

Mountain View VOICE

MAY 25, 2007 VOLUME 15, NO. 21

INSIDE: WEEKEND | PAGE 20

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The roads both taken

Painter with a
European flair

ARTS&EVENTS| P.29



SAM TENNEY

FULL SPEED AHEAD

Los Altos High School students from the dodgeball team "Los Luchadores" participate in the school's annual dodgeball tournament, held during lunch time in the gymnasium from May 16 to May 25. Created as a way to bolster school spirit, the tournament this year has 70 teams made up of staff and students. Teams also compete to win for the best costumes.

Residents march to keep neighborhood schools

LOS ALTOS DISTRICT'S
BOUNDARY CHANGES
ARE FOCUS OF PROTEST

By Alexa Tondreau

Members of Mountain View's North of El Camino Neighborhood Coalition concerned about impending school boundary changes came out in force for Monday's Los Altos School District board meeting, marching with nearly 40 participants to Egan Junior High School, where

the meeting was held.

The marchers — all of whom live in the northern-most part of the school district in the city of Mountain View — held banners and signs, asking for fair treatment during the negotiations process of boundary changes in the school district.

The coalition is made up of seven core members, most of whom live in the Crossings neighborhood but say they represent parents from the Del Medio, Showers Drive and Monroe Park neighborhoods as well.

Residents living north of El

Camino hope to lessen the impact of boundary changes by keeping students at Almond and Santa Rita elementary schools in their neighborhood. To date, the coalition has collected 1,147 signatures from parents, asking the district to allow students to attend their neighborhood schools.

The district says it must restructure its boundary lines due to overcrowding in the north sectors of the district. But with the majority of schools located in the south, the district said some students

► See **BOUNDARIES**, page 16

City attorney opens door for farm

COUNCIL HAS WIDE LATITUDE TO ZONE PROPERTY
FOR HOUSING, AGRICULTURE

By Daniel DeBolt

The battle isn't over for the Grant Road farm — city officials say it's still very possible that five of the 15 acres could be zoned for agricultural use.

Owners Pauline King and Betty Moore warned at the May 8 City Council meeting that any further delays in annexing the agricultural land for housing development would place "an economic burden on two senior citizens."

The Mountain View Farmlands Group — a citizens' group advocating some farm use of the land — had proposed that the sisters donate five acres, worth \$18 million, to be kept as farmland. The donation, the group suggested, would allow the sisters to receive a tax deduction worth as much as \$8 million.

The idea was harshly criticized by the owners' attorney, Lex Watson, who said the sisters would not qualify for such a deduction.

City Attorney Michael Martello confirmed that a tax deduction would not be allowed by the IRS because the request would be linked to a development.

"Even if they wanted to do it ... it would be disallowed; that's my understanding," Martello said. "People have tried to do it in the past. If it is connected at all to a development proposal, they universally say no to it."

Martello also said that whether the owners can receive tax benefits "should be of no concern when the city makes its decision."

Council member Matt Pear said he "respectfully disagreed" with the city attorney's analysis.

"In essence, what you are doing is an eminent domain action," Pear said. "Basically you can't force

someone to be in a business. You can't force someone to sell land either. That means it's a public taking. I think this would go to a jury trial. The jury would ask 'what's the surrounding zoning?' It's an eminent domain action cloaked in a rezoning verbiage. That sums it up I think."

Council member Jac Siegel, often seen as the swing vote on the issue, explained what he understood after doing his research.

"The key operative is, we can do whatever we want," Siegel said. "(The owners) don't have any entitlement for the land. The argument people are missing is that the

► See **FARMS**, page 11

Council sets goals for next year

COMMUNITY CENTER,
CLIMATE CHANGE
INITIATIVE AT TOP
OF LIST

By Daniel DeBolt

During a five-and-a-half-hour meeting Tuesday night, the City Council approved a list of pursuits for the 2007-08 fiscal year that include a climate change initiative, planning a new community center and a senior advisory committee.

► See **COUNCIL**, page 10

INSIDE

GOINGS ON 26 | MARKETPLACE 32 | MOVIES 23 | REAL ESTATE 39 | VIEWPOINT 17

REDEFINING QUALITY SINCE 1990
Reading between the emotional line makes the difference between finding a house and a home.

Chuck & Tori Atwell



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Sharon & Marcella



MOUNTAIN VIEW ■ Historical property. Bring your hammer, nails + imagination to restore this cute Bungalow. 2bd/1ba with LR, DR, kitchen. Detached garage. **\$599,000**

Ryan Gowdy



SUNNYVALE ■ Great condo with large living room + dining room. 3bd/2.5ba offering updated plumbing fixtures, fresh paint + Berber carpet. 2 parking spaces. **\$598,000**

Ryan Gowdy



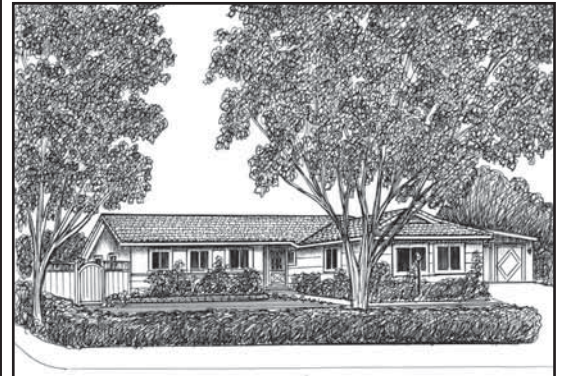
SUNNYVALE ■ Recently remodeled 3bd/2ba with spacious family room and kitchen. Cherry cabinets, granite, hardwood floors + more! Private back yard. **\$925,000**

Ginny Zachow



SUNNYVALE ■ Dramatic 3bd/2.5ba town home in the sought after Traditions complex. This turn-key is a must see. 2013+/- sf. New paint and carpet. **\$715,000**

Karen Bella



MOUNTAIN VIEW ■ Cuesta Park charmer offering 3 bedrooms, 2 baths + separate family room. HW floors, new carpets + double-pane windows. 1638+/- sf. **\$1,029,999**

Susan Sweeley



MOUNTAIN VIEW ■ Los Altos Schools. Updated 4bd/2.5ba home with granite kitchen + gorgeous hardwood floors and vaulted ceilings. Central AC. 3-car garage. **\$1,495,000**

Barb Conkin-Orrrock



SUNNYVALE ■ Nicely updated and maintained duplex. Two units: Each with 1bd/1ba + double-paned windows, fireplaces and updated kitchens. **\$749,000**

Margaret Grant



MOUNTAIN VIEW ■ Light and bright 1bd/1ba with remodeled kitchen, skylights, Berber carpeting and plenty of storage. 2 patio doors. Great location. **\$380,000**

Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in Downtown Mountain View. Pictures and interviews by Molly Stenhouse.

What's your opinion on the Senate's proposed immigration reforms?



"I don't think the immigrants will pay the fine. They're busboys — they don't have the \$5,000. They don't want a lot. They don't have a lot."

Michael Donehue, Mountain View



"The Senate is just trying to appease Congress with a tariff. (The fine is) blatant capitalism. The immigrants should be allowed to stay, because many have been working here forever."

Shawn Surry, San Jose



"The proposed plan is a little unfair to legal residents working to get their green card. My friend works at Walgreens and has been trying legally to get her green card for years."

Tanya Tran, Milpitas



"I don't necessarily agree with illegal immigrants, but they shouldn't be sent home to apply for citizenship. They should stay here and do some government-sponsored work, paying taxes while they work towards becoming legal citizens."

Kiran Khanna, with daughter **Raya**, Saratoga



"People who live in this country have more than enough. We should help those who come here for a better life. I worked in restaurants with illegal immigrants. They're hard-working and deserve a chance. Restaurants will continue looking the other way because they need cheap labor."

Stacey Collver, Milpitas

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- Tuesdays, June 5 - 26
- * **BREASTFEEDING SEMINAR**
While breastfeeding is natural, the process may not come as naturally as one might expect. Our certified lactation consultant provides tips for breastfeeding success as well as information about prenatal preparation for breastfeeding.
- Thursday, June 21
- * **INFANT & CHILD CPR**
As part of our "Baby Safe Program," parents and other childcare providers will learn the techniques of infant and young child CPR and obtain essential information about environmental and transportation safety for newborns.
- Sunday, June 24
- * **CHILDBIRTH CLASS IN THE CITY**
Come learn about childbirth preparation in a retreat-like setting at the Hotel Monaco in San Francisco. This course includes breakfast and lunch for two at the hotel, as well as participation in breastfeeding and cesarean birth classes.
- Saturday, July 14

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■ CRIMEWATCH

ROBBERY, 1900 BLOCK LATHAM ST., 5/17

A man carrying a case of beer was robbed of all his money and the beer he had just bought. Two hooded males approached the man and demanded the money and beer. The man gave it over without struggle and the thieves fled in a tan Honda Accord. The robbers wore their hooded sweatshirts pulled so tight over their heads that only their eyes were showing.

PEEPING TOM, 1900 BLOCK CALIFORNIA ST., 5/20

A man hiding in some bushes spied on a woman through her window. He was spotted by another resident of the

apartment complex, who reported him to the police. When the suspect noticed the police officers, he ran towards the rear of the complex, but the officers found and arrested him.

ROBBERY, SFV LODGE, 5/19

A mob of men carrying knives and yelling gang terms accosted family members who were just leaving an SFV Lodge party. The men, described as Hispanic, approached the young adult and his parents and demanded their money. A man stole the mother's purse, and then the mob left heading eastward. The members of the group were described as wearing black and red clothing.

■ POLICELOG

AUTO BURGLARY

700 block Middlefield Rd. 5/13
200 block Franklin St. 5/13
700 block W. Dana St. 5/13
400 block Stierlen Rd. 5/16
2000 block Montecito Ave. 5/17
1200 block Grant Rd. 5/18

BATTERY

2600 block Grant Rd. 5/13
300 block Escuela Ave. 5/13
Jack in the Box 5/16
Molly Magee's 5/17
700 block W. El Camino Real 5/17
St. Joseph's School 5/19

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

Nob Hill Foods 5/13

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Mervyns Dept. Store 5/16

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

2000 block Latham St. 5/16
1000 block Crestview Dr. 5/16
400 block Tyrella Ave. 5/17

FORGERY

Mi Pueblo 5/18

GRAND THEFT

2400 block Grant Rd. 5/13
Target 5/16
500 block Casto St. 5/18

IDENTITY THEFT

1800 block Colony St. 5/17
1300 block Lubich Dr. 5/17

MISSING PERSON

2000 block Rialto Ct. 5/16
700 block Church St. 5/18

NARCOTICS POSSESSION

900 block E. El Camino Real 5/13

PETTY THEFT

700 block W. Middlefield Rd. 5/13
1300 block Marilyn Dr. 5/13
500 block Thompson Ave. 5/13
1500 block Meadow Ln. 5/13
Mervyns Dept. Store 5/16
100 block Moffett Blvd. 5/18
200 block Castro St. 5/18
500 block Showers Dr. 5/19
Rite Aid (Grant) 5/19

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

1800 block California St. 5/16

STOLEN VEHICLE

Shell (Sylvan) 5/16
600 block Franklin St. 5/18
1500 block N. Shoreline Ave. 5/19

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES/PERSON

700 block Sierra Vista Ave. 5/13
700 block Continental Cir. 5/13
2400 block W. El Camino Real 5/16
10 block Paul Ave. 5/17
500 block S. Rengstorff Ave. 5/17
1800 block Hackett Ave. 5/18

ROBBERY

1900 block Latham St. 5/17
Del Medio Avenue/Miller Avenue 5/19
SFV Lodge 5/19

VANDALISM

2200 block California St. 5/13
10 block N. Whisman Rd. 5/13
10 block Easy St. 5/13
1500 block California St. 5/17
1700 block E. Evelyn Ave. 5/18
1900 block Miramonte Ave. 5/19

SPEAKING UP
SINCE 1992

THE
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VOICE

Language learners recognized

By Alexa Tondreau

The Mountain View Whisman school district celebrated its first-ever “Reclassification Celebration” at Castro School on Monday night, where school officials sent a clear message — hard work pays off.

The event was held for 113 students in grades 3-8 who achieved the classification of “Fluent English Proficient.” The students met the criteria for reclassification based on their scores on the California English Language Development Test and the California Standards Test, and through classroom performance.

“Your teachers had to recommend you to be here tonight,” Associate Superintendent Mary Lairon told the crowd of students and family members.

Each student was brought on stage and received a certificate of recognition and a medallion.

District data shows 42 percent of students speak a language other than English at home.

Among the students recognized, 17 different languages are spoken at home. The most common is Spanish, which is spoken by 60 students.

Other languages include Bengali, Burmese, Cantonese, Filipino, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish, Tongan, Urdu and Vietnamese.

“Becoming fluent in English can be a daunting task for students whose parents may not have the English skills to support them with homework,” said Judy Crates, director of English-language learners. “Sometimes their time in school is their only exposure to English.”

Reclassification is an annual process throughout the state of California. Each district must review the progress of its English language learners and determine if they are ready to move to “Fluent English Proficient.”

