

Mountain View VOICE

APRIL 3, 2009 VOLUME 17, NO. 13

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El Camino sheds light on Los Gatos purchase

ESTIMATE NOW AT \$77 MILLION
AS OFFICIALS REVEAL MORE
INFORMATION DURING
PUBLIC FORUM

By Casey Weiss

It will cost El Camino Hospital about \$32 million to operate Community Hospital of Los Gatos for 18 months, in addition to the previously announced \$45 million purchase price for land and buildings, hospital officials said during a public forum earlier this week.

With El Camino preparing to take over the Los Gatos operation on April 11, CEO Ken Graham and board chairman David Reeder attended a public forum on March 30 to discuss finances and goals for both

► See **HOSPITAL**, page 10

A bad year for goal-setting

ECONOMY CASTS SHADOW OVER
COUNCIL'S PLANS FOR 2009

By Daniel DeBolt

For the first time in years, the City Council will not have an ambitious set of goals for the year, a direction made apparent in the council's annual goal-setting meeting Tuesday night.

Council members submitted ideas to create a list of 22 possible goals, but with the city facing a \$6 million budget deficit, most were "philosophical and operational" in nature, said council

► See **COUNCIL**, page 14



MICHELLE LE

STEALTH HEALTH:

San Jose Stealth lacrosse star Jeff Zywicki signs autographs for Bubba Elementary School students on Monday. Zywicki came to the school to promote healthy lifestyles, speaking before a school assembly and going on a run with dozens of kids. See story, page 13.

Report says schools out of room by 2012

DEMOGRAPHERS TELL MV WHISMAN BOARD TO ACT FAST OR FACE OVERCROWDING

By Casey Weiss

Mountain View's elementary and middle school campuses are quickly filling up and will reach full capacity by 2012, experts told the district's board of trustees earlier this month.

Cheryl and Jamie King, a mother-daughter team of demographers, told board members that the Mountain View Whisman Elementary School District is facing higher enrollment now that more parents are keeping their children in Mountain View schools.

The Kings, giving a presentation of their study at a March 19 board meeting, said

this change can be partially attributed to the district becoming more stable after the close of Slater Elementary School in 2006. More families staying in the Bay Area for high-tech

**"Things are are going
to get extremely tight."**

JAMIE KING

jobs also helps to explain the increase in students remaining in the district.

But as schools retain more students each

year, the district must plan for the future, especially since many schools already are starting to become overcrowded, the demographers said. The district currently has 4,460 students, and the study projects this number will jump to 4,903 by the 2012-13 school year. The district's current capacity is 4,830 students.

"Things are tight, so they are going to get extremely tight," Jamie King told trustees.

The study was commissioned last year after the district reached enrollment numbers not expected until 2011. The district has not

► See **SCHOOLS**, page 12

INSIDE

GOINGS ON 22 | MARKETPLACE 29 | MOVIES 20 | REAL ESTATE 34 | VIEWPOINT 16



Kathy Bridgman



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Cheryl Okuno



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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in Downtown Mountain View. Pictures and interviews by Andrea Nott.

How do you relieve stress?



"Exercise. Yoga helps a lot."
May Lai, San Francisco



"I go off by myself, go for walks and hikes. I've been going to the beach lately. I smoke cigarettes too, but try not to do that as much as the other things."
Tyrus Smalley, San Francisco



"Listening to music and eating or having a cup of coffee."
Sapna Khole, Santa Clara



"Drink alcohol."
Mandy Clark, San Francisco



"I have no idea. I just accumulate it 'til I explode."
Tom Thackrey, San Jose

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- Tuesday, April 14
- * BABY SAFE PROGRAM**

This two-part program provides back-to-back classes on infant and child CPR and the finer points of preparing your home for the realities of living with a young and increasingly mobile child.

- Monday, April 20
- * DADS OF DAUGHTERS: THE JOYS & CHALLENGES OF RAISING TEENAGE GIRLS**

Julie Metzger, RN, creator of our "Heart to Heart" program, hosts an evening for fathers who want better understanding and open communication with their teenage daughters.

- Thursday, April 30
- * CAR SEAT EDUCATION & INSTALLATION**

The Maggie Adalyn Otto Car Seat Fitting Station offers a free car seat check and installation education to the community. As car seats get moved from car to car or removed to allow for other passengers, it is important that parents, grandparents and other childcare providers understand how to install their own car seats. Appointments made by calling **650-736-2981**.

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LocalNews

■ POLICE LOG

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Dunn's Towing, 3/26
900 block W. Dana St., 3/26
1900 block Montecito Ave., 3/27
Dunn's Towing, 3/27
1900 block W. Dana St., 3/27
1600 block Villa St., 3/29
2200 block Latham St., 3/29
200 block Cypress Point Dr., 3/29
2400 block Grant Rd., 3/29
100 block Jordan Ct., 3/29
2300 block Rock St., 3/30

GRAND THEFT

Hwy. 85/Moffett Blvd., 3/27
500 block S. Rengstorff Ave., 3/27
200 block Castro St., 3/28
0 block Showers Dr., 3/28
100 block N. Rengstorff Ave., 3/29
0 block Showers Dr., 3/29
700 block Glenborough Dr., 3/30
400 block San Antonio Rd., 3/30

PETTY THEFT

Walmart, 3/28
700 block N. Shoreline Blvd., 3/28
Orchard Supply Hardware, 3/28
2500 block Charleston Rd., 3/29
Sears Department Store, 3/29

IDENTITY THEFT

1900 block Latham St., 3/26

STOLEN VEHICLE

600 block E. Evelyn Ave., 3/29

DEFRAUDING AN INNKEEPER

Chef Liu Restaurant, 3/29

VANDALISM

1900 Rock St., 3/26
800 block Villa St., 3/28
600 block Clyde Ave., 3/30
College Ave./Leland Ave., 3/30

TRESPASSING

Starbucks- Castro St., 3/26
2300 block California St., 3/26
Starbucks- Castro St., 3/27
2300 block California St., 3/27
2300 block California St., 3/30

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

1000 block Villa St., 3/29
W. Evelyn Ave./View St., 3/29
W. Dana St./Hope St., 3/30
Central Exwy./west of Moffett Blvd., 3/30

DRINKING IN PUBLIC

Latham St./Showers Dr., 3/29

BATTERY

2400 block Charleston Rd., 3/29

ROBBERY

San Antonio Rd./Terminal Blvd., 3/26

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES/PERSONS

2400 block Grant Rd., 3/28
E. Dana St./Sylvan Ave., 3/30

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

Montecito Ave./N. Rengstorff Ave., 3/30

ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON

W. Dana St./Hope St., 3/28

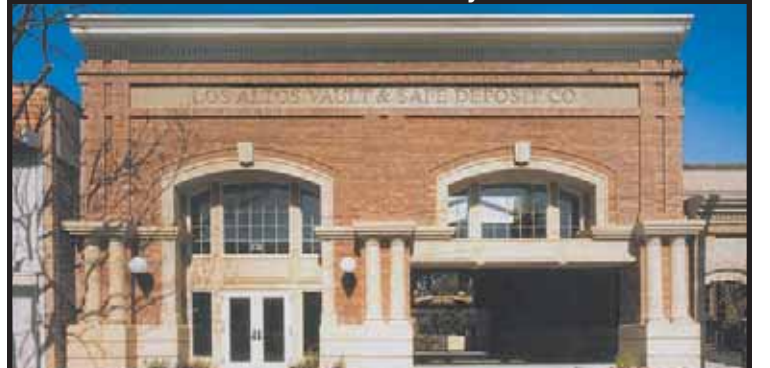
RESISTING OR INTERFERING WITH ARREST

500 block Easy St., 3/29

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Police say Brittany Brown lied about her disappearance

MOUNTAIN VIEW RESIDENT
FACES MISDEMEANOR CHARGES
OF 'FALSELY REPORTING A CRIME'

By Daniel DeBolt

Brittany Brown, the young Mountain View resident who made headlines last year when she disappeared for four days after going to a Castro Street nightclub, has been arrested for falsely reporting to police that she was kidnapped and sexually assaulted during the time she was missing.

Brown, who was 18 when the disappearance occurred in September 2008, turned herself in Friday after the district attorney's office issued an arrest warrant for "falsely reporting a crime," which is a misdemeanor. Local police and prosecutors cooperated in the investigation.

"We're glad she was not kidnapped and sexually assaulted," said police spokesperson Liz Wylie. "But it definitely is disheartening for someone to falsely report a crime that is so huge. It really taxes the system."

Brown may have to pay restitution to the police department for "all the time and money spent on this," Wylie said, as officers had been investigating her allegations since last September.

Brown had told police that she was held against her will and sexually assaulted by suspects she could not name in Richmond, where she stayed for the four days she was missing. But authorities have come to believe that Brown fabricated those stories.

