

Mountain View VOICE

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INSIDE: WEEKEND | PAGE 16

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Inside this issue
**Spring
Real Estate**
SECTION 2



MICHELLE LE

An egret flies to its nest in a tree growing along Shorebird Way, near the site of Google's proposed bridge.

Google scales back bridge project

By Daniel DeBolt

After prodding from conservationists, Mountain View-based Google is redesigning its bridge project over Stevens Creek, one of the most hotly contested infrastructure projects in recent memory.

Google has axed one of the two elevated automobile bridges over Stevens Creek proposed to carry shuttles to a planned 42-acre campus at NASA Ames for Google's Planetary Ventures division, according to a letter to city officials.

"To confirm Google's intentions going forward, Google has determined that the proposed new vehicle bridge at Crittenden is not required," wrote Google real estate and construction manager John Igoe in the April 3 letter. A pedestrian bridge at Crittenden Lane would also be "deleted completely," Igoe wrote.

The change in direction was applauded by Shani Klainhaus of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society.

"I'm glad Google is no longer considering a vehicular bridge over Crittenden Lane that

would have adverse impacts to Stevens Creek and the wetlands," Kleinhaus said. "We are looking forward to a comprehensive and adequate review of the new proposals for bridges at the Charleston site."

A Google spokesperson said Google considered feedback received, which includes over 100 comments from environmental and conservation groups.

"As we said when we initially introduced this plan, working with the city of Mountain

► See **GOOGLE BRIDGE**, page 7

Coaches kick off Spartan summer camps

By Nick Veronin

In an effort to promote its athletic programs and give coaches a sneak peek at up-and-coming local talent, this summer Mountain View High School is hosting a series of sports day camps for elementary

and middle school students.

Spartan Sports Camp, which begins June 11 and runs through July 27, will be held at Mountain View High School and will feature week-long sessions focused on a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, football, soccer, softball, track and field,

volleyball and water polo, said Ricky Appler, assistant director of the camp.

"(It's) a great opportunity for the school to take a look at the incoming kids," said Ivan Bandov, the varsity girls soccer

► See **SPARTAN CAMP**, page 9

City seeks solutions for Bayshore traffic

By Daniel DeBolt

On Tuesday the City Council took a small step towards addressing the bumper to bumper traffic in and out of Mountain View's business park north of Highway 101, approving a study that will examine alternatives to car travel.

"We're basically going to provide a complete menu of things that can be done," to reduce traffic, said William Hurrell, vice president of CDM Smith, the consultant hired to do the study.

Vice Mayor John Inks, who has voted against funding numerous studies, said he was impressed with CDM Smith's experience as a company and voted in favor of funding the \$325,000 study, which he noted could take 2,000 hours of work.

Several fixes for the traffic on North Shoreline Boulevard, Charleston Road and North Rengstorff Avenue are already being discussed at stakeholder meetings and in an online forum, northbayshorepreciseplan.org, which the city set up for drafting a new North Bayshore's precise plan. The revised plan will be a detailed land use blueprint for future development of North Bayshore.

Expressing some skepticism, Council member Jac Siegel noted that many of the proposed solutions have to do with increased walking and biking.

"I don't think we're going to have 50,000 people a day walking and biking out there," Siegel said, adding that the traffic at several intersections on North Shoreline are already rated at level F, the worst on the scale.

Shuttles are stuck

Many companies in the area, including Google and Microsoft, run shuttles from the downtown transit hub. But "right now the shuttles are stuck in the same traffic that single-occupancy vehicles are," said Public Works Director Mike Fuller.

"I think it's going to be a very interesting project," Hurrell said of the study. He noted a "gradual change in the mentality about traveling," among the younger generation. "Sitting in a car in a traffic jam isn't how they want to spend their life," he said.

'Shuttles are stuck in the same traffic.'

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
MIKE FULLER

Hurrell said that reducing traffic by huge amounts may not be easy.

"It probably isn't realistic to think you'll be able to pull them back to C or D levels or even E," Hurrell said. "When they are at capacity, you essentially cannot move additional traffic. You have to look at alternative ways to move people in and out of the area."

Popular ideas

At the online forum, access to North Bayshore has easily been the most popular topic, with 33 ideas posted. The most popular idea, according to users' votes, is a light rail extension running from downtown to North Bayshore. Judging by the comments, one of the least popular ideas is to estimate the amount of parking needed for North Bayshore and then "double it" to make sure there's plenty.

One forum user said she found the last leg of her trip to North Bayshore, a two-mile stretch from the downtown train station, to be the most difficult.

► See **NORTH BAYSHORE**, page 12

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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in downtown Mountain View. Photos and interviews by Nick Veronin

How do you feel about city ordinances restricting or banning plastic bags?



"I'm totally for the plastic bag ban. I think it's something that people can adapt to. Before the plastic bag ban, I was using reusable bags, but I would always forget them."

Arsala Khan, San Jose



"I think that a plastic bag ban would be great. Surrounding cities are doing it, so people are used to it now. There's no reason not to do it in Mountain View."

Colleen McCallion, Mountain View



"I think a plastic bag ban would be OK with me if it would help clean up the city."

Laura Messerschmitt, San Carlos



"I don't think it helps either way."

Mark Elam, Santa Clara



"I suppose it is good for the environment, but I'm not sure how I feel about it, entirely."

Pauline Slakey, Palo Alto

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■ CRIME BRIEF

MISTAKEN ID IN BIKE ROBBERY ARREST?

The family of a man accused of attempted robbery are insisting that Mountain View police made a mistake.

Craig Jordan, a 31-year-old Sunnyvale resident, was arrested April 14 and accused of attempting to steal a bike from outside Red Rock Coffee, police said.

In an email sent to the *Voice* Jordan's sister, Tiffany, wrote: "The MVPD did not do their job and verify the facts."

Mountain View police arrested Jordan as he was "hiding"

between the Center for the Performing Arts and the Mountain View Library, according to Liz Wylie, a spokeswoman with the MVPD.

Wylie said that Jordan met the description of the thief, as reported by the victim — a Red Rock employee who was punched twice in the face and hit over the head with a bag that contained a heavy object when he attempted to stop his bike from being stolen at about 11:10 a.m.

The victim held on to his bike

► See **CRIME BRIEF**, page 14

■ POLICE LOG

ASSAULT W/ DEADLY WEAPON

200 block Tyrella Av., 4/12

AUTO BURGLARY

100 block Higdon Av., 4/14
Century 16 Cinema, 4/16

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

1900 block W. El Camino Real, 4/11
300 block Ravendale Dr., 4/16

GRAND THEFT

600 block Franklin St., 4/16
900 block High School Wy., 4/16
1000 block La Avenida, 4/17

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

First block Forest Glen Av., 4/16

ROBBERY

200 block Castro St., 4/14
Walgreens on Rengstorff, 4/16

STOLEN VEHICLE

2500 block California St., 4/13
300 block Palo Alto Av., 4/16
300 block Sierra Vista Av., 4/16
1800 block Van Buren Cl., 4/17
1900 block Latham St., 4/17
1900 block Rock St., 4/17

VANDALISM

2000 block California St., 4/13
1800 block California St., 4/16
500 block Escuela Av., 4/16
300 block Ortega Av., 4/16
1100 block Terra Bella Av., 4/17

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Water System Flushing

The City of Mountain View will be flushing the water system in the area bordered by Sunnyvale, Palo Alto, Cuesta Drive and Central Expressway starting in April 2012. Flushing helps to maintain water quality by removing accumulated sand and sediment from the water lines. Signs and barricades will be posted in neighborhoods the day before flushing begins. Flushing is anticipated to be completed by June 30, 2012.

