

Mountain View VOICE

JANUARY 11, 2008 VOLUME 16, NO. 1

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Collage for cash
Exhibit to benefit CSMA
A&E | P.24



NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

Frederick Knab of Mountain View walks down Castro Street during the first big winter storm of 2008 on Friday.

Mountain View socked by storms

By Daniel DeBolt

One of the worst winter storms in years hit the region last Friday morning, bringing hurricane-force winds and two inches of rain in Mountain View over a 24-hour

period — with intermittent soakings ever since.

Wind gusts of up to 44 mph were recorded at Moffett Field last Friday just before 11:30 a.m., said Scott Stephens of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The

whipping winds brought down power lines and tree branches throughout the city.

During the mayhem, a postal carrier was trapped by a falling branch, power went down at City

► See **STORM**, page 14

Owls upstage new mayor

BURROWING BIRDS FOUND ON GOOGLE'S HOTEL SITE WILL COST CITY \$150,000

By Daniel DeBolt

Concerns raised about a pair of rare and problematic burrowing owls, and the impact they'll have on Google's plan to build a new hotel at Shoreline Boulevard and Charleston Road, overshadowed the appointment of new Mayor Tom Means at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

The owls have built their burrow on the very site where Google plans to build a hotel, conference center and 310,000-square-foot office building.

Labeled an official "species of concern," the owls were discovered last year on the 18-acre city-owned lot, and it's going to cost the city \$150,000 to remove them. That's because the state

Department of Fish and Game wants Mountain View to purchase 9.75 acres of wildlife habitat to make up for the owls' lost home, even though the area isn't known as a habitat for burrowing owls.

"Basically the site historically wasn't [owl habitat] and then basically, they came," said senior planner Scott Plambaek. "That happens."

On Tuesday the council voted unanimously to buy 9.75 acres outside the city for \$150,000 from the Alameda-based Haera Land Bank — one more step towards having a hotel built by Google on land leased from the city.

"This is pretty common mitigation for owls off-site," Plambaek said. "Typically developers

► See **COUNCIL**, page 8

"Basically the site historically wasn't [owl habitat] and then basically, they came. That happens."

SCOTT PLAMBAECK

Breaking the news

How MediaNews is causing a seismic shift in Bay Area newspapers

By Sam Chapman

Editor's Note: This is the third in a three-part series by Sam Chapman on the direction the newspaper industry is headed. Chapman is publisher of the Pacific Sun, a Marin County weekly newspaper that is part of the independent and locally owned Embarcadero Publishing Co., the parent company of the Mountain View Voice.

PART 3: THE FUTURE IS UNWRITTEN

What does the future hold? John McManus, a media professor at San Jose State University, says one positive trend is that the value of news is continuing to increase.

Our society, environment, economy and institutions are undergoing major changes due to new technologies and other forces. Knowledge remains a key to power, and its shelf life grows ever shorter. And with the global economy and global wars, we need

information from even more distant places and we need updates more frequently.

It's paradoxical that the most reliable source of the information we need about technologically driven changes is becoming a victim of the very technology it covers. McManus sees a rough five to 10 years ahead as we transition to a more decentralized system of news gathering and reporting, involv-

► See **THE FUTURE**, page 13



INSIDE

GOINGS ON 27 | MARKETPLACE 29 | MOVIES 25 | REAL ESTATE 32 | VIEWPOINT 15

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

Cheryl Okuno



MOUNTAIN VIEW ■ Cute 3bd/2ba townhome with remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors, lots of storage, + indoor laundry. This unit is very private + complex has a pool. **\$649,000**

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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

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

Who is the funniest person you know?



"My boyfriend because he makes fun of everything."

Chris Blair, Mountain View



"My friend Jacob. He has a really ironic sense of humor."

Polly Hayden, San Jose



"My cousin. He's real and he'll say the first thing that comes into his head."

Tremier Cook, Detroit, Mich.



"My friend I've known since middle school. He's very sarcastic."

Fred Jabbour, Berkeley

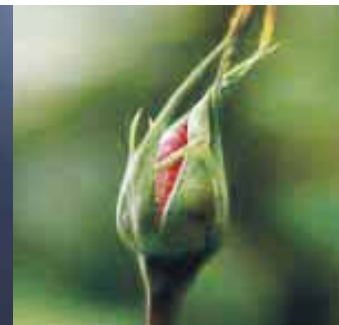


"My younger brother. He's got a mind like a steel trap."

Doug Welter, Savannah, Ga.

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■ CRIMEWATCH

ROBBERY, 200 BLOCK N. WHISMAN RD., 12/28

An unidentified man entered a 7-Eleven and threatened the cashier with a large kitchen knife. The man stole cash and then drove away in a black 1990s Camaro. The man was described as a black male in his 20s with a thin frame, standing about 5 feet 10 inches tall. His face was obscured by a black bandana. He also wore black clothes and a black beanie hat.

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA, S. SHORELINE BLVD./VILLA ST., 1/3

During a traffic stop an officer discovered marijuana in the possession of the vehicle's driver. The suspect was issued a citation and released.

■ POLICE LOG

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

600 Block Mariposa Ave., 1/1

ASSAULT WITH DEADLY WEAPON

1900 Block Latham St., 1/6
600 Block Escuela Ave., 1/6

AUTO BURGLARY

800 Block E. Middlefield Rd., 12/28
2600 Block Terminal Blvd., 12/28
100 Block Castro St., 12/28
San Antonio Rd./Terminal Blvd., 12/30
2600 Block Terminal Blvd., 12/30
Andsbury Ave./Central Ave., 1/1
1900 Block Crisanto Ave., 1/3
1600 Block Villa St., 1/3
300 Block Escuela Ave., 1/3
1700 Block San Luis Ave., 1/5
1800 Block California St., 1/5

BATTERY

Wal-Mart, 12/29
200 Block Castro St., 12/30
100 Block E. Middlefield Rd., 1/2
1000 Block Golf Ct., 1/3
1600 Block Morgan St., 1/5
700 Block Sylvan Ave., 1/6

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

1000 Block N. Rengstorff Ave., 1/3
2600 Block W. El Camino Real, 1/4

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Wal-Mart, 12/29
Monte Carlo Club, 12/30
Pacific Inn, 12/30
200 Block San Ramon Ave., 12/31
500 Block Mariposa Ave., 12/31
St. Stephen's Green, 1/1
2000 Block Latham St., 1/1
2500 Block W. El Camino Real, 1/2
Sierra Vista Ave./Plymouth St., 1/5
100 Block S. Rengstorff Ave., 1/6

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

600 Block Ehrhorn Ave., 12/29
200 Block Kittoe Dr., 1/1
2700 Block Del Medio Ct., 1/6
500 Block Hope St., 1/6

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Central Ex./N. Shoreline Blvd., 12/28
Bonita Ave./Cuesta Dr., 12/30
2200 Block Rock St., 12/30
Central Ave./Moffett Blvd., 12/31
Crestview Dr./E. El Camino Real, 1/1
100 Block W. El Camino Real, 1/1
Cecelia Way/Karen Way, 1/2
Mercy St./S. Shoreline Blvd., 1/6

GRAND THEFT

500 Block Ortega Ave., 12/30
2300 Block Adele Ave., 1/2
500 Block S. Rengstorff Ave., 1/6

IDENTITY THEFT

P.D. Fire Admin., 1/2

PETTY THEFT

300 Block Villa St., 12/28
1900 Block Crisanto Ave., 12/29
Safeway, N. Shoreline Blvd., 12/29
Mervyn's, 12/29
2600 Block California St., 12/31
400 Block San Antonio Rd., 1/2
100 Block N. Rengstorff Ave., 1/3
100 Block Calderon Ave., 1/4
Wal-Mart, 1/4
100 Block View St., 1/4
700 Block Continental Cl., 1/6

