

Mountain View VOICE

SEPTEMBER 28, 2007 VOLUME 15, NO. 39

INSIDE: WEEKEND | PAGE 15

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P.21



MARJAN SADOUGH

This Mountain View house at 445 Calderon Ave. sits on 1.3 acres.

City's second-oldest home up for sale

COUNCIL DISCUSSES PURCHASE OF 1.3 ACRE PROPERTY,
WHICH COULD GO FOR OVER \$3 MILLION

By Daniel DeBolt

A glimpse of what Mountain View was like a hundred years ago can be found up the winding, shaded, gravel driveway at 445 Calderon Ave., the family home of Anne Bakotich, who recently passed away. After the more famous Rengstorff House, it is said to be the second-oldest house in the city.

Nick Perry, author of numerous articles on Mountain View history, once wrote that visiting the orchard-encompassed Victorian farmhouse "is like stepping into another era."

The home's future is uncertain, however. A "For Sale" sign went up on the house last week, and some worry a developer will buy the property and build the 13 to 25 homes authorized under the zoning ordinance.

On Tuesday night, the City Council discussed the purchase of the 1.3 acre property in closed session. Council member Jac Siegel hopes to preserve the property for a park, with or without the restoration of the home. The asking price is \$3.2 million,

which could be mustered with the help of in-lieu park fees from a nearby development.

"Once it's gone, it's gone forever," Siegel said about the opportunity.

"That'd be a great place for a park — as long as the city doesn't demolish that house!" wrote Perry in an e-mail. Perry was one of several people who got a tour of the house in 2001 with the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association.

The house was last inhabited by Antoinette Bakotich, also known as Anne or Toni to friends, who died June 1. She was 90 years old.

Bakotich's parents bought the house in the 1920s, moving from Palo Alto. Bakotich lived in the house for over 80 years, by herself much of the time. She never married, never had children and worked for 42 years as a social worker for Santa Clara County. She traveled the world, kept up on tennis and contributed to many charities — including the Community Services Agency — and even helped out on Sally Lieber's political campaigns.

► See **CALDERON**, page 9

■ INSIDE

The Eagle Shack is back
See story, p.5

Parents protest teacher's firing

GREEN CARD ISSUE TRIPS UP CANADIAN CITIZEN,
A FAVORITE AMONG MONTA LOMA KIDS

By Susan Hong

One after another, emotional and outraged parents stood up at last week's Mountain View Whisman school board meeting to speak out against the firing of Vesta Jentsch, a popular second grade teacher at Monta Loma Elementary School.

Jentsch, a Canadian citizen, began having difficulties renewing her expired green card this summer and could not return to the U.S. before the first day of school. As a result, the district terminated her.

Parents felt the district should not have acted so hastily.

"She loves her students so much. This is her passion. You can't teach that to someone," said parent Shelly Ostman, whose voice shook as she spoke to the board. "We're going to lose this valuable resource and we should be scared about that."

"This is a really emotional issue for me," said Leane Reelfs, whose son had Jentsch as a teacher. "She is a phenomenal teacher and made a huge difference in my son's life. She notices the difference in each child."

"She came to us eight years ago," said Chris Hoover, a parent with three children. "If you dig into API scores, you'll find that she is one of your best producers. She is worth the wait."

Board president Fiona Walter acknowledged the parents' concerns. "Please know that all of us are hearing from you," she said.

In a separate e-mail to the *Voice*, Walter elaborated on the district's position. She wrote: "Mrs. Jentsch has applied for permanent residence status (a.k.a. green card). Her application is under the classification of 'derivative application,'

which means the application is based upon her husband's permanent status sponsored by his employment.

"When his application is approved," Walter continued, "she also receives permanent residence status which includes authorization to work in the United States with MVWSD or another school



Vesta Jentsch

► See **TEACHER**, page 10

Farm idea all over the map

PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSION TO STUDY
POSSIBLE SITES

By Daniel DeBolt

The City Council on Tuesday revisited the issue of creating an educational farm in Mountain View, this time without a specific site in mind.

Last June, when the council rejected plans to preserve the "Pumpkin Patch" farm on Grant Road, members told the Mountain View Farmlands

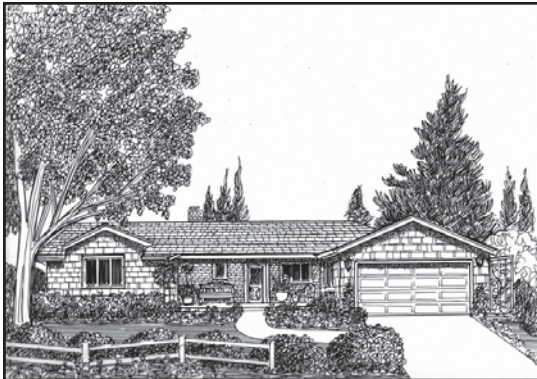
► See **FARM**, page 9

Cliff Noll



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Barbara Silvester



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CUPERTINO ■ Fabulous duplex: 3bd/2ba & 2bd/2ba. Dual-pane windows, vaulted ceilings, FP in both units, separate garages + private back yards. End of cul-de-sac. **\$1,399,000**

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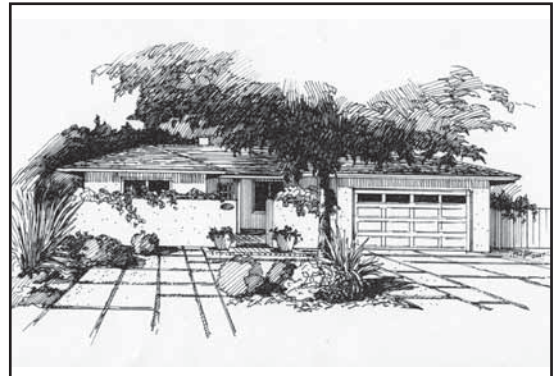
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Stephanie Schley



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Voices

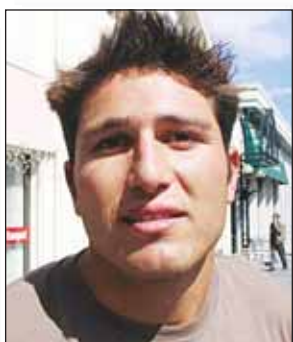
A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in Downtown Mountain View. Pictures and interviews by Theresa Condon.

Have you ever taken classes at a community college?



"I'm taking classes at Foothill College right now. I'm taking ESL [English as a second language], three classes. My major is Computer Systems."
Jonathan Ramirez, Mountain View



"I went to Santa Monica College. I took several classes, some math classes, some English classes, some lower-division classes initially. Then I transferred to UCLA."
Stephan Shahinian, San Francisco



"I attended Foothill. I took some art classes, political science, some math. I was there for one year, then I transferred to San Jose State. My major is Fine Arts."
Pernilla Andersson, San Jose



"I took classes at Los Positas in Livermore. I took a music class, a guitar class, a philosophy class, I think a writing class. I wanted to transfer to a good music school like Berkeley."
Javon Montgomery, Mountain View



"I went to West Valley College. I did the first part of my college education there, two years. I did my G.E. there, then transferred to the UC system. I went to UC Santa Barbara."
Lori Topley, Sunnyvale

Have a question for **Voices Around Town**? E-mail it to editor@mv-voice.com

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2007

LocalNews

■ CRIMEWATCH

AUTO BURGLARY, SIERRA VISTA AVE./SILVERWOOD AVE., 9/23

A man heard his car alarm go off around 2:30 p.m. When he went to investigate he found an unknown male sitting in his car. The suspect got away on foot, running northbound on Sierra Vista Avenue, making off with the man's GPS unit. He is described as a Hispanic adult male, around 30 years old, with short black hair. He was last seen wearing a grey sweat-shirt, black pants and black shoes.

GRAND THEFT, 2000 BLOCK OLD MIDDLEFIELD RD., 9/20

An unidentified male came into Credit Jewelers and tried to cash a check. He then stole a bracelet and ran away, taking the check with him. He is described as a white adult male in his mid-20s. He was last seen wearing a red baseball cap, blue jeans and a black jacket.

■ POLICE LOG

ARSON

1700 Block Rock St., 9/18

GRAND THEFT

900 Block Camille Ln., 9/22

BATTERY

200 Block San Antonio Cl., 9/23
1400 Block Plymouth St., 9/24

IDENTITY THEFT

100 Block E. El Camino Real, 9/18
100 Block Crestview Dr., 9/19

BREAKING/REMOVING VEHICLE

200 Block California St., 9/22

MISSING PERSON - ADULT

200 Block Calderon Ave., 9/19
Wal-Mart, 9/20

BURGLARY/AUTO

Century 16 Cinema, 9/20
Sierra Vista Ave/Silverwood Ave., 9/23
700 Block E. El Camino Real, 9/24
1000 Block Grant Rd., 9/24

MISSING PERSON - JUVENILE

500 Block Moorpark Way, 9/19
1000 Block Space Park Way, 9/20

BURGLARY/COMMERCIAL

2600 Block W. El Camino Real, 9/20

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

400 Block San Antonio Rd., 9/19
600 Block San Antonio Rd., 9/20
1400 Block Plymouth St., 9/20
2100 Block San Antonio, 9/20
Hwy 85/E. Middlefield Rd., 9/22
100 Block N. Rengstorff Ave., 9/23
600 Block Barbara Ave.

