

# MountainView VOICE



## Forever young

Mountain View gym provides workout space for teens only

**HEALTH & FITNESS | P.25**

NOVEMBER 10, 2006 VOLUME 14 NO. 46

INSIDE: WEEKEND | PAGE 19

650.964.6300

[mv-voice.com](http://mv-voice.com)

## Abe-Koga, Bryant and Siegel take council seats



VERONICA WEBER

**Council candidate Margaret Abe-Koga** (center) watches the results come in on election night Tuesday at the Tied House, while friends Gloria Higgins, president of the Mountain View Whisman Board of Trustees (left), and council member Laura Macias (right) show their support. Abe-Koga won easily with 21.6 percent of the votes, the highest of the eight candidates. She said she was "proud to be the first Asian American woman on the council."

## Parties, politics mix on election night

CANDIDATES JOIN FRIENDS TO WATCH RESULTS ROLL IN

By Daniel DeBolt

**S**uspense was in the air after the polls closed last Tuesday night, as city council candidates settled in at various places downtown to watch the results come in.

With a laptop connected to Google's free WiFi network, a projector put the results on the wall for all to see at Margaret Abe-Koga's party at the Tied House. For much of the night, only absentee ballot results were posted, but the trend would remain the same: Abe-Koga held a strong lead as Mountain View's 36 precincts were counted. The gathering of about two

dozen people included Abe-Koga's two young children and her family, as well as council member Laura Macias and several community members and school officials.

At Don Giovanni's, where Jac Siegel held his party, a few members of the Monta Loma Neighborhood Association were among the crowd of family, friends and supporters. Everyone was treated to an open bar and

an array of food, including bruschetta, calamari and baklava.

Election results were posted on a white board, and Siegel initially was in second place after the absentee ballots were counted. It would remain this way for much of the night, until precincts started reporting results and Siegel traded spots with Ronit Bryant

►See **ELECTION**, page 11

### ■ MORE ELECTION RESULTS

*Local measures A and C fared poorly on Tuesday, while H passed without trouble. See pages 12 and 13.*

VICTORIES COULD  
MEAN TILT TOWARDS  
SLOWER GROWTH IN  
MOUNTAIN VIEW

By Daniel DeBolt

In another one of Mountain View's notoriously tight council races, third-place winner Jac Siegel eeked out a victory by only a few dozen votes on Tuesday, even as the top two vote-getters, Margaret Abe-Koga and Ronit Bryant, won by wide margins.

Abe-Koga was the clear leader of the pack, garnering 21.6 of the vote, with Bryant trailing with 15.7 percent. The vote makes Abe-Koga the first Asian American woman ever to serve on Mountain View's city council.

Meanwhile, the race was a close one for Siegel, who scraped by in third place, beating candidate John Inks by about 130 votes. Although a small number of provisional ballots were still being counted as the *Voice* went to press Wednesday, Inks had all but conceded the race.

"Sometimes you just have to congratulate the victors," he said. "They did a heck of a job."

Siegel said Wednesday that he was fairly certain he had won, but would feel better when the rest of the results came in.

"As close as it is, I hate to declare victory," he said. "I think you will see a significant change in the council if the three of us get in, somewhat slowing down the growth of the city."

The newly elected council members, who take office Jan. 9, could indeed steer the council towards slower growth in Mountain View. Bryant, for example, said during her campaign that "development should not be driven by numbers," and Siegel declared that "we cannot solve a regional housing problem in Mountain View, nor should we try."



### RESULTS

CANDIDATE	VOTES	PERCENT
✓ Margaret Abe-Koga	8,129	21.56%
✓ Ronit Bryant	5,935	15.74%
✓ Jac Siegel	5,471	14.51%
John Inks	5,342	14.17%
Alicia Crank	3,544	9.4%
Tian Harter	3,467	9.2%
Kal Sandhu	3,242	8.6%
John H. Webster	2,572	6.82%

✓ = winners

The new members replace Mike Kasperzak, who is termed out, and Greg Perry, who decided not to seek reelection. Matt Neely left his seat open in July to become the principal of a school in Rome.

Council member Laura Macias said the new members could be a much-needed antidote to the development advocated by the previous council. The council will oversee development of many of the 3,000 housing units proposed in Mountain View, holding the power to reject or accept aspects of each development, including size and density.

Residents exiting the polling booths cited various reasons for why they voted for certain council candidates, including experi-

► See **COUNCIL RACE**, page 13

Margit Forsberg and Monika Davidson



**MOUNTAIN VIEW** ■ Fabulous, newly constructed 5bd/3ba home located in the heart of downtown Mountain View. Two-story, Cape Cod style with large wrap around deck. **\$1,469,000**

Jim &amp; Jimmy Nappo



**CUPERTINO** ■ Charming 4bd/2.5ba home, nicely landscaped, located in a quiet neighborhood with Cupertino schools. Pool + spa. 7405+- sf lot. **\$925,000**

Mary Marley



**SUNNYVALE** ■ Coming soon! Expanded atrium-style Eichler, 5bd/2ba with spacious living room, dining room + Euro-style kitchen. Versatile floor plan. **\$1,050,000**

Chuck &amp; Tori Atwell



**MOUNTAIN VIEW** ■ Dramatic 9-year-old home in Downtown Mountain View. Gorgeous 3bd/2.5ba + great room, DR, and LR. Large yard with spa. 2-car garage. **\$998,000**

Mary Marley



**MOUNTAIN VIEW** ■ Spacious, remodeled 2bd/2ba end-unit with 1212+- sf of living space. Inside laundry, private patio and yard. **\$525,000**

Chuck &amp; Tori Atwell



**MOUNTAIN VIEW** ■ Pristine 3bd/2ba home with hardwood floors, located on a street with no traffic. Close to downtown Mountain View, parks, trail and school. **\$795,000**

Dottie Monroe



**LOS ALTOS** ■ Great close to village location! 3bd/2.5ba town home with top-of-the-line finishes + hardware. Gourmet kitchen, HW floors. Attached 2-car garage. **\$999,000**

Susan Enzmann



**REDWOOD CITY** ■ Location and charm! 2bd/1ba Woodside Plaza beauty features updated kitchen, dual-paned windows, hardwood floors and a sun room. **\$759,000**

Cliff Noll



**SUNNYVALE** ■ Charming 3bd/1ba home located on a tree-lined street. Large lot, Great neighborhood, + close to downtown Sunnyvale. **\$685,000**

# Voices

AROUND TOWN

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

*What do you think is the most important thing you voted for this election?*



*"I find Proposition 1D, 85 and governor to be the three most important ballot choices this election, because their outcome could really impact California's short-term future."*

**Joel Hoffman, Mountain View**



*"Measure A is extremely important to me."*

**Mike Terpko, Mountain View**



*"Campaign finance reform, abortion issues and bond measures, to name a few."*

**Basin Treppa, Santa Clara**



*"I think Measure C is the most important because it creates a level playing field and allows the working class to be part of the city government."*

**Rosemary Sias Roquero, Mountain View**



*"Proposition 82 is important because it will keep the peace between smokers and non-smokers. Also, 1A-1E are very important propositions because we really need to consider the state of our environment."*

**Sean Bussard, San Jose**

Have a question for Voices Around Town? E-mail it to [editor@mv-voice.com](mailto:editor@mv-voice.com)

# MANIAC MONDAYS! AT MARLIN'S CAR WASH

## Maniac Car Wash

**PLUS**

- ✓ Full Service Car Wash
- ✓ Vacuum Interior
- ✓ Dust Front Interior
- ✓ Wheel Blast
- ✓ Air & Towel-Buff Dry
- ✓ Clean Glass Inside and Out
- ✓ Velocity Clear Coat Protection
- ✓ FREE Tire Dressing

**Regular Price: \$16.99**

**\$7.99**  
2006 YEAR END SPECIAL

**Mountain View**  
1101 El Camino Real  
at Miramonte 650-967-7788  
**Hours:** 8am-5:30pm Every Day!  
[www.marlinscarwash.com](http://www.marlinscarwash.com)

Prices are not valid with any other coupons, discounts or special offers. Additional charge for SUVs, trucks and oversized vehicles. Limited time offer.

 MVV

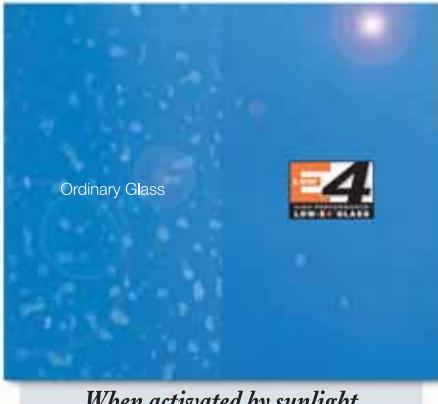
**No Coupon Required – You MUST ask for it!**

*Windows built on the philosophy:*

## You've got better things to do than clean windows.

Introducing High-Performance™ Low-E4™ glass from Andersen. The new standard. Exclusively available from Andersen.

 Our High-Performance™ Low-E4™ glass cuts harmful UV light by 83% which helps prevent furniture from fading. It's like sunblock for your home.

 Ordinary Glass

 Low-E4™ glass

 A protective film on the interior and exterior helps keep off mortar, paint, dirt and dust during construction. Then it peels off easily for spotless windows.

 High-Performance™ Low-E4™ glass is so superior you can even hear the difference. It reduces unwanted noise more effectively than single-pane glass.

 Insulate your wallet with energy savings. Between the panes of glass is a special Argon gas blend that maximizes your heating and air conditioning dollars—35% more efficient in the winter, 41% more in the summer.

*When activated by sunlight, High-Performance™ Low-E4™ glass stays cleaner because it loosens dirt and reduces water spotting up to 99%. It dries faster too, for easier cleaning.\**

For the complete story, visit [andersenwindows.com/LowE4](http://andersenwindows.com/LowE4).

© 2006 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. \*Exterior of glass only.

**Come home to Andersen.™**

**Bruce Bauer Lumber & Supply**  
134 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View, CA 94040  
(650) 948-1089 • [www.brucebauer.com](http://www.brucebauer.com)

Mon-Fri 7:30am-5:00pm • Sat 8:00am-4:30pm • Sun 9:00am-4:30pm



For a Better Automotive Experience

Service Excellence With a Personal Touch

Monday-Friday 8am-5:30pm  
2037 Old Middlefield Way  
Mountain View, CA 94043  
[www.deansautomotive.com](http://www.deansautomotive.com)

## Attention Ford Owners!

At Dean's Automotive, we understand that most **Ford** owners care about having a vehicle that is worry-free and reliable.

We care, too.

And we back up our work with a **24,000 mile/24 month warranty** on parts and labor. When was the last time you were offered that kind of guarantee at a dealership?

Call us at **650-961-0302** and join the hundreds of other **Ford** owners who are happy they did. We look forward to meeting you!

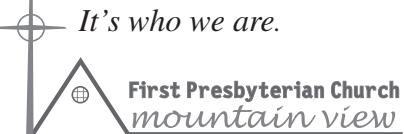


# Inspirations

## A Guide to the Spiritual Community

### Family, Friends, Faith

It's what's important.  
It's who we are.



### SUNDAY:

Sunday School 9am  
Worship 10:30 am  
  
First Presbyterian  
1667 Miramonte Ave.  
(650) 968-4473  
[www.fpcmv.org](http://www.fpcmv.org)

### FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST

"We must form perfect models in thought and look at them continually, or we shall never carve them out in grand and noble lives."

(*Science & Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy)

Hear healings Sundays: KNEW AM 910 – 6:30 am;  
KSTE AM 650 – 7:30 am  
[www.spirituality.com](http://www.spirituality.com)

Sunday Church & Sunday School 10 a.m., Wednesday Meetings 7 p.m.  
221 Bryant Ave. (off Grant Rd.) in Mountain View, 650-968-2229  
The Bible and Science & Health are the Pastor for  
Churches of Christ, Scientist, worldwide.

### MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTRAL SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

Saturday Services, Worship 11:00 am  
Sabbath School, 10 am

Wednesday Study Groups, 10:00 am & 7:00 pm  
1425 Springer Rd., Mtn. View Office Hours 9-1, M-Fri  
**650-967-2189**

### Find Your Spiritual Home

### UNITY PALO ALTO

- Realize the abundant potential of your life.
- Recognize the divinity in yourself and others.
- Welcome to Life, Love and God. Welcome to Unity.

Services Sunday at 8:45 and 11 a.m.  
Childcare and youth programs available.  
3391 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto; 650-494-7222

[www.UnityPaloAlto.org](http://www.UnityPaloAlto.org)

To include your Church in *Inspirations*

Please call Blanca Yoc at 650-326-8210 ext. 221  
or e-mail [byoc@pawebly.com](mailto:byoc@pawebly.com)

## OnRecord

### QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"The last thing I want is to call my council member and get a recording because he's off working two jobs just trying to make it in this city."*

— MICHELE SCHUMAKER

MOUNTAIN VIEW RESIDENT, ON WHY SHE VOTED FOR MEASURE C

### CRIME WATCH

#### ROBBERY, 650 CASTRO STREET, 11/2

On Thursday, Nov. 2 at 1:04 p.m., a man walked into Castro Fine Cigars, next to Starbucks on Castro Street, and told an employee that he had "items to sell." The worker said he wasn't interested, so the man then pulled out what looked like a gun. He demanded money from the store, and ran out to a car parked around the corner. The thief has not yet been located.

#### ATTEMPTED STRONG ARM ROBBERY, LATHAM STREET, 10/31

On Halloween night, a man was walking down Latham Street near Target around 10:31 p.m. Three men came up to him on the street and one of them punched him while the other two tried to grab his wallet out of his pocket. The men were unable to steal the wallet, and were thereafter located and detained by the police. The man identified the three attackers, so they were finger printed, photographed and released. Police say they are running a search to see if the men are involved with any other crimes in the area.

### POLICE LOG

#### AUTO BURGLARY

Century 16 Cinema, 10/30  
100 block N. Rengstorff Ave, 10/31  
40 block Central Ave., 10/31  
60 block Willowgate St., 10/31  
40 block Stierlin Rd., 10/31  
Dierick Dr./Wasatch Dr., 11/01  
Century 16 Cinema, 11/03

#### GRAND THEFT

100 N. Rengstorff Ave., 10/31  
Wal-Mart, 11/01  
100 block San Antonio Circle, 11/03  
20 block Annie Laurie Ave., 10/03

#### STOLEN VEHICLE

2500 block Clyde Ave., 10/30  
20 block Orchard Ave., 10/31

#### VANDALISM

10 block Dalma Dr., 10/30  
60 block Clyde Ave, 10/30  
Alta Vista High School, 10/31  
Oakwood Garden Apartments, 10/30  
30 block Eunice Ave, 11/01  
80 block Devito St., 11/03

#### RAPE

2300 block West El Camino Real, 10/31

### CORRECTION

An article in last week's business section of the *Voice* misreported the amount that Alza Corp. is paying the city in order

to convert landfill-generated methane gas to electricity. The city's annual revenue for the gas is actually \$125,000.



