead is advisable.

Besides cakes, the stores offer a variety of pastries, tarts and fancy coffees.

For breakfast, there are artistically rendered Danish pastries flavored with orange, apricot or

cherry (\$2.80). Brioche donuts (\$2) are puffs the size of baseballs made from soy milk and fried in olive oil. The cream puffs (\$3) are so light they almost need tethering to the plate. The tantalizing French toast (\$3.50) is a slab of house-made focaccia baked with maple syrup.

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store looks rather sparsely merchandised. But every shelf, every tier of cabinet and glass apothecary reveals a mouthwatering delicacy. The marshmallows are fabulous, nine to a package for \$4. The bag I purchased had pineapple-, lemon- and strawberry-flavored puffs.

There are tiny packaged butter cookies (\$2) — mocha, plain butter, strawberry and green-tea flavors — and madeleines flavored with honey (\$2). Rows of cellophane-wrapped Florentine cookies (\$2), flat and crispy, sit in baskets while galettes, butter cookies with rum, and dacquoises, soft meringues filled with peanut cream (\$2 each), line the glass countertop.

The brightly lit cabinets, though, are where the treasures lie. The colors, textures and shapes of the luscious tarts and cakes ignite the salivary glands. The problem is choosing. The tarts are jewel-like, with glistening fruits the color of rubies, emeralds, opals, garnets and yellow and orange diamonds.

Several Satura pastries ranked with the more unusual bakery products I have tasted in our area.

The caramelized banana tart (\$3.95 a slice) was marzipan-crusted, filled with almond cream and topped with toasted slivered almonds. It reminded me of a chilled Bananas Foster. The fruit tart (\$3.95 a slice) was studded with fresh berries and bound with

organic brown sugar and pastry cream atop an almond paste crust. It was bold and refreshing.

Perhaps the most remarkable item I tried was the green-tea roll (\$4.95 a slice). The tea roll resembled an old-fashioned ice cream roll in which chocolate sponge cake was layered with vanilla ice cream, then rolled and sliced. Remember how a cross-section resembled a pinwheel of chocolate cake and vanilla ice cream?

The green-tea roll is its worthy, sophisticated successor. The light green sponge cake was made with Matcha (specially picked, stronger-flavored) green-tea powder. The cake was wrapped around chestnut butter cream with Japanese confit chestnut in the center. The tea roll was subtle and delicate.

I also enjoyed the Satura strawberry shortcake (\$3.95), a four-inch-high square of white sponge cake layered with cream and strawberries. It was feather-light,

sweet (but not overly so) and held together nicely as I forked away at its towering edges.

Other cakes that day were caramel mocha, Valrhona chocolate, classic chocolate and a fabulous light pumpkin cheesecake. The menu at Satura is a moving target, with additions and deletions occurring regularly and evolving with the seasonality of fruits and nuts.

Not sweet enough? Satura also packages fruit sauces and dessert toppings that will brighten pancakes, crepes, waffles and ice cream. Green tea jam, pink grapefruit sauce and mango pineapple toppings caught my eye. Prices range from \$10 to \$12 per jar.

When I heard there was another new bakery in the area, I instinctively rolled my eyes. We are already blessed with myriad great bakeries. But Satura's pastries are innovative, sophisticated and artistic. ■



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■ **MOVIE TIMES**

ACCEPTED (PG-13)
Century 16: 2, 4:20, 6:50
Century 12: 12:45, 3:10, 5:40, 8, 10:20

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH (PG) ★★☆☆1/2
Century 20: 3:20 & 7:25 p.m.
Palo Alto Square: 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. Also Sat.-Sun. at 11:35 a.m.

BARNYARD: THE ORIGINAL PARTY ANIMALS (PG)
Century 16: 12:30, 2:40 & 4:55 p.m.

BEERFEST (R)
Century 16: 7:20, 10:30

BOYNTON BEACH CLUB (NOT RATED) ★★★
Guild: 1, 3:30, 6, 8:30

THE COVENANT
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. 11:55, 2:30, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40

CRANK (R) NOT REVIEWED
Century 16: 11:35 a.m., 1:35, 3:35, 5:45, 7:50, 10:05 p.m.

CROSSOVER (PG-13) ★★
Century 16: 12:35, 3, 5:05, 7:25, 10 p.m.

THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA (PG-13) ★★★
Century 16: 11:30 a.m., 1:55, 4:30, 7, 9:35 p.m.

HALF NELSON (R) ★★★★★
Palo Alto Square: 2, 4:30, 7:10 & 9:50 p.m. Also Sat.-Sun. at 11:30 a.m.

HOLLYWOODLAND
Century 16: 11:30, 2:15, 5, 7:45, 10:30
Century 12: 12:20, 1:40, 3:20, 4:30, 6:15, 7:30, 9:10, 10:25

HOW TO EAT FRIED WORMS (PG)
Century 12: 12:30, 2:45, 4:50, 7, 9 p.m.

IDLEWILD (R) ★★☆☆1/2
Century 12: 1, 4:20, 7:20, 10 p.m.

THE ILLUSIONIST (PG-13) ★★★
Century 16: 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55 & 10:20 p.m.

INVINCIBLE (PG) ★★1/2
Century 16: 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40 & 10:10 p.m.
Century 12: 12, 1:20, 2:35, 3:50, 5:10, 6:25, 7:40, 8:55, 10:05

LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE (R) ★★★
Aquarius: 1, 2, 3:15, 4:30, 5:45, 7, 8:15, 9:30 p.m.