"We always assume the victim is telling us the truth," Wylie said. "In this case we developed really good evidence that she was not being truthful with us."

Reached by e-mail, Brittany's mother Victoria Brown was defiant, telling the Voice, "We feel it is highly irresponsible and insensitive for all to make assumptions and allegations based on false information that the Mountain View police gathered from various parties during and after Brittany's disappearance. We will continue to move ahead with this process and would hope people will not make assumptions without knowing all



Brittany Brown



MICHELLE LE

Leah Sparks (left), vice president of business development for DNA Direct, and coworker **Ann Tofolo** show guests how to navigate the Genomic Medicine Institute's Web site during the center's launch party last Thursday at El Camino Hospital.

Doors open at Genomic Medicine Institute

The idea came to Jon Friedenberg, a vice president at El Camino Hospital, several years ago: Use the ever-improving technology of genetic testing to provide "personalized medicine" for El Camino's patients.

Last Thursday, March 31, the idea became reality as El Camino's Genomic Medicine Institute opened its doors, becoming the first facility of its kind in the United States.

Several hundred genetic tests are now available to patients for screening and prevention, and that number could double in the next year and a half. Friedenberg said El Camino will start small, offering 10 tests, with about a dozen new tests added every several months, bringing the number to 50 "by the end of the calendar year."

The tests can help patients detect

the possibility of inheriting certain diseases, or whether they will benefit from certain drugs or treatments. For example, Friedenberg said, only 80 percent of breast cancer patients receive relief from chemotherapy, and the new center will allow doctors to test the benefit of the chemo drug for each patient.

The center is working with DNA Direct, which provides genetic consulting, therapy and testing. Representatives from DNA Direct gave tutorials during last Thursday's launch party.

El Camino Hospital has budgeted about half a million dollars per year for the center, which is housed in a small office at the Mountain View facility. For more, visit www.elcaminohospital.org/Genomic_Medicine_Institute. ■

— Staff Reports

Theuerkauf student, 10, charged with 'terrorist threats'

By Casey Weiss

Mountain View police apprehended a 10-year-old boy Monday on charges of felony "terrorist threats" after he allegedly called his school and left messages threatening the campus and student body.

The boy, whose name is being withheld, left two messages on the answering machine at Theuerkauf Elementary School at around 5:30 p.m. Sunday, saying he planned to physically harm the school and anybody on the campus, according to police spokesperson Liz Wylie.

Since the case is still being investigated, Wylie said she could not be more specific about the content of the calls, except that each message posed "a separate and distinct threat" and indicated that "anyone in the school would be in trouble."

Theuerkauf staffers heard the messages Monday morning, recognized the suspect's voice and called police. That afternoon police apprehended the boy, who was arrested and released on a citation.

Wylie said this type of crime is rare in Mountain View, but "it is not believed he had any intention or ability to carry out the threat."

"He's 10. He's just an angry kid," she said.

Mountain View Whisman district administrators said legally they could not comment on the case, but said the district will conduct its own investigation.

The Youth Services Unit — a city police unit made up of officers and counselors — will follow up with the boy to provide counseling, Wylie said. ■

Huff finds replacement for Polifrone

BARBARA BERNIE TAKES OVER FOURTH GRADE CLASS FOLLOWING CONTROVERSY

By Casey Weiss

A new teacher started at Huff Elementary School this week to replace Patty Polifrone, the fourth grade teacher who left the school earlier this month following controversy over her teaching style.

Barbara Bernie, who has a multi-subject-matter credential, will be teaching Polifrone's fourth grade class for the remainder of the year, administrators said. She has been meeting with other fourth grade teach-

ers this week, and was scheduled to hold a meeting with parents and Principal Sharon Burns on Wednesday.

Parents who were upset with Polifrone's alleged mistreatment of students — they said she regularly yelled and ridiculed her fourth-graders — told the Voice that she was escorted off the campus earlier in March and has been on leave ever since. During a board meeting March 19, a group of parents asked Mountain View Whisman School District trustees to fire Polifrone once and

for all.

The next day, students in Polifrone's class received a letter from Burns saying their teacher would not be coming back for the rest of the year. Bernie started this week following an approximately week-long search for a new teacher.

Citing privacy laws on personnel matters, district administrators would not say whether Polifrone was terminated or is on personal leave, or whether she is coming back next year. ■

■ SEEN AROUND TOWN

Happy Arbor Day



Deborah Hayes sent in this photo of Mountain View resident Marie Smith and her three grandsons planting a city-donated tree for Arbor Day. Although Arbor Day is celebrated nationwide on the last Friday of April, the city of Mountain View holds its own celebration on the second Saturday of March. 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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'Painted lady' butterfly migration hits region

THOUSANDS FLUTTERING THROUGH THE BAY AREA THIS MONTH

By Sue Dremann

Many thousands of painted lady butterflies are passing through the region this month as they migrate north from desert areas along the U.S.-Mexico border, according to scientists at UC Davis.

Painted lady butterflies, known by the scientific name *vanessa cardui*, are about 1

1/2 inches to 2 1/4 inches wide. They are orange with a black, lacy pattern on the wings and a series of blue "eye spots" on the lower-lobe wings. Their migration is typically seen in the early spring weeks through March.

Northward-migrating painted ladies can travel the distance from Bishop to Davis in three days, surviving on yellow-fat reserves in their



bodies, according to a UC Davis researcher's Web page on the butterflies (<http://butterfly.ucdavis.edu>).

The butterflies do not stop to feed or mate until they have burned up their reserves, carried over from the caterpillar stage. They fly in a straight line

from southeast to northwest, and go over obstacles rather than trying to go around them, the researchers wrote. Beginning in August, the movement reverses and butterflies head south toward their desert wintering grounds.

In 2005, the population was so dense that their numbers impeded traffic in desert regions, researchers said. ■

Sue Dremann writes for the Palo Alto Weekly, the Voice's sister paper.

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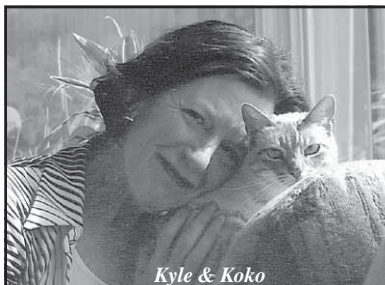
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LocalNews

BROWN

► Continued from page 5

the facts that they are not privy too.

"However, as stated when Brittany disappeared and returned, our family cannot ever convey enough appreciation to all those that assisted in helping look for our daughter."

Brown had reportedly vanished with an unknown couple after hanging out outside the Monte Carlo nightclub on Castro Street late in the evening of Friday, Sept. 5. Family members said her cell phone was dead and her credit card had not been used. For Brittany to leave without telling anyone was "very out of character," said her mother, Victoria Brown. Posters were put up all over town, and several media outlets reported the story, including the *Voice*.

"People were really freaked out and worried," Wylie recalled. For four days, she said, police investigators were working extra shifts.

"People were really freaked out and worried," Wylie recalled. For four days, she said, police investigators were working extra shifts.

Some city employees also were concerned because Brown worked for the city's "Beyond the Bell Program" for preschoolers, where she did not show up for work.

Brown returned home the following Tuesday, physically unharmed but emotionally wrung out as she was reunited with her family. The event happened to be caught on camera by a KRON TV news crew.

Police quickly made contact with the group of people Brown stayed with in Richmond, but no arrests were made, Wylie said. She added that police always considered the possibility that Brown's story might be false.

"We never let it go because early on we had some evidence to suggest it was false," Wylie said. "Time permitting we've been plugging away at it. We had a lot of evidence to dig up."

Brown is currently out on bail and could face a short jail sentence, restitution or community service. ▀

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

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LocalNews

HOSPITAL

► Continued from page 1

hospitals. They said the latest estimate of \$77 million includes costs for the building and land, legal and consulting fees, equipment, information technology, year-one capital and working capital. El Camino will also spend an estimated \$22 million more by 2013 to meet new state seismic regulations, they said.

Graham and Reeder made the presentation at a discussion hosted by the League of Women Voters at the Los Altos Library. They said El Camino will shut down the new hospital for 90 days while its staff implements the initial renovations.

"When you close a facility and reopen it, it better be darn good for people to come in and try it again," Graham said.

El Camino Hospital has cash reserves of \$400 million and a balance of \$1.1 billion, the

**El Camino
Hospital has
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executives said. Graham said he expects the new hospital to pay for itself in the first five years. No taxpayer money was used to buy the new hospital, he said.

"We are holding our own in a very tough market," Graham said.

Hospital executives announced in December that they were in escrow to buy the Los Gatos hospital and make it another El Camino site, but said they were under a strict non-disclosure agreement and could only release limited information. The Monday forum came after more than 120 local residents demanded in a petition that hospital executives release more information about the finances of the purchase and how the new facility will affect services at El Camino, which is a public hospital funded partially by taxpayers and governed by an elected board.