If you would like more information about the City's water system flushing program, or have questions or concerns while City personnel are in your neighborhood, please contact the Public Services Division at (650) 903-6329 or visit the City's website at www.mountainview.gov.

Planning for transitional kindergarten

By Nick Veronin

How should the local school district deal with “young fives,” children who don’t make the birthday cut-off to enroll in kindergarten?

The Mountain View Whisman School District’s board of trustees was set to meet Thursday, April 19, to figure out how best to move forward with its transitional kindergarten program, which will open next year.

Transitional kindergarten aims to help children with late-in-the-year birthdays better adjust to public school by placing them in a class with a curriculum that strikes a balance between preschool and kindergarten.

There are two main options, said Mary Lairon, associate superintendent of MVWSD. The first is to keep the younger, “transitional kindergartners” in an entirely separate class from the older kindergartners. The other option is to mix the two groups.

At the moment, Lairon isn’t firmly in favor of one over the other. “I can see advantages and disadvantages to both models,” she said.

Grouping the children together is the most efficient option and opens the possibility for the younger students to model the behavior of older boys and girls, who would presumably be more mature. The flip side to that coin is that if the younger students are more restless, they might draw their older peers into mischief.

Separating the groups could make the teachers’ jobs a bit more manageable, Lairon said, and ensure that the instructors are able to better concentrate on each child’s educational and developmental needs. However, it does eliminate some of the benefits of the mixed model, while also raising the potential that the district would need to hire additional staff and run more classrooms, depending on how many of each group enroll in the fall.

The concept of a transitional course from pre-school to kindergarten has been around for some time, but lately, it has become a buzzword among California



Jonathan Trent, a NASA scientist, gives a tour of NASA’s Offshore Membrane Enclosure for Growing Algae (OMEGA) system in San Francisco on Tuesday, April 17.

MICHELLE LE

Algae turns waste into fuel

LOCAL NASA SCIENTIST UNVEILS BIOFUEL MODEL USING FLOATING “FARMS”

By Daniel DeBolt

Worried about the scarcity of fossil fuels? Researchers at Mountain View’s NASA Ames say they have a solution.

On Tuesday, NASA Ames scientist Jonathan Trent showed the world what he’s been working on at a San Francisco wastewater treatment plant. He is lead scientist for OMEGA, or Offshore Membrane Enclosure for Growing Algae. It turns out that the same algae that was once buried millions of years ago and produced most of our fossil fuel deposits can be grown to produce vegetable oil at rates much higher than soil crops. That oil can then be turned into diesel fuel and jet fuel.

The fruit of OMEGA’s labor is a floating “photobioreactor” system — “micro-algae” growing inside special flexible and transparent plastic membranes suspended in saltwater as the algae feasts on treated sewage.

Trent says that someday the country’s entire aviation industry could be powered by 10 million acres of oceanic algae farms producing biofuel.

Floating algae farm

On Tuesday researchers introduced the idea of a 1200-acre algae farm floating in the San Francisco Bay to help treat 85

million gallons of wastewater every day leaving the wastewater plant at 750 Phelps St. Trent said such an operation would provide 6,500 gallons of vegetable oil a day, “not a huge amount of oil for a city San Francisco’s size, although it would contribute significantly” to fuel demands.

NASA, which funded OMEGA with \$10 million two years ago, is interested in biofuel to meet demand for aircraft and maybe even spacecraft. Trent said most

said.

Such an operation could affect boating and fishing in the bay, Trent said, but would otherwise pose no threat to the environment, and would in fact help reduce carbon in the atmosphere and remove elements from wastewater that create “dead-zones” in the ocean. Trent said the algae enclosures were even tested with the help of sea lions and sea otters that were trained to bite and jump on the flexible plastic membranes. Trent said any damage to the membranes would result in leakage of biodegradable treated sewage, and the freshwater algae would die in the saltwater instead of becoming an invasive species.

Prototypes at work

At San Francisco’s Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant, the OMEGA team has set up a lab in a trailer, built greenhouses for growing algae and took over a large cement tank once used for traditional sewage treatment. It is now filled with saltwater pumped in from nearby Islais Creek. Several different prototype plastic enclosures float in the tank, some of which were abandoned for better designs. Trent describes the various parts using analogies to the human body. The “heart” is a pump

Someday the country’s entire aviation industry could be powered by oceanic algae farms.

JONATHAN TRENT OF NASA AMES

vehicles on the ground will likely be able to use electricity, but powering aircraft is more difficult.

To supply the 20 billion gallons of jet fuel used by the country’s planes every year would require a piece of the ocean 125 miles long and 125 miles wide. Such an amount would probably be dispersed in ocean waters near major city sewage plants, Trent

Post office renamed for fallen soldier?

By Daniel DeBolt

A Mountain View post office could be renamed in memory of U.S. Army Lt. Ken Ballard, who was killed while serving in Iraq in 2004, Congresswoman Anna Eshoo’s office reported.

Ballard’s mother, Karen Meredith, approached Eshoo with the proposal, according to Eshoo’s office.

Ballard died May 30, 2004 in the An Najaf area of Iraq. The Mountain View High School graduate was 26.

“The tragic loss of First Lieutenant Kenneth Ballard reminds us how appropriate it is to honor our fallen heroes.” Eshoo said in a statement. “That’s why I support the effort of the Mountain View City Council, together with the community, to name a post office after First Lieutenant Ballard.”

Before she will introduce a resolution in Congress to order the name change, Eshoo wants consensus among community members and the council. There has to be support from California’s Congressional delegation. The community must also decide whether to use the main post office on Hope Street or the Miramonte Avenue branch, the congresswoman’s staff said.

Mountain View City Council members briefly discussed the idea Tuesday evening, April 17, before deciding to make it an action item for a future meeting.

Ballard was leading a platoon in Iraq when fighting broke out in April 2004, delaying a trip home he was planning for that month. His original cause of death was “small arms fire” but Army officials later revealed that he had been killed accidentally by the unmanned machine gun on his tank. After his death he was honored at a funeral attended by over 500 people, and he received the Purple Heart. His mother went on to regularly speak out against the Iraq war and made his story and others like it were widely told. ▽

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

Testing to the test

MV WHISMAN DISTRICT WORKING OUT KINKS
IN PRACTICE TESTS

By Nick Veronin

There are still some kinks to be worked out, administrators with the Mountain View Whisman School District said, but the practice tests teachers have been using to prepare students for the end-of-year state-wide exam appear to be contributing to higher scores.

For two years now, students in local elementary and middle schools have been preparing for the California Standards Test by taking practice exams compiled by an education company called Curriculum Associates.

