

Mountain View VOICE



**The skinny on
'the cleanse'**

HEALTH & FITNESS

| P.21

AUGUST 8, 2008 VOLUME 16, NO. 31

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Hangar One report called 'half victory'

NAVY OFFERS TO REMOVE SIDING, LEAVE BARE FRAME BEHIND

By Daniel DeBolt

After two years of threatening to demolish Hangar One rather than restore the historic structure, the Navy announced last week that it plans to remove its toxic siding and leave the nearly 200-foot tall skeleton behind — a “half victory” for local preservationists, who say there won’t be much to celebrate until difficult decisions are made over what to do with the bare frame.

“It doesn’t really preserve the hangar,” said Bob Moss, co-chair of the Moffett Field Restoration Advisory Board. “If they just pull those sides off, somebody has to find the money to re-skin it.



FILE PHOTO

NASA has no money. They are cutting programs and laying people off. To ask them to turn around and spend \$15 million to put a new cover on the hangar — it won’t happen.”

The Navy’s offer “certainly wouldn’t be our preferred treatment plan,” said Susan Stratton, director of project review for the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), which had hoped

for a commitment by the Navy to restore the Moffett Field icon.

No one opposes restoration, said Lenny Siegel of the Mountain View-based Center for Public Environmental Oversight. The problem has always been where the money would come from.

“Getting money from any government agency at this point is pretty unlikely,” Moss said.

Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, a key player in Washington on the hangar’s fate, noted that “The appropriations for this season have ended.”

Further appropriations money “would have to come up in a new Congress,” she said. “I don’t think it’s news to anyone that dollars are scarce. When the country is spending \$2.5 billion a week on the war it really hits home. Funding for infrastructure, funding for education — as sad as it

► See **HANGAR**, page 10

New twist to ‘transparency’ dispute

TENSIONS ESCALATE BETWEEN SCHOOL BOARD AND TWO LA COUNCIL MEMBERS

By Casey Weiss

The simmering dispute over whether the Mountain View-Los Altos High School District should televise its meetings took an unexpected turn, sources revealed recently, after a Palo Alto attorney demanded that district officials turn over hundreds of e-mails and expense reports related to a June 9 meeting on the issue.

Real estate lawyer Peter Brewer, an acquaintance of Los Altos City Council member Ron Packard, made the California Public Records Act request on June 25, just two days after a second contentious meeting between two Los Altos council members and the high school district board. Although other items were discussed, the biggest dispute at the

meetings was between council members David Casas and Packard and board trustees over televising future board meetings.



David Casas

In his request to district Superintendent Barry Groves, Brewer asked for any “notes, letters, analysis, memos and e-mails” sent or received since Feb. 1 regarding a joint meeting between the district and council. He said he is interested in specific issues discussed at the meeting, including televising meetings, possible term limits for the trustees and any concerns raised by Casas regarding alcohol abuse on the high school campus. He also

asked for expense reports from the five trustees since Jan. 1.



Peter Brewer

The request caused untold hours of work for school officials, and eventually yielded a four-inch stack of paper, a copy of which was obtained by the *Voice*. Exactly what Brewer plans to do with the information is unclear, and for the past week he was on vacation and did not return calls seeking comment.

“It has taken so much time to go through all these e-mails,” said board president Judy Hannemann.

The information request is

► See **DISPUTE**, page 8

Council field widens

INCUMBENTS MEANS, MACIAS AMONG THE HOPEFULS

By Daniel DeBolt

Several newcomers have recently thrown their hats in the ring for November’s City Council election, with a field of eight possible candidates now looking to win one of four open seats.

Incumbents Laura Macias and Tom Means are running for reelection, while John Inks, a candidate making his second run, and John McAlister are looking to move up from their current positions as environmental planning commissioners.

McAlister owns the Baskin Robbins on El Camino Real, has lived here over 50 years and says he wants to see the city grow responsibly, equating slower growth with “smart growth.” He also has a passion for youth services, employing

young people in their first jobs at his ice cream shop and being a former treasurer for the PTA.

Human relations commissioner Alicia Crank, also a candidate last year, and former council member Mike Kasperzak are also running. In the past, both have represented a more pro-growth side of the housing debate.

Two fresh faces have filed papers to enter the race: Chris Clark of N. Whisman Road and Tracy Gordon of Franklin Street. Clark, a senior operations manager at a local startup company, said he wants fiscal responsibility, an emphasis on a new teen center and green building standards. Gordon did not comment by press time.

Another possible candidate, Don Letcher, announced Tuesday that he has decided not to run.

The deadline to file is Friday, Aug. 8. ▀

INSIDE

GOINGS ON **24** | MARKETPLACE **32** | MOVIES **18** | REAL ESTATE **36** | VIEWPOINT **11** | WEEKEND **14**

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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in Downtown Mountain View. Pictures and interviews by Kelsey Mesher.

What Olympic event are you most excited to watch?



"Rowing, because I was a rower and I don't think enough people watch it."

Andrea Lacy, Mountain View



"Swimming. I think it's healthy!"

Chen Low, Redwood City



"Equestrian for me, because I'm a horse person. I do show jumping."

Jenny Fine, Santa Monica



"Ping-pong, because I'm a ping-pong player — or was."

Sheng Chen, Palo Alto



"Swimming. [Because of] Michael Phelps."

Bree Connally, San Jose



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■ **CRIMEWATCH**

UNLAWFUL SEXUAL ACTS, 200 BLOCK OF E. DANA ST., 8/3

A 17-year-old female reported having consensual sexual relations on three occasions with a 20-year-old male. The man, who was on parole for robbery, was arrested for three counts of statutory rape, and for carrying pseudoephedrine with the intention of either making methamphetamine or of selling to someone else to make methamphetamine.

POSSESSION OF A PROHIBITED WEAPON, MOFFETT BLVD./CENTRAL AVE., 8/3

An officer conducting a routine car stop realized both passengers in the car were acting outside the law. The driver was arrested for an outstanding warrant out of Alameda County for reckless driving. The passenger was found to be carrying a police baton, and was arrested for possession of a prohibited weapon.

■ **POLICELOG**

ASSAULT

350 Block Flower Ln., 7/31

ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON

2500 Block Wyandoite St., 8/4

AUTO BURGLARY

700 Block E. El Camino Real, 7/30
200 Block E. Dana St., 7/31
900 Block High School Way, 8/2
300 Block Higdon Ave., 8/2

BATTERY

50 Block Walker Dr., 7/30
100 Block Castro St., 7/30
1900 Block Montecito Ave., 7/31
Shoreline Amphitheatre, 8/2
Amphitheatre Parkway, 8/2
Amphitheatre Parkway, 8/2
1400 Block N. Shoreline Blvd., 8/2

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

1000 Block Grant Rd., 8/2

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Kapp's Pizza & Bar, 7/29
1700 Block W. El Camino Real, 8/1
100 Block Amphitheatre Parkway, 8/2
Amphitheatre Parkway, 8/2
500 Block Escuela Ave., 8/2
Rengstorff Park, 8/4

DISTURBANCE

50 Block S. Rengstorff Ave., 7/29
1000 Block Castro St., 8/1
Mountain View High School, 8/1
2200 Block Latham St., 8/1
Amphitheatre Parkway, 8/2

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

100 Block E. El Camino Real, 8/2
1500 Block W. El Camino Real, 8/2

FORGERY

50 Block Showers Dr., 7/29

GRAND THEFT

24 Hour Fitness, 7/29
200 Block Ravendale Dr., 7/30
430 Block Clyde Ave., 7/31
Wal-Mart, 8/1
500 Block Castro St., 8/1
100 Block N. Whisman Rd. 8/1

IDENTITY THEFT

400 Block Nicholas Dr., 7/29
1900 Block Crisanto Ave., 7/31

PETTY THEFT

Office Max, 7/29
70 Block Continental Cl., 7/29
230 Block Jane Ln., 7/30
60 Block Cuesta Dr., 7/30
600 Block Showers Dr., 7/30
2200 Block Old Middlefield Wy., 7/31
2000 Block Rialto Ct., 7/31
Wal-Mart, 7/31
Cuesta Park, 8/1
Oak Ln./Pamela Dr., 8/1
2300 Block Old Middlefield Way, 8/2
Wal-Mart, 8/4
200 Block Ada Ave., 8/4

POSSESSION OF DRUG PARAPANELIA

2600 Block Terminal Blvd., 8/3

POSSESSION OF NARCOTICS

1000 Block N. Rengstorff Ave., 8/2
Escuela Ave./Mount Vernon Ct., 8/2

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

100 Block Waverly Pl., 8/2

STOLEN VEHICLE

2000 Block W. Middlefield Rd., 7/29
Century 16 Cinema, 7/30

SUICIDE AND ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

2200 Block California St., 8/1

SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

100 Block Del Medio Ave., 7/29
Library, 7/29
Lozano's Carwash, 7/31

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES/PERSON

2500 Block Charleston Rd., 7/29
2000 Block Rock St., 7/30
1900 Block Rock St., 7/30
220 Block Latham St., 7/31
1000 Block Space Park Wy., 8/1
300 Block Martens Ave., 8/4
90 Block San Marcos Cl., 8/4
1700 Block Wright Ave., 8/4

VANDALISM

830 Block San Pablo Dr., 8/1
1600 Block Begen Ave., 8/4
2100 Block Old Middlefield Way, 8/4



Attack of the zones

By Don Frances

DON LETCHER came into the office Tuesday and demanded to speak with me.