PETTY THEFT

Safeway, California, 9/18
2600 Block W. El Camino Real, 9/18
200 Block Castro St., 9/18
300 Block Escuela Ave., 9/18
1900 Block Latham St., 9/19
600 Block Fairmont Ave., 9/19
Safeway - California, 9/20
4500 Block San Antonio Rd., 9/20
1900 Block Latham St., 9/20
St. Stephen's Green, 9/24
1200 Block W. El Camino Real, 9/24

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

300 Block Fay Way, 9/18
Church St., S. Shoreline Blvd., 9/24
W. El Camino Real/Ortega Ave., 9/24
W. Middlefield Rd./Moffett Blvd., 9/24

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

2300 Carol Ave., 9/18
Target, 9/23

ROBBERY

400 Block W. El Camino Real, 9/24

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES/PERSON

800 Block W. Evelyn Ave., 9/18
500 Block S. First St., 9/19
Wal-Mart, 9/20
2500 Block W. El Camino Real, 9/20
1600 Block S. Whisman Rd., 9/20
1800 Block Ednamary Way, 9/22
Sahara Mobile Village, 9/23
California St./Showers Dr., 9/24

GRAND THEFT

100 Block Chetwood St., 9/18
100 Block Eldora Dr., 9/19
500 Block Showers Dr., 9/20
2000 Block Old Middlefield Way, 9/20
100 Block Bryant St., 9/22

VANDALISM

8900 Block Rengstorff Ave., 9/22
Rock St./Sierra Vista Ave., 9/23
2100 Block Reinert Ct., 9/24

■ CORRECTION AND CLARIFICATION

The Info Mountain View special section, published Sept. 14, provided an incorrect address for council member Jac Siegel. Siegel's actual address is 167 Sleeper Ave., Mountain View, 94040.

Last week's story "Passing the buck on Orion Park?" quoted

Don Chuck, NASA environmental engineer, as saying that "maybe Hangar One is to blame" for contamination found at a former salt pond NASA is cleaning up. The comment was meant as a joke, and Chuck later clarified that the contaminants have nothing to do with Hangar One.

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- Wednesday, October 17

* SIBLING PREPARATION

Designed for children two years of age and older, this class prepares siblings for the emotional and physical realities of the arrival of a newborn.

- Sunday, October 21

* BECOMING GRANDPARENTS

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

- Thursday, November 1

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Longs time coming

By Don Frances

THAT LONGS Drugs you've been waiting for is finally opening this weekend, with the official ribbon-cutting Saturday at noon.

Several of your City Council members will be there to celebrate the 13,000-square-foot store's grand opening. As everyone knows, it's located on the ground floor of the beautiful new downtown garage at the corner of Bryant and California streets.

Apparently there will be prizes, games and a grand opening sale this Saturday — not to mention plenty of parking.

LOCAL ARTIST Bob Schick would like to alert local art lovers (and local former-Pumpkin Patch lovers) that his "Remembering the Great Pumpkin Patch" exhibition is up for viewing at the Albin Frame Shop, 610 Rancho Shopping Center at the corner of Foothill Expressway and Springer/Magdalena Road, through October.

The exhibit, which features "the final depictions of Mountain View's Grant Road Farm," is open Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (650) 941-0555 for more. You can also meet Schick himself this Saturday, Sept. 29, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the shop.

(Meanwhile, other local landscape paintings by Schick are on exhibit at Santa Clara's Triton Museum of Art through Sept. 30.)

DANIEL DEBOLT was at Shoreline Amphitheatre last Friday evening, settling in for an Arcade Fire concert, when everybody started bumping to a different sound.

It seems that late-summer rain storm caught everybody off guard. But despite the thunder and rain, the concertgoers were undeterred, Daniel said, and the band played on.

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



times

HISTORIC TEEN DANCE HALL FROM THE 1940S WILL COME ALIVE AT OCT. 7 EVENT

By Daniel DeBolt

For Mountain View teenagers in the late 1940s and early 1950s, the place to be on a Saturday night was the Eagle Shack on Moffett Boulevard.

In those days, there were only a few thousand

people in the city, and the nighttime attractions were limited to the downtown movie theater and Johnnie Mac's drive-in on El Camino Real.

And there was the Eagle Shack, where teens found live music, dancing, refreshments, ping pong tables, card tables, pool tables "and many other ways to spend your leisure

time," says an article from the *Mountain Eagle*, the student newspaper of the Mountain View Union High School in those years.

On Sunday, Oct. 7, from 2 to 4 p.m., Mountain View is set to revive the Eagle Shack in its original location at 157 Moffett Blvd. — also known as the Adobe Building, which was

► See **EAGLE SHACK**, page 8

at the



Police: Shooter, victim were old friends

Staff and Wire Reports

A man shot to death in Whisman Park early Sunday morning was the "life-long friend" of his shooter, Mountain View police said.

Marco Jauregui, 25, and Rene Escalante, 24, were walking through Whisman Park at about 12:30 a.m. Sunday when Jauregui allegedly shot his friend multiple times and fled on foot. Both men reportedly grew up in Mountain View.

According to police, Jauregui was arrested late Sunday night in Milpitas after anonymous information and physical evidence led police to a relative's home there. Police say they have also located the murder weapon.



Marco Jauregui

Mountain View police spokesperson Liz Wylie said two witnesses were among the group of four friends present when the shooting occurred.

"We knew who our suspect was from the very beginning," Wylie said. "It was just a matter of getting the warrants."

After being called to the park, located on the 300 block of Easy Street, officers found Escalante suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. He was transported to Stanford Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Both Escalante and Jauregui are confirmed Mountain View Sureno gang members, but the motive for the killing remains under investigation, according to police. Both lived in Santa Clara at the time of the killing.

Earlier this week, Wylie said the incident was not being investigated as gang-related. The motive for the shooting is unknown.

Jauregui is currently being held for parole violation and murder charges in the San Jose Main Jail.

The shooting is Mountain View's first murder since 2005. ■

In Mountain View

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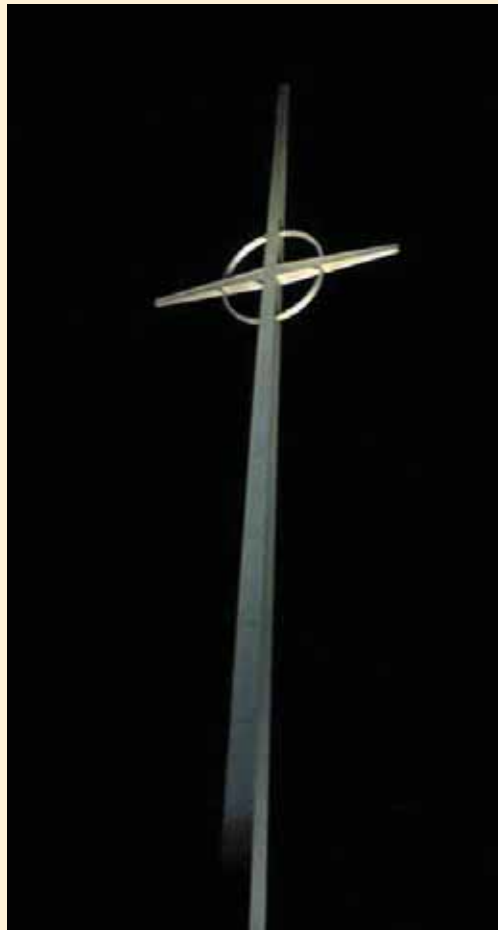
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SEEN AROUND TOWN



Cross at First Presbyterian

Mary Smith of Varsity Court sent in this starkly beautiful nighttime shot of the cross atop First Presbyterian Church on Miramonte Avenue. "Neighbors often comment that the cross is a beacon for the neighborhood," she wrote.

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.

Another possible savior for Hangar One

By Daniel DeBolt

The effort to save Hangar One may get a hand from a state office that so far has been relatively invisible on the local level.

Representatives from the Office of Historic Preservation recently visited Moffett Field's Hangar One, and director Wayne Donaldson said the visit made him more determined than ever to save the "spectacular piece of engineering."

The Navy must consult with Donaldson's office when it announces whether it will demolish the hangar this November. If Donaldson and his staff believe

their consultation is "not treated in a serious manner," the matter will then be picked up by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, a federal body that could have the final word on the hangar.

After that, the Navy has only the president to appeal to, Donaldson said. He also said his recent visit sharpened his resolve to save the building.

"It's a spectacular piece of engineering, way beyond just being a building," he said. "It makes me feel more inclined to really save that building at all costs."

The Navy is scheduled to release its final environmental evaluation and cost analysis in November, at

which point the Office of Historic Preservation could kick into high gear. Donaldson said he doesn't know what the Navy's current position is on the hangar, but he knows what several elected officials think, including Rep. Anna Eshoo and Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who regularly communicate with his office "as a matter of course," he said.

"We're really anxious to get that report in our hands," he said.

As far as what the federal body thinks, Donaldson said he didn't know, but noted that the issue "is very much on their radar."

More information is available at www.achp.gov/index.html and www.ohp.parks.ca.gov.

NASA calls for more airfield users

By Daniel DeBolt

NASA Ames official Steve Zornetzer told the City Council on Tuesday that its deal with the owners of Google to allow their Boeing 767 to land at Moffett may be the first of several deals like it, which will help pay for airfield operations.

Zornetzer explained that it costs \$7 million a year to run the airfield, and that the federal government has recently cut off the airfield's funding. NASA Ames is still \$3 million short this year.

"We will act responsibly and aggressively to meet that shortfall,"

Zornetzer said. "There will be other partnerships."

Zornetzer said those other partnerships will happen only if they meet two criteria. The first is that "top dollar" rates be paid by the user, which he said is the case with Google.

The second is that the user must "enhance" NASA's mission by outfitting the planes with scientific equipment to gather data from Earth's atmosphere during flights. In the case of Google, the executive's planes are taking data "primarily to understand climate change and global warming."

The council had no questions

or comments, though one member of the public, John Lin of Showers Drive, raised concerns about the possibility of late night flights, something that has been a problem at the San Jose airport, where Oracle CEO Larry Ellison violated a curfew on flights in his private jet.