Superintendent Craig Goldman cautioned that two years of data is not enough to conclude with certainty that the practice tests are helping, or will continue to help. However, Goldman said that he is “pleased with the overall growth both in language arts and math scores” since the district introduced the practice exams.

“It’s nice to see that progress is being made,” said Mary Lairon, the district’s associate superintendent. “It’s really helpful in under-

standing what standards have been taught and what standards need to be taught — and what children need to have in terms of additional instruction.”

The tests, which are given once each trimester, cover common California standards. Curriculum Associates has designed the tests to mimic the CST — both in the way the questions are asked and how the tests are administered.

Teachers are able to quickly reference individual student scores and determine who needs to improve and on which topics. In some cases, Goldman noted, teachers have been able to pinpoint types of questions that confuse certain students, such as word problems or story comprehension.

In addition to the practice test’s benefits, both Lairon and Goldman said that they have observed some flaws with the tests — both inherently and in the way teachers have been administering them.

Lairon noted that the Curriculum Associates tests do not have any questions that require a written response.

“Curriculum Associates is just

one piece of the puzzle,” Lairon said. “If I were to create my ideal assessment system, I would create a mix of assessments” — including both written and multiple-choice questions, like the CST has.

Goldman said next year he would like to see teachers be more selective about which portions of the Curriculum Associates tests they give throughout the school year. “I think the tool is useful, but I think it’s worth considering modifications to the tool to fit our needs,” he said.

Over the past two years, the students have been given Curriculum Associates tests that covered material they hadn’t been taught.

It can be useful for a teacher to know if a portion of a given class is ahead of the curve. For everyone else, it can be stressful and damaging to self-esteem when there are questions they don’t understand, Goldman said.

Students need to be able to succeed taking standardized tests; on the other hand, the district needs to make sure it is not wasting time, he said. The test takes about two hours, Goldman noted. “I tend to agree that giving a fairly lengthy assessment to students at the beginning of the year is not creating a lot of benefit.”

“This is a work in progress,” he said. ▀

Legislative analyst: ‘Deny high-speed rail funding’

By Chris Kenrick

California legislators should deny Gov. Jerry Brown’s requests for all but minimal funding for the California High-Speed Rail Authority in the current budget process, the Legislative Analyst’s Office recommended Tuesday, April 17.

The nonpartisan analyst’s office, which provides fiscal and policy advice to the Legislature, said the rail authority has failed to provide sufficient detail and justification for its plan to build a high-speed train system.

“Specifically, funding for the project remains highly speculative and important details have not been sorted out,” Legislative Analyst Mac Taylor said in a 12-page report.

In its most recent business plan, the rail authority projected the first phase of the project will cost \$68 billion. However, the authority has secured only about \$9 billion in voter-approved bond funds and \$3.5 billion in federal funds.

Consistent with the new

business plan, Brown’s 2012-13 budget plan requests \$5.9 billion to continue the project, consisting of \$2.6 billion in state bond funds matched with \$3.3 billion in federal funds to start construction in the Central Valley.

In addition, about \$800 million is requested to improve existing passenger rail services and about \$250 million to complete preliminary design work and environmental reviews for various sections of the project.

“In this brief report, we find that HSRA has not provided sufficient detail and justification to the Legislature regarding its plan to build a high-speed train system,” the analyst said.

“We recommend the Legislature not approve the governor’s various budget proposals to provide additional funding for the project. However, we do recommend that some minimal funding be provided to continue planning efforts that are currently underway.” ▀

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GOOGLE BRIDGE

► Continued from page 1

View and local community and environmental groups would be an important part of the process," the spokesperson said. "We've taken their feedback and come up with a plan that provides environmentally-friendly transportation alternatives in the North Bayshore area."

The initial environmental study for the two-bridge project had come to the conclusion that "no significant contribution to cumulative impacts would occur," but conservationists disagreed.

Conservationists said a new auto bridge from the end of Crittenden Lane in particular would have been unnecessarily harmful to a long list of animals and birds, including the California clapper rail and salt marsh harvest mouse, two "species of concern" that have habitat nearby or have been seen in the area, said Eric Mruz, refuge manager of Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge.

Conservationists noted that one bridge was more than adequate for the amount of traffic proposed, but Google's architects said the two-bridge design would improve circulation of the shuttles among Google's campuses on Charleston and Crittenden

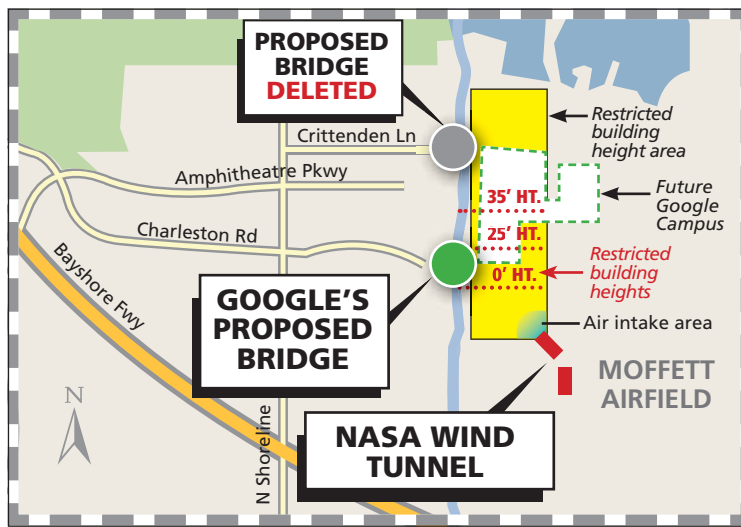
streets. Private auto traffic would not be allowed over the Google-owned bridges.

"To disrupt the creek with two crossings seems totally gratuitous," writes Gita Dev of the Sierra Club, one of 19 groups and individuals who provided comments on the project's initial environmental study, said Kevin Woodhouse, assistant to the city manager.

"Although the project has the effect of reducing single occupancy trips and providing access to emergency response vehicles and VTA vehicles, it achieves these goals at the cost of sacrificing the preservation of open space, view corridors, and avoiding adverse impacts on the creek and marsh," wrote Alice Kaufman of the Committee for Green Foothills.

Mruz had similar comments. "Any bridge built as a part of this project should be built no closer to wetlands than the proposed Charleston Road site," Mruz wrote. "No bridges should be placed at Crittenden Lane."

Kaufman proposed one new vehicle bridge and one new pedestrian bridge Charleston Road. Disabled access and safety improvements should be made to an older existing bridge over the creek at Crittenden Lane, Kaufman said, an idea which Google



Google dropped plans to build one of two proposed bridges accessing its future campus at NASA Ames.

later proposed in its letter.

Large egret colony

While it may be the least problematic bridge, Kleinhaus expressed concern about how the Charleston Road bridge could impact the South Bay's large egret colony in nearby trees. Kleinhaus notes there have recently been 40 nests there for the long-legged, pointy-beaked birds.

"The Charleston Bridge is proposed next to the first in a line of nine city of Mountain View sycamore trees on Shorebird Drive that host an established, thriving egret nesting colony," Kleinhaus

wrote in her comments on the study.