In all my time here, Letcher has left me dozens of angry phone messages, talked to me live over the phone a few times, and come by the office many times to drop off his handwritten letters (he is always cordial with Diane, our office manager). But this was the first time he ever wanted to speak with me face-to-face.

He came to tell me that he had decided not to run for City Council this November, and that therefore I should have no problem running his letter about the CS zone on Old Middlefield Way (see page 11). (The *Voice* has a policy against running letters from council candidates.)

"But why are you dropping out of the race?" I asked.

"So you can run my letter," he said.

I was amazed. Letcher sacrificed his political ambitions just to get a letter in the paper? This must be one important letter.

And indeed, it speaks to his two main obsessions: land-use rules governing his Rengstorff Avenue property, and city attorney Michael Martello, against whom Letcher has carried a grudge for many years. I have never fielded a phone call from Letcher without getting an earful on these topics.

Letcher told me he was intent on correcting our stories, and one point was especially important: The CS zone was not, he said, reaffirmed in 2001, as Daniel DeBolt reported last month, but created "for the first time ever." I don't know why that's such a crucial point, but that's his contention, and it needs some clarification.

► See **EDITOR'S DESK**, page 6



Piano teacher Christie Skousen works with Cyrus Cowley at the Peery Piano Academy on Dana Street.

TIFFANY DANG

Passion for piano

CHRISTIE SKOUSEN WRITES CURRICULUM INSPIRED BY HER MOTHER

By Kelsey Mesher

A love of music and teaching runs in the veins of Christie Skousen, a Mountain View mom and accomplished pianist.

Skousen, 35, who began taking lessons 30 years ago from her mother, Irene Peery-Fox, is now spreading her passion for piano to local students through a formalized curriculum inspired by her original teacher.

After seven years of perfecting the curriculum, Skousen is seeing results, including the use of her teaching methods at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She keeps students busy at her studio, the Peery Piano

Academy on Dana Street — and keeps herself busy by chasing after her own four children, two of whom are already following in the family tradition by taking up the piano (not that they had a choice in the matter).

"I knew that my strength excluded a lot of people," she said of her one-on-one teaching style, which is most effective with very serious students. She admitted that even her own children have a tough time keeping up with her expectations. "I love that high-intensity, get-it-perfect kind of thing."

To make piano accessible to all types of kids interested in learning the instrument, Skousen worked to develop a group-

lesson format where several students were taught at once. The current curriculum is a rigorous combination of technique training, theory, sight-reading and song mastery. Four students are taught at a time, rotating between four stations. Two stations are one-on-one with teachers, and the other two are activities the kids can do on their own.

"It's very specific on how the student plays, not what the student plays," Skousen said. "Their hands have to look exactly the same way as if I were to play it."

Though the group lessons, called "Habits," are still intense, "we've tried to make a structure

► See **PIANO**, page 7

Foothill continues search for a site

By Casey Weiss

Foothill College administrators are still searching for a property where they can build a state-of-the-art extension campus, equipped to teach a growing population of recent immigrants and residents reentering the workforce.

Flush with \$40 million from the Measure C bond issue, which was passed in 2006, administrators in the Foothill-De Anza Commu-

nity College District had hoped to purchase the site of the Cubberley extension campus in Palo Alto, but city officials turned down their offer earlier this year.

Measure C allots just over \$500 million to the two colleges for repairs and renovations, and \$40 million for a new extension. The 44,000-student district has been looking for potential sites for an extension throughout the region, including in Mountain View.

"When we finish with Measure

C, we will have built out Foothill and De Anza to capacity," Charles Allen, executive director of facilities, operations and construction, told board members at Monday's meeting. "With the data that says we are continuing to grow, we need to look at options now."

Foothill trustees have narrowed their top choices to an R&D and education campus at NASA Ames and an expansion

► See **FOOTHILL**, page 8

Authorities hard at work on murder, stab cases

By Daniel DeBolt

It's been over a month since the murder of Omar Aquino and Teresa Sanchez, and the Mountain View Police Department says its "crimes against persons" unit is devoting most of its resources to solving the case.

Police spokesperson Liz Wylie said detectives are working a number of leads in the case of Aquino, 24, and his sister Sanchez, 27, who were shot to death in their home on June 28 as Sanchez's 8-year-old son slept in the next room. The motive could have been a combination of things, Wylie said, but police are not yet revealing specifics.

Meanwhile, the district attorney's office is prosecuting Jacob Dewitt and George Oseida, both charged in the stabbing of someone Jan. 6, in broad daylight on Escuela Avenue, who they allegedly believed was a rival gang member.


Dewitt, 19, and Oseida, 21, were scheduled to appear in court Friday, with the whole day reserved for the judge to review evidence and hear witnesses. But hearings in the case have already been scheduled and canceled several times, and deputy DA Leigh Frazier said that she's concerned that the case is going "painfully slow," partly because there are two defense attorneys.

"I don't like my cases getting pushed," Frazier said. "Sometimes you lose witnesses or you lose victims. People change addresses. Sometimes they move back to Mexico or their memories are not as good."

In another case, Nathan Talarrico is scheduled to appear in court Aug. 25 in the murder of Jeffrey Johnson, 20, who was shot during a drug deal on Feb. 7. Authorities in both cases have indicated that there is some trouble with witnesses not wanting to testify.

Also scheduled for Aug. 25 is the case of Hugo Garcia, 19, charged with the Feb. 26 murder of Jose Merales, 17, over an apparent love triangle. Garcia is scheduled to plea after several rescheduled hearings. ■

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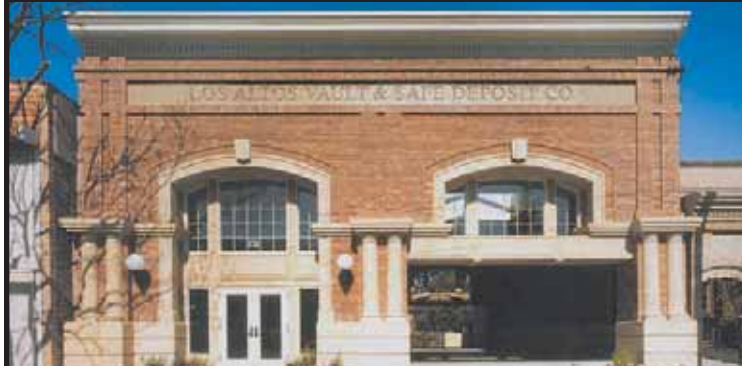
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■ SEEN AROUND TOWN

The four Mayors



This photo was sent by Margaret Abe, organizer of the yearly Obon Festival, and taken by her son Keith at the recent event, held July 19 and 20 at the Mountain View Buddhist Temple.

"The four Mayors," as Abe described them, are (from left) former mayor Art Takahara, council member and former mayor Matt Pear, Vice Mayor Margaret Abe-Koga, and Mayor Tom Means.

Abe (she called herself "the other Margaret Abe, older one, and not related to young Abe-Koga!") noted that "the Mayors did a wonderful job learning the folk dances." She also quoted Abe-Koga as saying, "Kudos to the Rev. Koyama and the temple members for their hard work and dedication in making this event one of the city's annual highlights."

