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INSIDE**

AUGUST 29, 2008 VOLUME 16, NO. 34

INSIDE: WEEKEND | PAGE 13

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MARJAN SADOUGH

Readers have made their voices heard: The "Best of" is back, featuring Mountain View's finest services and eateries — like Xanh restaurant (above), which won two categories this year, Best Vietnamese and Best Fusion.

INSIDE

The Voice Best of Mountain View 2008. See Section 2

\$100K for school nurse position

EL CAMINO HOSPITAL ANNOUNCES GRANT TO HELP MV WHISMAN'S 4,400 STUDENTS

By Casey Weiss

El Camino Hospital is providing \$100,000 to fund an additional nurse for the Mountain View Whisman School District, hospital officials announced.

For years the district has had only one nurse to take care of the more than 4,400 students at its eight schools, as well as provide health counseling to families. Now, thanks to the grant, additional health care will be provided for students with allergies, asthma, diabetes, special needs and other health

problems.

"Think about 4,400 students. Districts would like three or four nurses, but we cannot

"Districts would like three or four nurses, but we cannot afford that."

STEPHANIE TOTTER

afford that," said Stephanie Totter, director of administrative services for the district.

The \$100,000 grant will go to

the elementary school district each year for three years, paying salary and health benefits for a new nurse.

"We have a lot of contacts with the school nurses and we have heard how overworked they are," said Barbara Avery, manager of community development for the hospital.

Sue Barrie, the current nurse, works out of the Graham Middle School office, but visits all eight school sites frequently. While administrative assistants and

► See **NURSE**, page 9

Four arrested, 3 sought in double murder

BROTHER AND SISTER
SHOT TO DEATH IN JUNE
ON PLYMOUTH AVENUE

By Casey Weiss

Authorities have arrested four suspects and are seeking three more in connection with the murders of a brother and sister on Plymouth Avenue in June, Mountain View police announced Wednesday.

The suspects, two of whom are juveniles, were all acquaintances of Omar Aquino, 24, and some of them knew his sister Teresa Sanchez-Aquino, 28, police said. Both were shot to death in their home on the 1900 block of Plymouth Avenue in the early hours of Saturday, June 28. Sanchez-Aquino's 8-year-old son slept in another room as the shootings took place.

Detectives believe robbery was one of the original motives, and the suspects stayed in the house "for an extended period of time," police said. Police would not comment on whether all seven suspects had entered the house, but said all were in the area at the time of the killings.

"The house was ransacked," said Sergeant Ken Leal, who is heading the case. "[The suspects] spent quite a bit of time there."

Although no drugs or drug paraphernalia was found in the house following the murders, police believe drug and gang activity may have led to the killings. A handgun was the primary weapon, and police say it is still missing.

"Omar was definitely the primary target," said Leal. "It is unfortunate Teresa was a victim."

Last Thursday, Aug. 21, police arrested three suspects: Victoria Thompson, 20, of Morgan Hill; Nicory Marquis Spann, 18, of San Jose; and a 15-year-old girl whose name is being withheld because she is a minor. Thompson is charged with conspiracy to commit murder, and Spann and the girl are charged with two counts each of murder and conspiracy to commit murder.

Police took San Jose resident Michael David Adams, 20, into custody on Friday, Aug. 22 for violation of probation, and later charged him with two counts of murder and conspiracy.

Police also have warrants out for Campbell resident Kenneth Ivory Thomas, 20, and Kim Pham, a 19-year-old from San Jose or Morgan Hill, for two counts each of murder and

► See **MURDER**, page 8



Michael Adams



Kenneth Thomas



Nicory Spann



Victoria Thompson



Kim Pham



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JUST ANOTHER REMARKABLE DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

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With nearly all hope lost, Kaelyn and her family were referred to Lucile Packard Children's Hospital for a life-saving bone marrow transplant. With care teams specially trained to support pediatric patients and an environment designed just for children, the surroundings met all of her needs—medical and emotional alike. Over several months, groundbreaking treatment and dedicated providers gradually restored not only Kaelyn's health, but also her family's hope.

Almost nine years later, Kaelyn is fully recovered, working on a bachelor's degree and building on her dreams of interior design. Her battle with leukemia long behind her, Kaelyn is free to focus on the promise of her future. Visit www.lpch.org for more information.

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**Lucile Packard
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AT STANFORD



Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

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

What do you think about the allegedly underage Olympic gymnasts?



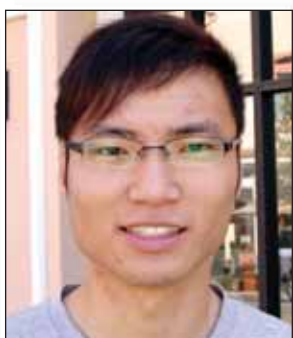
"It's got to be really frustrating for them, because obviously they won. It's frustrating for us as well, because if they lied we didn't get a chance to win in a more honorable way."

Rachel Lepold, Los Gatos



"To me they're clearly not 16. It was frightening to see them compete, but I don't see why it wouldn't be allowed."

Miche Hoffer, Mountain View



"I think it doesn't matter if they're a few months younger. They don't have experience like the older girls, so they don't have an advantage."

Alvin Ng, Santa Barbara



"I don't think it's alright to lie about their age. I don't know [if they're lying], but if they are, it's not OK."

Gray Robertson, Saratoga



"It really irritates me because there's a whole thing about the Chinese covering it up. Why can't they play by the rules like everyone else?"

Anne Henmi, San Jose

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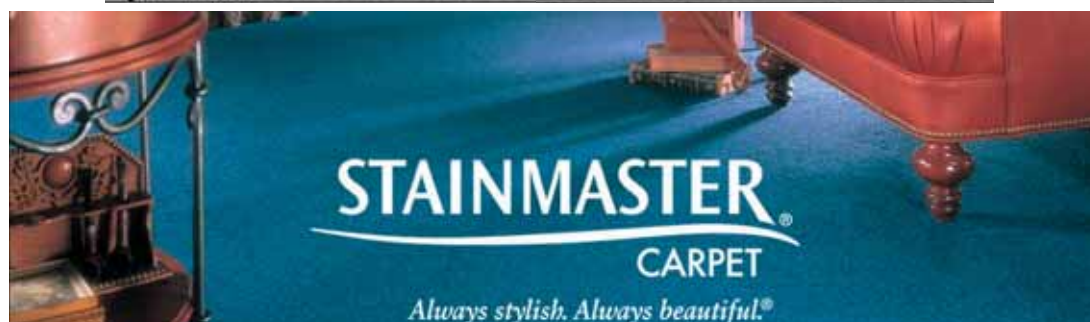
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■ CRIMEWATCH

ATTEMPTED COMMERCIAL BURGLARY, 500 BLOCK NATIONAL AVE., 8/23

A man on top of a vacant building was spotted by a security guard. The guard notified police, who located and detained the man. He was found to be carrying a police scanner, camouflage clothing, a monocular and various other burglary tools, and was arrested.

BATTERY, 300 BLOCK EASY ST., 8/23

A man struck a male victim with his fist while holding an unknown hard object. The victim was cut deeply by the object in the attacker's fist. The man was arrested and jailed.

■ POLICE LOG

AUTO BURGLARY

600 Block Hans Ave., 8/18
1900 Block Crisanto Ave., 8/22
1900 Block Crisanto Ave., 8/22
100 Block N. Whisman Rd., 8/22
1000 Block El Monte Ave., 8/22
500 Block Cypress Point Dr., 8/25

BATTERY

Moraga Dr./Sylvan Ave., 8/20

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Shoreline Amphitheatre, 8/23
200 Block Castro St., 8/24

DISTURBANCE

Shoreline Amphitheatre, 8/23
700 Block Continental Cl., 8/24

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

1800 Block Ednamary Way, 8/18
100 Block Moffett Blvd., 8/22
1000 Block Space Park Way, 8/23

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Broderick Wy./Terminal Blvd., 8/18

GRAND THEFT

Mountain View High School, 8/18
2000 Block Stierlin Ct., 8/19
1900 Block Montecito Ave., 8/21
Amphitheatre Parkway, 8/22
1900 Block Montecito Ave., 8/23
100 Block Showers Dr., 8/25

PEEPING TOM

500 Block Central Ave., 8/25

PETTY THEFT

Sears Department Store, 8/18
500 Block Anza St., 8/18
2600 Block Solace Pl., 8/18
Wal-Mart, 8/18
100 Block N. Rengstorff Ave., 8/18
Planned Parenthood, 8/19
Trader Joe's, 8/19
E. El Camino Real/Sylvan Ave., 8/19
Library, 8/20
Sears Department Store, 8/20
900 Block Villa St., 8/20
1000 Block Crestview Dr., 8/21
600 Block Showers Dr., 8/21