Approximately 50 local residents attended Reeder and Graham's half hour presentation about the finances and future of the El Camino and Los Gatos hospitals. During a question-and-answer forum following

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► Continued from previous page

the presentation, local residents said they were mostly concerned with the secrecy of the new purchase, the financing of the seismic retrofit, and the relationship between the two hospitals.

El Camino Hospital officials said they first considered the possibility of buying the Los Gatos facility in September in an effort to meet their strategic plan to grow by 2 to 3 percent each year. Under the purchase, both hospitals will be governed by the same board, report to the same administrators and share a staff, Reeder said.

The new facility will be renamed El Camino-Los Gatos and will be viewed as an expansion of the Mountain View hospital. After taking over the 113-bed Los Gatos facility, El Camino will have a total of 512 beds and close to 1,300 physicians.

"We felt we had to do something big," Reeder said. "We are going to be able to make Los Gatos just like El Camino."

Services at Los Gatos are slowly starting to shut down in anticipation of the takeover. When it reopens July 11, the Los Gatos hospital will continue to offer medical and surgical beds, intensive care and OBGYN services, according to El Camino officials. The hospital also plans to expand spinal, orthopedics and urology services at Los Gatos.

As part of the plan, current Los Gatos employees will all be let go, and El Camino executives will spend the next three months hiring a new staff as they prepare to open the new site.

"El Camino is a culture and cultures are hard to develop," Reeder said. "In the 90 days, we can interview staff and make sure they can do it the El Camino way." ■

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

■ INFORMATION

Here is a list of El Camino's current cost estimates for the purchase and re-opening of Community Hospital of Los Gatos:

Land and building: \$45 million
Legal and consulting: \$2 million
Equipment: \$8.8 million
Pre-opening (IT, seismic updates): \$5.3 million
Working capital: \$5.9 million
Year one capital: \$10 million
Total: \$77 million

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Living Well with Osteoarthritis

Tuesday, May 12, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Presented by Andrew Rozelle, M.D., Ph.D., specialist in Rheumatology
To register or for more information, call 650-853-4873.



Mountain View Center – 701 E. El Camino Real



Putting on Your Best Face: Ladies Night Out

Wednesday, April 8, 7 – 8 p.m.

Presented by Cindy Russell, M.D., specialist in Plastic Surgery
To register or for more information, call 408-523-3295.

Sports Medicine for Kids (and their parents)

Dr. Marvin Small Memorial Parent Workshop Series

Tuesday, April 14, 7 – 9 p.m.

Presented by Ken Vereschagin, M.D., specialist in Pediatrics and Sports Medicine
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Sunnyvale City Council Chambers – 456 W. Olive Avenue

Allergies

Wednesday, May 27, 7 – 8 p.m.

Presented by Steve Rubinstein, M.D., specialist in Allergies
To register or for more information, call 408-523-3295.

Sunnyvale Library – 665 W. Olive Avenue

Prescription for Health Care Reform

Tuesday, May 5, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Presented by Hal Luft, Ph.D., Director of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation Research Institute
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SCHOOLS

► Continued from page 1

had a demographic study conducted in 10 years, and administrators said they wanted an updated analysis as they plan for the future.

"We knew we had an issue because our numbers were three years ahead of the numbers in the last demographic study," said Craig Goldman, the district's chief financial officer.

A committee of administrators and an architect have been discussing a 10-year master plan for the district's facilities, which could suggest expanding schools or taking back campuses the district leases out, Goldman said. The committee will bring its proposal to the board for approval in June.

According to the recent study, the district's population is growing at a rate similar to the rest of the county, but the schools here are starting to retain more of their students, helping to explain the larger enrollment numbers.

"We are seeing an increase in the number of students who do not leave the district," Goldman said.

Migration numbers

The demographers, who work for Jack Schreder & Associates, came

up with their enrollment numbers in part by looking at "migration," a term for "how many students stay in a district year to year," Cheryl King said. Traditionally, Mountain View elementary and middle schools have a "negative migration," meaning fewer students return each year.

If the district "has fewer second grade students than they did first grade students the prior year, this would indicate negative migration," the study says.

Although this negative rate still exists, the demographers explained it is starting to stabilize now, three years after the district closed Slater. The schools experienced a rise in "negative migration" from 2002 to 2005. From 2004 to 2005, the district lost 202 students. In 2007-08 this number was down to 74

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

WATER MAIN WORK TO CAUSE DELAYS ON GRANT ROAD

As of Wednesday, daytime lane closures on Grant Road are causing traffic delays as crews install a new water main at the El Camino Hospital construc-

tion site, according to the city's Public Works Department.

Beginning March 25, one lane in each direction will be closed on a portion of Grant Road at the Eunice Avenue and North Drive intersection during the day. City engineers expect the work will last about

three weeks.

Crews will be working from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays. All lanes will reopen at the end of each workday.

— Bay City News

students.

The increase can also be attributed to more families moving to the Bay Area. Many left Silicon Valley following the dot-com bust, Goldman said, but people are once again coming back for high-tech jobs. Many of these families are choosing to enroll and keep their children in Mountain View schools.

"Even though the economy is in decline, we are in better shape than in other parts of California. There are not a lot of greener pastures out there," he said.

He added, "It is our belief that the quality of our schools is why families are staying in our schools. I am sure there are other variables out there."

After seeing a significant increase in students last year, trustees changed district boundaries and

also moved a magnet program to a new campus, all in an effort to alleviate crowding.

The so-called Facilities/Master Plan Committee is now looking at ways to further address overcrowding, and will present its findings to the board in June. The committee is focusing on population trends in specific neighborhoods, and looking at which schools have received the biggest enrollment increase.

Besides its eight schools, the district owns four additional properties, including Slater, and Goldman said the committee could consider expanding current sites or "reoccupying campuses."

"Expansion," he said, "is the reason we hold onto property." ■

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PRO LACROSSE PLAYER PROMOTES HEALTHY LIFESTYLES IN VISIT TO BUBB SCHOOL

By Casey Weiss

Logan Mang, a second grader at Bubbs Elementary School, had been waiting all school year to meet professional lacrosse player Jeff Zywicki, who plays for the San Jose Stealth.

His dream came true on Monday when the athlete visited Bubbs, first speaking at a school assembly on the subjects of nutrition and health. Then he ran laps with the students during their snack time.

As Mang waited in line with dozens of his peers for the player's autograph, he took the long view about the soon-to-be memento, saying it would become a family heirloom passed down from generation to generation.

"I am honored he is going to sign this," Mang said, pointing to a small poster of the player. "I am going to pass it down to my son, my son's son, even my great-grandson."

Zywicki volunteered to visit the campus on Monday, March 30 in order to help teachers, parents and administrators promote a new club and health campaign launched earlier this year. The 200 students participating in the Mileage Club run and walk laps on a makeshift track three times a week during lunch, and fourth graders help keep track of the mileage they accumulate.

The Parent Teacher Association and Principal Mary Dietrich hope the club will address "the high obesity rates and sedentary lifestyles that so many of the students live," Dietrich said.

Each student in the club has a chain necklace and receives a shoe token for their necklace once they run four miles. Together, the students have run over 1,000 miles, and some have racked up dozens just in the past six months.

"It is fun to run and earn stuff," said Lexy Mitchner, who at 64

miles has run the most laps in the school.

The students are tracking their mileage on a map they drew of the United States. They have made it past Disneyland and the Grand Canyon on the map, and hope to accumulate enough miles to get to Disney World in Florida by June.

On a normal day, the club attracts several dozen students who decide to run during their lunch break, Dietrich said.

But last Monday, hundreds of students swarmed around the lacrosse player as he jogged the track, challenging him to races.

"They said when he got here he was going to be treated like a king," said Stealth director of communications Michael Kennett. "I didn't realize it would be this crazy." ■

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

■ EDUCATION BRIEF

LOCAL AVID STUDENTS SWEEP WRITING CONTEST

Students from Mountain View and Los Altos high schools brought home three regional awards last week from a writing conference for underserved and first generation college-bound students.

Mountain View High School students Patrick Maningo and Chelsea Choi and Los Altos High School student Gilberto Orozco brought home first place prizes for writing the best essays in their grade level. They were among more than 500 middle and high school students from four counties attending the conference at Santa Clara University on March 24, where they participated in workshops and witnessed an awards ceremony for essays they had written earlier in the year during a timed "write off."