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.

EDITOR'S DESK

► Continued from page 5

The CS zone was not created from scratch in 2001. The zone was created in 1963, but back then it had a different name: the CG zone.

We did some digging through city files to elaborate on the zone's origins, and found Resolution No. 16638, adopted by the council on Sept. 25, 2001, which reads:

"The General Commercial (CG) Zone District, adopted in 1963, established permitted and conditionally permitted land uses for this district, which currently applies to lands along Old Middlefield Way and in the

Yuba Drive area. Permitted uses include wholesale uses; automotive repair; contractor's yard; and carpenter, electrical and plumbing shops. Office uses and manufacturing uses are not specifically permitted. Some office uses have been permitted within the CG District, either as conditional uses ... or as accessory uses."

At this time the zone was renamed CS "to match the new ordinance," but the new zone's particulars were nearly identical to the original CG zone, with one big clarification: offices were specifically banned to keep the high-tech companies at bay (at that time the dot-com boom was in full swing).

Our digging also revealed an interesting side note. On Sept. 28,

1999, the City Council discussed the CG zone during a regular meeting. According to the minutes, among those making comments were Larry Moore, who "urged the council to vote for this ordinance in order to keep services in the community," and Donald Letcher, described as a San Francisco resident and "property owner in Mountain View."

Letcher "stated that he would like to see high-tech offices added to the CG zoning list so that they would be able to replace some of the existing occupancies. He also expressed concern with the process for approving conditional use permits." ■

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



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New gang unit ready to go

COUNSELORS, POLICE OFFICERS
COMBINE FORCES TO QUELL VIOLENCE

By Casey Weiss

The Mountain View Police Department and local counselors recently joined forces to quell gang violence with a new, collaborative unit.

Police are in the early stages of launching their new Youth Services Unit, designed to divert at-risk youth away from gangs and to help those who have started down the wrong path.

The police department already works with counselors, has gang suppression teams and officers on the public school campuses. But the new unit brings these officers and counselors together “under the same umbrella,” said Lt. Tony Lopez, who will be overseeing the unit.

“We would focus on [gang problems]. Then other priorities came about, and we would go that way,” Lopez said. “We are looking at a more communicative approach.”

The police department recently promoted Mike Ecdao to sergeant, and Mike Magana to officer of the Youth Services Unit, which is funded through a state grant and city money. Although the unit is still in its early stages, officers will soon share an office with the two school resource officers, who patrol the local schools. The police department will also be in close contact with two counselors from Community Health Awareness Council (CHAC), and the 14 gang suppression officers, all of whom have separate duties but work for a common cause: stop-

ping gang violence.

Lopez says the key players have begun discussing plans, and have been working at Dreams and Futures, a camp for at-risk youth run by the police department.

“They are already beginning to make relationships with agencies where we could be sending kids,” he said.

Once such agency is CHAC, whose counselors will help young people to give up their risky behavior. The agency offers free drug, alcohol and family counseling, and also holds parenting classes — resources available to all youth identified by the Youth Services Unit, said CHAC counselor Nicole Gwire.

“CHAC is seeing a need — these kids need support, they need an outlet,” Gwire said. “We can provide support these kids maybe don’t get.”

The Mountain View Police Department applied for a state grant to fund the new unit after an unusual string of gang-related violent incidents earlier this year, beginning with a stabbing in January and two unrelated murders later in the year. This summer, two Mountain View residents were victims of a double homicide, and police have not yet ruled out gang involvement.

Police received \$160,000 in grant money from the California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Program, and the City Council provided an additional \$180,000 to fund Magana and Ecdao’s position. ■

PIANO

► Continued from page 5

that’s fun,” Skousen said. “But the content is really high level.”

Irene Peery-Fox developed the groundwork for the Habits classes during her lifelong career teaching and playing piano. Though she lives in Utah — she is a music professor at Brigham Young University — her influence on her daughter is apparent: Both are obsessed with the piano, both studied at the Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University, and both are committed to teaching the instrument to others.

The mother-daughter connection also shines through in the strength of the curriculum.

“A combination of learning and taking all of the [techniques of the] teachers I’ve had, and just experimenting and having experience, is how I came up

with what I do,” Peery-Fox said. She said her daughter “decided to write it all down. She’s taken and added even more.”

“I foresee that it’s going to be a thing of the future,” she added, noting that Skousen’s use of new technology, such as computer games, is at the forefront of piano teaching.

But Skousen says there’s only one method that guarantees success.

“The magic key is practice,” she said. “Practice, practice, practice.”

The mother-daughter duo still play together every now and then. In early July they played in the Milton and Peggy Salkind International Piano Duo Festival at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. They were the only Americans featured in the showcase.

“We got good reviews. That was a really sophisticated festival and quite an honor to be selected to perform,” said Peery-Fox. “We play really well together.” ■



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*Photo of Irene Schwartz and Jennifer Schwartz
visiting Mendenhall Glacier, Juneau, Alaska.*

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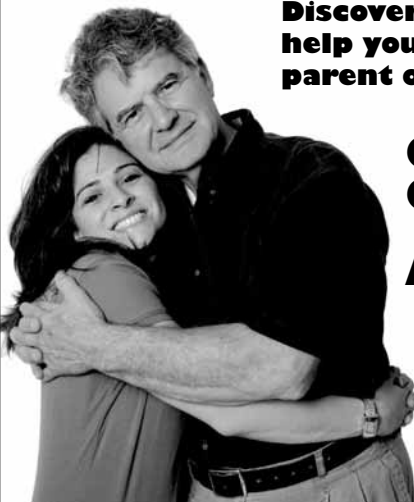
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LocalNews

DISPUTE

► Continued from page 1

apparently part of an ongoing argument over the merits of taping and broadcasting public meetings. The Los Altos council normally televises its tapings, while the school board does not, and after much reluctance, trustees decided the council could tape their June 9 joint meeting. But trustees said they did not want to pay the \$1,000 needed to televises each of their regular meetings.

Packard was not at the joint meeting, but Casas surprised trustees and his fellow council members when he announced he had looked into a pilot program to tape the trustees' meetings for free. Trustees could not be completely "transparent" without these tapings, according to Casas. Council members said they knew nothing about the deal, and several trustees said Casas' unprofessional manner put them off from wanting to discuss the issue further.

The trustees invited Casas to give another presentation on the subject at a board meeting on June 23. Casas, who brought Packard to the meeting, started off by questioning the trustees' expenses after a presentation from Hannemann, who had discussed her travels to an educational conference. He was also worried about technicalities of the agenda, he said, and possible violations of the Brown Act,

which regulates the conduct of governing bodies. After another heated discussion, trustees again rejected Casas' proposals.

"When you are dealing with the Brown Act, you have to be hyper-technical," said Packard, who is a lawyer.

Following that meeting, local newspapers received an anonymous letter criticizing Casas. Packard responded for Casas, who has been out of town and unreachable for several weeks, by sending his own letter

Casas surprised trustees and his fellow council members when he announced he had looked into a pilot program to tape the trustees' meetings for free.

defending his colleague's actions and accusing trustees of writing the anonymous letter.

"It's a small town, and we all live close to each other," said trustee Julia Rosenberg. "Why would you be talking through the press?"

Long history?

Trustees said they did not even know such a big rift between them and the two council members existed before the joint meeting on June 9.

"They have never told us what problem they want us to solve," said trustee Susan Sweeley.

But according to Packard, tensions between the Los Altos council and school board originated several years ago over parking at Los Altos High School. Con-

struction at the school reduced the amount of parking on campus, causing students to park in nearby neighborhoods. The council has no jurisdiction over the school, but still gets complaints from neighbors.

"Every year come August and September, we have a flood of residents come complain," Packard said.

He said the parking issue needs to be taken more seriously by school administrators, and blames the trustees for their hiring process of these administrators. He also said that term limits for the trustees would help to keep them in touch with community needs.

The five trustees "are all fine people," Packard said. "But I am looking at the institution and how they are elected."

A similar dispute over parking at Mountain View High School has been ongoing for 40 years, but there is no known problem between the high school board and the Mountain View City Council.

Superintendent Groves said this was the first time he'd been hit by an information request since coming to the district two years ago.