The alternative to the private deals, Zornetzer said, is that the federal government would turn over the airstrip to the Federal Aviation Administration, which would likely allow cargo flights in and out of Moffett, something that was fought off by the city in the 1990s. ■

New preschool planned for Graham campus

EMPHASIS WILL BE ON LANGUAGE, LITERACY PROGRAMS FOR 40 LOW-INCOME CHILDREN

By Susan Hong

The Mountain View Whisman School District has approved tentative plans to open a small preschool on the Graham Middle School campus to benefit low-income families.

The preschool, which would take 40 children from the 94040 ZIP code, would open in January. It would be open three hours a day, and offer a program to help children develop literacy and language skills in English.

"We've applied, they're in the process of reviewing it, but we think we're going to get it," Assistant Superintendent Mary Lairon said last week, referring to the application process for county "Power of Preschool" funds.

The two teachers assigned to the preschool will ask families to engage in their child's development so that learning extends into the home. The district said it will enroll students based on a first-come, first-served basis, and currently has a waiting list.

Funds for the school are expected to come from a five-year, \$1.4 million grant from the Power of Pre-

school project, which was started in 1998 thanks to tobacco-tax funds provided by Proposition 10, the measure promoted by Carl Reiner.

The money is expected to include a one-time \$100,000 facilities grant and \$256,000 in annual income, according to program officials, who expect to award the grant in a few weeks.

The funds are "primarily targeted to our high-risk, high-need areas," said Jolene Smith of First 5 California.

Mountain View's 94040 is one of six ZIP codes in Santa Clara County identified as having "at-risk" children and is eligible to receive state funds, a program official said. The "at-risk" designation takes into consideration income level, parent education, immunization rates and exposure to lead, she said.

The school will occupy a 1,400-square-foot classroom that will be remodeled and equipped with books, tricycles, balls and puppets, officials said. The district also plans to add 3,000 square feet of new playground space. ■

E-mail Susan Hong at shong@mv-voice.com

Ride, Sally Ride: Science Festival returns to NASA

By Susan Hong

Hundreds of San Francisco Bay Area girls in grades five through eight, along with their parents and teachers, will once again join astronaut Sally Ride on a journey of scientific discovery at Moffett Field this weekend.

The Sally Ride Science Festival, designed to encourage girls and young women to pursue careers in math, science and engineering, will feature dozens of female engineers and scientists sharing their stories and hosting a series of workshops. Previous festivals focused on a variety of science-related topics, including chemistry, marine biology, forensics, astronomy, veterinary medicine, engineering, geophysics, computer science, neurobiology, aviation, medicine and planetary science.

The festival will also include

an inspirational talk by Ride herself, the first American woman in space, and an interactive street fair with science experiments, food and music.

The event is one of a series taking place around the country. Other Sally Ride festivals are planned in Texas, Alabama and Southern California.

This weekend's Sally Ride Science Festival will be held at NASA Ames Research Center at Moffett Field this Saturday, Sept. 29, from 11 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. The event will be held in NASA Research Park and various buildings at NASA Ames. To reach the NASA Ames facilities, take Moffett Boulevard east, past Highway 101, to Moffett Field's main gate.

Tickets are \$18 for students and adults, and pre-registration is required. Attendees can pre-register online at www.sallyride-festivals.com or by phone at (800) 561-5161. ■



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ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF EUGENE SHARP

These images of a Dec. 18, 1948 Christmas Dance appear on a brochure probably published by the Chamber of Commerce.

EAGLE SHACK

► Continued from page 5

restored in 2001.

Eugene Sharp, 75, is organizing this "recreation of history" with the Mountain View Historical Association. While a Mountain

View high school student back in the '40s, he played saxophone for the Melody Makers, a band that played regularly at the Eagle Shack. A reformation of the Melody Makers — which includes Sharp, original lead singer Lucille Garcia Rodgers and members of the Los Altos Big Band — will play the

Sharp remembers asking Los Altos girls out and being rejected, not finding out until years later that their mothers had forbidden them.

"People in Los Altos were businessmen, doctors and professionals," Sharp said. But in Mountain View, "Most of us were either associated with Moffett Field or

upcoming event.

The comeback idea started about six years ago, when Sharp read a high school yearbook comment from a woman who said she had fond memories of the Eagle Shack and the Melody Makers.

"That sort of got me thinking," Sharp said. "I thought, 'This woman is married now, but if I brought the Eagle Shack back, I could probably dance with her.'"

One purpose of the dance is to recreate an event for people of that era who wished they had participated, but hadn't, Sharp said. That included kids from Los Altos who were forbidden from going dancing in Mountain View, "especially in a place on the other side of the railroad tracks."

were orchardists and farmers." Sharp described the population as "a great melting pot," which included "Croatians, Japanese, Mexican Americans and Italians."

During a period when boys were often enlisting in the military after high school and girls were expected to become housewives, Sharp said the Eagle Shack was meant for 13- to 18-year-olds, but basically, "people came until they got married."

Photographs show the formal attire of the time, enforced by a dress code "to keep these meetings respectable," according to the *Mountain Eagle*. That meant "no Levis or zoot-suits shall be worn."

On the Eagle Shack's first night on Nov. 17, 1944, more than 250 people showed up after word spread through "creameries, homes, stores, clubs and scores of other places," says the article from the *Mountain Eagle*.

The Eagle Shack was "strictly a youth-run organization," Sharp recalled, with a president, a constitution and regular meetings at the high school.

The Eagle Shack also had the support of a group of citizens lead by Judge J.M. Atkinson, who had "many dealings" with juvenile cases. When asked if there were any juvenile delinquents in Mountain View after the Shack opened, the

police chief responded, "There are no recent cases," Sharp recalls.

Eventually the Adobe Building needed repairs, and dances moved to the Sunnyview Club on Esceula Avenue — now the site of the Senior Center — from 1951 to 1956, Sharp said.

Sharp said the Oct. 7 event will be appropriate for all ages, from seniors to teenagers. There will be refreshments, tables and a history display. Most of the music will be of the sort heard at the original Eagle Shack, including songs like "Moonlight Serenade," "I Only Have Eyes for You" and "Careless."

Local teenagers interested in performing music at the event can contact Eugene Sharp at esharp_f@pacbell.net. ■

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

■ INFORMATION

What: The Eagle Shack returns for an afternoon of big-band music and dancing

When: Sunday, Oct. 7, starting at 2 p.m.

Where: The Adobe Building, 157 Moffett Blvd. near Central Expwy

Cost: Free

Info: Call (650) 493-1488 for more



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Council rejects Easy Street project

By Daniel DeBolt

After making several complaints about its design, the City Council rejected a row house development Tuesday at 315 Easy St. that would have replaced 14 \$850-a-month studios with nine \$800,000 homes.

"We are concerned that this project is one of many destroying low-income housing in the city," said Roy Hayter of Advocates for Affordable Housing.

Hayter and several council members said the project would relocate tenants with the use of the city's "below market rate" housing funds, originally

intended to add affordable housing stock to the city. The practice began with a supposedly one-time use of the funds to relocate residents at 291 Evandale Ave.

For the first time, city staff member Linda Lauzze reported on the success of this practice at 291 Evandale, saying that only 15 of the 64 households applied for the funds. Though it is still early, of those 15, so far only one family has found another home in Mountain View, which they must do to qualify for the funds.

The Easy Street project brought out frustrations over the city's housing situation.

"I don't want affordable hous-

ing to mean dilapidated, crumbling buildings," said council member Margaret Abe-Koga.

The discussion prompted council member Ronit Bryant to ask that the city revisit its award-winning row house guidelines. Of particular concern was the shared roof on the Easy Street project, which made the building seem large and condo-like.

Neighbor Alex Tang said there was a "good chance we're going to be living in a cave," because of the size of the building next to his small home. ▀

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

CALDERON

► Continued from page 1

She was a wonderful "spinster aunt" to the family and "very adventurous," said Pat McKenzie-O'Donnell, the estate's executor. She remembers Lieber adjourning the state Assembly in honor of Bakotich's involvement in the community.

"She loved to party," McKenzie-O'Donnell said.

On a recent tour of the small two-bedroom home, it looked as if it hadn't changed much in a century. The very small kitchen had never been updated, and people familiar with the house said it could be costly to bring it up to code.

McKenzie-O'Donnell said the home was being sold to pay estate taxes on the property and to provide as much as possible for Bakotich's numerous heirs — nine great and great-great nieces and nephews.

City historian Barbara Kinchen

said the house was built in the 1880s by carpenter Charles Abbott, who went on to build many other houses in the city — but this was his first. It was one of several along Calderon that abutted five acres of ranch land, which Bakotich's father turned into an orchard. All but one acre of that land was sold to make way for Landels School. Today, kids at Landels can be heard playing from the house's large backyard.

Surviving homes in Mountain View that were built in the late 1800s are few and far between, Kinchen said. Bakotich claimed the house was the second oldest in the city behind the 1867 Rengstorff House, and Mountain View Historical Society president Bob Weaver said that's "generally accepted" to be true. Bakotich was a member of the Mountain View Historical Society and grew up with Kinchen. Both attended the grammar school located around the corner on Centre Street.

Siegel is leading the city's effort

to buy the property after running for council on a platform for more parks last year. Earlier this year, Siegel organized a group of volunteers to build Bakotich a porch ramp for her wheelchair.

Whether the rest of the council will find it worthwhile to buy the property for \$3.2 million is uncertain. While the adjacent neighborhood east of Calderon and north of El Camino Real could be described as lacking park space, the property itself is right next to Landels School, which is used as a park during non-school hours.

The property has also been viewed as an opportune site for the Mountain View History Museum. The Mountain View Historical Society has not discussed the matter, but Weaver said it was his opinion it would be a bad site, partly because the museum might generate too much traffic in an already busy residential neighborhood. He said museum plans for the Cuesta Annex are still on track. ▀

FARM

► Continued from page 1

Group they hoped the effort would not lose steam and that another site would be found.