## Election history

By Don Frances

**A**N OLD FRIEND of mine is the editor over at Wonkette.com, whatever that is, and recently he posted an explanation of why Election Day falls on those odd Tuesdays in November. As some of you might have guessed, the policy, established in 1845, was mainly for farmers:

"The reason for the convoluted 'first Tuesday after the first Monday' rule for Election Day was that (a) it had to be on a Tuesday because people often had to put in a day's worth of travel to get to their polling place and good Christians couldn't travel on a Sunday; (b) it had to be in November because that was after crops had been taken in and farmers could go vote; and (c) it couldn't be on Nov. 1 because All Saints Day was a holy day of obligation for Catholics."

Isn't history interesting? Little facts like this make me think the locals who want to preserve the farm on Grant Road — because, they say, it serves as an important connection to our past — are right.

**LAST WEEK** we announced the opening of Mountain View's amazing new Senior Center, prompting Jack Stone to write in with a comment:

"Great article, so now we have a Senior Center. Where is it? What are the hours? Don't you think that information should be in the article?"

I am guessing Mr. Stone is a senior, since he's so cranky. Nonetheless, they're reasonable questions. The Senior Center is located at 266 Escuela Ave. Its hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and it stays open later on Monday and



BARBARA HENINGER



### MARCH TO VICTORY:

The Mountain View High School Marching Band wrapped up a record-setting season earlier this month, bringing home 26 trophies, including 13 awards, from the 2006 Lodi Grape Bowl Classic on Nov. 4.

The 182-member band, led by music director Robin Kramer, competed with a field show called "Tsunami" at the Grape Bowl, and took the highest honor, the Perpetual Grand Sweepstakes, for the second year in a row.

Above: Spartan marching band color guard members (from left) Alicia Noble, Annie Rygiol, Haley Schwartz, Lindsey Sutton and Emma Terry celebrate winning the parade auxiliary sweepstakes at the Grape Bowl.

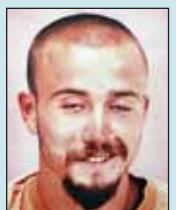
Left: Drum major Isaac Giron gives a salute after leading the band's award-winning show, "Tsunami" at the Grape Bowl.

## Three years for hate crime

By Daniel DeBolt

One of two men involved in a hate crime in Pioneer Park last July was sentenced in court last week, receiving three years in prison for his role in the incident.

At a hearing Nov. 2, Jonathan Rhodes, 18, was sentenced to three years in state prison and three years probation by Judge Renee Jones Pinchon. Rhodes had pleaded guilty on Sept. 7. He received less than half the maximum sentence for his charges.



Jonathan Rhodes

The family of the victim, a 19-year-old black man, attended the hearing, and his mother spoke emotionally to the court, saying her son had been traumatized and humiliated, and urging that a strong message be sent to the community. The victim's father, Tony Smith, said he hoped that Rhodes and Joseph Krueger, 21, had learned a lesson and would move on.



Joseph Krueger

The incident happened July 29, when Rhodes — and allegedly Krueger — shouted racial epithets and slogans such as "white power" while beating the young black man and threatening his life.

District Attorney Jay Boyarski said the maximum sentence for the charges, assault with a deadly weapon with a hate crime enhancement, was eight years. Krueger, who is scheduled to plea Nov. 27, faces an additional year for allegedly holding a knife over the victim's head. □

## Hospital's pharmacy passes muster

By Alexa Tondreau

**A**fter being under investigation by the state Department of Health for deficiencies in its pharmaceutical services, El Camino Hospital received a letter from the agency last week stating that it was in full compliance with Medicare regulations, according to hospital officials.

Twice in the last seven months, a team of medi-

cal experts have visited the hospital after receiving complaints indicating that El Camino's pharmacy was not operating up to standards. The team's survey report found problems in several categories, including the accurate tracking of medical documents through ECHO, the hospital's new online records system.

El Camino has had to submit lengthy plans of correc-

tion, responding to each cited problem in detail, or face termination of its Medicare provider agreement. The survey team reviewed the implementation of the final plan of correction in August, and the letter received last week reportedly verified that the hospital now operates a fully functional pharmaceutical department and will not have to undergo any further assessment. □

**Experience the BLISS**

CENTER FOR WELLNESS & BEAUTY  
For Reservation 650-947-6868



#### Bliss for Your Hair • Full Service Hair Salon

#### Bliss for Your Face

Bliss Express Facials  
Signature Facials exclusive to Bliss Beauty  
Darphin Facial Treatments  
Thalgo Facial Treatments  
Aromatherapy Facial Treatments  
Sonya Dakar Fitness Facials  
MD Skincare Alpha Beta Professional Peel  
Microdermabrasion & Microdermabrasion Facial  
Clinique des Hommes



#### Bliss for Your Body

Body Treatments  
Aromatherapy Body Boosters  
Massage & Touch Therapies

#### Depilatory Services

Make up / Bridal Packages  
Bliss for Hands and Feet  
Special Packages

High-end Skincare, Fine Cosmetics, Perfumes,  
Beautiful Accessories, Jewelries & Hair Care  
Products, Exquisite Candles, Soaps & Teas

#### Hours

Open 7 days

M-F 9-7

S 9-6

S 10-5

Private & Relaxing Atmosphere

#### We carry the following Quality Products:

Darphin  
Sonya Dakar  
Chantecaille  
Hourglass  
T'LeClerc  
Thalgo  
MD Skincare  
Lip Fusion  
Red Flower  
Fresh

Tocca  
Reve de Vivre  
L'Artisan  
Mustela  
Acqua Di Parma  
Gianna Rose Atelier  
Mason Pearson  
Alora Ambiance  
Martin & Barnett  
Rubis

Bumble & Bumble  
Bumble & Bumble Treatment  
T3  
- Dryers  
- Flat Irons  
- Brushes  
Davis Gate  
Spa Ritual  
OPI  
Designer Handbags



[www.blissbeautycenter.com](http://www.blissbeautycenter.com)



BLISS BEAUTY

Center for Wellness & Beauty  
682 Rancho Shopping Center  
Los Altos, CA 94024

650.947.6868

## Book club's opening chapter

MOUNTAIN VIEW READS  
TOGETHER USHERS IN  
NEW TRADITION, KICKS  
THINGS OFF WITH 'BLINK'

By Alexa Tondreau

The month-long, city-wide book club called Mountain View Reads Together got rolling last week at Google, with comments from Mayor Nick Gallo and Maurice Ghysels, superintendent of the Mountain View Whisman School District, singing its praises to the gathered audience.

Sixty-five people filled the seats of Google's Havana Auditorium on Nov. 1 to celebrate the first year that Mountain View has been home to an event of this sort. Almost everyone was clutching a copy of the selected book, "Blink," by Malcolm Gladwell, and participants were encouraged by comments posted by Gladwell himself on the book club's new blog ([mvreads.blogspot.com](http://mvreads.blogspot.com)).

"I'm trying to spark discussion, to open up avenues of thinking about social change or discrimination or how we make decisions," Gladwell wrote, and his message was projected onto several screens at Havana Auditorium.

"I'd love to hear what all the readers in Mountain View come up with."

"Blink" deals with rapid decision-making and instinctive reactions, and analyzes the accuracy, and the biases, inherent in these thought processes. By getting all of Mountain View on the same page, ParadigmHill, a local community outreach organization that is organizing MV Reads Together, hopes that the residents of the town will get to know one another in new and interesting ways.

With nearly 20 community events scheduled around Mountain View this month, including a forum at East-West Bookstore at 324 Castro St., a coffee talk at Starbucks and several Spanish language discussions at the library, ParadigmHill has significantly increased the chances of readers running into new friends.

#### Collaborative effort

Because one of the organization's founders, Ellen Wheeler, sits on the MV Whisman board of trustees, it's not surprising that the group also wants to encourage a worthy past-time.

"We hope to re-awaken that love of reading," ParadigmHill co-chair Sharlene Gee said at Google.

Gee came up with the idea for MV Reads Together after hearing about Redwood City Reads, and she told the audience that every person and organization

she approached, including Google Wifi, Books Inc., and the Library Foundation, helped further the project along.

The city of Mountain View supports the project as well, and Mayor Gallo announced last week that MV Reads Together will become an annual November event.

The book club model created in Redwood City had community events featuring various local people and organizations whose work tied into relevant themes of the book. In this vein, the kick-off featured a short film by filmmaker Jonathan Chu, a Los Altos native and part of the Chef Chu's restaurant family, who graduated from USC film school and received numerous accolades — and the attention of fellow alum Steven Spielberg — for his work.

Called "Silent Beats," the five-minute piece involved a storyline in which our own initial pre-judgments and assumptions of the film's lead character become increasingly clear to us as his true nature is revealed.

Answering questions from the audience afterwards, the filmmaker said that he was inspired to make the film when, as an undergraduate, he realized that he and his fellow classmates were making a lot of assumptions about each other based on race.

"Across the board, everyone would say 'I'm not prejudiced,' but we all have these thoughts in our minds," Chu said.

Chu believes that as long as we are "aware of those thoughts," we won't let them control our actions, a belief strongly paralleled in "Blink."

Chu also entertained the audience with tales of his experience in the movie business, and currently he is working on an upcoming project for Miramax, slated for 2008 release, called "The Prom," which he described as "a John Hughes, '16 Candles'-type of teen movie, with a lot of heart."

Organizers report that surveys collected from participants at the kick-off event strongly indicated that the highlight of the night was the viewing of "Silent Beats." The MV Reads blog has a link to the film, and participants of any of this month's events can post their comments and thoughts on the site.

"Blink" can be purchased at local bookstores, and for those who are visually impaired or who have print disabilities, [book-share.org](http://book-share.org) is offering a complimentary download of the book in accessible format all month.

For a full schedule of this month's events, visit the MV Reads Together blog, or go to [mvreads.googlepages.com](http://mvreads.googlepages.com) and click on "Schedule of Events." □

# Breaking the language barrier

TRANSLATORS SIT IN ON MV WHISMAN PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

By Alexa Tondreau

With more than 15 percent of families in the Mountain View Whisman School District primarily speaking Spanish, the district has mounted a major effort this year to hire a team of translators to help connect parents to their children's education.

At the district board meeting last Thursday, Dr. Judy Crates, director of English language development for the district, reported that 28 newly hired translators were available for the first wave of parent-teacher conferences in October.

Crates said that she hired people based on "bilingualism and personality" and the final group included four college students and several retirees, with a majority residing in Mountain View.

The district has been advertising for translation personnel since August, and although recruitment was slow at first, Crates says she found that "people we hired started calling up their friends to be translators" and steadily a group was amassed to satisfy the demands of the district's six elementary schools, not counting Castro Elementary, which uses its own bilingual staff.

Newly hired translators sat in on a total of 219 parent-teacher conferences, and there were an additional 238 conferences that utilized on-site bilingual staff, including teachers and principals, for a total of 463 bilingual conferences in the district.

MV Whisman officials decided to bolster the translation services it offers after becoming concerned that the growing

number of Spanish-speaking parents didn't fully understand the details of their children's education and performance.

Sitting in on the conferences, where integral details of academic achievement and performance are discussed, Spanish translators were able to explain to parents exactly what was going on with their children, and also relay parents' questions and concerns back to teachers.

Trustee Rosemary Roquero applauded Crates' work at the meeting, saying, "I'm so appreciative that this is finally moving forward. The teachers and the

***The teachers and the parents are aligned, and now the child is on a new road.***

ROSEMARY ROQUERO

parents are aligned, and now the child is on a new road."

Crates reported that of the teachers who responded to an electronic survey asking about the new service, "100 percent either agreed or strongly agreed that the service made the conference more valuable, and 100 percent wanted the service to continue."

The survey also showed that the most common suggestion for improvement was to add translators who speak other languages, especially those of the Pacific Rim.

The district's two middle schools,

Graham and Crittenden, didn't utilize the translator pool because traditionally their students conduct the conferences in the presence of their teacher and parents.

"The great benefit of having student-led conferences at the middle school level," Crates told the board, "is that the students can translate for their parents."

Crates says that an unintended outcome of the newly hired staff is that now, whenever a situation arises that requires translation, such as an issue with a student or a PTA meeting, the district and all of its schools can call on a list of translators to help on a short-notice basis.

Translators are paid \$15 an hour for their work, funded by programs through the district and schools that specifically target English language learners.

Superintendent Maurice Ghysels stressed at the meeting that the translation services were about more than just translation, but also provide a way to incorporate Spanish-speaking parents into school culture.

"The translation is just the beginning," Ghysels said. "What we're really trying to ultimately do is bring them to our campus and develop leadership among them."

Also at the meeting, it was announced that a new outreach team was being formed to deal with parent involvement at the kindergarten and first grade levels.

"We want to bring parents of our youngest children in," Crates explained, "to carry our partnership with them for years." □

E-mail Alexa Tondreau at [atondreau@mv-voice.com](mailto:atondreau@mv-voice.com)

## EDUCATION BRIEFS

electives and after school sports, to name a few.

The nonprofit foundation, which started in 1983, has set a goal this year to raise \$250,000 for elementary and middle schools in the Mountain View Whisman School District. For more information on donations or for volunteer opportunities, visit [www.mvef.org](http://www.mvef.org).

— Alexa Tondreau

## NATIONAL HISPANIC RECOGNITION AT LAHS

Three Los Altos High School seniors, Alejandra Lynberg, Margaret Moreno and Aaron Szeinbaum, have been recognized by the College Board's National Hispanic Recognition Program

as National Hispanic Scholars.

They received this honor through their high scores on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test exams and by identifying themselves as Hispanic. Only 4,700 students of the 175,000-plus nationwide test-takers to identify themselves as Hispanic received this recognition.

The National Hispanic Recognition Program was established in 1983 to provide national recognition of exceptional academic achievement of Hispanic high school seniors. The program, a College Board Program, promotes secondary academic schooling for Hispanic students based on their recognition.

— Amber Cleave

**FasTracKids. A trip to the Amazon. A jaunt to the moon. Not your typical field trips. Then again, this is not your typical class.**



**FasTracKids is as much fun as it is educational.** As parents we give our kids every opportunity to succeed. Your FasTracKids Enrichment Center<sup>SM</sup> is the place to start. The FasTracKids interactive program, with its ever-changing subjects, will surely become your child's favorite activity each week.