Rather than spend his summer chasing paperwork for lawyers, "I want to move on and spend my time on working on issues good for kids," he said. ▀

E-mail Casey Weiss at
cweiss@mv-voice.com

FOOTHILL

► Continued from page 5

center at Oaks, a shopping center across from De Anza College in Cupertino. On Monday, administrators said there could still be "other options," and met in closed session with local property owners to discuss expansion opportunities.

Other possible sites include two in Mountain View, at the 100-200 block of Evelyn Avenue and at the former headquarters of Trident Microsystems at 189 N. Bernardo Ave.

The Cubberley extension campus is used mostly by residents who live south of U.S. Highway 101 toward El Camino Real in Mountain View, Palo Alto and Sunnyvale, a region that is growing 30 percent faster than any other in Santa Clara County.

Administrators originally said the new campus building would need 100,000 square feet, but

on Monday scaled the estimate back to around 50,000 square feet. The district currently leases 36,000 square feet from the city of Palo Alto.

About 1,200 full-time students are enrolled at Cubberley, but

About 1,200 full-time students are enrolled at Cubberley, but that number is expected to grow to over 1,900 by 2014.

that number is expected to grow to over 1,900 by 2014. Although the center currently only offers classes, a new campus would offer full programs.

Students could graduate without "ever having to step foot in

Los Altos," said Foothill president Judy Miner, adding that she hopes to start "basic skills classes" in 2009 and expand its enrollment by 4 percent in its first year.

The district also will add ESL and workforce preparation classes, and eventually offer a pre-apprentice class on the new extension campus. These courses would cater to the local population, with a specific English language class to help people write business and high-tech proposals.

"We would bring together all of these pieces that were scattered around at our Middlefield Campus," she said.

Depending on their final decision, administrators said they would continue renting the gym at the Cubberley Center for sports classes and other programs.

"There are lots of questions depending on where we land," Miner said. ▀

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HANGAR

► Continued from page 1

sounds all of these areas are really pushed. If this is to be a priority I will work on it. But it's tight, everything is tight."

Still, Eshoo looked on the bright side, noting that "[The Navy's] recommendation is not to demolish, which I think is good news. That was the threat that's been hanging over the community's head."

The Navy estimates that removing the siding and applying a coating to the frame — which could protect the frame temporarily — will cost \$26.16 million. Installing new siding could add another \$14.9 million. By contrast, demolition would be \$26.7 million, the report says.

The Save Hangar One Committee has collected thousands of signatures in support of a proposal from independent architect Linda Ellis, who believes a white Teflon-fiberglass fabric siding, similar to the material used for Shoreline Amphitheatre's canopy, would work fine. That option would cost an estimated \$12 million.

Crunch time

The Navy's announcement two years ago that it would demolish Hangar One was met with widespread outrage, but this time

around it's been hard to gauge the community's concern, Siegel said, and he's worried people are relaxing during crunch time.

The hangar has garnered plenty of attention in the past. Earlier this year it was placed on a list of the country's top 11 endangered historic places by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. In 2006, a dozen California representatives, including Eshoo and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, wrote a letter to the Navy saying demolition would be a "travesty."

"If the hangar isn't preserved it's not for lack of interest, that's for sure," Stratton said.

Siegel said Pelosi and Sen. Diane Feinstein, who sits on the defense budget appropriations committee, are key to gaining the restoration funding. But locals who have discussed Hangar One funding with Feinstein's office say they face a chicken-and-egg dilemma: With no proposal for Hangar One's use, Feinstein is hesitant to allocate restoration money; with no restoration funding promised, no proposals have been able to gain ground.

"At some point there may be a combined public-private partnership," Eshoo said about Hangar re-use. "At least that's what it seems to me at this point."

Moss mentioned that a company like Google might have an interest

in saving the Hangar.

Whether its future use will be public or private may be of some contention. So far, proposals include an air and space museum and a staging area for FEMA operations. The latter idea was mentioned by Eshoo last year.

"I think that there could be several wonderful public uses," Eshoo said. "It's something that needs to be put out to public agencies, to see how they might make use of it, to figure out what the needs are. That would need approval of the community. I don't think there will be any shortage of ideas."

NASA's role

Siegel said he'd like to see NASA Ames, which inherited the hangar from the Navy in 1994, create a committee to assess various proposals for its landmark structure.

NASA Ames officials did not comment by press time.

"NASA's silence on this from Ames director Pete Worden's office has been conspicuous," Siegel said. "If the Navy does this, what will NASA do? It's an issue between Ames and NASA headquarters."

Released July 30, the revised Environmental Evaluation and Cost Analysis outlined 13 different options for the hangar. Five were favored over the others, including

a rubberized coating over the toxic siding as used at Hangar One's twin, the Goodyear Air dock in Akron, Ohio. Also favored but not picked: an acrylic coating, a new "visually similar siding," and finally, "Alternative 11," i.e. the "permanent remedy" of demolishing and removing the hangar once and for all.

"If you remove the hangar, that is another piece of the story that's being removed from the landscape," Stratton said.

The Navy also plans to record the oral histories of people who worked at Hangar One over the years, prepare and distribute an interactive Hangar One CD, and preserve the hangar's "man-cranes."

Big space

Hangar One, originally built during the Depression to house the USS Macon airship, is 1,133 feet long and 198 feet tall. Ten football fields, laid side-by-side along their widths, could fit inside. It is tall enough that rain clouds can form at the top. The doors weigh 200 tons each and are moved on train tracks using 150-horsepower motors.

According to the report, the strange toxics that emanate from Hangar One, Aroclor 1260 and 1268, were first found in a stormwater retention pond in 1997. In October 2002, the same PCBs were found in Hangar One's

multilayer Robertson Protected Metal siding, which also contains asbestos felt and lead paint. Two proposed methods of cleaning the toxics from deep within the siding were not found to be feasible, the report says.

According to the report, a structural analysis commissioned last year indicated that minor bracing would be necessary for the hangar to stand as a skeleton without siding. ■

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

■ INFORMATION

A public Navy meeting on Hangar One is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 26 at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Santa Clara, 2120 Walsh Ave. To strategize and prepare for the meeting, the Save Hangar One Committee is gathering Thursday, Aug. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Moffett Field History Museum, located at the foot of Hangar One.

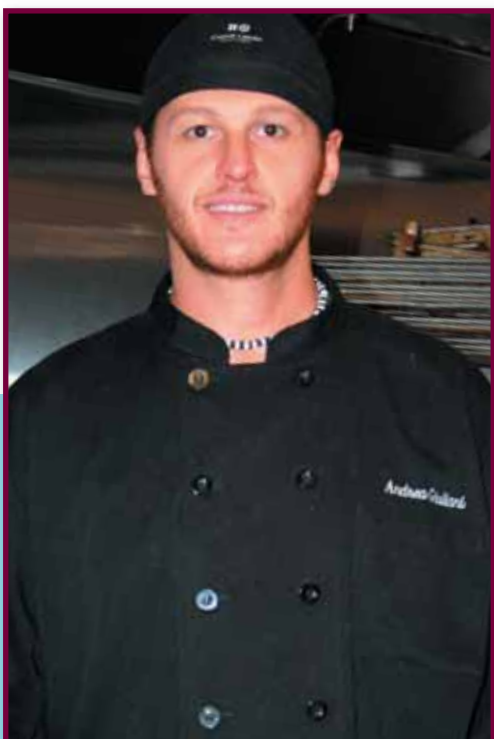
The full 485-page Navy report can be downloaded from www.nuqu.org. Written comments must be e-mailed to darren.newton@navy.mil, or post-marked by Sept. 13 and sent to:

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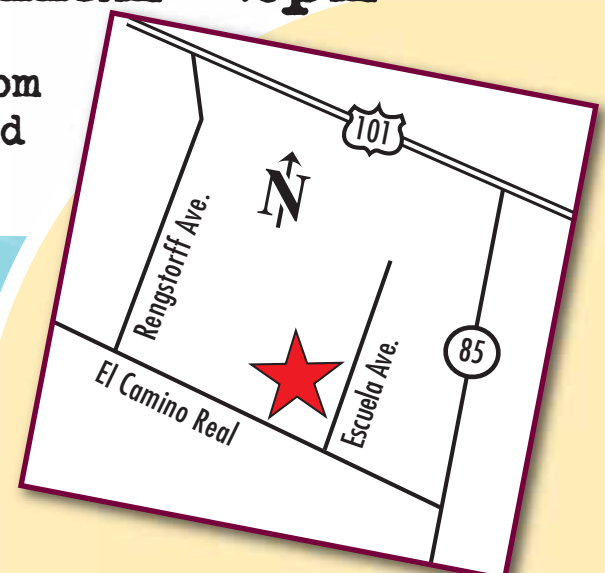


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Published every Friday at
655 W. Evelyn Ave., Suite 3
P.O. Box 405
Mountain View, CA 94042
(650) 964-6300
fax (650) 964-0294

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■ EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Navy has an obligation to restore Hangar One

Once again the U.S. Navy has attempted to squirm out of its responsibility to restore historic Hangar One at Moffett Field.