Volunteers with the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory and Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society have been monitoring this colony since 2005, when there were 21 great egret nests, said Kleinhaus. In 2011, there were 40 great egret nests and five snowy egret nests, and it was the largest great egret colony in the South Bay, she said.

"The egret colony is an important natural resource for the City of Mountain View and North Bayshore and, as a source of Great and Snowy Egrets, to

the entire region. Intentional or accidental eviction of this colony would not be acceptable to the birding community of our region," Kleinhaus wrote.

Wind tunnel impacts

According to its official comments, the U.S. Air Force is also concerned about impacts of the Charleston Road bridge, but not to wildlife.

The Air Force operates the world's largest wind tunnel nearby for testing full scale airplane aerodynamics, and wants assurance that no disruptive turbulence from any structure within a certain range of the tunnel's large mouth, which inhales fresh Bay air from across the wetlands.

"Highly turbulent atmospheric winds can increase the test section turbulence intensity to unacceptable levels," says a 1987 memo about the wind tunnel from NASA official Jim Ross. "Atmospheric turbulence is much larger when the wind blows over buildings than over open fields." He adds that the effect was found by researchers who created a 1/15 scale model of the wind tunnel.

Ross's memo also outlines building restrictions in front of the wind tunnel which impose a height limit of 25 to 35 feet on the Bayview parcel where Google has planned its 42-acre campus. ■

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Huff principal leaving for Menlo Park

By Nick Veronin

Huff Elementary School is preparing to bid farewell to Principal Sharon Burns.

Her new boss will be a familiar face. Burns will take over as principal of Encinal School, provided the Menlo Park City School District's board of trustees approves, Superintendent Maurice Ghysels announced April 16.

In an email sent to Huff families, Burns wrote that she had accepted the new job.

Ghysels, the former Mountain View Whisman School District superintendent, who now heads the Menlo Park district, said he was "thrilled" to announce his recommendation of Burns for the job.

Ghysels, who was superintendent during Burns' tenure as a special assignment teacher and her first two years as principal, noted her accomplishments in

the position.

"During her four years as principal at Huff, Sharon has overseen the training and certification of all teachers in Gifted and Talented Education (GATE), while at the same time achieving a 30-point API increase for Latino students (and an 11-point overall increase for the school, taking Huff to a 942 API)," Ghysels wrote.

While Ghysels expressed elation, Craig Goldman, the current superintendent of Mountain View Whisman, shared mixed emotions.

"Sharon has been an outstanding member of the Mountain View Whisman community for the last 11 years," Goldman said. "Although we are disappointed to see her go, we support her decision to pursue new opportunities."

"I consider myself lucky that I have been able to spend so many years in the district and at Huff," Burns wrote in her email. "As

a teacher, then principal, I have had the opportunity to work with amazing staff, students and families.

Burns holds a bachelor's degree in education and environmental science and a master's degree in education.

Goldman said his district has already posted a classified advertisement for the position on edjoin.org, a leading California public education job board.

The job will be listed until May 3, Goldman said. The district will likely interview internal and outside candidates for the position; teachers, parents and administrators will all be involved in choosing a handful of applicants before the administration makes a final recommendation to the board of trustees, who have the final say.

"If all goes well," Goldman said, the administration will make a recommendation by May 17. ■

WIN A HOUSECLEANING for a Deserving Mother!

Do you know a mother who lives in the Mountain View, Los Altos or Palo Alto area who could benefit from having her house cleaned by professionals?

Whether it's a busy younger mom with children and not a lot of time, or an older mom who still works and takes care of her family but is not as mobile as she once was, tell us about the person you think should receive this award.

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Send your entry with contact information to custsrv4150@merrymaids.net, subject "Merry Maid Mom" by April 30th and your nominee could win four weeks of free cleanings by Merry Maids of Mountain View. The winner will be contacted on May 14th and named in the May 18th edition of the *Mountain View Voice*!

Single-Use Bag Ordinance



Environmental Impact Assessment

Cities throughout Santa Clara and San Mateo counties are joining together to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a proposed single-use carryout bag ordinance.

The EIR is the first step in a process to help cities evaluate environmental issues before considering a single-use carryout bag ordinance in their community.

Such an ordinance would ban plastic single-use bags and require a charge for paper single-use bags at retail stores, excluding restaurants.

Please join us at one of these nearby meetings to learn about the EIR process and provide input for the scope of work. You may also email comments to: cleung@smcgov.org.

April 25, 2012
6:00 PM

City Council Chambers
500 Castro St., 2nd Floor
Mountain View

May 2, 2012
6:00 PM

Campbell Library
77 Harrison Ave.
Campbell

May 3, 2012
2:00 PM

Barbara Lee Senior Center
40 N. Milpitas Bl., Rm 140
Milpitas



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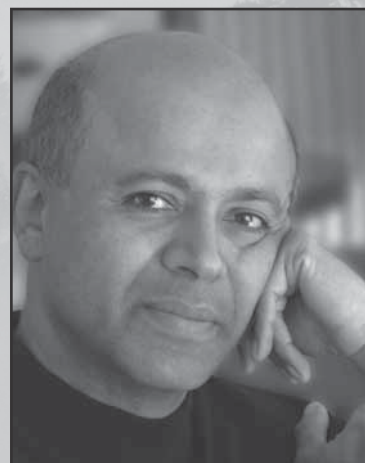


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SPARTAN CAMP

► Continued from page 1

coach. “From a coaching perspective you get to work with the kids who may be coming into the high school. Even if we just work with them for a week, we can teach them a lot.”

Each session will be run by a Mountain View High School coach, or a student athlete, Appler said. The high school coaches run the camps for the middle-schoolers; these camps will focus on a single sport for the entire week. High school student athletes will run the sessions for the third, fourth and fifth graders; children in these camps will play a number of sports.

The idea is to familiarize the coaches with young local athletes and vice-versa.

Gil Cordero, basketball coach for the freshman and sophomore boys at MVHS, wondered why the school hadn't started a camp like this before.

Cordero, who coached Pop Warner Youth Football for 30 years, noted, “When I have contact with an athlete at a young age, I feel there is a bond there.” Such bonds make the relationship between the player

and coach stronger, and often result in better performance on the field, he said. “It's an advantage.”

Not only does Appling hope coaches will get a better sense of who may be playing on future Spartan teams, he hopes that the camp will bring more local teen athletes into the MVHS athletics program.

“St. Francis has been the powerhouse in sports around here,” Appling said. “We want Mountain View to be on par athletically. We want the programs to get better.”

A large part of getting better, according to Cordero and Ivan, is simply attracting more talented players. Because of St. Francis' strong reputation in both academics and athletics, many local kids jump from the local public middle schools to St. Francis when they graduate from eighth grade.

“It's a challenge” when so many great players that would have otherwise become Spartans choose to play for the Lancers instead, Bandov said.

“They (St. Francis) have reserve players that could be starters at many public schools,” Cordero said.

He said he is optimistic that

having access to high school coaches at the Spartan Sports Camp might nudge some young athletes and their parents toward MVHS. “Not a lot of camps offer coaching from the high school level. It's a good way to get involved before you enter high school.”