The district has increased resources this year to help students gain English fluency. A newly formed language immersion program, called the “newcomer” class, is now in place at Monta Loma. Students entering the district who test as “English language learners” spend one year in the program, which

► See **LANGUAGES**, page 9



NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

Marco Garcia (left) and Arturo Noriega work as at risk intervention supervisors at Graham and Crittenden middle schools. Childhood friends, the counselors try to prevent gang activity among Mountain View students.

Turning off gang infatuation

INTERVENTION STARTS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL WITH SPECIAL COUNSELORS

By Alexa Tondreau

Sitting in his office at Graham Middle School, counselor Marco Garcia displays the gang-related paraphernalia he has confiscated from students just this week.

There’s a folded blue bandanna a student wore in his pocket, signifying the Sureños gang, and several drawings another

student made on binder paper, depicting gang members, weapons and gang logos.

Garcia has also printed out several pages from a student’s Myspace Web page, where the student at the grade 6 to 8 school had posted pictures of himself and his brother wearing red clothing, surrounded by images of the number 14 — an

important Norteno marker — and making the hand sign for the Norteños, the other most prevalent gang in the area.

“The kids are getting involved at a younger age,” Garcia said, adding “more and more I’m seeing girls getting into it.”

Last year, the Mountain View Whisman school district hired Garcia and childhood friend Arturo Noriega to work as at-risk intervention supervisors at Graham and Crittenden middle schools respectively, where intervening during the for-



► See **GANGS**, page 7

Editor’s Note: The colors and paraphernalia of local gangs are showing up more frequently in local middle schools, a phenomenon that worries officials of the Mountain View Whisman school

district. To combat the growing problem, a team of special counselors has been hired to intervene with students and help them steer clear of gang activity.

In this third installment of the

series *Gangs in Mountain View*, staff writer Alexa Tondreau visits Marco Garcia and Arturo Noriega, the district’s front line in the effort to give students the support they need to turn away from gang activity.

Bulk rate solar offered to local firms

LARRY’S AUTOWORKS AND OTHERS EXPECTED TO JOIN BY END OF MONTH

By Daniel DeBolt

While the strong support from homeowners to purchase solar energy systems has made the headlines recently, there is also a program for businesses that will end May 31.

“Federal tax credits are even juicier for commercial users,” said Bruce Karney, the local resident who recently organized the 117-home group buy with Solar City.

After all federal rebates and grants are factored in, Solar City says, a system worth \$574,000 would cost just \$133,000. Larry Moore of Larry’s Autoworks said his system would cost about \$300,000 before rebates, but added that it would quickly pay for itself because the shop’s electrical bill is \$1,800 a month.

“We’re an environmental shop,” Moore said. “We are the ones who started the whole environmental shop movement several years ago. Secondly it looks like in a few years we would actually lower our electric bill — we would actually be selling power to PG&E.”

Karney said that unfortunately many businesses lease or rent their property, which means the long-term investment makes little sense for them.

According to Solar City, several businesses have expressed interest in purchasing up to 72 kilowatts of solar panels. If the homebuyers program is any indication, the company might see a surge of businesses sign up before the May 31 deadline.

Solar buyers group reaches 118 homes

Recent developments have caused the electrical meters at several Mountain View homes to run backwards.

Bruce Karney is one resident happily afflicted with the problem. When his solar panels were switched on two weeks ago it was a cause for celebration. Last month he managed to convince

► See **SOLAR**, page 9

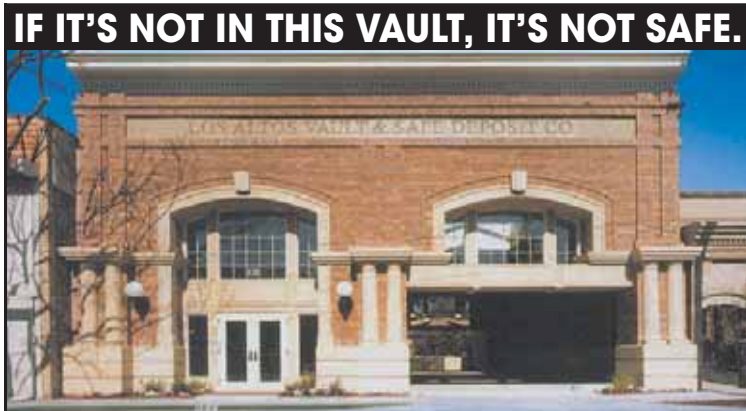
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Horn player



"I was walking back to my car [one] evening when I heard this trumpet player warming up in the back alley behind the Dana Street Roasting Co.," wrote Bob Murata of Granada Drive. "He must have come out of a back door to the Atlantis discotheque which is next door. He was only there for a few minutes, but it was a treat to listen to him play."

If you have a photo taken around town which you'd like published in the Voice, please send it (as a jpg attachment) to editor@mv-voice.com.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

'GRATEFUL LIFE' EVENT, BLOOD DRIVE JUNE 2

Stanford Blood Center and Elephant Pharm are making a real event out of their joint blood drive and bone marrow registration drive, set for Saturday, June 2. In addition to the drives, the "Grateful Life" event will feature free food, live music, and booths and speakers on green products and services.

Set for noon to 4 p.m., the event will be held at Elephant Pharm's Los Altos location at 4470 El Camino Real.

Participants may bring their mercury thermometers and outdated or unused medications to the event for safe disposal and free thermometer replacement. Mercury thermometers should be double-sealed in plastic bags, and drugs should be in their original containers with contact information marked out.

Free blood pressure and hemoglobin testing will be available. Participants also may enter drawings for gifts.

The Stanford Blood Center is a nonprofit, community-based blood collection and research center that provides volunteer

blood donations to patients in seven area hospitals. Blood donors should be in good health, with no cold or flu symptoms; they must eat well prior to donation, drink fluids and present photo identification. For more information or to schedule an appointment to donate, call (650) 723-7331 or (888) 723-7831; or visit <http://bloodcenter.stanford.edu>.

DYLAN THOMAS CLASSIC ON FOOHILL STAGE

Foothill College drama students will perform Dylan Thomas' "Under Milk Wood" from June 1 through 16.

The stage play, directed by Tom Gough, is a 20th century classic that brings to life the idiosyncrasies of a time-gone-by Welsh fishing village and its lovable, odd characters and occurrences.

Performances will be in the Playhouse Theater (Room 1301) at Foothill College in Los Altos Hills. Show time is 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, June 10.

General admission tickets are \$16; students and seniors pay

\$12, and students with an Owl-Card pay \$8. Discount group tickets are also available.

Parking (student lots 1 and 6 only) is included in the ticket price. Purchase tickets online at <http://www.foothill.edu/fa> or call (650) 949-7360.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR KIDS' MUSIC PROGRAM

Music for Minors is looking for volunteers to help provide music education to local elementary school classes. Volunteers visit K-3 classrooms once a week throughout the school year. No formal music background is required.

Training for the 2007-2008 school year begins in September and includes basic music theory, songs and games, rhythm and movement activities, lesson planning, and classroom strategies.

Two volunteer information meetings are set for Tuesday, May 29, 7 to 8 p.m. in Redwood City; and Thursday, May 31, 10 to 11 a.m. at Music for Minors in Mountain View.

For more information, call Music for Minors at (650) 237-9130 or visit www.mfm.org.

GANGS

► Continued from page 5

mative middle school years seems critical.

"Middle school is crazy," Noriega said. "That's where it all happens and these kids get on that path."

Noriega joined Garcia at Graham last week to speak with the *Voice* about the presence of gangs at Graham and Crittenden. The two started by clearing up a misconception — that the pre-teen students they deal with are too young to be actual gang members.

"They are more 'wanna-be's,' but those are the kids you watch out for," Garcia said.

"They're going to try to prove themselves somehow," Noriega added.

Initiating violent acts to prove one's reputation is a key for gaining acceptance in gangs like the Norteños, Sureños and the Brown Prides, they said, and the two have witnessed fights break out on school grounds.

Garcia recalled an incident early in the school year when he came across two girls fighting at the far end of Graham's softball field, surrounded by classmates, where they thought he wouldn't see them.

"I looked back and I saw punches being thrown," he said. After breaking up the fight and questioning the girls, he discovered the fight was rooted in gang rivalry.

"It was a gang thing. It started in the streets over winter break and then made its way to campus," he said.

Garcia and Noriega said that the "at-risk" students who might be headed in the wrong direction come in all shapes and sizes.

"Every child is potentially at risk," Garcia said. "I don't care if they are coming down from the hills or if they live in the ghetto. There are consequences to every decision they make."

But some important indicators do exist, Garcia said, most reliably academic performance. At the beginning of the year, Garcia was handed a list of 60 students who had GPAs below 2.0.

"Most of the time their grades correlate with the behavior. That's a marriage right there," he said.

Beyond reviewing report cards and test scores, Garcia and Noriega look closely at whom the students associate with and how involved they are with school and extracurricular activities. Students who seem to care only about their social standing in their peer group, to the exclusion of interest in sports or grades, are definitely seen as "at-risk," they said.

An important remedial step is to take as much time as they can to talk with students about their lives and in many ways, they said, this is the most fulfilling and challenging aspect of their jobs.

"I'll be kind of like their home-boy," Garcia said. "I tell them 'I am not your principal, teacher or your mom and dad. So you can stop acting like a punk with me and just chill out.'"

Once comfortable, the students often reveal that despite their young age — 11 to 14 years old — they face multiple sources of pressure and stress, including from their family situations, from the culture of the neighborhoods in which they live, and from academic and peer pressures.

"I have students break down in my office every day," Noriega concurred.

The two men often call in parents to provide additional intervention, but parental involvement isn't as easy as one would think, Garcia said.

Students will showcase gang colors and logos on their clothing, backpacks and binders, but parents still won't believe their children are at risk.

"We bring parents in and they are clueless. I get a lot of 'Not my child, I know my kid.' But every child lives a dual childhood, and no one tells their parents everything," Garcia said. "So we have to mentor the students and their parents."

Garcia recently recommended to a student's concerned mother that she "get rid of all his red clothes, his cell phone and computer," he said. Garcia said the Internet has become ample ground for gang rivalries, but also serves as an important tool to discern whether or not students are being drawn towards gangs.

He recalled a meeting last week with the parents of a 12-year-old girl. The parents were worried that her erratic behavior was a sign of drug use and other correlating behavior. Garcia was able to locate her Myspace Web page, where a picture of her boyfriend was prominently displayed.

"He's a well known Sureno," Garcia said. "Her parents were completely shocked. And while she isn't a Sureno herself yet, we knew she was associating with them. And that's where it starts."

Parents need to be wary and watchful, both men agreed.

Garcia and Noriega regularly hang out around students both on campus and off. The two men will walk around neighborhoods like Latham Street and California Avenue, known gang territories, looking for familiar faces to talk to.

The neighborhoods they patrol aren't far from where the two grew up, living just six houses away from each other. Both were students at Graham and agree that at one point they were as susceptible to negative influences as any child they see in their offices.

"We have friends who are dead, and some are in prison," Noriega said.

► See **GANGS**, page 9

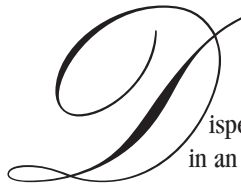
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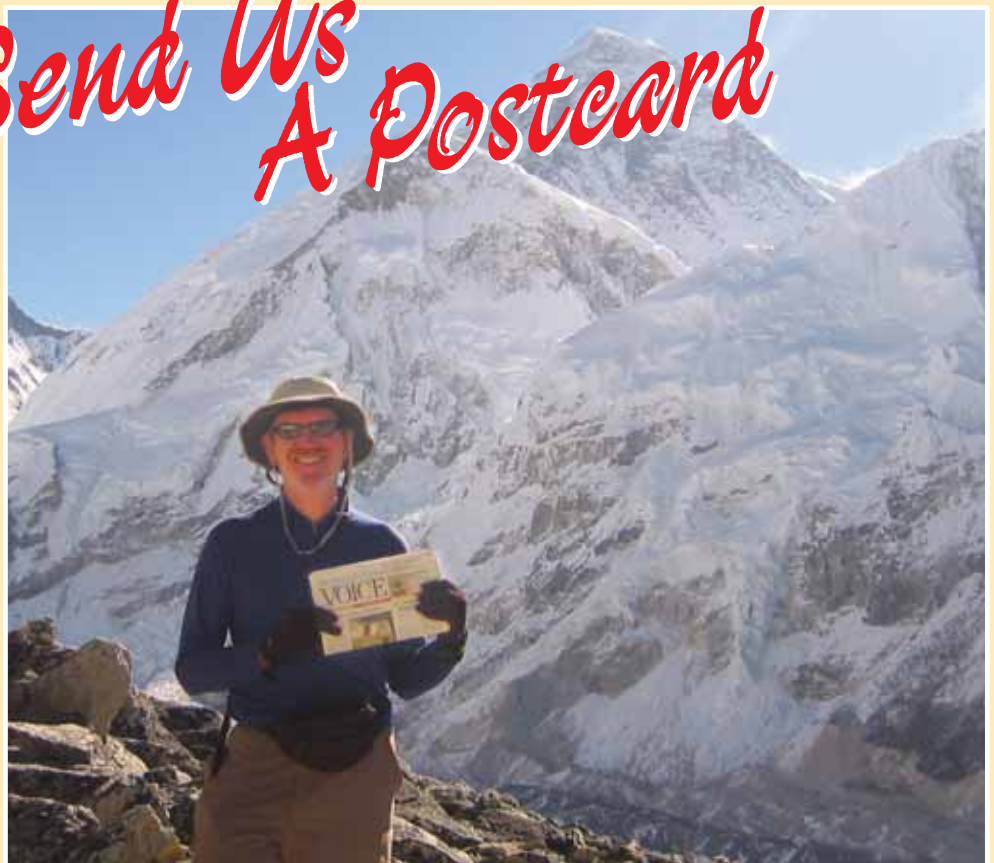