A city staff report said that buying five to 10 acres of suitable property would cost anywhere from \$9 million to \$30 million. The possibility of a school site was looked into, but Parks and Recreation Director Dave Muela said those places were all being used at full capacity. A farm of similar purpose is moving forward in Sunnyvale at Peterson Middle School called the Full Circle Farm.

Council member Ronit Bryant said she may have been partly to blame for the lack of focus on the farm, because she wanted to prioritize the farm with other needs

in mind, such as a teen center, a community center and a third regional park to meet the needs of the city's growing population.

Council member Tom Means said residents needed to decide if they wanted to give up open space for a farm. The Francia orchard on Whisman Road, for example, could be a good location for a regional park, a farm or both. Bryant said she was skeptical that a toxic TCE plume detected in that neighborhood wasn't under the Francia property as well, which would make it unsuitable for a farm.

Former council member Mike Kasperzak is pushing for the city to bring the issue to voters to decide. A bond measure approved by residents could provide money to purchase property for a park or a farm.

"We missed the boat on the

Pumpkin Patch because we didn't have the money to buy it," said council member Jac Siegel. "The only way to do that is with a bond measure. Let's let the people of Mountain View vote and decide."

The council voted to allow the Parks and Recreation Commission to look into the issue and study potential sites. Several people mentioned the 18-acre meadow along Highway 85 as a potential site, some of which is owned by the city and some by the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The Stevens Creek Trail will push through that area next year after the tunnel under El Camino Real is completed.

City manager Kevin Duggan said a study session would be held in the future where staff would lay out what a bond measure entails before the council decides whether to pursue it. ▀

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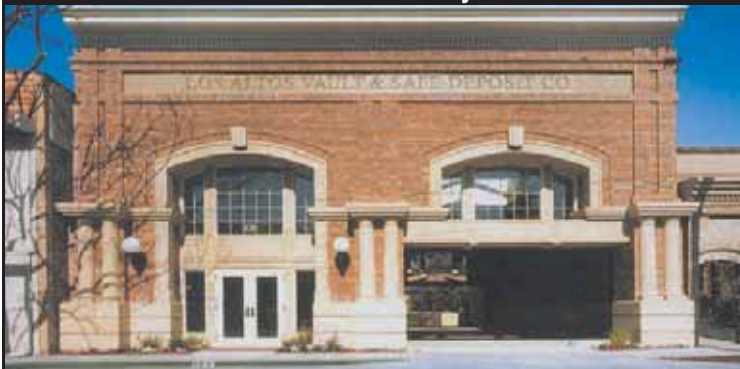
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LocalNews

Man who rescued toddler honored by City Council

By Daniel DeBolt

Described as a "hero in our midst" by Mayor Laura Macias, Alan Turick was recognized by the City Council on Tuesday for rescuing the baby found locked in a hot car near the downtown library late last month.

While reading the proclamation describing the heroic act, Macias nearly broke into tears and said, "It's wonderful you did this."

Turick came across the distressed child in the locked car on Tuesday, Aug. 28 at around 12:50 p.m. during a hot summer afternoon. According to police reports,

he called 9-1-1, and emergency crews arrived quickly and broke into the car.

Turick wanted to give credit to the emergency response team. "That day they did what they are supposed to do," he said.

Police say the baby's caretaker, Juhee Hong, did not return to the car for about half an hour. She was arrested at the scene, and is being charged with child endangerment.

Hong spent about a week in jail before being released on \$50,000 bail, according to the district attorney's office. She appeared in court again Tuesday, but the case was continued until Oct 12 at 1:30

p.m. in Dept. 89. Deputy District Attorney Staci Homrig said pre-trial conferences were still going on to see if the case can be settled without going to trial.

The District Attorney's office is asking Hong to plead guilty to misdemeanor child endangerment. The maximum sentence would be six months in county jail and a maximum fine of \$1,000. Hong would also have to be on formal probation for four years and take a 52-week class on child abuse. ▀

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

TEACHER

► Continued from page 1

district."

Walter said the district did not sponsor Jentsch's application, "because we would be unable to verify that there was no qualified U.S. worker for that position."

Walter also said the district would rehire Jentsch so long as she is able to clear up her immigrant status, "at which time (within 39 months) she will retain her tenure and all accrued seniority." She warned that "we cannot guarantee her a teaching position at Monta Loma."

According to school officials, dis-

trict Superintendent Maurice Ghysels has asked to meet with Jentsch to discuss the matter. Jentsch could not be reached for comment by press time.

Some parents, hoping to keep Jentsch on board, have demanded that the board investigate her record in improving student test scores and learning.

Brent Harrison, founder of a high-tech consulting firm, has a son who was in Jentsch's second-grade class. From his line of work, Harrison said, he learned that "if you have a valuable and talented employee, you do everything possible to work with them through the

[application] process. To lose someone because of that" — a green card issue — "it just doesn't make sense to me."

According to Reelfs, Jentsch was recently chosen for "Who's Who Among American Teachers," a list of favorite educators from around the country.

Second grade teacher Gail Perry was hired to replace Jentsch. She comes from Redding, with nine years of teaching experience, according to Stephanie Totter, assistant superintendent. ▀

E-mail Susan Hong at shong@mv-voice.com

EDUCATION BRIEFS

COUNTY SCHOOLS CHIEF RESIGNS

Dr. Colleen B. Wilcox, Santa Clara County superintendent of schools, announced last week her decision to retire from the county office in November.

"October marks my 14th anniversary as the county superintendent. I owe a great debt of gratitude to the remarkable staff members who are ultimately responsible for all the achievements this office had made," she wrote in an open letter to the district.

"It is certainly the right time for me to move on to the 'next chapter' in my professional life," she added.

During her time as superintendent, Wilcox secured \$60 million in facilities for special education programs, served as precedent of the Horace Mann League of the United States, and founded the "Fit for Learning" program to fight childhood obesity.

Joe Fimiani, assistant superintendent for student services, will serve as acting superintendent as

the county Board of Education conducts its search for a replacement.

FALL MUSIC FESTIVAL IS THIS WEEKEND

For the first time, the Mountain View High School Music Parent's Association will hold its Fall Music Festival in lieu of its annual garage sale.

The festival is this Saturday, Sept. 29, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the central quad at Mountain View High School, 3555 Truman Ave. Tickets are \$2 per person.

"This outdoor family event will celebrate the joys of making music while raising funds for multiple instrumental music programs, which serve over 400 students at Mountain View High School," the group said.

At 4 p.m., marching bands from Mountain View and Los Altos high schools and the Kings Academy will perform. This afternoon performance is free.

For more information, contact Cathy Humphers Smith at mvhsmusicfestival@gmail.com or at (650) 793-2218.

ROBOTICS TEAM LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS

The seventh annual Los Altos Robotics League program is looking for new team members.

The league introduces young students to engineering, science, math and technology concepts in a hands-on way — by having them create autonomous robots which perform on a sports-like playing field. Each fall, teams of four to six players have eight weeks to design, construct, program and test their robots. They then compete in tournaments, running robots in time trials and demonstrating technological creativity.

Los Altos Robotics is a community organization that hosts the Los Altos competition, helps with team formation and provides a training session for coaches. Last year, 27 Los Altos area teams with more than 140 local students participated.

For more information, visit www.losaltosrobotics.org.

— Susan Hong

District tries to control special ed costs

INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AIM TO HELP
MV WHISMAN STUDENTS EARLY ON

By Susan Hong

As more and more students qualify for special education services, the Mountain View Whisman School District is looking for a way to identify and help potential special ed students earlier, before they enter costly off-campus programs.

Facing a \$3 million-plus shortfall in its special education budget this year, the school board has endorsed a plan to identify and help students who may be challenged but who are not necessarily in need of special education services.

By intervening early, and providing more focused instruction for students with problems such as reading disabilities or speech impediments, the district hopes to reduce its referrals to special education contractors, and hopefully control its costs.

"The idea being that as you support those kids and strengthen those basic skills, you would have fewer children who would need to receive special education services," said Steve Gingras, director of special education for the district. "We don't want any child identified for special education because we didn't serve them adequately. It should be for specific learning disabilities."

Intervention involves teachers giving students more individualized lesson plans if the student is having trouble learning in class. It used to be that if a student was having trouble, a teacher would automatically refer him or her to special education, rather than looking more closely at alternative methods.

Now, if a student is having trouble learning how to read, for example, a teacher might utilize more visual aids to teach the child, Gingras said. The teacher will try out more individualized lessons for several weeks to see if learning improves. If it doesn't, the teacher will refer the student to a small-group learning environment with another teacher who specializes in at-risk students. The student will attend class in that setting for

another several weeks.

If those intervention methods still don't work, the teacher will then refer the student to special education.

High cost for special ed

This year the district expects to spend \$7.5 million for the 560 students who qualify for special services, according to Craig Goldman, the district's chief financial officer. Some \$4 million of that total comes from state and federal sources, and the rest, about \$3.3 million, from the district.

Last year the district spent \$7.5 million for special education, and the year before, 2005-06, \$7.2 million, according to Goldman. The number of students diagnosed as autistic — and therefore requiring special schooling — jumped from three to 32 students, which has contributed to the increase in expenditures, Gingras said.

On average the district spends slightly more than \$13,000 per special-education student. Depending on their needs, the costs can range from \$3,000 to \$80,000 per student over and above money spent for a general-education student, according to district officials. General education students receive about \$5,500 each, officials said.

Special education students with more severe disabilities receive instruction outside the district at Pine Hill or Lucille Packard Children's Hospital schools. This kind of extra-district schooling, along with salaries, makes up the highest special education costs, district officials said.