MATERIAL GIRLS (PG)
Century 12: 11:55 a.m., 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:30 p.m.

NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS (PG)
Palo Alto Square: Fri.-Sat. at midnight, Sat.-Sun. at noon

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST (PG-13) ★★
Century 16: 12:05, 3:20 6:45, 9:45 p.m.

QUINCEANERA (R) ★★1/2
Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 5:30, & 9:30 p.m.

RIDING ALONE FOR THOUSANDS OF MILES
Century 16: 12:10, 2:35, 5:10, 7:35, 10 p.m.

SNAKES ON A PLANE (R) ★★★
Century 16: 11:40 a.m., 9:10 p.m.

STEP UP (PG-13)
Century 16: 11:50 a.m.; 2:20, 4:40, 7:05 & 9:30 p.m.

TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY (PG-13) ★★★
Century 16: 12, 2:25, 4:45, 7:30, 9:50 p.m.
Century 12: 11:50 a.m., 2:25, 5, 7:45, 10:10 p.m.

THE WICKER MAN (PG-13)
Century 16: 12:20, 3:10, 5:35, 8, 10:25 p.m.
Century 12: 12:10, 1:30, 3, 4, 5:25, 6:45, 7:50, 9:20, 10:15 p.m.

WORLD TRADE CENTER (PG-13) ★★☆☆1/2
Century 16: 1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55 p.m.
Century 12: 1, 4:10, 7:10, 9:55

Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

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★ 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**

BOYNTON BEACH CLUB ★★★
(Guild) Boynton Beach, Florida is an active adult community filled with frisky seniors in the transitions of life, many of them revolving around death. Enter the Boynton Beach Bereavement Club, a caring support group for widowed retirees who need to air their grief. Marilyn (Brenda Vaccaro) and Jack (Len Cariou) have recently lost their longtime partners and are functioning on auto-pilot, unable to cope with the day-to-day tedium of bills, meals, and laundry. With the help of kindly club members Harry (Joe Bologna) and Lois (Dyan Cannon), Marilyn and Jack reluctantly jump back into the game. Jack — overwhelmed by condolence casseroles — tentatively starts dating a widow named Sandy (Sally Kellerman) while Marilyn sets her sights on a driver's license. "Boynton" delivers its message loud and clear: it's never too late to love. Affairs of the heart are neatly packaged with the sticky wickets of adult relations: lies and games masking insecurities and fears. **Rated:** *Unrated but should be PG-13 for adult situations and images. 1 hour, 40 minutes.* — J.A.

CROSSOVER ★★
(Century 16, Century 20) Although lifelong friends Tech (Anthony Mackie) and Noah (Wesley Jonathan) seem to come from different worlds — Tech was recently released from prison while Noah is gearing up to attend medical school — they find a common bond on the basketball courts of inner-city Detroit. Vaughn (Wayne Brady), a former sports agent turned shameful promoter, organizes midnight streetball contests where teams of five compete for cash and bragging rights. A match between Tech and Noah's "Enemy of the State" and the reigning champions, "Platinum," leaves Tech dejected and Vaughn eager to exploit Noah's natural talents. Tension and predictability ensue as Noah shows no interest in seriously pursuing a career in basketball while Tech wonders how he can permanently make his mark on the sport. Novice writer/director Preston A. Whitmore II infuses his pet project with unnecessary quick cuts and flashy camerawork that make "Crossover" feel like a film school freshman's first assignment. **Rated:** *PG-13 for sexual content and some language. 1 hour, 35 minutes.* — T.H.)

HALF NELSON ★★★★★
(CineArts) Ryan Gosling's astonishing talent enhances this unexpectedly captivating and disturbing drama. Gosling dazzles as Brooklyn middle school teacher Dan Dunne, a gentle soul reaching out to inner city kids with the unique gift of caring. Dan is knight in shining armor to a group of students facing harsh choices on life's mean streets, his dedication extending to coaching a makeshift girls' basketball team with conviction and humor. Too good to be true? You betcha. Hero by day and crack whore by night, Dan is smoking away his future with the same brilliant intensity he brings to his work. It's a matter of time before one of his kids gets wise and she does, spying Dan in the girls' lock-

er room with crack pipe in hand. Thirteen-year-old Drey's (Shareeka Epps) unsettling discovery is the improbable glue that bonds two lost souls together in a curious meeting of the minds: latch-key kid and crackhead trying to get it right. Kudos to writer/director Ryan Fleck for keeping it real — no fairy-tale endings and no quick cinematic fixes. Great stuff. *Rated: R for drug use, profanity and mature themes. 1 hour, 47 minutes.* — J.A.

IDLEWILD ★★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 12) Percival Jenkins (Andre Benjamin) and lifelong pal Rooster (Antwan A. Patton) are living it up in the speakeasy days of Idlewild, Georgia. Percival joins the family business — a la "Six Feet Under" — while Rooster raises a large brood and tries to make ends meet with a side dish of bootlegging. Both unwind evenings at jiving nightclub Church, where Percival tinkles the ivories and Rooster performs a mean soft-shoe. The narrative is deliciously non-linear, weaving in plot threads and disjointed styles with vivid abandon. The action plays out against a backdrop of short-tempered gangsters and dirty money-laundering, most of it with a sociopath heavy named Trumpy (an excellent Terrence Howard) leading the charge. "Idlewild" is not for everyone. It's frantic, chaotic and fantastically flawed, mixing rap, swing, hip-hop and blues with gimmicky commotion and a raging torrent of racial emotion. *Rated: R for extreme violence, nudity and profanity. 2 hours, 1 minute.* — J.A.