Photo of Tom Miller during a Nepal trekking trip at Kala Patthar with Mount Everest in the background

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CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARINGS OF THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO REVIEW THE FISCAL YEAR 2007-08 PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGETS, PROPOSED WATER, WASTEWATER AND SOLID WASTE RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL RATES AND VARIOUS CITY FEES:

- CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MOUNTAIN VIEW REVITALIZATION AUTHORITY
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MOUNTAIN VIEW SHORELINE REGIONAL PARK COMMUNITY
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FINANCING AUTHORITY

Notice is hereby given that Tuesday, the 5th day of June, 2007 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard in the Council Chamber, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View, has been set as the time and place for a public hearing to receive citizen input on the use of funds in the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Proposed Annual Budget; on the use of funds for the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Capital Improvement Program and Community Development Block Grant, on proposed water, wastewater and solid waste recycling and disposal rates and various city fees. In addition, the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Capital Improvement Program is scheduled for final adoption on Tuesday, June 5, 2007. A separate public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12 at 6:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard to receive citizen input and collect ballots from owners of property located within the City limits regarding the proposed increases to water, wastewater and solid waste recycling and disposal rates. The budget is scheduled for a final public hearing and adoption on Tuesday, June 12, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard. If you are unable to attend these meetings but would like the City Council and staff to know your views, please send a letter to the City Council, P.O. Box 7540, Mountain View, California 94039, or an e-mail to city.clerk@mountainview.gov by Wednesday, May 30, 2007 for the June 5 public hearing or Wednesday, June 6, 2007 for the June 12 public hearing.

Copies of the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Proposed Budget, the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Proposed Capital Improvement Program, supporting documentation for proposed water, wastewater and solid waste disposal and recycling rates and various city fees will be available for review after 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 31, 2007 at City Hall in the City Clerks Office, 500 Castro Street, 3rd Floor, Mountain View, Monday through Friday, and at the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St, Mountain View. The documents can also be found on the City's website at www.mountainview.gov

Dated this 15th day of May, 2007.

Robert F. Locke
Finance and Administrative Services Director

Wide effort to counter gangs

POLICE, OTHER COMMUNITY GROUPS COMBINE TO COMBAT PROBLEM

By Alexa Tondreau

As at-risk intervention supervisors for the city's two middle schools, Marco Garcia and Arturo Noriega collaborate with several local organizations that provide support, information and various resources to help combat the gang problem throughout the city of Mountain View.

The two, who are employed by the Mountain View Whisman school district, regularly plan fieldtrips in conjunction with city's gang task force, which was formed in 2005 as a response to an increase in local gang activity.

The task force is made up of representatives from local school districts, the Mountain View and Los Altos police departments, the Santa Clara County Probation Department, the YMCA, Mesa de la Comunidad and other groups. It is an offshoot of the collaborative known as the Challenge Team, which focuses on helping children and their families in Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills.

This year the task force has helped the counselors organize two trips to San Jose State University, where at-risk students were given a tour of the campus and the chance to get a glimpse of college life. They also received some helpful information about what it takes to get into to San Jose State — namely a 3.0 grade point average.

"You've got to try to get the kids out of their neighborhoods, so they can see a different world,"

Noriega said.

The city's gang task force also serves as a source for information exchange, said Ron Cooper, a member of the task force and one of the police department's school resource officers.

"We bring together all these different people from different entities, and they can share information about what they see going on with gangs," he said.

Cooper said representatives from other cities, including Sunnyvale, will attend the task force's monthly meetings, because "this stuff crosses borders."

The Mountain View Police Department has another gang prevention program in place, called "Dreams and Futures." The program occurs twice a year for two weeks at a time, and serves as a summer camp for at-risk children to participate in counseling and activities and fieldtrips around the Bay Area.

"A lot of these kids have self-esteem problems," Cooper said. "We try to teach them team-building and respect for each other."

Activities include a ropes course, counseling on interpersonal relations, and excursions to A's and Giants baseball games.

Cooper said he thinks Mountain View has stepped up to do its part to suppress gang activity, which he sees as a viable threat.

"They're getting out of control throughout the state and the county," Cooper said. "Some of these kids get their mind made up and you can't get to them. But even if you get to a few it's worth it." ▀

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

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GANGS

► Continued from page 7

He said he began to feel the pull toward gangs and criminal activity shortly after middle school, when his family moved to the Stockton area and he felt like an outsider. He said the experience helps him to relate to students who desperately want to fit in.

He attributes his "amazing parents" and his interest in sports with keeping him in line.

For Garcia, despite a difficult childhood, the gangs in his neighborhood were always unattractive, he said.

"My perspective of a gang was that to be in one you had to be a follower," he said. "And I always just wanted to

do my own thing."

Though they will continue as counselors next year, their positions in the district are temporary, and this gives them cause for concern.

"I think we've helped to put a cap on things, and it's more mellow at the schools this year. But the downfall is the district won't think they need us. This



MARCO GARCIA
Marco Garcia and Arturo Noriega at 13 during a All Stars Championship game.

position should always be here, and it doesn't nearly sum up what needs to happen," Garcia said.

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

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CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

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- Assistance for New Associations



The Council Neighborhoods Committee would like to encourage your neighborhood group to apply. Applications and grant guidelines may be picked up in the Community Development Department, City Hall, 500 Castro Street, and are available on the City's web page at www.mountainview.gov. Please call (650) 903-6379 if you would like an application mailed to you or have questions. **The application deadline is June 11, 2007.**

SOLAR

► Continued from page 5

118 home owners (double his goal) in Mountain View to muster about \$15,000 each for a bulk rate on home solar panels. All 118 systems will be up and running soon, producing 345 kilowatts of energy from the sun and preventing tons of carbon dioxide emissions yearly — 5,300 tons over the panels' 30-year lifespan to be exact. It's the equivalent to taking 1,000 cars off the road for a year, Karney said.

"I couldn't be happier with the way the program has happened in Mountain View," Karney said. "By the end of the year over 2 percent of single-family homes in Mountain View will be solar.

I think that's great — to go from a really unusual thing to [a situation] where almost every home owner will know someone with a solar system."

Significant federal and state tax breaks for solar panels are expected to slowly decrease over the next few years, which is what may have motivated many of the homeowners to participate in the Solar City group buy. Karney said that in total participants saved \$690,000 when figured against standard prices for solar panels. Karney expects that his system will pay for itself in 15 years. ▣

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

LANGUAGES

► Continued from page 1

includes summer school, where they receive intensive language instruction.

Crates expects the ceremony to become an annual tradition in the district, to celebrate students'

hard work and the culture of diversity in Mountain View.

"We're really proud of these students." Crates said. "It's pretty amazing. We are truly a global community." ▣

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

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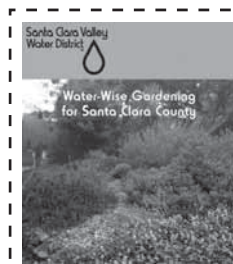


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COUNCIL

► Continued from page 1

“It’s definitely time to take a look at that,” said council member Nick Galiotto about a community center, which has been in the works since budget cuts in the late 1990s. A majority of the council agreed and the project was put on a list of pursuits for the next fiscal year.

Two weeks ago 200 youths and parents rallied at St. Joseph’s Church to call for a new youth

center, which could go in a new community center.

But the issue that drew the public to Tuesday’s council meeting was climate change. About seven residents spoke about global warming and the need for cities to pick up where the federal and state governments have failed.

City staff had given the council three options for a climate change initiative that range from low-cost, low-staff involvement to having a half-time or full-time staff person working with a citizen advisory board on climate change issues. Commu-

nity members unanimously supported level three, as did council members Margaret Abe Koga, Ronit Bryant and Mayor Laura Macias.

“With level one we can continue initiatives and opportunities as they arise,” said Kathy Lazarus, public works director. But the higher levels would involve “more strategic” methods, she said. Council members and residents said a staff member could be involved in public education and in making sure the city develops in the “greenest” way possible.

The council debated for nearly an hour whether it was worth paying a full-time staff member at level three; council members Tom Means, Matt Pear, and Nick Galiotto opposed the idea, saying they weren’t sure what the already green city was really going to get.

Council member Jac Siegel became the swing vote, and said he would support placeholder funding of \$173,000 for the level three staff member. But he expressed reservations, saying he wants make sure the money is going to be spent wisely.

Later in the meeting, Siegel sold a majority of the council on his idea for a senior advisory committee, saying that seniors were a growing population that deserved to have an organized voice in city government. The idea, estimated by Siegel to cost \$50,000 a year, was added to the approved list of pursuits for next year.

The council also decided to have another study session on San Antonio Shopping Center, which Mayor Laura Macias wants to see redeveloped. A council majority, however, expressed doubt earlier this year that the issue was worth pursuing.

A majority of the council once again expressed doubts about the child care center the city has planned for Rengstorff Park, saying it would not serve the area’s low-income families, as originally intended. But Abe Koga and Macias grew even more vociferous in their support, saying that there could be a way to get more grant funding for the low-income families and that it could be a way to attract new city employees.

Galiotto said that the project’s millions could go to a voucher program to better serve the city’s poor. Abe Koga, however, said it would be more effective to provide the land and a building for child care. Pear said it was fundamentally wrong for a city to be involved in the child care business.

A study session is planned on the child care center issue June 5. ■

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

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FARM

► Continued from page 1

land could be zoned R1-8 (low density homes) and five acres for farm land. Anything is an option.”

As far as the zoning's being a “taking,” Siegel said, “you can't take something away from somebody that they don't have.” Siegel confirmed with the city attorney at the packed May 8 meeting that the owners have no entitlements to the land, meaning they aren't guaranteed the residential pre-zoning assigned by the city in 1982.

Watson, the sisters' attorney, said that when they inherited the land in 2004, the land was assessed at its “highest and best use” and that liens have been put in place until the sisters pay the taxes. In 2003 the land was assessed at \$27 million but the Farmlands Group believes the land could be worth as much as \$50 million to owners, depending on how it's developed.

SummerHill Homes is planning for 55 homes on the 15 acres, which could sell for \$1.4 to \$1.8 million each, according to the Farmlands Group.

An agricultural zoning would drastically lower the value of the five acres, but would make it affordable for those who might want to operate a farm. Full Circle Farm in Sunnyvale has already expressed interest. Watson threatened on May 8 that if the five acres

were zoned for agriculture they would never be farmed because the owners are not farmers.

Siegel commented on the financial situation of the sisters, who own real estate throughout the city.

“They're land investors,” he said. “If they sold the land 10 years ago they would have gotten half what it is today. Wait another 10 years and it will double.”

According to documents from the county recorder's office, the sisters inherited \$33.9 million worth of stocks, cash and property when their mother, Anne Mardesich, died in 2003. Of that sum, several million are in bank accounts and stocks, \$27 million is listed for property at the farm's address at 3119 Grant Road, and six other pieces of property in the city, including four on El Camino Real, total \$3.8 million.

Watson said it wasn't really his business to know everything about his clients' financial situation, but pointed out that the sisters are responsible for \$12 million worth of tax liens that are accruing \$2,000 to \$4,000 in interest every day they aren't paid. He also said that the \$33.9 million in inherited assets are for the Mardesich family, and that Moore and King are simply the administrators of the estate.

The 15 acres on Grant Road have yet to be annexed from the county, but once they are, any zoning put in place must remain

for two more years.

If the city does choose to zone five acres for agricultural use, Martello said, restrictions on future uses, such as a park, would be up to the council to decide. Neighbors have expressed concern about what would happen if the proposed farm business ever went “belly up.”

The council will direct city staff on whether to study an agricultural zoning June 5. ▀

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

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Mountain View woman killed in freeway incident Tuesday

A Mountain View woman whose vehicle was struck by debris from a jackknifed big-rig Tuesday afternoon on U.S. 101 in Redwood City died later in the day after being airlifted to the hospital, California Highway Patrol spokesman Officer Eric Parsons said Wednesday.

San Mateo County Coroner Robert Foucrault identified the woman Wednesday as Indira Gagloeva, 37.

Gagloeva was driving a sport utility vehicle northbound in the fast lane of the freeway near Woodside Road at about 1 p.m. when the driver of a big-rig on the southbound side lost control and crashed into, and partially over, the center divide, scattering concrete debris, according to the CHP.