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

S. Shoreline Blvd./Villa St., 1/3
100 Block N. Whisman Rd., 1/6

ROBBERY

200 Block N. Whisman Rd., 12/28

STOLEN VEHICLE

500 Block Boranda Ct., 1/2
1400 Block San Marcos Cl., 1/2
1500 Block N. Shoreline Blvd., 1/2
1300 Block Montecito Ave., 1/2
100 Block Calderon Ave., 1/3
500 Block Walker Dr., 1/4
200 Block N. Whisman Rd., 1/5
500 Block S. Rengstorff Ave., 1/5

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES/PERSON

200 Block San Antonio Cl., 12/28
P.D. Fire Admin., 12/30
Target, 12/30
200 Block Castro St., 1/2
100 Block Ednamary Way, 1/3
1300 Block Montecito Ave., 1/3
100 Block Fairchild Dr., 1/4

TRESPASSING

600 Block Showers Dr., 1/5
100 Block Showers Dr., 1/6

VANDALISM

City Lot 3, 12/29
1800 Block Ednamary Way, 12/31
1000 Block Washington St., 1/2
300 Block Escuela Ave., 1/3
600 Block Cuesta Dr., 1/3
200 Block Horizon Ave., 1/3
800 Block California St., 1/6



When we set out to change the community, we started by changing ourselves.

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Holiday wrap

By Don Frances

“At the Grant Cuesta Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Mountain View,” wrote Sean O’Malley, “The Eagles presented Cheryl Courtney (executive director of the facility) a check for \$500 which enabled the staff to purchase holiday gifts for some of the elderly patients who have no family to share the holidays with. The check was presented by Teresa Sanders of the Aerie’s community relations committee.”

O’Malley, a longtime member of the local Eagles chapter, then called attention to the Community Services Agency, “where the Eagles presented Allison Hicks with over 500 pound of food and household goods for distribution to folks here in our community.”

The Eagles were busy this holiday season, and I hope it’s not too late to mention their contributions as the season winds down and people chuck their Christmas trees on the curb.

There are plenty of other examples as well — more than I could possibly list in these pages. For instance, Lauren Campi wrote to tell me about a toy drive she organized in her St. Francis Acres neighborhood which collected 100 new toys for the Cops That Care program.

“For two weeks neighbors could drop off toys at my front porch,” she said. One Sunday, “I had cookies and cocoa for neighbors, and they could come by to drop off toys at that time as well. ... I hope to make this a tradition each year.”

When it came time to deliver the gifts, “The woman at the front desk said she had never seen so many toys from a neighborhood like that before, so it was a great feeling!” ▀

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



Eight years later, child care center breaks ground

CONSTRUCTION AT RENGSTORFF PARK FINALLY BEGINS, OPENING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER

By Daniel DeBolt

After eight years of uncertainty, the future looks certain for the new child care center at Rengstorff Park, which broke ground Monday.

As recently as last June, City Council members came close to killing the project when asked to approve \$1.8 million in cost overruns. Before that, child care providers made the case that there was no need for the center, council members said it wouldn’t serve

enough of the nearby low income neighborhood, neighbors opposed its taking up space at Rengstorff (at a meeting in 2005, residents carried placards with the words “Save Rengstorff Park”), and at one point the city considered finding another site.

But ultimately a crowd of 50 people gathered at the site Monday to celebrate the end of debate and a brighter future, they hope, for Mountain View children. City officials and other project leaders broke ground with six ribbon-clad shovels.

“Hopefully other cities will take our lead on this,” said mayor Laura Macias, noting that it’s an unusual project for a city government to take on.

Council member Margaret Abe-Koga could barely contain her excitement.

“I was just absolutely thrilled,” she said, “after so many years and so many obstacles. Obviously it’s a project that’s near and dear to my heart. It will affect the lives of children

► See **CHILD CARE**, page 7



Casiano-Miranda contemplates deportation

CHURCH LEADER AT ST. ATHANASIUS MIGHT CONTINUE RELIGIOUS STUDIES IN MEXICO

By Alexa Tondreau

With his court date deferred until Feb. 19, Lucio Casiano-Miranda is considering his options, friends say, including willingly returning to Mexico to continue his religious studies if he can then return law-

fully to the U.S.

A member of Mountain View’s St. Athanasius church, Casiano-Miranda, who does not have legal immigrant status in the U.S., became the focus of a much-publicized case after he was arrested by offi-



Casiano-Miranda

cers from the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency in October.

During that incident, which led to great public outcry at St. Athanasius, Casiano-Miranda was nabbed after he was arrested by offi-

by agents originally looking for someone else. He now faces deportation should the Santa Clara County judge overseeing his case decide to send him back to Mexico.

Casiano-Miranda has resided in the U.S. for the past 15 years, and is coordinator of the youth

► See **LUCIO**, page 6

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■ SEEN AROUND TOWN

Trio of hats



"This photo of a trio of hats was recently taken at the Mountain View Train Depot," wrote William Warrior of Mariposa Avenue. "The person in the photo is my wife, Pam Warrior, and the dog is our dog Roxane."

Due to an enthusiastic response from local photographers, Seen Around Town now has photos lined up for weeks to come. Thank you! Mountain View residents who would like to see their pictures published in the Voice are invited to e-mail them (as jpg attachments) to editor@mv-voice.com.

LUCIO

► Continued from page 5

group "Jovenes para Cristo" at St. Athanasius, where he works to keep teens away from gangs and drugs. He is also a vocal advocate for a new Peninsula-based multi-service teen center, said board members from Peninsula Interfaith Action, or PIA, a multi-faith group of which St. Athanasius is a member.

Additionally, this year he graduated from the three-year Institute of Leadership program at the Diocese of San Jose, sources said.

For the time being, Casiano-Miranda is weighing his options, said friend and St. Athanasius community organizer Phil Cosby. The court date was deferred, he said, to allow Casiano-Miranda time to find an attorney. Cosby said the judge also recommended that Casiano-Miranda apply for a religious worker's visa in the next month.

While the visa is "one option we are pursuing," said Cosby,

Casiano-Miranda doesn't necessarily favor that course of action.

"He would prefer to return to Mexico and enter the religious seminary there. After he has completed those studies, which would take many years, he would like to not be barred from returning to the U.S.," Cosby said.

Casiano-Miranda was not available for comment as of press time.

Cosby said that if Casiano-Miranda were deported or voluntarily left at this time without a special deal in place, "he would never be allowed to enter the U.S. again."

Community members from St. Athanasius and the PIA have rallied around the immigrant, saying his arrest was unlawful.

When police entered his Sunnyvale home in October, they had a warrant for another man, who wasn't home. After they questioned Casiano-Miranda, he admitted he was not a legal resident. He was arrested and detained at that time, allegedly without a warrant.

Community members have had several rallies at St. Athanasius, located at 160 N. Rengstorff Ave., in support of their fellow churchgoer, adopting the slogan "Lucio today, me tomorrow."

Cruz Hyland and Diana Reddy, co-chairs of the PIA board of directors, said in a statement, "For Peninsula Interfaith Action's work on improving the quality of life for all people on the Peninsula, we rely on dedicated, caring people like Lucio. He is vital to PIA's ongoing work in Mountain View."

They continued, "PIA believes that fair and humane immigration policies are critical to a healthy community and a great loss would be felt if Lucio, and others in similar circumstances, are forced out of our community."