By law a student can receive special education services if he or she fits into one of a variety of categories, including visual impairment, orthopedic impairment, autism, speech and language impairment and mental retardation, Gingras said.

The district is not trying to avoid federal law requirements, he said, but is trying to make sure that the students who receive special education are the ones who really need it. ■

E-mail Susan Hong at
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■ EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

It is time to test chloramine

Amid the recent turmoil over dangerous chemicals in our food and toys, it's amazing to observe the federal government's somewhat lackadaisical reaction to concerns over chloramine, the chemical additive used to treat our tap water.

Perhaps because only a small minority — a few hundred among the Bay Area's millions — have reported serious reactions, earlier this month the Environmental Protection Agency all but shrugged off pleas for more testing, despite valid reports of horrible allergic reactions to the additive.

Chloramine came into our pristine Hetch Hetchy water supply in 2004 when the EPA decided that chlorine, the disinfectant that had protected municipal water for many years, wasn't good enough any more. The agency called on water districts to ramp up disinfection efforts, and many districts found chloramine, a chemical combination of chlorine and ammonia, to be cheap and effective at killing bacteria without producing certain harmful byproducts.

The San Francisco Public Utility Commission ordered the switch three years ago, and that's when people along the water district's service line, including in Mountain View, began showing symp-

toms such as skin rashes, painful digestive tract inflammation, and asthma-like respiratory problems.

Eventually these residents formed an organization, Citizens Concerned About Chloramine, which is seeking to convince the SFPUC and EPA to test chloramine to make sure it is safe.

Actions by this group have brought about two revelations which we find alarming:

1. Apparently, the EPA recommended chloramine without fully testing its potential impact on the population.
2. After Rep. Anna Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, requested that the EPA meet with local residents on Sept. 5, the agency claimed it cannot take any action until health concerns are reported by the Centers for Disease Control or the medical community.

Bruce Macler of the EPA's San Francisco office told the *Voice* last week: "As far as we know there is no evidence there is a problem with public health. When we talk about what's safe, we talk about generally safe. It is possible people are affected. Medical folks have to start saying this is an issue."

This may happen in Vermont, where enough residents reported problems to cause the state legislature there to hold two days of hearings and to prompt the

CDC to take a closer look. Back in the Bay Area, the citizens group has identified about 400 people who report allergic reactions when exposed to chloramine.

Meanwhile, evidence is mounting that the byproducts of chloramine are much more toxic than those of chlorine. Dr. Michael Plewa, a professor of genetics at the University of Illinois who coauthored a study of tap water disinfection byproducts, told the *Voice* that byproducts from chloramine are the most toxic he has ever seen. He recommends a switch back to chlorine.

At the very least, the EPA and SFPUC should be bending over backwards to look into claims of adverse reactions, and our elected officials should push to make sure that happens. More testing should begin immediately to sort out just how toxic this substance is.

What if those affected are just the canaries in the coal mine? Those of us not affected today could still show symptoms in the future.

Without question, a full range of tests should have been conducted before chloramine was put into our drinking water. It is unconscionable that the government agencies charged with protecting public health are instead putting up roadblocks in what appears to be a legitimate concern.

■ LETTERS

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

AN OPEN LETTER TO MV WHISMAN

Editor:

Dear Mountain View Whisman trustees Linda Haines, Maurice Ghysels and Stephanie Totter,

I want to add my voice to the list of Monta Loma parents who find it unacceptable to allow the district to terminate Ms. Vesta Jentsch.

As a parent volunteer in both my daughters' second grade classes, I came into Ms. Jentsch's classroom every week to read the students a story, and occasionally make a presentation. Her students were so focused they heard every word I read. I didn't realize how unusual this was until I have since become a CSMA "Arts in

Action" teacher at Monta Loma. I walk into eight classrooms a week to present art lessons.

Ms. Jentsch's well behaved students get the most out of all knowledge being offered because of their focus on the speaker. I am studying hard every year to improve my classroom management skills, and Ms. Jentsch is an obvious role model.

Ms. Jentsch spends countless hours after school to make her classroom as perfect as she can. She has the tightest-run ship at Monta Loma, and I know this facilitates learning.

Her "control" is well accepted by students. Both my daughters

► See **LETTERS**, on next page



LETTERS

► Continued from previous page

referred to Ms. Jentsch as their "favorite teacher" for years after their time with her. Why should the district let this valued teacher go when she is earnestly trying to return to Monta Loma?

Please consider holding Room 12 for her return, especially since her green card is just days away.

**Rosalyn Carson
Mardell Way**

MIXED SIGNALS FROM GOOGLE GUYS

Editor:

I don't get it. Google appears to be a great neighbor that is truly concerned with the environment and the company's impact on the community. They use electric vehicles, solar panels, alternative fuels, bicycles on campus, and the list goes on.

Then Larry Page and Sergey Brin purchase a Boing-767 capable of transporting 247 passengers for their personal transportation. What an incredible waste of fuel and greenhouse emissions. Now they will be buzzing the roofs of Mountain View residents with a jumbo jet day and night with no restrictions. How green is that?

**Gary Niehaus
Moorepark Way**

DAY WORKERS DO RUIN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Editor:

After reading your Sept. 7 editorial, "Day workers won't ruin the neighborhood," I felt anger and pity for whomever wrote it. How could anyone write such a glowing column about illegal aliens who have broken the law, and here you want to welcome them with open arms?

Regardless how much you care for these people, they have broken the law. Do you know what would happen to you if you entered Mexico without proper documents? You would be thrown in jail as fast as you can blink your eye. These illegal aliens are felons and deserve to be thrown in jail or deported.

The day workers, if they are illegal aliens, should be turned over to the immigration authorities. They don't pay taxes; you stated they do in your article. They don't pay anything. What they get for breaking the law is food stamps, welfare, medical care and school.

If you are going to write an article, it would be great if you would tell the truth. These illegal aliens don't belong here and finding them a day center is a big mistake. Close the day center, and hopefully they will go home. If not, illegal aliens will get the word to come to our city.

Their children are ruining our

► See **LETTERS**, page 14

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Viewpoint

■ GUEST OPINION

Continuous Improvement will help students grow

CHILDREN WHO CAN CONTROL THEIR OWN EDUCATION
MAKE BETTER, MORE ENGAGED STUDENTS

By Connie Allen

I've enjoyed reading the discussion in recent weeks concerning the implementation of the Continuous Improvement educational approach in the Mountain View Whisman schools. It benefits children when we discuss their developmental needs and education.

One of the primary concerns of the editorial that sparked the discussion ("School's new paradigm could come with a price," Aug. 24) was the belief that CI is a relatively experimental technique. Even though CI is a new program, the idea of giving children power and control over their education has been implemented in schools and families for decades across our nation and around the world. It is the way children learned before our current system of compulsory education.

When you view CI through a wider lens, you discover thousands of schools that give children power and choice in their education. Some, like Sudbury Valley School near Boston, are at the most progressive end of democratic education, giving children complete control and choice over their education.

Sudbury Valley has affiliates in 30 locations around the world,

including one in Santa Clara, the Cedarwood Sudbury School. Peninsula School, another local school in Menlo Park begun in 1925 by Josephine Duveneck, provides a child-centered education community for the development of the whole child.

These schools have dramatic results. Students are passionate about their learning and their projects. Children of all ages treat one another and staff with honesty and respect. Children are eager to go to school. Creativity, problem solving and a natural love of learning flourish. Graduates start their own businesses and attend colleges of their choice.

Many people believe children cannot be trusted to know what is best for them. They believe the only way for a child to learn and grow is by adults teaching and telling them the important facts and lessons of life. As a family and education consultant, I've found that when you give children opportunities to make choices for themselves, they develop the essential life skills to be self-reliant and to create joyous, fulfilled lives.

When viewed from this perspective, CI doesn't seem so extreme. Any program that gives young people more power, choice and autonomy over their own lives is a positive approach. Children are far

more worthy of our trust than we commonly believe is possible.

Our current model of education began in the late 1800s, based on the Prussian model whose purpose was to train children to be compliant, unthinking factory workers. Most people agree children today need to be innovative, creative thinkers and problem-solvers who relate well with others.

The biggest danger I see in CI is to use "child choice" as a motivational tool to more effectively manipulate children to do what we want them to do — namely, be better test-takers.

Using a child's natural desire to succeed and please adults as a means to better control him insults his humanity and undermines any authentic connection we have with him.

I wish the Mountain View Whisman School District much success as they develop new understanding and skills in bringing out the innate potential in children. May they use their ability to look beneath the surface of their actions for guidance and to let their heart and deep regard for children be their guide.

Connie Allen is a family and education consultant and the founder of Joy with Children Consulting. She lives on Dorchester Drive.

LETTERS

► Continued from page 13

we have" is very Mountain View, a great tradition.

**Barbara Nichols
Sonoma**

AWFUL NEW NAME FOR MIDDLEFIELD CAMPUS

Editor:

In your recent cover article on the new Foothill Campus Center ("New year, new prez, new Campus Center," Sept. 21), you also point out they have a new name for the Middlefield Campus: The Northern California Center for Career Pathways.

What a disaster! Not sure you can buy a sign that long, so people will always abbreviate it. Now I wonder if the NAACP will have meetings at the NCCCP? Not quite as catchy as Foothill or Cubberley.

**Athol Foden
Cypress Point Drive**

HANGAR ONE WASN'T THE CAUSE

Editor:

Good on NASA for their plans to clean up polluted fill north of

Ames Research Center, so it doesn't continue to threaten the adjacent wetlands that we're already spending millions to clean up.

But there's one error in last week's otherwise excellent article, "Passing the buck on Orion Park?" which quotes NASA's Don Chuck as saying "maybe Hangar One is to blame" for the polluted fill.