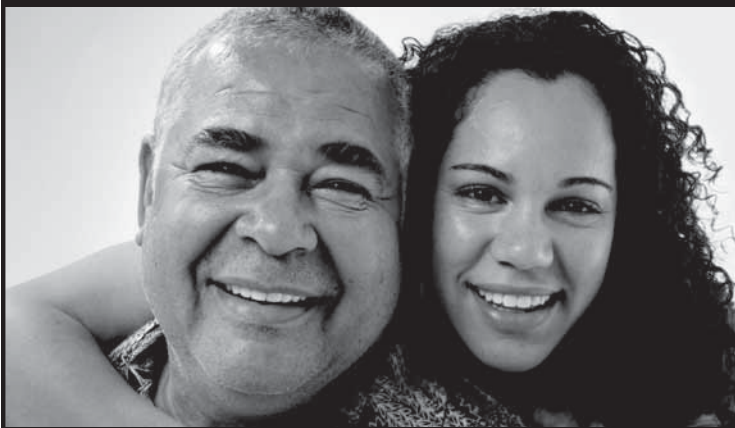
Santa Clara University held the writing conference for students participating in AVID — "Advancement Via Individual Determination" — a program aimed at closing the achievement gap by preparing low-income, minority and first generation college-bound students for college.

— Casey Weiss

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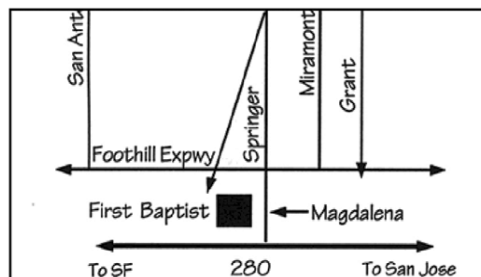


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COUNCIL

► Continued from page 1

member Mike Kasperzak. The list was quickly slashed in half as the council realized that most of its goals would be addressed as part of three "overarching" projects this year: the General Plan update, implementation of climate change initiatives and the city's budget process. Through a process of elimination, the council ended up with six goals that are likely to be considered further before adoption.

One goal that made the cut was almost a restatement of last year's top goal for positive activities for youth — council member Ronit Bryant said she feared such programs would disappear during budget cuts this year. In one of several humorous exchanges Tuesday night, Bryant said Kevin Duggan, city manager, told her that "If you asked us what we can afford, all your favorite programs might dis-

appear."

Amid laughter, Duggan clarified: "What I meant to say was everything we do is important to somebody; it was not a threat."

Bryant's goal to strengthen the city's volunteer program also gained support, along with her goal to "actualize" the city's environmental sustainability action plan, though it will only emphasize a plan the council has already adopted. (The council quietly approved the action plan on last week's consent calendar.)

Council members favored a "master plan" for youth services which could be part of the city's General Plan. Two other goals focused on Rengstorff Park and its surrounding neighborhood in terms of city services, pedestrian safety, teen use of the Community Center and park and neighborhood "infrastructure."

Several items made it onto what members jokingly referred to as "Kevin's bucket list" — items the

city manager has promised to work on, including increased coordination with NASA Ames in developing its 75-acre Research Park.

Goals for a teen center and community center at Rengstorff Park were withdrawn from the list after city staff assured the council that work was underway to identify ways to raise the \$50 million to rebuild the park's current Community Center, which will likely include a teen center.

A goal to determine a location and fundraising method for a large community park in the Whisman area fell off the priority list after a discussion about the difficulties of buying a piece of land large enough for a community park. Only two members supported it as a top goal: Kasperzak and Jac Siegel, who seemed optimistic about raising money to buy the land through a bond measure. ■

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

NEWS BRIEFS

MONDAY QUAKE REVEALED NEW FAULT LINE

A small earthquake that rattled parts of the South Bay on Monday morning occurred on a previously unknown fault line, according to a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey.

The magnitude 4.3 quake hit at 10:40 a.m. and was centered about 11 miles north of Morgan Hill and 16 miles east-southeast of San Jose. Jack Boatwright of the USGS said the small, unmapped fault that appears to have produced the earthquake is believed to be a "splay fault" off the Calaveras Fault. It

crosses the hills east of San Jose, an area that is difficult to map.

Because the new fault is not considered a major fault, experts at the USGS do not believe Monday morning's quake is a precursor to a larger temblor, Boatwright said.

No damage was reported after Monday's quake. The trembling was felt by residents in Mountain View and as far north as San Francisco.

— Bay City News

COPS FIND SUSPECTED METH INGREDIENTS

Mountain View police said a

24-year-old San Jose man was arrested last Wednesday afternoon during a car stop for possessing suspicious amounts of Claritin D allergy medication, which can be used to manufacture methamphetamines.

"We found this person with enough of it for us to suspect he was using it for more than just allergies," said police spokesperson Liz Wylie.

Shelton Young was riding shotgun when police saw the driver of the car run several stop signs at 3:16 p.m. near the 600 block of Bernardo Avenue, Wylie said. The male driver was cited for possession of marijuana, while a female backseat passenger was cited for possession of methamphetamine paraphernalia.

— Daniel DeBolt

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POLICE: MEN USED BAT, CAR IN DOWNTOWN ASSAULT

Mountain View police arrested two men on charges of assault with a deadly weapon for allegedly attacking a man on the corner of Hope and Dana streets — first with a bat and then with a car — after the downtown bars closed early Saturday morning.

Police spokesperson Liz Wylie said the victim, a San Jose resident, was walking to his car with friends on March 28 at around 2:20 a.m. when Mountain View brothers Krystoffer Herrera, 23, and Israul Herrera, 26, drove by and the two groups started arguing. One hit the victim on the head with a baseball bat, then the other drove his car into the victim, Wylie said.

The two suspects fled the scene, but were arrested later that evening. The victim had only minor injuries, and police say neither side is fully cooperating.

— Casey Weiss

City's stimulus funds up to \$1.6 million

By Daniel DeBolt

Congresswoman Anna Eshoo announced last week that Mountain View will receive \$719,000 in stimulus funding to help pay for improving energy efficiency and reducing emissions. The money, combined with other stimulus funding, brings the city's total to about \$1.6 million.

The \$719,000 is "certainly on the high end of what we were anticipating," said city manager Kevin Duggan, who was happy to receive a phone call from federal officials about the funding Thursday morning.

While the stimulus money "doesn't do anything in regard to the projected [\$6 million] budget deficit," Duggan said, it may lead to some energy savings that could save the city money in the long term.

"We're going to be looking at a variety of alternatives, because we want to use the money efficiently to meet the objectives of the funding program," Duggan said, adding that those objectives are "job creation and energy conservation."

In January the city came up with a preliminary list of 31 projects towards which stimulus funds could go. At least four of them appear to qualify for the \$719,000, and are categorized by the city as "green jobs/technologies."

Those projects include implementation of AB 811, which would cost the city \$2 million to give residents loans for energy efficiency improvements to their homes. The city could use another \$1.5 million to replace all of the city's streetlights with efficient, long-lasting LED bulbs. Another \$750,000 could train personnel to educate the public about energy efficiency and do energy audits of homes and businesses. For unknown costs, the library could get efficient water heating.

The \$719,000 is part of \$3.2 billion in stimulus funding for local

energy efficiency improvements announced by President Obama as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

"With these block grants, communities will pursue the cleanest and most efficient energy sources," Eshoo said in a press release. "Green jobs will be created, stimulating local economies, while laying the foundation for a long-term com-

mitment to conservation and clean energy."

Meanwhile, the city of Mountain View is receiving approximately \$714,000 in other stimulus funds for road projects. There were 19 road projects, mostly sidewalk repairs and road reconstructions, listed as possibilities in January, including \$4.9 million for Permanente Creek Trail crossings at Highway 101 and Old Middlefield

Way, and \$3.9 million for a Stevens Creek Trail extension from Sleeper Avenue over Highway 85 to Heatherstone Way.

Another \$184,000 in stimulus funds will go towards community development block grants, which are usually divided up among nonprofits that serve the needy in Mountain View.

City officials have to decide exactly how to spend the money. ▀

■ INFORMATION

According to Eshoo, the latest stimulus funds were split among local jurisdictions as follows:

Mountain View: \$719,000
Palo Alto: \$663,000
Redwood City: \$736,300
Sunnyvale: \$1,292,000
County of San Mateo: \$2,951,200

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

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Member, Mountain View Chamber of Commerce



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EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Not in my back yard

When it comes to building affordable housing, the biggest roadblock might not be lack of funds, but neighbors who worry that occupants of such projects would cause their own property values to fall.

Property value was the prevailing concern, at least, at a recent hearing to discuss the city's plan for putting as many as 51 units of affordable housing on what is now Caltrain's overflow parking lot on Franklin Street and W. Evelyn Avenue.

The city's goal is to provide housing for people who earn less than 60 percent of the area's median income, which comes to \$64,000 or less for a family of four. Although they might acknowledge that this is a noble goal in theory, in practice some of the neighbors were not so supportive of the affordable housing development being proposed for their back yard.