Cosby said Casiano-Miranda is remaining strong.

"He is at peace with what is going on. No matter what happens, he has confidence he can continue with his life," he said. ▀

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

Graham robot romps

MIDDLE SCHOOL WINS 14-TEAM SHOOTOUT IN SAN JOSE, HEADS FOR REGIONAL COMPETITION

By Alexa Tondreau

Graham Middle School can add a new trophy to its case this year, after its Lego robotics team won first place for design and programming in a highly competitive tournament including some of the brightest young minds in the state.

The team's five seventh and eighth graders put in countless hours to prepare a robot for last month's all-day competition in San Jose. Teams from 14 local schools were judged on the performance of their robot and how they worked under pressure.

The students met several times a week to prepare and practice for the competition, said Susan Mitchell, their teacher and coach.

"It's very intense, and quite a commitment. We told them that from day one, and they would be totally involved," she said.

Students had to build their own robot from scratch using a kit of Lego materials, then program it to do assigned tasks, such as cross a room and pick up an object. Judges were impressed by the Graham robot, which featured detachable appendages for doing different tasks, Mitchell said. The team won first place for robot design and programming and second place in the "mission

performance" category.

While parent coach Mikal Greaves and Mitchell helped to guide the students in constructing their robot, Mitchell said the kids did the critical work entirely on their own.

Mitchell said the five students involved — Alice Chow, Barrett Greaves, Jack Marquez, Eli Nelson and Suvrath Penmetcha — all showed an interest and talent in science and engineering in school, and were selected for Graham's team. Their win secured the team a spot in this month's Northern California regional competition.

Graham's robotics team was sponsored by Palo Alto-based SAP Labs Inc., which helped fund the robot kits and event registration fees, and provided coaching from two SAP employees, Greg Chase and Sophie Chou.

Students were "extremely excited" to have won the competition, said Mitchell.

Karn Marquez, mother of team member Jack Marquez, said the students' hard work paid off handsomely.

"It's been a huge commitment, but these kids love Legos, and they love robotics and science. They've had a great time," she said. ▀

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

CHILD CARE

► Continued from page 5

and families for many decades to come."

The project comes with a \$5.4 million price tag, with \$2.8 million of that paid for by the Packard Foundation. A lease with the operator, Children's Creative Learning Center (CCLC), is expected to bring the city \$202,000 a year in revenue.

"I inherited this project from my predecessor who inherited it from his," said a Packard Foundation representative at the groundbreaking.

Project leaders say construction will be quick, with the center opening this September. Thirty percent of its 104 spots are dedicated to "low income" families — although the criteria for what is low income will be decided by the council sometime this month.

The 9,400-square-foot center will provide care for children between infancy and 5 years old on a first-

come, first-served basis. Officials say that could double the number of low income children receiving subsidized child care in the city — which was only 27 in 2006.

Abe-Koga said CCLC is providing \$50,000 to subsidize low income families, while others could be subsidized through the welfare-to-work voucher program, something low income families can sometimes qualify for but few child care centers accept.

"There are families who qualify for the vouchers but need a place to use them," she said.

There's already a lot of interest from parents, Abe-Koga says, and she believes the spaces will fill up fast.

Macias said the center will complement the recently opened Senior Center at 266 Escuela Ave. The two centers are adjacent and will share a parking lot. The new facility is expected to use 15 of the busy lot's 195 parking spaces. ▀

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



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ENSURING YOUR VEHICLE'S LONG LIFE

Auto experts agree that the best way to ensure the well-being of your vehicle is to follow the maintenance schedule outlined in the owner's manual and repair your vehicle before it leaves you stranded. Car owners who believe they can save money by skipping regular maintenance or only doing frequent oil changes are likely to lose out in the long run. Money spent on recommended fluid changes helps ensure the health of the vehicle's many systems and components. In addition, if you make many short trips, tow a trailer, or drive primarily in the city, reside in a hot/cold climate or near the ocean, drive on dusty roads, you should follow the extreme-use maintenance schedule in the owner's manual.

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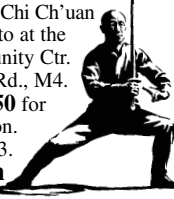
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COUNCIL

► Continued from page 1

pay for it."

Mountain View expects to receive significant revenue from leasing the 18 acres to Google, and the company has already signed an exclusive agreement with the city to negotiate for development of the site.

City manager Kevin Duggan said the city has a good record when it comes to burrowing owls, and that the city already has 6.5 acres of burrowing owl habitat at Shoreline Park, where the owls will be moved.

In other news related to Google's proposed hotel, two representatives from the local office of the Service Employees International Union came to council chambers Tuesday to push for a union at the hotel and conference center.

"It is unclear whether a labor agreement will be required," said one SEIU representative. Google's previous actions, he said, "so far indicate that workers' rights are a very low priority for the company."

In 2001 a labor peace agreement was created during hotel negotiations for the site, but various interested hotel operators lobbied the council against the requirement. Council member Matt Pear believes that may have contributed to the failure of the project for several years before Google revived it.

The SEIU representative said the issue was about paying workers "livable wages," noting that non-union hotel workers often make little more than minimum wage, or "poverty wages."

"The topic of the labor peace agreement is something we are discussing with Google," said Duggan, adding that the issue will be brought to the council when the project picks up speed.

Means named mayor

The council chambers were packed Tuesday night for the swearing in of Tom Means as mayor and Margaret Abe-Koga as vice

mayor, both of whom were elected unanimously by their peers on the council.

In an introduction riddled with jokes, council member Matt Pear said it was his honor to nominate "the first Greek American mayor of Mountain View," and that people would now have to call him "Mayor Professor Doctor Tom Means" — quite a contrast to his "humble, simple beginnings."

"I bet you never thought your son would become the mayor of a city in California," Pear said to Means' parents.

He extolled Means for his work as an economics professor at San Jose State, where he directs the Center for Economics Education. And he named some of Means' published journal articles, such as "Estimating the Publicness of Local Government Services: Alternative Congestion Function Specifications."

"Even the city manager has a copy of this by his bedside," Pear said.

In Means' acceptance speech he joked that as a young man he wanted to become president, but "after years of family therapy, I realized I was from another planet."

He continued to thank his family and supporters, and added to the night's humor by saying that "Behind every great man is a surprised mother-in-law."

Macias lauded for service

"It is the toughest job you will ever love," Laura Macias said about being mayor over the past year, which she managed to do while juggling a full-time job.

"I'm very happy that your name is on the climate agreement," said council member Ronit Bryant to Macias, who strongly advocated the city's environmental sustainability program all year.

County Supervisor Liz Kniss noted that Macias has been named "a Latina woman to watch" and one of the top 12 women in local government by San Jose Magazine. ■

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

JAMES FRANCIS NACEY



On December 29, 2007, James Francis Nacey, of San Carlos, died of pneumonia during his battle with lung cancer. Born in Liverpool, England on May 11, 1933, he was a graduate of Liverpool University, a Sergeant in the British Army, and an avid soccer fan. He immigrated to California in 1970 to work at Stanford. For many years, Jim was a Radiation Physicist in the Radiation Oncology Department at Stanford Medical Center, helping treat cancer patients. Retired in 1998, he spent much of his time with his wife, Mary, caring for orphaned wildlife. Jim also taught English and Citizenship to immigrants at The San Mateo Adult School and Current Events at the San Carlos Adult Center and Belmont Vista Convalescent Home. As a long-time member of the Palo Alto community, he coached and refereed for the youth soccer league AYSO, was a board member for Bobby Sox Softball, and played in the Palo Alto Adult Soccer League. He was an active community member in several Catholic churches on the Peninsula. Jim is survived by his beloved wife, Mary Ellen Nacey; his daughters Anne Nacey Maggioncalda and Aileen Nacey Schmoller; and his five granddaughters — Alison Nacey Maggioncalda, Julia Nacey Maggioncalda, Lindsay Nacey Maggioncalda, Catherine Nacey Schmoller, and Bridget Nacey Schmoller. To his friends and colleagues, Jim Nacey was a witty, energetic and kind man. To his family, he was a devoted, adoring and selfless husband, father, and grandfather. In lieu of flowers, please send donations in his honor to the Peninsula Humane Society, 12 Airport Boulevard, San Mateo, CA 94401.