At the meeting, I asked Don to clarify that, and he responded that he was just making an arcane joke aimed at us toxic clean-up wonks in attendance. Don clarified that the polluted fill has "nothing to do with Hangar One," even though it has the same chemical signature as that found at the hangar. Don said the fill almost certainly came from the excavation of a wind tunnel electrical substation, where that chemical is typical.

We members of the Save Hangar One Committee are working hard to get the Navy to preserve this unique historic landmark, so it's important to correct any perception that Hangar One is to blame for the polluted fill.

**Steve Williams
Belmont**

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Southern comfort food

LIP-SMACKING LOUISIANA FARE SERVED AT JONATHAN'S FISH AND CHIPS IN MENLO PARK

By Dale F. Bentson

The elderly lady, donning a blazer and pink straw fedora, tottered onto a stool and propped herself against the counter. She balanced her ebony cane and merrily discussed the tasty lunch possibilities with people who looked to be her son and daughter-in-law.

She appeared to be familiar with the backlit wall menu board. Minutes after the group ordered, their neatly wrapped lunch appeared. They laughed and bantered with the lady behind the counter, then disappeared out the door.

It's a common scene at Jona-

than's Fish and Chips, which is located on Willow Road just west of U.S. 101 in Menlo Park, next to the Mi Rancho Supermarket. People in various styles of attire, from business suits to custodial uniforms, queued up before noon in the 14-year-old family-owned eatery.

Relatives of all stripes have worked at Jonathan's from time to time, but it is Phyllis Cooksey who oversees the business. Cooksey was reared in Louisiana Cajun country. Her late mother, whom she affectionately refers to as Miss Leanna, was a Creole baker and cook extraordinaire.

► See JONATHAN'S, page 16



VICTORUGO GONZALEZ

An order of fish and chips at Jonathan's Fish and Chips.

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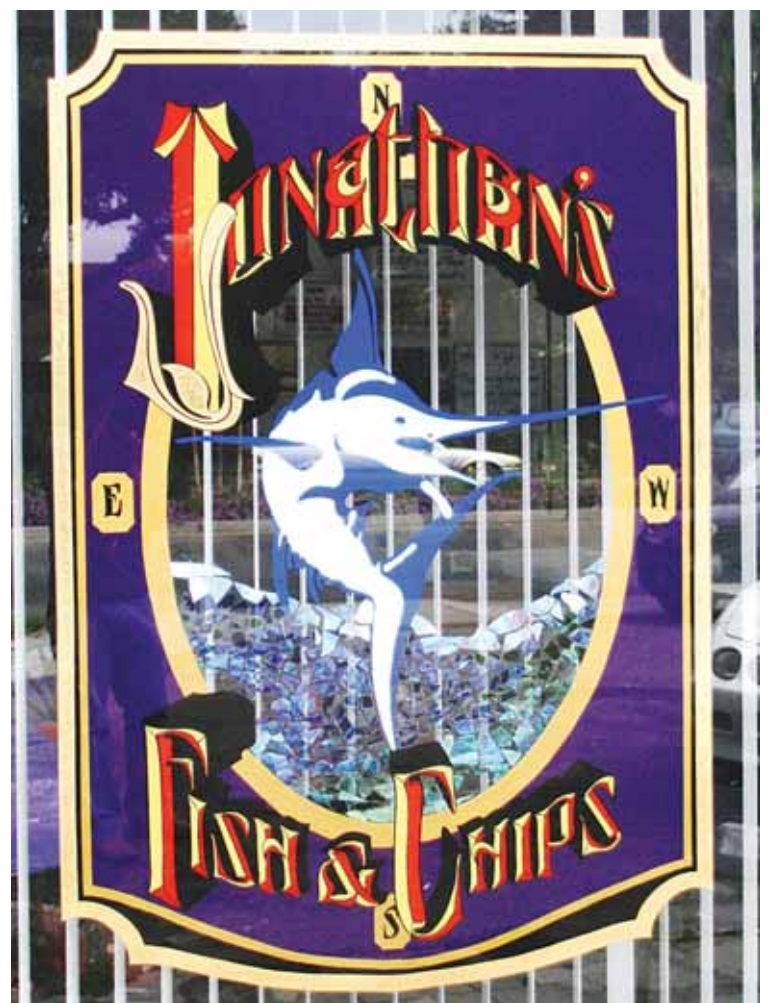
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VICTORUGO GONZALEZ

One of the window signs at Jonathan's Fish and Chips.

JONATHAN'S

► Continued from page 15

She and her four sisters taught Phyllis how to cook.

"I was the youngest of five and had a marvelous childhood growing up in Lake Charles. I even played in the school band and loved it," Cooksey said. Her parents, both dry cleaners, moved the family to the Palo Alto area in 1967.

No stranger to hard work, Cooksey labored in construction, primarily concrete sawing, and worked for OSHA for 20 years. She helped build many of the BART stations, including the newest in Millbrae.

She married the Rev. Johnny Ray Cooksey, a stone mason for 45 years and "a man that can fix anything and still speak to the Lord," she said. Ordained 34 years, he is pastor of True Light Missionary Baptist Church in East Palo Alto.

For his part, Ray Cooksey, the youngest of 16 siblings, started cooking when he was 14. Also a native of Louisiana, he made his way to the Bay Area in the early 1960s. Phyllis and her husband

met here.

In 1994, when the previous three-seat fish and chips outlet was for sale, "I jumped on it," Phyllis Cooksey recalled. The name was changed to Jonathan's in honor of her son. In 2003, when the proprietor of the beauty salon next door retired, she expanded the restaurant. It now seats 25. "God favored us," she intoned.

Traditional Creole cuisine is a style of cooking that applies European technique to local ingredients. Creole food is more refined and subtler than Cajun

food, which is rustic and spicier. Louisiana Creole is a convergence of native, European, West Indies and African cultures.

Jonathan's started out with a dozen choices but now boasts a menu of about 50 items and combinations. The newest

additions are fried turkey wings, Philly cheese steak and deep-fried corn on the cob. There are fish tacos and fried chicken, turkey burgers and popcorn shrimp, hamburgers and oyster burgers.

The mainstay, though, are the fish and chips. Catfish, red snapper, sole, whiting and buffalo (a

DINING NOTES

JONATHAN'S FISH AND CHIPS

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Owner Phyllis Cooksey (far right) poses behind the counter with two employees.

delicately flavored freshwater fish), gulf prawns and calamari are all available, with most of the seafood coming directly from Louisiana.

In general, styles of fish and chips vary. Most area restaurants offer English-style fish with cod, haddock, pollock and whiting — any firm white fish that does not fall apart while deep-frying. English-style is battered, in white flour, with wide-ranging additives such as beer, spices, bread crumbs, eggs, oils, baking powder, cornstarch and seasonings.

Southern-style fish, as seen at Jonathan's, uses contrasting fish varieties, dredging them in cornmeal before deep-frying. The result is a different product. Southern-style is lighter, with more discernible fish flavors. The cornmeal does not absorb as much oil as the battered versions

and is thinly crusted.

At Jonathan's, catfish, snapper, prawns and hush puppies are the most popular dishes. Everything, from the cornbread and tartar sauce to peach cobbler and lemon cake, is house-made.

It's not fast food, but it's quick enough: five minutes or less for most individual orders. While comfortable, the dining area is smallish and designed for eat-and-go, not loitering. Utensils are paper and plastic. No alcohol is served, but many fountain and bottled beverages are available.

Fish and chips can be ordered with two, three or four pieces of fish. Catfish, red snapper, sole, whiting and buffalo are variously priced from \$5.40 for a small buffalo order to \$9.10 for a large catfish order.

Cooksey says she tries to keep prices consistent. But, she said, "We

were hurt by Hurricane Katrina."

She added: "After the hurricane, prices went crazy. We couldn't get a lot of our fish because the fishing fleet was wrecked, and when we could get supplied, deliveries had heavy surcharges. Things are finally settling down. By the grace of God, we're still here."

The menu also includes combos galore and side dishes of red beans and jambalaya, cornbread and hush puppies, crab and shrimp sandwiches, crawfish and fried okra — much of the heart and soul of Louisiana cuisine.

Despite the somewhat difficult location (near a busy freeway entrance, with limited parking), the restaurant thrives because the Cookseys are proud of what they serve, are diligent about keeping prices affordable and, most importantly, they consider customers family. ■

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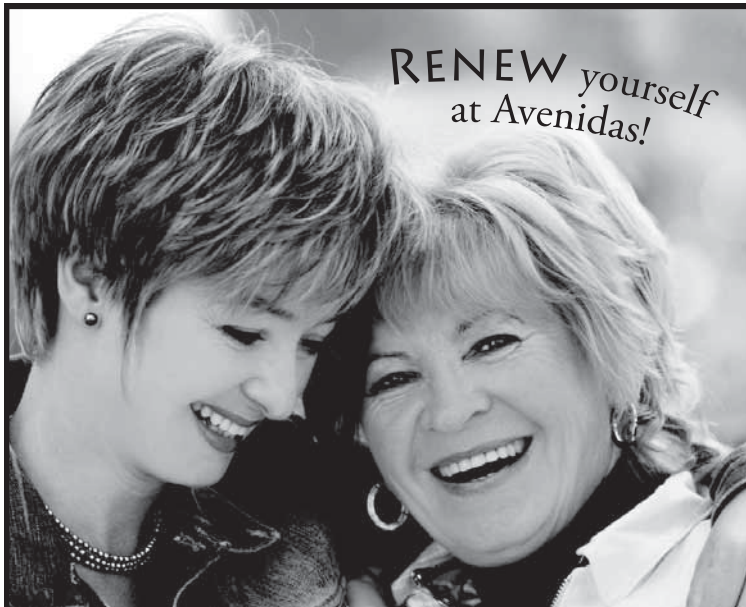
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The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) is conducting a five-year review at the JASCO Chemical Company Superfund Site in Mountain View, CA. This review will summarize cleanup activities that have taken place and will evaluate whether the selected remedy remains protective of human health and the environment. According to Superfund law, if a cleanup action takes more than five years to complete and/or leaves waste in place, the protectiveness of the remedy will be reviewed every five years.

