

Mountain View VOICE

SEPTEMBER 29, 2006 VOLUME 14 NO. 40

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What's a mom to wear
The *Voice* introduces its new style section
PEN STYLE | P.29

New friend, new eyes

MICHELLE MCGREW'S GUIDE DOG GARVEY HELPS HER NAVIGATE LOCAL STREETS

By Amber Cleave

Garvey is just one of the family as far as the McGrews are concerned. The 2-year-old male yellow Labrador retriever loves all the same activities as the rest of the family — which is a good thing, since he's Michelle McGrew's guide dog, and accompanies her everywhere.

He's with McGrew as she navigates populated streets and busy intersections. He stands by her side as she figures out a bus route or a train stop. He waits at her feet as she attends meetings or church services, and he even accompanies her to chiropractic appointments.

McGrew has had a guide dog by her side since she graduated from high school in 1982. Overall she has had four guide dogs, all from the nonprofit organization Guide Dogs for the Blind.

McGrew, who was born with an impairment to her retina, originally used a cane until she made the adventurous switch to the world of guide dogs. When she thinks back to her life before getting a guide dog, she wonders how she ever managed. "Life without dogs? I don't think so," she says now.



VERONICA WEBER

After training together for three weeks at a guide dog training center in San Rafael, Michelle McGrew, who is blind, finally got to take Garvey home to her house in Mountain View.

The Mountain View resident cites several reasons for being an advocate of guide dogs. The first is that the dogs can be taken anywhere. Due to the fact that guide dogs are service dogs, they are allowed to go wherever humans go. McGrew is pleased to have the protection and company of Garvey in all situations, and she feels safe knowing that he is constantly by her side.

Another advantage is that the dogs are able to share responsibility with her. "With the guide dog there is a lot less that I have to concentrate on," she said.

When Garvey wears his harness, it means that he is on duty, and when McGrew holds on to his harness, it means that Garvey is in the lead. Following the dog takes a lot of pressure off McGrew because Garvey does the majority of navigation. Although McGrew must know the directions and give Garvey signals, Garvey navigates the streets by avoiding people and other obstacles in their way. He is also a secondary safety measure.

"Cars these days are becoming

► See **GUIDE DOG**, page 7

Effort begins to save the farm

RESIDENTS FUND STUDY OF ALTERNATIVE FOR GRANT ROAD SITE

By Daniel DeBolt

In the face of skepticism from city officials, a small group of residents have come up with a plan to save a third of the Grant Road farm from development, and will present the results to the public this weekend.

The popular farm's owners, Pauline King and Betty Moore, already have agreed with a developer to convert the 15-acre property to single-family homes. The owners say economic realities forced them to pursue sale of the working farm, which is an island surrounded by residential property. The sisters have so far not come out in support of saving any portion of the farm, which is worth an estimated \$30 million to developers.

The Mountain View Farmlands Group, however, says there is a way to build a housing development that is just as lucrative, while at the same time saving five acres of the farm.

"If they are opposing it because they think it would make their development less profitable, we have taken away that reason for the opposition," said member Vicki Moore, referring to the group's newly released feasibility studies.

Moore showed the *Voice* rough plans that use a portion of Levin Avenue to make more room for the development; make use of narrower, shorter streets; and bank on the city allowing 10 percent larger homes on the 8,000-square-foot parcels.

The end result is a plan that manages to do everything right, according to Moore. The developer will profit the same amount from the homes, and the density

is still the same R-8 zoning as the surrounding neighborhood.

The Farmland Group compares its plan to that of developer Summerhill Homes, saying its plan boasts a little bit more living space — 165,000 square feet versus 162,800. The Summerhill plan has 55 homes on 15 acres, while the alternative has 50 larger homes on 10 acres, Moore said — all made possible by more effi-

► See **FARM**, page 8

Another building proposal

COMMISSION OKS PLAN TO DISPLACE 250 ON EVANDALE

By Daniel DeBolt

A new housing development on Evandale Avenue got the stamp of approval from the Environmental Planning Commission recently, starting a process that could leave several residents of a large apartment building there looking for new homes.

The 64-unit apartment complex at 291 Evandale Ave. houses about 250 people who pay rents of \$800 to \$900 a month. But a devel-

► See **EVANDALE**, page 12



Betty Rooker



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Marcia Newton



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Judy & Jana Faulhaber



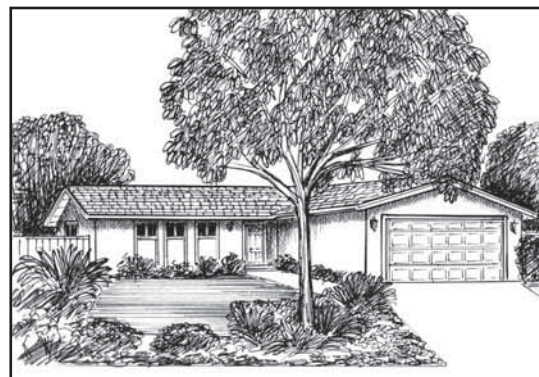
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SANTA CLARA ■ Total remodel with Cupertino schools. 3bd/2ba with family and dining rooms, hardwood floors, double-paned windows, + updated baths. **\$738,000**

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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in Downtown Mountain View. Pictures and interviews by Amber Cleave.

Do you think Mountain View is lacking in any recreational or extracurricular areas?



"I would like to see more live music downtown."

Eddie Lastra, Mountain View



"I'm not too familiar with the area, but I bet everything I want is here. I always like to see more places of leisure, such as parks and coffee shops."

Matt Willis, San Jose



"I believe the city has a great selection. There are lots of parks and a number of bars. I am satisfied with the city of Mountain View."

Lance Szely, Sunnyvale



"I like that there are a lot of parks here. There can never be too many parks. I think the city should be careful not to add too much nightlife because that would take away from the small-town feeling of downtown Mountain View."

Mayon Sespene, Santa Clara



"The recreation is great here. I like all the parks and I like swimming, so I swim at the park in Mountain View."

Rediet Tesfaye, Ethiopia

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■ QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“It’s probably a nice romantic idea from the past, but doesn’t have much application to what we’re doing currently. Our perspective is that farmland in urban areas is not the best land use.”

— JOE HEAD,

SPOKESMAN FOR DEVELOPER SUMMERHILL HOMES,
ON WHY FARMLAND IS WRONG FOR THE GRANT ROAD OPEN SPACE

■ CRIMEWATCH

DISORDERLY CONDUCT, MARSHALL’S, 9/24 AND 9/25

Marshall’s was bothered two days in a row this past week by a drunk man behaving inappropriately. Police did not clarify whether it was the same man harassing the employees there on both Sunday and Monday. In each circumstance, the publicly intoxicated male was white and possibly in his 40s.

On both occasions, the drunk man was extremely aggressive and demanded that cashiers give him money. The police arrived each day and arrested the belligerent man. No names have been specified.

GRAND THEFT, VALERO AND NORTH RENGSTORFF, 9/23

A man reported that \$1,400

was stolen from his car while it was being serviced last Saturday. He claimed to have left the money in a Bank of America deposit envelope while he was having a routine smog check performed on his vehicle.

The man said he had previously been to many other places that day, so it’s possible that he misplaced the money — or that it was stolen — elsewhere. But he told police that the last time he remembers seeing the money was just prior to the smog check.

In any case, the money is still missing. Any Good Samaritans coming across \$1,400 in a Bank of America envelope are asked to please turn it in to the Mountain View Police Department.

■ POLICE LOG

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

1200 block W. Dana St., 9/20
1400 block Villa St., 9/21

AUTO BURGLARY

700 block S. Oak St., 9/20
Rock St./Telford Ave., 9/20
400 block Hedgerow Ct., 9/21
400 block Hedgerow Ct., 9/22
1900 block Plymouth At., 9/22
100 W. Dana St., 9/23
1500 block W. Middlefielf Rd., 9/25

BATTERY

Crittenden School, 9/20
Crittenden Schoo, 9/21
1100 block Boranda Ave., 9/25

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

400 block W. Evelyn Ave., 9/25

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

500 block Walker Dr., 9/20
Costco, 9/21

GRAND THEFT

German International School, 9/21
700 block San Corizo Way, 9/21
Valero/N. Rengstorff, 9/23
1100 block Cuesta Dr., 9/23
2300 block Gabriel Ave., 9/24
1000 block El Monte Ave., 9/24
500 N. Shoreline Blvd., 9/25

STOLEN VEHICLE

900 block High School Way, 9/20
700 block San Corizo Way, 9/22

VANDALISM

500 block Escuela Ave., 9/20

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- * TEEN FALL FEST**

The Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Teen Ambassadors are hosting a Fall Fest on October 8th from 12-4 pm at Mitchell Park in Palo Alto. Festivities include a teen health fair and a battle of the bands. There will be free food, great music and cool giveaways!

- Sunday, October 8
- * WHAT EVERY PARENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT EATING DISORDERS**

Learn the signs, symptoms and latest treatments for children and adolescents with eating disorders. This seminar will be presented by the Directors of the Comprehensive Eating Disorders Program at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital.

- Wednesday, October 11
- * BECOMING GRANDPARENTS**

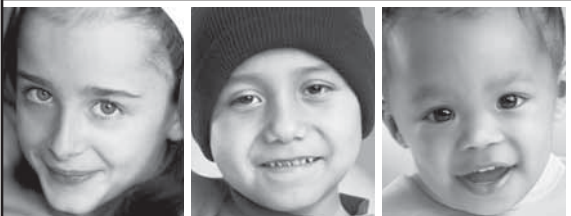
Designed for new and expectant grandparents, this class examines the changes in labor and delivery practices, the latest recommendations for infant care and the unique role of grandparents in today's society.

- Thursday, October 12
- * CHILDBIRTH CLASS IN THE CITY**

Come learn about childbirth preparation in a retreat-like setting at the Hotel Monaco in San Francisco. This course includes breakfast and lunch for two at the hotel, as well as participation in breastfeeding and cesarean birth classes.

- Saturday, November 18

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



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What not to wear

By Don Frances

I WAS A BIT skeptical when I heard about the new section debuting this week in the *Voice*.

“What, Peninsula style?” I said. “What is that, like, khakis?”

But as it turns out, PenStyle (page 29) is a great read. The first story hits on something I know is of great concern to 20- and 30-something women throughout Mountain View: “Now that I’m a mom — and my body’s different, and I’ve no time to shop, or even to change clothes, and I’m getting spit up on all day — what in the world do I wear?”

There’s no easy answer to that one, unfortunately, but I came away with the impression that there’s a huge untapped market out there of disgruntled, post-natal women, just waiting for some enterprising designer to come along and save them.

“ONE BIG REUNION in one place” is how they’re billing the upcoming MVUHS Eagle Alumni Day Picnic.

That’s MVUHS, as in Mountain View Union High School, which closed in 1981. According to a Web site dedicated to the old school, found at the ungainly <http://members.aol.com/Nap98/mvuhs.htm>, the school “united our racially and economically diverse population under the colors blue and gray and the eagle mascot.”

Those days are long gone, which means it’s time for a reunion. The picnic is Oct. 7, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Cuesta Park in the barbecue area. Marcia Vierra, reunion organizer, says that “all MV, Awalt and LA alumni,” including teachers and friends, are welcome.

Those with questions can call Marcia at (650) 966-2039 during the day, or (650) 968-1053 in the evenings. ■

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



NICHOLAS WRIGHT

WASH TIME: Los Altos High volleyball teammates Amanda Carvalho, Rachel Nelson and Gracie Lerch washed cars Sunday at the 76 gas station at El Camino Real and Los Altos Avenue to raise money for equipment and tournament entrance fees.