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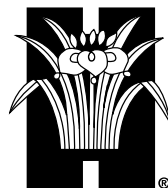
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OBITUARY

LESLIE CLARENCE ANDERSON II

Longtime Mountain View resident Leslie Anderson died surrounded by family on Dec. 27. He would have been 74 this month.


Anderson was born on Jan. 13, 1934, the oldest child of Leslie and Isabel Anderson. Anderson and his siblings were raised on the family farm in Manteca before moving to Mountain View.

Anderson graduated from Mountain View High School. He married his high school sweetheart, Betty Lou Lolli, in 1953. The couple raised three children while Anderson worked for Toyon

Creamery, Eaton's Fastener and Santa Clara Transportation. The family moved to Cameron Park in 1975, where Les Anderson Trucking was established.

Anderson is survived by his wife Betty Anderson, his daughters Debbie Herrmann and LouAnn Bailey, and his son Leslie Anderson III. He is also survived by eight grandchildren — Rachel, Danielle, Jeremy, Leslie IV, Tyler, Melissa, Carlana and Janelle — and one great-grandchild, Nichole.

A viewing was held on Sunday Jan. 6 at the Green Valley Mortuary Chapel in Rescue, California.



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VTA redraws the map

SOME LOCAL BUS LINES IMPROVED, OTHERS CUT

By Daniel DeBolt

The Valley Transportation Authority's bus routes will undergo major changes this Monday in an effort to streamline service — with some routes being improved upon and others being cut altogether.

Among the changes in Mountain View: Line 35 will no longer stop at the Middlefield, Whisman and Ellis area; east-bound riders who used to catch the 34 at El Camino Hospital will now have to take the 51 and transfer to a second bus; Lines 32 and 34 will be converted to "community buses," which are shorter and more comfortable, but with shortened routes.

Council member Margaret Abekoga said that overall, Mountain View was treated fairly in the plans. But the Palo Alto-style community bus services that she and other council members want to bring to Mountain View, especially running in the north-south direction, are still a goal, she said.

Mountain View bus riders will see changes on at least nine local bus lines (information provided by the VTA):

Line 22 Eastridge to Palo Alto

Service to Menlo Park will be discontinued — all buses will start and end at the Palo Alto Transit Center. Minor weekday and weekend schedule changes will be made.

Line 23 Alum Rock to De Anza

Line 23 will operate from De Anza College to the Alum Rock Transit Center via Stevens Creek Blvd./San Carlos St., 1st/2nd and Santa Clara streets and Alum Rock Ave. Service between downtown San Jose and Alum Rock and King will be coordinated with Line 22. The segment between De Anza College and San Antonio Shopping Center will be discontinued. Service between Foothill College and San Antonio Shopping Center will be replaced by a modified Line 40. Service from Mountain View and Los Altos to De Anza College will be replaced by a modified Line 51.

Line 32 Santa Clara to San Antonio

This line will be converted to a community bus line. Between Middlefield and Ellis and the Sunnyvale Transit Center, this line will operate via Middlefield, Central Expressway and Mathilda. Service will no longer operate on Logue, Maude, Mary or Washington. Between Monroe and Bowers and the Santa

Clara Transit Center, the route will remain on Monroe to El Camino, then head straight to the Santa Clara Transit Center. Service will no longer operate on Bowers, Cabrillo, Los Padres, Warburton or Homestead.

Line 34

Downtown to San Antonio Center
This line will be converted to a community bus line. It will only operate between the San Antonio Transit Center and downtown Mountain View during the midday on weekdays. Service along Evelyn, Sylvan and Grant to El Camino Hospital will be discontinued. Weekday peak hour service and Saturday service will be discontinued.

Line 35 Stanford Shopping Center to Downtown

Service to the loop on Middlefield, Whisman, Ellis and Bernardo in Mountain View will be discontinued.

Line 40 La Avenida to Foothill

This line will be extended to serve Foothill College via San Antonio and El Monte on the former Line 23 routing. Sunday service will turn around in downtown Los Altos

and not operate to Foothill College.

Line 51

De Anza to Moffett Field

Line 51 will operate between Akron and McCord in Moffett Field and De Anza College via the current Line 23 routing from Fremont and Grant to De Anza College. The current routing on Homestead to Cupertino Square will be discontinued, as well as weekday peak hour service to Parsons and Allen at NASA/Ames. The basic service will operate every 60 minutes over the entire line all day, and 30 minutes between Moffett Field and Fremont and Grant during peak hours. Saturday service will be discontinued.

Line 52

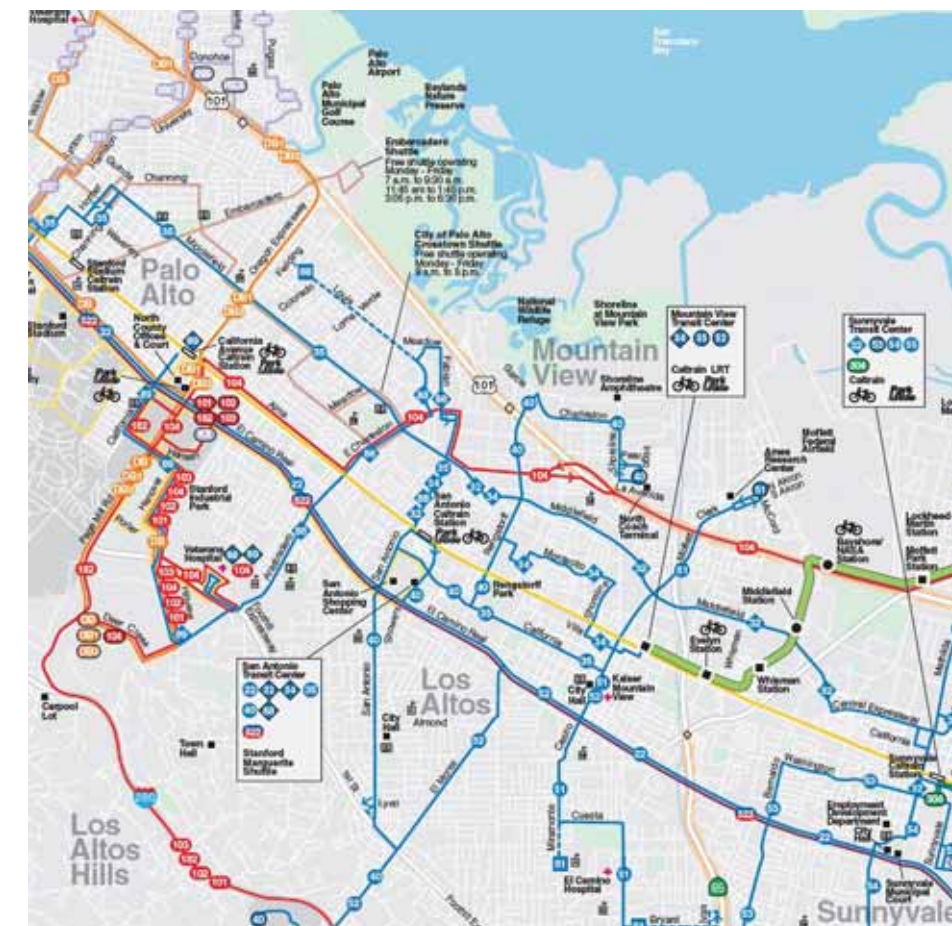
Downtown to Foothill

This line will continue to operate every 30 minutes during morning and midday, and every 60 minutes in the late afternoon.