The JASCO Chemical Company repackaged and formulated chemical products on the 2.05 acre Villa Street site from 1976 until December 1995. Bulk solvents used at the site were received by tankers and stored in eight underground storage tanks. Elevated levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) were detected in soils from a swale area located behind the building and in the shallow groundwater. Past waste disposal practices, and possibly leakage from an underground storage tank and surface water, may have contributed to soil and groundwater contamination.

During the review process, U.S. EPA will study information about the site and conduct a site inspection. The methods, findings and conclusions of the review will be documented in the five-year review report. A statement of protectiveness will be provided to explain whether the cleanup continues to be effective and recommend improvements, if necessary. Upon completion, a copy of the final report will be placed in the information repository listed below and a notice will be placed in the local newspapers.

The U.S. EPA invites the community to learn more about this review process and get involved. You may call Viola Cooper, Community Involvement Coordinator, or Rusty Harris-Bishop, Remedial Project Manager, at EPA's toll-free number, (800)231-3075 for more information. Additional information is available at EPA's web site: <http://epa.gov/region09/swaste/sfund/JASCO>.

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Weekend

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3:10 TO YUMA (R) ★★★★★ Century 16: 12:40, 3:25, 6:55 & 9:40 p.m. Century 12: 12:40, 3:40, 7:40 & 10:25 p.m.

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: 12:35, 1:20, 3:35, 4:25, 6:40, 7:30, 9:45 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 12:45, 3:50, 6:55 & 9:55 p.m.

BECOMING JANE (PG) ★★1/2 Century 20: 1:45 & 4:25 p.m.

THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM (PG-13) ★★★★★1/2
Century 16: 1 & 6:50 p.m. Century 20: 1:55, 4:55, 7:45 & 10:30 p.m.

THE BRAVE ONE (R) ★★ Century 16: 12:30, 3:30, 7 & 9:55 p.m.
Century 20: 12:10, 1:30, 3:05, 4:20, 6, 7:20, 8:55 & 10:10 P.M.

DEATH AT A FUNERAL (R) ★★★★★ Century 20: 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:10 & 9:35 p.m. Guild: 2:30, 4:45, 7:15 & 9:30 p.m.

DRAGON WARS: D-WAR (PG-13)
Century 12: 1:20, 3:55, 7:05 & 9:20 p.m.

EASTERN PROMISES (R) ★★★★★1/2 Century 16: 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 8 & 10:35 p.m. Century 12: 1, 4, 7:20 & 9:50 p.m.

FEAST OF LOVE (R) ★★★ Century 16: 12:55, 4:10, 7:40 & 10:20 p.m. Century 12: 1:30, 4:10, 7 & 9:40 p.m.

THE GAME PLAN (PG) Century 16: 1:10, 4, 7:20 & 10:05 p.m.
Century 12: 12:30, 2, 3:15, 4:35, 6, 7:15, 9 & 10 p.m.

GOOD LUCK CHUCK (R) Century 16: 1:25, 3:50, 7:35 & 10:15 p.m.
Century 12: 12:45, 2:15, 3:30, 4:50, 6:15, 7:30, 9:10 & 10:10 p.m.

HAIRSPRAY (PG) ★★★★★ Century 20: 12:55, 3:45, 6:50 & 9:40 p.m.

HARD CANDY IN 3-D (NC-17) Aquarius: Fri. & Sat. at midnight.

HARRY POTTER AND THE ORDER OF THE PHOENIX (PG-13) ★★★★★1/2 Century 12: 12:35 & 7:50 p.m.

THE HUNTING PARTY (R) Century 20: 9:05 p.m.

IN THE SHADOW OF THE MOON (PG) ★★★★★
Palo Alto Square: Fri.-Sun. at 2, 4:30 & 7:10 p.m. Fri. & Sat. also at 9:35 p.m.

IN THE VALLEY OF ELAH (R) ★★★★★ Century 16: 1:05, 4:05, 7:10 & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: 1:40, 4:35, 7:35 & 10:15 p.m.

INTO THE WILD (R) ★★★★★
Century 16: 12:25, 1:15, 3:45, 4:35, 7:05, 7:55 & 10:25 p.m.

IRA AND ABBY (R) (Not Reviewed) Aquarius: 1:45, 4:15, 7 & 9:20 p.m.

THE JANE AUSTEN BOOK CLUB (PG-13) ★★★★★1/2
Palo Alto Square: Fri.-Sun. at 1:45, 4:20 & 7 p.m. Fri. & Sat. also at 9:40 p.m.

THE KINGDOM (R) (Not Reviewed) Century 16: 12:45, 1:30, 3:40, 4:30, 7:15, 7:50, 10 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 12:15, 1, 1:50, 2:55, 3:40, 4:30, 5:35, 6:20, 7:15, 8:20, 9:15 & 10:15 p.m.

LADRON QUE ROBA A LADRON (PG-13) ★★
Century 20: 7:25 & 10:05 p.m.

MR. BEAN'S HOLIDAY (G) ★★ Century 20: Tue. at 12:20 & 7:55 p.m. Century 12: 1:10, 4:20, 7:10 & 9:30 p.m.

MR. WOODCOCK (PG-13) Century 12: 4:40 & 10:30 p.m.

THE NANNY DIARIES (PG-13) ★1/2
Century 20: 1:25, 4:10, 7:20 & 9:50 p.m.

NO RESERVATIONS (PG) ★★1/2 Century 20: 12:20, 2:50, 5:15 & 10:25 p.m. Fri.-Mon. also at 7:55 p.m.

ONCE (R) ★★★★★1/2 Century 20: 12:05, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45 & 9 p.m.

RATATOUILLE (G) ★★★ Century 20: 2, 4:50, 7:40 & 10:20 p.m.

RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION (R) Century 16: 12:35, 3:10, 5:35, 8:05 & 10:35 p.m. Century 20: Noon, 1:05, 2:20, 3:25, 4:40, 5:45, 7:05, 8:10, 9:30 & 10:35 p.m.

RUSH HOUR 3 (PG-13) Century 12: 4:30 p.m.

THE SIMPSONS MOVIE (PG-13) Century 12: 1:40 & 8 p.m.

STARDUST (PG-13) ★★1/2 Century 20: 12:50, 4, 7 & 9:55 p.m.

SUPERBAD (R) Century 16: 3:55 & 9:30 p.m. Century 12: 12:50, 3:45, 7:35 & 10:20 p.m.

SYDNEY WHITE (PG-13) Century 16: 1:40, 4:40, 7:25 & 10:10 p.m.
Century 20: Noon, 2:35, 5:10, 7:50 & 10:25 p.m.

UNDERDOG (PG) Century 20: 12:25, 2:35, 4:45 & 6:55 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)

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

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



MOVIE REVIEWS

EASTERN PROMISES ★★★★★1/2
(Century 16, Century 12) The narrative begins with a simple tragedy: a dazed and pregnant 14-year-old girl collapses and dies in childbirth at a London hospital with only a Russian-language diary left as a clue to her identity. Hospital midwife Anna Khitrova (Naomi Watts) is troubled by the girl's mysterious death and determines to locate the baby's relatives. Her amateur investigations lead her to an elegant eatery in London's Russian ghetto, where she befriends suave charmer Semyon (Armin Mueller-Stahl) who agrees to translate the diary, an offer slyly suggesting that Anna has landed smack in the middle of a vory-v-zakone (Russian mafia) hornet's nest. Through kingpin Semyon, Anna is uneasily acquainted with the man's volatile, alcoholic son Kirill (Vincent Cassel) and Kirill's driver-cum-bodyguard Nikolai Luzhin (Viggo Mortensen) who is worming his way into and up through the ranks of the family "business." Murder, drugs, child prostitution, torture — it's all part and parcel of a crime drama that's as tightly wound as a ticking bomb. *Rated: R for violence, profanity, nudity and sex. 1 hour, 36 minutes.* — J.A.

IN THE SHADOW OF THE MOON ★★★★★

(CineArts) To say these guys still have the Right Stuff is an overwhelming understatement. Ten former astronauts, all who can claim an intimate relationship with the moon, are far more than talking heads in David Singleton's awe-inspiring documentary. I was moved to tears a dozen times as history unfurled onscreen, spotlighting the Cold War-era mavericks who raced to get Americans to the moon, the brave souls who risked life and limb to travel a quarter of a million miles from Earth's surface, and the moon itself, a shadowy, desolate place graced with an eerie majesty. Treasured footage from NASA's 1960s heydays is a stimulating watch while the astronauts themselves — a surprisingly down-to-earth bunch — dig deep to put extraordinary feelings into words. But "Moon" moves beyond words to create the ultimate shining valentine to the humanity of those who dared to explore the unknown. *Rated: PG for mild language. 1 hour, 36 minutes.* — J.A.

IN THE VALLEY OF ELAH ★★★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) A phone call informs Hank Deerfield (Tommy Lee Jones) that son Mike (Jonathan Tucker), who just returned stateside after a tour in Iraq, has gone AWOL. With hardly a word to his wife (Susan Sarandon), the former military MP climbs into his truck and drives from Tennessee to Fort Ruid in New Mexico. Hank quietly questions Mike's military buddies and pockets his son's camera phone, gathering the clues that will allow him to unravel the truth behind a grisly find: his son's charred, dismembered body found scattered in the brush near the base. The murder mystery propels the plot, revealing macho posturing between the Army investigators (Jason Patric, James Franco) and the local cops (Josh Brolin) for jurisdiction of a case that both groups would rather bury. Hank coaxes Emily

► Continued on next page

Indian cinema leaves its mark at Toronto Film Festival

By Pooja Bhardwaj

With more Indian films showcased at the Toronto Film Festival than ever before, Indian cinema has never had it this good at any major film festival.