INVINCIBLE ★★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 12) Once again Mark Wahlberg plays a diehard fan — the archetypal working-class underdog with talent and even more heart — who makes it to the big time. Long-time cinematog-

rapher Ericson Core ("The Fast and the Furious") shows his skill as a utility player, making his directorial debut *and* shooting this story inspired by South Philly's Vince Papale. In 1976, Papale soared where Philadelphia Eagles dare as an NFL wide

receiver and special-teams performer. Thirty-year-old Papale (Wahlberg) has lost his substitute-teaching job and his wife (Lola Glaudini). When the Philadelphia Eagles hire UCLA coach Dick Vermeil (Greg Kinnear), the newcomer makes a surprise

announcement: open tryouts. Papale is a walk-on who takes all the emotional and physical hits from the players, coaches and Eagles fans. He keeps getting up for more

► See **MOVIE MINIS**, page 24

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MINI REVIEWS

► Continued from page 23

until he makes the team against all odds — becoming the oldest rookie in NFL history, excluding kickers, without college football experience. Although “Invincible” sports every cliché in the inspirational playbook, this football drama’s three-act structure still pushes your buttons and gets you to cheer on cue. *Rated: PG for sports action and some mild language. 1 hour, 39 minutes.* — S.T.

THE QUIET ★

(Century 16, Century 12) This seedy and

calculating potboiler tries, and fails, to pawn itself off as psychological drama. Blonde teen bombshell Nina Deer (Elisha Cuthbert) rules the roost, playing flirty with doting dad Paul (Martin Donovan) and smart-alecky with Valium-hugging mom Olivia (Edie Falco). When the Deer family takes in orphaned deaf-mute goddaughter Dot (Camilla Belle), there’s hell to pay. Nina does her level best to make Dot’s life a living nightmare, cutting her down to size with adolescent cruelty. Nina is Numero Uno on school and home turfs and deviously determined to keep it that way. Paul and Olivia turn blinders to the roiling emotional storm, sequestered with their own sordid

manipulations. Soon enough the family’s squalid secrets are revealed, courtesy of Dot’s keen perception and heightened sense of snoop. The narrative skews from promising to disappointing, preaching noirish melodrama that tilts heavily to the right of trite. Pretentious and pointless — take a pass. *Rated: R for sexuality and profanity. 1 hour, 32 minutes.* — J.A.

SNAKES ON A PLANE ★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) Strictly B-movie but rocking with energy, “Snakes” is a minimalist action picture that goes all out to thrill, chill and spill — guts, that is. Samuel L. Jackson takes on the role of badass FBI Special Agent Neville Flynn, who boards

Honolulu’s Pacific Air Flight 121 enroute to Los Angeles with a young witness (Nathan Phillips as Sean) who happened upon a brutal murder and is headed to the mainland to testify. Economy class turns into hell with wings, courtesy of a cargo of venomous vipers strung out on pheromones, strategically placed on board to make sure our intrepid witness doesn’t reach his date with destiny. Once the rapacious reptilians are unleashed, it’s a gore-fest extraordinaire, each drippy moment more shriekingly blood-splattered than the last. “Snakes” chintzes on production and script but taps into a number of genuine fears — air travel, claustrophobia and things that go slither in the night — and wraps them up in a campy cinematic cheeseball. *Rated: R for extreme gore, nudity and language. 1 hour, 45 minutes.* — J.A.

tion are hip urban New Yorkers, generally the worst offenders. Tom and Rebecca (David Duchovny and Julianne Moore) are struggling with their sexless marriage and working through dual career crises: hers a move to Broadway from film and his from the workplace into the reluctant role of house husband. Across town lives another modern relationship, this one starring a charming commitment-phobe named Tobey (Billy Crudup) — doubling as Rebecca’s brother and Tom’s best bud — and winsome businesswoman Elaine (Maggie Gyllenhaal), who just wants to get on with the business of marriage and babies. Immensely flawed human beings who just can’t get their proverbial act together are so five minutes ago. On the upside, Gyllenhaal and Crudup do not disappoint. *Rated: R for language and sexual content. 1 hour, 43 minutes.* — J.A.

TRUST THE MAN ★★

(Century 20) “Trust the Man” is the kind of cloying indie that’s too precocious for its own good. Beautiful people living beautifully flawed lives fraught with issues revolving around love, marriage and commitment. Sigh. The two couples in ques-

MOVIECRITICS

S.T.-Susan Tavernetti,
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CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
Council Neighborhoods Committee
Monta Loma/ Farley/ Rock Street Area
Neighborhood Meeting

Monta Loma Elementary School
460 Thompson Avenue
September 21, 2006 at 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

The City of Mountain View Council Neighborhoods Committee will be hosting a neighborhood meeting for residents in the Monta Loma/ Farley/ Rock Street area on September 21, 2006, at 7:00 p.m. (area designated on the map below). The Neighborhood Meeting will be an open forum to hear your comments and answer your questions about City services.

This is an opportunity to make a difference in the future of your neighborhood, and express your thoughts about ways to improve our community. For further information, please call the City’s Neighborhood Preservation Division at (650) 903-6379.