Some of the concrete pieces went through Gagloeva's windshield, striking her in the head, according to Parsons. Gagloeva's 12-year-old daughter was also in the car and suffered minor injuries.

The big-rig burst into flames, closing the highway in both

directions.

Gagloeva was airlifted to Stanford Medical Center. She was pronounced dead at about 4:30 p.m., according to the coroner's office.

The daughter was also hospitalized, but there was no immediate word Wednesday whether she had been released, Parsons said.

Both the truck driver and a passenger in the truck were uninjured and escaped before the truck caught fire.

Parsons said today that the CHP officer investigating the incident is still talking with witnesses to determine if there was any negligence on the part of the truck driver. With a fatality, vehicular manslaughter remains a possible charge, he said.

Most of the northbound lanes reopened more than an hour after the crash, while three out of the four southbound lanes were closed for longer. Nearly five hours after the accident, crews were able to remove the burnt wreckage of the truck.

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OBITUARIES

JOSEPH GUSTAV PAZMANY

Joseph Gustav Pazmany died May 16 in his Los Altos home after a short battle with cancer. He was 52.

Born in Budapest, Hungary, he immigrated with his family to the United States in 1957 and settled in the Bay Area in 1961.

He loved being a volunteer baseball coach for St. Joseph's Church, and served there as an active board member, according to his family. He also enjoyed fishing out on the lake or in the stream.

Pazmany had a passion for plants and landscape designing, which led him to study ornamental horticulture at Cal Poly, where he earned a bachelor's degree.

In 1981, he started Pazmany Brothers Landscaping with his brother, Pete.

Pazmany is survived by his parents, Edie and Steve Adam, his son Jesson, and his brother Peter.

Visitation and a vigil service were held last Monday at the Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary. A funeral Mass was held on Tuesday at St. Joseph's Church, which was followed by interment at the Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 1715 S. Bascom Ave. Suite 100, Campbell, CA 95008-0607.

MANUEL SANDOVAL

Manuel Sandoval, a Mountain View resident for many years before moving to Salinas, died May 14. He was 62.

Sandoval was a machinist and worked at Lockheed for 10 years. He loved the outdoors and was often seen running or hiking at Rancho San Antonio. He was well known for his practical jokes and his special way of making people laugh, friends say.

He was an active member of the Saint Joseph's Parish and helped to organize several community events and programs.

A native of Jalisco, Mexico, he moved to the U.S. with his family when he was 1 year old.

Sandoval is survived by his daughter, Kristina Sandoval, and two brothers, Francisco and Luis Enrique. His funeral service was held on May 18 at Saint Peter's Church in San Francisco. He is buried at the Holy Cross Cemetery in Colma.

Hospital moves forward to expand neonatal facility

By Alexa Tondreau

El Camino Hospital is moving forward with plans to expand its neonatal intensive care unit used to treat premature and critically ill newborns.

The neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) is housed in the Orchard Pavilion on the hospital's Grant Road campus. Currently the NICU contains 16 beds for patients, ranging in age from preterm newborns to three months.

Expansion plans call for adding an additional four beds to the NICU for a total of 20 beds, which should provide some much-needed space for additional patients.

"There are times we are at capacity and can't receive new patients," facilities director Ken King said.

"We have to transfer them out."

The hospital plans to begin the expansion in June, with a completion date for some time in September.

Previously the hospital sent NICU patients to the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford and Valley Medical Center in San Jose.

El Camino's neonatal ward is comparatively small. Lucile Packard has 42 beds in its NICU, while Valley Medical Center has 40 beds.

Diana Russell, vice president of patient care, said the hospital estimated that about six to 10 babies were being diverted annually. The hospital prefers to transfer mothers while the

► See **NEONATAL**, page 14

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El Camino acquires robot

STATE-OF-THE-ART
EQUIPMENT MAY BE
FUTURE OF MEDICINE

By Alexa Tondreau

Surgeons at El Camino Hospital on May 15 performed the first surgery using the hospital's newly acquired DaVinci robotic surgical system.

The DaVinci robot allows surgeons to use four robotic arms controlled through a video console, simulating the surgeon's eyes and hands. The surgeon's hand movements are translated into precise movements made by the robot's instruments, and an enhanced three-dimensional view of the operative field gives the surgeon a view inside the patient.

The robot was designed to be used for endoscopic procedures that allow for minimally invasive surgery, hospital personnel said.

Physicians at El Camino must undergo a training program to qualify for use of the surgical robot, said Diana Russell, vice president of patient care. Currently, two physicians on staff qualify to use the robot, and several more are undergoing training.

"There is a lot of interest from many physicians," she said. "I'm told by the physicians the visualizations are better and the robotic arms are smaller so they can get them into spaces they couldn't normally be able to see," she said.

'I'm told by the physicians the visualizations are better and the robotic arms are smaller so they can get them into spaces they couldn't normally be able to see.'

DIANA RUSSELL
VICE PRESIDENT OF PATIENT CARE

The DaVinci Surgical Robot is used for urological surgeries, bariatrics and some gynecological procedures.

Russell said it is meant to provide more precise and exacting incisions, resulting in fewer complications and less post-surgery bleeding, she said.

The hospital spent \$2 million to purchase the DaVinci robot from Intuitive, Inc. Russell said plans to bring more robots to

the hospital will depend on physician interest.

"If it got to the point where it was booked all the time, we would evaluate that," she said.

Russell said she knew of several medical institutions around the county that had as many as four robots.

E-mail Alexa Tondreau at
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NEONATAL

► Continued from page 13

babies are still in utero, deemed the safest procedure for high-risk pregnancies.

The hospital will spend \$1.3 million for the expansion, which was the easiest and most cost-effective way to reconfigure the existing space, Russell said.

"The issue was what we could expand within the footprint of the current unit," she said.

The plan includes the addition of NICU equipment, including monitors, ventilators and materials to keep the newborns warm.

'There are times we are at capacity and can't receive new patients. We have to transfer them out.'

KEN KING, FACILITIES DIRECTOR

Neonatologists on staff are members of the Neonatology division of Stanford University Medical Center. The NICU also includes two rooms for visiting, breastfeeding and in some cases overnight stays for parents.

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

Impact seen if center closes

MORE SOLICITING ON EL CAMINO EXPECTED
IF DAY WORKERS DON'T FIND A HOME

By Molly Stenhouse
and Daniel DeBolt

With its lease at Calvary Church ending July 31, and no place to go, the Mountain View Day Worker Center is stepping up its efforts to bring attention to the problem.

At a press conference last Friday, director Maria Marroquin said she feared that if the center cannot serve its members at a new location and is forced to close, the number of workers who look for jobs along El Camino Real near San Antonio Road could "double to about 200" a day.

And Steve Olsen, the center's treasurer, warned the City Council Tuesday that after 2010, the center would need city funding to stay afloat.

Workers represented by the center meet employers near the church, at Escuela Avenue and California Street, and avoid standing on El Camino Real.

Mountain View Police Lt. Tony Lopez said he's not sure the number on El Camino would double, but he "knows they will increase."

Lopez began as a liaison for the department in 1998 doing outreach to the street day workers in Los Altos, helping to educate them on issues such as trespassing, littering, and loitering.

"There's a threshold of people congregating on the street that doesn't get on the radar," Lopez said. "But once that threshold is reached, there are going to be more calls, disturbances, and upset merchants, shopping centers, and businesses."

Day worker Gonzalo Garcia has been coming to the center since 1999. He says he "doesn't want to be out on El Camino" because the center helps ensure that employers pay him for his work.

Several government leaders attended the press conference to show their support, including county Supervisor Liz Kniss and state Assemblywoman Sally Lieber. "The day workers have become an important part of the community. We need to find a place for them," Lieber said.

Los Altos Hills council member John Mordo, a strong supporter of the center, said the biggest problem is the "price of real estate."

He also suggested that a "long-term solution is to 'maximize the use of a future day worker facility' by partnering with other community services, so it will be 'easier to attract funding.'"

Mordo said that both cities need to be involved and it "hasn't sunk in (that) Mountain View needs to take the lead."

Female day workers may lose the most if the center closes. Timotea Rodriguez spoke about how she "feels safe" at the center, adding that it's "hard to look for work on the sidewalk" because people can be disrespectful to her.

The Los Altos Community Foundation is forming a group to do a feasibility study to evaluate the "multi-service center" model, Mordo said.

The study group will look at funding, location, and organizations to partner with the center.

"We first need to have a framework to sell the concept," he said. Once the evaluation is made, the group will contact potential funders and partners.

Marroquin said the center has launched a blog — <http://aplacefortheworkercenter.com/> — that can be used to submit suggestions for a new location.

Council hears from center

At Tuesday's council meeting, Olsen, the center's treasurer told council members that the center is "not really asking for anything at this point. But it's obviously a problem that isn't going away."

Pointing to a funding pie chart,

explained that by 2010 the center would be losing some of its major grant funding — which was never meant to be permanent.

"The programs that work have some sort of reliable municipal funding" Olsen said, presenting a list of examples. "If we do not have municipal funding soon we will not be able to maintain the same service levels we have been able to provide."

Council member Nick Galiotto suggested Palo Alto, Los Altos and Mountain View resurrect a task force on the issue, an idea sup-

ported by Mayor Laura Macias.

"I think my frustration is that this was a Los Altos driven project," Galiotto said, "Now we are sort of starting from the beginning."

Council member Matt Pear said he would not support using city dollars to fund a "private enterprise" that will compete with other private businesses. He asked why the center had not worked with Labor Ready, an existing day worker business.

Olsen explained that day workers who come to the center chose not to work with Labor Ready. ▀



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BOUNDARIES

► Continued from page 1

may have to travel across town to attend school.

At the meeting, the district's demographer continued to review various scenarios for boundary changes, including two scenarios — called FAIR and DARE — submitted by the neighborhood coalition.

The two plans tackle the overcrowding in different ways. The FAIR proposal, which is considered a five-year plan, would keep

the mostly Mountain View students who live north of El Camino Real at Santa Rita and Almond schools, and would require about 100 students who live south of Santa Rita and Almond to attend Bullis-Purissima and Covington elementary schools.

The long-term solution DARE plan would open a new school in the northern part of the district for sixth-grade students, thereby freeing up room at the elementary schools for more kindergarten through fifth-graders.

The new school would occupy the Bullis Charter School facility,

which is currently housed on the Egan Junior High School campus.

The district board asked its demographer, Jeane Gobalet to further analyze FAIR, as well as

two other scenarios presented by parents elsewhere in the district, and a new scenario Gobalet devised herself, called scenario hybrid.

We want to see if there isn't a way to have a very small grade 6-8 middle school in the northern part of the district. It seems like ultimately that would solve the problem.'

COALITION MEMBER AMANDA AARONSON

All these scenarios would allow residents in the area north of El Camino to attend their first or second closest school, a fact that makes members of the coalition happy.

"I have to say, all in all, this last meeting was far more positive than past ones have been," coalition member Amanda Aaronson said.

Several board members said they were leaning away from scenarios that would have parents living north of El Camino commuting to Bullis-Purissima, which would require them to drive or walk across Foothill Expressway.

Two other plans, scenarios three and four, would require nearly 300 students who live north of El Camino to make the approximately three-mile commute to Bullis.

Gobalet said the district is paying "quite a bit of attention to traffic and student safety" and wants to eliminate the possibility of children having to cross busy Foothill Expressway.

Scenario two proposes sending 167 students who live north of El Camino to Covington Elementary. Other modifications would send 76 students to Covington and 91 to Springer Elementary, all from north of El Camino.

Aaronson said that while most families could more easily accept a transfer to Covington — "they've been really welcoming and have made it clear they want us to join their community," she said — a move to Springer doesn't sit quite as well.

"I don't have a preference (between Bullis and Springer)," Aaronson said. "Once they ship us out, they ship us out."

While the district did not ask for further study of scenario DARE, Aaronson said the group wants to refine it further and present a different version of the scenario to the school district at the next board meeting.

"We want to see if there isn't a way to have a very small grade 6-8 middle school in the northern part of the district," she said. "It seems like ultimately that would solve the problem."

The district board will hold another informational meeting with time for public comment on June 4, before it votes on the issue toward the end of the month.

To see options under consideration, go to www.losaltos.k12.ca.us and click on the "school attendance boundaries" link. ■

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

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■ EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Day workers need a home

In the midst of the national debate about a new immigration policy, a related drama is unfolding closer to home: finding a new home for the Mountain View Day Worker Center.

After five years, the center's lease at Calvary Church at Escuela Avenue and California Street is set to expire July 31, and at the moment, director Maria Marroquin says all efforts to find a new location have come up empty.

The center serves mostly Latino members who are willing to work at short-term jobs. The church's location and willingness to share space — at no charge — has been a godsend for the center, which oversees placement and offers classes to many of the workers. But Pastor Jim Stringer believes the center is not compatible with the church's overall mission, and so it was agreed that the use of church property will come to an end.