### What we do:

- Prepare children for school and life
- Provide small classes with personal attention and guided discussions
- Plan hands-on experiments and activities
- Use cutting-edge technology
- For younger minds, ages 2-1/2 to 3-1/2, we offer a shortened program called FasTrack Tots<sup>SM</sup>
- Encourage a lifelong love of learning

**The FasTracKids Core Enrichment Subjects:**  
Astronomy • Biology • Communication • Creative Literature • Creativity • Earth Sciences • Economics • Goals & Life Lessons • Mathematics • Natural Science • Speech, Drama & Art • Technology

**FasTracKids. Success for school and life.**

**Call 650-947-9550 for a FREE TRIAL CLASS!**

[WWW.FASTRACKIDS.COM](http://WWW.FASTRACKIDS.COM) • (650) 947-9550  
941 FREMONT AVE. • LOS ALTOS • CA 94024



**THE SEQUOIA CENTER** helps families recover the balance in their lives from the effects of abusing alcohol and other drugs. Our services are offered in a warm and caring environment by trained staff dedicated to helping individuals gain control over their lives.

The Sequoia Center is licensed through the State of California to deliver:

- Medical Detoxification
- Outpatient Treatment (Day & Evening)
- Residential Treatment
- Integrated Behavioral Health Programs /Partial Hospitalization /Day Treatment

—Call today 1-800-997-5504 to schedule a free, confidential assessment with one of our Specialists.

**THE SEQUOIA CENTER**

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY TREATMENT SERVICES

650 Main Street, Redwood City  
2660 Solace Place, Suite A, Mountain View  
800-997-5504 • [www.sequoiacenter.com](http://www.sequoiacenter.com)



HEALTH • HOPE • RECOVERY

**WPC Watch Repair**

**Battery Special \$5<sup>99\*</sup>**  
**Clock Repair Too!**

Mon-Fri 10am-7:30pm Sat 10:00am-6:00pm Sun 12:00-5:00pm  
**FREE ESTIMATES- All jobs done on premises warranted**

859 W. El Camino Real (between Castro & Shoreline)  
Mountain View 650.961.5105

\*expires 1/31/07, please present coupon

# grow

your business.

Advertise in the Voice • 650-964-6300

## EDITOR'S DESK

► *Continued from page 5*

Wednesday evenings. It is free to all seniors ages 55 and up.

**YOU MAY HAVE HEARD** a few booms and bangs emanating from the Moffett Field area last Tuesday and Wednesday. Not to worry: It was only a group of disaster agencies — first-responders, SWAT teams, hazmat crews, etc. — simulating disasters.

The crews apparently gather every year at Moffett in order to train for explosions, chemical spills and radiation releases. I for one hope they learned something.

**ALSO:** Don't miss PYT's "Fiddler on the Roof," fiddling at the Center for Performing Arts downtown from Nov. 11 to 19. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$12 for kids and seniors. Call (650) 903-6000 or visit [www.pyt.net.org](http://www.pyt.net.org). ... In celebration of Veterans Day, the Golden Gate Aviation Artists have an exhibition at the Moffett Field Historical Society Museum, and this Saturday is your last chance to see it. WWII bombers and other warbirds will be on display as well. The free event is 12 p.m. to 5 p.m., Building 126 in Moffett Field. Call (650) 603-9827 for more info. ... Mountain View Los Altos Revolution, one of the local CYSA soccer teams, is looking for players for the upcoming winter and spring seasons. Tryouts can be arranged by contacting team manager Alan Carr at [alan.carr@coherent.com](mailto:alan.carr@coherent.com). ... For the green thumbs, don't miss "How to Grow Rhododendrons and Other Plants in Clay Soil," Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m. at the Hillview Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. For more info, go to [www.deanzars.com](http://www.deanzars.com). ▀

*Don Frances can be reached at [dfrances@mv-voice.com](mailto:dfrances@mv-voice.com).*



Introducing *Green by Design*,  
a hands-on exhibition in  
the new Energy Gallery.

At Green by Design, the power is yours. Catch it. Play with it. Spin it around. Make it go fast. Make it last. Green by Design looks at ways of harnessing energy and explores how to use it more efficiently. See an electric car built in 1898. Design and race your own hybrid. Play with renewable energy in a workshop filled with tools for the environmental innovators in your family. Visit today. There's a lot of new energy at The Tech.

## Did you know?

Every 44 minutes, the sun provides enough energy to satisfy the entire world's energy requirements for a year.



Wind farms produce enough electricity to meet the needs of more than 600,000 families.



Hydropower is the most commonly used renewable energy resource in the world, providing about 10 percent of the electricity we use today.



Opens September 29

The Tech Museum of Innovation  
201 South Market Street  
Downtown San Jose

Open Tue - Sun 10 am to 5 pm  
(408) 294-TECH  
[thetech.org](http://thetech.org)



**TheTech**  
museum of innovation

Community paper.  
Fireplace fodder.  
Pet cage liner.  
Fish wrap.  
  
The community  
comes FIRST

MountainView  
**VOICE**

# City boosts mileage with hybrids

PRIUS, FORD ESCAPE MODELS REPLACE GAS GUZZLERS IN MOUNTAIN VIEW'S FLEET

By Daniel DeBolt

The city placed seven hybrid cars in service last month, and three more are on the way, as part of an effort to reduce emissions and fuel consumption by the city fleet.

"When we are replacing vehicles we try to place hybrids wherever they are practical, and that's what we've been doing," said fleet services director Steve Miller.

The new cars include one Toyota Prius and six Ford Escapes, a small sport utility vehicle with a hybrid engine that gets 31 miles per gallon. The Escapes are modified to hold tools and cargo for use as a work truck because no hybrid trucks are currently available. The Prius is a small sedan that gets 55 miles per gallon.

"So far the indications are that our fuel consumption has

dropped," Miller said. "Miles per gallon has increased at least 100 percent."

Hybrid vehicles reduce fuel consumption and emissions by running part-time on an electric motor and batteries. The batteries are charged by its standard gasoline engine, which also drives the car.

The hybrids will be placed in departments where employees tend to do lots of driving, Miller said. Construction inspectors, water operations, forestry, parks and recreation and landfill operations are some of the departments to get the vehicles. City Hall and two supervisors at the Municipal Operations Center will likely receive the three Ford Escapes on the way.

"Incorporating hybrid vehicles in our fleet helps the city reduce emissions and fuel consumption," said Gregg Hosfeldt, business and internal services manager. ▀

E-mail Daniel DeBolt at [ddebolt@mv-voice.com](mailto:ddebolt@mv-voice.com)

## NEW DIRECTOR FOR CSMA

The Community School of Music and Arts has announced that Jeffry William Walker will succeed Angela McConnell as executive director, beginning in early January of 2007.

In a press release, the CSMA board said Walker was selected for his experience and dedication to the arts.

Most recently, Walker was the chief arts administrator at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn. While there, he was the director for the Austin Arts Center and was appointed director of the college's office for the arts.

In 2005, he received the annual Elizabeth L. Mahaffey Fellowship, Connecticut's highest achievement award for excellence in arts administration. Walker also volunteered in New Orleans that same year, doing recovery work at A Studio in the Woods, an artist retreat devastated by Katrina.

Walker received a master of fine arts degree from the School of Theater at Ohio University and a bachelor's degree in theater and art from Slippery Rock State College in Pennsylvania.

"I am honored to have been chosen to lead this outstanding organization at such a promising new stage in its history," Walker said.

— Amber Cleave

## SFPUC TO HEAR PRESENTATION ON CHLORAMINE

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission is scheduled to hear a staff presentation on the health effects of chloraminated tap water this Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 1:30 p.m. at San Francisco City Hall. The public will have a chance to comment.

## ■ NEWS BRIEFS

Citizens Concerned About Chloramine, a Peninsula-based group that says 400 people have reported respiratory and dermal reactions to chloramine, held a three-hour meeting with SFPUC staff last week. CCAC president Denise Johnson Kuhla said SFPUC staff expressed a staunch position against removing the disinfectant from the water to return to chlorine.

Mountain View is among many cities on the Peninsula that receives chloraminated tap water from the SFPUC.

— Daniel DeBolt

## LOCAL ALUM HEADED FOR SPACE

San Francis High School alum Megan McArthur was among the crewmembers selected on Oct. 31 to participate in NASA's final trip to the Hubble Space Telescope.

McArthur graduated 10th in her class from St. Francis in 1989, and was senior class president. A former teacher, Roger Johnson, who was on the school faculty for 40 years, remembered that in his calculus class, "Megan was the only female junior in class."

St. Francis principal Patty Tennant said about McArthur that she "always wanted to be an astronaut and was never shy about her goal."

McArthur received a degree in aerospace engineering from UC Los Angeles in 1993 and a Ph.D. in oceanography from UC San Diego in 2002.

NASA has yet to determine a launch date for the mission, the fifth and final of its kind. The astronauts will use the Space Shuttle to bring new instruments and batteries to Hubble, extending the telescope's capabilities through 2013.

— Alexa Tondreau

# "I BOUGHT A SMALL BUILDING FOR MY BUSINESS"



"At SOA Projects, a financial management consulting firm, we understand the value of solid real estate opportunities. With a prestigious location near several large Silicon Valley companies, the Vineyard can't be beat"

—Manav Singh, Partner, SOA Projects and owner of an office suite at The Vineyard

- 425-495 Whisman Road (near Ellis Street and Hwy 101)
- Now selling select buildings
- 1,070 S.F. to 6,000 S.F.
- Prices start at \$395,000

- 90% financing available
- Close to restaurants, health clubs, light rail and other amenities
- Design your own interiors!

## The Vineyard

A community for business, high tech and professional firms

- \* STOP PAYING RENT
- \* INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE
- \* ENJOY TAX BENEFITS
- \* ENHANCE BUSINESS IDENTITY



RICK BELL  
**408.982.8428**  
[rbell@ccarey.com](mailto:rbell@ccarey.com)

KEVIN CUNNINGHAM  
**650.688.8521**  
[kcunningham@ccarey.com](mailto:kcunningham@ccarey.com)

[WWW.THEVINEYARD.COM](http://WWW.THEVINEYARD.COM)

# *Holiday Entertaining and Whole Foods Market Catering*

*L*et Whole Foods Market make your event beautiful, delicious and easy. Whatever the event, we are committed to providing you with the finest food and service.

## **Whole Foods Market Catering Offers:**

- Talented in-store chefs
- High quality ingredients
- Catering for every event
- Delivery available
- A diverse selection of appetizers, entrees and desserts



4800 El Camino Real, Los Altos  
(650) 559-0300  
[www.wholefoods.com](http://www.wholefoods.com)



### ELECTION

► Continued from page 1

for third place.

Candidate Kalwant Sandhu made an appearance at Siegel's party and was seen making the rounds downtown. Council members Matt Pear, Tom Means and Laura Macias also made it to Siegel's party, and Macias said she had plans to visit other candidates as well.

At Kapp's pizza, Alicia Crank's party was in full swing. A few of her supporters huddled around a laptop that was connected to Google WiFi. Crank seemed unfazed by the results, which made it look unlikely that she'd win a council seat. She said there is still much work for her to do on the human relations commission, and she was happy with how much interest there was for the women's self defense training she was organizing with the police department.

For her part, Ronit Bryant hosted a more intimate gathering of friends and supporters, who squeezed into the small living room of her Old Mountain View home.

"So far so good," Bryant said, referring to the results.

John Inks was having his party at El Paso Cafe on El Camino Real, until it closed and the party was moved to St. Stephen's Green downtown. The Voice was unable to catch up with Inks on election night.

The supporters of Tian Harter were digging in for the long haul at his apartment building's recreation room near Moffett Boulevard. Armed with beer, pretzels and a TV, the large group of friends and fellow Green Party members discussed the war in Iraq and the facts and theories behind 9/11. Harter gave a one-minute speech he has been perfecting for years, in which he mentions oil wars, the trade deficit and encourages people to "mend their fuelish ways."

Harter, who finished in sixth place, said he wanted to thank the city for welcoming him on its doorstep while he was a candidate walking precincts.

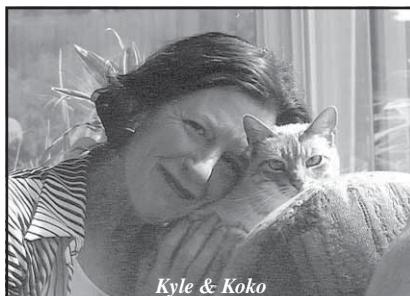
"Clearly Mountain View picked the people they wanted to serve them," he said. "I wish them the best."

The last candidate, John Webster, did not hold an election night party. □

E-mail Daniel DeBolt at [ddebolt@mv-voice.com](mailto:ddebolt@mv-voice.com)

### Low Cost Divorce/Living Trust

### DOCUMENT PREPARATION SERVICE



#### INCLUDES:

- Divorce \$399
- Living Trusts \$399/\$499
- Incorporations/LLC \$399
- Probate (FREE Quote)
- QDRO, Buy/Sell Agreements
- And much more!

**We The People® 800-579-0009**

Form and Service Center since 1985. We are not attorneys. We provide only self-help services at your specific discretion. LDA#72 Santa Clara County

## HUNGRY?

Check the dining out section of your

MountainView  
**VOICE**



### PERFECT WEATHER, 2007 BIKES, LIFE IS GOOD.



Don't miss out on the best riding of the year! Stop in now for a huge selection of hot new '07 rides.



**mikesbikes**

(650) 858-7700  
3001 El Camino Real, Palo Alto  
[www.MikesBikes.com](http://www.MikesBikes.com)

## Stock up and Save!

**10% Off All  
Light Bulbs\***

Good for in-stock  
and special orders.

\*Please Present  
Coupon for Offer.  
Expires 11/30/06.



M-F 8am-5:30pm  
Sat 10am-2pm

Stanford Electric 301 High Street Palo Alto 650-323-4139

LUCILE PACKARD



CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

YOUR CHILD'S HEALTH  
UNIVERSITY

Provided by Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

## Your Child's Health University

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital offers classes and seminars designed to foster good health and enhance the lives of parents and children.

#### \* INFANT AND CHILD CPR

The new Family and Friends Infant CPR program is a two-hour interactive class conducted by a certified instructor. The information in this class is specific for babies up to one year of age and includes presentation, video, text, practice on infant models and a certificate of completion.

- Thursday, December 7

#### \* MULTIPLES BREASTFEEDING SEMINAR

If you're expecting twins or more, this seminar can help you plan for the challenges of breastfeeding multiples. A certified lactation consultant will lead the discussion and answer questions. This seminar is only offered every 2-3 months, so sign up today!

- Thursday, December 14

#### \* 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.

- Wednesday, December 20

#### \* NEW FAMILY PROGRAM

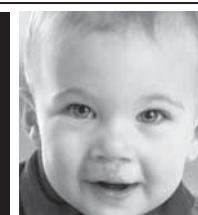
This series of classes is designed to help families throughout the first nine months after birth, offering something for everyone. Enrollment includes participation in Mother-Baby Mornings, Dads' Nights and Working Mothers' Groups.