Last week, the Navy released a report offering to do half the preservation job, stripping off the poisonous siding and leaving a bare skeleton for someone else to re-skin. The long-awaited report is being viewed as a partial victory by Hangar One supporters, who are nevertheless upset over what amounts to half a loaf.

On the one hand, the offer does possibly save the hangar from total demolition. On the other hand, the Navy, at least in this offer, is refusing to follow through on saving it.

After peeling off the current siding and cleaning the underlying iron structure of PCBs, then spraying it with a preservative coating, the Navy proposes to walk away. To cover the resulting gigantic eyesore would take another \$15 million, the Navy says, and that would constitute “reuse,” which is “the responsibility of federal property owner [currently NASA], which is a separate federal action from the Navy’s environmental restoration efforts.”

That “reuse” label does not sit well with local activist Lenny Siegel, who believes re-covering the hangar is more akin to “restoration” — putting it back in the Navy’s court. Siegel, co-chair of the Save Hangar One Committee, believes this head-bumping over semantics is the Navy’s way of attempting to shirk its responsibility for removing the toxic siding on Hangar One and replacing it with a new skin.

The Navy should not be able to play fast and loose with this landmark structure, which has towered over Moffett Field and the Bayshore Freeway for nearly 80 years. The Navy has a huge conflict of interest in this decision, since it must pay for whatever action it decides to take on the hangar. Instead, the decision should be made by California’s Congressional delegation, including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer and Rep. Anna Eshoo.

It is time for the cities of Mountain View and Sunnyvale to work on forming a broadly based committee that could evaluate options — and perhaps even lobby for federal help — to complete restoration of the hangar. Certainly there is precedent for the federal government to appropriate funds to restore such a historic landmark. In fact, the NASA Research Park idea was created in this way.

Given the solid backing Hangar One has in both communities, we urge the cities to register their support with their representatives in Washington. We hope the outcome will either lead to a direct appropriation or push the Navy to do the job right. If the California delegation stays focused and makes its views known, a complete Hangar One project can be underway in a few years.

■ LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

TROUBLE IN THE CS ZONE

Editor:

Thank you for Daniel DeBolt’s front-page article on “Zone wars” (July 11), but a few quotes from city attorney Michael Martello need to be challenged and corrected.

1) City staff did not create the problem. Vice Mayor Nancy Noe and the owners of Larry’s Auto Works did. They convinced City Council to create the CS zone for the first time ever on Old Middlefield Way.

2) City staff did not “loosely interpret the CS zoning ordinance to allow the offices.” Many, many of those buildings were designed and approved as offices by Mr. Kobsa, an architect at 2083 Old Middlefield Way, and when rezoned to the CS district were given five-year conditional permits to sunset their office and R&D tenants. Housing was, and is, not permitted in the CS zone at all. Ask Peter Gilli, the city’s zoning administrator, on that one.

DeBolt reports the property owners don’t want to pay to change the buildings back, but most were designed to be office, R&D and mixed use to start with. Larry Moore’s former landlord did change his automotive repair building to offices, and one or two originally office buildings have been converted to auto repair, but most of the CS district landlords just kick out tenants (like I did) and leave their properties to sit vacant (until we can get rid of Martello).

It’s not city staff’s fault. It is the fault of Michael Martello and his

truly abusive code inspectors and above-the-law cops.

Donald Letcher
N. Rengstorff Avenue

Editor’s Note: The CS zone on Old Middlefield Way was reaffirmed in 2001 by the City Council, not created “for the first time ever” as Donald Letcher contends in his letter. The zone did, however, have a different name when it was created in 1963. For more on the subject, see From the Editor’s Desk, page 5.

FLOOD BASIN WILL BEAUTIFY CUESTA ANNEX

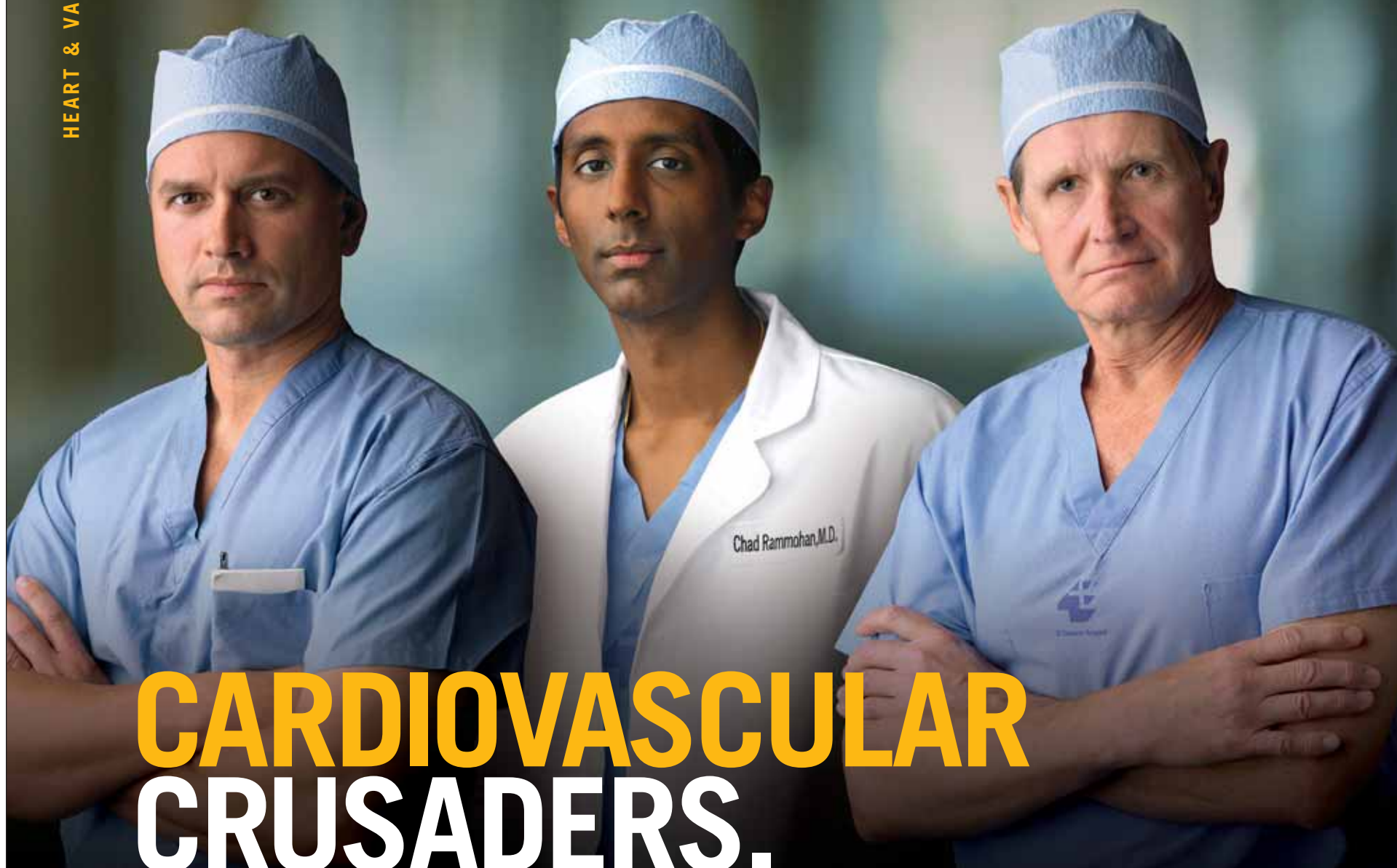
Editor:

Glenn Meier’s letter calling the Cuesta Annex flood basin a “pit” and a loss of open space could not be more wrong (Letters to the Editor, July 25). It sounds as if he has not seen the design that Save Open Space Mountain View has been working on with the landscape firm Royston, Hanamoto, Alley, and Abey — the same firm that designed Cuesta Park over 30 years ago.