A ticket to college

EXTRA WORK PAYS OFF FOR STUDENTS IN AVID PROGRAM

By Alexa Tondreau

Victor Ruelas is the first generation in his family to pursue a higher education. He attends Whitman College in Washington State — thousands of miles, and a world of opportunity away, from his

birthplace in the town of Miguel Auza, Mexico.

At the age of 14, Ruelas moved to the U.S. and transferred to Los Altos High School with only the most basic English skills. Six years later, as a sophomore, he is debating between being a physics or an astronomy

major, or maybe both.

Ruelas attributes a large part of his success to his involvement in a program called AVID, an appropriate acronym which stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination.

► See **AVID**, page 11

■ NEWS BRIEFS

CALTRAIN HITS STALLED CAR IN PALO ALTO

A woman escaped injury when her car was struck by a northbound Caltrain bullet train at Churchill Avenue in Palo Alto on Monday.

The woman was driving westbound on Churchill Avenue that morning when her car stalled on the train tracks, Palo Alto Police Agent Rich Bullerjahn said. She tried to restart her car but failed. At about 8:15 a.m., she saw the crossing gates come down and the train coming, so she got out of the car and moved to safety, Bullerjahn added.

Caltrain spokeswoman Christine Dunn said train No. 323

dragged the car about 200 yards. Both northbound and southbound trains were stopped while the wrecked car was removed, and a bus shuttled passengers between the Palo Alto and Mountain View stations.

The wrecked car was cleared away shortly after 9 a.m., and train service in both directions was eventually restored.

EIGHT PEOPLE APPLY FOR OPEN SPACE BOARD

Eight Mountain View and Los Altos residents have applied for the vacancy on the board of directors of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. The board conducted a first

round of interviews of candidates Monday night and will conduct a second round Oct. 9. A third round of interviews, if necessary, will be held Oct. 10.

The eight applicants are: Jerome Galli, Terrance Hanna, Joshua G. Moore, Jeff Segall and Patricia Showalter, all of Mountain View, and Lucy Hsu, William J. James and Curt Riffle, all of Los Altos.

The vacancy was created when Deanne Little resigned from the board to move to Colorado.

The district’s board voted Aug. 23 to appoint a person to replace Little rather than holding a special election, which would have cost the district \$770,000.

— Palo Alto Weekly

■ CITY COUNCIL

Progress rolls on Rock St.

A DOZEN APARTMENT UNITS SLATED TO MAKE WAY FOR NEW ROW HOUSES

By Daniel DeBolt

The council wrestled with yet another apartment-to-home ownership conversion on Tuesday before approving a small row house development on Rock Street.

Under the approved plan, 19 three-story row houses would replace 12 single-story apartment units at 1958 Rock Street, where rents currently range from \$1,600 to \$1,700 a month.

The council reflected for 10 minutes on what was described as a new trend. Another recent example is the loss of a large apartment complex at 111 N. Rengstorff Ave. for higher-cost homes.

“It’s gentrification,” said veteran gadfly Don Letcher. Human relations commissioner Alicia Crank, a candidate in the November race for city council, also spoke at the meeting.

“I’m seeing a trend,” she said. Crank noted that while the combined income of residents in units at 111 Rengstorff may have averaged \$100,000 a year, that doesn’t mean those people can afford to buy the homes that would replace it.

Mayor Nick Galiotto said that a lack of affordable housing “obviously is an issue.” He said he was ready to switch his vote on developing affordable housing at the city-owned

► See **COUNCIL**, page 14

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■ **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

TRI, GIRL, TRI!

Twenty-two members of the El Camino YMCA Women's Triathlon Club will compete in the Napa Valley Tri, Girl, Tri! Women's Triathlon this Saturday, Sept. 30.

A total of 600 women of all ages and experience will participate in the triathlon. The race includes a half-mile swim, a 15-mile bike ride and a four-mile run before the joyful relief of crossing the finish line.

The El Camino Women's Triathlon Club invites women of all ages and experience levels to join the club for next season. The season is nine months long, and trainers are experienced and motivating, club members say. They add that the bond of sisterhood this club creates augments the physical workout, meeting and setting of goals and overcoming of obstacles.

**ENVIRO FILM FESTIVAL
IN LOS ALTOS**

Snowlands Network, a non-profit organization, is hosting the Bay Area's first Scenic Environmental Film Festival in Los Altos next Friday.

Seven award-winning environmental and adventure films will be shown. According to Snowlands Network, the aim is to bring about awareness and appreciation of the environment, and to inspire viewers to make a difference in their own backyards.

The event will be held at Los Altos High School on Friday, Oct. 6. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the first film begins at 7. Tickets — \$13 for adults and \$9 for children — can be ordered online at www.snowlands.org/festival, by phone at (530) 265-6424, or purchased in advance at REI. Tickets are \$15 at the door if the festival is not sold out.

— Amber Cleave

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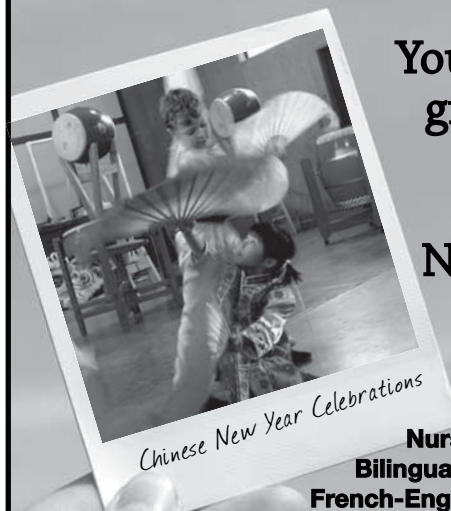
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VERONICA WEBER

Garvey leads Michelle McGrew on their way to the post office in Mountain View. In total, the roundtrip to the post office is about three miles, and McGrew says it's how she gets her daily exercise.

GUIDE DOG

► Continued from page 1

quieter and sometimes I might not hear a car running a red light. Garvey is taught to disobey my commands if conditions are unsafe. They call it intelligent disobedience," McGrew explained.

Their shared responsibility leads to the third and most favored reason that McGrew prefers a guide dog over the old-fashioned cane: increased mobility and speed while walking.

Walking is McGrew's main mode of exercise and transportation. With Garvey by her side, the two are able to walk quickly and efficiently. They often walk uninterrupted because Garvey is capable of making his own decisions.

Possible drawbacks

There are reasons why some visually impaired people don't use guide dogs. The most obvious reason is allergies. And some don't want the responsibility of taking care of animals and providing them with the constant attention that they need.

Another reason some chose against using guide dogs is because animals have minds of their own, and sometimes their independence can interfere with their ability to safely guide.

"There is always an element of danger involved. It's possible that your guide dog could be attacked by another dog. That's why I encourage people to be responsible dog owners and to keep their dog on a leash while in public," McGrew said. "Also, sometimes

people will pet guide dogs while they are on duty. For some dogs this is not a distraction, but other dogs can lose their focus," she said.

Danger aside, McGrew says she always wants a guide dog by her side. "I am hooked," she said enthusiastically.

An additional benefit, attributed to her first guide dog, was the introduction to her husband, Darin. Michelle and Darin both attended Stanford University as undergrads, and they were members of the University Christian Fellowship. It was as two dog lovers at a Christian Fellowship meeting that they officially met.

"I reached down to pet my dog and noticed that there was another hand petting her. We started getting to know each other from there," McGrew said fondly.

Darin was instrumental in her acquisition of Garvey. He drove

her to San Rafael this past July so she could attend Guide Dogs for the Blind, the program from which the two graduated on July 29. Guide Dogs for the Blind estimates that it generally takes six months to a year for a guide dog and its owner to fully function as a team — but McGrew notes that Garvey feels like an old companion already.

"Guide Dogs for the Blind is a wonderful organization. They always do an annual follow-up and assist in aiding any unresolved issues between the human and dog. I really like the additional support," McGrew said.

Although she's sure there is a little fine tuning to work out, McGrew believes she and Garvey will be a good team long before that one-year average. ▣

E-mail Amber Cleave at acleave@mv-voice.com



VERONICA WEBER

After dropping off a letter at the post office downtown, McGrew waits for Garvey to lead the way back outside.

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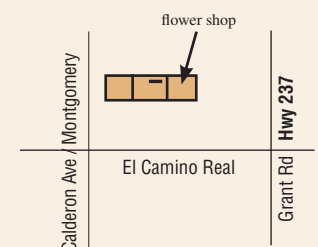
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FARM

► Continued from page 1

cient use of space.

Summerhill spokesman Joe

Head said he didn't think the farm was an appropriate use of the land, and that Summerhill's plan for 55 homes reflected that.

"It's probably a nice romantic idea from the past, but doesn't

have much application to what we're doing currently" he said. "Our perspective is that farmland in urban areas is not the best land use."

However, Head said Summer-

hill would be responsive to whatever the city wants to do with the property.

"It's up to the city of Mountain View to decide which path they want to take here," he said.

In November three city council members will be elected and will likely be a deciding force in what happens to the farm. Council member Mike Kasperzak, who is interested in the alternative plan, said the current six-member council would likely deadlock on the issue.

Council member Laura Macias said a farm would definitely be desirable to prospective homeowners, but said it wouldn't be fair to put the cost for the farmland entirely onto the developer.

Council member Greg Perry said he wasn't sure yet if a farm should be ruled out, though he's stated opposition to it in the past. He pointed out that it would be unfair to use \$1.5 million in park fees from the development to go toward the farmland, as considered in the study, when other areas of the city are more in need of park money.

Agriculture and economics

Council member and San Jose State University economics professor Tom Means thought a five-acre farm wouldn't be economically viable.

"I'm highly skeptical that a farm would make money there without certain subsidies or city council financial support. There is no way to test this," he said. "When we sit down to do an economic study it's not going to be as simple as people see it."

The Farmlands Group put up \$5,000 for its feasibility study for operating a five-acre farm, which was completed last week by Berkeley-based group Sustainable Agricultural Education. One model farm referenced in the study is Fairview Gardens, a 12-acre-farm in the middle of a suburb of similar density in Goleta, near Santa Barbara, that makes \$750,000 a year in revenue with efficient crop rotations.

Fairview Gardens gets 10 to 15 percent of its revenue from education grants received for educational tours, said Matthew Logan, a farmer on the site.

"It adds value to the community," Logan said. "You have open space area, people from the neighborhood come walking through the farm area on a regular basis just to walk through."

"A local farm not only provides the community with food," Logan added, "it also provides people the connection with the food. Kids are utterly amazed how carrots are grown. They see them in cellophane bags in the supermarket, and that is how they think they are grown."

The study references several small farmers around the state, including a two-acre farm in East

► See **FARM**, next page



Mountain View's Great Pumpkin Patch

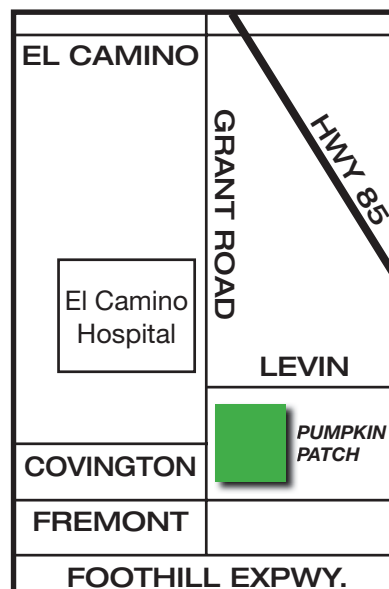
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Pro-farm rally

ADVOCATES TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF GRANT ROAD FARM

By Daniel DeBolt

Menlo Park business owner and author Jesse Ziff Cool owns three restaurants and a catering business, has written six books and has been interviewed by several media outlets about her views on sustainable agriculture and food. One has to wonder where she gets all that time and energy.