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■ HIGHLIGHT

MOUNTAIN VIEW ART AND WINE FESTIVAL

Sept. 9-10, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Featuring 650 artists and craft makers showing handcrafted wares, live music, world cuisine, refreshing wines, microbrews and margaritas, and Kids' Park with magicians, jugglers, comedy, amusements, music, art. Free. Castro St., Castro St. between El Camino Real and Evelyn Ave., Mountain View. www.miramarevents.com

SPECIAL EVENTS

CHELSEA ART GALLERY FIRST ANNIVERSARY GALA Sept. 15, 6-9 p.m. A private view of British artist Matthew Radford's solo exhibition "Random Empires." Call for reservations. Free. Chelsea Art Gallery, 440 Kipling St., Palo Alto. Call 324-4450. www.chelseartgallery.com

FRIENDS OF THE MOUNTAIN VIEW LIBRARY BOOK SALE Features hard and paperback books 50 cents and up. Sept. 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sept. 10, noon-4 p.m. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 967-8222.

KARA'S "AT YOUR OWN PACE" WALK Walk 3 miles in memory of loved ones and raise funds to help those who are grieving. See website for registration. Sept. 16, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. \$25. Mitchell Park, Pine Grove Picnic Area, 600 East Meadow Ave., Palo Alto. Call 321-5272 ext. 17. www.kara-grief.org

PALO ALTO HIGH CLASS OF 1956 REUNION Sept. 15-17 at 5 venues in Palo Alto. See website for details. Call 329-8575. www.home.earthlink.net/~paly56/

Tsunami Dinner A field show by Mountain View High School Marching Band. To benefit the Carol Fischer Instrumental Music Scholarship Fund. Sat., Sept. 16, 4 p.m. field show; dinner at 5:30 p.m. at Packard Music Hall. \$12 dinner. Mountain View High School, 3535 Truman Ave., Mountain View.

VILLA SIENA CELEBRATES THE BIG BANDS Music by The Unicorn Dance Band. Sept. 14, Villa Siena open house at 5 p.m.; cocktails at 6 p.m.; buffet at 7 p.m. Dancing and silent auction at Malcolm Center, St. Francis High School. \$75. Villa Siena, 1855 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View. Call 961-6484.

ART GALLERIES

"ABSTRACTIONS AND PERCEPTIONS" Exhibition of work by Karl L. Jensen. Through Sept. 24. Includes charcoal drawings, ink drawings and sprayed acrylic paintings that explore the continuum between literal and abstract. Thu.-Sun., 1-5 p.m. Free. 1870 Art Center, 1870 Ralston Ave., Belmont. Call 261-1086. www.1870artcenter.com

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AJNA LICHAU San Francisco Art Institute graduate's debut solo show featuring photography, video and installation work. Through Oct. 14, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. Spur Projects, 888 Portola Road, Portola Valley. www.Spur-Projects.com

IRELAND: CASTLES, CHURCHES AND MORE Black and white photography exhibit by Bay Area artist, Roy Harrington, features images from Ireland. Through Sept. 23. Meet the artist Sept. 8, 5-8 p.m. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos. www.gallery9losaltos.com

THE MAIN GALLERY "The Male Mystique," pastel paintings by Terri Wilson Moore and "Breathing Crows and other Poems," sculpture and monotype by Nina Koepcke. Sept. 13-Oct. 15; reception Sun., Sept. 17, 4-7 p.m. Gallery hours: Wed.-Fri., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The Main Gallery, 1018 Main St., Redwood City.

THE POETIC IMAGE The show runs through Sept. 10. Hours: Wed.-Fri., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The Main Gallery, 1018 Main St., Redwood City.

THE POETIC IMAGE 6th anniversary show featuring mixed media, ceramics, photography, painting, print-making by all of the members of the gallery. Through Sept. 10. Gallery Hours: Wed.-Fri., 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. The

FAN HO 100 PHOTOGRAPHS:

A journey through Hong Kong during the 1950's and 1960's. This exhibit coincides with the release of Modernbook Editions' publication of a new book by Fan Ho, "Hong Kong Yesterday." Free. Modernbook Gallery, 494 University Ave., Palo Alto. Call 327-6325. www.modernbook.com

Main Gallery, 1018 Main St., Redwood City.

AUDITIONS

"FIDDLER ON THE ROOF" Held by PYT for youths ages 8-20. Sept. 9, 10 a.m. or 2 p.m. or Sept. 10, 2 p.m. Prepare song and monologue; bring sheet music or instrumental tape/CD. Participation: \$160. Callbacks: Sept. 12-14. Performances: Nov. 11-19. Peninsula Youth Theatre, 2500 Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View. www.pyt.net

EL CAMINO YOUTH SYMPHONY AUDITIONS ECYS invites young musicians ages 6-20 to join the music education program for the 2006-07 season. Audition applications are being accepted for all levels. Auditions will take place through Sept. Submit an audition application online. Call 327-2611. www.ecys.org

STANFORD SYMPHONIC CHORUS AUDITIONS The Stanford Symphonic Chorus, a 180-member major masterworks ensemble, holding auditions for tenors and basses. 7-10 p.m., Thu., Sept. 21, 7-10 p.m.; Sat., Sept. 23, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Contact Steve Sano 723-1570 or email sano@stanford.edu for additional info or to schedule an audition. Braun Music Center, 541 Lasuen Mall, room 120, Stanford. www.stanford.edu/group/SymCh/

STORIES ON STAGE COMPANY PYT seeks youths ages 12-18 for its Stories on Stage com-



pany, which dramatizes children's books Oct.-May. Auditions Sept. 16, 10 a.m. or 2 p.m. Prepare 1-minute prose monologue. \$45/month. Peninsula Youth Theatre, 2500 Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View. www.pyt.net

BENEFITS

12TH ANNUAL TRAIBLAZER RACE AND TRAIL WALK 10K/5K races, 3 mile trail walk to benefit Friends of Stevens Creek Trail. Sun., Sept.