The urgency of the matter was underscored last week at a news conference attended by Assemblywoman Sally Lieber, D-Mountain View, county Supervisor Liz Kniss and Ron Packard, former mayor of Los Altos, who are eager to find a new home for the center. Many other community members from Mountain View and Los Altos support the relocation effort, including both city's police departments and Rotary Clubs.

Craig Sherod, vice president of the center's board, told the *Voice* last week that every effort is being made to find a new location. He said workers are even being given maps and told to scour the city looking for signs on properties near the Escuela/California Street intersection.

From the national debate on the issue of immigration, we can see the challenge of enacting a new national policy that will accommodate undocumented workers currently in the U.S. while establishing stronger controls at the U.S.-Mexican border. There are other difficult issues as well, such as how to avoid breaking up the Mexican-based families of workers in the U.S.

But while Mountain View's day workers may ultimately gain some relief from a new immigration law, the immediate need is simple: The center must find space for a modest office and classroom or two, adjacent to a parking lot where workers and prospective employers can meet. It sounds simple, but so far, there is nothing to show for a significant search effort.

We know there are plenty of sites in the city that could serve the center well. All that is needed is for a public-spirited property owner to step forward and look at the details. Whoever is successful will do a great service for many struggling families, many of whom earn their limited cash from jobs arranged by the center.

The center must find space for a modest office and classroom or two, adjacent to a parking lot where workers and prospective employers can meet.

■ LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

SURPRISED BY GROUP'S RESPONSE TO OPPONENTS

Editor:

I am shocked by the personal attacks and accusations of the members of the Mountain View Farmlands Group regarding my presentation of our neighborhood petition at the May 8 City Council study session.

I presented our petition to the council in a prepared package, kept my presentation within my three minutes and then sat down. The fact is that the presentation was so benign that neither the *Voice* nor the *Los Altos Town Crier* mentioned the petition or my presentation in their coverage of the meeting.

The personal attacks and accusations [from the Farmlands Group] will not be reciprocated by me. Perhaps they feel this is an appropriate way to deal with the owners and developer but it is certainly no way to act toward neighbors. We need to stick to the issue of injecting a commercial enterprise in the middle of our neighborhood and our overwhelming rejection of this idea.

Thomas E. Holmes
Preston Drive

GOOD TURNOUT AT ENERGY STATION

Editor:

Last week we celebrated Bike to Work Day around the bay area.

The Mountain View Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (of which I am a member) partnered with Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition to host an energizer station at the downtown Mountain View transit center, where we provided light refreshments to bicyclists.

The turnout set a record. We estimated that we had over 400 bicyclists come by our station, compared with 300 last year. Also, this year we had about 10 children of various ages with a parent as they were biking to school.

Our volunteers included 16 local cyclists (City Council members Margaret Abe-Koga and Ronit Bryant pitched in too, with Margaret staying the entire morning). We handed out 333 Bike Bags, 180 bottles of water, 140 Granola bars, 100 bags of flavored nuts, 100 water bottles, 80 pounds of bananas, 15 pounds of apples, 20 pounds of oranges, four trays of Hobee's coffee cake and four containers of Starbucks coffee. We also issued 27 bicycle licenses.

Local donations were received

from Albertsons, Bicycle Outfitter, Dana Street Roasting Company, Hobee's, Nob Hill foods, Safeway, Starbucks, REI, Target and WalMart.

REI brought volunteers to staff a kiosk, including a mechanic who was kept busy the entire morning. The VTA was on hand as well, issuing tokens good for free transit rides and free safety light/reflectors.

We are extremely happy with our Bike to Work Day success and we hope everyone considers bicycling as an alternative to using their motorized vehicle.

Bryan Malone
Ehrhorn Avenue

ALLOW TEENS TO SHARE SENIOR CENTER

Editor:

In regard to a teen center: Why not keep it simple?

We already have one of the best buildings in the United States available. It is used for seniors in the daytime during the week.

Why not close it at 3 p.m. and open it again at 4 p.m. and on the weekend for teens? Get some senior volunteers and make everybody happy!

Judy Cunniff
Church Street

TARGET EL CAMINO AS GROWTH ZONE

Editor:

I am responding to Godfrey Baumgartner's article, "Set limits for smart, responsible growth," published in your April 27 edition.

It is clear that current residents would not want the composition of their city changed, particularly if there is no benefit gained from that.

The Mountain View comprehensive plan is now undergoing an update and it should reflect the need to respond to the global warming crisis by some time in the next decade.

One way of dealing with this is to have a growth zone along El Camino Real with stubs that extend to the vicinity of the San Antonio Road and downtown Caltrain stations. This growth zone should allow features that would benefit those who live nearby.

By implementing this idea, it would be possible to have high residential density near transit, thus addressing the carbon emis-

► See **LETTERS**, page 18

■ GUEST OPINION

Neighbors say farm a bad idea

by Dave Vanoncini

I live on Winfield Drive, adjacent to the farm property on Grant Road. I feel the need to express my opinion about the Mountain View Farmlands Group's proposal, and our neighborhood's solid opposition to their plan.

There are many facts that the Farmland folks are either unclear or misinformed about, which they seem to keep using to justify the merit of their proposal, including:

■ The "farm" historically was an orchard. The argument that it is in the city's interest to preserve farmland as a legacy is purely subjective, an opinion with no basis in regard to this property, which has been used as a farm for only about 20 years. There is no historical value to this farm.

■ Squeezing a new development onto standard-sized lots on the site is a major departure from the surrounding neighborhood, especially if narrowing the

street widths is part of the plan. This will have a negative impact on the neighborhood.

Their claims that the neighbors support their efforts are not true. I participated in their "survey," which was loaded with generic yes or no questions. It did not ask if the participant supported their specific plan, nor did it provide a full explanation of what they are proposing. I can assure you that the majority of the neighbors do not support this plan.

The economic and academic benefits that they claim are also dubious. There are many other places within reasonable driving distance for kids to learn about where food comes from. I grew up in the area, when this farm was an orchard, and we went to several other places on field trips that are still open today. In addition, this plan relies on a donation of the land to have any chance of being feasible.

It would be irresponsible for the City Council to consider a proposal to rezone any site that

does not come from a group that intends to actually implement the plan they are proposing. The Farmlands Group is made up of regular people, not planning or development professionals. Although they may have good intentions, they are not qualified to undertake this endeavor.

The reality is that the Farmlands Group is trying to get the city to use its authority to block a well thought-out, responsible development plan. The proposal by SummerHill Homes complies with the current zoning regulations, which were put in place to ensure that when this site is developed it will blend in well with the existing neighborhood. Many of the neighbors, including myself, decided to locate in the area after checking with the city to see what might become of the farm when it got developed. Everyone knew that it would become a new housing subdivision, and we are OK with that.

Dave Vanoncini lives on Winfield Drive.

LETTERS

► Continued from page 17

sions issue. At the same time, the rest of the city would remain essentially undisturbed.

John Carpenter
Middlefield Road

COMMUNITY HAS HOUSING OBLIGATION

Editor:

A city has a right to control its physical landscape, and the debate we've seen in the letter pages of the *Voice* the last few weeks over the future of development in Mountain View is a healthy one.

But does a community have responsibilities as well as rights? I believe it does. A city that encourages business and lures newcomers with the promise of jobs has an obligation to make room for them to live there. A city that makes itself a transit hub has a responsibility to let people live within walking distance of stations.

It is reasonable to argue about the best way to meet these obligations — are a few concentrated towers better than a subtle, but more widely dispersed densification? But make no mistake, they are obligations.

Nicholas Kibre
Villa Street

TERRIBLE MISTAKE TO CUT TRANSIT FUNDING

Editor:

The governor's budget for next year proposes to slash funding for public transit. This is a terrible mistake. Many families in my neighborhood rely on VTA to access jobs, health care and food. And Mountain View's technology firms equally rely on VTA and Caltrain to access these same needs.

Public transit is *core* to our state's transportation infrastructure, and if we wipe it out, we can expect more jams on Highway 101, more cars on El Camino Real, more health problems, and more smog. Mountain View residents want to keep their neighborhood a beautiful, walkable, livable community. Implore the governor to restore full funding for public transit.

Steven Chan
California Street

TAKE ACTION AGAINST STREET-SPAM SIGNS

Editor:

Recently I have been noticing an alarming proliferation of street-side advertising signs posted all over town on sidewalks

► See **LETTERS**, page 19



Len Tillem Esq.

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■ GUEST OPINION

No magic tricks to pay for farm property

By Lex Watson

I have read with great interest the additional coverage and discussions regarding my clients' property on Grant Road.

While there have been some unusual claims and statements (to the effect that the city already has an ownership interest in everyone's property because it is an urban setting or that I have somehow prevented my clients from reading the Farmlands Group study), I do find it encouraging that, for the most part, individuals on both "sides" of the argument are focusing on the fact that it will require the city (or someone) to spend millions and millions of dollars to "preserve a farm."

I would encourage your readers to pay particular attention to last week's letters from Michael Brooker and Pat Showalter. As both authors point out, the cost of the property is in the millions. Raising such amounts to purchase the property is an idea that the Farmlands Group has publicly

stated is simply not feasible.

By the same token, making up the owners' losses through some sort of tax benefit is also not feasible. As stated by SummerHill Homes' representative, by Janet Smith-Heimer of Bay Area Economics, and by me, there are no tax benefits from an involuntary, forced transfer of property. I think everyone now acknowledges that there are no magic tricks that can mask the fact that requiring the owners to transfer the property will cost the owners dearly.

To some, permitting the development of the property equals the city's abandoning its responsibilities. But let us be realistic. In this day and age, no one gets "to develop property any way they want," regardless of where the property is located. And certainly no one is asking that the city abandon its duties or to receive special favors from the city. The city will, as it should, have significant oversight and input regarding the homes that will be built on the property, just as the letter from Liz Snyder-Liles said the city did when

she built her home. SummerHill Homes will pay significant fees to the city (just the same as anyone else building a home in the city since the city's ordinances apply the same to everyone) and, if the city does not want to have a half-acre park on the site, SummerHill will pay well over a million dollars into the city's park fund — again in accordance with city ordinances. All of those issues and costs will be handled through the city's normal review and approval process — as they should be.

The question to be answered, and the one that is truly before the City Council, is whether to condemn a part of the property and take it away from its owners (with the city paying the cost of that condemnation), or to permit the property to be developed in accordance with the pre-zoning designation that has been assigned to the property for decades.

Lex Watson is an Atlanta-based attorney for Betty Moore and Pauline King, the owners of the farm property.

LETTERS

► Continued from page 18

and roadside easements. They are most often posted on city property (road-side medians, traffic intersections) on properties that are abandoned or where it is unclear who owns it.

The obvious strategy for the sign-posters is to put them out between the hours of 2 and 5 a.m., and on properties where an owner is not likely to easily notice or object.

I am sure the local city and county ordinances do not allow anyone to post commercial advertising on public land. I would also doubt that any of the property owners have consented to these postings.

The most recent offender is Latham Townhomes, which has posted over 100 signs all over the city directing drivers to their open houses. This is far beyond a Realtor posting a single corner placard on the block with an open house — as many of the Latham signs are miles away.

I would encourage the city and local property owners to take aggressive action against this practice. We do not need or want our public easements to be littered with advertising trash such as this.

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■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

■ MOVIE TIMES

■ BEST BETS FOR ENTERTAINMENT

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Singapore swings

MOM IS COOKING AT MENLO PARK'S SHIOK!

by Sheila Himmel

Rosalind Tan has always run the kitchen at Shio!, the popular Singaporean cafe in downtown Menlo Park, but now she runs the whole show. The show goes on rather nicely.

For many customers, the public face of the cafe was Tan's daughter, Maggie Lim, but as of March, Lim is taking a backstage role as business manager.

Shio! (SHEE-uk, Singaporean for "Yummy!") remains a welcoming, mid-priced respite featuring the Malay, Indian and Chinese dishes of tiny but influential Singapore. Our young waiter, who turned out to be Tan's nephew, answered questions, made good suggestions, and anticipated needs.

We brought in wine. He took it to a cooler and came by at just the right moment to ask if we wanted it opened. The restaurant also has a reasonable wine list of its own.

Lim grew up in Serangoon Gardens, an area of Singapore known especially for its open-air markets and food vendors. Tan cooked large family dinners every Sunday, often using the family chickens, and developed her own style.

The flexible menu here includes a lot of small plates that could be assembled to make a full meal. In Malaysian beef rendang (\$7), chunks of braised beef have crunchy spots on the outside and no fat. They are stewed in aromatic lemongrass and hot chili, tamed

► See **SHIOK**, next page



NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

Singapore chili crab: Fresh dungeness crab cooked in spicy-sweet sauce from Shio! in Menlo Park.

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www.lepetitbistro.biz for cuisine to go

SHIOK

► Continued from previous page

by coconut milk. Chinese pepper prawns (\$8), stir-fried with chili and dried shrimp, are so appealing you will be sad to leave the shells. On the takeout menu, the beef is \$10.75 and the prawns are \$12.75 because the portions are bigger.

Sambal string beans (\$8.75), sauteed in chili and dried shrimp, retain their crispness.