Jesse Ziff Cool

Her explanation is that "I'm surrounded by remarkable people."

On her Web site, Cool says her employees tend to stay many years, something rare in the food service industry.

"If we take care of the people from the beginning, from the people who pick food to the preparers, even though the customer comes last the customer actually gets taken care of," she said.

Cool is one of several advo-

cates of sustainable agriculture who will talk this Saturday about the importance of preserving Mountain View's last farm on Grant Road. Joining her, Matthew Logan is traveling from Goleta where he works Fairview Gardens, a farm smack in the middle of a suburb. Sibella Kraus, a consultant hired by the Mountain View Farmlands Group from Sustainable Agriculture Education, will also speak, as will Paula Linton from Green Leaf Produce, which provides restaurants with some of the best locally grown organic food.

The Farmland Group's feasibility study on the farm will also be presented.

The philosophy that growing food locally helps the environment will be the message of the day. With a growing "slow food" movement around the world, it's a message that's becoming more popular as people become more concerned with their health and the health of the environment.

"Many years ago we were kind of ridiculed for it," Cool

said about the philosophy. "Now it's much more apparent that it's essential."

Cool calls farmers her heroes, and the first environmentalists.

She says she is aware of how much money can be made by letting go of locally produced food. But in the long run, all the money in the world isn't worth losing what a local source of food means for a community.

"I think what we often do is we don't look at our lives and the well being of ourselves and our community in the long term," she said. "We sometimes lose sight of what is nurturing besides what makes money now." ■

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

■ INFORMATION

What: Presentation on sustainable agriculture, put on by advocates hoping to preserve the Grant Road farm

Where: St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Edwards Hall. The church is located at 2094 Cuesta Dr. at Grant Road.

When: Sept. 30, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

FARM

► Continued from previous page

Palo Alto called Happy Quail Farms.

"Five acres should be plenty to do something," said Karin Winsberg, who tends Happy Quail with her husband David. "It's a matter of philosophy, really."

"You're not going to be rich, but it does work," she said. "We're in it also because it's the right thing to do. It's more sustainable, you are using less of what's scarce, i.e. gas to deliver food, and hopefully you are giving employment to local folks who aren't traveling miles to work."

Mountain View is scheduled to start a lengthy annexation process of the land next year. Kasperzak said that now is the time to consider keeping some of the farm, because whatever zoning the city chooses for land during annexation remains in effect for two years.

Advocates of the farm say now is the time to strike.

"Once the farm is gone, it's gone." Logan said. ■

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



Under a proposal put forth by the Mountain View Farmlands Group, about a third of the 15-acre space on Grant Road would remain farmland. The remaining two thirds (everything outside the red rectangle) would be turned into housing. Above, a sketched map of the smaller farm is superimposed onto a Google image of the current Grant Road farm.

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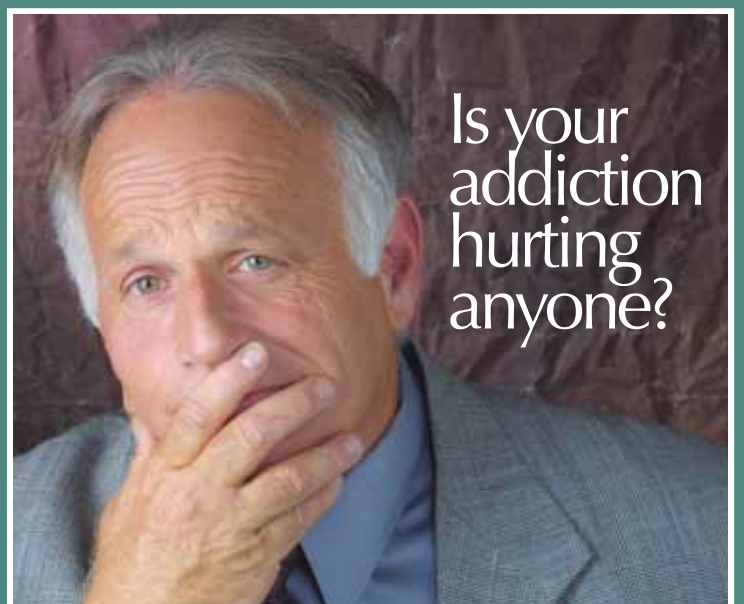
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AVID

► Continued from page 5

The program has been offered at Los Altos High for more than a decade. By focusing on a combination of study skills, college counseling, leadership development and personal mentoring, AVID places students on a path that ends in acceptance to a four-year university.

"If it wasn't for AVID," Ruelas said from Washington, "I'm pretty sure I wouldn't be here."

Developed in California in 1980, AVID spread across 40 states and 15 countries in the ensuing years. The program targets students who have been historically underrepresented in the university system, generally indicating that they are an ethnic minority, the first generation to attend college in their family, or from a low-income background.

The program is available in both the Mountain View-Los Altos and Mountain View Whisman school districts. Its stronghold, however, is at Los Altos High, where 180 students currently participate

during one period of class per day. All are required maintain a solid grade point average and good attendance record.

Angelica Torres is a senior in the AVID program at Los Altos High, and finds the academic tutoring especially helpful because, she said, "It's not like I can ask my mom for help with homework when I go home — she didn't go to high school."

At Los Altos High, students and their parents both must sign a contract stating that they will commit to AVID's plan for college success. Among other requirements, this includes a commitment of two hours of homework a night. Also, for students, it means participation in admissions workshops, and for parents, a commitment to set up a financial plan for college.

"We spend a lot of time talking about the actual costs of attending college," Los Altos High program coordinator and teacher Roma Hammel said, "So the family can plan and prepare. We want to give them every support possible to make this successful."

Hammel says that "One hun-

dred percent of students" apply to four-year universities from Los Altos High. An informal tracking of AVID graduates from the school suggests that roughly 80 percent have graduated from or are currently attending a four-year university. Statewide, approximately 75 percent are in the same category.

Beyond the opportunity to get onto a college-bound track, AVID offers students the chance to spend four years with a close circle of like-minded peers.

Senior Justine Aycott says that when she attends her AVID class, "I find people who look like me, and are smart like me."

Many of AVID's graduates return to Los Altos speak to students and offer their personal stories as encouragement. Additionally, alumni and staff stay in touch, through e-mail and the occasional visit.

"The teachers and the students were one of the best parts," Ruelas says. "Whenever I go home for vacation, we get together." ▽

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

■ EDUCATION BRIEFS

LA HILLS: WE WANT NEW DISTRICT

Poll results released last week show that a majority of Los Altos Hills voters now support establishing a new K-8 school district.

Fifty-three percent of the voters polled on Sept. 6-10 favored the city's proposal for a locally controlled school district, a dramatic increase from previous years. In 2004, only 28 percent of voters showed their support, while 61 percent opposed it.

Additionally, survey results show that even if the Los Altos School District begins the process of reopening Bullis-Purissima, which it has pledged to do in 2008, the majority of voters in Los Altos Hills still want a new K-8 district created.

The official conclusion of the survey suggests that voters have "grown tired of unfulfilled promises to improve local education," and that they want to gain control of their public schools.

The privately funded polling of 273 registered Los Altos Hills voters was done by the David Binder Research firm of San Francisco.

MVLA PHONE-A-THON

Almost 80 volunteers gathered on Sept. 19 and 20 in a phone-a-thon fundraising effort to benefit the Mountain View-Los Altos School District.

Held at the Coldwell Banker and Alain Pinel Offices in Mountain View, the event generated support from a number of


helping hands. Superintendent Barry Groves and board president Julia Rosenberg worked the phones, in addition to Mountain View High School principal Keith Moody, Los Altos High School principal Wynne Satterwhite, and Bill Pierce, principal of Alta Vista. The amount raised was not immediately available.

The event was sponsored by the MVLA High School Foundation,

a nonprofit group formed by parents in 1982 that works to raise money for the district. Last year, the foundation raised \$600,000 for the district. This year, it set a goal of \$650,000, with funds going to promote smaller class sizes in English and math, tutorial centers, technology upgrades, and college/career centers.

— Alexa Tondreau


In Mountain View



The Girls' Middle School

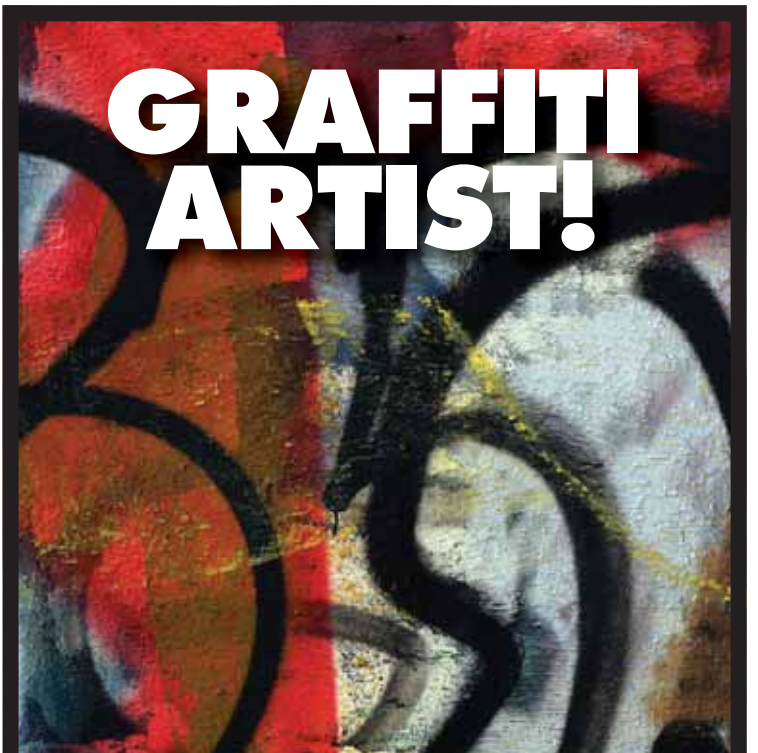
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EVANDALE

► Continued from page 1

opment proposal — which will soon go before the city council — would replace this affordable housing with a 144-unit structure, featuring homes that are expected to sell for \$500,000 each.

“A number of families came,” said council member Laura Macias about the Sept. 20 planning commission meeting. “Many had not been contacted in their first language.”

Macias said she was concerned about turning affordable rentals into what could be called “affordable ownership” housing.

“I’m not confident we’re doing enough to take care of folks who will be displaced,” Macias said.

Macias may be in the minority on the council. Council members Tom Means, Mike Kasperzak and Greg Perry said they weren’t opposed to the development, while council member Matt Pear and Mayor Nick Galiotto could not be reached by press time.

The three-acre Evandale Avenue site was recently re-zoned for high density housing along with several other areas in the city in an effort

to promote “smart growth.” But Macias said she wasn’t convinced it was appropriate.

“There are no schools, no grocery, the only mass transit is light rail, and I just don’t think that’s sufficient,” she said. “Just because you call something ‘smart growth’ doesn’t mean it’s smart growth. You have to look at the connecting points around it.”

A development proposal would replace this affordable housing with a 144-unit structure.

Kasperzak said the re-zoning — with its loss of cheap rental housing and higher-density development — was as it should be.

“Development by its nature is going to rehabilitate and rebuild,” Kasperzak said. “You are going to lose old housing stock. The only

way to increase housing density is by rebuilding.”

Perry and Kasperzak will be replaced in January with newly elected council members who may not be in favor of such developments. While Kasperzak may support this development, he said he wants to see more affordable housing built.