Line 88

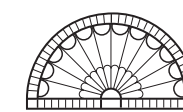
VA Hospital to San Antonio

Line 88 will be converted to a community bus line and will operate between the Palo Alto Veteran's Hospital and the San Antonio Shopping Center via Miranda,



Arastradero, Charleston, Louis, Meadow, Fabian and San Antonio. Extended morning and afternoon trips to Louis and Fielding will continue to operate only on days when Gunn High School is

in session. The regular routing on Louis, Channing, Homer, Middlefield and Lytton to the Palo Alto Transit Center will be discontinued. Saturday service will be discontinued. ❏



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Educators bemoan
declining coverage

BIG DAILIES HAVE LITTLE INTEREST IN LOCAL
SCHOOL NEWS OR ANALYSIS, THEY SAY

By Alexa Tondreau

Big front-page headlines on local school news has always been a rarity for daily newspapers. But these days, say local educators, the region's dailies are giving the subject less attention than ever before.

Barry Groves, superintendent of the Mountain View-Los Altos High School District, said the decline is due to newspaper downsizing, with fewer reporters available to keep up with local angles — a trend he finds distressing. Groves has worked for MVLA for the past two years, and served as superintendent of the Cambrian School District in San Jose for 14 years.

"Over the past 15 years as a superintendent in this county, I've noticed the sad diminution of quality accurate local reporting," he said. "The *Mercury News* and *Chronicle* have cut back their coverage of local school news to the bare minimum. Local radio and television rarely cover our school district events," he said.

Groves said that when he was growing up in Petaluma in the 1970s, there were multiple media outlets covering Petaluma High School.

"We had a local radio station that broadcast local news, a local daily paper delivered six days a week that covered school and student activities in detail, a regional seven-day-a-week newspaper that covered the county, and two large urban dailies in San Francisco. In Mountain View, we basically now have the *Mountain View Voice*."

Groves said the result of the diminished coverage is that it has become "more difficult for the public to become knowledgeable" of what's taking place in local schools.

Ellen Wheeler, a Mountain View Whisman school district trustee, agrees wholeheartedly with Groves, and adds that on the rare occasion when dailies do run local education stories, the content leaves much to be desired.

"I'm interested in analysis, commentary, and deeper stories written by people that have

some expertise and established credibility in news and opinions," Wheeler said. "Analysis and commentary of stories have been lessened. Newspapers primarily print short news stories that play right into the hands of Internet providers, who provide that same service and in a timelier manner."

Groves said the information the public reads from the Internet often offers an inaccurate version of events in local schools.

"I am concerned about the lack of a regular reliable independent source of information on our local public activities. More people get their news from the Internet that is riddled with biased Web sites, inaccurate information, and sometimes slanderous and venomous blogs," he said.

Arts coverage also has been deeply affected by Bay Area media conglomeration, said Evy Schiffman, who has been marketing director of Mountain View's Community School of Music and Arts for the past 17 years.

Schiffman said it has become increasingly difficult to find anything substantial about arts-related news and events.

"The large papers since the conglomeration that has occurred have cut out most of their arts writers. I can't go read about the opening of an exhibit or about a new play anymore," she said.

CSMA used to have an overview of its entire arts season printed in the arts and entertainment section of the *Mercury News*, Schiffman said. But not anymore.

"It's much harder to get face time. There's just not much staff covering arts," she said.

Schiffman added that with fewer writers on the beat, the remaining coverage is often inaccurate. And she finds that short Web-based articles about arts, entertainment and education are not nearly as satisfying to read as the articles that the large daily papers used to run in these areas.

"Frankly, I just really miss the old papers," she said. ▀

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

THE FUTURE

► Continued from page 1

ing information accessible on a niche basis, with micro-payments made by-the-story or through specialized subscriptions.

UC Berkeley professor Lowell Bergman believes that “sooner or later” a Bay Area Web site will emerge “where people go to find out what’s going on. Something will happen, and there is no place riper than this area because it’s been underserved historically.”

Former *San Francisco Chronicle* media writer Dan Fost points to online magazines Salon and Slate (now owned by the *Washington Post*) as evidence that quality journalism can happen online. He thinks there is a lot of potential, but sees a conundrum: The press is mentioned and protected as an institution in the Constitution, but is run largely as a for-profit enterprise whose first interest is to make a buck for shareholders.

Fost would like to see the non-profit world step forward, and suggests Mother Jones magazine and the Center for Investigative Reporting as examples in the Bay Area. There’s risk in that model, including corporate sponsorships and attacks from the right (which Public Broadcasting has experienced), so the model is not perfect.

Fost says he hopes the *Chronicle* can hold on long enough to do something great online, but he’s concerned about a potential spiral: cutting content, leading to fewer readers, leading to fewer ads, leading to cutting more content, and so on.

Neil Henry, a journalism professor at UC Berkeley, suggests that maybe the for-profit model for delivering news is out of date, and points to the BBC — publicly funded serious journalism — as a successful, different approach.

Stanford professor Ted Glasser says there are lots of people in academia who recognize the problem, but journalists are reluctant to talk about it in the context of national policy because of fear of government control.

“It’s a real fear, but I don’t see the state as an enemy. National Public Radio provides the best radio journalism, and we forget how well it [government funding] has worked there.”

The situation demands a better, more imaginative vision than we have had, says Glasser. We need to look beyond models of market-based journalism that have defined us for the past 200 years. We need to understand journalism in the same way we define other public resources such as schools, museums or libraries. We allow librarians to make independent judgments

about what books to put in a library.

It has everything to do with the news agenda and the mosaic we need in a multicultural society, Glasser says. We have to stop saying that we must accept the realities of the marketplace. Our country has the opportunity to provide a leadership role and take a serious look at alternatives to market-based journalism.

‘Trust to them for light’

Thomas Jefferson believed that in a democratic society where a free and diverse press could write whatever it chose, truth would ultimately emerge from an open

(perhaps the only) objective and thorough coverage leading up to the Iraq invasion, dissolved because it was a publicly held company facing pressure from a major investment company stockholder. Others are in similar circumstances. Even the *New York Times*, which because of its two-tier stock structure has been somewhat shielded from such pressure, faced a protest from stockholders at its annual meeting in April led by a Morgan Stanley analyst.

Daily newspapers, faced with Internet-related financial pressures, are rapidly joining electronic media and increasingly becoming small cogs in large corporations that consider news a product. This creates a formula for less meaningful news coverage and a society that is deprived of the serious, thoughtful and diverse information and views that Jefferson must have had in mind when he played a major part in crafting our democracy — and enshrining

protection for the press in the First Amendment to the Constitution.

Free, diverse, alert and seriously engaged media can provide the information and analysis needed to avoid realizing Elbert Hubbard’s view of democracy as “a form of government by popular ignorance.” But for serious journalism to triumph, consumers must demand quality and be willing to pay for it.