The most expensive dish is a whole crab, sauteed in spicy-sweet chili sauce or in dried shrimp and cracked black pepper. The divine Singapore chili crab, which was \$24 in 2000, now is \$26. You can sop up the sauce with a side order of buttery sweet buns (\$3), or choose a less assertive rice. (Jasmine, brown and coconut rice are on offer.)

At lunch, the menu features rice and noodle plates for \$6.95.

We were having a varied configuration of flavors in seafood, beef and vegetable dishes, but we didn't want plain rice. The server wisely suggested Nasi Goreng (\$8.50), the Malaysian-style fried rice. It has calamari, prawns, peas, carrots, egg, onion and a mild personality that mixes well with others.

Each dish is labeled by its heritage. Many are vegetarian, or can be made vegetarian.

The irresistible unleavened Indian bread roti (\$4) is a starter that can easily become an ender. Try not to fill up on buttery griddled bread, charred in spots, that you tear apart. The only flaw is the thin dipping sauce, which needed more depth of flavor and some girth.

The only real loser was a new dish, Chinese five-spice duck (\$12.75). The tasty braising sauce pepped up slices of tofu but couldn't rescue dry pieces of duck breast.

Sea bass is perfectly steamed in banana leaves (\$17.75), in a stunning broth with shiitake mushrooms, ginger, tomato and red pepper. But a little more fish would be nice.

Desserts are cooling, summertime treats, as you would want in a climate that has been likened to "one giant sauna." Champagne-infused lychee, Malaysian crepes and fried banana each are \$5.50. Bite into a hot, crisp egg roll on your way to steaming banana, near pudding in consistency. Fried banana comes with the tropical ice cream of your choice.

Another good way to end the meal is with sweet and pungent ginger tea (\$1.50). Everyone gets gum, once completely banned in Singapore because of the mess it made on the streets. Now you can chew medicinal gum, with a prescription. ■

■ DINING NOTES

SHIOK!

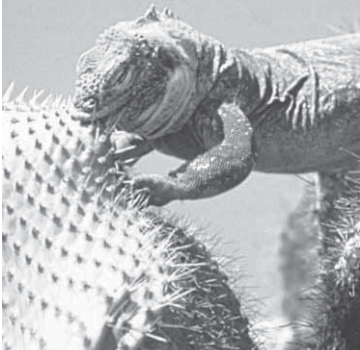
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chinese

Chef Chu's
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New Tung Kee Noodle House
520 Showers Drive, Mtn. View. 650/947-8888
(Inside San Antonio Center)
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mexican

Fiesta Del Mar Too Rotisserie & Cantina
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142 Castro Street Mtn. View. 650/390-9388

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
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9 Years in a Row



A scene from "Paris, Je T'aime."

Living and loving in the City of Lights

by Jeanne Aufmuth

MOVIE REVIEW

Like so many of its tricky ilk, this scattered pastiche of petite vignettes titled "Paris, Je T'aime" displays a frenetic charm that somehow manages to coalesce. With attitude to spare 20 respected directors craft 18 blithe snippets of what it means to live and love in the City of Lights.

Their interpretations are wildly diverse yet never lacking allure. Looking for love in all the wrong places a hapless romantic falls for a strange woman who faints alongside his parked car. A cheeky teen is uncommonly captivated by a fiery Muslim girl whose head is perpetually covered by a somber hijab.

There are those who are tortured by the world's most profound emotion. Observing lovers

at play and war an innocent tourist is caught up in a dangerous roundelay at a lonely Metro stop. A mother consumed by grief over the death of her son finds salvation in fantasy and memory.

Class lines are crossed without reservation. A young housekeeper with a cherished infant spends her days picking up after an upper-crust Parisian who appears to care more for the nightlife than her own small child.

Best in show is lusciously unconstructed and brimming with longing as a middle-aged American mail carrier dictates the adventure of a lifetime in her badly accented French.

The tales are connected by honeyed promises and narrative gossamer. Puzzling head-scratchers vie for screen time with profound observations on affaires du coeur while tragedy boldly intersects whimsy. Vampires, terminal illness and abstract musical comedy? Check, check and check.

► See *CITY OF LIGHTS*, page 25

MOVIE NOTES

Stars: ***

Rating: R for language, sexuality and mature themes

Run Time: 2 hours. In English and French with English subtitles



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MOVIE TIMES

28 WEEKS LATER (R) (Not Reviewed)
 Century 16: 12:10, 2:35, 5:10, 7:35 & 10:10 p.m.
 Century 20: 11:25 a.m.; 12:35, 1:55, 3:15, 4:35, 5:40, 7, 8:05, 9:30 & 10:35 p.m.

300 (R) ★★★★★^{1/2} Century 12: 3:10 & 9 p.m.

AWAY FROM HER (PG-13) ★★★
 Palo Alto Square: 1:45, 4:30 & 7:15 p.m.; Fri.-Mon. also at 9:50 p.m.

BLADES OF GLORY (PG-13) ★★
 Century 20: 11:50 a.m.; 2:30, 4:45, 7:25 & 9:50 p.m.

BUG (R) (Not Reviewed)
 Century 20: 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55 & 10:30 p.m.

DISTURBIA (PG-13) ★★★ Century 12: 1:20, 4:20, 7:25 & 9:55 p.m.

THE EX (PG-13) ★★★ Century 12: 11:45 a.m. & 6:15 p.m.

FRACTURE (R) ★★★★★
 Century 16: 2:15 & 7:45 p.m.
 Century 12: 12:50, 3:40, 7 & 10:05 p.m.

GEORGIA RULE (R) ★ Century 12: 1:40, 4:30, 7:20 & 10:10 p.m.

THE HOAX (R) ★★★★★^{1/2}
 Century 20: 11:30 a.m.; 2:15, 4:55, 7:35 & 10:15 p.m.

HOT FUZZ (R) ★★★
 Century 16: 11:25 a.m.; 4:55 & 10:20 p.m.
 Century 20: 11:20 a.m.; 2:15, 5, 7:45 & 10:30 p.m.

THE LIVES OF OTHERS (R) ★★★★★ Aquarius: 2, 5 & 8 p.m.

THE NAMESAKE (PG-13) ★★★
 Century 20: 1:30, 4:15, 7:30 & 10:20 p.m.

PARIS JE T'AIME (R) ★★★ Guild: 1:15, 4, 6:45 & 9:20 p.m.

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: AT WORLD'S END (PG-13) ★★★★★^{1/2}
 Century 16: Fri. & Sat. at 10, 10:30, 11 & 11:30 a.m.; noon, 1, 2, 2:30, 3, 3:30, 4, 5, 6, 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8, 9, 10, 10:30 & 11 p.m.; Sun. at 10, 10:30, 11 & 11:30 a.m.; noon, 1, 2, 2:30, 3, 3:30, 4, 5, 6, 6:30, 7, 7:30, 8, 9, 10 & 10:30 p.m.; Mon. at 10, 11 & 11:30 a.m.; noon, 1, 1:30, 2, 3, 3:30, 4, 5, 5:30, 6, 7, 7:30, 8, 9, 9:30 & 10 p.m.; Tue. at 11 & 11:30 a.m.; noon, 1, 1:30, 2, 3, 3:30, 4, 5, 5:30, 6, 7, 7:30, 8, 9, 9:30 & 10 p.m.
 Century 12: Fri.-Mon. at 10:30, 11 & 11:30 a.m.; noon, 12:30, 1, 1:30, 2, 2:35, 3:05, 3:35, 4:05, 4:35, 5:05, 5:35, 6, 6:40, 7:10, 7:40, 8:10, 8:40, 9:10, 9:40, 10, 10:30 & 10:45 p.m.; Tue. at 11 & 11:30 a.m.; noon, 12:30, 1, 1:30, 2, 2:35, 3:05, 3:35, 4:05, 4:35, 5:05, 5:35, 6, 6:40, 7:10, 7:40, 8:10, 8:40, 9:10, 9:40, 10 & 10:30 p.m.

SHREK THE THIRD (PG) ★★★★★^{1/2}
 Century 16: Fri. & Sat. at 10:10, 10:45, 11, 11:20 & 11:50 a.m.; 12:15, 12:35, 1:10, 1:30, 1:45, 2:25, 2:45, 3:05, 3:35, 3:55, 4:10, 4:50, 5:05, 5:25, 5:55, 6:15, 6:50, 7:20, 7:40, 7:55, 8:25, 8:45, 9:20, 9:40, 10:05, 10:25 & 10:45 p.m.; Sun. & Mon. at 10:10, 10:45, 11, 11:20 & 11:50 a.m.; 12:15, 12:35, 1:10, 1:30, 1:45, 2:25, 2:45, 3:05, 3:35, 3:55, 4:10, 4:50, 5:05, 5:25, 5:55, 6:15, 6:50, 7:20, 7:40, 7:55, 8:25, 8:45, 9:20, 9:40, 10:05 & 10:25 p.m.; Tue. at 11, 11:20 & 11:50 a.m.; 12:15, 12:35, 1:10, 1:30, 1:45, 2:25, 2:45, 3:05, 3:35, 3:55, 4:10, 4:50, 5:05, 5:25, 5:55, 6:15, 6:50, 7:20, 7:40, 7:55, 8:25, 8:45, 9:20, 9:40, 10:05 & 10:25 p.m.
 Century 20: 11:20 & 11:35 a.m.; noon, 12:25, 12:45, 1:10, 1:25, 1:45, 2, 2:25, 2:50, 3:10, 3:35, 3:50, 4:10, 4:30, 4:50, 5:15, 5:35, 6, 6:15, 6:35, 6:55, 7:15, 7:40, 8, 8:25, 8:40, 9, 9:20, 9:40, 10:05 & 10:25 p.m.

SPIDER-MAN 3 (PG-13) ★★★★★^{1/2}
 Century 16: 11:15 a.m.; 12:50, 2:20, 4:15, 5:30, 7:25, 8:35 & 10:35 p.m.
 Century 20: 11:15 & 11:55 a.m.; 12:40, 1:20, 1:50, 2:20, 3:05, 3:55, 4:25, 5:05, 5:30, 6:20, 7:05, 7:50, 8:15, 8:50, 9:35 & 10:15 p.m.

THE VALET (PG-13) ★★ Aquarius: 2:30, 4:45, 7:20 & 9:25 p.m.

WAITRESS (PG-13) ★★★
 Century 20: 11:25 a.m.; 2, 4:40, 7:20 & 9:55 p.m.
 Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 4:15 & 7 p.m.; Fri.-Mon. also at 9:55 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, Guild and Park, visit www.LandmarkTheatres.com

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

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MOVIE REVIEWS



AWAY FROM HER ★★★
 (CineArts) Only a superb cast and the most delicate directorial touch could successfully adapt Alice Munro's devastating short story "The Bear Came Over the Mountain" to the screen. Accomplished actor Sarah Polley ("The Sweet Hereafter") found both for her feature debut as a writer-director. With poignancy and maturity beyond her years, Polley deals with Alzheimer's disease and its effect on a steadfast love. But she could hardly go wrong given the remarkable talents of Julie Christie and Gordon Pinsent in the lead roles. The narrative never submits to a simple descent-into-disease formula. Although the ravages of Alzheimer's form the drama's core, the emotional power of the story arises from Munro's construct: What does a devoted husband do when his wife no longer remembers him and falls in love with a fellow patient (Michael Murphy)? Ultimately, "Away From Her" offers a moving, thoughtful drama for adults who have felt abandoned by the movie industry. *Rated: PG-13 for some strong language. 1 hour. 50 minutes.* —S.T.

THE EX ★★★
 (Century 12) The classic winners-and-losers theme takes on hilarious implications in Jesse Peretz's domestic, dysfunctional comedy. Zach Braff is pitch-perfect as Tom Reilly, a slacker-ish lunch chef with a high-powered lawyer wife (Amanda Peet as Sofia) who's about to deliver the couple's first child. Quick as a wink Tom is fired from his job: rather inconvenient considering that Sofia has her heart set on playing stay-at-home mom. Time for him to bite the bullet and accept that ad agency job that Sofia's dad (Charles Grodin) has been touting from the get-go. The wounds run deep: a move from the Big Apple to the groomed suburbs of Ohio, a surprise interior-design makeover courtesy of mom-in-law (Mia Farrow), and a new gig as "assistant associate creative" for hippy-dippy Sunburst Creations. It goes from bad to worse when Tom locks horns with new boss (and ex-Sofia squeeze) Chip Sanders (Jason Bateman), a master manipulator whose sinister mother-ship is a wheelchair. Granted, we've seen it all before. But just when "The Ex" looks like it's anxiously casting about for the finish line, it cuts its inevitable losses and wraps up neatly and without a fuss. No year-end awards but boy, did I laugh. *Rated: PG-13 for language and mature themes. 1 hour, 29 minutes.* —J.A.