“The new council needs to figure out a way to create incentives to build apartments that can offer affordable rates,” Kasperzak said.

Last year, Kasperzak criticized the city’s “below market rate,” or BMR, housing program, which gives developers the choice between making a portion of its housing affordable or paying a BMR fee. Most developers pay the fee.

Environmental Planning Commission chair Jac Siegel, who is also a council candidate, said the city is projected to have \$50 million in BMR fees when the 3,000 units in the city’s pipeline are built in coming years. Currently, \$5 million is sitting in the BMR fund.

“I’ve been trying to get the council to increase the fee for the BMR so we don’t get so many

► See **EVANDALE**, next page

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■ CITY BRIEFS

CHAMBER ENDORSES COUNCIL CANDIDATES

The Mountain View Chamber of Commerce has endorsed Jac Siegel, Margaret Abe Koga and Kalwant Sandhu as its top choices in the November city council election.

A candidate selection review committee reviewed the candidates' responses to questionnaires and personal interviews. A recommendation was then made to the board of directors, based on which candidates would best represent local business interests.

"We are extremely impressed with the caliber of the candidates," said Allison Nelson, Chamber president. "It was a difficult decision, but we are pleased to endorse three candidates who all would be strong leaders representing the business community."

VTA ALTERS BUS ROUTE FOR WESCOAT RESIDENTS

With Orion Park housing now vacant and the new Wescoat Village now open, VTA has re-routed bus Line 51 to enter the main gate at Moffett Field.

The line will now go through Wescoat Village, housing for military families that opened up in July. It will end at N. Akron Road and McCord Avenue, before turning around and heading back to the Valco shopping center in Cupertino.

During weekday peak commute hours, trips will extend to Parsons Street and Allen Street in Moffett Field. The route change is one of four being implemented in the county beginning Oct. 9.

— Daniel DeBolt

EVANDALE

► Continued from previous page

fees," Kasperzak said.

Perry has opposed the BMR program in the past and wants to see higher density development happen more easily.

"The more important problem is the fact that local families are being displaced by a shortage of homes at all prices," Perry said. "Adding 80 homes helps solve that problem."

Residents will be given six months notice if the project is approved, along with \$500 for

moving expenses, full refund on their deposits, professional advice on renting and a subscription to a rental guide.

Macias said the city council should take leadership on providing for displaced residents.

"Just adding bright new housing doesn't really fix things," Macias said. "These people have invested in our city, many work here. Just because they aren't making \$100,000 a year doesn't mean we should dispose of them so easily." ■

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

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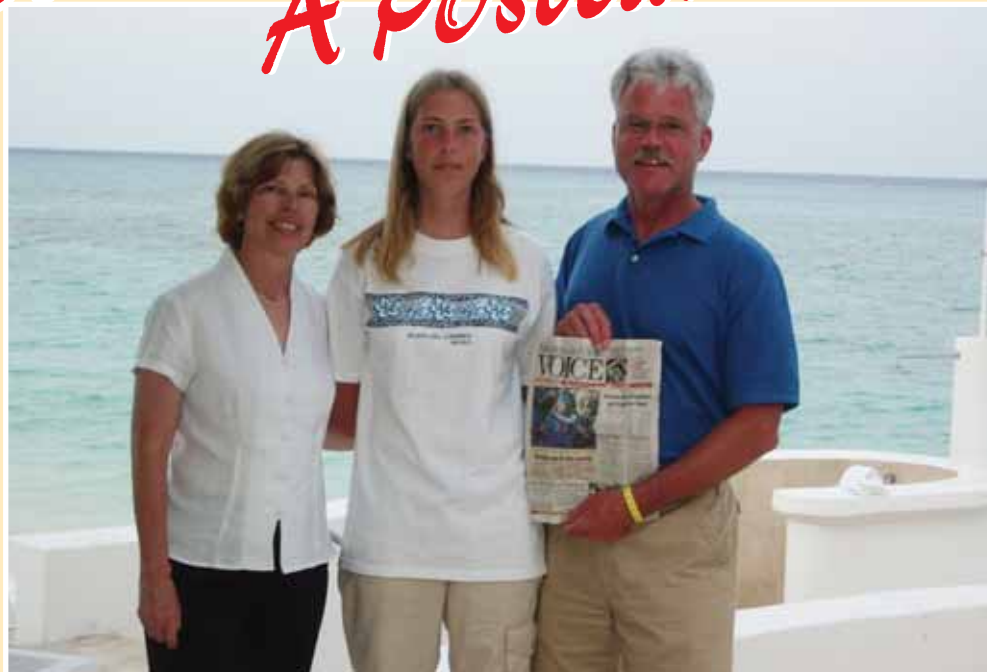


Photo of Roger, Sue, and Alicia Noel on the beach at Playa Del Carmen, Mexico.

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Aggressive squirrels target picnickers at Cuesta Park

Bay City News

A fierce squirrel attacked a 4-year-old boy at Mountain View's Cuesta Park last week as the rodent tried to wrestle a muffin out of the boy's hands, leaving him with scratch and bite marks that prompted a series of precautionary rabies shots.

The skirmish wasn't the first time the park's numerous tree squirrels targeted picnickers, according to Mountain View community services director David Muela.

Muela said Wednesday that as many as six people have been bitten or scratched by squirrels since May, and that the attacks have become more ferocious in the last month. One squirrel even went so far as to jump into a child's stroller.

Ironically, efforts to curb the behavior may have exacerbated the squirrels' aggressive tendencies, Muela said.

This summer, the city installed new trash receptacles featuring metal tops with a latch that makes it nearly impossible for an animal to rummage through the can in search of food. Increased park ranger patrols and flier distributions cautioning against feeding the animals might have further cut the squirrels' food supply, prompting them to act

more assertively in their quest for food.

As a last resort, the city is now looking to trap the animals for possible euthanization, Muela said.

The state Department of Fish and Game recommends against relocating habituated squirrels, he said, because their fear of humans has diminished and the problem is likely to remain. Instead, the department recommends the animals be put to sleep, Muela said.

The city hopes to launch the trapping program as early as this week, when a series of metal barrels should be installed in the trees.

Muela said the city can't afford to wait and see if the squirrels' aggressive behavior goes away eventually, because of the threat posed to public health and safety.

Emphasizing his concern for the welfare of park visitors, Muela said, "We will need the public's cooperation on this, because as long as they continue to feed the squirrels it will exacerbate the problem."

Although the squirrels' behavior has led some to fear the animals might be rabid, Muela said that is highly unlikely because incidents of rabid tree squirrels are extremely rare. ▀

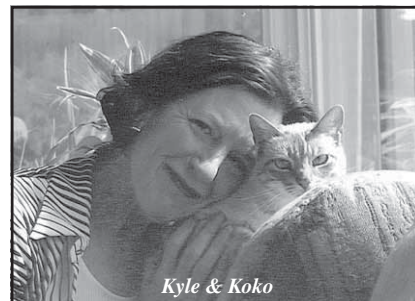
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Staff Writers

Daniel DeBolt

Alexa Tondreau

Intern

Amber Cleave

Contributors

Angela Hey

Sheila Himmel

Diana Reynolds Roome

Elaine Rowland

Kathy Schrenk

Photographers

Norbert von der Groeben

Nicholas Ryan Wright

Design Director

Raul Perez

Assistant Design Director

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P.O. Box 405

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editor@MV-VOICE.com

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ads@MV-VOICE.com

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EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Can we avoid dueling park uses?

Just like many other Peninsula cities, Mountain View is having trouble finding enough playing fields for all the youth and adult sports teams that want to practice and play in the city.

The shortage, or at least the perceived shortage, comes up every time a coach testifies that his players either have to practice on a postage-stamp-sized field, or must play late into the evening due to the lack of space.

Soccer leagues, Little Leagues, and now a handful of non-traditional team sports like lacrosse and rugby are pressing cities for more playing space. This push is coming from various organized leagues whose high-powered members may or may not be from the local community.

For example, of the 20 or so people who testified in favor of playing fields at the recent workshop about the future use of the Cuesta Park Annex, many were said to be Los Altos residents, whose town also suffers from a lack of playing fields. Regardless of hometowns, the Parks and Recreation Commission must have been impressed by the argument, as its two top choices for a Cuesta plan included significant space for fields. This was a change for the commission, which in prior votes had leaned much more toward preserving open space at the Annex.

As noted in this space before, turning any part of Cuesta over to playing fields is a mistake. We hope the city council will see the wisdom in preserving Cuesta's few remaining stands of orchards, as well as a significant number of oaks and a good portion of unfettered open space.

In light of plans revealed this year to develop the Grant Road farm and possibly the Franzia property in the North Whisman area, it is more important than ever to preserve this land as it was before the hundreds of acres of farms and orchards were mowed down for housing and industry.

By doing so, Mountain View doesn't have to turn its back on the sports teams. Luckily, there are still places where new fields can sprout, including a six-acre parcel on Shoreline Boulevard.

But these decisions should not be based on which interest group has the largest turnout at a hearing. It is long past time to update the city's master recreation plan, a task which is underway now. A hearing was held Sept. 27, after the Voice went to press, to solicit suggestions from residents about their recreation needs for the next 10 to 20 years.

This is the process that should be used to determine the location and number of playing fields the city can provide in the years ahead. After extensive hearings and suggestions from residents, a new recreation plan will be written that could be adopted next year. These are the public hearings where the organizers of youth sports leagues should be making their case.

Clearly, no Peninsula city can offer unlimited playing field space. Those days are gone. This means that parents and coaches must recognize that they may have to ration playing time, and put a hold on the ever-increasing demand for field space. There is only so much a city can do, and we are fast approaching the limit.

LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

CONSERVATION VOTERS MISSED BOAT ON ENDORSEMENTS

Editor:

It is with great dismay that I read the League of Conservation Voters' endorsements in the Mountain View City Council race.

There is no question in my mind that the strongest environmentalists in the race are Tian Harter and John Inks. Both have been very active with local environmental groups for several years: John with Acterra and Tian with Sustainable Mountain View.

Both have well-thought-out positions on key environmental issues from urban sprawl to fossil fuel consumption to invasive species.

To pass over these two candidates' commitment to the environment is unconscionable, especially when the environmental records of the endorsed candidates are unremarkable.

Greg Perry
City council member

SAVE HIDDEN VILLA'S KID CAMPS

Editor:

I am the proud mother of Roslyn Braun, a 7th grader at Crittenden, who with perseverance and love has raised over \$755 for Hidden Villa's 12-day camps. Roslyn has been a camper at Hidden Villa since she was 6 years old and it is by far her most favorite of all camps.

Roslyn was inspired when her camp counselor called to request help with fundraising. She set off and contacted her grandmother and her great-aunt for direct donations. She recruited me and several non-camper friends to work hard baking and selling brownies and cookies in front of the Bicycle Outfitter for the next four weekends. Her enthusiasm was catching!

I so value Hidden Villa camp because it is leaps and bounds above any other. It is

► See **LETTERS**, next page



LETTERS

► Continued from previous page

exceptionally well organized, has an amazing scholarship program, and has highly qualified counselors. They are very savvy in modeling and teaching interdependence and empowerment with a focus on diversity and stewardship of the earth. When Roslyn returns from these 12-day camps she has matured significantly and is more confident. I want Roslyn and many, many other kids to be able to experience this camp for years to come.

My hope is that Roslyn will inspire you to make a donation to this wonderful camp. Donations are still needed to save more than a skeleton of the camp. For more information see www.savehvcamp.com.

Sue Staley
W. Middlefield Road

SON'S AGONY DUE TO CHLORAMINE

Editor:

The past several weeks have been a hectic and sad time for my family and me because my son, Joseph Yang, has a serious chemical irritation problem caused by chloramine in our tap water.