PETTY THEFT

300 Block Sierra Vista Ave., 8/22
100 Block N. Rengstorff Ave., 8/22
50 Block E. Middlefield Rd., 8/22
600 Block Alamo Ct., 8/22
Wal-Mart, 8/23
700 Block Alice Ave., 8/23
2000 Block California St., 8/24
500 Block S. Rengstorff Ave., 8/25

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

1600 Block Amphitheatre Parkway, 8/22

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

300 Block Church St., 8/18
900 Block High School Wy., 8/18
2400 Block Parker St., 8/24

ROBBERY

Central Expressway/N. Shoreline Blvd., 8/18
Nijija Market, 8/22

STOLEN VEHICLE

400 Block Hope St., 8/18
Avis Rent-a-Car, 8/19
300 Block Escuela Ave., 8/24
2500 Block Old Middlefield Way, 8/25

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES/PERSON

200 Block San Antonio Cl., 8/20
2600 Block Casey Ave., 8/20
700 Block Mariposa Ave., 8/22
Leong Dr./Moffett Blvd., 8/24
El Camino Hospital, 8/24
300 Block Higdon Ave., 8/24

TERRORIST THREATS

2200 Block California St., 8/21
300 Block Higdon Ave., 8/25

TRESPASSING

Safeway, 8/18
Safeway, 8/19
100 Block Escuela Ave., 8/22

VANDALISM

800 Block N. Rengstorff Ave., 8/18
2600 Block California St., 8/18
Shoreline Amphitheatre, 8/23
100 Block Eunice Ave., 8/24
600 Block Rainbow Dr., 8/25

■ CORRECTIONS

The secondary headline in last week's front-page story, "Math scores up, English a struggle," misstated the results of local minority students' STAR tests. Although preliminary numbers show the gap between minority students and other students remains wide, it is not "widening," but in fact closed compared

to the previous year.

Also, a typo was added to a letter by Cynthia Marshall Schuman in last week's *Voice* which changed the meaning of the sentence. Her letter supported creation of a new city park "on the order of Cuesta and Eagle," not "on the border of Cuesta and Eagle."

The *Voice* regrets the errors.

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Police uncover pirated DVDs

FREMONT MAN PULLED OVER FOR LOUD MUSIC, WINDS UP WITH COUNTERFEITING CHARGES

By Casey Weiss

Mountain View police say a routine traffic stop Saturday resulted in the arrest of a Bay Area man in possession of nearly \$2,000 worth of counterfeit DVDs.

"He had everything — Disney, Warner Brothers ... everything," said Mountain View police spokesperson Liz Wylie.

The alleged counterfeiter, 28-year-old Calvin Germaine McCothen of Fremont, was pulled over by an officer on Castro Street on Saturday, Aug. 23 for playing his car music too loudly, police said. The officer found out that the female passenger in the car was someone McCothen had been ordered by a judge to stay away from, and he was arrested for violation of a court order.

After a more extensive search of the car, police found the pirated DVDs, Wylie said. According to police reports, the suspect had planned to sell the DVDs at a total estimated value of \$1,829. Wylie said police officers are trained to identify counterfeit DVDs, and the officer "was able to recognize the low quality" of the pirated copies.

Wylie said cases like this come up only rarely — about once a year on average.

If convicted, the suspect could be sentenced to eight years in prison for possessing counterfeit merchandise and 100 pirated DVDs, both felonies, or face \$250,000 in fines for each count. ■

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



CASEY WEISS

WELCOME BACK:

Brianna and Madison Calvert arrived at Bubb Elementary School last Wednesday morning, ready and excited for their first day of school. The two sisters, who are first and second graders, joined approximately 560 other students at Bubb, lining up outside their classrooms, chatting and giggling and eager to begin the year.

Fire chief Michael Young retires

THREE DECADES AFTER HE 'CAUGHT THE BUG,' 52-YEAR-OLD SEEKS NEW CHALLENGES

By Kelsey Mesher

After over 31 years in fire service, Mountain View Fire Chief Michael Young has retired from his position to pursue a new career. Young, who spent almost 21 of those years in Mountain View, worked his last day Aug. 8.

"It was a wonderful career," he said. "I loved every minute of every day."

As a history student and aspiring lawyer at UC Santa Cruz, Young worked summers as a lifeguard and swim instructor. One day, an emergency call brought firefighters to the pool. As Young watched the firemen in action, he was fascinated by their ability to stay calm under pressure.

"I kind of caught the bug," said Young, who is now 52. "I went to my junior year at Cabrillo College and took a fire science class and was hooked."

The next year, 1977, Young

enrolled full-time at Cabrillo, and four months later had his first position as a firefighter for the Santa Cruz department. He was only 20 years old.

"I got kidded by my fellow fire-



fighters," remembered Young. One call they answered was to check on a bar fire.

"Sorry kid," the older firemen told Young, who was under the legal drinking age. "You can't go in on this."

From Santa Cruz, Young trans-

ferred to Campbell where he served for six years as fire captain, and received a promotion to battalion chief and fire marshal.

In October 1987 his career brought him to Mountain View, where he filled several positions including battalion chief, fire marshal, training officer, deputy fire chief and, since the end of 2006, chief.

"I tell a lot of people that fire service is a career where every day you look forward to going to work," he said. "You never know what kind of days you'll have. It could be very exciting or very quiet and peaceful, but you never know."

Young's service as a fireman has ended, but he plans to pursue a second career, possibly in teaching or consulting, which he has done in the past. "Or I may get into something completely different," he said. ■

E-mail Kelsey Mesher at kmesher@mv-voice.com

Locals to Navy: Try harder

DOZENS OF RESIDENTS ASK OFFICIALS TO 'FINISH THE JOB' ON HANGAR ONE

By Casey Weiss

A Navy proposal to dispose of toxins on Hangar One by stripping the structure and leaving its bare skeleton behind is not good enough, according to more than 150 local residents at a public meeting with Navy representatives this week.

One by one, roughly 45 residents spoke Tuesday night at the American Legion Post in Santa Clara about their personal ties to the Hangar, criticizing the Navy for making a decision that they said would save money but destroy an important part of local history.

"Please finish the job," local resident Beth Bunnberg told Navy representatives.

NASA inherited Moffett Field from the Navy in 1994, but environmental cleanup of the site, including the hangar, is still the Navy's responsibility. Navy officials held the public meeting as an opportunity for locals to voice their concerns about its latest proposal, which would remove and dispose of the toxic siding from the 200-foot structure.

Toxic polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, were discovered in drain water around the site in 1997, and the same toxins were found to be in Hangar One's siding in 2003. In response to the discovery, the Navy had originally proposed demolishing the structure. But on July 30 officials released a revised plan, which included a number of alternatives.

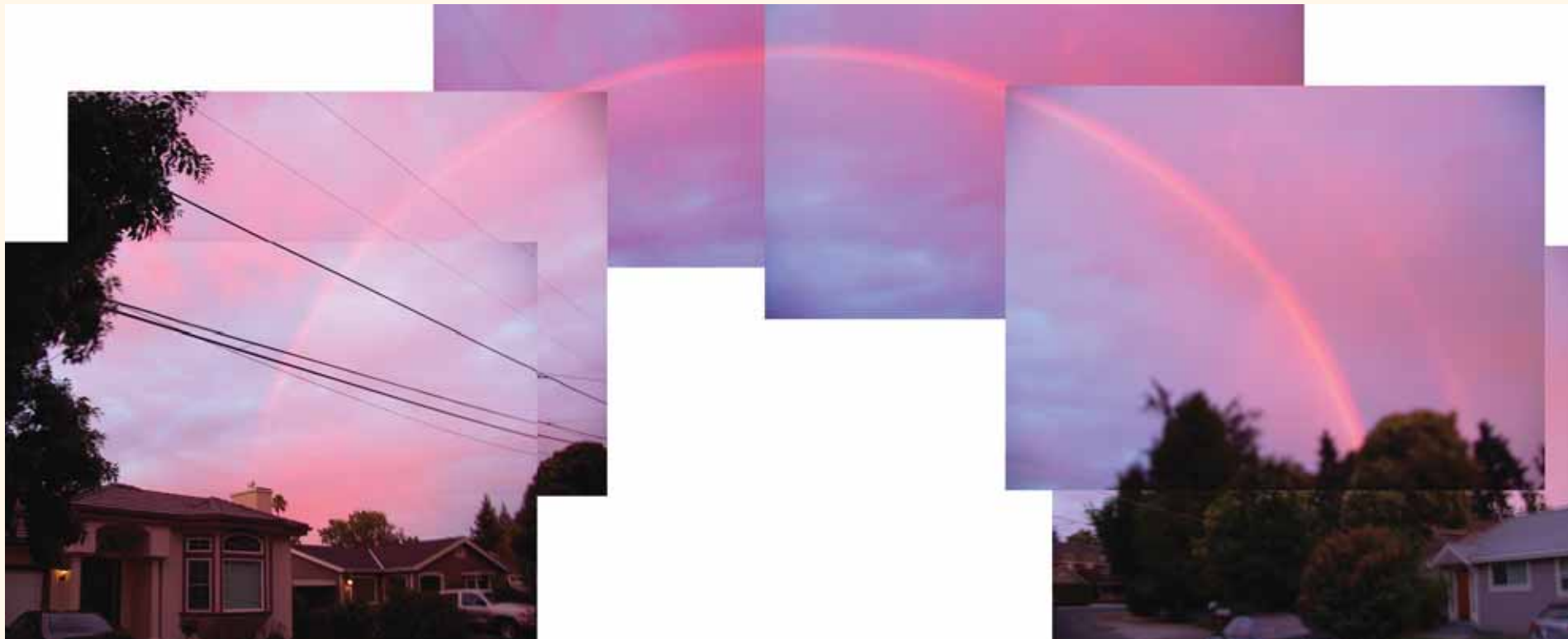
"Prior to selecting an alternative, we will seek comments," said Darren Newton, environmental coordinator of the Base Realignment and Closure program, or BRAC, during a short introduction and history of the hangar.