Our design celebrates the natural California landscape, with winding nature trails through a dry creek bed with sustainable and seasonal native plants. Contrary to being a loss of open space, it will support and enhance the same walking, running and unstructured play that goes on in the Annex today. It is wholly consistent with the Concept B that we fought for and the City Council

► See **LETTERS**, page 13





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LETTERS

► Continued from page 11

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We have reviewed our ideas with the community at multiple public meetings and have received overwhelmingly positive feedback. We look forward to the upcoming city meetings where people can see the proposed designs for themselves and provide input.

Kevin McBride,
Save Open Space
Begen Avenue

'ILLEGAL,' NOT 'UNDOCUMENTED'

Editor:

The editorial "Better safe than sorry on immigration" (Aug. 1) uses "undocumented" as a synonym for "illegal." This is not correct. Some immigrants come without passports and without visas. They are undocumented. Others come with valid passports containing a student visa or a visitor visa. These people have documents. Such visitors are not allowed to work while here, and any who take a job become "out of status," i.e. illegal. There are about four million documented illegal immigrants among us.

If most illegals were undocumented, then one could forgive the casual interchange of these

adjectives. Since this is not the case, the *Voice* should use the proper terms.

Tom Day
Poppy Place

WE MUST PROTECT OUR BORDERS

Editor:

In your Aug. 1st editorial "Better safe than sorry on immigration," you were right to distinguish between persons in the United States illegally and persons who are not only here illegally but also commit serious crimes — such as the alleged triple murderer you cited who already had a felony record in Mayor Gavin Newsom's "sanctuary city" of San Francisco.

Although it is a felony under federal law to aid and abet an illegal immigrant in coming to, or staying in, the United States (knowing or in reckless disregard of the person's immigration status), the current focus of law enforcement should be on deporting dangerous criminals after they have served their sentences here. They could not be deported before serving their sentences because there would be no assurance that another country would keep them locked up.

On the other hand, there is also no assurance that anyone deported will stay away. Moreover, a person who was never able to enter the United States could never have committed any violent crime here. Therefore, to head off criminals (not to mention terrorists) what we need, in part, are real borders.

Gary Wesley
Continental Circle

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■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Old-school Italian

PLEASING, FAMILIAR SELECTIONS AVAILABLE AT MENLO PARK'S INVETERATE CARPACCIO

By Dale F. Bentson

It is no accident that Carpaccio has been a fixture in Menlo Park for the past 21 years. The ambiance is warm and inviting, the waitstaff friendly and knowledgeable, the food tasty and satisfying.

The bar scene is lively and habits are of a certain age; at least no one that I saw was wearing a baseball cap backwards. Of course, as the evening wears on, the barflies skew younger.

Carpaccio is a decidedly Italian affair; that is, the menu mimics what Americans have defined as Italian fare. This isn't necessarily bad and it is what the restaurant's customers demand and expect, yet it is removed from the experience of contemporary Italian cuisine.

If I am to criticize anything about Carpaccio, it is that old-school notion of spaghetti and meatballs, veal piccata and cannelloni, zabaglione and tiramisu. While the menu is periodically updated and weekly specials allow the kitchen some creativity, the longer a restaurant exists, the more locked into its ways it becomes because its loyal patrons demand it.

Five years ago, I reviewed essentially the same dishes at Carpaccio, save for a few newer entries. Every other year, managing partner Ciya Martorana visits a different part of Italy, returning with new enthusiasm and ideas. I suppose those ideas are more reflected in the weekly specials than in upending the established order of things.

One such special, forno-legna asparagi grantinati (\$10.50), an antipasto, was irresistible with spears of oven-roasted green asparagus, cambozola cheese, and shallot relish, all drizzled with sherry vinaigrette.

Cambozola is a cow's-milk cheese that is a hybrid of French triple cream cheese and Italian Gorgonzola. Triple cream cheeses

► Continued on next page

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VOICE

► Continued from previous page

quickly separate when warmed, but the kitchen got it just right and the eloquent flavors of tender vegetable and rich dairy lingered happily on the palate.

Regular menu antipasti included bruschetta (\$7.95), a gargantuan portion of grilled, garlic-smearred sourdough bread buried under an avalanche of chopped fresh tomatoes, basil and olive oil. It was plenty for several people as an appetizer, overwhelming for one person.

Grilled polenta with wild mushrooms (\$8.50) was a more reasonable portion. The polenta was nicely toasted around the edges without being dried out or charred. The mushrooms were meek but the veal reduction with Madeira added intrigue to the plate.

Also successful was the bombetta di parmigiano (\$10.75), a mini parmesan souffle served warm with baby spinach, arugula and shaved asparagus in a champagne-walnut oil vinaigrette. The airy souffle was creamy, bitter and sweet.

Carpaccio offers a dozen versions of pasta. I favored the house-made pappardelle (\$15.75). The flat pasta was tossed with black pepper, sun dried tomatoes, shallots, mushrooms and a splash of Chianti for good measure. The dish was vibrant and hearty, perfumed by the shallots, pepper and wine. The pappardelle was cooked al dente, which gave the dish texture.

Spaghettini con polpette della nonna (\$14.25) was a monster portion of spaghetti with "grandmother-style meatballs" interlaced with marinara sauce. It wasn't bad, just bland, with nothing to distinguish it other than the size of the portion.

The kitchen graciously split our pasta orders or we wouldn't have been able to indulge in so many courses during our visits. The gregarious waitstaff was quick to oblige any request, and pacing

► See **CARPACCIO**, page 16



VERONICA WEBER

At **Carpaccio restaurant**, the Legna Asparagus special (foreground), and the Panzanella Della Giardiniera served with a glass of white wine.

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CARPACCIO

► Continued from page 15

from the kitchen was perfect.

For main courses, the veal piccata (\$19.90) was delicious. The medallions of veal were fork-tender and sauteed with the acidity of lemon and capers, giving the meat a jazzy lift. Veal is, by far, the most popular meat in Italy. As I don't want to touch off another foie gras-style, ethical-food-consumption argument, suffice it to say that Carpaccio uses Privimi veal from Wisconsin, the best and most tender veal available in the U.S.

Petto di pollo alla griglia (\$16.25) was a grilled chicken breast paillard (pounded very thin and cooked quickly) atop wilted greens with roasted veg-

etables. The chicken was fleshy and rich and was balanced by the earthy greens that accompanied.

Fresh sole, petrale al pomodoro (\$18.95) was sauteed with tomatoes and garlic. It wasn't the best choice. The fish was overmatched by the acidity of the tomatoes. The dish needed something else, seafood or vegetable, to offset the sharpness. While petrale is oft used in bouillabaisse and cioppino, those dishes incorporate many more ingredients to counterbalance the tomatoes.

Carpaccio has survived the vagaries of the restaurant business for over two decades by serving what its devoted customers want. There is a familiarity to the surroundings, the menu, and the service. In these uncertain times, what could be more welcoming? ▣

DINING NOTES

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DAVID ALLEN

The ladies of the Sleep-Tite pajama factory look on as Babe (Sarah Aili) and Sid (David Sattler) negotiate in "The Pajama Game."

They play a good 'Game'

FOOTHILL MUSIC THEATRE'S 'THE PAJAMA GAME' IS FLIRTATIOUS FUN

By Karla Kane

For fans of classic Broadway, Foothill Music Theatre's production of "The Pajama Game" is an agreeable, if forgettable, experience.

Set in the 1950s, the musical tells the story of the workers at the Sleep-Tite pajama factory in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. They're agitating for a seven-and-a-half-cent raise, which, as the song says, "doesn't buy a heluva lot" but means the world to these hardworking employees.

Their union is ready to fight, with smart and sassy Catherine "Babe" Williams (Sarah Aili) as its dedicated grievance-committee spokeswoman. Management is represented by hunky new superintendent Sid Sorokin (David Sattler, ironically the only Actors' Equity Association member in the cast), who has just arrived in this "hick town" from the big city (Chicago) and is determined to prove his worth to the company.