24, 8:30 a.m. Register online or at event. Discount for youths 19 and under. Microsoft, 1065 La Avenida, Mountain View. www.stevenscreektrail.org

BENEFIT CONCERT Hosted reception, and silent auction run by KFOG's Peter Finch. To benefit Pacific Autism Center for Education. Featuring artists David Benoit and David Pack. Bay Area Newscaster, Terilyn Jo and Atherton Mayor, Charles Marsala to MC. Sept. 10, 4:30-8:30 p.m. \$100/\$250. Private Atherton Residence, 33 Emilie Ave., Atherton. Call 856-8041. www.hosv.org

CHEFS WHO CARE DINNER Sept. 11-12: Seatings at 5:30 and 7 p.m. Prepaid: \$24 adults/\$26 at the door, \$14 children ages 6-12. Deadline Sept. 7. Mail check payable to CSA/ Chefs Who Care, 204 Stierlin Rd., Mtn. View. Call Message Recorder for Visa/MasterCard 961-3584. 5:30-8:45p.m. \$24. Tied House, 954 Villa St., Mountain View. www.csacares.org

HOLLYWOOD HOSTS Gentry Magazine and Stanford Park Hotel's benefit for Peninsula Youth Theatre. Sept. 15, 6 p.m. Events include a raffle of professionally designed table settings inspired by legendary movies, supper-by-the-bite, live and silent auctions, and entertainment by PYT. \$40. Stanford Park Hotel, 100 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. Call 988-8798 ext.303. www.pyt.net.org/hollywoodhosts

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT'S 17TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC A day of golf and cuisine Sept. 18, noon-8 p.m. Net proceeds will support Junior Achievement's educational programs. Junior Achievement prepares youth to succeed in a global economy by developing career, financial and entrepreneurial skills. Call regarding sponsorship. Los Altos Golf & Country Club, 1560 Country Club Dr., Los Altos. Call (408) 988-8915 ext. 208. www.siliconvalleyja.org

TALLY HO JAZZES UP POLO Sept. 9, 2-8:30 p.m. Tally Ho features a polo match, hors d'oeuvres, wine, live and silent auctions, concert by Chuck Mangione, dessert and music by Forte. Proceeds benefit Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford. \$100-\$200. Menlo Circus Club, 190 Park, Atherton.

► Continued on next page

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COOLING OFF

If you notice a drop in the efficiency of your vehicle's air-conditioning (AC) system, it is time for a checkup. At the heart of the AC lies the compressor, which is responsible for compressing and transferring refrigerant gas. As the compressor pumps the refrigerant through the closed-loop system, the refrigerant moves heat from inside the vehicle to outside. To do this, the compressor accepts low-pressure gas from the evaporator, compresses it into a high-pressure hot gas, and then sends it to the condenser. Obviously, this ongoing heating and cooling process with refrigerant under pressure may at some point be susceptible to leaks, which will compromise efficiency. These must be pinpointed to restore the AC to proper working order.

Sometimes leaks in the system can cause a reduction in the effectiveness of your air conditioner. At AAA-approved Larry's Autoworks, we're excellent at diagnostics because we bring both expertise and experience to our work. We are just off the 101 Freeway on Leghorn between San Antonio and Rengstorff in Mountain View. Take the Rengstorff exit south, then right on Leghorn. Every car our customers bring to us for service has a technician who is factory-qualified and trained on that vehicle. Keep that in mind. There is a difference here and our customers know it.

HINT: Failure of the compressor in an older R-12 refrigerant system may be seen as an opportunity to convert to the newer R-134a system.

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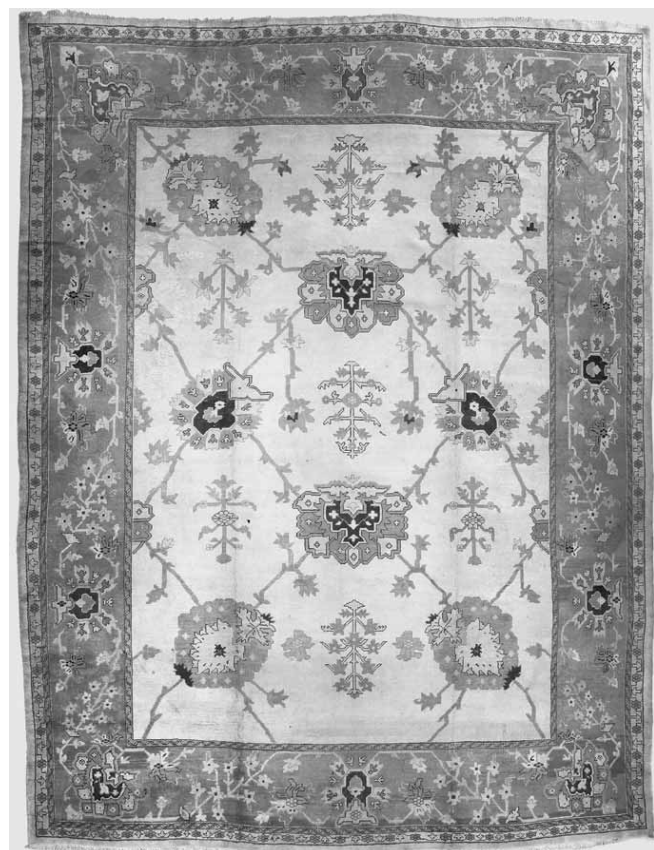