The 32nd Toronto Film Festival, which opened earlier this month, had as many as eight films with an "Indian connection" making it to the festival's various sections — and many Bollywood stars were visible on the red carpet.

The most visible was Shekhar Kapur, who was accompanied by Cate Blanchett, Geoffrey Rush and Clive Owen. Kapur's new historical drama, "Elizabeth: The Golden Age," premiered Sunday, Sept. 9 and stars Blanchett as the monarch who must deal with treachery in her court and conflict between Protestants and Catholics during her reign. (This is the second time Blanchett has donned the crown of Elizabeth I. The first was in 1998's "Elizabeth," also directed by Kapur, which earned her an Oscar nomination for best actress.)

The other red carpet premiere film was Rituparno Ghosh's "Last Lear," starring Amitabh Bachchan. "Lear" is a story of a failed actor who still believes that the stage or theater, especially Shakespearean theater, is a superior art form compared to cinema. Bachchan, who is said to have given his career's best performance, was compared by one festival critic to Richard Burton, and to Toshiro Mifune of "Roshomon."

Other noteworthy films included Buddhadeb Dasgupta's "The Voyeurs" and Adoor Gopalakrishnan's "Four Women." No filmmaker swims deeper

in the currents of contemporary Bengali life than Dasgupta, and "The Voyeurs" brings a subtle searching sensibility to this most urban setting. The film, which is about isolation and obsession, was among the five films shown in the Masters section.

"Four Women," also shown in the Master's section, distills stories of four women with archetypal roles — prostitute, virgin, housewife and spinster — all of whom are expected to submit to the fates society has chosen for them. "Four Women" is a deeply touching film, a universal story that resonates.

Adding to the roster is Santosh Sivan's "Before the Rains," a story of lust and inequities in colonial India which was shown in the Contemporary World Cinema section. Rahul Bose, the lead in the film, plays a British planter in colonial India who wants to build a road to the hills to commercially tap the spices grown there.

Last but not the least, Bollywood filmmakers Vishal Bhardwaj and Farhan Akhtar will have their shorts showcased via "Jaago," a project produced by Mira Nair that consists of four short films documenting AIDS in India.

Ultimately, it was not mainstream Bollywood films, but lesser-known experimental or independent films, which represented India at the Toronto Film festival. ■

Pooja Bhardwaj is co-founder of the South Asian American Films and Arts Association, and is a member of the Voice's advertising staff. She can be reached at poojab@saafa.org. If you'd like to read more about Bollywood films, e-mail us at editor@mv-voice.com.

► Continued from previous page

Sanders (Charlize Theron), a police detective routinely belittled and harassed by the men on the force, to help him. The deceptively simple story of a parent's grief over the death of a son and his need to discover what happened slowly builds into a penetrating inquiry about the casualties of war. **Rated: R for violent and disturbing content, language and some sexuality/nudity. 1 hour, 54 minutes.** — S.T.

3:10 TO YUMA ★★★★★

(Century 16, Century 12) Christian Bale is Dan Evans, a down-on-his-luck rancher/Union Army vet who's frantically trying to hang on to his ranch after a local bigwig threatens to repossess his drought-ravaged land for a railroad project. Russell Crowe makes nasty as Ben Wade, a ruthless outlaw who heads up a gang of no-goods bent

on plundering and pilfering fortunes. Fate deals Evans a lucky hand when he's party to Wade's capture. Southern Pacific Railroad boss Grayson Butterfield (Dallas Roberts) wrangles volunteers to help escort his high-profile prisoner to the town of Contention, where he will board the 3:10 train bound for federal lockdown in Yuma. Evans is the man for the job, for a much-needed \$200 delivery fee, that is. The core strength of "Yuma" lies in the psychological cat-and-mouse game between outlaws on the brink of destruction. Yes, it's a remake, based on the 1957 classic, but "Yuma" has a consciousness all its own. **Rated: R for extreme violence and bloodshed. 1 hour, 57 minutes.** — J.A.

MOVIE CRITICS

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



Evan Rachel Wood and Jim Sturgess play Lucy and Jude in "Across the Universe."

Like endless rain into a paper cup ...

FUN, ZANY 'ACROSS THE UNIVERSE' MAKES A MUSICAL OUT OF BEATLES TUNES

By Jeanne Aufmuth

Julie Taymor's wildly ambitious ode to the Fab Four is a flawed but occasionally fabulous change of pace. Perhaps not everyone's cup of tea, it's a musical, of the belt-it-out variety. Then there are the lyrics, based on 33 beloved Beatles classics that pulsate through the narrative, offering a unique and complex perspective.

The song-and-dance extravaganza supports a simple romance between star-crossed lovers Lucy (Evan Rachel Wood) and British transplant Jude (Jim Sturgess). Jude and Lucy fall in love to a setting of turning out, tuning in and dropping out at a Greenwich Village loft owned

by nightclub hopeful Prudence (songstress extraordinaire T.V. Carpio). One senses a theme.

The idealistic Lucy falls in with a group of zealous anti-war activists, while peacenik Jude pays the rent by making paint on canvas his expression of choice.

Once into its rhythm, "Universe" is a pleasantly wacky pastiche of historical highs and lows: sit-ins, be-ins, the Vietnam War and the onset of a vibrant hippie culture. Turbulent years of protest and exploration are reflected in Taymor's vivid, slapdash style; the generation of change is both visionary and relevant.

Taymor is also freakishly montage-happy, overselling the technique with madcap music to match the mood. Best of show: "Dear Pru-

dence," "While My Guitar Gently Weeps" and "Helter Skelter," all of which highlight the unique talents of their relative unknowns. The timing between musical numbers is uncomfortably inconsistent, but there's joy in song.

Most of the cast can effectively carry a tune; Woods' throaty soprano is particularly endearing. Surprise cameos appear in the most unlikely places, rendering this a great big jack-in-the-box of a movie. ■

MOVIE NOTES

Stars: ***

Rating: PG-13 for profanity and some nudity

Run Time: 2 hours, 13 minutes

ROBERT WRIGHT



Robert "Bob" George Wright, 85, a resident of Mountain View for 53 years, died Sept. 1, 2007, in Palo Alto, Calif.

Private services were held. A celebration of life will be held Saturday, Nov. 24 at the Historic Adobe Building in Mountain View. For more information, e-mail: riley@aloha.net.

Memorial donations may be made to: Mountain View Parent Nursery School 1299 Bryant Avenue Mountain View, CA 94040.

Spangler Mortuaries of Los Altos is assisting with the arrangements.

Bob was born in San Francisco, California on November 17, 1921 to George Wright and Anita Volkman Wright. He was raised in Colma next door to his grandparents and his many cousins. He met his wife, Lillian Cavagnaro, at Jefferson High School and they have been married for sixty-

four years.

He retired in 1983 as district manager for Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. During his 42 years of employment he worked in Eureka, Millbrae, San Francisco, San Jose, and Menlo Park.

He is a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, formerly assigned to the communication section and stationed at Diamond Head, Oahu. Thus began his love of the islands. For many years Bob and his wife, Lillian traveled back and forth to Kauai and Maui and he loved sharing his love of Kapalua, Maui with friends and family.

Bob loved to be in the sunshine and enjoyed his hobby of growing roses. He was also an avid Stanford, Giants, and Forty-Niner fan.

He is survived by his wife Lillian of Mountain View and his children; Jeanne Riley (Jim) of Spreckelsville, Hawaii, Bob Wright (Pam) of Lafayette, Ca, Laurie Grupé (Darryl) of Ashland Oregon and Claire (John) Koukoutsakis of Mountain View. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Brandon and Cavan Riley, Kirsten and Danielle Wright, Abraham Grupé and Nicholas and Alexander Koukoutsakis. He also leaves his brother, Bill Wright (Doris) of Occidental, California.

PAID OBITUARY



4 Spacious bedrooms and 3 full baths. Two master suites. Upstairs bedroom with sitting room and walk-in closet is perfect for in-law quarter. Within walking distance to elementary school. Convenient location.

831 Gladiola Drive, Sunnyvale

\$1,150,000



Wonderfully updated 2 bed, 1.5 bath town home in North San Jose. Granite slab counter and oak cabinets in kitchen. New carpet and paint throughout. Marble entry. Inside laundry. Inviting backyard with plantings and bricked patio, perfect for entertaining. Close to schools, parks and transportation. This is the best unit in the complex. Low HOA dues.

View more pictures at:

WWW.LANDESSAVE.COM



Charming 3-bedroom 2-bath home located in Fremont. Light-filled and remodeled this home has skylights, wood floors, fireplace in living room granite countertops in kitchen and pantry. Nice French doors and double pane windows. Bathrooms have been updated. Spacious covered patio and deck in backyard, central forced air heating system, and 2-car garage.

View more pictures at:

WWW.33059LAKEWAWASEE.COM



Industrial warehouse on corner lot located in Alma Industrial Park. Near Castro Street and El Camino Real. Zoned ML, 28,749 SF lot, possible development opportunity, 10,000 SF building and the building is 75% leased.

280 Polaris Avenue, Mountain View

\$2,500,000



Condo for business on corner lot of El Camino and Mariposa. Commercial location close to downtown Mountain View. 1,150 SF 2-story office space with windows in four of the rooms! New carpet and paint. Gardener, garbage, and water paid. 500 SF Mezzanine/Common area – shared. Plenty of parking. Near freeways and shopping!

1580 W. El Camino Real # 10, Mountain View

\$425,000



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



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

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