Many speakers called themselves life-long residents of the Bay Area, and said the Navy would be taking away a part

► See **HANGAR**, page 10

■ SEEN AROUND TOWN


Sunset rainbow




This composite image of a rainbow over Carmelita Drive earlier this month was photographed and "stitched together" by Carmelita Drive resident Pat Scandalis. 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.

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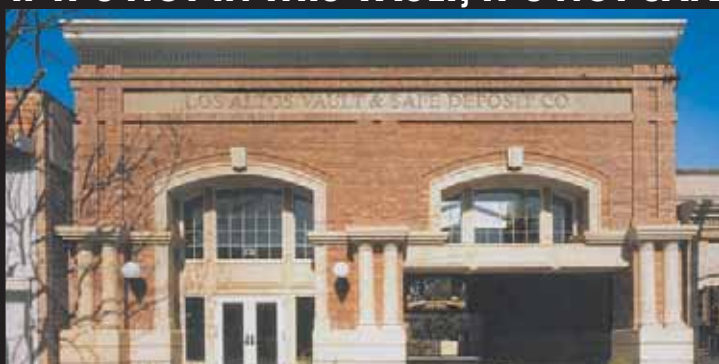
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Bike to school, win a prize

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS ENCOURAGE GREEN HABITS

By Kelsey Mesher

Mountain View High School students who rode their bikes to school last week were surprised when they received Cliff bars, water bottles and Jamba Juice gift cards, handed out by parents and students promoting the "Carbon Free Commute Challenge."

"We're doing this from two angles," said Scott Chan, PTSA member and co-coordinator of the program. "One is an environmental angle and one is to alleviate traffic around the school."

Chan and his team of parents have plans to pass out rewards at least once a month, on unspecified days, in hopes of encouraging students to bike, rather than drive, to school more often. Similar programs have been implemented successfully at Loyola and Oak elementary schools, as well as Gunn High School in Palo Alto, where as many as 400 students biked regularly last spring.

While administrators have long-term goals to give the district a green makeover, including a district-wide audit and installing solar panels, students and parents are eager to promote the new commute programs and other eco-friendly habits.

"A large percentage of students live within a two-mile radius of Mountain View High," Chan said, noting that if those students biked it would decongest traffic and parking. "We think that that's a reasonable bike trip for students to be making at this age."

Meanwhile, students at Los Altos High School are ramping up other green efforts this year. Members of the school's environmental club, named the Green Team, have been planning since well before the first bell rang.

"It's especially hard with high school students because they don't care," said Kira Labuda, one of three Green Team co-presidents. "When you're a little kid you're really impressionable. For high school, if it's not cool then you don't want to do it."

Labuda, who joined the Green Team as a freshman, was disappointed when, half-way through the year, the club fell apart. Now she and co-presidents Uji Venkat and Flora Champenois are leading a group of 20 eager students in projects such as weekly recycling, encouraging the use of reusable water bottles and canvas bags, and volunteering off-site at events like California Coastal Cleanup day.

"I joined the club because I was interested in the environment," said Champenois, "And because it simply seemed like a good opportunity to get involved on campus and have some fun."

One of Champenois' main contributions is leading an ink cartridge recycling drive, an entrepreneurial effort that made the club \$300 to use in future projects. One of the biggest projects in the works is expanding last year's Earth Day into a week long event. ▣

E-mail Kelsey Mesher at kmesher@mv-voice.com

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Photo of Yen Chan at a lone gift shop at Junction 9 and 89, Utah.

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MURDER

► *Continued from page 1*

conspiracy to murder.

Police are also seeking a 17-year-old suspect for conspiracy to commit murder, but her information also is being withheld because she is a minor. Police said the suspects still at large are considered "armed and dangerous," since the handgun is still missing.

Though they lived in different parts of the Bay Area, all the suspects were "connected socially" to each other and to Aquino, and some knew Sanchez-Aquino, police said.

"Usually in a homicide, you don't get this number of people involved," Leal said. "Never in my career have I seen a case like this."

A Santa Clara judge sealed all the information on the case, and police could not answer questions about the detectives' work or questions about details of the murder.

"This is such a sensitive investigation and there are so many players involved. We cannot risk jeopardizing the case," police spokesperson Liz Wylie wrote in an e-mail to the *Voice*.

The murders shocked residents

of Mountain View, none more than the neighbors on Plymouth Avenue, who called the brother and sister quiet, responsible peo-

ple who never showed any sign of trouble. Sanchez-Aquino's son is now with family members. Neighbors have said they heard shots coming from the small pink house on Plymouth at around 5 a.m. on June 28. About an hour before the murders, a 911 call for help was made from Sanchez-Aquino's cell phone, but because the two lived close to the freeway, the call was routed to the California Highway Patrol in Vallejo. It was disconnected before being transferred to Mountain View, and police were unable to trace it in time.

Police said there were no immediate witnesses to the murders, and little information to go on. They say they have primarily relied on information from Aquino's past to crack the case. ▀

**"Never in my career
have I seen a
case like this."**

SERGEANT KEN LEAL

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

OBITUARY

ANNAMARIE WALSH

Mountain View resident Annamarie Walsh died at her home on Aug. 10. She was 81 years old.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Russel Walsh, and her sister Joanne Siiri. She is survived by her sister Mary Lou Austin, children Dan Walsh, Carolin Roach, Deborah Bauman, William

Walsh Jr. and James Walsh, as well as 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Visitation and a vigil service were held Aug. 14 at Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary, 96 W. El Camino Real, Mountain View. A funeral Mass was held Friday, Aug. 15 at Saint William Catholic Church in Los Altos. Interment was at Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Los Altos.



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Santa Clara Valley Water District



valleywater.org

NURSE

► Continued from page 1

personnel can help with minor injuries, the district counts on Barrie to provide first aid in the case of more serious injuries.

Barrie also oversees non-medical personnel who may administer medicine to students, runs the district's health program and is the district's health consultant. All these jobs she handles alone — but this will soon change.

Totter posted the job opening this week, and will begin interviews in the next two weeks. Once she fills the position, she will sit down with Barrie and the new nurse to decide the best way to break up duties between the two.

"Do we split duties in half or are we more creative?" Totter asked. "We want to make sure the health and safety of students is guaranteed."

The hospital's grant is part of its recently expanded Community Benefit Program, which invests money from property tax receipts back into health programs in local communities. Overall, the program will provide a steady flow of approximately \$5 million a year for various community causes, and part of the money will go toward the hospital's free clinic

and government programs such as Medical and Medicare.

El Camino Hospital is a non-profit, and has often donated funds to local organizations. It currently has a total of 14 health initiatives with local nonprofits and schools. Also under the Community Benefit Program, for example, Los Altos High School will have a "health van" visit the campus, providing medical services to students.

Last spring the hospital board approved providing additional funds from tax receipts to the Community Benefit Program, and set allocations this summer. The elementary school district recognized the hospital for its donation during its board meeting on Aug. 20.

"We are just getting started," Avery said.

The hospital holds forums for local leaders to address community needs, and a community advisory board then makes suggestions to the hospital's directors about where to donate portions of the fund. The directors make the final decision.