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► Continued from previous page

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

ARTIST ACCESS 3rd Thursdays through Oct., 3:30-6:30 p.m. Artists and photographers have access to the gardens after hours. Limited to artists who work with watercolor, pen, pencil, charcoal, pastels and photography. No oils or acrylics. Pre-registration recommended. \$15 members/\$20 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

BASIC ELECTRIC CIRCUITS Introduction to electricity, students build a battery-operated system. Current, flow, potential, charge, conductors, and simple switches will be discussed. Instructor Dor Hesselgrave. Sept. 9, 16, 23 and 30, 10 a.m.-noon. \$45 members/\$60 non-members. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto. Call 321-1004. www.moah.org

CLASSICAL SCULPTURE Tue., Sept. 12, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Study the human form using a life model. For beginners and advance. All materials and French lunch included. \$100. Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org

COMPUTER CLASSES Sept. 11, 9-10 a.m.: PC for beginners; Sept. 7-28, 10-11:30 a.m.: Scanning Photos; Sept. 7-28, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: MS Word; Sept. 8-29, 9-10 a.m.: Internet and E-mail; Sept. 7-28, 1:30-3 p.m. Photoshop Elements, Thurs. 1:30-3p.m. May use own laptop. Call for details. \$20 for members/\$25 for non-members. Little House, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. Call 326-2025. www.pensulavolunteers.org

DANCE WORKOUT Class combines elements of modern ballet and jazz, yoga and Pilates. Beginners and over 40's welcome. Ongoing class, meets Thursdays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$15 single; \$50 for 4; \$84 for 8. Mountain View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St., Mountain View. Call 969-4110. www.livelyfoundation.net

DECORATIVE PAINTING Tue., Sept. 12 and 19, 9 a.m.-noon. Bring to first class: half-inch flat brush with fairly stiff bristles. All other materials provided. Bring lunch. \$110. Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org

IMPRESSIONIST PAINTING Sun., Sept. 10, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Hands-on exploration of the world of art artists. \$50. Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org

MAGIC OF DRAWING WITH ROBERT DVORAK Learn basics and techniques to enhance skills, develop concentration, increase perception and self-awareness. Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$110. Community School of Music

and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org

MASKING AND GLAZING TECHNIQUES Learn masking and glazing techniques that help control the tones and qualities of color in your artwork. Class includes demonstrations and exercises to build your masking and glazing knowledge and experience. Sept. 15-16, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. \$200 members/\$240 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

PAPER ALTERING Sat., Sept 16, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Learn techniques to use in collages, assemblages and mixed media works. \$75. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org

RAISING GIRLS Parenting workshop covering grades kindergarten-3rd. Explore what girls need to grow up curious, competent, and capable conducted by Sheila Dubin. Mondays, Sept. 18 and 25, noon-1:30 p.m. \$50 for 2 sessions. Pre-registration required. Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave., Palo Alto. Call 688-3040. www.parentsplaceonline.org

CLUBS/MEETINGS

MENLO ART LEAGUE Donna Orme will demonstrate and explain her method for etching on aluminum plates combined with the application of Asian papers. Sept. 13, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. Menlo Park Recreation Center, 700 Alma St., Menlo Park. Call 322-6867.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

22ND PALO ALTO WEEKLY MOONLIGHT RUN & WALK For runners, athletic groups and families. Prize giveaways and refreshments. 5K walk begins at 7:30 p.m.; 10k run begins at 8:15 p.m.; 5K run begins at 8:45 p.m. Deadline to pre-register is Sept. 29. See website for details. Oct. 6, 6-10 p.m. \$20 pre-registration before Sept. 29/\$25 day of event. Palo Alto Baylands Athletic Center, 1900 Geng Road at Embarcadero Rd, Palo Alto. Call 326-8210. www.paloaltoonline.com

GUTS AND GLORY 5K WALK To support the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America's efforts to spread awareness and fund a cure. To register see website www.gutsandglory.org. Sept. 9, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Shoreline Park, 3070 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Call (415) 356-2232. www.gutsandglory.org

MIDORI KAI BOUTIQUE A non-profit organization, will host their seventh annual fundraiser boutique Sat., Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Book signing by author Delphine Hirasuna. Free. Moun-

Regional Open Space

MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

APPOINTMENT OF WARD 4 DIRECTOR

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIDPENINSULA REGIONAL OPEN SPACE DISTRICT invite interested candidates to submit an application to fill the vacant position of Director representing District Ward 4. District Ward 4 includes Mountain View, the Moffett Field area, and Los Altos (bounded by Adobe Creek, Foothill Expressway, and Highway 85).