His face and body is covered in burning rashes and he is very susceptible to infection. Joseph feels constant pain and severe itching over his entire body. He is now homebound and cannot sleep or move. His immune system is so severely compromised that he is at high risk of developing cancer.

He feels pain and itching all day and night. My husband and I must constantly clean him and his clothes. Before this he was a student at UC San Diego and his future looked bright. Now he has no life.

Joseph's constant debilitating pain and confinement is due to chloramine added to the tap water in the past few years. We don't know how long it will take to cure or where to get proper treatment. Our entire family despairs over what his life will be like and how long he can withstand the pain and how long our finances can support him. My husband and I pray to God to cure him even to trade our lives for his.

Will all of you please support Joseph and others who suffer by insisting that chloramine is removed from our tap water?

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Los Altos Hills

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Weekend

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

■ MOVIE TIMES

■ BEST BETS FOR ENTERTAINMENT



NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

Madison and Fifth is the newest Italian restaurant in downtown Palo Alto.

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

That's not amore

PALO ALTO'S MADISON & FIFTH PUTS ON THE RITZ, BUT LACKS SUBSTANCE

By Sheila Himmel

Every time a new Italian restaurant hits downtown Palo Alto, it's like the song about the moon and your eye and a big pizza pie. We're in love.

Madison & Fifth, open since June, is the most recent object of our swooning. Lunchtime, dinnertime, there's a buzz. At lunch they take reservations, but not for dinner.

Perhaps Palo Alto needed another upscale, wood-burning Italian restaurant to go with all the new Tuscan villas around town. Madison & Fifth seeks to distinguish itself with a New York pedigree, as the name sug-

gests. One of the owners' other restaurants sits on 64th Street between Madison and Fifth avenues.

As all you sophisticates know, Madison and Fifth do not intersect. It's an inside joke the wait staff must already be tired of explaining. For those who have to ask, the New York theme is reinforced by cartoon-like murals featuring the Chrysler Building and women trying on designer shoes.

The food is OK, but a little too close to New York prices, such as \$30 for a bottle of Ecco Domani Pinot Grigio you can buy for \$8 to \$12. Even worse, the little wine list is overpriced, and if you want to bring your

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The menu covers a lot of Italian vocabulary, from pinzimonio bagna cauda (raw veggies with anchovy-garlic dip) to tiramisu and tulipano (desserts). On the regular menu are 11 salads, 10 appetizers, four versions of carpaccio (thin-sliced raw beef or tuna), three flavors of risotto, 12 pastas, eight pizzas and 11 entrees.

And then there are the specials — so many specials that the server's recital takes quite a while and really should be discussed before you get too deeply into the menu. At dinner, our server forgot to mention the specials at all. Maybe she didn't have time.

The bread was a little dry: Best to quickly dip it in olive oil, which is well-populated with crisp celery, caper berries and a variety of olives. At dinner you also get four bites of mortadella.

Many dishes are marked as Chef's Signature, as was the best dish we tried. Seared tuna carpaccio (\$12) is enough for two people to share as an appetizer. Orange segments, fennel and arugula salad accent but don't dominate the silky tuna.

Also a Chef's Signature, segato

di carciofi (\$12) fell flat. Thin-sliced artichokes, hearts of celery and mushrooms become almost indistinguishable in this salad, topped with shaved Parmigiano and lemon dressing. Only the radicchio maintained its own personality.

An appetizer from the wood-burning oven, tegamino (\$11) is a comforting casserole of breaded eggplant, tomato sauce, mozzarella and Parmigiano-Reggiano cheeses. Why it's \$11 is another question.

Dinner specials feature whole fish from the oven, with a strong aroma. Occasionally there's a light show from the oven as something flames up.

Service was speedy — too speedy. We ordered and, boom, there were appetizers, with entrees close on their heels. Suddenly we needed to choose what to eat first.

Veal chop Milanese (\$27), for one, is not a dish you want to cool off. It's flattened and breaded and pan-fried, like Wiener Schnitzel, but with the bone still attached. (And that's where the best meat is.) It's topped with a sprightly tomato and arugula chopped salad.

The homemade basil lin-

▶ See **MADISON**, page 20



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MADISON

► Continued from page 19

guine (\$18) was disappointing. The pasta's greening agent drowned in a creamy goat-cheese sauce with cubes of soft, boring pumpkin. Even with hazelnuts and a few sightings of black truffles, this was a skimpy portion for \$18.

Maybe we also picked the wrong pizza. For pizza bresaola (\$15), five or six slices of thin-sliced dried cured beef are thrown onto a dull crust with tomato sauce, arugula, and clumps of cheese that failed to melt. It was like a team of players who barely get along.

Desserts picked up the pace. Fried ravioli (\$8) give you the delicious contrast of a crispy hot coat with a creamy cold filling of bananas, hazelnuts and chocolate. Pumpkin ice cream



NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

The mirrored walls make the restaurant noisy during dinner.

works here.

Also good, tulipano (\$9) is like a trifle filled with ripe summer fruit and topped with

sweet mascarpone sauce, tinged with fire.

At lunch, lamb ragu papardelle (\$18) was more saucy than stringy, but had good flavor from the wood-burning oven. Salmon paillard (\$15) will do in a pinch.

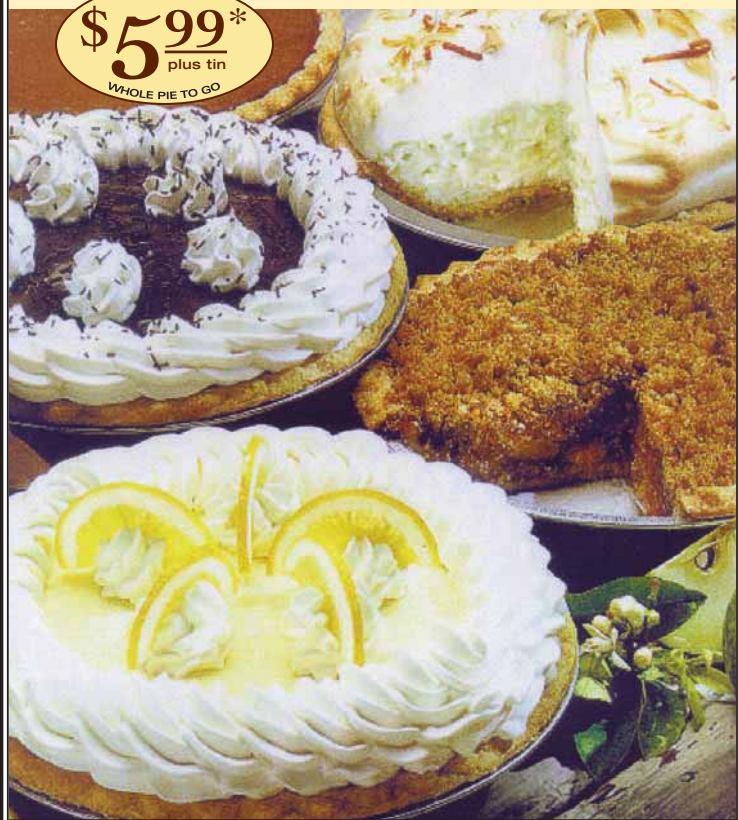
Madison & Fifth is a busy place. And with mirrored walls and all hard surfaces, it gets loud. You may have to lean in to hear your companions.

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PEAR AVENUE MAKES ADMIRABLE 50TH ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE, BUT STRUGGLES WITH O'NEILL'S TIGHTLY WOUND MASTERPIECE

By Julie O'Shea

It's hard to believe it's been 50 years since the first staging of "Long Day's Journey into Night."

Seizing on the anniversary date, Mountain View's Pear Avenue Theatre opened the poignantly tragic Eugene O'Neill drama last weekend for a short, one-month run.

The play, which O'Neill based on his own traumatic childhood, relies heavily on emotion — which is why I wish the Pear Avenue cast focused on it more. Helmed by local director Jeanie Forte (who also writes theater reviews for the *Palo Alto Weekly*, the *Voice's* sister paper), this production sometimes feels like a cold reading, with the actors showing us only glimpses of their characters' souls. As a result, O'Neill's beautiful words don't always rise to their full potential.

The five-member cast — stalking around the tiny black-box theater set, which was nicely designed by Forte — falls prey to out-of-place pauses, odd breaks in dialogue and some poorly conceived staging choices, throwing the action off balance. For example: having actors actually sit in the audience and recite lines. While the goal of theater is all about finding a connection with the audience, this is a bit over the top.

"Journey" is O'Neill's tour de force, a raw piece of work that cuts to the very core of the troubled playwright. Because the script was so deeply personal, O'Neill forbade its release until after his death.

It is the story of the Tyrone family (i.e. the O'Neill family). The mother, Mary, is a drug addict. The eldest son, Jamie, is an alcoholic. The father, James,



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BEINECKE COLLECTION AT YALE UNIVERSITY

Eugene O'Neill plays piano at the Tao House in Danville in 1939. O'Neill and his wife Carlotta bought the property in 1937, and he wrote "Long Day's Journey Into Night" there, finishing it in 1941.

is a shell of a man, who has problems expressing his fears — and his love. And young Edmund Tyrone, the baby of this bumbling brood, is the family nexus. Sickly and poetic, Edmund — an image of O'Neill himself — is the one holding his family together, but he is also helping to tear them apart.

His was a difficult birth, and Mary blames Edmund for hooking her on the drugs. So does the rest of the family. Although it's never expressly stated to him, Edmund is aware of his station in life. And while he never expressly states it aloud, he resents the position he's in.

As Mary Tyrone, Diane Tasca walks around, quite literally, with her eyes closed. At first it seems as if she does it because she's having trouble remembering what she's supposed to be saying. It was only after the second intermission (why there

are two in a three-hour show is baffling) that I realized this is her interpretation of being strung-out.

John Russell, as Edmund, gives us some stirring moments, particularly towards the end. I wish he could have kept it up for the entire show. Instead he spends much of his stage time sitting around with an angry pout on his face. A bit more emotional diversity was in order. Tom Ammon as James and Eric Rice as Jamie also show a lot of potential, but to me their characters just didn't seem to be fully fleshed out.

My hope is that the production's short field trip to Tao House in Danville — they're performing the play there from Oct. 6 to Oct. 8 — serves as inspiration. Tao House is the place where "Journey" was written (O'Neill finished the play in 1941), and is the perfect spot to honor the play's 50th year. ■

O'Neill forbade the script's release until after his death

■ INFORMATION

What: Pear Avenue Theatre presents "Long Day's Journey into Night," by Eugene O'Neill

Where: Pear Avenue Theatre, 1220 Pear Ave., Unit K, Mountain View. (The show will run at Tao House in Danville Oct. 6-8.)

When: Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m., through Oct. 22

Cost: \$10-\$25

Contact: Call (650) 254-1148 or visit www.thepear.org for more information



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MOVIE REVIEWS

ALL THE KING'S MEN ★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) Director Steve Zaillian makes a cinematic muddle of Robert Penn Warren's 1946 Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, not to mention the memory of the 1949 Oscar classic. Sean Penn is surprisingly monotonous as low-rent traveling salesman Willie Stark, hand-picked by shady operator Tiny Duffy (James Gandolfini) to enter the Louisiana governor's race as a power-to-the-little-people dark horse. Stark's populist platform is pro-hicks, taking a sympathetic stand for the disenfranchised have-nots. Duffy's agenda is opaque at best: putting Stark on a soapbox in order to garner votes for the wealthy incumbent. Stark finally realizes he's a sacrificial sap, and — in the film's only truly powerful scene — delivers an impassioned oration that gives goose bumps. Once elected, Stark all too swiftly transforms from teetotaling family man into a madly gesticulating demagogue intent on destroying the state of Louisiana in the name of the little people. Sloppy where it should be slick: what a letdown. *Rated: PG-13 for violence and partial nudity. 2 hours, 8 minutes.* — J.A.