"It is direct help," said hospital spokesperson Judy Twitchell. "School nurses have to spread themselves so thin to get students healthy." ▀

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

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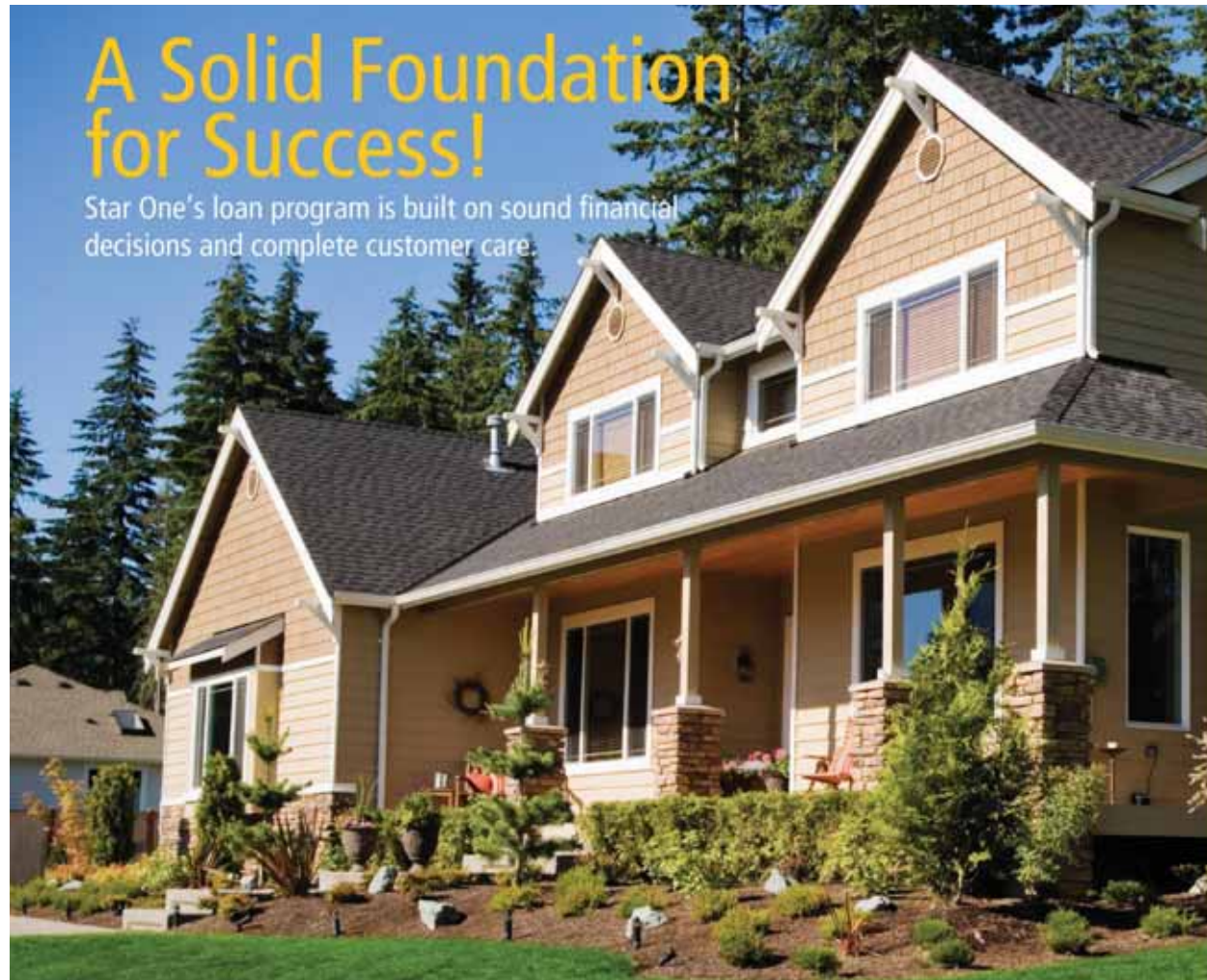
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LocalNews

HANGAR

► Continued from page 5

of Mountain View history if it let Hangar One be destroyed. Sandra Mason said her mother worked in Hangar One during World War I.

"This wartime job was a life-time source of pride for my mother," she said. "For our family, Hangar One stands as a piece of our mother's history, a piece of her youth."

"I would like to see the Navy to step us and see this is part of their history too," added Larry Ellis.

In its first public comment on the Hangar, released on Tuesday, NASA agreed: "Hangar One is a Bay Area icon and significant historical landmark that needs to be saved."

"We will continue to work closely with the Navy through the next steps of the remediation process and to seek partnerships, both public and private, that would allow the hangar's reuse," the release said.

Navy representatives did not comment during the more than three-hour session. Officials say they will be taking comments until Sept. 13, then release a public response.

Some local residents favor a proposal to restore the structure by covering it with an acrylic coating. If stripped and left uncovered, they said, the skeleton would quickly deteriorate.

"Leaving behind a skeleton is not acceptable," said Janice Moore, who identified herself as a second generation Silicon Valley resident. "The Navy needs to do more. [The hangar] is one of Mountain View's landmarks and a wonderful example of 20th century technology."

Bob Moss, a member of the Moffett Field Restoration Advisory Board, accused the Navy of not exploring all options. He said a similar hangar in Akron, Ohio was saved by using a rubberized coating over the toxic siding of the Hangar.

"If you can do it in Ohio, it is baffling you cannot do it in the heart of Silicon Valley," said local resident Jane Whistle. ▀

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■ INFORMATION

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:

Darren Newton,
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
Navy BRAC Program
Management Office
W. 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900
San Diego, CA 92108

Zeppelin to arrive in October

GERMAN AIRSHIP BASED OUT OF MOFFETT WILL GIVE SIGHTSEEING TOURS

By Daniel DeBolt

As October approaches, it has become apparent that nothing is standing in the way of big anniversary plans for the Zeppelin airship.

According to the owners of Airship Ventures, the company which hatched the scheme, a newly built airship will float into Mountain View this October — right around the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the USS Macon. After its victorious arrival, the airship will remain indefinitely to give bird's-eye tours of the Bay Area.

It also appears likely that the Zeppelin will be flying over Mountain View more often than anticipated, at least for the first few months. Airship Ventures spokesperson Beth Pursely said the company has yet to rent other sites to dock the airship near scenic Bay Area locations, such as San Francisco or Napa Valley. Until it does, the company anticipates a demand for \$500 one-hour flights out of Moffett, which, at 70 miles per hour, would limit trips to the Peninsula, portions of the Bay and the Santa Cruz Mountains. Tourism flights on the Zeppelin are slated to begin in mid to late October.

The Zeppelin NT is being shipped across the Atlantic Ocean by boat, probably to a port in Texas, before it sets out for Moffett Field under its own steam.

Once it arrives, the airship will be tethered to a mooring mast truck parked on the Moffett tarmac. It will only use Hangar Two in bad weather and for maintenance. The company recently opened an office

at Moffett Field, in historic Shenandoah Square, but it has yet to sign a lease for Hangar Two. Still, no major obstacles are anticipated, Pursely said.

The airship's arrival at Moffett this October would more or less coincide with NASA's 50th anniversary, the 75th anniversary of the Macon's arrival at Moffett and with the Zeppelin company's 100th anniversary.

Once the Zeppelin sets out for Mountain View, it will become the first rigid airship to fly above North America in 71 years, Pursely said. There has been nothing like it here since the 1930s, when massive airships such as the Navy's Macon sailed the skies — in the case of the Macon, patrolling Pacific coast waters for German U-boats.

The new airship is not nearly as large as the Macon — 246 feet versus the Macon's 785 feet — but it's enough to excite local Moffett Field historians and Hangar One preservationists.

A Zeppelin airship is new to the Federal Aviation Administration, which will be watching the dirigible's flight to Mountain View closely before finally approving the ship for use in the U.S. Only three other modern Zeppelins have been made.

Robert Gritzbach, Zeppelin's vice president of engineering, said in a press release that, "being the fourth ship in our series production, we were able to incorporate a number of design improvements — reducing weight while increasing lift and achieving a near doubling of airframe lifetime — that makes this our finest ship to date." ▣

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



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EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

A failing grade for 'No Child'

Just like students, elementary and high schools receive a year-end grade based on how well their pupils perform on a set of standardized tests.

The latest test results from the 2007-08 school year show progress in math at Mountain View Whisman elementary schools and general improvement at Mountain View High School. While Los Altos High School performed well, it faces challenges with its larger portion of Latino and other minority students, who continue to lag behind.

All school districts in the U.S. receive their "grade" by comparing student performance against a set of federal standards contained in the No Child Left Behind legislation. It's a complicated set of guidelines that has imposed monumental changes on the management of schools all over the country.

Under the legislation, every school must either achieve its pre-assigned goal, or at least make progress toward a level dictated by the program. Districts that fall behind are given a few years to catch up, but if they don't, there are penalties that can ultimately lead to the school being appropriated or shut down.

In most tested subjects, local elementary and high schools attained their assigned levels, but both districts continue to struggle to close the achievement gap between white and Latino students. We believe this fact points out a serious flaw in the federal act's requirements.

For example, 59 percent of all Mountain View Whisman students were proficient or above in math. But 80 percent of whites scored proficient, up 3 percent from last year, while only 38 percent of Latinos met the federal standards, compared to 30 percent last year. The results show that the district's hard work to improve Latino test scores paid off, but even the 8 percent increase did not equal the federally mandated 11 percent jump called for last year. And it does not begin to approach parity with white students.

The high school district has similar problems. Mountain View scored better, but both schools struggle to close the achievement gap.