Perhaps George Bernard Shaw’s view is more appropriate: “Democracy is a device that insures we shall be governed no better than we deserve.” ■

“Our citizens may be deceived for a while, and have been deceived; but as long as the presses can be protected, we may trust to them for light.”

THOMAS JEFFERSON

marketplace of ideas. This despite the fact that there would be abuses, exaggerations and inaccuracies:

“Our citizens may be deceived for a while, and have been deceived; but as long as the presses can be protected, we may trust to them for light.”

Newsbills and various forms of print from 200 years ago were more about the content — about conveying and advocating ideas — than about generating profits for enormous companies. Today that model has been largely turned on its head.

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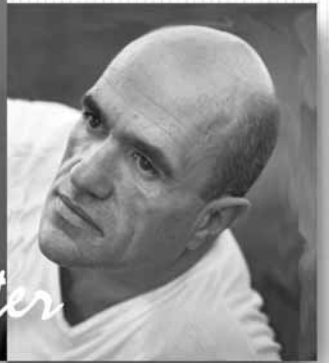
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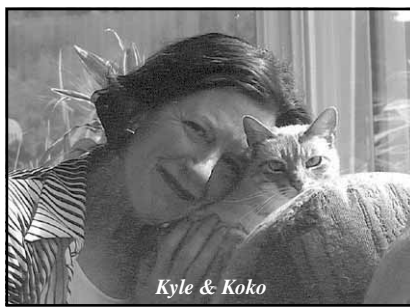
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▶ Continued from page 1

Hall, local freeways flooded, and Moffett was turned into a staging area for FEMA actions statewide.

Fire spokesman Lynn Brown warned residents to watch out for broken power lines or falling trees.

“Look overhead when you go outside,” he said Friday. “If you don’t need to drive, today is a good day to stay home and watch TV. The power is out in much of the Bay Area but we seem to be doing OK.”

On Friday morning a postal carrier was trapped by a falling tree branch at Shoreline Boulevard and California Street, Brown said. Emergency crews quickly rescued the carrier, who sustained a shoulder injury but was otherwise fine.

At about 10 a.m., power went out at City Hall and the library, and remained out for much of the day. The library was evacuated and closed for the day.

Those who stayed home Friday had better luck.

“Fortunately so far we’re surviving without too much of a problem,” said Rick Van Mel of the Cuesta Park neighborhood’s Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT.

“Some minor branches are down and there’s some ponding on a few

corners,” he said.

The Cuesta CERT team has four drills a year to prepare the 1,800-home area for an earthquake. Sixty block captains are ready to report problems via e-mail such as downed power lines, trees and blocked water mains.

“This one came up fairly quickly,” Van Mel said. “It’s been a good test for us.”

Also Friday, a fallen tree blocked one lane of Central Expressway near Thompson. But Bruce Hurlburt, manager of the forestry and roadway landscape office, wasn’t worried: “I don’t think tree failures are going to be a significant issue due to the fact that the ground is not saturated. We’ve got to get several more significant storms like this.”

Though the trees mostly stayed up, many limbs came down. Earlier this week, city and PG&E workers were still scrambling to clean up all the fallen branches.

As storms continued over the weekend, the Community Services Agency gave the homeless bus passes to shelters in Sunnyvale, San Jose and Gilroy, where hours were extended due to the inclement weather.

Although Mountain View fared comparatively well, huge power outages were reported throughout the Bay Area and Northern California — with as many as 987,000 customers affected during the worst

of the storms, according to PG&E spokesperson Darlene Chiu.

With PG&E crews working over the weekend, power had been restored to all but 16,000 customers — including 3,155 on the Peninsula — as of Monday, Chiu said. On Tuesday, with continuing rain throughout the region, power was back up for all but about 600 Peninsula residents.

Although the exact number of outages in Mountain View was unavailable, police reported “sporadic power outages citywide” Friday. Those dependent on medical equipment who were without power for extended periods were told to go to the Senior Center on Escuela Avenue.

At Moffett Field, FEMA officials set up a staging area to deliver emergency supplies, such as blankets, cots and water, needed in other parts of Northern California and Nevada, all of which was hit by the storm front.

According to the U.S. Coast Guard, two C-130 transport planes flew into Moffett over the weekend to pick up prepared meals for victims of a flood in Fernley, Nev.

On Friday, the California Highway Patrol issued flood warnings for local on- and off-ramps on Highway 85 and Highway 101. Emergency crews did not see an unmanageable number of accidents, said the fire department’s Lynn Brown, because there wasn’t much traffic on the road due to the holidays.

However, the phones in the city’s dispatch unit did light up more than usual.

“Right now it’s busy, but we’re hanging on,” Brown said Friday. “It is nasty weather.”

The National Weather Service issued a warning through Friday afternoon for “damaging winds” and heavy rain that could pour at half an inch per hour in the Santa Clara Valley.

“Smaller streams and creeks are expected to experience rapid rises in heavier rainfall and could go over bank quickly,” the report stated.

Although some flooding occurred in Sunnyvale, Mountain View avoided major flooding. Sandbags were made available, however, at 231 N. Whisman Road.

As of Tuesday, the storm system had dropped as much as 11 inches of rain on the Los Gatos/Cambrian area of western Santa Clara County, according to the Santa Clara Valley Water District. ■

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Viewpoint

- EDITORIAL
- YOUR LETTERS
- GUEST OPINIONS

Mountain View VOICE

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Published every Friday at
655 W. Evelyn Ave., Suite 3
P.O. Box 405
Mountain View, CA 94042
(650) 964-6300
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E-mail news and photos to:
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The Voice is published weekly by Embarcadero Publishing Co. and distributed to residences and businesses in Mountain View. If you are not currently receiving the paper, you may request free delivery by calling 964-6300. Voluntary subscriptions at \$30 per year, \$50 per 2 years, are welcome from residents of Mountain View. Subscription rate for businesses and for residents of other communities is \$50 per year, \$80 per 2 years.



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Member, Mountain View Chamber of Commerce

■ WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

All views must include a home address and contact phone number. Published letters will also appear on the web site, www.MountainViewOnline.com, and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

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■ EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

A great year for the Holiday Fund

This year's mixed economy did not deter *Voice* readers from opening their hearts and their wallets to contribute more than \$40,000 to our annual Holiday Fund drive.

One hundred and forty-three donors — more than ever before — sent in contributions to the Holiday Fund, which supports seven nonprofit agencies that serve Mountain View and the surrounding communities. The total in donations was up a hefty 20 percent from the 121 readers who gave last year.

With the expected matching grants from the Wakerly Foundation and others arranged by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, this year's Holiday Fund comes to a total of more than \$70,000. That means each nonprofit agency will receive about \$10,000.

Donations received by the *Voice* ranged from \$25 to a \$2,112 contribution from parishioners at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church. The Mountain View Firefighters contributed \$1,000, and the Mountain View Moms Cookie Party chipped in \$833. The Kiwanis Club also took part, sending in \$250.

Here are the nonprofit agencies that will benefit from Holiday Fund grants this year:

- The Community Services Agency, or CSA, of Mountain View and Los Altos
- The Community Health Awareness Council, known as CHAC
- The Mountain View Rotacare Clinic
- The Day Worker Center of Mountain View
- The Support Network for Battered Women
- The Community School of Music and Arts
- Partners for New Generations

Each year, in our December and late November editions, the *Voice* supports the Holiday Fund drive by publishing a coupon and information about the fund, as well as stories about each of the nonprofits that will benefit. And each year since its inception five years ago, readers have increased their donations — from \$13,000 in 2003-04 to more than \$40,000 this year.