The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is an independent, non-enterprise, California Special District that protects and manages more than 50,000 acres of open space on the peninsula.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS:

Monday, September 18, 2006, 5:00 p.m.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- 18 years and older
- Registered Voter residing within the boundaries of District Ward 4

WHERE TO OBTAIN THE APPLICATION:

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District Office
330 Distel Circle, Los Altos • District website:
www.openspace.org

For further information,
please contact Sally Rice, District Clerk at (650) 691-1200.

tain View Buddhist Temple, 575 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Call (510) 579-1518.

CONCERTS

THE SKIN DIVERS Church of Soul, Funk and Rock and Roll. Sept. 8, 8-10 p.m. \$15. Little Fox Theater, 2209 Broadway, Redwood City. www.thekindivers.com

TRIBUTE TO BILL MONROE Sept. 9, 8-11 p.m. A celebration of the "Father Of Bluegrass" with a group of musicians led by Butch Waller. The first of four bluegrass music concerts in RBA's Fall Subscription Series. \$15 advance/\$18 day of event. First Presbyterian Church of Mountain View, 1667 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View. Call 691-9982. www.rba.org

DANCE

SUNDAY MORNING BAREFOOT BOOGIE A volunteer dance cooperative, hosts a 2-hour barefoot boogie. A mix of world music, rock and folk. All ages welcome; under 16 with adult supervision. Sundays, through Oct. 27, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$10-\$20. Flex-It Gym Dance Studio, 425 W. Evelyn Ave., Mountain View. Call 326-8331.

EXHIBITS

"3 ARTISTS" Paintings by father and son, Gilbert Marosi and Robert Marosi Bustamante. Paintings by Nona Haydon. Through Sept 14. At the Center for Integrated Systems. Free. Stanford Art Spaces, 420 Via Palou, Stanford. Call 725-3622. http://cis.stanford.edu/~marigris

BAY AREA WILDLIFE ART EXHIBITION An exhibit of bay area wild critters captured in paintings, photos and drawings by local artists and school children. Sept. 8-Oct. 1; meet the artists Sat., Sept. 16, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

STRETCHING THE BOUNDARIES, NINE CONTEMPORARY PRINTMAKERS Through Sept. 28, 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m. 40 monotypes by Paper Gem Printmakers with assemblage, etching, transfer, etc. Sponsored by Heritage Bank. Free. Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Call 917-6800, ext 306. www.arts4all.org

FAMILY AND KIDS

CREATIVE MOVEMENT AND STORYTELLING For boys and girls, ages 3-5. Music,

movement, and make-believe combined. Thursdays, Sept. 14-Nov. 11, 4-4:45 p.m. \$15 single; \$50 for 4; \$84 for 8. Mountain View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St., Mountain View. Call 969-4110.

PETITE BALLET For boys and girls, ages 6-9. Music and rhythm. Mondays, Sept. 11-Nov. 6, 4-4:45 p.m. \$15 single; \$50 for 4; \$84 for 8. Mountain View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St., Mountain View. Call 969-4110.

FILM

"REFUSENIKS" The story of Israeli men and women who refuse to serve in the military occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. Sept. 12, 7:30-9 p.m. \$5-\$10 suggested donation. First Baptist Church, 305 N. California Ave., Palo Alto. Call 326-8837. www.peaceandjustice.org

STANFORD THEATRE GUIDE Sept. 8-11: "Breakfast at Tiffany's" 7:30 p.m.; "Pillow Talk" 5:30 and 9:40 p.m.; Sept. 12-14: "Captains Courageous" 7:30 p.m.; "For Me and My Gal" 5:35 and 9:45 p.m.; Sept. 15-18: "Only Angels Have Wings" 7:30 p.m.; "Bringing Up Baby" 5:35 and 9:50 p.m.; Sept. 19-21: "The Human Comedy" 7:30 p.m.; "Presenting Lily Mars" 5:35 and 9:45 p.m.; Sept. 22-25: "My Fair Lady" 7:30 p.m. Stanford Theatre, 221 University Ave., Palo Alto. Call 324-3700. www.stanfordtheatre.org

ON STAGE

"M BUTTERFLY" Presented by TheatreWorks. An exploration of love and politics. Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.; Wednesdays-Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 2 and 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 and 7 p.m., through Sept. 17. \$20-\$60. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro, Mountain View. Call 463-1960. www.theatreworks.org

TALKS/AUTHORS

"ATTRACT YOUR PERFECT PARTNER" Dr. Val Logan will offer insights and tips for using the "Laws of Attraction" to find and create the love. Sept. 13. Free. East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 988-9800. www.eastwest.com

RAPID PAIN ELIMINATION: HEALING CHRONIC PAIN AND FIBROMYALGIA Elijah Free will demonstrate "Freeing," an advanced structural bodywork, that reconstructs the spine and the entire musculoskeletal system, relieving most types of structural pain in a short time. Sept. 12. Free. East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View.

Call 988-9800. www.eastwest.com

TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY COMMITTEE LUNCHEON FORUM David Sowerwine of EcoSystems describes the beta testing of an innovative power system for Nepal's rural people that combines a compact pedal generator with a battery storage and distribution system. Pedal Power on Tue., Sept. 12, 11:45 a.m. Lunch is \$8.50 for

TASC members, \$9.50 for non-members. Golden Wok, 895 Villa St., Mountain View. Call 969-7215. www.tian.greens.org/TASC.shtml

THE ESSENCE OF THE BHAGAVAD GITA Steven Manus will explore and discuss the book The Essence of the Bhagavad Gita's insights. Sept. 14, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View.

Call 988-9800. www.eastwest.com

MORE LISTINGS

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

H&R Block Income Tax Course starting soon.