As just about any local school administrator will attest, the "one size fits all" approach of No Child Left Behind is simply out of touch with the real world of education in many California schools. With hundreds of English language learners arriving throughout the year, schools are hard pressed to bring them to grade level, as the federal act requires. Congress is currently attempting to adjust the measure, which some legislators support because it forces accountability on school districts and their teachers.

But how can one school achieve the mandated results if a majority of its students come from poor households where English is a second language? This is the rigid federal framework that puts many California school districts — which often must educate highly affluent and very poor students at the same time — at a severe disadvantage.

We support accountability, but somehow, a way must be devised to start all schools with a level playing field. Each should be given the ability to set the pace of learning for its own students, regardless of their background. Otherwise, No Child Left Behind is demanding much more than schools can deliver.

TOWN SQUARE POSTS

ON THE BIRTHDAY PARTY CONFRONTATION WITH POLICE

Did anyone notice this from mountainview.gov:

"At present, Mountain View has no city ordinance prohibiting loud noise. The California Penal Code gives limited authority to enforce 'disturbing the peace.'"

I suppose that "limited authority" has provisions for beating people on their front lawns with no further provocation than to "become argumentative." For those of you who commented on the first article indicating that these individuals must've been in a gang, please notice in this article their professions. Vice president of a successful corporation, waiter in fine dining, Silicon Valley tech company employees. This could happen to you.

jk8
Sylvan Park

If these people were willing to fight with, or for you more liberal people "become argumentative" with, the cops, just think how they would treat the rest of us, or what they would do to the rest of us if we asked them to be quiet.

How dare you whiners expect perfection from your police then complain when they do what is necessary to ensure our protection and quality of living, especially when people don't heed several warnings to be quiet. What was so hard about turning down the radio and respecting other people's quiet? Who are these people and why do they think they are entitled to more than the rest of us.

Good job and keep up the

good work MVPD. There are a lot of us behind you and appreciate you keeping us safe and our neighborhoods a good place to live.

realist
North Whisman

ON THE MEASURE TO FUND HIGH SPEED RAIL

This high speed rail project will be tied up in the courts for years because of environmental and right-of-way issues. There is no money for it, and it will not be built for decades, if ever.

Meanwhile, the taxpayers will be on the hook for \$10 billion-plus. Sound like a good way to spend our money? In a state that's already massively in the hole?

not that dumb
Cuesta Park

Somehow they manage to pull this off all over Europe and Asia. I don't buy that somehow we can't pull it off. Spain, which has a similar population density, has built a successful system.

As for a "stop at every small town" problem, obviously there will be local, express and limited-express trains. High speed rail systems run around the world. These issues have been sorted out.

I lived for a few years in a smaller city outside of Nagoya in Japan. The people who lived in Nagoya could hop on a limited-express "Nazomi" bullet train and be in Tokyo 1.5 hours later. I would hop on a local bullet train for a couple of stations, then transfer to an express "Hikari" train which would be non-stop to Tokyo for the rest of the trip.

Alex
another community

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TOUGH SPARE

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■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

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VERONICA WEBER

At **Bistro Elan**, the strawberry and fig tartlet (foreground), the raspberry vanilla custard tart with brown sugar streusel (center), and the chocolate ganache tartlet with caramel and cinnamon.

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Charming and sophisticated

BISTRO ELAN FASHIONS ALLURING, ELEGANT CUISINE WITH EUROPEAN FINESSE

By Dale F. Bentson

Often, I am asked for a restaurant recommendation in the area. Unless an ethnic-specific cuisine is requested, I almost always suggest **Bistro Elan** on California Avenue in Palo Alto. For years, the food has been consistently creative, the service gracious and the ambiance at once sophisticated and relaxed.

Chef Ambjorn Lindskog and his wife, Andrea Hyde, have owned the restaurant for 13 years. Lindskog, a former nuclear engineer from Sweden, apprenticed in a variety of kitchens from France to New Mexico to California. He worked for nearly a year in the kitchen of Marc Meneau's celebrated restaurant *L'Esperance*, in Vezelay, Burgundy.

► See **BISTRO**, page 14

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VOICE



VERONICA WEBER

One of the signature appetizers is organic peaches paired with prosciutto, French feta cheese, ancho cress and drizzled with olive oil and lemon.

BISTRO

► Continued from page 13

Bistro Elan's food is the freshest I have tasted in any area restaurant. There is something indefinable about it: The seafood tastes just-reeled-in, while the meats are young and tender, and the produce seems to have been plucked from vines, trees and bushes minutes before preparation.

The couple took additional steps by planting the perimeter

of the garden dining area with herbs and tomatoes, fig and Meyer lemon trees. The garden is a delightful spot for al fresco dining, especially in early evening when the sun has dipped behind the mountains and pink-purple dusk hovers just overhead.

Chef Lindskog welcomes diners with an amuse-bouche, an appetizing tidbit. On a recent visit, we enjoyed house-made salumi, cheese crackers and olives. Another time, it was a morsel of Oregon

bay shrimp, creme fraiche, fresh dill and cucumber.

For starters, there were chanterelle and gruyere pancakes with sweet cherry tomato salad (\$14.25). The airy cakes were earthy and crisp, and not at all salty, despite the cheese.

A salad of shredded Dungeness crab (\$12.75) was perched atop a bed of roasted red-and-gold, gem-like, diced beets and thin-sliced avocado. A sprinkle of chopped pistachios added texture and crunch. It was an artistic presentation that tasted as good as it looked.

La Quercia Rossa prosciutto and peaches (\$13.75) was topped with fresh feta, ancho cress (peppery), olive oil and lemon. La Quercia Rossa is an organic, artisan, cured meat producer in Iowa. The fresh peaches and ham were ambrosial. Complimented by the feta and oil, the plate was salty, peppery and lemony.

For main plates, I enjoyed the pan-seared halibut (\$29) with delicate corn pancakes topped with a festive relish of corn, green onion, cherry tomatoes, Mediterranean cucumber and fried capers. Despite a growing trend in restaurants to under-cook fish, this halibut was, happily, cooked through. It was flaky, fork-tender and downright irresistible.

Massachusetts scallops (\$25) in balsamic red wine shallot reduction were equally delectable. The scallops were mild and plump, buttery yet firm. Cauliflower puree, spinach and strips of crispy prosciutto added texture and served as counterpoint to the shellfish.

The lunch menu is not a scaled-back version of the dinner menu. Rather, the choices are geared toward quicker preparation time allowing diners to get back to work without being pressed.

Chilled cucumber soup (\$8) with yogurt and dill was simply delightful. The balance was

► Continued on next page

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THE BEST PIZZA WEST OF NEW YORK

—Ralph Barbieri KNBR 680

► Continued from previous page

perfect. The cucumber tasted almost of melon, sweet and ripe. The yogurt kept the calories in line and the fresh dill emitted a

spoon penetrated the light-as-air exterior, fresh mango exploded over the olfactory senses, revealing rich, tropical overtones.

The lemon tart possessed a lush lemon curd texture with fresh

Not surprisingly, desserts were delightful at Bistro Elan.

hint of pepper.

Warm chicken salad (\$13.75) was a large plate of Napa cabbage, shredded carrots, chopped leeks and the tenderest chicken imaginable tossed with creme fraiche, soy and ginger.

Not surprisingly, desserts were delightful at Bistro Elan. All selections were \$9. Souffle with lime mango was to die for. The citrusy meringue was soothingly tart, almost sherbet-like. Once the

lemony taste. The meringue was cumulus-cloud fluffy and the fresh raspberries that accompanied were plump and expressive.

I am thrilled to note that Bistro Elan does not feel it necessary to add a scoop of ice cream to every dessert, a growing and disturbing trend at local restaurants. Portion sizes of everything were sensible as well. If the quality is there, quantity isn't necessary. ▣

■ DINING NOTES

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Weekend

MOVIE TIMES

BABYLON A.D. (PG-13) Century 16: 12:15, 2:35, 5, 7:40 & 10 p.m.
Century 20: 12:10, 1:15, 2:30, 3:35, 4:50, 5:55, 7:10, 8:15, 9:30 & 10:35 p.m.

BOTTLE SHOCK (PG-13) ★★★ Century 20: 11:35 a.m.; 2, 4:35, 7:10 & 9:45 p.m. Palo Alto Square: 1:40, 4:25, 7:10 & 9:50 p.m.

BRIDESHEAD REVISITED (PG-13)
Century 12: 12:40, 3:45, 7:10 & 10:15 p.m.

COLLEGE (R) Century 16: 11:50 a.m.; 2:25, 4:55, 7:20 & 9:45 p.m.
Century 12: Noon, 2:30, 5, 7:20 & 9:40 p.m.

THE DARK KNIGHT (PG-13) ★★★
Century 16: Noon, 3:20, 6:50 & 10:05 p.m. Century 20: 11:30 a.m.; 12:25, 2:45, 3:45, 6, 7:05, 9:15 & 10:25 p.m.