Two promotional “clinics” are being held Saturday, April 21, and Sunday, May 6, to help spread the word about the camp, Appler said. The clinics will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., are open to boys and girls, and will conclude with a free pizza lunch. Both events will focus on basketball strategy, technical and tactical drills, and scrimmages.

“We just want to give them an idea about what the camp will be like,” Appler said. Appler, along with camp director Doug Wiersig will be accepting registrants at both of the clinics. Those who sign up on either day will be eligible for a discount on the price of camp tuition, he said.

The multiple-sport camps for the younger kids cost \$250 per week; single-sport camps are \$275; and a strength and conditioning camp is \$215. More information is available at www.spartanssportscamp.com. ■

NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that for the purpose of pre-qualification, sealed Responsibility Questionnaires will be received by the Board of trustees of the Mountain View – Los Altos Union High School District up until the close of business on the date indicated below for:

Project Description:

Tennis Court Repairs at Mountain View High School

Pre-Qualification Packages Due Date and Time: April 27, 2012 at 2pm at Kramer Project Development Company, Inc., attention Matt Hannigan, 4040 Moorpark Avenue #128, San Jose, CA 95117.

Pre-Qualification of Trade Contractors

In order to receive plans and bid, Trade Contractors must possess a current and active license to perform the work listed, submit and certify the required Responsibility Questionnaire information and be pre-qualified by the District. All contractors must have substantiated K-12 public school project experience and previous experience with tennis court construction and repairs to be prequalified.

A. Earthwork and Paving Trades A or C-12 license required

Only Pre-Qualified Contractors will be permitted to bid. Pre-Qualified Contractors will be required to attend a mandatory Pre-Bid Conference scheduled for Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at 2pm at the District Office of the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District, 1299 Bryant Avenue, Mountain View, CA. Opening of the sealed bids submitted by pre-qualified bidders is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2012 at 2pm. Bidding documents will be available to pre-qualified contractors on or about May 1, 2012. Pre-qualified contractors are advised to verify dates and times of the mandatory pre-bid conference and bid opening prior to the above listed dates. Responsibility Questionnaires and instructions for submission can be obtained by calling Matt Hannigan at (408) 246-6237 or by email matt@kramerpdc.com. Contracts will require a 100% performance bond, a 100% Labor and Materials Bond and a Bid Security in the amount of 10% of the submitted bid. These projects are subject to the State Labor Code. Labor Code 1720-1816 regarding the payment of prevailing wages and submission of certified payroll statements will be enforced. Contractors are allowed according to PCC sec. 22300 to submit securities in lieu of retention.



**CITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE
AT HOMES
May 5**

**COMMUNITY YARD SALE
AT RENGSTORFF PARK
May 12**

**Register by April 20
Online or Use Form on Back**

www.MVrecycle.org / 650.903.6227



MAY 1, 2012 | PALO ALTO, CA

Learn from the people and companies who invented social media!

Learn directly from industry leaders how to connect with potential customers and maintain relationships with your loyal customers. We will have guest speakers from Facebook, Google, LinkedIn, Twitter and others to help you navigate the world of social media. If you're new to social networking, you'll learn all that you need to get started. If you have experience, even better! You'll learn all kinds of time-saving tricks and have your questions answered.

Tuesday, May 1, 2012
Registration: 7:00am - 8:00am
Conference: 8:00am - 5:00pm
Networking Reception: 5:00pm - 7:30pm

Chamber member price: \$197
Standard ticket price: \$297

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socialmediaconference2012](http://www.chambermv.org/socialmediaconference2012)

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GUIDE TO 2012 SUMMER CAMPS FOR KIDS

Camp Connection

Summer 2012

For more information about these camps, see our online directory of camps at <http://paloaltoonline.com/biz/summercamps/>. To advertise in a weekly directory, contact 650-326-8210

Athletics

Bald Eagle Camps

Bald Eagle Camps is the only camp Approved by the nationally recognized Positive Coaching Alliance, teaching their principles to every camper through our Certified Coaches. We offer 3 uniquely FUN Summer Camps, each of which exude our encouraging team culture: Non-Traditional Sports Camp (1st-8th), Basketball Camp (3rd-8th), and Leadership Camp (7th-8th only). Come experience our positive atmosphere, great coaching, unique structure, inspiring life message and 5-STAR service. Bald Eagle Camps is guaranteed to be a highlight of your child's summer.

www.baldeaglecamps.com

Mountain View

888-505-2253

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Join us this summer for fantastic and fun filled week with our beautiful horses and ponies! Each day Campers have riding instruction, develop horsemanship skills, create fun crafts and enjoy with our kids' jump course. In addition, campers learn beginning vaulting, visit our Full Surgical Vet Clinic, and much more! Voted the best horse camp by discerning young campers. Choose English, Western or Cowboy/Cowgirl. Ages 5-15 welcome. Convenient close-in Menlo Park location and online Registration and Payment with either PayPal or Google Checkout.

www.CaliforniaRidingAcademy.com

or JumpsForJoy@CaliforniaRidingAcademy.com for more information

650-740-2261

Champion Tennis Camp

CTC programs provide an enjoyable way for your child to begin learning the game of tennis or to continue developing existing skills. Our approach is to create lots of fun with positive feedback and reinforcement in a nurturing tennis environment. Building self-esteem and confidence through enjoyment on the tennis court is a wonderful gift a child can keep forever! Super Juniors Camps, ages 4 - 6. Juniors Camps, ages 6 - 14.

www.alanmargot-tennis.com

650-400-0464

Earl Hansen Football Camp

No tagline, no logo, just football. Earl Hansen Football camp is a non-contact camp for participants ages 9 to 14. Develop fundamental skills with proven drills and techniques. Sessions are 9:30 to 3:00, July 30 to August 3. Save 10% with Early Bird registration through April 30. Four morning practice days and 7 on 7 games in the afternoon. Lunch provided daily. Palo Alto High School Football Field.

www.earlhansenfootballcamp.com

650-269-7793

Glenoaks Stables' Horse Camp Portola Valley

Giddy up your summer at Glenoaks Stables' horse camp. Each full day of equestrian fun includes supervised riding, horsemanship, vaulting, pony games and arts & crafts. 6 one-week sessions. All skill levels welcome, ages 6+.

www.glenoaksequestriancenter.com/summercamps.htm

650-854-4955

Kim Grant Tennis Academy &

Summer Camps

Fun and Specialized junior camps for Mini (3-5), Beginner, Intermediate 1&2, Advanced and Elite Players. Weekly programs designed by Kim Grant to improve players technique, fitness, agility, mental toughness and all around tennis game. Camps in Palo Alto, Menlo Park and Redwood City. Come make new friends and have tons of FUN!!

www.KimGrantTennis.com

650-752-8061

Nike Tennis Camps

Dick Gould's 43rd Annual Stanford Tennis School offers day camps for both juniors & adults. Weekly junior overnight & extended day camps run by John Whitlinger & Lele Forood. Junior Day Camp run by Brandon Coupe & Frankie Brennan.

www.USSportsCamps.com/tennis

1-800-NIKE-CAMP
(645-3226)

Oshman JCC

Exciting programs for preschool and grades K-12 include swimming, field trips, crafts and more. Enroll your child in traditional camp, or specialty camps like Pirates, Archery, Runway Project, Kid TV and over 25 others!