GEORGIA RULE ★
 (Century 12) Lindsay Lohan flaunts
 ▶ Continued on next page

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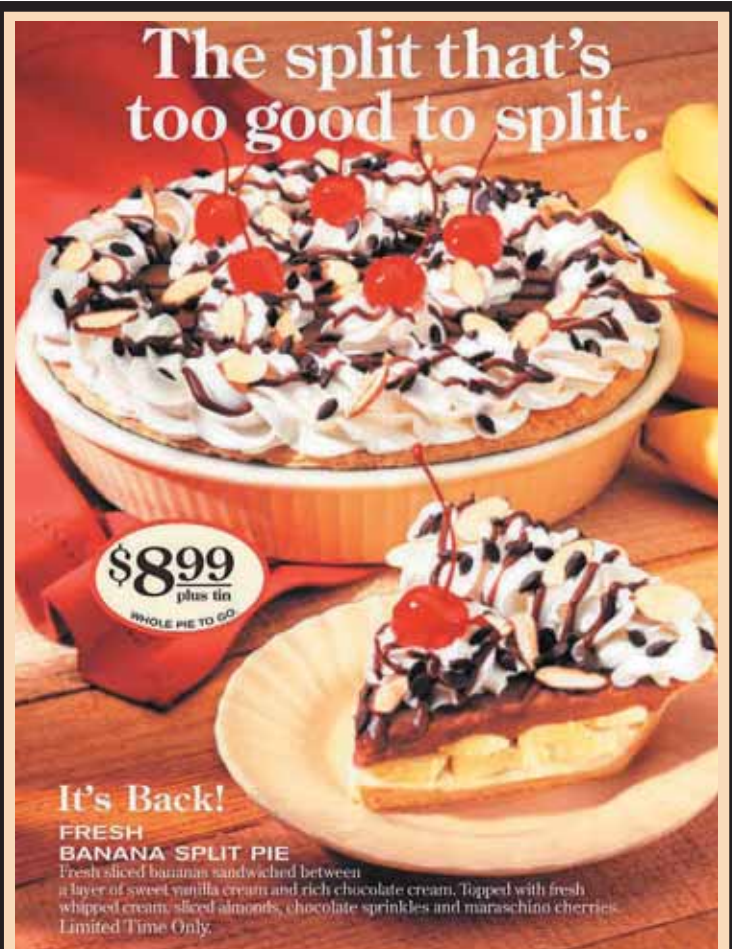
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► *Continued from previous page*
 designer threads and a shabby attitude in this messier-than-thou melodrama that's guaranteed to repel. Lohan is Rachel, a spoiled California tramp and one in a long line of screwed-up family females. Antagonism runs rampant between mom and daughter, and mom (Felicity Huffman as Lilly) finds herself at wit's end. The only reasonable solution is to ship Rachel off to her grandmother Georgia (Jane Fonda) who lives a God-fearing life in Hull, Idaho, a paean to idyllic small-town living. Courtesy the clunkiest dialogue this side of the Mississippi, dark secrets are revealed.

Lohan overplays her hand, not that the role demands subtlety. "Georgia" never finds its groove, vacillating wildly between pathetic pathos, emotional blackmail and stabs — only stabs — at gentle humor. Skip it. *Rated: R for language and sexual situations. 1 hour, 43 minutes.*—J.A.

THE LIVES OF OTHERS ★★★★★

(Aquarius) Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck crafts a personal drama about the nightmarish years of East Germany's creative cold war. The German Democratic Republic circa 1984 is still a place of exploitation and evil. Loyal dramatist Georg Dreyman (Sebastian Koch) is



the darling of the regime, churning out cultural hits while others of his ilk are shunned or worse. Such political allegiance isn't above suspicion, according to Stasi officer Gerd Wiesler (Ulrich Muhe), whose unwavering belief in his country's political philosophy steeps him

in paranoia. Thus the ruthless Secret Police officer determines to expose the chinks in the playwright's Socialist armor. A thrilling work extremely worthy of its nod for a Best Foreign Film Oscar. *Rated: R for violence, language and mature themes. In German with English subtitles. 2 hours, 17 minutes.* — J.A.

SHREK THE THIRD ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) The ornery ogre brought to life by Mike Myers and DreamWorks in 2001 returns to the screen for his third outing, a fast-paced fantasy rife with witty humor and colorful characters. "Shrek the Third" picks up where "Shrek 2" left

off, as Shrek (voiced by Myers) and his wife, Fiona (Cameron Diaz), hunker down in the kingdom of Far, Far Away to help the ailing King Harold (John Cleese). But the king is on his death lily pad, and his dying wish is for Shrek to inherit the crown. The only other possible heir to the throne is Fiona's cousin Artie (Justin Timberlake), a mousy high-school student teased and taunted by the jousting jocks. Shrek and his loyal sidekicks — the chatterbox Donkey (Eddie Murphy) and suave Puss In Boots (Antonio Banderas) — set off to coax Artie into becoming King Arthur. Meanwhile, Prince Charming (Rupert Everett) encourages the villainous patrons of the Poison Apple



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*From left: Jenn Bargmann, RN, infusion specialist;
 Anne Pauselius, project specialist; Anita Walker, activities coordinator;
 Laura Jimenez, RN; Sam Statham, stationary engineer*



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Tavern to help him assault Far, Far Away and usurp the throne. Some of the picture's comedy may draw more yuck than yuks, such as when Donkey swallows a mouthful of sea-sickness. Still, the third time's certainly a charm for this fairytale family. *Rated: PG for some crude humor, suggestive content and swashbuckling action. 1 hour, 33 minutes.* — T.H.

SPIDER-MAN 3 ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) Despite an overwhelming sensation of been-there, done-that, Tobey Maguire and company inject enough fresh material into Spider-Man's third outing to keep both fans and converts happy. It's business as usual for Peter Parker (Maguire) and lady love Mary Jane Watson (Kirsten Dunst). The duo is in a good space, Parker with plans of popping the question and Mary Jane finally nailing down her thespian dream job. That's all the goodwill to be had before the inevitable onset of doom and gloom. A beautiful star-gazing evening for Parker and Mary Jane turns "War of the Worlds" when a flashy meteor smashes to earth and oozes a slithery black slime that's clearly up to no good. Across town the hardened criminal who murdered Parker's uncle (Thomas Haden Church as Flint Marko) escapes from prison and, in one of the film's more arresting sequences, has an unfortunate run-in with a scientific de-molecularizer that renders him rather, um, granular. Goodbye Mr. Marko, hello Sandman! How far to go to ensure that "Spider-Man" can hang onto its blockbuster cachet yet retain its core values and keep the diehard fan boys happy? That's the predicament facing "3": an overly-ambitious mishmash of styles and concepts that ebb and flow and try — too hard — to please everyone. *Rated: PG-13 for intensity and violence. 2 hours, 17 minutes.* — J.A.

THE VALET (LA DOUBLURE) ★★

(Aquarius) The French tabloid headlines scream "The Princess and the Parking Valet" in writer-director Francis Veber's clever but clunky farce about an elaborate charade involving an unlikely couple. A sexy supermodel and an unassuming parking

attendant share a bed in this satire that doesn't quite deliver on its enticing premise. A paparazzo's camera catches CEO Pierre Levasseur (Daniel Auteuil) with his top-model mistress Elena (Alice Taglioni). To avoid scandal and an expensive divorce, Levasseur tells his wife (Kristin Scott Thomas) that he was accidentally caught in the shot while passing by. The unidentified man, parking valet Francois Pignon (Gad Elmaleh), must be the model's lover. The complications and comedy of errors mount as Levasseur puts his plan into place. Instead of provoking hearty laughter, this slight French confection may coax only a few smiles. *Rated: PG-13 for sexual content and language. In French with English subtitles. 1 hour, 25 minutes.* — S.T.

while devising a detailed plan to leave her abusive husband (Jeremy Sisto as Earl) and enter a major stakes pie bake-off. A positive pregnancy test brings Jenna back to earth with a resounding thud. A routine visit to the town doctor (Nathan Fillion as Dr. Pomatter) nets her more than her feet in the stirrups when she and the good doctor embark on a torrid affair. To deal with life's bell curve Jenna bakes. And bakes. And bakes some more, a la a series of tutorials for which Jenna concocts sweet and savory treats with toothsome titles. Russell is the real deal, her guileless baby face belying a fierce intelligence and resounding charm that ushers "Waitress" to a delicious finish yet leaves you hungry for more. *Rated: PG-13 for language and sexual situations. 1 hour, 48 minutes.* — J.A.

WAITRESS ★★★

(Century 20, CineArts) Jenna (Keri Russell) is a cook and waitperson at cozy Joe's Pie Diner, a woman for whom the seductive art of baking is an emotional retreat from a bad marriage that stems the flow of her dreams. Jenna spends her time crafting scrumptious recipes for delectable pies

■ **MOVIE CRITICS**

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

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CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

COUNCIL NEIGHBORHOODS COMMITTEE

**Moffett/Whisman Road Neighborhoods
Neighborhood Meeting**

**German International School of Silicon Valley
310 Easy Street**

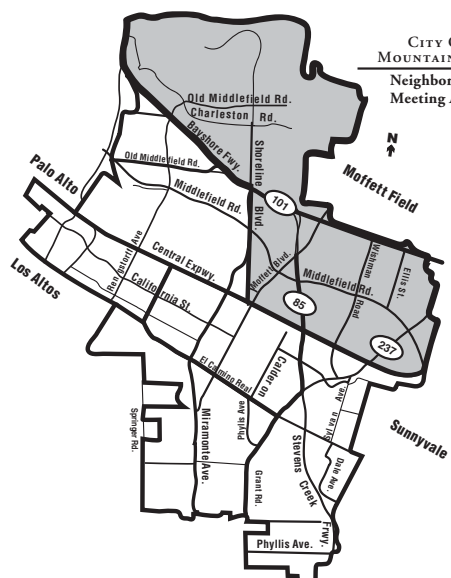
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., May 31, 2007

The City of Mountain View Council Neighborhoods Committee will be meeting with residents in the Moffett/Whisman Road Neighborhoods area, as designated on the map below, on May 31, 2007, at 7:00 pm.

The Council Neighborhoods Committee invites residents in this area to participate in a forum to hear about new projects in the community and discuss issues vital to your neighborhood. This is an opportunity to make a difference in the future of your neighborhood, and express your thoughts about ways to improve City services.

For further information, please call the City's Neighborhood Preservation Division at (650) 903-6379

**MOFFETT/WHISMAN ROAD
NEIGHBORHOODS AREA**



CITY OF LIGHTS

► Continued from page 22

Asymmetrical but appealing from start to finish.

Paris herself is an ethereal picture postcard in glorious hues and shades of gray, her celebrated flaws shamelessly splayed out onscreen. The cast is a melting pot of international celebrity, from Elijah Wood and Natalie Portman to Fanny Ardant, Juliette Binoche and Catalina Moreno, all willing participants in the human experiences of erring, loving and forgiving. ■

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■ HIGHLIGHT

“PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD”

This wild, Irish play has its 100th anniversary. Synge wraps blistering truths about family and society in lilted language and outrageous humor with the blarney eventually turning to steel. Thu.-Sun., through June 10.

See website for showtimes. \$10-\$25. The Pear Avenue Theatre, 1220 Pear Ave., unit K, Mountain View. Call 254-1148. www.thepear.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

DESIGNER SHOWCASE HOUSE TOUR

The Jewel in the Hills Showcase Tour, held to benefit the senior pet adoption program at the Humane Society Silicon Valley. Tue.-Sat., May 25-July 6, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. \$30/\$20 students and seniors. Canada College lot # 3, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Redwood City. Call 995-7141. www.seniorpetadoption.com

ART GALLERIES

“DOPPELGÄNGER” A GROUP SHOW BY GERMAN AMERICAN ARTISTS

Exhibit explores influences of Germany and America on display Thu.-Sun., May 31-July 15, 1-5 p.m. Free. 1870 Art Center Gallery, 1870 Ralston Ave., Belmont. Call 261-1086. www.1870artcenter.org

CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPES BY LINDA PATTERSON

Capturing the essence of nature through the media of oils, acrylics and pastels Linda Patterson's paintings are inspired by her appreciation and reverence for the natural environment. Through May 31. Portola Art Gallery, 75 Arbor Road, Menlo Park. www.portolaartgallery.com

JERRY UELSMANN: DREAM THEATRE

A career-spanning look at the work of photographer Jerry Uelsmann. Through May 30, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Free. Modernbook Gallery, 494 University Ave., Palo Alto. www.modernbook.com/jerryuelsmann.htm

MFA THESIS EXHIBITION

Second-year MFA students Binta Ayofemi, Chris Bell, Julie Chang, Kamau Patton and Heather Sparks will display artwork created. May 29-June 17; reception June 1, 6-9 p.m. Gallery Hours: Tue.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 1-5 p.m. Free. Thomas Welton Stanford Art Gallery, 419 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Call 723-3404. art.stanford.edu

MISPLACED REALITIES/BLURRED PERCEPTIONS

Paintings by Sheldon Greenberg, explore moments and memories recollected and reinterpreted. Tue.-Sat., through June 9, 11-6 p.m. Free. Spur Projects, 888 Portola Road, Portola Valley. Call 529-2040. www.spurprojects.com

OPEN STUDIOS

Featuring five gallery artists through May 26. Sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, brush painting, prints and more. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos. www.gallery9losaltos.com

PHOTO EXHIBIT

“Red Rock Country of the Grand Staircase,” by digital photographer Judith Kramer. Through May 25. Fire House Gallery features local artists and handcrafted gifts. A portion of each sale is donated to Avenidas in support of senior programs. Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Fire House Gallery, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 289-5430. www.avenidas.org

PHOTOGRAPHY

Nature photography by Gil Draper and Robert Terbonne through May 27. “Along the Shoreline” focuses on the ocean while Terbonne shows his passion for bark “Among the Trees.” Hours: Wed., Sun., 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. The Main Gallery, 1018 Main St., Redwood City. Call 366-8055. www.themaingallery.org

SIMULTANEOUS SHOWS

“Invincible Summer,” mixed media by Lois Parks DeCastro and cast acrylic monotypes by Jeannine Redon. May 30-July 1; meet the artist with Lois Parks DeCastro Sat., June 16 and Wed., June 20, noon-3 p.m.; reception for Jeannine Redon, Sun., June 3, 3-7 p.m. Free. The Main Gallery, 1018 Main St., Redwood City. www.themaingallery.org

AUDITIONS

“SWEET CHARITY” PYT invites youths ages 12-20, plus PYT alumni, to audition for the musical by Neil Simon, Cy Coleman and Dorothy Fields. June 2, 2 p.m. or June 3, 6 p.m. Prepare song and one-minute prose monologue; bring sheet music or instrumental tape or CD. \$160. Performs July 28-Aug. 5.