DEATH RACE (R) Century 16: 11:35 a.m.; 2:15, 4:50, 7:35 & 10:10 p.m.
Century 12: 12:20, 1:30, 3, 4:30, 5:30, 7:05, 8, 9:50 & 10:30 p.m.

DISASTER MOVIE (PG-13)
Century 16: 11 a.m.; 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8 & 10:25 p.m.
Century 12: 12:30, 1:40, 2:45, 4:10, 5:10, 6:30, 7:30, 9 & 10:10 p.m.

ELEGY (R) Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 4:15, 7 & 9:40 p.m.

FLY ME TO THE MOON 3-D (G)
Century 16: 11:20 a.m.; 1:35, 3:50, 6, 8:10 & 10:20 p.m.

HAMLET 2 (R) Century 20: 11:50 a.m.; 12:40, 2:15, 3, 4:30, 5:25, 6:45, 7:50, 9:05 & 10:10 p.m. Aquarius: 2, 4:30, 7:30 & 10 p.m.

THE HOUSE BUNNY (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: 11:30 a.m.; 2, 4:25, 7 & 9:30 p.m. Century 20: 11:35 a.m.; 12:45, 1:55, 3:10, 4:20, 5:35, 7, 8:05, 9:35 & 10:30 p.m.

JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH (PG) ★★
Century 16: 9:15 p.m.

KUNG FU PANDA (PG) ★★★★★1/2 Century 12: 12:15, 2:50 & 5:15 p.m.

THE LONGSHOTS (PG) Century 16: 11:55 a.m.; 2:20, 4:45 & 7:05 p.m. Sun.-Tue. also at 9:35 p.m. Century 12: 12:10, 1:25, 2:40, 3:50, 5:05, 6:15, 7:40, 9:10 & 10:05 p.m.

MAMMA MIA! (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: Sing-a-long 11:05 a.m.; 1:45, 4:30, 7:15 & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: 11:25 a.m.; 2, 4:35, 7:15 & 9:55 p.m. Sing-a-long at 12:50, 3:25, 6 & 8:40 p.m.

MAN ON WIRE (PG-13) ★★★★★ Aquarius: 1:30 & 9:45 p.m.

MIRRORS (R) Century 12: 1:20, 4:20, 7:15 & 10:20 p.m.

THE MUMMY: TOMB OF THE DRAGON EMPEROR (PG-13) Century 20: 11:45 a.m.; 2:25, 5:05, 7:45 & 10:30 p.m.

PAPRIKA (R) Century 16: Fri. at 10 p.m.

PINEAPPLE EXPRESS (R) ★★1/2 Century 16: 11:25 a.m.; 2, 4:35, 7:10 & 9:55 p.m. Century 20: 12:55, 3:35, 6:15, 7:25, 9 & 10:15 p.m.

THE ROCKER (R) Century 16: 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:55 & 10:20 p.m.

THE SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELING PANTS 2 (PG-13)
Century 16: 11:10 a.m.; 1:50, 4:40 & 7:30 p.m. Century 12: 7:45 & 10:35 p.m.

SPACE CHIMPS (G) Century 12: 12:50, 3:10 & 5:25 p.m.

STAR WARS: THE CLONE WARS (PG) ★1/2
Century 16: 12:30, 3, 5:30, 7:55 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: 11:45 a.m.; 1, 2:15, 3:20, 4:40, 5:50, 8:15 & 10:35 p.m.

STEP BROTHERS (R) Century 12: 7:50 & 10:25 p.m.

TELL NO ONE (NOT RATED) ★★★★★1/2 Aquarius: 4 & 7 p.m.

TRAITOR (PG-13) Century 16: 11:15 a.m.; 1:55, 4:35, 7:25 & 10:05 p.m. Century 12: 1, 4, 7 & 10 p.m.

TROPIC THUNDER (R) ★★★★★1/2 Century 16: 11:40 a.m.; 1:05, 2:30, 3:55, 5:10, 6:40, 7:50, 9:20 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 11:40 a.m.; 1:05, 2:20, 3:40, 4:55, 6:15, 7:30, 8:50 & 10:05 p.m.

VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA (PG-13) Century 20: 11:55 a.m.; 2:30, 4:55, 7:20 & 9:50 p.m. Guild: 1:30, 4, 7 & 9:30 p.m.

WALL-E (G) ★★★★★1/2 Century 16: 11 a.m.; 1:30, 4:10 & 6:45 p.m.
Century 20: 11:25 a.m.; 1:50, 4:25, 6:55 & 9:25 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

THE HOUSE BUNNY ★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) "Revenge of the Nerds" gets a feminine twist in this entertaining and uplifting chuckler. Spear-headed by funny girl Anna Faris, "House Bunny" blends a feel-good story about friendship with tongue-in-cheek humor and a talented cast. Sweet-natured Playboy bunny Shelley Darlington (Faris) gets a rude awakening the morning after her 27th birthday. Seems Hugh Hefner wants her to move out of the Playboy mansion, effective immediately. Shelley's contagious good mood suddenly goes glum as she desperately hunts for a place to live — and a sheltered life of pool parties and cosmopolitans makes the real world feel foreign. Shelley finds acceptance at the sorority house of Zeta Alpha Zeta. The seven members are outcasts, ignored or ridiculed by frat boys and teased by the superficial girls at chichi sorority Phi Iota Mu. The girls of Zeta need to sign a new pledge class or risk losing their charter. As Shelley guides them from socially awkward to uber-popular, she learns her own lessons about individuality and inner beauty. *Rated: PG-13 for sex-related humor, partial nudity and brief strong language. 1 hour, 38 minutes.* — T.H.

PINEAPPLE EXPRESS

★★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) James Franco is Saul Silver, an affable hey-dude pusher of the dopest dope who finds himself in hot water when one of his clients witnesses a murder. Said customer is Dale Denton (Seth Rogen), a schlumpy twenty-something process server with a high-school girlfriend and an affinity for the weed. Parked outside the home of the city's most notorious dealer (and prepped to deliver yet another subpoena), Denton sees his client and a female cop (Rosie Perez) waste a Chinese kingpin with ruthless brutality. Denton makes a ruckus and throws his half-smoked doobie to the pavement before taking off in a panic. Unfortunately that particular brand of herb (Pineapple Express, don'tcha know) is traced straight back to Silver. What begins as a toker action-comedy turns pure buddy pic as Denton and Silver engage in a ludicrous odyssey-slash-comedy of errors to escape the drug lords who want their heads on a platter. Translation: a raunchy blend of car chases, sex play, gun battles and lots and lots of pot. *Rated R for language, drug use, sexual reference and violence. 1 hour, 52 minutes.* — J.A.

STAR WARS: THE CLONE WARS ★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) This latest big-screen treatment of the Star Wars universe is by far its most disappointing. With animation that would be better suited to a high-end video game or special presentation on the Cartoon Network, "Star Wars: The Clone Wars" is riddled with lackluster dialogue and retread scenarios. The story essentially takes place between "Attack of the Clones" and "Revenge of the Sith." Tensions continue to escalate between

the Republic (with the Jedi council on its side) and the Separatists, led by the villainous Count Dooku (voice of Christopher Lee). Amidst the chaos, Anakin Skywalker (voice of Matt Lanter) must mentor a Padawan (Jedi-in-training) named Ahsoka Tano (voice of Ashley Eckstein). Anakin and Ahsoka are ordered by Jedi master Yoda to rescue and return the kidnapped young son of slovenly mobster Jabba the Hutt. Jabba could become a valuable ally to the Republic and getting in his good graces is a priority for the Jedi. As Anakin and Ahsoka battle to save the pint-sized "huttlet," Dooku schemes surreptitious plans of his own. Seeing some classic Star Wars aliens re-imagined in 3-D animation is a treat. But overall, the force just isn't with "Clone Wars." *Rated: PG for sci-fi action violence throughout, brief language and momentary smoking. 1 hour, 30 minutes — T.H.*

TROPIC THUNDER ★★☆☆1/2
(Century 16, Century 20) Narcissism is the operative theme, Hollywood's most bloated egos fronting a Vietnam epic while struggling to keep cast and crew in check. Temperamental director Damian Cockburn (Steve Coogan) is having trouble motivating his stars, each more self-important than the next. Tugg Speedman (Ben Stiller) is a washed-up action star clinging to his celebrity. Corpulent comedian Jeff Portnoy (Jack Black) is attempting a "serious" film to clean up his image while method actor Kirk Lazarus (Robert Downey Jr.), a thinly

veiled Russell Crowe, is searching for artistic motive and suffering a case of identity crisis. Their movie is "Tropic Thunder," based on the real-life memoirs of Vietnam vet Sgt. John "Four Leaf" Tayback (Nick

Nolte), or so he says. As production consultant Tayback is scrambling to rouse the actors to new dramatic heights. His suggestion is to shoot the film guerilla-style, gritty and dirty with no assistants in sight.