www.paloaltojcc.org/camps

650-223-8622

Palo Alto Elite Volleyball Club Summer Camp

Girls Volleyball - fastest growing, non-impact sport for girls, emphasizing team work. Camp provides age appropriate fundamentals; setting, hitting, passing, serving, plus; offense vs defense strategy and learning rotations. 3rd - 12th grades (separate camps). High coach to player ratio. Email: info@paloaltoelite.com

www.paloaltoelite.com

Spartans Sports Camp

Spartans Sports Camp offers multi-sport, week-long sessions for boys and girls in grades 3-5 as well as sport-specific sessions for grades 6-9. There are also strength and conditioning camps for grades 6-12. Camps begin June 11th and run weekly through July 27th at Mountain View High School. The camp is run by MVHS coaches and student-athletes and all proceeds benefit the MVHS Athletic Department. Lunch and extended care are available for your convenience. Spartans Sports Camp is also hosting two free basketball clinics on April 21st and May 6th from 10 am - 1 pm. Register today for the camps and free clinics on our website!

www.SpartansSportsCamp.com

650-479-5906

Spring Down

Equestrian Center

Spring Down camp teaches basic to advanced horsemanship skills. Ages 6-99 welcome! Daily informative lecture, riding lesson, supervised hands-on skill practice, safety around horses, tacking/untacking of own camp horse, and arts/crafts.

www.springdown.com

650.851.1114

Stanford Water Polo Camps

Ages 7 and up. New to the sport or have experience, we have a camp for you. Half day or full day option for boys and girls. All the camps offer fundamental skill work, position work, scrimmages and games.

stanfordwaterpolocamps.com

650-725-9016

Summer at Saint Francis

Sports & Activity Camp (ages 6-12): This all sports camp provides group instruction in a variety of field, water and court games. Saint Francis faculty and students staff the camp, and the focus is always on fun. The program is dedicated to teaching teamwork, sportsmanship and positive self-esteem. After camp care and swim lessons available.

www.sfhs.com/summer

650-968-1213 x650

Summer at Saint Francis

Advanced Sports Camps (5th-9th grades): We offer a wide selection of advanced sports camps designed to provide players with the opportunity to improve both their skill and knowledge of a specific sport. Each camp is run by a Head Varsity Coach at Saint Francis, and is staffed by members of the coaching staff.

www.sfhs.com/summer

650-968-1213 x650

YMCA of Silicon Valley

Say hello to summer fun at the YMCA! Choose from enriching day or overnight camps in 35 locations: arts, sports, science, travel, and more. For youth K-10th grade. Includes weekly fieldtrips, swimming and outdoor adventures. Accredited by the American Camp Association. Financial assistance available.

www.ymcasv.org/summercamp

408-351-6400

Academics

Galileo

Learning

Galileo Learning operates award-winning summer day camps at 31 Bay Area locations. Camp Galileo (pre-K - rising 5th graders): Inspires campers to bring their ideas to life through art, science and outdoor activities. Galileo Summer Quest (rising 5th - 8th graders): Campers dive into exciting majors like Chefology and Video Game Design.

www.galileo-learning.com

1-800-854-3684

Los Altos/Palo Alto/Menlo Park/

Woodside/Hillsborough

ALGAE FUEL

► Continued from page 5

that pushes the wastewater into the photobioreactors, which are analogous to a "digestive system." Then there's the "lungs" which make sure the algae have the right amount of carbon dioxide and not too much oxygen.

The algae can produce 5,000 gallons of oil per acre every year, which is much more than the 600 gallons a year produced by the best biofuel crops grown on land.

It's an important point that algae farming "would not compete with agriculture because the algae would not use the water, fertilizer or land," Trent said. A criticism of biofuel production is food shortages affecting millions of people because of farmland being devoted to biofuel crops.

It's possible the algae could be grown on fallow desert land, but

Trent said the cost of bringing water to such farms would make it less worthwhile economically. Being able to treat wastewater with such a system is also a major contributor to potential financial viability.

Trent acknowledges that micro-algae will never be able to compete with oil supplies in the earth, as long as one oil well can produce 144,000 gallons a year. But when that oil dries up, or before then, he says NASA is willing to contribute its knowledge from the "open source" project to commercial companies.

There's no word yet on whether an investors have stepped up to fund such an algae farm in San Francisco Bay. When asked if there were investors, OMEGA project manager Steven Ord said, "The idea is to get the word out so people can take the next step." ▽

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

NORTH BAYSHORE

► Continued from page 1

According to 511.org, the trip takes 45 minutes at midday and requires catching two different bus lines and walking several minutes between stops.

"Often, I've wanted to use transit and could commute to Mountain View but am stuck

because of lack of options for the 'last leg' (2.1 miles) from downtown to the office in North Bayshore," she writes. "I hate traffic on the 101. And transit, even if it takes a little longer, is less stressful and I can read a book on the train." ▽

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

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www.mathnasium.com/mountainviewlosaltos

K - 12th GRADES • HOMEWORK HELP • SUMMER PROGRAMS

(continued on next page)

Wild for Rengstorff House weddings

By Daniel DeBolt

Is it a sign of the local economy's health or a fashion trend? The number of weddings planned for the Rengstorff House this year is double what it was last year.

A bridal fair is set to draw attention to Mountain View's most popular wedding location on April 21, though it hardly seems to need it.

The city is one booking away this year from hitting the 2005-2006 record of 42 event rentals at the Rengstorff House, said senior recreation coordinator Kristina Perino. Only 21 bookings were made last year.

"Rengstorff House Unveiled" will bring the local wedding industry to the restored 1867 home of Henry Rengstorff in Shoreline Park for a bridal fair on Saturday, April 21, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. There will be twice as many vendors as last year's event: a throng of florists, caterers, photographers, makeup artists, cake-bakers, wedding organizers and consultants, limo services and even a company that specializes

in renting vintage ware. There will also be free caterer tastings.

The event is also pitched as an open house, showcasing the "hip, vintage and price-conscious" Rengstorff House venue, which accommodates 150 people. Surrounded by a 750-acre park, it is "one of the finest examples of Victorian Italianate architecture on the West Coast," according to Perino.

Renting the Rengstorff House on a weekend costs \$200 an hour.

Perino said this summer's "prime" Saturday dates are booked up for the house, and there's already interest in the summer of 2013.

For more info on the event or rentals, or to RSVP, call (650) 903-6088 or email RHouseRentals@mountainview.gov

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM
Joining today
SupportLocalJournalism.org

Vote NO on June Bond G

new School Taxes (\$198 M + interest)

* **Citizen priorities & timeline before new taxes.**

More citizen input to develop priorities and timelines was originally promised. Superintendent did not deliver!

* **\$198 M budget/\$423 M Plan = 47%: less than half** of the funds for the Facilities Plan are in the June Bond.

There is a **\$225 M shortfall!** Like High Speed Rail, a **Bloated Sow!** (SFIP pg. 7)

* **smaller elementary schools/ NOT LARGER** were a "goal" but will not be delivered.