THE BLACK DAHLIA ★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) Brian De Palma returns to the screen with a vengeance, wreaking melodramatic havoc with a grisly tale of L.A.'s most notorious unsolved murder. Corrupt cops, desperate starlets and shady motives make up this oddly contemporary pulp-fiction homage to the black-and-white crime thrillers of the 1940s and '50s. Cut to a pair of decorated L.A. cops (Josh Hartnett as Dwight "Bucky" Bleichert and Aaron Eckhart as Sgt. Lee Blanchard) who are high on life, giddy with the power of partnership and the love of a beautiful woman. Their ostensibly neat romantic triangle is a snaky stack of masked emotions involving ex-call girl Kay Lake (Scarlett Johansson), formerly rescued by and living with Blanchard yet torn between the two men. The mood goes pitch black when a Hollywood ingenue (Mia Kirshner as Elizabeth Short) is found brutally murdered, cut from ear to ear and carefully dismembered. Bleichert and Blanchard investigate in earnest noir fashion, drawn deep into a complex web of lies and deceit. There's something irresistible about this convoluted puzzler, a bracing who-dunnit-ness that has its female leads to thank for its sleazy fancy. *Rated: R for extreme violence and some language. 2 hours, 1 minute.* — J.A.

FLYBOYS ★★

(Century 16, Century 12) Had "Top Gun" been directed by a curator at the Smithsonian Museum, "Flyboys" would have been the outcome. Palo Alto native James Franco stars as Blaine Rawlings, a Texas "cowboy" who volunteers to help the French fight the Germans following the foreclosure of his family's ranch. Rawlings joins a crew of brave and

► Continued on next page

Weekend

MOVIE TIMES

ALL THE KING'S MEN (PG-13) ★1/2

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

AN INCONVENIENT TRUTH (PG) ★★★1/2

Century 16: 6:55 & 9:10 p.m.

THE BLACK DAHLIA (R) ★★★

Century 16: 11:30 a.m.; 2:15, 5, 7:40 & 10:15 p.m.

EVERYONE'S HERO (G) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 11:40 a.m.; 1:50 & 4:05 p.m.

FLYBOYS (PG-13) ★★

Century 16: 1:10, 4:20, 7:20 & 10:15 p.m.

Century 12: 1:10, 4:15, 7:20 & 10:25 p.m.

GRIDIRON GANG (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: 1:45, 4:40, 7:25 & 10:10 p.m.

Century 12: 7:10 & 10:05 p.m.

THE GUARDIAN (PG-13) ★★1/2

Century 16: 1, 4, 7 & 10 p.m.

HALF NELSON (R) ★★★

Palo Alto Square: 3:25 & 7:35 p.m.

HOLLYWOODLAND (R) ★★★

Century 16: 11:35 a.m.; 2:20, 5:05, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m.

Century 12: 4:40 & 7:25 p.m.

HOW TO EAT FRIED WORMS (PG) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 12: Noon & 2 p.m.

THE ILLUSIONIST (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55 & 10:30 p.m.

INVINCIBLE (PG) ★★1/2

Century 12: 11:50 a.m.; 2:15 & 10:15 p.m.

JACKASS: NUMBER TWO (R) (NOT REVIEWED)

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

JESUS CAMP (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Aquarius: 3, 5, 7:30 & 9:40 p.m.; Sat. & Sun. also at 1 p.m.

JET LI'S FEARLESS (PG-13) ★★

Century 16: Noon, 2:30, 5:10, 7:30 & 9:55 p.m.

Century 12: 12:05, 1:20, 2:35, 3:45, 5:10, 6:25, 7:40, 9:10 & 10:10 p.m.

KEEPING MUM (R) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 12:15, 2:25, 4:45, 7:15 & 9:30 p.m.

THE LAST KISS (R) ★★

Century 16: 11:45 a.m.; 2, 4:35, 7:15 & 9:45 p.m.

Century 12: 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 8 & 10:30 p.m.

LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE (R) ★★★

Aquarius: 2:10, 4:30, 7 & 9:20 p.m.

OPEN SEASON (PG) (NOT REVIEWED)

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

Century 12: 11:55 a.m.; 1, 1:45, 2:30, 3:15, 4, 4:45, 5:30, 6:15, 7, 7:45, 8:30, 9:15, 10 & 10:35 p.m.

QUINCEANERA (R) ★★1/2

Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 5:40 & 9:50 p.m.

SCHOOL FOR SCOUNDRELS (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 12:10, 2:35, 5:15, 7:35 & 9:55 p.m.

Century 12: 12:15, 1:30, 2:40, 4:10, 5:05, 6:35, 7:30, 9 & 9:50 p.m.

THE SCIENCE OF SLEEP (R) (NOT REVIEWED)

Palo Alto Square: 2, 4:30, 7:10 & 9:45 p.m.; Sat. & Sun. also at 11:30 a.m.

TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY (PG-13) ★★★

Century 12: 5:20, 7:50 & 10:20 p.m.

THE U.S. VS. JOHN LENNON (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Guild: 2:20, 4:40, 7 & 9:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at noon.

YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN (PG) (NOT REVIEWED)

Aquarius: Fri. & Sat. at midnight; Sat. & Sun. at noon.

Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

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For show times, plot synopses and more information about any films playing at the

Aquarius, Guild and Park, visit www.LandmarkTheatres.com

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

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



► *Continued from previous page*

brash Americans eager to take flight and oppose the brutal German onslaught. The group, dubbed Lafayette Escadrille, was made up of Americans who volunteered for the French military prior to U.S. involvement in World War I. Taken under the wing of Capt. Thenault (Jean Reno), Rawlings and his fellow fighters learn the ups and downs of aerial battle and are soon soaring in the skies and exchanging gunfire with fierce German pilots. Meanwhile, Rawlings finds himself smitten with a beautiful French farm girl (Jennifer Decker as Lucienne). "Flyboys" is a nice reminder of the once great relationship America and France shared, but the disappointing epic can't quite get off the ground. *Rated: PG-13 for war action violence and some sexual content. 2 hours, 19 minutes.* — T.H.

GRIDIRON GANG ★★★

(Century 16, Century 12) The Rock no longer exists. Dwayne Johnson has finally shed the identity that turned him into a wrestling legend and earned the right to go by his real name. Johnson often brings a sympathetic humanity to his roles, which is plainly evident in his portrayal of real-life probation officer and football coach Sean Porter. Based on a true story, "Gridiron Gang" follows Porter and his colleague Malcolm Moore (Xzibit of "Pimp My Ride" fame) as they launch a football program at grim juvenile detention facility Camp Kilpatrick. The troubled residents of the camp

mostly come from the violent gang life of East L.A. Willie Weathers (Jade Yorker) saw his cousin murdered in front of him. Shocked with grief, Willie lands in the camp after killing his abusive stepfather in a moment of rage. Coach Porter and the fledgling football program may be Willie's only chance at a better life. Despite some seen-it-before pigskin scenarios, "Gang" tackles difficult issues revolving around the brutality of gang life. *Rated: PG-13 for startling scenes of violence, mature thematic material and language. 2 hours.* — 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' locker 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.

HOLLYWOODLAND ★★★

(Century 16, Century 12) Baby-boomers fondly recall the derring-do of TV's "Superman," who was faster than a speeding bullet and leaped tall buildings in a single bound. But less is known about enigmatic George Reeves, the beleaguered actor who battled to break away from the long shadow cast by his popular superhero. Reeves' death in 1959 was ruled a suicide; he was said to be despondent over a stalled movie career and shot himself during an evening at home with friends. With crowded suspicions — murder or suicide? — washed-up P.I. Louis Simo (Adrien Brody) determines to unravel the truth behind Reeves' death. He greases palms all over town, digging into the lives and loves of the man who would be Superman. The mystery deepens with Simo's each and every interview, creating a tangled web of deception and greed. Costumes and locations are quintessential '50s chic; this one is worth a look. *Rated: R for language and violence. 2 hours, 6 minutes.* — J.A.

INVINCIBLE ★★1/2

(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 cinematographer 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 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.

JET LI'S FEARLESS ★★

(Century 16, Century 12) Although "Fearless" again highlights Jet Li's phenomenal martial-arts prowess, it's a lackluster send-off to cinema's most bankable kung-fu star since Bruce Lee. China, early 1900s. Huo Yuanjia (Li) becomes a revered fighter when he

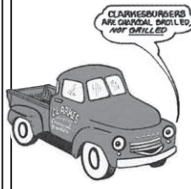
bests a slew of challengers in hand-to-hand combat. The efforts earn Yuanjia a devoted following in his Jin Wu Sports Foundation, a brotherhood of eager students and supporters. A personal tragedy sends Yuanjia on a downward spiral of suicidal tendencies. The value of his Jin Wu brothers and battle glory are replaced by limitless grief and self-loathing. Yuanjia soon abandons the foundation and reaches the brink of death before being rehabilitated by a blind peasant woman (Betty Sun as Moon) and learning the ways of peace. When Yuanjia gathers the

► See **MINI REVIEWS**, page 24

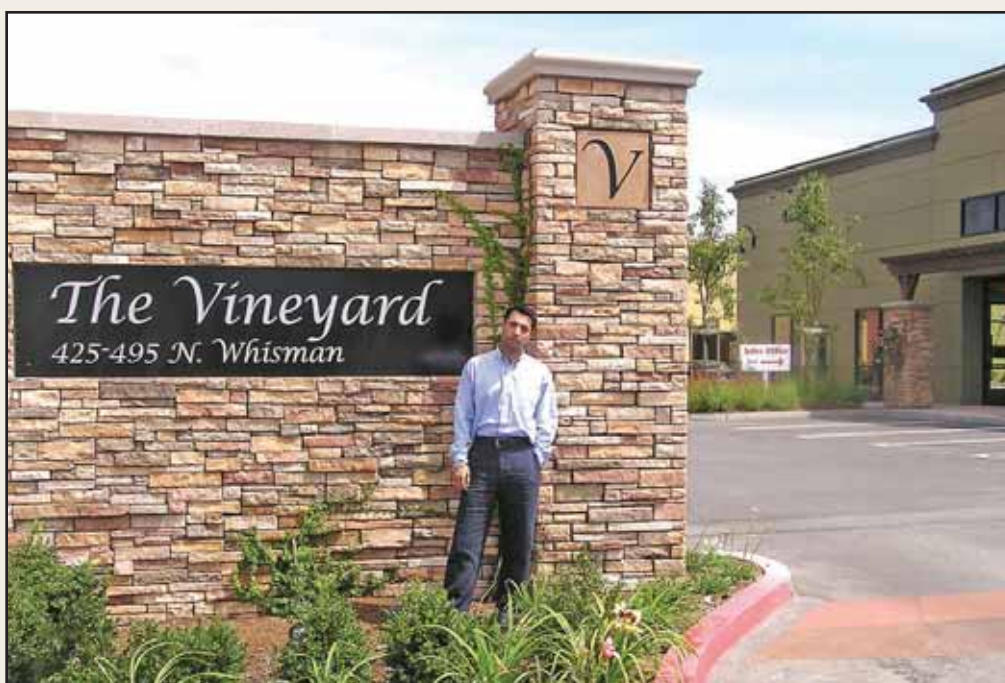
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MINI REVIEWS

► Continued from page 23

strength to return to his old school, he finds it virtually abandoned. He realizes he must return to competitive fighting,

this time not for glory, but for honor. Li fans will appreciate the excellent choreography and Li's calm confidence, but "Fearless" lacks the imagination necessary for a must-see experience. *Rated: PG-13 for violence and mar-*

tial-arts action throughout. 1 hour, 44 minutes. — T.H.