A slight run-in with a land mine leaves the troupe without direction — the ultimate in impromptu theater. *Rated: R for plenty of language, violence, sexual references and drug use. 1 hour, 47 minutes. — J.A.*

MOVIE CRITICS

S.T.-Susan Tavernetti,
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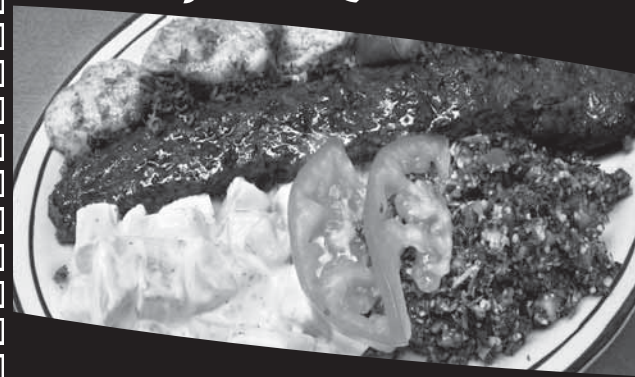
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MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ HIGHLIGHT

Rengstorff House Arts Festival

Mixed media fine-arts exhibition of works by local artists including juried works by the Arts in Action students through the Community School of Music and Arts. Open every Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Through Aug. 31, Free. Rengstorff House, 3070 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. www.r-house.org

ART GALLERIES

Abilities United Art Exhibit at Main Street Cafe Artists from Palo Alto-based Abilities United (formerly C.A.R., Community Association for Rehabilitation) are exhibiting original works of art. This colorful and diverse collection "Connect through Art" includes acrylics, pencils, watercolors, individual and collaborative pieces. Through Aug. 30, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Los Altos Main Street Cafe, 134 Main St., Los Altos. Call 650-618-3319. www.AbilitiesUnited.org

Annual Summer Showcase New photographic work from select gallery artists. Through Aug. 31, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Free. Modernbook Gallery, 494 University Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-327-6325. www.modernbook.com

Four Facets of Abstraction Paintings by Lois Parks DeCastro, Wendy Fitzgerald, Sydel Lewis and J. Jones Sereno. Through Sept. 20, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Gallery House, 320 California Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-326-1668. www.galleryhouse2.com

Photographers Interest Group Exhibit More than 40 local, fine-art photographers explore the theme "As I See It" in this juried show. A variety of photographic prints will be on display from September 3rd to the 30 at the Pacific Art League's Norton Gallery. Reception on Friday, September 5th from 6-9 pm. Awards at 7 pm. 6-9 p.m. Norton Gallery, Pacific Art League, 668 Ramona St., Palo Alto. Call 650-533-8862. <http://zivkov.com/pete/08annual.html>

Vases and Candle holders ACGA members are presenting a ceramic show. Barbara Brown, Babak Daleki, Jan Schachter, Bill Geisinger, Kathleen Hendig, April Zilber, Mary Dorsch, Swanica Ligtenberg, Terry Parker, Ericka Clark. Through Aug. 30, 6-8 p.m. Free. Coupa Cosas, 536 Ramona St., Palo Alto. Call 650-322-0193.

AUDITIONS

Aurora Singers Holds 2008/9 Auditions The 60-voice Aurora Singers, directed



"Grey Gardens"

This Tony Award-winning musical brings to life an eccentric tale of fallen American royalty. Tue.-Wed. at 7:30 p.m., Aug. 20-Sept. 14, Thu.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. \$21-64. TheatreWorks at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. theatreworks.org

by Dawn Reyen, will hold a "Meet the Director" night. The group specializes in American music, with a repertoire ranging from gospel to jazz to Broadway, as well as holiday music. Concerts are held annually in December and in the spring. Tue., Sept. 2, 7:15-9 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, 505 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-323-6912. www.aurorasingers.net

Bay Choral Guild 2008-2009 Auditions Auditions for Bay Choral Guild (formerly Cantabile Chorale), under the direction of Sanford Dole, will be held by appointment on Mon., Sept 8. 7:30-10 p.m. First United Methodist Church, Kohlstedt Hall, 625 Hamilton (at Webster), Palo Alto. Call 650-493-6012. <http://www.baychoralguild.org/>

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Foothill College Fall Registration Runs July 28-Sept. 21 Apply for admission, register for classes, review the class schedule, complete the registration process, pay enrollment fees and purchase textbooks and parking permit online. Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7325. www.foothill.edu

How to get into college of your choice Former college admissions consultant and author Nathan Allen to discuss latest college-admission policies with area students, parents, teachers and coaches. Also talk about financing, new SAT-Optional applications and how to stand out on our application. Sept. 10-14, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. Andover College Prep, 5050 El Camino Real, Los Altos. Call 650-938-7737. www.andovercollegeprep.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

7th Annual Neighborhood Picnic The North Whisman Neighborhood Association would like to invite all neighbors to the 7th annual picnic Saturday, Sept. 6. Live music, crafts, events, free hamburgers and hot dogs. Events for kids. Bring a potluck dish. 11-3 p.m. Free. Whisman Park, 400 Easy St., Mountain View. Call 650-969-2429.

Electric Vehicle Show The EV Rally has production and converted electric vehicles on display (some available for test rides or ride-alongs). Cars, trucks, SUVs, scooters, bikes, motorcycles and more. Sat., Sept. 6, Free. Palo Alto High School, 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. Call 408-464-0711. <http://www.easv.org/rally.html>

Visit the NOLS Bus: An Environmentally friendly Classroom Touring the U.S. Stop by the NOLS bus at REI Mountain View. Fueled by recycled vegetable oil and powered by rooftop solar panels, the bus is a mobile classroom for teaching about environmentally friendly alternative energy. Climb on the bus' bouldering wall, learn to cast a fly rod and more. Sat., Aug. 30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. REI Mountain View, 2450 Charleston Road, Mountain View. Call 650-969-1938. www.rei.com/mountainview

DANCE

Scottish Country Dance RSCDS Mountain View Scottish Country Dance class welcomes all to its "bring a friend" night. Beginners to experienced dancers welcome. No partner needed. Wear close fitting shoes or sneakers. Weds. Sept. 3, 2008, 7:45-10 p.m. \$2. Mountain View Sports Pavilion, 1185 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-327-4402. <http://www.mtview-rscds.org/>

ENVIRONMENT

E-Waste Recycling Fundraiser The Stevens and Permanente Creeks Watershed Council will be holding an E-Waste Fundraiser. Sat., Sept. 6, Free. 1st Baptist Church of Los Altos, 625 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos. Call 408-356-8258. www.spwcw.org/whatsnew.htm

EXHIBITS

Epic Verse, Ala Ebtekar Large-scale drawings by Persian American artist fuse ancient and modern world. Work reflects conjoining of American hip-hop culture and Iranian coffeehouse art tradition. Through Sept. 23, Free. Mohr Gallery at Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Call 650-917-6800, ext. 306. www.arts4all.org

Moffett Field Historical Society Museum Museum displays memorabilia, artifacts, photos and aircraft models; tours of museum and view of the exterior of Hangar One. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wed.-Sat. Admission fee charged. Moffett Field Historical Society Museum, Building 126, Moffett Federal Airfield, off Highway 101, Mountain View.

FAMILY AND KIDS

Children's Choir in Palo Alto First Kids Choir will begin rehearsals. The choir is open to all kids who love to sing ages 5 and up and is taught by Palo Alto resident Julia Simon, a voice teacher and composer who has taught in the Palo Alto schools and worked with the Ragazzi Boys Chorus. Rehearsals begin Thu. Sept. 11, 2008, 6:30-7:30 p.m. free. First Lutheran Church, 600 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. www.flcpa.org

Kid's Yoga with Shyamoli Stretches and stories for 4-6-year olds led by Shyamoli. Beginner yoga poses for parent and child. Sponsored by the Friends of the Palo Alto Library. Tue., Sept. 7, 2-3 p.m. Free. Children's Library, 1276 Harriet St., Palo Alto. Call 650-329-2436.