The *Voice* staff and publisher Tom Gibboney are grateful to the readers who contributed and thank them for their generous gifts, which help support the nonprofit agencies that serve the less fortunate in our community.

■ LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

KUDOS TO MAYOR MACIAS

Editor:

Mayor Laura Macias deserves a big Thank You for allowing the residents of Mountain View the opportunity to be heard on many controversial issues. This meant that some council meetings, particularly the ones regarding the Grant Road Farm, ran late. The founders of our country appreciated this right to be heard and included it in the Bill of Rights in the Fifth Amendment.

It concerns me that Vice Mayor Tom Means was more interested in having council meetings end at 10 p.m. than in giving the people a chance to be heard.

**Konrad Sosnow
Trophy Drive**

BAD PICK FOR NEW MAYOR

Editor:

Mountain View will, unless stopped by the people, automatically appoint current Vice Mayor Tom Means as our mayor with no public input allowed.

I attend most council, planning commission and zoning meetings that I am aware of, and I watch the City Council and its actions closely. My opinion is that Means, because of his personality, is the worst possible City Council member to represent the residents, property owners and small business owners of the city of Mountain View.

If Means can possibly be reelected to a second term (which I doubt), then, and only then, should he be considered for the top position in Mountain View government.

**Donald Letcher
N. Rengstorff Avenue**

MEANS AN UNDEMOCRATIC COUNCIL MEMBER

Editor:

The *Voice* has reported that Vice Mayor Tom Means would probably become mayor at the Tuesday night council meeting. As a high school history teacher, this worries me deeply, given Mr. Mean's previous record of dismissive statements and lack of interest in many critical issues this city has faced.

The bylaws of Mountain View state that the mayor is the person who sets the agenda for the council. In the article, Means implies that he would like to limit public input from the community. This undemocratic position is unacceptable to me. If Means wants to be home by 10 p.m., perhaps he is volunteering his time in the wrong job.

As the Founders stated in the First Amendment, "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech." As they so eloquently recognized, all comments and views are valid, and should be listened to; a variety of views need to be considered, regardless of repetition or tone.

While I agree that at times public input can be repetitive, voices are often heard repeatedly when they feel their positions are ignored. When one considers the historical weight of limiting speech, one realizes that to begin limiting speech is the first step to a repressive government. Similarly, I know that my neighborhood did not feel that our requests were dealt with seriously by certain current and former council members — and in particular, Means — on the Mayfield project.

**Helen Wolter
Emmons Drive**

► See **LETTERS**, next page



■ GUEST OPINION

A primer on the Office of Education

COUNTY BOARD MUST SEEK OUT LEADERSHIP,
EXPERTISE IN CHOOSING NEW SUPERINTENDENT

By Gloria Higgins, Jo Lucey
and Pearl Cheng

Few people are familiar with their County Office of Education or its board and superintendent. That's a shame, because its impact reaches deep into our community, and because our attention to matters before any governing body is necessary to ensure it acts in the public's interest.

Currently the Santa Clara County Board of Education — the elected governing body of the COE — is engaged in a search for a new superintendent. We at the school boards have surveyed our membership about the experience, skills and attributes the next county superintendent must possess. We encourage the county board to place a high priority on the following criteria as they make this important decision:

Our highest priority for the next county superintendent is that he or she have extensive experience in public education with proven leadership skills. No retired generals or business execs, please. A national search is appropriate, but any viable candidate must have experience within California or with demographics similar to our county's. Equally important is an ability to create and maintain a positive organizational climate focused on service and results.

He or she must also have a collaborative leadership style and recognize the importance of working

with local school districts. Partnerships and cooperative efforts in special education, preschools and alternative schools are key to making a positive impact on student success. Other services to local districts — like payroll, professional development and credential monitoring — are important to realizing economies of scale, which also contribute to the success of public education in our county. The next superintendent will have to carefully tend to, and in some cases improve the quality of, these services and programs.

The new superintendent must be able to balance the county's appellate role with their role as service provider. For the most part, local districts conduct their business well. Nonetheless, we rely on the principle of checks and balances to ensure the public's business is conducted properly and fairly. The county responsibilities include overseeing districts' budgets and hearing appeals on student discipline and charter school decisions. That role is proper. However, these appellate decisions have far reaching consequences. Balancing the service and appellate roles is especially important given the huge impact county board decisions can have on all the students served by the local districts, particularly in the area of charter schools.

Finally, education is our community's investment in the future. Leadership at the COE should be a strong believer in and advocate for

public education. Last year, the California "adequacy studies" opened the door for statewide discussions regarding the vibrancy of public education in California. These studies focused on both funding and reform, but there is great fear, with good reason, that they will end up on the shelf collecting dust. The county superintendent must take an active role in this discussion, particularly here in Silicon Valley where educational excellence is necessary for a thriving workforce and economy.

Service to the students of the community and partnership with school districts and other organizations that share the mission of educating our youth are the common themes in all the roles the County Office of Education's superintendent and board play. We encourage the public to care deeply about the next choice of a superintendent. We encourage the county board to seek input from local school districts and community organizations as they conduct their search, always keeping in the forefront the key programs, service and partnership roles the COE has in the community. ▀

Gloria Higgins serves on the Mountain View Whisman Elementary School Board. Jo Lucey and Pearl Cheng serve on the Cupertino Elementary School Board. All three are current or past presidents of the Santa Clara County School Boards Association.

■ LETTERS

LETTERS

► Continued from previous page

STEPPING DOWN AS TRUSTEE

Editor:

As I look at the past, present and future, I realize that a change in my life must be made. I have enjoyed all the difficult and rewarding hours I have spent as the first Latina elected to the Mountain View Whisman School Board. I strongly believe that I have made a positive impact in setting the direction of the district with the other trustees. Foremost, as pledged in my election campaign, I have been an integral element in the process of paving the path towards equal access, striving towards education for the world ahead in the Mountain View Whisman School District.

At the present time my personal life has shifted as my husband has

had medical difficulties with surgeries and two more in the near future. In my career as an educator I have prided myself to be a change agent and a reflective practitioner. I now must look inward and reflect upon my role as a member in our school community and of my own immediate family. I have made a difficult heartfelt decision.

I hereby officially resign as a Mountain View Whisman School District Trustee.

As for the future, I cannot leave the field of advocating for equal educational access for all children. I will continue to support and advocate for all members of our school community, especially for those affected by the "academic achievement gap." Our future depends on what we set forth in our educational system. We must protect all spectrums of students.

RoseMary Sias Roquero
Mountain View Whisman
School District

WHAT ABOUT UNLICENSED DRIVERS?

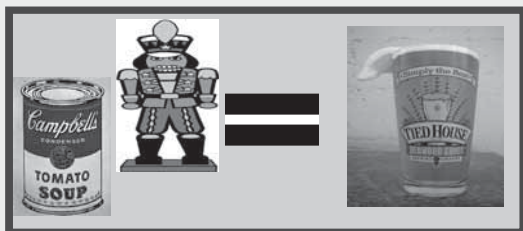
Editor:

I just read in this week's paper about Assembly Bill 808, which now requires people who are renewing their driver's license to sign a statement that they're willing to be charged with murder if they are DUI and someone dies.

This is not a problem for me as a driver, because I don't drink alcohol or use illegal drugs. But I was wondering what would happen if someone gets hit by an unlicensed driver. I understand that there are a lot of them in our community, and it seems discriminatory that only those with legally issued licenses are subject to the potential murder charge, whereas those who drive illegally would get a lesser charge for drinking and killing behind the wheel.