THE LAST KISS ★★

(Century 16, Century 12) As the poster child for Gen-X angst, Zach Braff does what Zach Braff does best. His stagnantly maturing Michael has it all: great job, great girl (Jacinda Barrett as Jenna) and a baby on the way. Like any 30-year-old worth his cinematic salt, Michael finds himself at life's crossroads in full-tilt panic. Michael and Kim (the O.C.'s Rachel Bilson) meet cute at a mutual friend's wedding, Michael fretting over an outlook lacking surprise, and the post-pubescent Kim keen to play it flirty with an "older" man. Against his better judgment Michael succumbs to the emotional folly of temptation and begins seeing Kim on the sly, hanging out at a U. of Wisconsin frat party and ending the evening in Kim's dorm room. Jenna is having anxieties of her own regarding marriage and motherhood. They pale in comparison to the fur that flies when she discovers Michael cheating on their future. Naturally the peripheral players get tangled up in this messy conundrum. The package looks great and Wisconsin rocks, but the message is ultimately tired. We know that commitment is hard; we know that life can suck. Tell us something we don't know. *Rated: R for language and some nudity. 1 hour, 55 minutes. — J.A.*

QUINCEANERA ★★1/2

(CineArts) Hummer limos, catered eats and designer dresses are all the rage at a fashionable Quinceanera in Los Angeles' gentrified Echo Park. But not all families can afford fancy trappings to celebrate the fact that their adolescent daughters have become women. For 14-year-old Magdalena (Emily Rios), the dream of a posh coming-of-age party is only that ... a dream. Dad Ernesto (Jesus Castanos-Chima) preaches God's word at a storefront church and shuns the notion of limos outfitted with hot tubs and stripper poles, preferring to focus on the spiritual aspect of this significant occasion. Quick as a wink ambitions are shattered. Magdalena finds herself pregnant by her gangling teenage boyfriend (J. R. Cruz as Herman), whose ambitious mother wants college for him and refuses to let the young couple meet. Ernesto throws Magdalena out of the house, forcing her to bunk with her great-uncle Tomas (Chalo Gonzalez) and big brother Carlos (Jesse Garcia), who was ousted by dad for cruising a gay Web site. Unfortunately the cast, most of them relative unknowns, deliver self-conscious performances that color the narrative's slow and easy charm with the unintentional aura of convention. *Rated: R for language and sexuality. 1 hour, 30 minutes. — J.A.*



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MOVIE CRITICS

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

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■ HIGHLIGHT

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Peter Camejo, Green Party Candidate for Governor, Carol Brouillet, 14th Cong. Dist. Candidate, and other statewide Green Party candidates will speak Tue., Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m.; 6:45 p.m. reception. Free. Historic Adobe Building, 157 Moffett Blvd., Mountain View. Call 691-1215.

SPECIAL EVENTS

HOW STANFORD SPAWNED SILICON VALLEY

Henry Lowood, Curator for the History of Science/Technology Collections. Oct. 4, 5:15-6:30 p.m. Pigott Hall, room 113, Stanford. Call 725-3332. histsoc.stanford.edu

PLANT EXCHANGE Bring seedlings, plants, bulbs, cuttings and small shrubs and trees and take home something new in exchange. Label plants. No privet. Sponsored by the Garden Club of Los Altos and the Los Altos Recreation Department. Sept. 30, 10 a.m.-noon Hillview Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos.

THE RENOVATED KNOLL Talks on the history of the Knoll, former residence of Stanford presidents, and its renovation, musical performance, and tour. Speakers are Chris Chafe, Professor of Music, and Margaret J. Kimball, University Archivist. Fri., Sept. 29, 5 p.m. Refreshments provided. The Knoll, 660 Lomita Court, Stanford. Call 725-3332. histsoc.stanford.edu

WINTER FARMHOUSE TEAS Saturdays,

Sept. 30 and Oct. 28, noon. Yerba Buena Nursery offers traditional Tea Service including sandwiches, scones, pastry and hot tea, served in the Farmhouse Great Room. Vegetarian option with advance notice. For ages 12 and up. Reservations required, close 2 days in advance. \$25. Yerba Buena Nursery, 19500 Skyline Blvd., Woodside. Call 851-1668. www.yerbabuenanursery.com

ART GALLERIES

"HANAMI" Two Bay Area artists are featured in this exhibition honoring Hanami, the Japanese tradition of viewing flowers in season. Ceramics and sculpture by Shigemi Sanders and watercolor painting by Miyoko Mizuno through Oct. 21. Reception Sat., Sept. 30, 5-8 p.m. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos.

"PENINSULA SCENES" ACRYLICS BY ROBINSON Oct. 2-28, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; artist reception Oct. 14, noon-4 p.m. Paintings of local

landscapes. Free. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. www.portolaartgallery.com

500 YEARS OF ART Highlights from a collection of over 600,000 original prints include works by Audubon, Besler, Gould, Hiroshige, Hondius, Piranesi and others, dating from 1490-1920. Genres include architecture, maps, birds, botanicals, manuscripts, children's illustrations, and more. Through Oct. 19, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. Lyons Ltd. Antique Prints, 10 Town and Country Village, Palo Alto. Call 325-9010. www.lyonsltd.com

AJNA LICHAU San Francisco Art Institute graduate's debut solo show featuring photography, video and installation work. Sept. 8-Oct. 14, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. Spur Projects, 888 Portola Road, Portola Valley. www.SpurProjects.com

COLORS OF OUR COAST Plein air oil paintings of Diana Jaye present the vivid colors of the coastline. Oct. 1-Nov. 11; artist's reception Sat., Oct. 7, 2-5 p.m. Free. Viewpoints Gallery, 315 State St., Los Altos. Call 799-6900. www.viewpointsgallery.com

FAN HO 100 PHOTOGRAPHS A journey through Hong Kong during the 1950's and 1960's. Exhibit coincides with the release of Modernbook Editions' publication of a new book by Fan Ho, "Hong Kong Yesterday." Through Nov. 2. Free. Modernbook Gallery, 494 University Ave., Palo Alto. Call 327-6325. www.modernbook.com

FEATURING DEAN PULVER AND KEN EDWARDS An exhibition featuring chairs and stools, dyed walnut by Dean Pulver and mixed media on panel by Ken Edwards. Through Sept. 30, 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Free. Tercera Gallery, 534 Ramona St., Palo Alto. Call 322-5324. www.terceragallerypaloalto.com

GROUP EXHIBITION AND OPEN STUDIOS Exploration: "The depths of the soul or the ends of the universe" group exhibition, Sept. 29-Nov. 12: Open Studios: Nov. 3-5, Fri., 5:30-8:30 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 1-5 p.m. 27 artists, painters, potters, sculpture, printmakers, art clothing, photography. Free. 1870 Art Center Gallery, 1870 Ralston Ave., Belmont. Call 261-1086.

PENINSULA OPEN STUDIOS Artists open art

studios throughout the peninsula to showcase their work. Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Pacific Art League, 668 Ramona St., Palo Alto. Call 964-0494. www.peninsulaopenstudios.org

PEOPLE AND PLACES Oil landscapes of the Peninsula by Kevyn Warnock and figurative oil painting of everyday activities by Sandra Cochran. Through Oct. 14. Free. Gallery House, 320 California Ave., Palo Alto. Call 574-4654.

THE MAIN GALLERY "The Male Mystique," pastel paintings by Terri Wilson Moore and "Breathing Crows and other Poems," sculpture and monotype by Nina Koepcke. Through Oct. 15. 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.

TRANSFORMATION Through Oct. 7. Swiss artist and poet Anna Coulter, presents new works on canvas. 539 Alma St., Palo Alto.

AUDITIONS

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 and Sept. Submit an audition application online. Call 327-2611. www.ecys.org

PENINSULA POPS ORCHESTRA OPENINGS For advanced players of all instruments. Rehearsals Tuesdays, Through Dec. 31, 7-10 p.m. Call for appointment. Gunn High School, 780 Arastradero Road Room M1, Palo Alto. Call 856-8432. www.peninsulapops.org

STANFORD SAVOYARDS AUDITIONS The Stanford Savoyards, affiliated with Stanford University, announce singing/dancing auditions for Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Sorcerer." Prepare one song in English and wear clothes to move in. Sept. 29 7-8:30 p.m. for new students. Braun Rehearsal Hall, 541 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. www.stanford.edu/group/savoyards

TENOR SOLOIST AUDITION St. Ann Chapel is seeking a tenor to join the professional solo quartet that provides service music for masses. Prospective singers must be able to sight-read and be able to produce a straight tone. Call to schedule appointment. Through Sept. 30. St. Ann Chapel, 541 Melville Ave., Palo Alto. Call (408) 480-9730.

BENEFITS

37TH ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL To support F.C.L. the Quaker lobby in Sacramento. Rummage and book sale, handmade and international items, plants, homemade jams and chutneys. Lunch available for purchase. Live music all day. Free children's activities. Sept. 30, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free admission. Palo Alto Friends Meetinghouse, 957 Colorado, Palo Alto. Call 233-1959.

GARAGE SALE To benefit Mountain View High School music programs. Sat., Sept. 30, 7 a.m.-1 p.m.; 4 p.m. Spartan Marching Band performs their field show, "Tsunami." Free. Mountain View High School, 3535 Truman Ave., Mountain View. Call 940-4647.

HARVEST FESTIVAL Rummage and book sale, to raise funds for the Friends Committee on Legislation in Sacramento. Handicrafts, plants, homemade jams and chutneys for sale. Lunch of authentic Salvadoran pupusas. Free children's activities. Live music from the main stage. Sept. 30, 9 a.m.-4p.m. Free admission. Palo Alto Friends Meetinghouse, 957 Colorado, Palo Alto. www.flca.org

PALO ALTO BLACK AND WHITE BALL To support public schools and youth programs. Includes live bands, food from over 30 restaurants, theatrical and musical shows more. See website for details. Oct. 10, 7 p.m.-1 a.m. \$135. Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. Call 739-9000.

► Continued on next page

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► Continued from previous page

www.paloaltoblackandwhiteball.com

WILDLIFE RESCUE FALL GALA & SILENT ACTION Fri., Oct. 13, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres and desserts from A.G. Ferrari, Thomas Fogarty Wines. Educational animals will be on site. \$90/\$100 after Oct. 1st. Thom-

as Fogarty Winery, Skyline Blvd., Woodside. Call 494-SAVE. www.wildliferescue.ws

WINE TASTING Wines from the Santa Cruz Mountain Wines with Michael Menke. Hors d'oeuvres will be served. Sun., Oct. 1, 5-7 p.m. \$40 members/\$50 non-members. Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Call 329-1356. www.gamblegarden.org

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CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

"READY TO LAUNCH: PARENT'S GUIDE TO SENIOR YEAR" Parenting workshop with Julie Graham. Coping with college selection and social behaviors will be discussed. Thu., Oct. 5, 7-9 p.m. \$30. Pre-registration required. Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave., Palo Alto. Call 688-3040. www.parentsplaceonline.org

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

COMPUTER CLASSES Oct. 9: "PC for beginners"; Oct. 5: "Scanning Photos"; "MS Word"; Photoshop Elements" Oct. 6: "Internet and E-Mail." Call for start times and more information. \$20 members/\$25 non-members. Little House, 800 Middlefield Ave., Menlo Park. Call 326-2025. www.peninsulavolunteers.org

JAZZ/MODERN DANCE CLASS Class meets Wednesdays, 7-8 p.m. Sept. 27, 7-8 p.m. No experience required. Advance registration required. The American Legion Hall, 337 First St., Los Altos. Call 468-4872. www.oculusdanceworks.com

RAISING GIRLS Parenting workshop covering grades 4th-6th. Explore girls need to grow up curious, competent, and capable conducted by Sheila Dubin. Mon., Oct. 9 and 16, 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

STAGE YOUR HOME FOR SALE TO MAXIMIZE YOUR PROFITS Learn which home improvement projects give you the most bang for your buck and which to avoid. Learn how to give your home curb appeal and get room by room staging tips with Kit Davey. \$39, plus \$5 materials fee. Oct. 4, 7-9 p.m. Foothill College, Room 5991, 12345 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 367-7370. www.afreshlook.net

STANFORD DIABETES SELF-MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP A Stanford University study of Diabetes Self-Management. Learn to manage your symptoms and avoid or delay complications. Saturdays, through Oct. 28, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. El Camino Hospital, Park Pavilion, Rm K, 2400 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 1-800-366-2624.