- Ongoing Weekly and Monthly Sessions

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



**LUCILE PACKARD  
CHILDREN'S  
HOSPITAL**



**CALL TODAY TO SIGN UP FOR CLASSES (650) 723-4600**

**Events & Lectures**

**"In Vitro Fertilization and Assisted Reproductive Technology 2006"**

**Tuesday, November 14, 7 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Salli Tazuke, M.D., PAMF Reproductive Endocrinology**

In vitro fertilization (IVF) has become a standard treatment for infertility since its inception in the 1970s. What underlies its success and who is it for? Join us for a discussion of the latest assisted reproductive technologies such as pre-implantation genetic diagnoses.

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

**Classes**

**"Good Nutrition and Feeding Practices for Toddlers," Tuesday, November 14, 2 – 4 p.m.**

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

**"Supermarket Wise," Thursday, November 16, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

Learn techniques for making healthier food choices in a local supermarket with tour dietitian Karen Ross, M.S., R.D.

**"Managing Your High Blood Pressure," Monday, November 27, 3 – 5 p.m.**

This class provides information on causes, risks and treatment of high blood pressure, and approaches to successful reduction, such as exercise and medication.

**"Moving Through Pregnancy," Mondays, November 27 – December 11, 7 – 9 p.m.**

A three-session program covers a variety of topics related to pregnancy.

**"What You Need to Know About Warfarin," Wednesday, November 29, 6 – 8 p.m.**

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

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

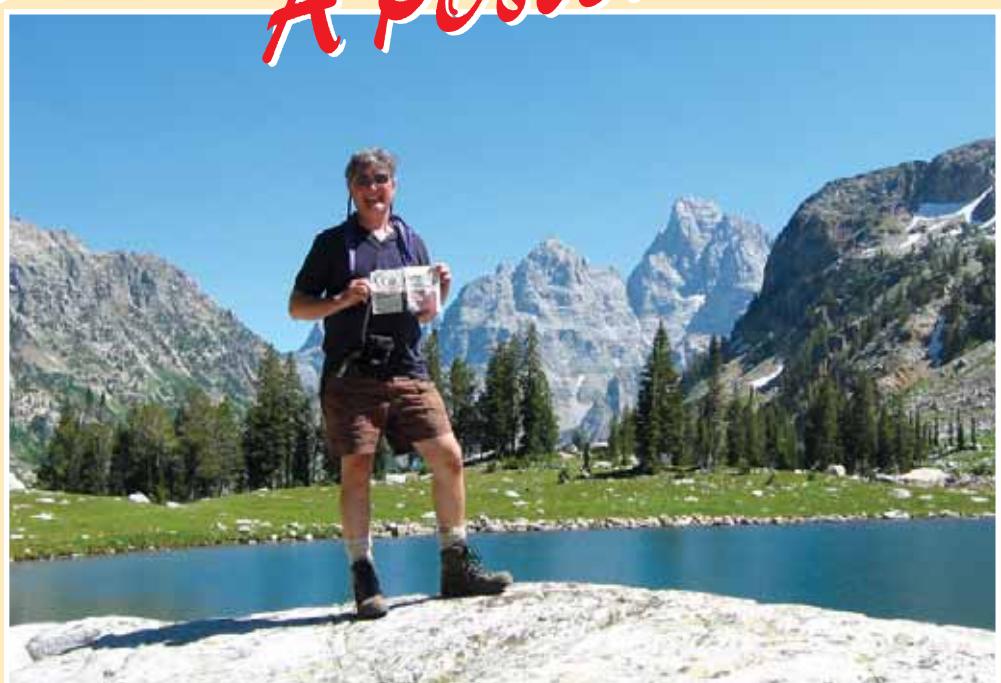
PAMF's specially trained volunteers will provide advice and answer questions about the Advance Health Care Directive form. Free.

**Support Groups**

Cancer (1st & 3rd Tuesdays) • Diabetes (1st Wednesday) • Multiple Sclerosis (2nd & 4th Mondays) • Sleep Apnea (1st Thursday) • Alcohol and Drug Education (Every Tuesday) • Healing Imagery for Cancer Patients (Nov. 1 & 15)

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

**Send Us A Postcard**



*Photo of Richard Dulin at Lake Solitude in the Grand Teton National Park backcountry*

**Take a photo with the Mountain View Voice**

**on your next trip and email to**

**[jblock@mv-voice.com](mailto:jblock@mv-voice.com) or mail to**

**Postcards, P.O. Box 405, Mountain View, CA 94042.**

# LASD parcel tax passes handily

## MEASURE H EXTENDS SCHOOL DISTRICT LEVY FOR FOUR MORE YEARS

*By Alexa Tondreau*

**W**ith the approval of Measure H by Los Altos School District voters, district property owners will continue to pay the \$597 per parcel tax for the next four years, beginning July 1. Measure H does not increase the tax.

The measure passed by a wide margin, with more than 77 percent approval as of Wednesday morning.

Members of the district's board said they would use the proceeds of the tax, approximately \$7 million a year, specifically for classroom programs and school services.

Also on the agenda for the next four years is hiring new teachers, maintaining smaller class sizes and protecting junior high electives in music, foreign language and technology. By law, Measure

H funds cannot be used for school construction projects, which are paid for by school bonds.

An estimated 950 students, or 23 percent, live in the district's Mountain View neighborhoods.

At the polls Tuesday, many Mountain View residents said that money spent on education was a worthy allocation. One voter, who wished to remain anonymous, said she voted yes because "Better education is always a good thing."

Mountain View resident Judy Jones said she voted yes on Measure H, and felt that those who opposed it were "people who may think 'My kids are grown up and gone, why should I pay for this,' but I think that's the wrong attitude."

She added that good schools benefit everyone, not just children, saying, "Good schools are an important selling point for real estate." ▀

*E-mail Alexa Tondreau at [atondreau@mv-voice.com](mailto:atondreau@mv-voice.com)*

## Holiday Boutique on the Mezzanine

Featuring vintage decorations & collectibles

November 2 through December 23



Find beautiful, one-of-a-kind items for everyone on your gift list

**Bring in food for Our Second Harvest Food Drive**

**Enter our raffle to win a \$50 gift certificate**

## La Petite Chaise

**Antiques and Interiors**

Open Thu.-Sat. 11-6 • Sun. 12-5

285 Castro St. • Mountain View, CA • 650-969-5721

[www.lapetitechaise.com](http://www.lapetitechaise.com)

**Watch out for mercury pollution!**



Fluorescent lights save energy, but contain mercury which is a toxic pollutant. When it's time to replace the bulbs, dispose of used fluorescents properly to prevent polluted runoff into our creeks and Bay.

To find a convenient and FREE bulb drop-off location near you, call (408) 299-7300 or visit [www.HHW.org](http://www.HHW.org)

**Hazardous Waste Recycling & Disposal**  
FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY

**Watershed Watch**  
Protect Our Creeks and Bay

Sponsored by Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program – a coalition of local government agencies.  
[www.MyWatershedWatch.org](http://www.MyWatershedWatch.org)

**Remember: it is illegal to dispose of fluorescent bulbs in the trash or recycling bin!**

# Voters reject county open space measure

MEASURE A WOULD HAVE AMENDED THE COUNTY GENERAL PLAN

By Amber Cleave

Santa Clara County voters on Tuesday rejected Measure A, the land conservation initiative, by a slim margin, with about 49 percent in favor and 51 percent against. The measure needed a simple majority to pass.

Measure A would have amended the county general plan and was intended to protect non-urban, unincorporated open space. It would have done so by limiting development; increasing the minimum parcel size developers could build on ranchlands; and keeping all existing legal parcels and uses valid.

According to its proponents, the measure would have prevented large residential development on agricultural and hillside lands, and would have preserved open space. Peter Drekmeier, a Palo Alto council member and spokesman for the measure, told

the Voice that "the idea here is to preserve our quality of life in the county."

The measure was opposed by developers and realtors, and Drekmeier said the opponents' campaign was spearheaded by Tom Sheppard, a public relations expert based in San Diego.

At the polls Tuesday, Mountain View voters seemed supportive of Measure A. A breakdown by precinct — showing how Mountain View voted on the measure compared to other parts of the county — was not available as of press time.

"I voted yes on Measure A because it is important to control our open space and to keep it open," said one voter who wished to remain anonymous.

"I have seen many changes, and we have to leave some countryside around here before there isn't any left," said another voter. "People can move into the city if they want an urban environment, but they shouldn't insist on bringing the city here."

E-mail Amber Cleave at [acleave@mv-voice.com](mailto:acleave@mv-voice.com)

as she left the polling place at St. Timothy's church at Cuesta Drive and Grant Road. She said she voted for Bryant, Alicia Crank and Tian Harter. "Alicia really wants to work hard," she said. "Tian has a lot of time to investigate things and he's got eight years being an activist."

Resident Erik Davenport, a Republican, said he voted for John Inks, Kalwant Sandhu and Siegel because they "seem to be the most conservative-thinking."

E-mail Erik Davenport at [ddebolt@mv-voice.com](mailto:ddebolt@mv-voice.com)

## COUNCIL RACE

► Continued from page 1

ence and where they lived.

"He's in our neighborhood," said Jeanne Tweed about her vote for Jac Siegel, who lives near Cuesta Park.

As they inched towards the polling booth, one family of three voters consulted via cell phone with another family member about how they should vote. "Inks?" they said. "Aha."

"Ronit is definitely the most qualified," said Abigail Longcor



NICHOLAS JENSEN

**Mountain View residents** Dan Case, Diane Howell and Cathy Huston use the touchscreen voting machines at Graham Middle School to vote Tuesday afternoon. Volunteers at the precinct saw 120 out of 719 eligible voters by 1 p.m., but said they expected a wave of voters to come around 5 p.m., when people get off work.

# Council pay raise fails

MEASURE C WAS A BAD IDEA FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS, MAJORITY SAID

By Daniel DeBolt

By a slim margin, Mountain View voters decided not to adopt an increase in pay for city council members from \$500 to \$1,500 a month.

As of Wednesday morning, results showed that 52 percent of voters came out against the measure, with 48 percent in support. The measure failed by a margin of 599 votes.

Strong arguments for and against the Measure C pay raise were heard by those exiting the polling booths on Election Day.

"The last thing I want is to call my council member and get a recording because he's off working two jobs just trying to make it in this city," said resident Michele

Schumaker, who voted at St. Timothy's Church on Grant Road.

Proponents of the measure said increasing council pay would allow people to run for office who normally wouldn't be able to for financial reasons.

An older man who wished to remain anonymous said he didn't vote for the pay raise because he didn't want to see the council "spoiled" with more pay. "If it went up in steps, it wouldn't be so bad," he said. He expressed concern that a large increase in council pay now would be unfair to current and former council members who earned much less.

Erik Davenport, who described himself as a conservative Republican, was leaving the polling booth with his two young children. He said the pay raise was worth giving to council members "for that degree of commitment and work."

Before the election, council member Laura Macias said she

didn't want the measure to fail.

"I don't know if I could run for a second term if that happened," she said.

The measure wasn't scheduled to take effect until 2009, which means current council members would not have received the pay increase unless they were re-elected.

Opponents said the pay increase would have increased the cost of campaigns and attracted political parties that like to reward loyal members with a salaried job.

If adjusted for inflation, the 1984-enacted council salary of \$500 a month would be worth \$974 today; if the \$250 monthly salary that was given to members in 1968 was adjusted for inflation, it would equal \$1,450 today.

Besides the salary, council members currently receive health, dental and retirement benefits.

E-mail Daniel DeBolt at [ddebolt@mv-voice.com](mailto:ddebolt@mv-voice.com)



You're invited!

**SOUND PERFECTION** invites you to join us as one of the few Pioneer Elite Dealers in the country to host an Annual Pioneer PureVision Tour. Our customers will be able to purchase some of the newest state-of-the-art Pioneer Elite products including the new **Pioneer Elite 1080p**. See a preview of the new **Blu-ray Disc Player**. Pioneer representatives will be on-site for demonstrations and advice.

**THREE DAYS ONLY!**  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday - November 10-12th

**Get 10% OFF**  
**ALL PIONEER ELITE PRODUCTS**

Mention this ad for a chance to

**WIN a FREE Pioneer DVR recorder**  
and other great prizes!

**Sound Perfection:** 700 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, CA 94025 • 650-323-1000 • [www.soundperfection.com](http://www.soundperfection.com)

**Pioneer** [sound.vision.soul](http://sound.vision.soul)



**Pioneer PureVision Tour**

Come see the new Pioneer Elite 1080p Plasma (PDP-HD1)



*One of America's Greatest Treasures*

# FILOLI

## HOLIDAY TRADITIONS: GIFTS FROM THE WINTER GARDEN

Honoring the Beauty and Tradition of the Glass Conservatory

*Tickets  
On Sale Now!*

*Friday, November 24th THROUGH  
Saturday, December 2nd*

- Premiere Access Shopping Evening
- Evening Dinner Parties
- Daytime & Evening Holiday Shopping Boutiques
- Brunch Buffets
- Dinner in the Café
- Children's Parties

For pricing and additional information, please visit Filoli's website: [www.filoli.org](http://www.filoli.org)

86 Cañada Road, Woodside, CA 94062 650-364-8300 x508



**SHOPPING  
BORING?**

THEN GO *Exploring*

THOUSANDS  
of DESIGNER PIECES

New Stock Everyday  
All at Consignment Prices

**HOME** consignment  
C E N T E R

<b>San Mateo</b> <b>650-577-8979</b> 1888 S. Norfork	<b>Los Altos</b> <b>650-917-8526</b> 400 Main St	<b>San Rafael</b> <b>415-456-2765</b> 863 E. Francisco	<b>Danville</b> <b>925-866-6164</b> 1901 Camino Ramon	<b>Saratoga</b> <b>408-871-8890</b> 600 El Paseo de Saratoga
--	--	--	---	--

## OBITUARIES

### GEORGE 'VIC' BOORE

George "Vic" Boore, a former track star and long-time resident of Mountain View, passed away on Oct. 20. He was 92.

Boore was born Feb. 22, 1914, in Vancouver, Wash., but grew up in Mountain View and attended Mountain View High School, where he was a member of the track team. He attended Stanford University, where he was a nationally recognized pole vaulter, and graduated in 1938 with a degree in physical education.

From 1943-46, Boore was a captain of the Army Air Corps in World War II. He returned to Mountain View after the war, and became an office manager for a building company in the area. After he retired, Boore moved all over the Bay Area and finally back to Washington. He was living in Port Angeles, Wash., when he died.

When he lived on the Peninsula, Boore was also a volunteer official at Stanford track meets, including the 1960 Olympic Trials and the US-USSR meet. He also loved to fish and golf.

He is survived by a son, David M. Boore, and a daughter, Sara Boore. His other son, Roger M. Boore, is deceased. Boore's first wife, Katherine Meredith, passed away in 1992, and he was divorced from his second wife, Angelina Bussani, in 2005.

### DAWN PETERSON

Dawn Peterson, a Los Altos resident, passed away on Oct. 30. She was 79.