Marc Roddin
Ernestine Lane

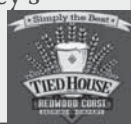
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■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

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■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Back to the future

AMERICA'S FAVORITE SANDWICH FINDS A RETRO NEW HOME IN JEFFREY'S HAMBURGERS

By Dale F. Bentson

My late dad always said, "You can't beat a good burger." The burgers he was referring to were those of another era, though: the days before fast food outlets and their factory-mentality, portion-controlled, microwaved, warming-lamped rendition of America's favorite sandwich.

Jeffrey's Hamburgers conjures images of those halcyon days of chrome-clad diners, root beer stands, drive-in movies, cars with fins, and locally owned restaurants. The Menlo Park restaurant captures the nostalgia with its shiny aluminum exterior

and sleek neon lighting. Inside, the milkshakes are handmade, and the Jeffrey's folks grind their own beef.

Jeffrey's is the brainchild of Serge Karanov, a Russian emigre who came to the Bay Area in his late teens. He worked his way around Peninsula eateries picking up bits of knowledge and igniting a passion to own his own business. "My concept is simple: care, love and fresh," he said.

Ten years ago, he bought Jeffrey's in San Mateo from a Chinese family who had named their restaurant after their son. Karanov liked the name but changed



NORBERT VON DER GROEBEN

► See **JEFFREY'S**, page 18

Victor Baez carries a tray filled with burgers and fries at Jeffrey's Hamburgers in Menlo Park.

Sports Page



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JEFFREY'S
► Continued from page 17

the focus of the restaurant from a combination of cuisines to a high-quality burger emporium. Three months ago, he opened a new Jeffrey's on the site of the recently departed Henry's Steak House on El Camino Real in Menlo Park.

"I had to have some kind of a theme and always loved Art Deco and the 1950s look," Karanov said. The interior decor is not over-

blown, but there are enough hints for plausibility. Classic rock-and-roll piped over invisible speakers adds to the retro notion.

I admit to being slightly taken aback on my initial visit. Gone were the luxurious Henry's dining rooms, posh table settings and linen-draped tables. Instead, I was face-to-face with sign boards and paper-hatted young ladies waiting for me to place my order. Quickly, I was handed an empty cup for my beverage and given a token with a number on it to identify me when the order was delivered to my table.

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Slightly bewildered, I secured a seat in the bustling restaurant. I then filled my own beverage, and when my burger arrived, made a second trip to the condiment bar. Only a ketchup bottle graced the table.

On my next visit, I was over my passé predilection and enjoyed the concept for what it was: good food, made to order, with fresh, tasty ingredients.

Despite long lines, I swiftly moved through. There was always a seat or a booth available in the 120-seat dining room. A swarm of busboys quickly descended on vacated tables, hustled away the remains and tidied tables for the

► Continued on next page

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► Continued from previous page

next customers.

Counter seats are fun perches to observe the long line of white-clad cooks as they grill, fry and assemble orders at a hurried yet controlled pace. There is no panic, and Karanov is seemingly always on hand to keep his kitchen working smoothly.

The hamburger is ground fresh daily from Black Angus shoulder chuck and the patties are formed by hand. The grilled burgers I had were thick and juicy but not unmanageable. The buns were toasty warm and just the right size. I don't like a lot of condiments on my burgers, but the bar lets each diner build the sandwich to suit his own eclectic taste.

Not into beef? All burgers can be made with ground skinless turkey instead. Prices range from \$4.89 for the basic burger to \$7.99 for a double cheeseburger. There are 10 variations available along with a choice of cheese. For a nominal charge, sauteed mushrooms and grilled onions can be added.

It's not just about burgers, though. The club sandwich (\$7.29) was more than I could eat: three layers of bread and two layers of ham, turkey and bacon tiered with lettuce and tomato

and a side of French fries.

Other sandwiches include tuna, ham and turkey melts; a BLT; rib-eye steak; and chicken sandwiches. Prices range from \$4.49 to \$9.99. Hot dogs, chili dogs, Polish dogs, hot links, seafood plates and a half-dozen salad combos also grace the menu.

I liked the fish and chips (\$7.49). Two large golden-brown pieces of cod fillet were served atop a mound of French fries with tangy homemade tartar sauce. The cod was not overly battered and the fish was firm, flaky and fresh.

Chili comes in two sizes (\$2.69 cup and \$3.99 bowl), and was thick with ground meat and tomato sauce. Beans were present but not the principal ingredient. A pleasant piquancy teased without burning.

The milkshakes (\$3.59) in the three basic flavors were sinfully good. Thick and rich, the shakes were brought to the table in tall glass tumblers accompanied by the still half-full stainless cups in which they were blended.

I'm sure my dad would have liked Jeffrey's. He would love to have loaded us into our red '57 Chevy Bel-Air on a Saturday afternoon and treated the family to the kind of unfussy cozy food that he, and America, loves best. ☑

"My concept is simple: care, love and fresh."

SERGE KARANOV

■ DINING NOTES

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\$5 OR LESS MENU

SUSHI

1. Rock N' Roll..... \$4.95
2. Tempura Roll..... \$4.95
3. Crazy Tempura Roll..... \$4.95
4. Rainbow Roll..... \$5.00
5. Poki Maki..... \$4.95
6. Dragon Roll..... \$5.00
7. Golden California Roll..... \$4.95
8. Alaska Roll..... \$4.95
9. Atlanta Roll..... \$4.95
10. Cucumber Avocado Roll..... \$4.95
11. Yasai Tempura Roll (Yam)..... \$4.95
12. Walnut Avocado Maki..... \$4.95

ENTREE

1. Tofu Teriyaki..... \$4.50
2. Chicken Teriyaki..... \$3.95
3. Saba Shioyaki..... \$4.75
4. Gyoza..... \$3.95
5. Miso Udon..... \$4.50
6. Unagi Donburi..... \$4.75
7. BBQ Ribs..... \$4.75
8. Baked Mussel..... \$3.95
9. Yam Tempura..... \$3.95
10. Bacon Scallop Wrap..... \$4.75
11. Tonkatsu..... \$4.50
12. Chicken BBQ..... \$3.95


NIGIRI
(Sushi over rice) by the piece

Tamago (sweet egg omelet)..... \$1.10
Inari (sushi rice filled in deep fried tofu pocket)..... \$1.10
Tai (red snapper)..... \$1.25
Saba (mackerel)..... \$1.25
Ebi (cooked shrimp)..... \$1.25
Ika (squid)..... \$1.25
Unagi (eel)..... \$1.25
Maguro (red tuna)..... \$1.50
Shiro Maguro (white tuna)..... \$1.50
Sake (salmon)..... \$1.50
Hamachi (yellowtail)..... \$1.50
Uni (sea urchin)..... \$1.95
Tako (octopus)..... \$1.95
Hotategai (scallop)..... \$1.95
Ikura (salmon roll)..... \$1.95

TEMAKI
(Hand Roll) by the Piece

Spicy Tuna Temaki..... \$2.00
Salmon Skin Temaki..... \$2.00

ALL DAY MENU
No substitutions or alterations. Certain restrictions may apply. Cannot be combined w/any other offers.



Escargots
Snails in the shell with garlic and butter
\$8.95

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*Where will you spend
the snow day?*

Now that the clock struck twelve, you've found yourself at the start of a new year. How quickly time passes. You've made so many good memories with many more to come this year and beyond.

We too have fond memories of the past year and want to take this moment to thank you for your business.

Happy New Year from all of us at Windermere in Mountain View!

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