Peninsula Youth Theatre, 2500 Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View. www.pyt.net

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

ABCS OF SALTWATER KAYAK FISHING:

SANTA CRUZ TO HALF MOON BAY Learn how to rig your boat for fishing, discuss navigation, safety and how to read conditions. May 30, 7 p.m. Free. REI, 2450 Charleston Road, Mountain View. Call 969-1938.

ARTIST ACCESS

Artists and photographers have access to the gardens after hours. Registration limited to artists who work with watercolor, pen, pencil, charcoal, pastels and photography. No oils or acrylics. Pre-registration recommended. Third Thursdays, through Oct. 18, 3:30-6:30 p.m. \$20 members/\$25 non-member per day. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. www.filoli.org

CONFIDENT CONNECTED PARENTING: A JOURNALING WORKSHOP

Parent workshop with Lucy Rector Filippu. Wednesdays, May 30 and June 6, 7-8:30 p.m. \$50 for two sessions. Pre-registration required. Parents Place, 200 Channing Ave., Palo Alto. Call 688-3040. www.parentsplaceonline.org

COOKING WITH HERBS AND SPICES

Chef Laura Stec takes us on a culinary spice tour, showing ways to get health and healing benefits by cooking with common kitchen herbs. May 27, 1-2 p.m. Free. Elephant Pharm, 4470 El Camino Real, Los Altos. Call 472-6800. www.elephantpharm.com

ECYS SUMMER WORKSHOPS

The El Camino Youth Symphony announces three music workshops July 16-27. The workshops are open to Bay Area student musicians ages 6-14 of all instruments. Registration due: June 1. Instructors: Dr. Michail Gelfandbein and Debra Weinberg. First Presbyterian Church, 1140 Cowper St., Palo Alto. www.ecys.org

INTRODUCTION TO WATERCOLOR

Students learn the fundamentals of working with watercolor including making a watercolor wash, applying glazes and textures, mixing colors and more. May 25-26, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. \$175 members/\$220 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. Call 364-8300. www.filoli.org

PIQUE ASSIETTE WORKSHOP

Students learn the French mosaic technique of breaking old china or tile and reassembling them onto table tops, pottery and garden stepping-stones. May 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$85 members/\$105 non-members. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. Call 364-8300. www.filoli.org

SENIOR HOUSING OPTIONS

Don, Senior Housing Specialist speaks Thu., May 31, 1 p.m. about senior housing options, and the advantages and disadvantages of each. Call to reserve a seat. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 902-6330.

CLUBS/MEETINGS

MID PENINSULA WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS ASSOCIATION

Non-profit, peer support group for widows and widowers of all ages. Tuesdays, 7:15-9:15 p.m. Free to visitors. Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos. Call 961-0931.

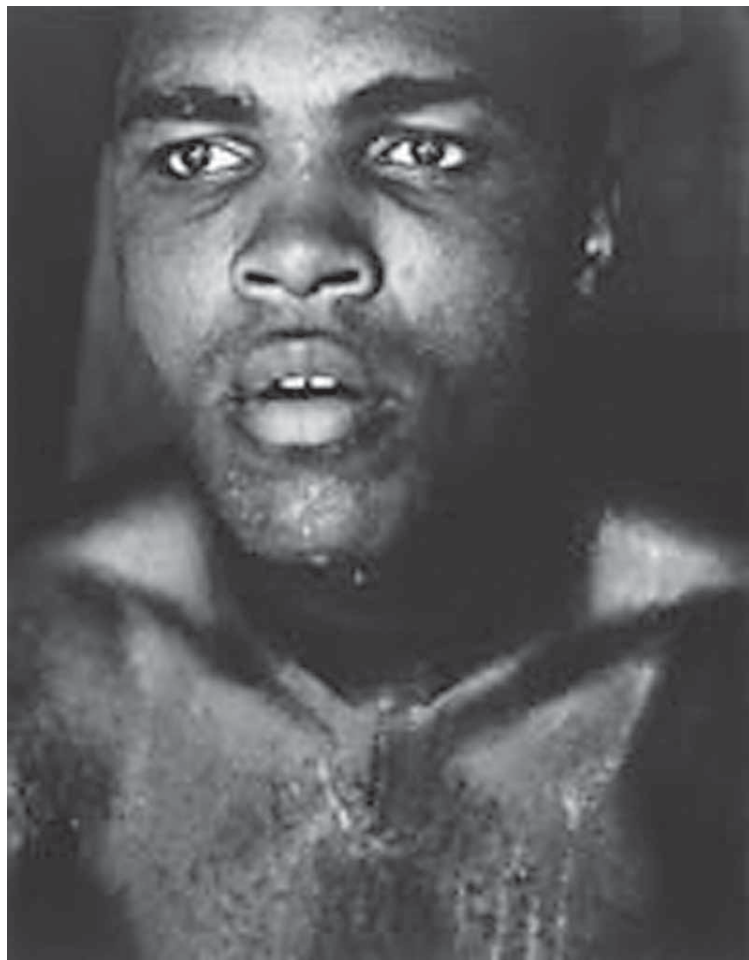
CONCERTS

ADRIAN SANBORN'S SENIOR FLUTE RECITAL

Adrian, a Paly senior, has studied flute since 2000 with Greer Ellison. He currently performs with the San Francisco Symphony Youth Orchestra and the Stanford Flute Ensemble. May 27, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Free. Unitarian Universalist Church, 505 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto. Call 328-3033.

GUNN HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND

Henry M. Gunn High School will honor its graduating senior class of instrumental musicians with a performance May 30, 7-9 p.m. featuring works from pop to classical. The program



MUHAMMAD ALI, 1970/ GORDON PARKS

BARE WITNESS: PHOTOGRAPHS BY GORDON PARKS

Exhibition made up of 73 photographs that were selected by the artist, African American photographer, filmmaker, and author Gordon Parks. Hours: Wed.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thu., 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Through July 1. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Dr., Stanford. Call 723-3469. <http://museum.stanford.edu>

includes the Freshman Concert Band, the Symphonic Band, and the Wind Ensemble. Works include Copland, Bernstein, and Sousa. \$3-\$5. Spangenberg Theater, 480 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto. Call 354-8264. www.pausd.org

TAI-JIN LEE, VIOLIN

Sat., May 26, 2:30 p.m. Violinist Tai-Jin Lee presents works by Mozart, Bach, and Chopin. Free. Campell Recital Hall, 541 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Call 723-2720. <http://music.stanford.edu/Events/calendar.html>

THE HARBOUR QUARTETTE

Sun., May 27, 2:30 p.m. Grace An on cello, Tai-Jin Lee and Alison Wong on violin, and Peter Ahn on viola make up The Harbour Quartette, a magnificent student ensemble. They will present Brahms' Quartet No. 2 and Mendelssohn's Quartet in D major. Free. Campell Recital Hall, 541 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Call 723-2720. <http://music.stanford.edu/Events/calendar.html>

UNIVERSITY SINGERS

Wed., May 30, 8 p.m. The University Singers under the baton of Robert Huw Morgan are joined by special guest artists The Whole Noyse to present Monteverdi's Vespers in the Baroque splendour of Memorial Church. \$10/\$5. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Call 723-2720. <http://music.stanford.edu/Events/calendar.html>

DANCE

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

L'ECOLE DE DANSE BALLET 20TH ANNI-

321-1004. www.moah.org

ARCHITECTURAL TOURS OF WILLIAMS HOUSE

Docent led architectural tours of the Century Old Williams House. Saturdays, through June 2, 2 p.m. Free. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. Call 321-1004. www.moah.org

ART OF BEING TUAREG: SAHARA NOMADS IN A MODERN WORLD

The first exhibition to examine Tuareg art, culture, and history. Features more than 200 objects, including jewelry, clothing, leatherwork, and other distinctive items of these semi-nomadic North African people of Niger, Mali, and Algeria. Wed.-Sun., May 30-Sept. 2, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Stanford Cantor Arts Center, Lomita Dr. and Museum Way, Stanford. Call 725-5317. http://museum.stanford.edu/news_room/tuareg.html

CALIFORNIA FINE PRESS PRINTERS EXHIBIT

Exhibition features fine press books from Stanford's Special Collections, ranging from small volumes of poetry to deluxe limited-edition collaborative works representing 40 presses active in California over the past three decades. Through June 17. Peterson Gallery, Green Library Bing Wing, Stanford. Call 326-1235. www.sul.stanford.edu/depts/spc/exhibits/index.html

GAZE: FOCUSING ON EYES

Rebecca Elisuc's haunting photos of eyes of people, pets, and dolls on exhibit through May 25, 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Free. Books Inc. Cafe Gallery, 301 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 964-0494. www.flickr.com/photos/paradeinthesky

LYRICAL LINES IN BLOOM CALLIGRAPHY EXHIBITION

A visual rhythm in lettering through a collection of handmade books, paintings and canvas banners. Through June 17, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; meet the artists May 26. Free with paid admission. Filoli, 86 Canada Road, Woodside. Call 364-8300. www.filoli.org

MICHAEL ROSENTHAL CONTEMPORARY ART PRESENTS

“Cinderella Series” by William Wegman and “Stung” by Anya Spielman. Through June 9. Free. Michael Rosenthal, 2317 Broadway, suite 110, Redwood City. Call 369-1948.

PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS AND SCULPTURE

Exhibition of works by artist Robert Poplack explores the possibilities of invented forms that rely on an internalized vision culled from years of experience painting directly from nature. Mon.-Sat., through May 28, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Call 917-6800 ext. 305. www.arts4all.org

STAINED GLASS BY JUDY MILLER

Memorial retrospective exhibit of stained-glass pieces by the late Palo Alto artist Judy Miller, along with works in oil by Cheryl Pape, acrylics by Szn Kraft and photography by Jean Slocum. Through July 31. Visitors must call and make an appointment to view the exhibit. Free. Sheridan Apartments, 360 Sheridan Ave., Palo Alto. Call 473-1179.

FAMILY AND KIDS

“JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH”

Peninsula Youth Theatre will conclude its 2006-07 Stories on Stage season with a dramatization of the book by Roald Dahl. May 25, 9:30 and 11 a.m. May 26, 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$5-\$7. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. www.pyt.net

GISSV PRESENTS MUSICAL AND ANNIE JR.

May 24-25, 7 p.m. \$5/\$10. German International School of Silicon Valley, 310 Easy St., Mountain View. Call 254-0748. www.gissv.org

■ MORE LISTINGS

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



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www.108BalbachStreet.com



Ranch style 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom house located in San Jose. 50K upgrade! Bay windows provide bright natural light. Remodeled kitchen and bathrooms, granite countertops, and new wood/tile flooring! Includes a beautiful sunroom, fireplace in living room, tall ceilings, patio & fenced yard, and 2-car garage. Walking distance to great schools. Nice mountain views! **\$750,000**



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!

VIEW MORE PICTURES AT:
www.808LenzenAvenue.com



Traditional style 2-story condo has 1-bedroom and 1-bathroom. Formal entry with tile flooring, fenced backyard with patio, utility room, 1-car garage with indoor entry to condo, new carpeting, fresh paint, new flooring in kitchen, and new shower tile with sliding glass doors.

VIEW MORE PICTURES AT:
www.1208PermataCourt.com



Contemporary 2-bedroom 1.5-bathroom duplex located on corner lot in San Carlos! This 2-story duplex offers central forced air heat, a relaxing covered patio, 1-car garage, and laundry facilities in garage. Fireplace in living room, large trees for cool shade, and large windows for great light! **\$1,080,000**



Willow Park 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom condo in Mountain View. Master suite, tub with jets, and fireplace in living room! Skylights give natural light, separate dining room, and patio. **\$525,000**

LOCATED IN THE ♥ HEART ♥ OF THE SILICON VALLEY
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