TAP RHYTHMS CLASSES Mondays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Beginning and intermediate classes. Mondays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Intermedi-

ate/Advanced Class. Students at this level should have knowledge of tap basics. Advance registration required. Dragon Theatre, 539 Alma St., Palo Alto. Call 468-4872. www.oculusdanceworks.com

CLUBS/MEETINGS

LITTLE HOUSE BOOK CLUB Meets the first Wednesday monthly, 1-2 p.m. Oct. 4th discussing "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis. Free. Little House, 800 Middle Ave., Menlo Park. Call 326-2025. www.peninsulavolunteers.org

YOU CAN MAKE A PLANT FROM A CUTTING Learn to create a plant from a cutting. The cutting material will be coming from the gardens of the members. Sept. 30, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Hillview Community Center Room 12, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. www.deanza-ars.com

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

DRUM CIRCLE An ancient method of spiritual expression, meditation and healing. Directed by Dave DiLullo. Hands-on drumming event. Own drums are welcome or one will be provided. No experience necessary. Sept. 30, 7:30-9 p.m. \$12 advance/\$15 day of event. East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 988-9800. www.eastwest.com

SAN MATEO COUNTY DISASTER PREPAREDNESS DAY Learn survival dos and don'ts. See first-aid, fire, SWAT, and emergency equipment demonstrations. Emergency kit and disaster plan instructions available. Free hot dogs and soda. Free gift for the first 1500 families. Sept. 30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. San Mateo County Event Center, 2495 S. Delaware St., San Mateo. Call 363-4790.

CONCERTS

CHAMBER MUSIC: DANIEL PEARL MUSIC DAY Oct. 5, 8 p.m. Commemorates the life of

Pearl, who was murdered in Pakistan in 2002, through a world-wide network of concerts. Works from Jonathan Berger, Osvaldo Golijov, Rossi, Respighi, and others, performed by faculty, students, and guests. Free. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Call 723-2720. <http://music.stanford.edu>

CHAMBER MUSIC: CHRISTOPHER COSTANZA AND FRIENDS Oct. 4, 8 p.m. Costanza, the cellist with the St. Lawrence String Quartet, joins with faculty pianist Kumaran Arul to perform Grieg's Cello and Piano Sonata, with other works to be announced. \$10/\$5. Campbell Recital Hall, 541 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Call 723-2720. <http://music.stanford.edu>

CHRISTIAN CONCERT Sat. Sept. 30, 7 p.m. Two groups: "Lifted," an acoustic group with guitar, bongos and vocals; and our featured group, "Rev City Blues," a popular Bay Area and Central Valley group of musicians and vocalists. Their style is blues/rock and they are fantastic entertainers. Shoreline Community Church, 211 Church St., Mountain View. www.shorelinecc.org

MIND-ALTERING CONCERT Sept. 28, 8 p.m. With Mark Applebaum and the Mouseketer Electroacoustic Sound Sculpture. \$10/\$5. Kimball Hall, 673 Escondido Road, Stanford. Call 723-2720. <http://music.stanford.edu>

MUSIC IN THE SCHOOLS BENEFIT CONCERT Trio Jubilee Concert featuring Claudia Bloom, violin; Thomas Shoebottom, cello and Sumi Park, piano. Works by Mozart, Turina and Arensky. Sun., Oct. 29, 3 p.m. General \$15/seniors and students \$12/children under 12 \$5. Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. Call 327-2019.

OPERA BRAVURA GALA CONCERT Presenting "September Serenade." The program features opera, musical theater and concert favorites. Featuring Dmitriy Cogan. Opera Bravura is a performance group of Bay Area world-class operatic artists and advanced voice students. Sept. 30, 7-9:30 p.m. \$10 suggested donation at the door. Congregational Church of Redwood City, 2323 Euclid Ave., Redwood City. Call (408) 288-8519. www.carlfranz.com

THOMAS SCHULTZ, PIANO Sept. 30, 8 p.m. A program spanning centuries, with Beethoven's Sonata, Op. 111, Busconi's Toccata, Liszt's Les Jeux d'eaux à la Villa d'Este, Brahms' Intermezzi, Op. 117, Schoenberg's Piano Pieces, Op. 23, and Na's Forgotten Study. \$10/\$5. Dinkelspiel Auditorium, 471 Lagunita Dr., Stanford. Call 723-2720. <http://music.stanford.edu>

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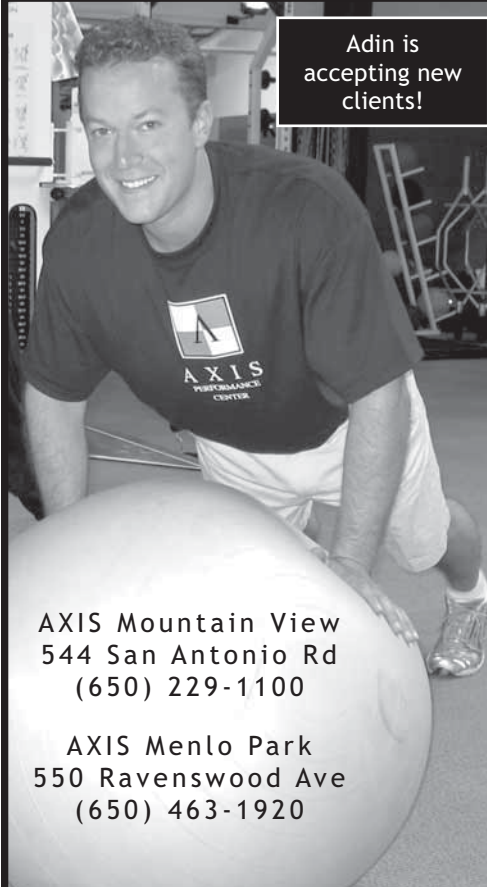
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meaning of Christ Church's stained glass windows, created by the French master Gabriel Loire, along with organ works to complement the story. Organist Dr. Ronald Swedlund. Reception follows. Oct. 1, 2-4 p.m. Free. Christ Episcopal Church, 1040 Border Road, Los Altos. Call 969-7393. www.ccla.us

DANCE

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING Traditional and modern set dances to live music. Beginners welcome; no partner required. \$9. First, third and fifth Wednesdays, through June, 8-10 p.m. Flex-It Studios, 425 W. Evelyn Ave., Mountain View. Call 493-6012. www.bacds.org/series/english/mountain_view/

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

11TH ANNUAL GREAT GLASS PUMPKIN PATCH Features a display of approximately 5,000 glass pumpkins of all colors, sizes and shapes by 30 California glass artists. Glass blowing demos on-site. Exhibition: Oct. 3-5, 10 a.m.-

9 p.m.; Oct. 6, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sale Oct. 7, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Oct. 8, 1-5 p.m. Free. The Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. Call 329-2366. www.cityofpaloalto.org/artcenter

THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF LEO HOLUB Over seventy black and white Leo Holub photographs from the Anderson collection will be on display showcasing formal poses and candid studio shots of major artists such as Ellsworth Kelly, Roy Lichtenstein and Edward Ruscha. Through Oct. 29, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Thomas Welton Stanford Art Gallery, 419 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. art.stanford.edu

FAMILY AND KIDS

CREATIVE MOVEMENT AND STORYTELLING For boys and girls, ages 3-5. Music, movement, and make-believe combined. Thursdays, through 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, through 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.

LIVE MUSIC

SUFI POEMS & LIVE MUSIC David and Sabrineth Fidele will read and perform poems from their book, "Love's Alchemy: Poems From

the Sufi Tradition," with musical accompaniment on Persian instruments. Oct. 3, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 988-9800. www.eastwest.com

ON STAGE

"LONG DAY'S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT" A play by Eugene O'Neill. Thu.-Sat., through Oct. 22. See website for details. \$10-\$25. Pear Avenue Theatre, 1220 Pear Ave. Unit K, Mountain View. www.thepear.org

MORE LISTINGS

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

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<p>OCTOBER 2006</p> <p>1 Charles Wadsworth and Spoleto USA Chamber Music</p> <p>11 <i>What Makes It Great?</i> with Rob Kapilow and the Stanford Chamber Strings</p> <p>15 St. Lawrence String Quartet with Pedja Muzijevic, piano</p> <p>18 Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Ensemble</p> <p>20 Natalie MacMaster, fiddle</p> <p>25 Badi Assad</p> <p>28 Rinde Eckert, <i>Horizon</i></p> <p>28-29 Diavolo Dance Company</p> <p>NOVEMBER 2006</p> <p>3 Manuel Barrueco, guitar, with Cuarteto Latinoamericano</p> <p>DECEMBER 2006</p> <p>1 Kronos Quartet</p> <p>3 St. Lawrence String Quartet with Jon Kimura Parker, piano</p> <p>12-13 <i>A Chanticleer Christmas</i></p> <p>JANUARY 2007</p> <p>10 Gryphon Trio</p> <p>12 Anonymous 4, <i>Long Time Traveling</i></p> <p>20 Ute Lemper</p> <p>24 Sô Percussion</p> <p>26-27 Richard Alston Dance Company</p> <p>28 Ladysmith Black Mambazo</p> <p>31 Roby Lakatos Ensemble</p>	<p>FEBRUARY 2007</p> <p>3 Anthony de Mare, piano, and Steven Mayer, piano, <i>The American Piano</i></p> <p>7 Jerry Quickley's, <i>Live From the Front</i></p> <p>10 Emerson String Quartet</p> <p>16 King's Singers</p> <p>23 Kenny Endo Taiko Ensemble with Stanford Taiko</p> <p>25 <i>What Makes It Great?</i> with Rob Kapilow and Vassily Primakov, piano</p> <p>MARCH 2007</p> <p>2 Borromeo String Quartet</p> <p>4 Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, <i>The Four Seasons: A Cycle of the Sun</i></p> <p>7 Klezmer en Buenos Aires</p> <p>14 Boys of the Lough</p> <p>16 Company Vincent Mantsoe, <i>Men-Jaro</i></p> <p>17-18 Aquila Theatre Company, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i></p> <p>APRIL 2007</p> <p>1 Jupiter String Quartet</p> <p>7 Louis Lortie, piano</p> <p>11 Paco Peña with the Stanford Chamber Chorale</p> <p>22 St. Lawrence String Quartet with Tara Helen O'Connor, flute; Daniel Phillips, violin; and Andrés Díaz, cello</p> <p>25 Irvin Mayfield and the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra</p> <p>28 Emilio Greco PC, <i>Hell</i></p> <p>29 Deborah Voigt, soprano</p>
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11:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary,
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