Born in Oakland on May 14, 1927, Peterson was the widow of the late Frank Peterson, who passed away in 2005. She was the mother of Chris Meyer of Los Altos; Jane Rhodes of Arnold, Ariz.; and Bill Peterson of Scottsdale, Ariz. She had three grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Private services were held and arrangements were made under the direction of the Mountain View Chapel of Spangler Mortuaries, located at 799 Castro St. Peterson rests in Los Altos.

# Viewpoint

## MountainView VOICE

Founding Editor, *Kate Wakerly*

### STAFF

**Publisher** Tom Gibboney  
**Managing Editor** Don Frances  
**Staff Writers** Daniel DeBolt, Alexa Tondreau  
**Intern** Amber Cleave  
**Contributors** Angela Hey, Sheila Himmel, Forrest Linebarger, Elaine Rowland, Kathy Schrenk  
**Photographers** Norbert von der Groeben, Nicholas Ryan Jensen  
**Design Director** Raul Perez  
**Assistant Design Director** Katie Cvitkovich  
**Designers** Linda Atilano, Elise Eisenman, Nancy Hwang, Eric Kinnard, Tanya A. Ortega, Gail Thoreson  
**Advertising Manager** Britt Callaway  
**Senior Advertising Representative** Judie Rachel Block  
**Real Estate Advertising Executive** Pooja Bhardwaj  
**Real Estate Advertising Coordinator** Charito Mabutas  
**Advertising Services** Bill Rayburn  
**Classified Representatives** Irene Schwartz, Blanca Yoc  
**Office Coordinator** Diane Martin  
**Circulation Director** Bob Lampkin

### HOW TO REACH THE VOICE

655 W. Evelyn Ave., Suite #3  
P.O. Box 405  
Mountain View, CA 94042  
**News/editorial department** (650) 964-6300  
fax (650) 964-0294  
**Display Advertising sales** (650) 964-6300  
**Classified Advertising sales** (650) 964-6490  
(650) 326-8216  
fax (650) 326-0155  
**E-mail Editorial** editor@MV-VOICE.com  
**E-mail Classified** ads@MV-VOICE.com  
**E-mail Circulation** circulation@MV-VOICE.com

**The Voice** is published weekly by Embarcadero Publishing Co. and distributed by U.S. Mail to residences and businesses in Mountain View. Copyright ©2006 by Embarcadero Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

Member, Mountain View Chamber of Commerce

The Mountain View Voice is mailed free upon request to residents in Mountain View. If you are not currently receiving the paper, you may request free delivery by calling 964-6300. Voluntary subscriptions at \$30 per year, \$50 per 2 years, are welcome from residents of Mountain View. Subscription rate for businesses and for residents of other communities is \$50 per year, \$80 per 2 years.

### EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

## Green solution to parking crunch

**D**uring a board meeting last week, neighbors who live near Mountain View High School got little sympathy from district officials who said they would not close a back entrance to the school, which neighbors contend encourages students to park on their residential streets as they rush to get to class on time.

As more and more students attend MVHS on Truman Avenue (currently an enrollment of 1,750), and more and more of them drive, the school's measly 291-space parking lot fills up long before the last student arrives in the morning. As a result, many students roam the neighborhood, looking for street parking, which upsets neighbors who don't want to see scores of student cars clog the streets in front of their homes, and who also worry for their safety from the occasional reckless student driver. The trash and litter some students leave behind is also a pain, the neighbors say.

But despite their concerns, which were thoroughly aired at a Mountain View-Los Altos district meeting, Superintendent Barry Groves said a controversial gate that provides convenient access to the campus from the students' favorite neighborhood parking spot will remain open.

When this battle last flared up about eight months ago, we urged the school to take a more active environmental approach, and use the parking crunch as a way to teach how important it is for everyone — including students — to reduce global warming. The parking crunch is a golden opportunity to explain how much every automobile contributes to the world's pollution, and that the U.S. leads all other nations in production of greenhouse gases.

District officials should promote walking, cycling, car-pooling or taking mass transit to school, rather than simply acquiescing to never-ending demands for more student parking. At the very least, the district should mount an outreach program to teach the benefits of leaving a car at home. And students should not be told that they are doing this to mollify neighbors, but for themselves, and the planet.



### EDITORIAL

### YOUR LETTERS

### GUEST OPINIONS

### LETTERS

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

### LIVING CARLESS THE WAY TO GO

Editor:

I enjoyed reading the article covering a carless Mountain View family ("Carless — and doing fine," Oct. 27). Like them, I have also discovered the benefits of walking, biking, and taking public transportation to work and shopping: fresh air, exercise, and a slower pace of life. There are three ways that Mountain View could encourage less driving.

1. Increase housing density. Mountain View currently has more jobs than housing. People will drive less if they live close to work and shopping.

2. Charge for parking in downtown. This will encourage people to find other ways to visit downtown. Furthermore, the eventual reduced demand for parking lots will free up land to be used for more housing and shops in downtown.

3. Close off downtown from auto traffic once a month. One great thing about the annual Art and Wine Festival is being able to stroll down the middle of Castro Street. This would increase foot traffic along downtown shops and encourage a community-oriented atmosphere.

Having cleaner, less smoggy air and residents who are refreshed from a relaxed commute will make Mountain View a better place to live. One day the carless family depicted in the article will no longer be in the minority.

Xinh Huynh  
E. Middlefield Road

### LOTS OF VISITS TO CUESTA ANNEX

Editor:

I am solidly in the "don't know yet" camp on the Cuesta Annex, and trust that the city council will make sound choices for the future of Mountain View.

I was impressed by Kevin McBride's guest opinion in the Oct. 27 *Voice* ("Plan B is right for Cuesta Annex"), on the survey which reported that approximately 16,000 people say they use the Cuesta Annex.

Thirty one percent, or about 4,960 people, visited at least once a week; an additional 41 percent, or about 6,560, visited at least once a month. This totals to nearly 340,000 visits during the year, or 39 visits every hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For comparison, the Mountain View Library's

latest annual report gives a total of 780,000 visits for the year.

Perhaps many of those surveyed confused the Cuesta Annex with Cuesta Park.

Normand Berube  
Ada Avenue

### NUMBERS INDICATE BIAS AGAINST OPEN SPACE

Editor:

Is nature outnumbered in Mountain View? Should 4 percent of the Mountain View population control 90 percent of our city park resources? Should our city's parks only serve one out of every five children?

Sadly, this is the case. There are 46 athletic fields in Mountain View (32 for public use and 14 for school use at MVHS, St. Joseph and St. Francis) serving approximately 2,500 after-school child athletes. Compare that to Cuesta Park Annex, Rengstorff Redwood Grove, and a smattering of miniparks to serve the remaining 69,430 residents (11,186 children plus 58,244 adults).

The data from the city-wide Mountain View telephone survey indicates that 17,202 residents currently use the Cuesta Park Annex natural hiking trails, and an additional 15,159 residents might have used the Annex if they knew it existed. (Since the survey only questions residents age 17 and older, that number could be much higher.)

The question is not how much of the Annex should be lost to playing fields, but rather how many more Cuesta Annexes need to be added throughout Mountain View to serve 100 percent of our youth, both athletes and non-athletes.

Before our city council's Annex vote (Nov. 14, 6:30 p.m.), all residents need to demand that Plan B, the Heritage Park design, be unanimously approved. It is the first step in restoring the balance between natural/intuitive recreational facilities and those for organized sports.

Robert Schick  
Park Drive

### ANNEX IS MOST VALUABLE JUST AS IT IS

Editor:

I strongly support maintaining all of Cuesta Annex in a nearly natural state, with a heritage orchard and agricultural his-

► See **LETTERS**, page 16

**Artistic**  
KITCHEN DESIGN

**\$500 OFF**  
Your Cabinets  
Call for Details

**Kitchen & Bath**

131 E. El Camino Real. 12333 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd.  
Mountain View, CA 94040 Saratoga, CA 95070  
650-390-9615 408-253-0413  
[www.ArtisticKitchen.com](http://www.ArtisticKitchen.com)

**PYT**  
Peninsula Youth Theatre

**Fiddler on the Roof**

Based on Sholom Aleichem's stories by special permission of Arnold Perl

Book by Joseph Stein Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick  
Music by Jerry Bock

Produced on the New York Stage by Harold Prince  
Original New York Stage Production Directed and Choreographed by Jerome Robbins

**Nov. 11 - 19**  
Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts

**Tickets:**  
**(650) 903 - 6000**  
[www.pytnet.org](http://www.pytnet.org)

Produced through special arrangement with Music Theatre International

**sponsored by:**  
**GENTRY**  
MAGAZINE  
Cameron Veterinary Hospital

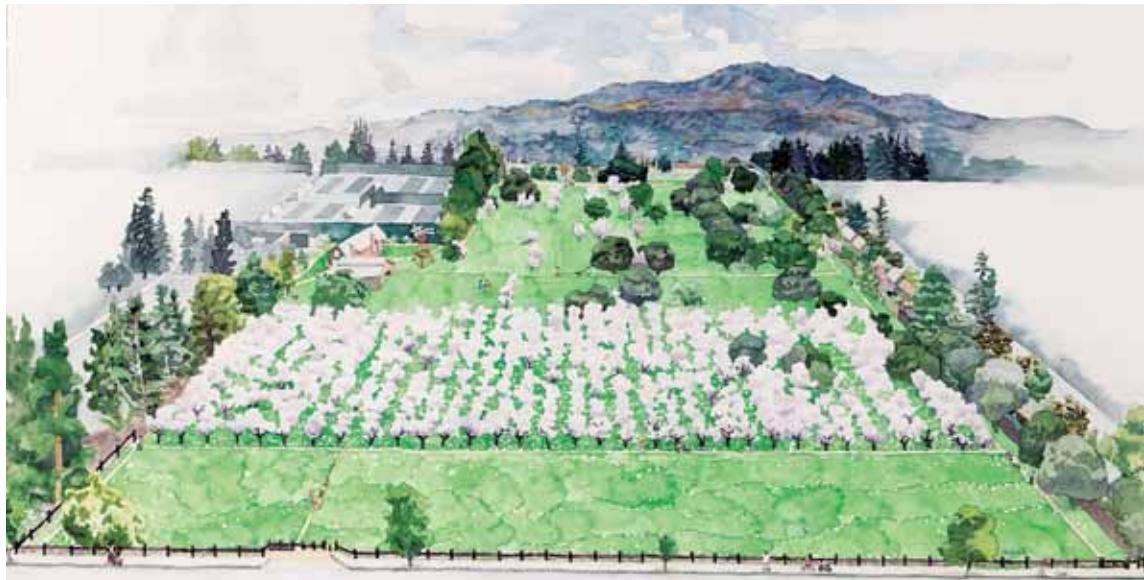
**IF IT'S NOT IN THIS VAULT, IT'S NOT SAFE.**

**LOS ALTOS VAULT & SAFE DEPOSIT CO.**

**A private depository**  
**Safe deposit boxes of all sizes**  
**Strict and total confidentiality**  
**Secured and ample parking**  
**For your own sake we should have your business.**  
**Visit our facilities and judge for yourself.**  
**Data bank for important and confidential records.**

**WE ARE #1!**  
**There Is No #2**  
**BELIEVE IT!**

**121 First Street, Los Altos, CA 94022**  
**Tel: 650-949-5891** [www.losaltosvault.com](http://www.losaltosvault.com)



Local artist Robert Schick's depiction of the proposed museum and cultural facility for the Cuesta Annex.

## A museum for Mountain View

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION'S PLAN FOR CUESTA ANNEX WOULD  
FILL LONGSTANDING NEED IN COMMUNITY

By Robert H. Weaver

In 1958, Mercedes Castro sold her home and 23.5 acres of land to the city of Mountain View, with the provision that it be used as a historical museum. Shortly thereafter, a fire consumed the building, and with it, that dream.

A half-century later, despite the rich history and contributions of Mountain View's many cultural and ethnic groups, there is still no facility available for celebrating the town and its people. That is precisely why the Mountain View Historical Association is proposing a museum for the Cuesta Annex. In May 2005, we formed a committee to actively pursue the realization of that dream, and have developed a very thorough plan which we believe would be the smartest use of the Annex.

For the sake of brevity, we are calling it a museum, but that word doesn't fully capture the concept. What is being proposed is a cultural, historical and educational facility that embraces and showcases the rich and culturally diverse tapestry of Mountain View's history. The museum with its barn will become a destination for young and old alike, and a

portal to Mountain View's past.

As the future of Cuesta Annex is now being shaped, we are presented with a confluence of opportunity and need. The museum proposal for Cuesta Annex offers the community its last chance to preserve historic wild land and its natural flora and fauna, with a historical orchard representing early agricultural land use in Mountain View. Tucked neatly into a small corner would be the museum and barn housing the artifacts, explaining the history, and adding the cultural and ethnic face to Mountain View's past.

With its museum, open space and orchard, the proposal has three components that work together in harmony, and it needs all three together to be effective. The museum plan has been well thought out, with a goal to preserve the integrity of the Annex while integrating the museum, barn and orchard design with timeless sensibility. This is a broad-spectrum proposal that appeals to the widest community demographic.

The museum structure itself will have an educational component, incorporating environmentally sensitive Green Construction techniques. This will

truly be a unique asset for the people of Mountain View.

Three community groups have brought proposals forward for the use of the Annex. They are: the open space group, the sports field group, and the museum group. While the museum proposal is compatible with either of the other group's proposals, it is in true harmony with the open space proposal. With that in mind, the Mountain View Historical Association and Save Open Space met, discussed their issues and found accord. It's funny how a little piece of land can bring so many people together.

When the council's decision is made, the Annex will be changed to a greater or lesser extent. If the museum proposal is chosen, it will no longer just be an annex to Cuesta Park, but a special place in its own right. A place in need of a new name, one that better represents what it truly is ... the Mountain View Heritage Preserve, a legacy from the past, a gift for the future.

Robert H. Weaver is chair of the Mountain View Historical Association's Museum Committee. He lives on Tyrella Avenue.

Mountain View's past orchards. It is one of the few parks not manicured to uniformity with others in the city with lawns, ballparks, fenced-in barbecue pits or virtually identical plastic play structures. It's a place where you can climb trees, watch birds, collect bugs, walk or picnic in a tiny bit of wilderness and put a baby down on the ground without fear of pesticides. The last time I visit-

ed we followed a great blue heron, which is designated a species of "special concern," endangered by habitat loss.

Cuesta Annex gives Mountain View a sense of place. It offers me relief after the sense of placelessness I feel driving by retail on El Camino, big-box stores in the San Antonio Shopping Center, and

► See **LETTERS**, page 18

## City working hard to attract new retailers

By Ellis M. Berns

The following is in response to Kathy Hall's Oct. 20 letter titled "More retail needed downtown."

During the past several years, the city has been working on trying to recruit non-restaurant businesses to keep storefronts filled. There are a variety of challenges in the downtown, one of which is that it has become known more as a destination for dining than for retail.