* **NEIGHBORHOOD access to schools?** But Whisman/Slater kids still have no promised school or promised \$\$\$.

* **REUSE more classrooms / DEMOLISH less classrooms** is a great way to save \$\$\$, but not in this Facilities Plan.

* **\$10 M new DISTRICT OFFICE** is not a "Student" Facility!

* **Ineffective oversight is common.** Trustee Walter promised to "maintain small class sizes," Superintendent Goldman instead delivered retention of "custodians."

SFIP \$ pg. 7 and pg. 34: the \$ and the promise

Architect's fire safety



Demolition of classrooms

In "Google Maps"

<http://g.co/maps/4re6m>



We want a November Bond **ONLY AFTER** a "7-11" community committee!

Paid for by: NO on **June Bond** Measure G FPPC# 1345976

GUIDE TO 2012 SUMMER CAMPS FOR KIDS

Camp Connection

Summer 2012

For more information about these camps, see our online directory of camps at <http://paloaltoonline.com/biz/summercamps/>. To advertise in a weekly directory, contact 650-326-8210

(continued from previous page)

Academics

GASPA German

Summer School Camp

Learn German by way of Fairytale! GASPA is taking Summer Camp into the world of fairy tales and everything that comes with it...in German of course! Offering a 4 week program for children ages 3-12.

www.gaspa-ca.org

Menlo Park

650-520-3646

Harker Summer Programs

K-12 offerings taught by exceptional, experienced faculty and staff. K-6 morning academics - focusing on math, language arts and science - and full spectrum of afternoon recreation. Grades 6-12 for-credit courses and non-credit enrichment opportunities. Sports programs also offered.

www.summer.harker.org

San Jose

408-553-0537

iD Tech Camps -

Summer Tech Fun!

Take hobbies further! Ages 7-17 create iPhone apps, video games, movies, and more at weeklong, day and overnight programs held at Stanford and 60+ universities in 27 states.. Also 2-week, Teen-only programs: iD Gaming Academy, iD Programming Academy, and iD visual Arts Academy (filmmaking & photography).

www.internalDrive.com

1-888-709-TECH (8324)

Stanford

iD Teen Academies

Learn different aspects of video game creation, app development, filmmaking, photography, and more. 2-week programs where ages 13-18 interact with industry professionals to gain competitive edge. iD Gaming Academy, iD Programming Academy, and iD Visual Arts Academy are held at Stanford, and other universities.

www.iDTeenAcademies.com

1-888-709-TECH (8324)

Stanford

ISTP's Language Immersion Summer Camp

ISTP Summer Camp is designed to give participants a unique opportunity to spend their summer break having fun learning or improving in a second language. Students are grouped according to both grade level and language of proficiency. Our camp offers many immersion opportunities and consists of a combination of language classes and activities taught in the target language. Sessions are available in French, Mandarin, Chinese and English ESL and run Monday through Friday, 8am-3:30pm, with additional extending care from 3:30-5:30pm.

www.istp.org

650-251-8519

Mid-Peninsula High School

Summer Program

Mid-Peninsula High School offers a series of classes and electives designed to keep students engaged in learning. Class Monday-Thursday and limited to 15 students. Every Thursday there's a BBQ lunch. The Science and Art classes will have weekly field trips.

www.mid-pen.com

650-321-1991 x110

Menlo Park

SuperCamp

Increases Grades, Confidence and Motivation. Academic pressure to stand out. Social pressure to fit in. It's not easy being a high school or middle school student. Straight A or struggling, kids are overwhelmed by homework, activities, and technology distractions. SuperCamp provides strategies to help kids succeed. Bobbi DePorter created SuperCamp to empower kids. Now in its 30th year with 64,000 graduates, SuperCamp builds study skills, self-esteem, and test scores. SuperCamp works. Parent Patty M. says, "We saw a jump in grades ... the things she learned about her worth are of lasting value."

www.supercamp.com

1-800-285-3276.

Stanford

Summer at Saint Francis

Summer at Saint Francis provides a broad range of academic and athletic programs for elementary through high school students. It is the goal of every program to make summer vacation enriching and enjoyable!

www.sfhs.com/summer

650-968-1213 x446

Mountain View

Synapse School & Wizbots

Cutting-edge, imaginative, accelerated, integrated, and hands-on academic summer enrichment courses with independent in-depth, project-based morning and afternoon week-long programs for children ages 4-12. Young Explorers, Thinking Math, Leonardo da Vinci's Inventions, Nature Connections, Girls' & Soccer Robotics, and more!

synapseschool.org/curriculum/summer

Menlo Park

650-866-5824

Write Now!

Summer Writing Camps

Emerson School of Palo Alto and Hacienda School of Pleasanton open their doors and offer their innovative programs: Expository Writing, Creative Writing, Presentation Techniques, and (new!) Media Production. Call or visit our website for details. Also Pleasanton.

www.headsup.org

650-424-1267, 925-485-5750

Palo Alto

Arts, Culture and Other Camps

Community School of

Music & Arts (CSMA)

50+ creative camps for Gr. K-8! Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Musical Theater, American Idol Workshop, more! Two-week sessions; full and half-day enrollment. Extended care available. Financial aid offered.

www.arts4all.org

650-917-6800 ext. 0

Mountain View

Creative Kids Camp

Children entering Grades 1 to 8 are invited to explore the arts July 16 - 20, 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Workshops available in guitar, dance, voice, and songwriting. Put together a musical from start to finish. Performance on Friday night. Register online.

www.mppc.org

650-323-8647

India Community Center Palo Alto/ Sunnyvale/ Milpitas/Olema

Join ICC's Cultural Camps which give campers a quick tour of India and its vibrant culture. These camps include arts, crafts, folk dance, bollywood dance, music, yoga, Indian history and geography. Over 10 different camps all through the summer for Grades K-12. To register or for more details visit:

www.indiacc.org/camps

408-934-1130 ext. 225

Pacific Art League

Art camps are fun, and stimulate visual perception and cognitive thinking. Week-long camps are available for kids and teens 5 - 18, from June 18 to August 19, including Glass Fusing, Cartooning, Printmaking and Claymation.

www.pacificartleague.org

650.321.3891

Palo Alto,

Palo Alto Community

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Local News

CRIME BRIEF

► Continued from page 4

and the thief let go, Wylie said, but not before he threatened to come back and harm the victim. Then he ran into the parking lot behind Red Rock, Wylie said.

Police say Jordan was in possession of drugs, Wylie said. He was arrested on charges of attempted robbery, making criminal threats, possession of methamphetamine, possession of a methamphetamine pipe and resisting arrest.

The victim suffered cuts, scratches and welts on his face and head, said Wylie.

According to Jordan's sister, the accused Sunnyvale man had nothing to do with the crime.

"Never did the police verify that (Craig) worked on Castro (Street) and had reason to be walking the route he was, nor did they check the receipt in his pocket that places him at CVS prior to when the police stopped him," she wrote.

She said her brother has been

"fighting a methamphetamine addiction for many years, but has been trying to turn his life around."

Wylie responded that the time on the CVS receipt was around 10 minutes later than the time of the robbery. In the drugstore's security footage, Jordan can clearly be seen entering the store with a black bag of similar shape and size as the one the victim said he was hit in the head with, Wylie said.