H&R Block, the leader in tax preparation, is currently encouraging people to enroll in the H&R Block Income Tax Course. After course completion, many successful students have used their skills to earn extra income as tax professionals.* The H&R Block Income Tax Course is designed for busy people with jobs, school, and family commitments. Classes begin soon at convenient locations in the area.

H&R Block has experienced instructors and uses the most up-to-date teaching materials. Students taking the 11-week course will learn to complete both federal and state tax returns

as well as ramifications of the latest tax laws through hands-on experience with actual case studies.

Bilingual students are encouraged to enroll.

Anyone wanting more information about the H&R Block Income Tax Course should visit hrblock.com/taxcourses or call 1-800-HRBLOCK.



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*Enrollment in, or completion of, the H&R Block Income Tax Course is neither an offer nor guarantee of employment. Enrollment restrictions and course fees may apply.



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Community Health Education Programs September 2006

Web site • www.pamf.org E-mail • publicaffairs@pamf.org

Events & Lectures

"Prostate Cancer: Current Knowledge and New Trends"

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Daniel Yao, M.D., PAMF Urology

Join us to hear a discussion of all aspects of prostate cancer including screening, detection and treatment options.

Hearst Center for Health Education, Level 3, Jamplis Building, Palo Alto Medical Foundation, 795 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. RSVP to (650) 853-4873.

Classes

"Taking Charge of Your Body," Mondays, September 11 – October 16, 6 – 8 p.m.

A six-week course focusing on healthy living and managing your lifestyle through exercise and healthful eating.

"Good Nutrition and Feeding Practices for Toddlers," Wednesday, September 20, 10 a.m. – noon

This class will address parental concerns regarding nutrition and feeding practices. It should be attended by parents or caretakers only.

"Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction Program," Begins Monday, September 25, 6:30 – 9 p.m.

Free orientation on Monday, September 18, 6:30 – 9 p.m. The program designed to help people learn how to deal effectively with physical and emotional stress by providing training in breathing, meditation and gentle yoga.

"What You Need to Know About Warfarin," Wednesday, September 27, 6 – 7 p.m.

Learn what warfarin is, why you are taking it and how you can help yourself.

"Advance Health Care Directives," call for available dates and times.

PAMF's specially trained volunteers will provide advice and answer questions about the Advance Health Care Directive form. Free.

Support Groups

Cancer (1st & 3rd Tuesdays) • Diabetes (1st Wednesday) • Multiple Sclerosis (2nd & 4th Mondays) • Sleep Apnea (1st Thursday) • Healing Imagery for Cancer Patients (Sept. 6 & 20)

For information on class fees and to register, call the Education Division at (650) 853-2960.

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

The City of Mountain View Youth Advisory Group and Recreation Division PRESENTS...

PRO-AM RENG-JAM

Saturday, September 9th
11:00am – 2:00pm
Rengstorff Park-Skate Park

This is a free event for teens to listen to local bands, watch a skate demonstration, receive free giveaways, eat great snacks and enjoy the Skate Park with appropriate equipment.

For more information, call the Mountain View Community Center at 650-903-6331

Complimentary Homebuyers Seminar
Tuesday Sept 12th 7 pm • RSVP Now 650-625-5309 • Seating is Limited

982 E. Evelyn, Sunnyvale

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www.965KatherineCourt.com

808 Lenzen Ave. # 108, San Jose

\$499,999



Private contemporary 3 bedroom, 2-bathroom home located in Sunnyvale. House is tastefully remodeled. Offering new laminated cherry color floors and new Berber carpeting. Both bathrooms have been upgraded. New slate kitchen counters, new paint, beautiful atrium, great office, and an enchanting yard.



Charming 3 bedrooms, 3-bathroom home located in the rose garden area! 7,950 Sq Ft lot, large detached 2-car garage, and tile roof. Office/den, formal dining room, 2 master suites, gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, and marble floor! Built-in BBQ in backyard. Convenient location. Easy access to I-880 and Valley Fair shopping center.



Beautiful La Bella Rosa! Town home-style condo includes 2 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bathrooms, kitchen has granite counters, stainless steel appliances, and maple cabinets. Marble flooring, skylights, central air, and near the major freeways as well as shopping!

Emerald Village Luxury Condos Coming Soon!

Beautiful new, 3 bedrooms and 2.5 bathroom townhouse style, condos located downtown in the heart of San Jose! New construction/development offers 1250-1700 sq.ft. units. Starting in the mid-600k! Granite countertops and maple cabinets. This luxury downtown living has direct access to shopping and all major freeways.

725 Mariposa Ave. #302, Mtn View

\$499,000

808 Lenzen Ave. #114, San Jose

\$499,999

274 Pamela Dr. # 00005, Mtn. View

\$355,000



A must see 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom model-like condo with 35k upgrades! Top floor with vaulted ceilings bright and open. New kitchen with granite countertops, Euro style cabinets, and chimney range hood. New bath with frameless shower, Italian tile floor, and newer paint. Lots of storage!



Beautiful La Bella Rosa! Town home-style condo includes 2 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bathrooms, kitchen has granite counters, stainless steel appliances, and maple cabinets. Marble flooring, skylights, central air, and near the major freeways as well as shopping!



Contemporary 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo is a private end unit located on the first floor. Living room dining room combo, wall-to-wall carpeting, and tile floors. Includes 1-car carport and extra storage. Complex pool.

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