The city is continually trying to modify that image and get the word out that retailers can be successful as well in downtown. Members of the city staff have spoken to various retailers — such as AG Ferrari, JJ&F Markets, Domus and Chico's — but part of the challenge is having the right-sized space and a cooperative landlord. In addition, for a company like Chico's to locate in a downtown, they like other types of clothing and accessory retailers to be located around them.

The city agrees that the character of Mountain View is not an upscale Santana Row but more regional or local independent stores. Most all the restaurants downtown are independents. We have attracted some new retailers, such as Bike Spring

and Neto's (a new bakery which will open soon), adding character to the downtown.

The city is also excited about the opening of Longs Drug in the new parking structure. It will provide a service to the community and create some synergy to

***There are a variety of challenges in the downtown, one of which is that it has become known more as a destination for dining than for retail.***

attract other retailers.

Over the past few years, the city has instituted some programs to try and attract retailers to the downtown. Here is a list of some of these programs:

- E-mail blasts are sent to real estate brokers about available vacant space.
- Postcards are sent reminding real estate brokers to consider Mountain View as a location for their tenants.
- The city conducts annual

downtown tours for retail real estate brokers.

- The city provides, on its Web site, a quarterly update of downtown real estate opportunities by listing vacant space.

- The city offers a facade grant program. A business or property owner is eligible for a grant of up to \$7,500.

- City representatives have attended various meetings to promote downtown and recruit retailers.

- The city offers workshops and has held individual meetings with property owners to inform them of goals for downtown, what programs might be available to help them with new businesses, and linking them up with real estate brokers to market their properties.

- We are anticipating that when the new parking structure is completed this coming February, it will provide more parking to current businesses and will also be appealing to new businesses.

City staff members will continue to work with the Central Business Association, Chamber of Commerce and the city's Downtown Committee to develop strategies to attract retailers.

*Ellis M. Berns is economic development manager for the city of Mountain View.*

DR. CULVER'S  
CASE STUDY OF THE WEEK

*"I left Mayo Clinic just as I'd left numerous other doctors, with no hope and no suggested treatment for dizziness, numbness in my feet, and legs so weak I had to pull myself up the stairs."*

Kate was living in misery and all her doctors could tell her was she had neuropathy, but they didn't know the cause or how to treat it.

What we found during our workup was a severe stretching and narrowing of the spinal cord in the upper neck caused by a reversal of the normal bend of her neck. Within days, after starting her corrective program, she was walking unaided without staggering or dizziness. She could climb stairs normally. She could feel the floor with her feet again and the pain had lifted dramatically.

Her response, "Phenomenal!"



ROBERT L. CULVER D.C., D.A.C.N.B.

**Dr. Culver has recently opened a facility in Mountain View where he provides natural healing processes utilizing modern chiropractic neurology and new biomechanical techniques that produce lasting results.**

- Recent recipient of America's Top Chiropractors Award
- Over 40 years in practice
- Board Certified Chiropractic Neurologist
- Applied Kinesiologist
- Pettibon Practitioner
- Certified in Neuro Emotional Technique
- Chiropractic Sports Physician
- Spinal Decompression
- Thermography



480 San Antonio Road  
Mountain View, CA  
650.559.7500

CHIROPRACTIC • NUTRITION • REHABILITATION

*Call to schedule a no-charge consultation. Feel free to bring any MRI's, X-rays or lab studies you may have.*

**NEED A RIDE?** 

**Yellow Cab Company**  
Of San Jose - Serving all of Santa Clara County  
"Since 1938"

Our new GPS system allows us to get the closest cab to you?  
**OVER 300 TAXIS AVAILABLE**  
Reservations Welcome.

**650-321-1234**  
Sunnyvale & Mountain View Served by Checker Cab.  
Order a cab online at [www.foraride.com](http://www.foraride.com)

**Kozy Brothers**  
**De Martini Orchard**  
[www.demartiniorchard.com](http://www.demartiniorchard.com)  
66 N. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos  
650-948-0881  
Farm Fresh and Always the Best  
Effective 11/8/06 thru 11/14/06

<p><b>NEW CROP - IMPORTED</b> <b>BLUEBERRIES</b> PLUMP AND VERY SWEET <b>2 BSK FOR \$5.00</b></p>	<p><b>BLUE LAKE GREEN BEANS</b> YOUNG AND TENDER FRESH AND VERY CRISP <b>99¢ LB.</b></p>
<p><b>VINE RIPENED HONEYDEWS</b> <b>49¢ LB.</b></p>	<p><b>LOCAL GROWN ZUCCHINI</b> <b>69¢ LB.</b></p>
<p><b>ORGANIC FUJI APPLES</b> <b>\$1.49 LB.</b></p>	<p><b>CALIF. JUMBO KIWI FRUIT</b> <b>3 FOR \$9.99</b></p>
<p><b>ORGANIC SPRING SALAD MIX</b> <b>\$2.99 LB.</b></p>	<p><b>ORGANIC D'ANJOU PEARS</b> <b>\$1.79 LB.</b></p>
<p><b>ORGANIC GARNET YAMS</b> <b>99¢ LB.</b></p>	<p><b>ORGANIC RAINBOW CHARD</b> <b>99¢ BUN.</b></p>
<p><b>GLACE FRUIT NOW IN STOCK</b> SHELLED WALNUTS <b>\$4.49</b> RAW ALMONDS <b>\$4.99</b> DRIED APRICOTS <b>\$7.99</b></p>	<p><b>Your Everyday Farmer's Market</b></p>

## LETTERS

► Continued from page 16

vast lawns, empty except during ballgames. Places like the Annex encourage people to love their city, develop roots and give back to their community.

Cuesta Annex truly contributes to parkland equity, serving old and young, women and men, not the narrower spectrum of people who tend to use ballparks. We need places like this.

And if we also need more ballparks, why not put them in walking distance of the many new housing units developed north of El Camino, where there is a crying need for additional park space? I say put our tax dollars there and leave Cuesta Annex alone.

Alison Hicks  
Church Street

## CALTRAIN NEEDS BETTER TICKET DISPENSING SYSTEM

Editor:

I dearly love Caltrain. When the Giants stadium went up I started riding it to baseball games, and quickly saw how easy it was (and inexpensive, now that I'm a senior) to go into the city for excursions — or even to take my grandchildren for short hops to Burlingame. Moreover, I'm an Easterner, having grown up in the suburbs of New York, where the Long Island Railroad was a commuter's dream, and no one needed to be converted to rail transit.

What I don't like is the flawed ticket dispensing system. It's confusing, it breaks down, and it results in long lines of disgruntled, impatient passengers.

Why isn't there a stationmaster to help?

What I especially don't like is the fact that when the train comes snorting down the track and we abandon the faulty ticket dispenser (without a ticket, but with the possibility that a credit card may still be charged) and relax in our seats, we are issued a citation of up to \$250 for not having a ticket. No chance of buying the ticket on the train. I guess the conductors don't have time, though I wonder why they have lots of time to chat about the citation process. Once issued a citation, we do have a chance to plead our case in municipal court, a humiliating and time-consuming process.

I personally know two very law-abiding Caltrain riders who received these citations recently. I hope that the powers-that-be can fix the problem. Let's make Caltrain user-friendly so that we can all make good use of rail transportation.

Ellen Murray  
San Luis Avenue

Chicken Burrito  
\$4.00  
w/beans & cheese

House Margarita  
\$3.50  
On the rocks

Late Dinner Special  
(8pm-9:30pm)  
House Margarita  
\$2.00  
On the rocks

Please present coupon  
Offer Expires 11/30/06 MVV

Please present coupon  
Offer Expires 11/30/06 MVV

Please present coupon  
Offer Expires 11/30/06 MVV

## REGULAR HAPPY HOURS

2 pm - 6:30 pm

Glass Domestic Beer \$1.50

Pitcher Domestic Beer \$7.00

After 25 years in Business,  
we now accept Visa and Mastercard!

650-961-8858

1407 El Camino Real, Mtn. View • Mon-Sat 11am - 10 pm

EL PASO CAFE RESTAURANT

WE'RE OPEN ON THANKSGIVING.  
MAKE YOUR DINNER RESERVATIONS EARLY.

## Take Home One of Our Feasts for the Holidays!

Save yourself some time and hassle during the Holiday and relax. Enjoy your Holiday meal at home and Marie Callender's will do all the cooking.

From the most complete, mouth-watering Holiday Feasts\* with all the trimmings, to our Famous Freshly Baked Pies, we've got everything you need to make the holiday season warm and satisfying.

So don't get stressed out—let us help make this a Holiday to remember!

\*Heating Required



Holiday Pie  
Cranberry Apple  
Streusel Pie  
\$9.99 plus tax

Marie Callender's  
LOS ALTOS

4710 El Camino Real  
(just south of San Antonio)

650-941-6989



AMICI'S  
EAST COAST PIZZERIA

GREAT PASTAS • FRESH SALADS

790 Castro Street  
Mountain View  
(1 block from El Camino)

(650) 961-6666

FREE  
DELIVERY  
(with min. order)



THE BEST  
PIZZA WEST OF  
NEW YORK  
—Ralph Barbieri KNBR 680

## TIED HOUSE CAFE &amp; BREWERY

South Bay's  
Original  
Microbrewery

## Happy Hour:

Mon-Fri 4pm-6pm  
Saturdays—  
9pm - close



Your Place for:  
Garden Patio Dining  
Eight Microbrews  
on Tap  
Fresh Beer To Go  
Corporate Parties  
Catering

## Voted "Best California Cuisine"

in Mountain View

Check out our menu online @  
[www.tiedhouse.com](http://www.tiedhouse.com)

## Live Music Every 3rd Saturday

Open Daily: M-Th & Sat 11:30-10:00,  
F 11:30-11:00 & Sun 11:30-9:30

(650) 965-BREW 954 Villa St. Mountain View

cascal  
spirited pan-latin cuisine



Voted: "Best Business Lunch"

Thank you MV Voice readers  
for once again selecting cascal  
as one of your favorite  
restaurants!

Lunch and Dinner  
DAILY FROM 11:30 A.M.

Join us as we celebrate  
summer while dining  
"al fresco" on our heated,  
pet friendly patio. Enjoy!



400 CASTRO ST. MOUNTAIN VIEW  
TO RESERVE CALL 650-940-9500 OR VISIT  
OUR WEBSITE AT: [CASCALRESTAURANT.COM](http://CASCALRESTAURANT.COM)

# Weekend

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

■ MOVIE TIMES

■ BEST BETS FOR ENTERTAINMENT

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

## That glorious American sandwich

THE COUNTER IN PALO ALTO ADVANCES THE NOTION OF WHAT A BURGER IS ALL ABOUT

By Dale F. Bentson

The latest reincarnation of the majestic all-American hamburger has arrived. Ta-dah. The Counter is here, with its reputed 312,120-plus burger combinations. That original ground-beef patty has been refashioned, reinvented and reconstituted more times than Britney Spears.

Located on California Avenue in Palo Alto — and part of a rapidly developing Southern

California chain — The Counter offers customers the opportunity to blueprint the burger of their dreams with a gazillion condiments, cheeses, sauces and over-the-top possibilities. Best of all, the kitchen does the cooking and assembly and gets it to you hot within a few minutes.

The menu comes with pencil and pad, and hungry you can check off your choice of 10 cheeses, 27 toppings and 17 sauces. There are three choices of bun, and, if that seems a bit of overkill, have your burger in a bowl.

The concept is not new. Remember the long-gone Hippo Burger on Van Ness Avenue in San Fran-

► See **THE COUNTER**, page 20



NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

**The Counter Burger** from The Counter has all-natural ground beef, provolone, lettuce, tomato, fried onion, sauteed mushrooms and sun dried tomato vinaigrette.

## Two Complete Meals

**Terrific Tasting Teriyaki**

Only \$8.95

Each meal includes your choice of Beef, Pork or Chicken Teriyaki (#1-4), Rice, Chicken Salad & A Regular Soft Drink.

**Happi House**

TERIYAKI

Mountain View • San Jose • Fremont • Milpitas • 408-244-0665

Limit one coupon per customer. Expires 11/30/06. No Internet Coupons Mountain View.

**Le Petit Bistro**

**Veal Sweetbreads**  
Poulette Style \$21.95

Free Chocolate Mousse with mention of this ad

1405 W. El Camino Real  
Mountain View, CA 94040  
Ph: 650-964-3321 Fax: 650-964-5931  
www.lepetitbistro.biz for cuisine to go

**ZUCCA RISTORANTE**

**modern mediterranean cuisine**

Lunch • Dinner • Friday & Saturday-Late Night Menu  
186 Castro Street, Downtown Mountain View  
650.864.9940 • zuccaristorante.com

**CALIFORNIA ROADHOUSE  
BAR & STEAKHOUSE**

Open for lunch at 11:30 till 3pm. Dinner at 4pm till 10pm

• USDA CHOICE MIDWESTERN BEEF •

**EARLY BIRD**  
THREE COURSE MEAL  
4:00 - 6:00 P.M.  
• \$9.99 •

WEEKEND CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10AM-3PM  
COMES WITH:  
COMPLIMENTARY CHAMPAGNE,  
FRESH FRUIT, MUFFINS, CHOICE OF ONE  
OF OUR CLASSIC BRUNCH CHOICES  
LUNCH MENU AVAILABLE  
\$12.99/ \$7.99/  
ADULTS A LA CARTE

**LIVE BLUES BAND**  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
9:30 - 1:00 A.M.  
• LATE MENU TILL 1 A.M. •

Happy Hungry Hour 4pm to 6pm • 1/2 Price Appetizer of the day & drink specials  
401 Castro Street, Mtn. View CA 94041 • 650.254.8981  
www.CaliforniaRoadhouse.com

**Fiesta Del Mar**  
Gourmet Mexican Cuisine

Open 7 Days • Lunch & Dinner • Open Late • Food To Go

Fiesta Del Mar  
1005 N Shoreline Blvd  
Mountain View  
(1 Blk So. of Hwy 101, near  
Movie & Amph Theatres)  
**(650) 965-9354**

Fiesta Del Mar Too  
735 Villa Street  
Mountain View  
(Downtown, between Castro & Hope)  
**(650) 967-3525**

9 Years  
in a Row

Discover the exotic and fascinating taste of  
Thai cuisine nestled in the heart of Silicon Valley



**AMARIN**  
Thai Cuisine

**THE VOICE**  
best of  
MOUNTAINVIEW  
2006

For the  
7th consecutive year.

174 Castro Street, Mountain View  
Tel. 650-988-9323 Fax. 650-966-8309

4300 Great America Parkway #180, Santa Clara  
Tel. 408-988-2982 Fax. 408-988-4292

★★★½  
San Jose  
Mercury News

5205 Prospect Road #110, West San Jose  
Tel. 408-253-8424 Fax. 408-253-8833

**CLARKES**  
SINCE 1945  
CHARCOAL BROILER

Voted "Best Burger"  
for 14 years  
in a row

as reported in the Mtn. View Voice



Daily  
Lunch  
Specials  
11am to 2pm  
Mon-Fri

Breakfast on Weekends  
Open 7 days for  
Lunch & Dinner  
Mountain View • 615 W. El Camino Real  
(650) 967-0851

**MountainView  
VOICE**  
Let us hear yours.  
E-mail editor@mv-voice.com

Weekend



NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

**Sweet potato fries** with horseradish mayo sauce from the Counter on California Avenue in Palo Alto.

## THE COUNTER

► Continued from page 19

cisco, circa 1970s, which served hamburgers 100 different ways? The Counter is an updated, cleaner, sleeker version, with better ingredients and quicker service.