Babe and Sid have an immediate, undeniable attraction and quickly fall head over heels. Their affair is troubled, however, as she vows to let no man come between her and her union, while he struggles not to let a little labor dispute stand in the way of their happiness. With a strike looming, can true love and a fair wage conquer all?

While the happy resolution is never in doubt (is there any problem that singing and dancing can't solve?), getting there is what matters.

"The Pajama Game" first opened on Broadway in 1954, and under Jay Manley's expert direction at Foothill it maintains a vintage vibe. A black-and-white filmstrip introducing the main characters is shown at the top of the show, cleverly setting the mood for things to come, and the production's nostalgic look is half the fun.

The cast is talented, and Aili and

Sattler in particular are a winning match, with Sattler mixing a debonair appeal with an everyman quality perfect for his role as the heart-throb superintendent. Elegant Aili sometimes seems overly aristocratic for her role as blue-collar Babe, but she brings maturity and class to the part, in addition to a lovely mezzo-soprano voice. It isn't difficult to see why Sid falls for her.

Other lead characters also encounter workplace romance, including union president and nerdy skirt chaser "Prez" (Michael Rhone), who woos his counterpart, tomboyish-yet-sexy Mae (Kateri McRae). Doug Baird and Karen DeHart ham it up and get laughs as jealous "efficiency expert" Vernon Hines and his girlfriend, daffy secretary Gladys.

Thanks perhaps to the predictable and somewhat thin storyline, the show grows dull at times (or does all that talk about pajamas automatically make me sleepy?) despite the high energy of the cast and musicians. Frequent reprisals of songs and similar-seeming dialogue make the plot drag. I liked the portrayal of the female characters as feisty, independent women (both in the workplace and in personal relationships) and, though there is some corny innuendo, the show is surprisingly free of too many sexist clichés. Either it's been updated for modern audiences or authors George Abbott and Richard Bissell were relatively progressive for their time.

The show's soundtrack, with music and libretto by Richard Adler and Jerry Ross, is pleasant but largely unmemorable, including some insipid melodies and lyrics (sample from the finale: "The pajama game is the game I'm in. And I'm proud to be in the pajama game"). While the sultry dance numbers "Steam Heat" and "Hernando's Hideaway," and ballad "Hey There" (all standouts)

are the best known, my personal favorite is Aili and Sattler's soaring, country-tinged duet "There Once Was a Man," which shows off both their vocal ranges and chemistry. The rest of the songs, however, lagged by comparison.

The onstage action is backed by an excellent pit orchestra: the "Buttonhole Band," conducted by Mark Hanson. Katie O'Byron's skillful choreography is most endearing in a company-picnic scene, as classic outdoor games (jump rope, potato sack race, etc.) are woven into the dancing.

The sets, as well as the lighting, are done in vibrant shades of aqua, hot pink and avocado that highlight the show's retro charm. Attractive period costumes abound and the fashion-show parade of Sleep-Tite pajamas in the finale is adorable. Big colorful buttons frame the stage and add to the playful atmosphere. Making dreary factories and offices look this cute can't be easy, so kudos to designer Joe Ragey.

Overall, the show is entirely likeable, if lacking in ovation-worthy moments. "The Pajama Game" may not make the list of all-time greatest musicals, but the Foothill cast and crew do a commendable job with the material. ■

■ INFORMATION

What: "The Pajama Game," a musical comedy presented by Foothill Music Theatre
Where: Smithwick Theatre, Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills
When: Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m., through Aug. 17
Cost: Tickets are \$10 to 26 with discounts for students and seniors
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KIMBERLY KING & CASSIDY BROWN IN DOUBT / PHOTO BY DAVID ALLEN

MOVIE TIMES

AMERICAN TEEN (PG-13) ★★★ Aquarius: 2, 5, 7:30 & 9:45 p.m.

BOTTLE SHOCK (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED) Palo Alto Square: 1:40, 4:25, 7:10 & 9:55 p.m.

BRIDESHEAD REVISITED (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 20: 12:35, 3:40, 7 & 10 p.m. Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 4:15, 7 & 9:50 p.m.

THE DARK KNIGHT (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: 11:20 a.m.;

12:25, 2:35, 3:45, 5:50, 7, 9:10 & 10:25 p.m. Century 20: 11:15 a.m.; 12:25, 1:40, 2:45, 3:45, 5, 6:15, 7:10, 8:25, 9:40 & 10:30 p.m.

GET SMART (PG-13) ★★1/2 Century 12: 7:35 & 10:35 p.m.

HAIRSPRAY (PG) ★★★★★ Century 16: Fri. at 10 p.m.

HANCOCK (PG-13) ★★★★★1/2 Century 20: 11:15 a.m.; 12:25, 1:40, 2:45, 3:45, 5, 6:15, 7:10, 8:25, 9:40 & 10:30 p.m.

HELL RIDE (R) (NOT REVIEWED) Century 16: 11:15 a.m. 1:25, 3:35, 5:40, 8 & 10:05 p.m. Century 12: 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:15 & 9:30 p.m.

HELLBOY 2: THE GOLDEN ARMY (PG-13)

(NOT REVIEWED) Century 16: 7:25 & 10:10 p.m.

Century 20: 11:10 a.m.; 1:55, 4:50, 7:35 & 10:25 p.m.

INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL (PG-13) ★★1/2 Century 12: 12:50, 3:40, 7:30 & 10:25 p.m.

IRON MAN (PG-13) ★★★★★1/2

Century 12: 12:40, 3:50, 7:20 & 10:15 p.m.

JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH (PG) ★★

Century 16: 11:5 a.m.; 2:20, 4:45, 7:10 & 9:40 p.m.

Century 12: 12:10, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40 & 10:05 p.m.

KIT KITTREDGE: AN AMERICAN GIRL (G)

(NOT REVIEWED) Century 12: 1:20, 4:20 & 7:25 p.m.

KUNG FU HUSTLE (R) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: Sat. at 10 p.m.

KUNG FU PANDA (PG) ★★★★★1/2

Century 20: 11:10 a.m.; 1:30 & 4:10 p.m.

MAMMA MIA! (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: 11:25 a.m.; 12:55, 2:15, 3:55, 5:05, 7:45 & 10:25 p.m.

Century 20: 11:25 a.m.; 12:50, 2, 3:25, 4:35, 6, 7:15, 8:40 & 9:55 p.m.

MAN ON WIRE (PG-13) ★★★★★ Aquarius: 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:30 p.m.

THE MUMMY: TOMB OF THE DRAGON EMPEROR

(PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED) Century 16: 11:05 a.m.; noon, 1, 1:50,

2:50, 3:50, 4:30, 5:30, 6:35, 7:15, 8:15 & 9:20 p.m. Sun.-Tue. also at 10 p.m.

Century 20: 11:05 & 11:40 a.m.; 12:10, 12:40, 1:10, 1:40, 2:20, 2:50, 3:15, 3:50,

4:20, 5:05, 5:30, 5:55, 6:30, 7:05, 7:45, 8:15, 8:50, 9:20, 9:50 & 10:30 p.m.

PINEAPPLE EXPRESS (R) ★★1/2 Century 16: 11:15 a.m.; 12:35,

2, 3:30, 5, 6:25, 7:55, 9:15 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 11:20 a.m.; noon 12:40,

1:20, 2, 2:40, 3:20, 4, 4:45, 5:20, 6, 6:40, 7:30, 8:05, 8:45, 9:25 & 10:15 p.m.

SEX AND THE CITY (R) ★★1/2

Century 12: 12:05, 3:20, 7:05 & 10:20 p.m.

THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS 2 (PG-13)

(NOT REVIEWED) Century 16: 11:10 a.m.; 1:55, 4:50, 7:35 & 10:20 p.m.

Century 12: Noon, 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9 & 10 p.m.

SPACE CHIMPS (G) (NOT REVIEWED) Century 16: 11:30 a.m.;

1:35, 3:40 & 5:45 p.m. Century 12: 11:55 a.m.; 2:15 & 4:30 p.m.

STEP BROTHERS (R) (NOT REVIEWED) Century 16: 12:05,

2:30, 4:55, 7:20 & 9:45 p.m. Century 12: 1:10, 4:10, 7:50, 9:55 & 10:30 p.m.