Virtually all of the 19 neighbors who spoke at the hearing live in Bryant Place, the condominium development next door to the site. And most said they feared a loss in their property values if the affordable units are built.

"My concern is you are building a ghetto right here," said one neighbor. He added that despite the location of the city's police station just a block away, residents already endure the impact of the Pacific Euro Hotel, which he said was "essentially a halfway house."

Another Bryant Place owner said he had not heard of the city's plans before he bought his condo. "I feel like I overpaid because of it," he said.

The 2006 announcement of the city's intention to build housing there was reported in the *Voice* at the time, but several Bryant Place residents said they did not know about it, and didn't expect to have new neighbors within a few years.

At this stage, it appears that the city will almost certainly stand by its decision to build housing at Franklin and Evelyn (one neighbor who spoke at the hearing went so far as to hope the City Council would change its mind about locating the project there) but that doesn't mean the neighbors won't have a say in the process. In fact, it is likely that the complex will be designed to soften its impact on the Bryant Place condos next door, perhaps with a courtyard facing that direction.

And a vice president of ROEM, the company developing the affording housing complex, promised that it would be "undistinguishable as 'affordable'" and that it would be "of market-rate quality."

In fact it seems that there is plenty of room for compromise, and the neighbors, though concerned, were not at all unreasonable. If they stay engaged on this project, the new development could actually meet the goals of the neighbor who said: "We would like our property values to increase, not decrease."

That is a real possibility if neighbors continue to work with the city, not against the idea of providing affordable housing downtown.

LETTERS

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

SENIOR CENTER IS ONE OF THE CITY'S PRIZED ASSETS

Editor:

I read with interest your story on the Senior Advisory Task Force survey about the Mountain View Senior Center ("Survey: Locals want first dibs at Senior Center," March 27).

I have frequented the Senior Center for the past eight years and I have visited all of the senior centers in the Bay Area. The atmosphere and activities in our Mountain View center are enchanting. We get all services for the benefit of seniors under one roof in a lively, superb fashion. It is no wonder that it attracts seniors from Sunnyvale, Palo Alto, Los Altos, Cupertino and also San Francisco, even though the respective cities have their own senior facilities.

The daily lunch served in the

center is tasty, nutritious and prepared strictly according to specification for seniors. Laura Schuster, who is in charge of the lunch program, is doing yeomen service for seniors. She is the kingpin of the center, coordinating all the activities and keeping the seniors in good cheer.

The city of Mountain View has many proud assets. It has the world famous Google, the lovely Castro Street with many cuisines, and City Hall. The Mountain View Senior Center is the jewel in the crown of the city. The seniors are spending the evening of their lives here after doing their best for our country. The City Council should consider their legitimate demands to keep them well and thereby enhance their longevity.

Joseph Bennett
Gamel Way

TOWNSQUARE VOICES FROM ONLINE

ON THE THEUERKAUF STUDENT CHARGED WITH 'TERRORIST THREATS'

The actions of one kid, possibly imitating what he sees in the news, should not be the basis of generalizations about the entire school, the entire district or the entire city of Mountain View.

Voice reader, a resident of another community

Sad story. The kid's surely not a terrorist, just screaming for attention and help, and I hope he gets what he needs.

harvardmom, a resident of the Monta Loma neighborhood

I would like to thank the *Voice* for keeping us informed about what is going on in our schools. We might never hear these things otherwise.

thank you, a resident of the Old Mountain View neighborhood





The magical world of the vegetarian burrito at La Bamba Taqueria on Old Middlefield Way.

WHITNEY DAFOE

■ FOOD REVIEW

Vegetarians in Burritoville

WE COMPARE A FEW LOCAL BURRITO JOINTS' MEATLESS VERSIONS OF THE CLASSIC STAPLE

By Sheila Himmel

Early burritos were enormous, overstuffed creatures that could've fed bears in winter. Then came a tide of sad and soggy fusions, doomed by ingredients like eggplant. Many people still prefer monster burritos, but in the spirit of a dish that is, after all, a Cal-Mex collaboration, now we have healthier choices.

If we dispense with inappropriate vegetables and detour around the deep-fried meats, burritos provide value in healthy hand-held meals.

In the economical meatless versions, beans and rice combine to provide a complete protein. Serious vegetarians may have to ask about lard-free tortillas.

Mountain View offers many sources, but the Golden Triangle of Taquerias would have to be the intersection of Old Middlefield Way and Rengstorff Avenue, just off Highway 101. They are La Bamba, La Costena and Taqueria Los Altos.

Palo Alto's burritos are lightly

► See **BURRITOS**, page 18

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MICHELLE LE

Oaxacan Kitchen co-owner Zaida Kent, right, makes tlayuda, a corn tortilla with black bean puree, cabbage, queso fresco, avocado, tomatoes and salsa verde.

BURRITOS

► Continued from page 17

sprinkled in each of the three commercial districts. Downtown recently lost Andale, but by late March Adam Torres hopes to open Sancho's Taqueria on Lytton Avenue. Meanwhile, get veggie and chile relleno burritos at Sancho's in La Tiendita Market, 510 O'Connor St., East Palo Alto, and two locations in Redwood City.

We ordered roughly the same vegetarian super burrito at five stops, with whole pinto beans and medium-spicy salsa. Size-wise, they were similar.

Our sixth stop, the Oaxacan Kitchen, does not have a burrito. It is a charming sit-down restaurant featuring regional specialties, including a handful of street foods. We sampled two vegetarian items from the takeout menu.

This burrito is the most beautiful. Cut it in half and admire the cross-section of fresh, discreet ingredients. The beans don't mash up. Choices in rice are Spanish, white and brown. The thin tortilla is concentrated in folds at both ends. Bean and rice chico burrito is \$2.39, with vegetables \$3.99.

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Cheapest on our tour and serving the most in-house diners, Los Altos Taqueria let us down with a veggie burrito drenched in sour cream. The lettuce got very soggy. The burrito could use more beans, but comes with chips and salsa. Children's version is \$2.50.

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The best variety of vegetarian burritos is offered here (brightly printed, readable stickers tell you which is which), with no lard and good salsa choices. But the guacamole is the worst, bland and pureed like baby food. The veggie super is filled with rice, beans, salsa, guacamole, lettuce, sour cream, cheese and tomato. The chile relleno burrito is good and not heavily crusted. The tofu burrito has too many green bell peppers. Chico veggie is \$3.75.



WHITNEY DAFOE.

Jake Logan has sampled burritos from all over the Bay Area and says *La Bamba* is his favorite.

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Unlike burritos, these Oaxacan street foods cool off quickly and are not meant to be reheated. The tlayuda is constructed like a tostada, on a large, freshly hand-made and toasted corn tortilla. A spread of mashed black beans is followed by fresh tomato, queso fresco, cabbage, salsa, avocado slices and guacamole—great guacamole. Memela (\$5) is similar but smaller, with black beans and dark mole. The vegetarian quesadilla (\$6) features melted jack-like cheese with a tad of cilantro. **■**

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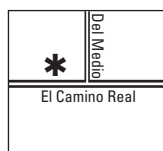
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ADVENTURELAND (R) ★★★

Century 16: 11:15 a.m.; 1:45, 4:25, 7:35 & 10:10 p.m.
Century 20: Noon, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45 & 10:20 p.m.

ALIEN TRESPASS (PG) (NOT REVIEWED)

Aquarius: 2:15, 4:40, 7 & 9:15 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at noon.

DRAGONBALL: EVOLUTION (PG) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 20: Wed. 7 Thu. at 11:50 a.m.; 2, 4:10, 6:20, 8:30 & 10:40 p.m.

DUPLICITY (PG-13) ★★1/2

Century 16: 12:50, 3:50, 6:45 & 9:40 p.m.
Century 20: 12:15, 1:30, 3:05, 5:55, 7:20 & 8:50 p.m.

EVERLASTING MOMENTS (NOT RATED) ★★1/2

Guild: 2, 5 & 8 p.m.

FAST AND FURIOUS (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 11:05 a.m.; 12:15, 1:10, 2, 3, 4, 4:45, 5:35, 6:35, 7:20, 8:10, 9:10 & 9:55 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at 10:40 p.m.
Century 20: 11:20 & 11:50 a.m.; 12:20, 1:05, 1:55, 2:25, 2:55, 3:40, 4:30, 5, 5:30, 6:20, 7:05, 7:35, 8:05, 9, 9:40, 10:10 & 10:40 p.m.

FAST & FURIOUS (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 11:05 a.m.; 12:15, 1:10, 2, 3, 4, 4:45, 5:35, 6:35, 7:20, 8:10, 9:10 & 9:55 p.m. Fri. & Sat. also at 10:40 p.m.
Century 20: 11:20 & 11:50 a.m.; 12:20, 1:05, 1:55, 2:25, 2:55, 3:40, 4:30, 5, 5:30, 6:20, 7:05, 7:35, 8:05, 9, 9:40, 10:10 & 10:40 p.m.

THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 12:35, 2:55, 5:25, 7:50 & 10:05 p.m.
Century 20: 11:45 a.m.; 12:50, 2:15, 3:25, 4:35, 5:50, 7:10, 8:10, 9:35 & 10:35 p.m.

I LOVE YOU, MAN (R) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 11:10 a.m.; 1:05, 1:55, 4:30, 6:25, 7:10 & 9:45 p.m.
Century 20: 12:05, 1:25, 2:40, 3:55, 5:15, 6:25, 7:50, 9:10 & 10:25 p.m.

THE INTERNATIONAL (R) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 20: 11:25 a.m.; Fri.-Tue. & Thu. also at 4:50 & 10:20 p.m.
Mon.-Wed. also at 2 p.m. Mon., Tue. & Thu. also at 7:35 p.m.

KNOWING (PG-13) (NOT REVIEWED)

Century 16: 11 a.m.; 12:30, 1:50, 3:20, 4:40, 6:15, 7:30, 9:10 & 10:20 p.m.
Century 20: Noon, 12:55, 1:50, 2:50, 3:50, 4:45, 5:40, 6:40, 7:35, 8:35, 9:40 & 10:35 p.m. Sat. & Sun. also at 10:10 & 11 a.m.

MONSTERS VS. ALIENS (PG) ★★1/2

Century 16: 11 a.m.; noon, 1:45, 2, 2:45, 3:45, 4:20, 5:20, 6:20, 7, 8, 8:50, 9:30 & 10:25 p.m.
Century 20: 11:30 a.m.; 12:25, 1:10, 2, 2:45, 3:35, 4:30, 5:20, 6, 7, 7:50, 8:40, 9:30 & 10:15 p.m.

RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN (PG) ★★

Century 16: 11:40 a.m.; 2:20, 4:50, 7:45 & 10:15 p.m.
Century 20: 11:35 a.m.; 1:55, 4:15, 6:50 & 9:20 p.m.

THE READER (R) ★★1/2

Century 16: 12:10, 3:10, 7:05 & 10 p.m.

THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW (NOT RATED) (NOT REVIEWED)

Guild: Sat. at midnight.

SUNSHINE CLEANING (R) ★★1/2

Century 20: 12:10, 1:20, 2:35, 3:45, 5, 6:30, 7:25, 8:55 & 9:50 p.m.
Palo Alto Square: 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6 & 7:15 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at 8:30 p.m. Fri.-Sat. also at 9:40 p.m.

TAKEN (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: 3:40 & 9 p.m.
Century 20: 4:20 & 10:30 p.m.

TOKYO! (NOT RATED) (NOT REVIEWED)

Aquarius: 3:15, 5:45 & 8:30 p.m. Fri.-Sun. also at 12:30 p.m.

WATCHMEN (R) ★★1/2

Century 16: 12:20, 4:10 & 7:40 p.m.
Century 20: Fri.-Sun. at noon & 4:30 p.m. Mon.-Thu. at 8:30 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



DUPLICITY ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) CIA operative Claire Stenwick (Julia Roberts) first meets and sleeps with rival Ray Koval (Clive Owen) in Dubai. Five years later, the pretty woman runs into him again in New York City. They have left their government gigs to conduct intelligence work for corporate competitors Howard Tully (Tom Wilkinson) and Dick Garsik (Paul Giamatti). The stakes are high in stealing industry secrets and securing the patents for the next big product — and for the two career spies to keep their growing personal relationship clandestine. At the end, the smoke and mirrors give way to reveal who is gaming whom. And what does it matter? Instead of feeling satisfied and enjoying the payoff, watchers get an empty experience. *Rated: PG-13 for language and some sexual content. 2 hours, 5 minutes.* — S.T.

MONSTERS VS. ALIENS

★★1/2

In the case of Monsters v. Aliens — henceforth to be referred to as “Monsters Vs. Aliens” — we find in favor of monsters. Said monsters are the heroes of the latest Dreamworks Animation release, rendered in CGI and presented in 3D. The parties involved in this sci-fi-themed action comedy include Susan Murphy (voiced by Reese Witherspoon), whose transformation into a 50-foot-tall woman (alias Ginormica) we witness. Murphy stipulates the existence of four other government-sequestered monsters: lagoon creature The Missing Link (Will Arnett), insectoid mad scientist Dr. Cockroach (Hugh Laurie), blob B.O.B. (Seth Rogen) and the Godzilla-meets-a-hamster creature Insectosaurus (who doesn’t speak). This court ultimately finds in favor of those darn monsters. Especially that B.O.B., who has no brain, but affirms, “Turns out, you don’t need one.” Delightful! *Rated PG for sci-fi action, some crude humor and mild language. 1 hour, 34 minutes. P.C.*

RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN ★★

(Century 16, Century 20) Jack Bruno (Dwayne Johnson) is your typical misunderstood tough guy. After stints in prison, Jack is determined to tread the straight-and-narrow (although driving a cab in Sin City doesn’t scream “do-gooder”). When young Sara (Robb) and her brother, Seth (Alexander Ludwig), hop in Jack’s cab hoping for a ride, Jack reluctantly takes the fare. But Sara and Seth have a secret: They are extrater-

restrials whose spaceship has crashed. The young siblings are being chased by government spooks led by Henry Burke (Ciaran Hinds). An assassin from their home planet is also in hot pursuit. Sara and Seth are desperate to reacquire their ship being held in the Area 51-esque stronghold at Witch Mountain — and Jack gets to play chaperone. Johnson and Robb are worth the time, even if the script isn't out of this world. *Rated: PG for sequences of action and violence, frightening and dangerous situations, and some thematic elements. 1 hour, 39 minutes.* — T.H.

SUNSHINE CLEANING

★★★★1/2

(Cinearts) Rose Norkowski (Amy Adams) is between a rock and hard spot: shackling up with ex-high school squeeze and married cop Mac (Steve Zahn), raising a kid on her own and wasting her shiny potential by cleaning houses for a living. A chance suggestion by Mac (after a particularly unsavory day on the job) turns to gold when Rose partners with sister Norah (Emily Blunt) to start her own crime-scene clean-up company, aptly named Sunshine Cleaning. Adams has the chops, bringing a fresh spin to deep hurts and a spark to her determination to get things right. Blunt plays off her with ease — two hot actresses on their inevitable paths to greatness. But the narrative has trouble balancing its dark tones and its peculiar humor, never finding a comfortable niche.

Rated: R for language, gore and sexuality. 1 hour, 42 minutes. — J.A.

WATCHMEN

★★★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) The year is 1985. Superheroes have been forced by the government to hang up their capes and cowls. The last of the hero groups has disbanded. Only the enigmatic and violent Rorschach (Jackie Earle Haley) refuses to abandon his crime-fighting lifestyle. Rorschach is determined to solve the mysterious homicide of fellow vigilante The Comedian (Jeffrey Dean Morgan), who is tossed from a high-rise by a shadowed assailant. As Rorschach investigates the brutal murder, other do-gooders are brought into the fold: the nearly omnipotent Dr. Manhattan (Billy Crudup); tough gal Silk Spectre (Malin Akerman), the sincere but soft Nite Owl (Patrick Wilson) and brilliant billionaire Ozymandias (Matthew Goode). "Watchmen" is a cinematic achievement that is certain to take on cult status — a superhero epic with guts. *Rated: R for strong graphic violence, sexuality, nudity and language. 2 hours, 43 minutes.* — T.H.

MOVIE CRITICS

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

MOVIE REVIEWS

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Mountain View Whisman School District Measure C Parcel Tax Oversight Advisory Committee Selection Criteria and Procedures

The Mountain View Whisman School District Measure C Parcel Tax Oversight Advisory Committee shall be composed of representatives from the local community. The committee will represent the community as a whole in the process of reviewing the use of Measure C parcel tax funds. The committee will monitor expenditures of the parcel tax funds, make recommendations on specific related issues as requested by the Board, and inform the public about the parcel tax expenditures. A report will be presented annually to the Board from this committee.

Committee Composition and Representation

The Board shall have sole discretion to select and appoint Committee members. The Board will seek to appoint at least seven members and not more than nine. The Committee members should be representative of the voters of the District and should reflect the diversity of the Mountain View Whisman School District community. Relevant financial management experience and/or school district experience should be considered in evaluating prospective committee members.

Application and Appointment

- Community members may seek appointment to the Measure C Parcel Tax Committee by submitting an application to the District's Chief Financial Officer.
- The Chief Financial Officer shall review the applications and make recommendations to the Board based upon the criteria set forth in this document.
- The Board shall be responsible for a final review of the applications and shall make the selection and appointment of Committee members.