Imagine your one-third-pound, all-beef patty nestled on an English muffin topped with horseradish cheddar, dried cranberries, grilled pineapple, roasted chilies, spicy pepperoncinis and caramelized onion marmalade. Or, how about your burger on a honey wheat bun covered with herbed goat cheese spread, black olives, hard-boiled eggs, mixed baby greens, roasted chilies and Dijon balsamic dressing?

The Angus beef patties from Nebraska and Montana can be ordered in third-pound (\$6.95), quarter-pound (\$8.95) or full pound (\$12.50). No red meat, you say? The Counter also offers turkey burgers, veggie burgers and grilled chicken.

For those who are indecisive — or develop brain freeze — the menu lists a half-dozen signature burgers and a few other sandwiches, like a stacked BLT with garlic aioli (\$6.50), to help ease the burden.

Decor is in the minimalist industrial mode with brushed aluminum tables and chairs,

a plain concrete floor, walls of tinted aquamarine and a serpentine counter that seats a dozen and doubles as a traditional bar. Take-out orders can be faxed or e-mailed ahead for quick pick-up.

Two large plasma screen TVs hang above the bar, but who cares once the burgers are served? Table conversation generally goes mute when the waiter arrives. I ate with my eyes half-closed, ignoring everything around me, focusing on the sheer beauty of the American burger in all its glory.

I tried several burger incarnations. The hamburgers were juicy and cooked to my specs — medium well. The turkey burger was meaty and not gluey as some turkey burgers are wont to be. And the veggie burger I had in a bowl laden with gruyere cheese, jalapenos, roasted chilies, roasted red peppers and tomatoes with Southwest Caesar dressing I could barely manage half.

The fountain serves made-to-order malts and shakes (\$3.50 to \$3.95). They don't ooze from a machine either. They are thick and creamy, blended in a professional-grade Hamilton Beach 950 Drink Mixer. The only thing I didn't like was the squiggle of canned whipped cream on top.

Besides offering the eye-popping burger array, The Counter has a few other tasty morsels. The chili bowl (\$4.95) was loaded



### american

**Clarkes Charcoal Broiler**  
615 W. El Camino Real,  
Mtn. View. 650/967-0851  
Voted Best Hamburger 14 Yrs  
in a Row. Beautiful Outside  
Patio Dining.

**Hobee's Restaurants**  
2312 Central Expwy.  
Mtn. View. 650/968-6050  
Voted Best Breakfast/Brunch  
9 years in a row!

**Marie Callendar's**  
4710 El Camino Real  
(just south of San Antonio)  
650/941-6989

**Sports Page**  
1431 Plymouth Street  
(exit at Shoreline off 101)  
Mtn. View. 650/961-1992

### chinese food

**Chef Chu's**  
1067 N. San Antonio Road,  
on the corner of El Camino,  
Los Altos. 650/948-2696  
Zagat Review: "Gold Standard in Fresh  
Chinese Cuisine."

**Golden Wok**  
895 Villa St., Mtn. View.  
Distinctive Chinese Cuisine  
Dim Sum Daily 10-3  
Open Daily 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.  
Delivery/Take-Out (Daily)  
Now Online Order Available  
[www.goldenwokusa.com](http://www.goldenwokusa.com)  
By phone: 650/964-2222

### chinese food

**New Tung Kee Noodle House**  
520 Showers Drive,  
Mtn. View. 650/947-8888  
(Inside San Antonio Center)  
Voted Best Noodle House in  
2003/2004 Mountain View Voice.

### french

**Chez TJ**  
938 Villa Street,  
Mtn. View. 650/964-7466  
"Outrageously good" New French-American fare "in a charming little Victorian house" — Zagat 2003.

**Le Petit Bistro**  
1405 W. El Camino Real,  
Mtn. View. 650/964-3321  
Casual and cozy French  
restaurant. 15 tables.

### mexican

**Fiesta Del Mar- Seafood,**  
Mexican Cuisine & Cantina  
1005 N. Shoreline Blvd.,  
Mtn. View. 650/965-9354  
Open Daily, Lunch & Dinner.  
Voted Best Seafood for 7 years.

### mexican

**Fiesta Del Mar Too**  
Rotisserie & Cantina  
735 Villa St., Mtn. View  
650/967-3525  
Fresh Lime Margaritas, 200+ Tequilas,  
Open Late.

### mexican

**La Fiesta Restaurant**  
240 Villa St., Mtn. View  
650/968-1364  
The best Mole Poblano and Margaritas  
in town.

### pizza

**Kapp's Pizza Bar & Grill**  
191 Castro Street  
Mtn. View, 650/961-1491  
Happy Hours Mon-Fri 4pm-6pm and  
11pm-2am.

### tex-mex

**El Paso Cafe**  
1407 El Camino Real,  
Mtn. View. 650/961-8858  
Fax: 650/961-3439  
(Between Rengstorff and Shoreline)  
Happy Hour 2:30pm - 6:30pm.

### ice cream

**Gelato Classico**  
241 B Castro Street  
Mtn. View. 650/969-2900



### ■ DINING NOTES

#### THE COUNTER

369 California Ave., Palo Alto  
(650) 321-3900  
[www.thecounterburger.com](http://www.thecounterburger.com)

#### Hours:

Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Fri.-Sat. 11 a.m.-11 p.m.  
Sun. 1-8 p.m.

#### Reservations

●

#### Credit Cards

✓

#### Alcohol

✓

#### Takeout

✓

#### Highchairs

✓

#### Banquet

●

#### Catering

✓

#### Outdoor Seating

✓

#### Noise Level

loud

#### Bathroom Cleanliness

good

#### Parking

city lots

If you would like to be listed in DINING ON THE TOWN please call Judie Block at the Voice at 964-6300

## Weekend



**Inside the Counter** on California Avenue in Palo Alto.

with ground beef, onions, cheddar cheese and sour cream. It's non-aggressive; even your relatives from Des Moines could handle this. There is turkey chili as well (\$5.95), topped with cranberries and scallions and served with hunks of toasted bread.

I was mildly disappointed with the French fries (\$2.50). I was hoping for shoestring potatoes rather than the thicker-cut, doughier version served — they were OK, just lackluster. The sweet potato fries (\$4), on the other hand, were excellent, and the onion rings (\$3.75) were just greasy enough to make them scrumptious. Best of all, you can order "Fifty-Fifty" and combine any of the two (\$3.50 to \$5.50).

There are a few desserts, too, if you really think you should. The teeth-chattering sweet apple crumble was a deep dish of apples, flour, butter and buckets of sugar. Believe me, enough to share.

Besides the crumble, there was a caramel and chocolate brownie, an oversized chocolate-chip cookie, and a "chocolate burger": a donut filled with

chocolate mousse, strawberries and bananas. All desserts are \$4; add \$1.50 for a la mode.

There are not many burger joints that have a liquor license. The Counter does and features specialty drinks such as a root beer fizz (\$8) made with Stoli Vanilla, root beer Schnapps and ginger ale. There are a dozen beers (\$4 to \$6) and a wine list with a bit of everything.

So far, The Counter has struck gold with its initial endeavors. With but one store in Santa Monica, the operation has garnered national attention. GQ Magazine listed The Counter as one of "The 20 Hamburgers You Must Eat Before You Die," and, gadzooks, even Oprah declared it her favorite burger.

With the Palo Alto location open since August, franchise co-owner Peter Katz said the restaurant is already serving 400 to 600 patrons daily. On weekends, there can be long lines. There are also a few tables on the street-side patio.

Katz said the next Counter opening will be at Santana Row in San Jose next spring.



**Leandro Menditta** is a food runner at the Counter on California Avenue in Palo Alto.

NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

Rejuv Los Altos Clinic  
925 N. San Antonio Rd  
Los Altos, CA 94022

live well  
look well

Photo Facials (IPL)  
BOTOX® Treatment  
Laser Hair Removal  
Restylane® Treatment  
Custom Facials

Chemical Peels  
Microdermabrasion  
Spider Vein Removal  
Varicose Vein Surgery  
Skin Care Products

**50% off First Laser Hair Removal**

**Rejuv**  
anti aging clinics  
www.REJUVCLINICS.com

Call Now for a Complimentary Consultation  
**1-888-637-3588**



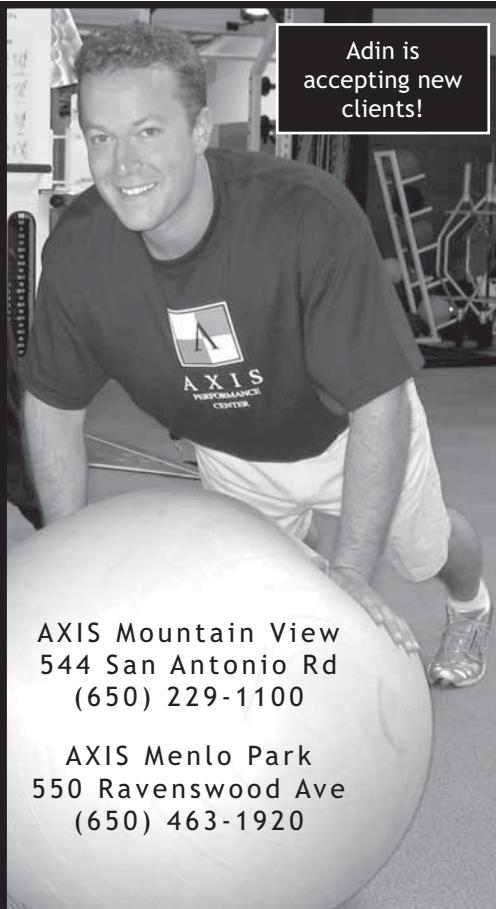
**AXIS**

PERFORMANCE CENTER

Bring in this ad for  
**50% off**  
Your First  
Two Personal  
Training Sessions

Discount applies to  
first two sessions  
with an AXIS staff  
trainer. For new AXIS  
clients only. Not  
valid with any other  
offer or discount.  
Expires 11/30/06.  
Code: Voice

Adin is  
accepting new  
clients!



AXIS Mountain View  
544 San Antonio Rd  
(650) 229-1100

AXIS Menlo Park  
550 Ravenswood Ave  
(650) 463-1920

Learn about Adin  
and all the AXIS  
personal trainers!  
[www.axispt.com](http://www.axispt.com)



**PIZZA BAR & GRILL**  
A UNIQUE DINING ESTABLISHMENT

**HAPPY HOUR  
SPECIALS**

- **2 BEERS FOR THE PRICE OF 1**
- **\$3.50 COCKTAILS MENU**
- **\$1.00 OFF PREMIUM BRANDS**
- **APPETIZERS 1/2 OFF**

**HAPPY HOUR**  
4PM-6PM MONDAY-FRIDAY  
11PM-2AM FRIDAY & SATURDAYS



191 Castro St. Mountain View, CA 94041

T: 650-961-1491 F: 650-961-9425 E: [info@kappspizza.com](mailto:info@kappspizza.com)

# dreams What ~~assets~~ do you have?

Namely, what do you want to do in the years ahead? Maybe join the Peace Corps? Make your own movie? Start a new business, perhaps? Or maybe you're not even sure.

As an Ameriprise financial advisor, I am proud to exclusively offer the *Dream Book*.<sup>SM</sup> It's a guide to help you figure out what exactly you want to do in the years ahead, and it's the perfect starting point for you and me to develop a financial plan that can help get you there.



So call (408) 377-8666 today, or stop by our office for your complimentary copy of the *Dream Book*.



Barbara Madden, CPA  
Financial Advisor  
Suite 600  
1999 South Bascom Avenue  
Campbell, CA 95008  
(408)371-8666, Ext: 325  
Barbara.L.Madden@ampf.com  
CA Lic: OD49242  
Mountain View Resident

The Personal Advisors of  
**Ameriprise**  
Financial

Ameriprise Financial cannot guarantee future financial results. Financial advisory services and investments available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., Member NASD and SIPC. ©2006 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved.

500083Y-05 09/06

## TAKE ME TO THE RIVER!



We are looking for a **Full-time Sales Representative** with *great sales skills... you're able to land the big fish.*

We want an energetic, enthusiastic, confident, and a self-directed professional – *one who loves to cast for great sales results*. Someone who possesses strong organizational and public interaction skills. You should have the ability and demonstrated experience to make public and one-on-one presentations. You must fish well with minimum supervision.

Your responsibility is to develop and present effective marketing programs – *hook, line and sinker* – that result in sales. You will be working with a base of current and prospective customers within a geographic territory.

We value and actively seek to recruit, develop and retain people with backgrounds and experience reflecting the diversity of the communities we cover.

**The Almanac**

For immediate team consideration, FAX your resume to:  
Neal Fine • 650-854-3650  
or email: [nfine@almanacnews.com](mailto:nfine@almanacnews.com)

We offer a competitive compensation & benefits package including medical, dental, paid vacations, sicktime, and a 401(k) plan.

### MOVIE TIMES

**A GOOD YEAR (PG-13) ★★** *Century 16:* 11:15 a.m.; 2, 4:55, 7:45 & 10:30 p.m. *Century 12:* 1:20, 4:20, 7:10 & 10 p.m.

**ACCEPTED (PG-13)** *Century 20:* 12:15, 2:40 & 9:45 p.m.

**BABEL (R) (NOT REVIEWED)** *Century 16:* 11 a.m.; 12:45, 2:20, 4, 5:50, 7:15, 9 & 10:25 p.m. *Century 20:* 11:30 a.m.; 1, 2:30, 4, 5:35, 7:05, 8:40 & 10:05 p.m.

**BORAT! (R) ★★★½** *Century 16:* 11:40 a.m.; 12:40, 1:45, 2:45, 3:50, 4:50, 5:55, 7, 8, 9:10 & 10:10 p.m. *Century 20:* 11:50 a.m.; 12:30, 1:10, 1:55, 2:35, 3:15, 4, 4:55, 5:25, 6:15, 7:05, 7:45, 8:25, 9:15, 9:55 & 10:30 p.m.

**CATCH A FIRE (PG-13) ★★½** *Century 12:* 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 8 & 10:30 p.m.

**COPYING BEETHOVEN (PG-13)** *Century 16:* Noon, 2:30, 5, 7:30 & 9:55 p.m.

**DELIVER US FROM EVIL (NOT RATED) ★★★★**

*Guild:* 2:20, 4:40, 7 & 9:20 p.m.