Movie Night at Foothills Park "Forest Gump." Popcorn and drinks provided. Non-residents must be accompanied by a Palo Alto resident. Sat., Aug. 30, 8-10 p.m. Palo Alto residents: adults \$5, children 4-10 \$2.50; Non-residents: adults \$6, children 4-10 \$3. Foothills Park, 3300 Page Mill Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-329-2423. enjoyonline.cityofpaloalto.org

Run Around with Map & Compass Learn about orienteering. Open to Palo Alto residents and accompanied guests. Ages 3 and up. Register online or at Lucie Stern Center using barcode 57925. Sat., Aug. 30, 9:30-11 a.m. Residents: \$5 adults / \$2 children; Accompanied non-residents: adults \$6 children \$3. Foothills Park, 3300 Page Mill Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-329-2423. enjoyonline.cityofpaloalto.org

HEALTH

Russian Kettlebell Class Purported to improve posture, strength and burn off fat. Beginners are welcome. Ongoing, 6-7 p.m. \$25. Stevenson Park, San Pierre Way and

San Luis Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-814-9615. <http://www.workoutiq.com/bootcamp>

LIVE MUSIC

Birds & Batteries San Francisco-based Birds & Batteries. Sun., Aug. 30, 7 p.m.-midnight. \$5. Red Rock Coffee, 201 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 617-226-1040. planetarygroup.com

Tiger Club The Tiger Club plays a variety of songs and styles. Thu., Sept. 4, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Intersection of Castro & California St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6331. www.mountainview.gov

Turlu - Greek/Balkan mélange Turlu ("mixture" or "mélange" in Turkish) sings and plays music from throughout the Balkans, particularly Greece, Bulgaria and Albania, and Armenia and Turkey. Fri., Sept. 5, 8-11 p.m. \$12 general; \$6 student. Flexit Aerobics Studio, 425 W. Evelyn Ave., Mountain View. Call 408-733-5529. <http://dance.blochg.com>

RELIGION/ SPIRITUALITY

Insight Meditation South Bay Shaila Catherine and guest teachers lead a weekly Insight Meditation sitting followed by a talk on Buddhist teachings every Tuesday, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-857-0904. www.imsb.org

SENIORS

Lunch on the Lanai Pink-flamingo-themed summer picnic and featuring sausage, three-bean salad, trivia, live bluegrass and raffles. Fri., Aug. 29, 12-2 p.m. \$4 in advance, \$6 at the door. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

Monday Movie Classics "Enjoy a trip back to the golden age of film, and see the classic gems of Hollywood on the big screen once again," the center says. 1 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

Workshop: Stepping Strong "Step up" overall wellness through information, encouragement, goal-setting and incentives while discovering Rengstorff Park through the "Stepping Strong" walking-club program. Thu., Sept. 4, 1-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Mountain View High School 50th Class Reunion Looking for graduates of the 1958 Mountain View High School for a reunion. Fri., Oct. 3, Mountain View Hilton Garden Inn, 840 E. El Camino Real, Mountain View. Call 408-732-3092.

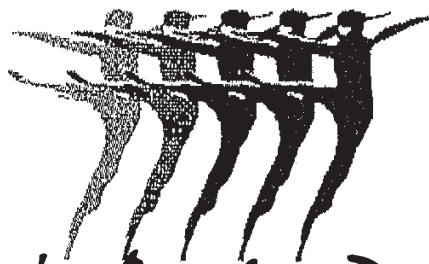
SPORTS

Soccer Tryouts for U14 girls The Fusion, an MVLA U14 Class 1 girl's soccer team is looking for competitive players to join the team. Open tryouts on Tuesdays and Thursdays. 5:30-7 p.m. Free. Grant Park, Los Altos. Call 650-799-1897.

TALKS/AUTHORS

Author Moazzam Sheikh Local author Moazzam Sheikh will read from his short story collection "The Idol Lover." These sexually charged tales unfold against a backdrop of colonization and ethnic tensions in Pakistan and the Middle East, and they also explore the immigrant's dilemma in the United States. Wed., Sept. 3, 7:30 p.m. Free. Books Inc, in Mountain View, 301 Castro St.,

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Mountain View. Call 650-428-1234. <http://www.booksinc.net>

Rosemary Stasek- Women in Afghanistan "The Struggle of Women in Today's Afghanistan." Rosemary Stasek is the founder of "A Little Help," a charitable organization dedicated to improving the health, education and lives of women in Afghanistan. Wed., Sept. 10, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. Mountain View City Hall-Council Chambers, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7042.

Technology and Society Committee Luncheon Forum Peter Drekmeier, Bay Area Program Director for the Tuolumne River Trust, describes the work being done to raise awareness of the human connection to the river and how water-use decisions impact its health. The talk, "From the Tuolumne to the Tap," will be held Tue., Sept. 9, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch is \$11, \$12 for non-members. Hangen Szechuan Restaurant, 134 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-969-7215. <http://tian.greens.org/TASC.shtml>

968-8378. chambermv.org

Interpretive Tour Leaders Develop and lead outdoor nature walks, this spring and beyond. City of Mountain View, 3070 N. Shoreline, Mountain View. Call 650-903-6073. <http://www.ci.mountainview.ca.us/>

Volunteer Rangers Shoreline at Mountain View seeks volunteer rangers to educate the public and assist visitors at the 750-acre wildlife/recreation area and nearby Stevens Creek Trail. Flexible scheduling for gatehouse, bicycle and/or foot patrol positions. City of Mountain View, 3070 N. Shoreline, Mountain View. Call 650-903-6073. <http://www.ci.mountainview.ca.us/>

Volunteer Receptionists Wanted The Senior Center is looking for volunteers to help at the front desk. Duties include answering the phone, making appointments, providing good customer service and making new friends. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

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37th Annual Mountain View Art & Wine Festival Volunteers needed for the 37th Annual Chamber of Commerce Mountain View Art and Wine Festival. Sept. 6-7, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mountain View. Call 650-

■ MORE LISTINGS

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

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 1425 Springer Rd., Mtn. View Office Hours 9-1, M-Fri
 650-967-2189

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Sunday Schedule: 3 Worship Times!
 8:00 am Breakfast@Union #1 Worship
 9:30am Breakfast@Union #2 Worship
 9:45 am Church School Nursery
 11:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary, Club Sunday for Children, Nursery

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 Come to Sunday Bible Study 9 AM,
 Interim Pastor Dick Spencer's
 Biblically based Sermons and
 Worship Service 10:30 AM

First Presbyterian Church mountain view www.fpcmv.org
 1667 Miramonte (Cuesta at Miramonte) 650.968.4473

Los Altos Lutheran Church
 ELCA
Pastor David K. Bonde
Outreach Pastor Gary Berkland
 9:00 am Worship
 10:30 am Education
 Nursery Care Provided
 Alpha Courses
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 460 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos
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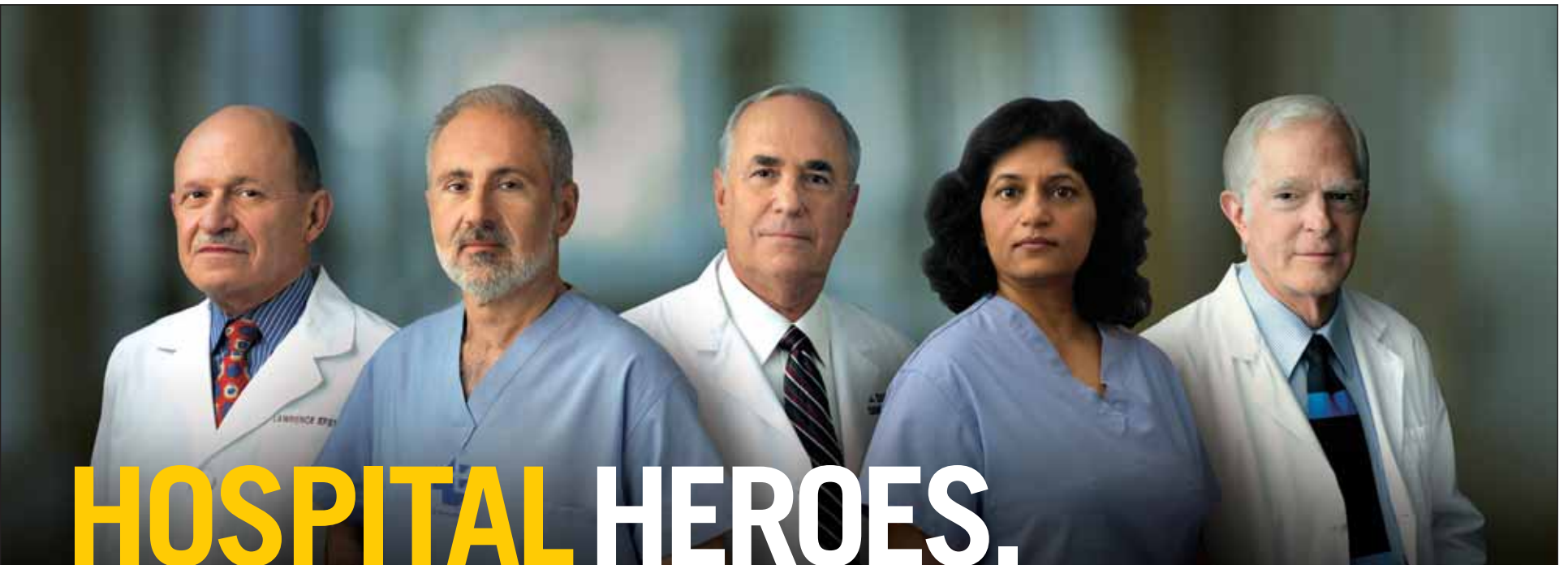
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From left: Lawrence Epstein, MD; George Triadafilopoulos, MD; Saul Eisenstat, MD; Prasanna Menon, MD; John Barnes, MD

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