Eligibility

- Committee members must be eligible to vote in the Mountain View Whisman School District.
- No employee, official, vendor, contractor, or consultant of the District shall be appointed to the Committee.

Term of Service

- Committee members serve without compensation for a term of two (2) years. Terms shall begin on January 1, 2009, and at two-year intervals thereafter.
- Committee members and former Committee members who wish to be reappointed for each additional term shall reapply to the Board for consideration.
- Committee members shall be seated by appointment.

If you are interested in filling one of the vacancies, an application is available on the Mountain View Whisman School District website at www.mvwsd.org (Follow the links for "District Info" and "Parcel Tax.") or you may request an application from Craig A. Goldman, Chief Financial Officer, Mountain View Whisman School District, 650-526-3548. Applications are due to the District Office by Wednesday, April 22, 2009.

MPSF

Mountain Pacific Sports Federation

Men's Gymnastics Conference Championships

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HIGHLIGHT

"DISTRACTED"

Lisa Loomer's new play that explores the world of Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and the unconventional path one mother takes to help her anxious son. April 4-26, Tue.-Wed. at 7:30 p.m., Thu.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 and 7 p.m.. Contains mature language. \$21-64. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. theatreworks.org

BENEFITS

Chefs Who Care Monthly Dine-Out

Brian's Restaurant is hosting the next "Chefs Who Care" dine-out night. "Chefs Who Care" is a monthly fundraiser where 50 percent of meal cost benefits Community Services Agency's Food & Nutrition Center. Reservations 5-730 p.m. April 13 and 14, 5-7:30 p.m. \$24.00 in advance. Brian's Restaurant, 680 Fremont Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-810-2233. www.CSAcares.org

Team In Training Bachelor/ette Auction

Seven guys, seven girls, all with set dates up for auction. All proceeds raised go to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society for blood cancer research. Sat., April 4, 7-10 p.m. \$15, includes 1 raffle ticket. Zen Lounge, 251 Castro St., Mountain View. www.triteamindating.com

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Business Booster Series "Join us in the Business Booster Series, workshops that will help improve some of the most crucial aspects of becoming a successful business professional. The workshops will focus on top strategies to survive in tough economic times," the Chamber says. Thu., April 9, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. \$20 member/\$30 non-member. Business Booster Series, 580 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-968-8378. www.chambermv.org

Mastering the Mysteries of Love Two-day workshop on relationship skills sponsored by the California Healthy Marriage Coalition. Learn

how to understand each other better and deepen relationships. Instructors Don and Alex Flecky. \$40/person covers meals. Materials included. March 28 and April 4, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. \$40/person. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-948-1083 x122. www.laumc.org

Success with Succulents - Watercolor Painting

Two-day class with Mendocino-based painter Nancy Collins, focusing on techniques for creating paintings of succulents. Email amuonio@arts4all.org for supply list. Register online: course #51428. April 18-19, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$185/2 days. Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA), Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org

CLUBS/MEETINGS

Leads Club Meeting "Lead's Club is a proactive, structured and facilitated networking system to help you grow your business. We are a group of entrepreneurial professionals building formal relationships with each other in order to exchange qualified referrals," the club says. Meets Wednesdays, 7:30-8:45 a.m. \$5. St Timothy's Guild Hall, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-428-0950.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

American Red Cross Public Blood Drive

The American Red Cross is holding a public blood drive at Google in Mountain View. Wed., April 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Google, 1300 Critten-

den Lane, Mountain View. BeADonor.com

Galaata 2009 Galaata 2009: an entertainment event for the Tamil community of the Bay Area. With Pallavi (a light music concert), Galaata Idol (singing competition for Indians in the Bay Area), Yenna Porutham?, LOL Sabha (comedy show) and more. Sat., April 11, \$50, \$35 or \$25 (early bird tickets at \$30 and \$20 until March 15). Smithwick Theater, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos. Call 408-476-8507. www.galaata.org

Green Resources in our Community

The (new) 3-R's: Reduce, Recycle, Re-use Open to the public. Sponsored by Avi Decorative Painting, Inc. (www.avipainting.com/green) & Palo Alto Family YMCA. Thu., April 16, noon to 1 p.m.; Sun., April 19, 2-3 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Family YMCA, 3412 Ross Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-842-7157.

CONCERTS

Eth-Noh-Tec, Asian American Storytelling Theater Family Concert. Folktales and urban legends come alive in an afternoon of kinetic theater. Taiko drums, bamboo flutes, more. Two performances, at 2 and 4 p.m. Sun., April 5, No charge; donations accepted. Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/calendar.htm

Oxford Street Brass Concert - "Bach and (Definitely) Beyond" The Oxford Street Brass will play Bach, Scott Joplin, James P. Johnson and some other surprises. Sun., April 5, 4-6 p.m. First Congregational Church of Palo Alto, 1985 Louis Road, Palo Alto. <http://www.vv>

fccpa.org/FCCPA_Site/Concerts.html

Wendy Waller, Vocal Blues & Jazz CSMA Faculty Member Wendy Waller sings jazz, blues, classical, country folk, funk, soul. Thu., April 16, 7-8 p.m. No charge; donations accepted. Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/calendar.htm

DANCE

English Country Dance English Country Dance. Live music, no partner needed, all dances taught, comfortable clothes and shoes. 1st, 3rd, 5th Wednesdays through June. 8-10 p.m. \$9/\$7 members/\$5 students. Flex-It Studio, 425 Evelyn Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-224-5318. http://www.bacds.org/series/english/mountain_view/

English Country Dancing English Country Dance. Live music, no partner needed, all dances taught, comfortable clothes and shoes. 1st, 3rd, 5th Wednesdays through June. 8-10 p.m. \$9/\$7 members/\$5 students. Flex-It Studio, 425 Evelyn Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-224-5318. http://www.bacds.org/series/english/mountain_view/

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Docent-Led Walks of Shoreline Learn about Shoreline at Mountain View's: maritime history; landfill legacy; environmental processes; ecosystems; birds, wildlife; and more. Walks depart from Rengstorff House and last about one hour on the 4th Sunday of every month. Bring/Wear: layered clothing,

walking shoes, binoculars. No advanced reservations required. 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Rengstorff House, Shoreline at Mountain View, 3070 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6073. <http://www.ci.mtnview.ca.us>

EXHIBITS

Moffett Field Historical Society Museum

Displays of memorabilia, artifacts, photos and aircraft models; tours of museum and view of the exterior of Hangar One. Open Wednesdays through Fridays. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Moffett Federal Airfield, Building 126, off Highway 101, Mountain View. Call 650-961-8860.

FAMILY AND KIDS

10th Annual Run for Zimbabwe Orphans & Fair

Twelve cross-country races for the entire family to benefit Makumbi Children's Home in Zimbabwe. Lion Hearted 100 yd. for kids with special needs; 220 yd. pre-school/1/2 mile. Kindergarten; and a series of mile races for grade school to adult. Fair features the music, art, food and culture of Zimbabwe. 1-4 p.m. \$5 for run. The Fair is free. Zimbabwe Run at St. Joseph School Mountain View, 1120 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-941-9206. www.ZimbabweParaguay.org

Dr. Noize family concert Dr. Noize to perform April 4 at the Community School of Music & Arts, a fundraiser for the Los Altos Mountain View Children's Corner Preschool. The event will include a silent auction, wine tasting and activi-

Grand Opening



Happy Hour

Mon-Fri 3-6pm
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ties for the kids before the concert. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. 2:30-5 p.m. \$20. Community School of Music & Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.lamvchildrengcorner.org

Messy Art For Kids Four-week class exploring messy art for kids, such as finger painting and clay. Fridays, through June 5. 10:15-10:45 a.m. \$15 per class. Cubes & Crayons, 152 E. Dana St., Mountain View. Call 650-209-4846. cubes.typepad.com/blog

HEALTH

Free community Reiki treatments Reiki is hands-on healing energy to balance body, mind and soul. Sessions are about 20 minutes given in the order of arrival. Mondays, 7-8:45 p.m. Free. Camelot Center, 1000 Fremont Ave. Ste. 155, Los Altos. Call 650-949-3332. www.camelotcenter.net

ON STAGE

"Oklahoma!" at Graham Graham Performing Arts Association presents the students of Graham's performing-arts department in this classic musical by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Tickets on sale at door. Four performances: Fri/Sat, Mar 27 & 28 and Apr 3 & 4. 7 p.m. \$5 students, \$7 adults. Graham Middle School, 1175 Castro St., Mountain View.