SWING VOTE (PG-13) ★1/2 Century 16: 11 a.m.; 1:40, 4:20, 7:05 &

9:55 p.m. Century 12: 12:20, 2, 3:30, 4:55, 7:10, 8:45 & 10:10 p.m.

TELL NO ONE (NOT RATED) ★★★★★1/2 Guild: 1, 4, 7 & 9:55 p.m.

WALL-E (G) ★★★★★1/2 Century 16: 11 a.m.; 1:30, 4:10, 6:55 & 9:25 p.m.

Century 20: 11:20 a.m.; 1:50, 4:25, 6:55 & 9:30 p.m.

WANTED (R) ★★★★★ Century 20: 7:40 & 10:15 p.m.

THE X-FILES: I WANT TO BELIEVE (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: 7:50 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 12:05, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50 & 10:20 p.m.

Note: Screenings are for Friday through Tuesday only.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

For show times, plot synopses and more information about any films playing at the Aquarius, Guild and Park, visit www.LandmarkTheatres.com

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

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



MOVIE REVIEWS

AMERICAN TEEN ★★★

In this look at life in the red-state town of Warsaw, Indiana, Nanette Burstein, who filmed daily for 10 months at the local high school, features five “Breakfast Club” types. She turns her lens on the jock (Colin Clemens), the geek (Jake Tusing), the rebel (Hannah Bailey), the princess (Megan Krizmanich) and the heartthrob (Mitch Reinholdt). But she’s given each person room to breathe as an individual, with the exception of Reinholdt, who comes into focus only through his clique-crossing relationship with Bailey. Unexpectedly, animation pops up from time to time, bringing the teens’ fantasies and fears to life. The technique is overused and can feel melodramatic. Some of the teens’ statements feel rehearsed, as though they are always aware of the camera. But maybe that’s unavoidable in these reality-TV days. Scenes both painful and humorous are deftly blended together. The ways these teens react to their demons make them compelling characters; they may come off looking admirable, baffling or sympathetic, but always movingly human. *Rated: PG-13 for some strong language, sexual material, drinking and smoking, all involving teens. 1 hour, 35 minutes. — R.W.*

SWING VOTE ★1/2

To say that this political comedy isn’t particularly funny ignores the elephant in the room: the wrong-headed premise at the movie’s core. That’s not to be confused with its absurd premise. As with much fiction, viewers can suspend their disbelief and swallow the silly notion that a United States presidential election hangs by a hair — by a single vote. Due to a voting machine malfunction, Bud Johnson (Kevin Costner) must recast his vote in 10 days, an historical event by which one American will determine the leader of the free world. Discussing the wrong-headed premise — a shockingly disingenuous one — is difficult without giving away the plot. Screenwriters Jason Richmond and Stern tried to fashion a feel-good, Capraesque story about civic responsibility. Every American should carefully consider the issues and vote for the political candidate of choice. Every vote counts. Let’s just say that “Swing Vote” should be retitled “Voter Fraud.” The movie completely ignores the moral and legal bankruptcy at the narrative’s center. *Rated: PG-13 for language. 1 hour 40 minutes. — S.T.*

THE X-FILES: I WANT TO BELIEVE ★★★

Ex-fans will be thrilled to know their beloved agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully haven’t changed much; they get back in the swing of things so fast it’s as if they never stopped. Six years after the FBI charged him with murder and kicked him out of his post as an investigator of paranormal cases, or X-Files, Mulder (David Duchovny) still hasn’t quite moved on. He sits at home, collecting newspaper clippings of strange occurrences and

MOVIE CRITICS

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

shooting pencils at the ceiling. Scully (Gillian Anderson) works at a Catholic hospital, convinced she has left her agent days far behind. But when an FBI agent approaches Scully and promises to drop charges against Mulder if he returns to investigate a new case involving an FBI agent gone AWOL, both are thrown into the darkness once again. While moviegoers unfamiliar with the series might have trouble understanding certain topics fully without proper context, the movie still offers a good mystery-thriller plot that anyone can enjoy. *Rated: PG-13 for violence, disturbing content and mature thematic material.* 1 hour, 44 minutes. — J.K.

THE DARK KNIGHT ★★★

Christian Bale reprises his role as Gotham's ultimate vigilante, a conflicted superhero who moonlights as suave billionaire Bruce Wayne. Having dispensed with Wayne's moody origins in "Batman Begins," Batman is now faced with a more diabolical fiend in the form of The Joker (Heath Ledger). The Joker isn't in it for the money, nor is he necessarily seeking control of Gotham. He's just a twisted sicko who wants to watch the world burn. And burn it does while the clown-faced Joker insinuates his evil into the Gotham mob (led by Eric Roberts) and a Hong Kong crime organization while Gotham's shining star (Aaron Eckhart as District Attorney Harvey Dent) puts baddies behind bars. But Dent alone can't control the axis of evil the Joker has fashioned, seeking the help of loyal Gothamites Lt. Jim Gordon (Gary Oldman), Dawes, and of course Batman himself. Who in turn depends on trusty butler Alfred (Michael Caine) and genius inventor Lucius Fox (Morgan Freeman) to maintain his murky masquerade. Ambitious, flawed and erratically visionary, Batman is back. *Rated: PG-13 for language, action violence and mature themes.* 2 hours, 32 minutes. — J.A.

HANCOCK ★★★1/2

Will Smith delivers a pitch-perfect performance as John Hancock: a grungy, sodden superhero whose dubious rescue tactics are not looked upon kindly by the increasingly aggravated residents of Los Angeles. Hancock is faster than a speeding bullet and able to leap tall buildings in a single bound but suffers from deep feelings of rejection stemming from an 80-year-long bout of amnesia and the fact that he was abandoned at a Miami hospital in the mid-1920s. As the tetchy Angelenos rebuff Hancock he rebuffs back, his slipshod do-gooding resulting in felony destruction and some 600 subpoenas for civil suits. Not your run-of-the-mill superhero. There's a core of vulnerability under that hefty psychological armor and image consultant Ray Embrey (Jason Bateman) is determined to polish Hancock to an amicable shine. Humor is laced with sorrow as Hancock strives to interface with the community and mold himself into an upbeat people person, losing his emotional footing time and time again. *Rated: PG-13 for intense action, violence and language.* 1 hour, 35 minutes. — J.A.

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Help imagine *the* future of Mountain View

community visioning workshop
Saturday, August 23rd, 2008
9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Mountain View Center
for the Performing Arts, SecondStage
500 Castro Street, Mountain View

Join us at our second community workshop to help the City develop a vision for Mountain View through 2030.

At this workshop, we'll:

- share the results of the June 7 workshop
- review a draft vision statement and planning framework for how the community would like to change over the next 20 years
- discuss some focus areas identified by the community

The workshop will feature presentations, interactive discussions, and informational booths. Refreshments and activities for children (ages 5 and up) will be provided.

For more information call 650-903-6306
Visit our website at: www.mountainview2030.com

community workshop

Mountain View 2030

■ MOVIE REVIEWS

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Health Education Highlights

Lectures and Workshops

Alternative Medicine 2008 Update "For Your Health" Community Lecture Series

Wednesday, August 13, 7 - 8 p.m.

Mountain View Center, 701 E. El Camino Real

Third Floor Conference Rooms

Presented by Ravin Agah, M.D., Immunology and Internal Medicine

For more information or to reserve your space, visit
caminomedical.org/healtheducation or call 408-523-3295.



Classes and Support Groups



Feeding Your Toddler/Preschooler

Tuesday, August 19, 7 - 9 p.m.

Mountain View Center, 701 E. El Camino Real

Third Floor Conference Rooms

Cost: \$20

For more information or to reserve your space, visit
caminomedical.org/healtheducation or call 650-934-7373.



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Weight management program for adults

Tuesdays (14-week sessions) Begins September 11, 6 - 7:15 p.m.

Mountain View Center, 701 E. El Camino Real

Third Floor Conference Rooms

Cost: \$225

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Teen Skin Care

Saturday, September 6, 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Mountain View Center, 701 E. El Camino Real

Third Floor Conference Rooms

Cost: \$20

For more information or to reserve your space, visit
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Be Well. Be Well Informed.

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