**THE DEPARTED (R) ★★★½** *Century 16:* 12:20, 3:45, 7:05 & 10:15 p.m. *Century 12:* 12:20, 3:50 & 7:20 p.m.

**THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA (PG-13) ★★★** *Century 20:* 6:40 & 9:05 p.m.

**EVERYONE'S HERO (G)** *Century 20:* 12:10, 2:20 & 4:30 p.m.

**FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS (R) ★★★** *Century 16:* 1:10, 4:05, 6:55 & 9:40 p.m. *Century 20:* 11:40 a.m.; 2:35, 5:30 & 8:20 p.m.

**FLICKA (PG)** *Century 20:* 11:30 a.m.; 1:50, 4:05, 6:25 & 8:45 p.m.

**FLUSHED AWAY (PG) ★★★** *Century 16:* 11:30 a.m.; 12:35, 1:35, 2:40, 3:40, 4:40, 5:45, 6:50, 7:50, 8:55 & 9:50 p.m. *Century 12:* 12:15, 1, 1:45, 2:30, 3:15, 4:05, 4:45, 5:30, 6:15, 7, 7:45, 8:30, 9:15 & 9:55 p.m.

**GRIDIRON GANG (PG-13) ★★★** *Century 20:* 2, 4:50 & 7:40 p.m.

**THE GRUDGE 2 (PG-13)** *Century 20:* 11:45 a.m. & 10:20 p.m.

**THE GUARDIAN (PG-13) ★★½** *Century 20:* 11:30 a.m.; 2:25, 5:25 & 8:30 p.m.

**HARSH TIMES (R)** *Century 12:* 12:50, 3:45, 7:30 & 10:20 p.m.

**THE ILLUSIONIST (PG-13) ★★★** *Century 20:* 11:35 a.m.; 1:55, 4:20, 6:50 & 9:25 p.m.

**THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND (R) ★★★½** *Century 16:* 12:55, 3:55, 6:45 & 9:30 p.m.

**LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE (R) ★★★** *Century 20:* Noon, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10 & 9:35 p.m. *Aquarius:* 2:10, 4:30, 7 & 9:20 p.m.

**MAN OF THE YEAR (PG-13) ★★★** *Century 20:* 11:40 a.m.; 2:15, 4:50, 7:35 & 10:10 p.m.

**MARIE ANTOINETTE (PG-13) ★½** *Century 16:* 11:10 a.m.; 1:50, 4:35, 7:25 & 10:05 p.m. *Century 12:* 12:05, 3:40, 7:05 & 10:25 p.m.

**THE MUPPET MOVIE (1979) (G)** *Aquarius:* Fri. & Sat. at midnight; Sat. & Sun. at noon.

**OPEN SEASON (PG)** *Century 12:* Noon, 2:15 & 4:30 p.m.

**THE PRESTIGE (PG-13) ½** *Century 16:* 11:05 a.m.; 1:55, 4:45, 7:35 & 10:20 p.m. *Century 12:* 12:40, 4:25, 7:35 & 10:35 p.m.

**THE QUEEN (NOT RATED) ★★★★** *Century 20:* 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:15 & 9:40 p.m. *Palo Alto Square:* 1:15, 2, 3:35, 4:20, 6:15, 7, 8:45 & 9:25 p.m.; Sat. also at 11:30 a.m.

**THE RETURN (NOT RATED)** *Century 12:* 12:35, 1:40, 3, 4, 5:25, 6:30, 7:50, 8:55 & 10:10 p.m.

**RUNNING WITH SCISSORS (R) ★★** *Century 12:* 7:25 & 10:15 p.m.

**THE SANTA CLAUSE 3: THE ESCAPE CLAUSE (G)** *Century 16:* 11:55 a.m.; 1, 2:15, 3:20, 4:30, 5:40, 7:10, 7:55, 9:35 & 10:20 p.m. *Century 20:* 11:35 a.m.; 12:50, 2, 3:20, 4:25, 5:50, 7, 8:15, 9:20 & 10:30 p.m.

**SAW III (R)** *Century 20:* 11:45 a.m.; 2:20, 4:55, 7:30 & 10 p.m.

**THE SCIENCE OF SLEEP (R)** *Aquarius:* 2:50, 5:10 & 7:40 p.m.

**SHORTBUS (NOT RATED) ★★** *Aquarius:* 10 p.m.

**STEP UP (PG-13)** *Century 20:* 5 & 7:25 p.m.

**STRANGER THAN FICTION (PG-13)** *Century 16:* 11:25 a.m.; 2:25, 5:05, 7:55 & 10:30 p.m. *Century 20:* 11:55 a.m.; 1:15, 2:30, 3:50, 5:05, 6:25, 7:40, 9 & 10:15 p.m.

*Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.*

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

**CENTURY CINEMA 16:** 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (960-0970)

**CENTURY PARK 12:** 557 E. Bayshore Blvd., Redwood City (365-9000)

**CENTURY 20 DOWNTOWN:** 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City (369-3456)

**CINEARTS AT PALO ALTO SQUARE:** 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (493-3456)

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

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

For show times, plot synopses and more information about any films playing at the Aquarius and Guild, visit [www.landmarktheatres.com](http://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](http://www.mv-voice.com)

and click on movies.



### MOVIE REVIEWS

#### CATCH A FIRE ★★½

(Century 12) Politically aware director Philip Noyce ("The Quiet American") tackles the apartheid era by focusing on a journey to freedom. In a story that takes place in the 1980s, Patrick Chamusso (Derek Luke) is a good man, a devoted father and husband to Precious (Bonnie Henna), holding down a decent job as a foreman at the local South African oil refinery. A series of unfortunate events turns Patrick's world on its ear as he is summarily arrested for participating in sabotage at the plant. Patrick is forced to endure hours of tortuous interrogation under the watchful eye of Nic Vos (Tim Robbins), a colonel in South Africa's feared Police Security Branch. When Vos gets his dirty hands on Precious, Patrick is stunned into action and immediately reorganizes his priorities, leaving Precious and his two small daughters behind to turn rebel warrior and political operative. Patrick's heroics, preachy to a fault, culminate in a treacherous message: we can never be free unless we learn to forgive. Words to live by, but I want them backed up with emotional and political punch. Rated: PG-13 for torture, violence and some language. 1 hour, 40 minutes. — J.A.



#### FLUSHED AWAY ★★★

(Century 16, Century 12) From "An American Tail" to "Stuart Little," mice have long sat atop the animation throne on television and in film. The latest rodent to squeak across the screen is a sheltered British mouse named Roddy (voiced by Hugh Jackman). Roddy enjoys the posh lifestyle of a pampered pet, but loneliness and solitude have forced him to befriend plastic action figures as though they were family. Roddy's life goes topsy-turvy when a surly rat invades his lush loft and flushes Roddy down the toilet, where he winds up in the sewer city of Ratropolis. A chance meeting with a passionate rodent (Kate Winslet as Rita) lands Roddy in direct conflict with Toad (Sir Ian McKellen), a pompous Ratropolis mobster. Roddy and Rita quickly find themselves hunted by Toad's gang of inept thugs and a suave French mercenary, Le Frog (Jean Reno), as they endeavor to get Roddy home. This collaboration between DreamWorks Animation ("Shrek") and Aardman Features ("Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit") is one of the most outright enjoyable films of the year, an imaginative and entertaining ride from the very first flush. Rated: PG for crude humor and some language. 1 hour, 25 minutes. — T.H.

#### MARIE ANTOINETTE ★½

(Century 16, Century 12) Watching "Marie Antoinette," you may learn more about writer and director Sofia Coppola than

# Bonkers for 'Borat'

CRAZED COMEDIAN'S TREK ACROSS AMERICA LAUGHS AT EVERYONE'S EXPENSE

By Jeanne Aufmuth

**B**atten down the hatches and hide the children, because Borat is coming to town.

That's Borat Sagdiyev to you and me, a sex-crazed, obscenity-spouting Kazakhstani reporter for a state-owned TV network who's crossing the U.S. of A. in search of the pulse of mainstream America. This search is so laden with high jinks, they made a movie out of it and called it "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan."

As Borat (British comedian Sacha Baron Cohen) zigzags his way across the country, he interviews all manner of unsuspecting Americans eager to help a foreigner in need. No one is immune to Borat's outrageous antics, thinly disguised as "charming" cultural misunderstandings. Take, for instance, the hapless wine-tasters club members, who show Borat to the powder room half-

## MOVIE REVIEW

way through dinner only to see him return to the table with a doggy bag of his own feces (you had to be there).

While stateside, Borat catches a late-night re-run of "Baywatch" and falls head-over-heels for the bodacious Pamela Anderson, vowing to travel to California to make her his wife. His reasoning? "She have teeth that only grow on inside of mouth, and her arms are so slenderous that she does not look strong to punch a horse to sleep." Whatever floats your boat.

Throughout the movie, Borat's humor crosses every line of decency and taste — scatological, anti-Semitic, sexist and per-

## MOVIE NOTES

**Stars:** \*\*\*1/2

**Rating:** R for obscenities and nudity

**Run Time:** 1 hour, 22 minutes

vasively offensive. But it's damn funny, too. Sure, it flags a bit in the third act — not to mention the nude wrestling match with obese producer/sidekick Azamat Bagatov (Ken Davitian), which tips the scales to repulsive.

Borat's beloved homeland is the butt of many of Baron Cohen's preposterous jokes. It is, he claims, a small country that boasts fermented horse urine as its national wine and forbids women to drive cars, comparing such an inconceivable act to that of a monkey flying a plane. Rumor has it that the powers-that-be of real-life Kazakhstan are not amused, and have even threatened to sue.

But Baron Cohen is an equal opportunity offender, as his own background demonstrates: He is devoutly Jewish, yet "Borat" is liberally sprinkled with nasty anti-Jewish sentiment.

## MINI REVIEWS

► *Continued from page 22*

about the 14-year-old who journeyed from Austria to France to marry the Dauphin who would later become King Louis XVI. Fashion, food, sex and post-punk music are at the center of this pretty-as-a-picture but boring biopic of Marie Antoinette. Depicted as giggly and girly, the future queen of France (Kirsten Dunst) is a foreigner disliked



**Sacha Baron Cohen** as Borat in "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan."

Credit Baron Cohen with the guts to go out on a comic limb with this vulgar yet courageous fish-out-of-water tale and wacky

mockumentary adventure that's destined to become a cult-classic — plucky, uproarious and totally uncompromising. ▀

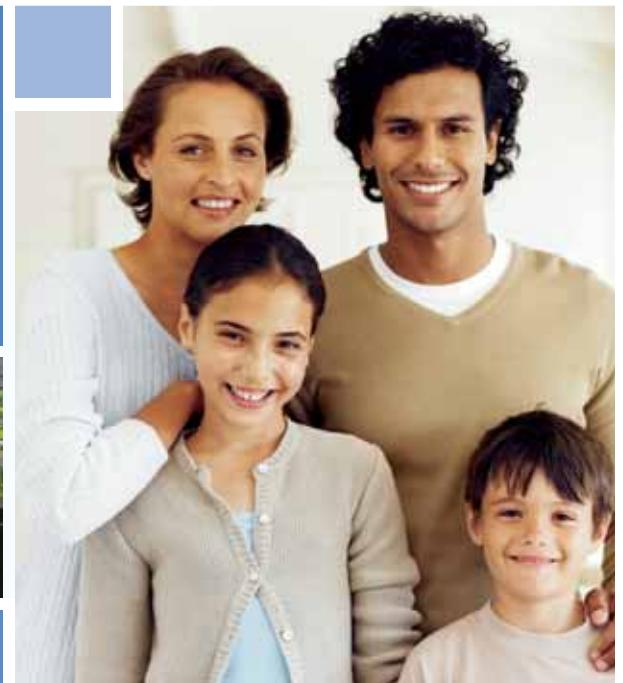
substance, leaving you as undernourished as the French in the bread-shortage months preceding the revolution. Rated: PG-13 for sexual content, partial nudity and innuendo. 1 hour, 58 minutes. — S.T.

## MOVIE CRITICS

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

# home equity LOANS

Star One has them.



Lock in your rate now with a **Fixed-Rate**  
Home Equity Loan from Star One!

**STAR ONE**  
CREDIT UNION

**Sunnyvale**

166 8th Ave. 10991 N. De Anza Blvd.  
*De Anza & Homestead Rd.*

[www.starone.org](http://www.starone.org)

(866) 543-5202 • (408) 543-5202  
*Toll-Free*

**San Jose**

1090 Blossom Hill Rd.  
*Blossom Hill & Almaden Expy.*

**Low fixed rate**

**No closing costs on  
loans up to \$200,000**



We do business in accordance with the Federal Fair Housing Law and the Equal Credit Opportunity Act

Rates and terms apply to California owner-occupied residences. You must provide adequate insurance and a clear title to the property so that the Star One Credit Union Home Equity Loan will appear in second position. The amount of the loan and the amount of the first trust deed may not exceed 80% of the market value of the home up to \$800,000. The maximum Star One real estate loan to any member is limited to \$2 million (cumulative total). Star One charges no loan-related fees on loans up to \$200,000. For loans exceeding \$200,000, closing costs and appraisal fees may apply in the appropriate range of \$800-\$1,200. Fees, rates and costs are subject to change. Other terms and conditions apply. All loans subject to credit qualifications.

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Complimentary...  
**Homebuyers Seminar**  
Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> - 7pm  
RSVP Now 650.625.0111 - Limited seating



[www.965KatherineCourt.com](http://www.965KatherineCourt.com)

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



**1580 W. El Camino Real, Mountain View**

Professional office condominium located close to downtown Mountain View. Attractive downstairs unit in a 2-story building. Currently divided into 3 private rooms and a reception area. Perfect for accounting, law, insurance, chiropractor, or real estate office! DSL and A/C available. Rent includes water and garbage.



**808 Lenzen Unit 113, San Jose**

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

**\$520,000**



**808 Lenzen Ave. Unit 114, San Jose**

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

**\$499,999**



**808 Lenzen Ave. Unit 117, San Jose**

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

**\$520,000**



**108 Balbach St. Unit 2, San Jose**

Beautiful new, 3 bedrooms and 2.5 bathroom townhouse style, condos located downtown in the heart of San Jose! Master suite is on top level. Skylights. Living room has fireplace. Kitchen has granite countertops and maple cabinets. This luxury downtown living has direct access to shopping and all major freeways.

**\$659,999**



**108 Balbach St. Unit 8, San Jose**

Beautiful new, 3 bedrooms and 2.5 bathroom townhouse style, condos located downtown in the heart of San Jose! Master suite is on top level. Skylights. Living room has fireplace. Kitchen has granite countertops and maple cabinets. This luxury downtown living has direct access to shopping and all major freeways!

**\$659,999**

**LOCATED IN THE ❤ HEART ❤ OF THE SILICON VALLEY**  
830 E EL CAMINO REAL, MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94040  
**650.625.0111 | 408.255.4116**