Student-directed One-act Play Festival Foothill Theatre Conservatory Program will present "History in the Faking," one-act vignettes satirizing historical icons. The production's six acts include "Degas C'est Moi;" "Words, Words, Words;" "Variations on the Death of Trotsky;" "The Dark Lady of the Sonnets;" "Chamber Music" and "Do Not Collect \$200." April 10-19, 8-10 p.m. \$14, general; \$12, student/senior; and \$7 for students with Foothill College OwlCard. Foothill College Lohman Theatre, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7360. <http://www.foothill.edu/fa>

OUTDOORS

Spring Wildflowers in Foothills Park Wildflower walk through a variety of habitats. Ages 10 and up. Open to Palo Alto residents and accompanied guests. Sat., April 4, 9:30-11 a.m. Free. Foothills Park, 3300 Page Mill Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-329-2506. enjoyonline.cityofpalto.org

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

Senior Health Chat "Elders as Earth Advocates and Partners with Youth" with Diane Gordon from Hooked on Nature. April 14. Sponsored with non-profits Senior New Ways and Community Services Agency. 1-2:30 p.m. Free. Los Altos Public Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 650-209-1119. www.seniornewways.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

Bay Area Game Jam Bay Area Game Jam, April 4-5 at Microsoft's SV Campus. Grand prize is \$2,500 and publication, distribution and promotion on the Crispy Gamer website. Sat., Apr. 4, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Microsoft Silicon Valley Campus, 1065 La Avenida, Mountain View. Call 412-904-5097. <http://wildpockets-fc.eventbrite.com>

Memories in the Making Auction The auction will include artwork created by artists in the Memories in the Making program, fine wines, travel packages, sports tickets and more. Memories in the Making is a therapeutic art class for those suffering from Alzheimer's. Fri., April 3, 6-9:30 p.m. \$125. Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Call 650-962-8111. www.alz.org/norcal

TALKS/AUTHORS

AAUW Authors' Luncheon and Silent Auction The Los Altos/Mountain View branch of the American Association of University Women will present local authors Cara Black and Meg Waite Clayton speaking about their work. Books will be available for purchase and signing. The event benefits AAUW's Education Foundation. Sat., April 4, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. \$40. Michael's at Shoreline,

2960 North Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. www.aauw-losaltosmountainview.org

L.E. Modesitt at Books Inc. in Mountain View Author of the New York Times bestselling Recluse novels, L.E. Modesitt will visit Books Inc. in Mountain View to read from his book, "Imager: The First Book of the Imager Portfolio." Mon., April 6, 7:30 p.m. free. Books Inc, 301 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-428-1234. <http://www.booksinc.net>

Shilpa Agarwal presents "Haunting Bombay" Shilpa Agarwal will visit Books Inc. in Mountain View to read from her first novel, "Haunting Bombay." Thu., April 9, 7:30 p.m. Free. Books Inc, in Mountain View, 301 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-428-1234. <http://www.booksinc.net>

Technology and Society Committee Luncheon Forum Bruce Karney, green energy community activist and solar photovoltaic marketing and finance expert, discusses his experience as chair of Mountain View's Environmental Sustainability Task Force. The talk, titled "Saving the Planet One City at a Time," will be held on Tue., April 14th, 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>

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Offer only good while supplies last. Not responsible for typographical or pictorial errors. We reserve the right to correct all printed errors.

Mediterranean Grill House

Our Organic Chicken is California grown, veggie fed and raised naturally free. No Hormones, antibiotics or animal bio-products. Our beef is all naturally raised, corn fed from Harris Ranch. Halal meats.

650 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA 94041
Phone: 650.625.9990 Fax: 650.625.9991

De Martini Orchard
www.demartiniorchard.com
66 N. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos
650-948-0881

Open Daily 8am - 7pm
Farm Fresh and Always the Best
Effective 4/1/09 thru 4/7/09

LOCAL GROWN ARTICHOKES TENDER AND MEATY 30 SIZE COASTAL 4 FOR \$3.00	ORGANIC SPECIALS ATUFLO MANGOES 99¢ EA. CLEMINTINE MANDERINE \$1.49 LB SWISS CHARD 99¢ BUN STRAW BERRIES 2 1# BSK FOR \$6.00 FUJI APPLES 99¢ LB.	CALIF. GROWN STRAWBERRIES RIPE RED SWEET AND TASTY 2 1# BSK FOR \$5.00 AVOCADOS CALIF. JUMBO HASS 2 FOR \$4.00 GRAPES SEEDLESS RED OR GREEN \$1.99 LB
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Your Everyday Farmer's Market



Peninsula Easter Services

Los Altos Lutheran Church

From death into life, Good Friday into Easter



Palm Sunday 9:00 AM, April 5th
Celebration with palms & the passion story

Maundy Thursday 7:30 PM, April 9th
Jesus washed their feet & said love one another

Good Friday 2:00 PM, April 10th
Meditating on the mystery of the cross: a service of prayer

Good Friday 7:30 PM, April 10th
Service of shadows: watching & waiting in the night

Easter Party 2:00-4:00 PM, Saturday, April 11th
Bible stories, crafts and egg hunt

The Easter Vigil 6:30 PM, Saturday, April 11th
Walking into light and life: The first Easter service.

Easter Sunday 9:00 & 11:00 AM, April 12th
Easter brunch and children's activity at 10:00 AM

460 South El Monte at Cuesta
650-948-3012 - www.losaltoslutheran.org



Join us to celebrate HOLY WEEK

"Christ in the Passover"
Wed, April 8, 6:30 PM

Good Friday, April 10, 7:00 PM

EASTER, April 12, 9 & 11 AM
*For more info, call 650/494-3840
or visit our website at www.pbc.org*

Peninsula Bible Church
3505 Middlefield Road Palo Alto, California 94306



Grace Lutheran Church ELCA

living in God's amazing grace

3149 Waverley Street · Palo Alto, CA 94306 | 650 494-1212 · www.gracepa.org

Experience the full life-giving
grace of Easter

*Make the journey from
darkness to light,
captivity to freedom,
death to life—
the complete pilgrimage of Holy Week and Easter.*

Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday (4/5 | 8:30 am, 10:45 am)

Easter Vigil (4/11 | 7:30 pm)

Maundy Thursday (4/9 | 7:30 pm)

Easter Sunday (4/12 | 8:30 am, 10:45 am)

Good Friday (4/10 | 12 pm & 7:30 pm)

child care available at all services



First Presbyterian Church
mountain view

You are Invited to Share This Special Time with Us!

April 9 – Maundy Thursday Communion Service
7:00 pm Fellowship Hall
(Joint Service with Open Door Church)

April 10 – Good Friday Service
Noon to 1 pm in the Chapel

April 12 – Easter Sunday & Sunday Service 6:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 am

1667 Miramonte Ave.
(Miramonte at Cuesta)
www.fpcmv.org • 650-968-4473



IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

1715 Grant Rd, Los Altos
650-967-4906

10:00 AM
Palm Sunday

7:00 PM
Maundy Thursday &
Good Friday

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
EASTER



ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH PALO ALTO

Maundy Thursday— April 9

*Monastic Supper & Liturgy of the Word followed
by Holy Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar*

Good Friday — April 10

❖ 6:15pm *Stations of the Cross Reflections*

❖ Noon to 2:00pm *Labyrinth Stations: A Walking Meditation*

❖ 2:00 to 3:00pm *Good Friday Prayer and Meditation*

❖ 7:30 to 8:30pm

Easter — April 12

❖ 5:30am *Easter Vigil, Eucharist & Baptism*

❖ 8:00am *Festive Breakfast & Family Easter Activities*

❖ 10:00am *Festive Holy Eucharist*

600 Colorado Ave, P.A. (650) 326-3800
www.saint-marks.com

HOLY WEEK at FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

600 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto 650-322-4669 www.flcpa.org



Pastor P. Kempton Segerhammar

Where living in Christ means to
Welcome and affirm + Question and learn + Care and serve

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY, April 5

9:00 am Christian Education for All Ages

10:30 am Procession with Palms, Holy Communion

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 9

6:30 pm Light Supper, Word, Foot Washing,
Communion, Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY, April 10

12:00 noon Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm Procession of the Cross

EASTER VIGIL, April 11

8:30 pm Fire, Word, Water, Bread and Wine; Reception following

EASTER MORNING, April 12

9:00 am Easter Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt

10:30 am Festival Holy Communion

Incorporating Excerpts from Handel's Messiah
with instrumental consort

Easter Sunday Schedule at Los Altos Union PC

858 University Ave.
off El Monte Ave.
(650) 948-4361
www.unionpc.org



Palm Sunday, April 5th

9:30am Continental Breakfast
10:00am Joint Service Yes Nursery &
children's classes
11:15am Fellowship light luncheon
7:00pm Drama: "I Will Sing of My Redeemer"

Friday, April 10

6:00pm Soup Supper
7:00pm Tenebrae Service

Easter Sunday: April 12

8:00, 9:30am Breakfast Worship Services,
praise band
11:00am Worship with Choir &
Instrumental Music