—Nick Veronin

KINDERGARTEN

► Continued from page 5

educators. In 2010, state legislators passed the Kindergarten Readiness Act, in an effort to address the issue of children entering kindergarten before they were ready for the public school setting.

The act will eventually move the kindergarten enrollment cut off date up from Dec. 2 to Sept. 1, and require all elementary schools

in the state to offer transitional kindergarten to all students born between Sept. 2 and Dec. 2.

School districts throughout the state have a few years to fully implement the new cutoff date. MVWSD plans to move the date back by one month incrementally each school year. In the 2012-13 session, the district will begin accepting transitional kindergartners born between Dec. 2 and Nov. 2.

Transitional kindergarten is not a requirement, so, if parents feel a child is not ready for school, they don't have to send them, even if they are eligible.

If the district were to go with the grouping option, administrators propose putting one transitional kindergarten class at both Castro and Theuerkauf.

Combination classes could be put at multiple campuses yet to be determined. ■

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Viewpoint

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- YOUR LETTERS
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Managing Editor *Andrea Gemmet*

Staff Writers *Daniel DeBolt, Nick Veronin*

Photographer *Michelle Le*

Contributors *Dale Bentson, Angela Hey, Sheila Himmel, Jennifer Pence, Ruth Schecter, Alissa Stallings*

Design & Production

Design Director *Raul Perez*

Designers *Linda Atilano, Lili Cao, Shannon Corey, Diane Haas, Paul Llewellyn, Scott Peterson*

Advertising

Vice President Sales and Marketing

Tom Zahiralis

Advertising Representatives

Judie Block, Brent Triantos

Real Estate Account Executive

Rosemary Lewkowicz

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Samantha Mejia

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450 Cambridge Avenue
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Email news and photos to:
editor@MV-Voice.com
Email letters to:
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News/Editorial Department
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Member, Mountain View Chamber of Commerce



■ WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

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

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■ EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Google bridges hit a few obstacles

Back in December, the City Council blessed a deal from Google to build two bridges across Stevens Creek leading from the company's Bayshore complex to a 42-acre parcel it owns at NASA-Ames. The bridges were to be used by shuttles, emergency vehicles, bikes and pedestrians and be a key link to company headquarters for the 5,000 employees expected to work in a 1.2 million square foot office building at the site.

But despite an initial environmental assessment that found "no significant contributions to cumulative impacts" a flood of letters from conservationists has convinced Google to pull the plug on one bridge, at Crittenden Drive, and place all its chips in the Charleston Road bridge—which has its own problems.

Early in the process Google assured the city that the bridges would be open to full public access for walkers, cyclists, public transit buses and police and fire trucks. The company planned to own and maintain the structures for 50 years, when they would revert to the city. And the key factor was that the bridges would be large enough to carry shuttle buses to and from the Ames campus.

But the reassuring words of Google real estate and construction manager John Igoe, who said at a Civility Roundtable event in October that "enhancing the environment...enhancing the wetlands...is the responsibility of the company," came full circle when a fusillade of criticism from conservationists claimed the Crittenden bridge would unnecessarily harm many animals and birds. Among the "species of concern" are the California clapper rail and the salt marsh harvest mouse that have habitats near the bridge site or have been seen in the area.

"To disrupt the creek with two crossings seems totally gratuitous," said one Sierra Club member who wrote about the bridge.

"Any bridge built as part of this project should be built no closer to wetlands than the proposed Charleston Road site," said Eric Mruz, refuge manager of the Don Edwards National Wildlife Refuge.

But there were other comments that could spell trouble for the Charleston bridge as well, due to a sizable egret colony. The birds roost in nine city-owned sycamore trees on Shorebird Drive. Some 40 nests have been counted not far from where the bridge would be built, raising more concerns. In 2011, 40 great egret nests and five snowy egret nests were counted, making it the largest egret colony in the South Bay, according to Shani Klainhaus of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society.

And if that were not enough, the U.S. Air Force filed official comments saying it is concerned about the potential impact of a bridge at Charleston on the airflow to its large wind tunnel on Moffett Field. Full-scale airplane surfaces are tested in the tunnel and the Air Force wants assurances that no turbulence from a bridge will disrupt the flow of air to the large mouth of its tunnel, which sucks in air from a wide expanse of wetlands.

Given these latest concerns the city should call for further environmental study of the Charleston bridge to make sure that wildlife in the area and the egrets can be protected, as well as the airflows to the Air Force wind tunnel. These are serious questions that did not arise in the initial assessment. Google apparently believes a one-bridge project can be implemented without serious impacts. We hope so, but the environmental studies should be done before, not after, the project is built.

■ LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

DRIVE LESS CHALLENGE KICKS OFF MONDAY

For the third consecutive year, Mountain View is a participating city with the regional Drive Less Challenge event which takes place from April 22 to May 5.

The Challenge, using a web-based reporting tool and user interface, encourages participants to try alternatives to driving alone, such as public transit, biking, walking, and carpooling. The goal is to promote health, quality of life, and environmentally-sustainable transportation behavior by reducing solo car trips.

Ultimately, we hope that by making it more fun and social to try new travel modes, participants

will continue their new travel practices, even after the Challenge period ends. And we hope that as many people as possible who live and work in Mountain View will consider participating.

Prizes of gift cards or certificates will be issued to those who win in various categories, with the prizes provided by retail businesses within each participating city. A few Mountain View sponsors are on board already and we would like to hear from others. Interested business owners or managers can contact us at drivelesschallenge@gmail.com.

Bruce England
Drive Less Challenge organizer for Mountain View Whisman Station Drive

■ TOWN SQUARE VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

City considers plastic bag ban

Posted by *Mike Laursen*, a resident of the *Monta Loma neighborhood*

We'll make sure to bring our reusable bag to carry home the plastic trash.

Posted by *Nikonbob*, a resident of the *Old Mountain View neighborhood*

An estimated 7 million tons of plastic waste is dumped in the ocean every year. Plastic bags and other plastic wastes choke almost 1 million marine animals. Americans generate more than 10.5 million tons of plastic waste every year, and they recycle only 2 percent of it. At some point we have to think about how our actions impact the world we were given. This has nothing to do with "freedom." At least the City Council gets it.

Posted by *Jane*, a resident of the *North Whisman neighborhood*

Wow! Plastic bags were introduced in the 1970s. They are petroleum-based and even though stores such as Safeway have bins outside the stores for bag recycling, if you watch most stores (I was involved in a project which was interested in bag recycling) most of the time the bags were just dumped into the trash dumpster. For decades people brought their own bags for shopping and it is common in most parts of the world. Now plastic bags litter many places that were formerly litter-free. Shouldn't the U.S. be leading the world in cleaning up and using resources wisely?



- RESTAURANT REVIEW
- MOVIE TIMES
- BEST BETS FOR ENTERTAINMENT



VERONICA WEBER

Pastis, a new French bistro in Palo Alto, offers a classic frisée aux lardons salad topped with a poached egg.

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Practically Parisian

PASTIS IS ONE OF THE MOST AUTHENTIC FRENCH DINING EXPERIENCES AROUND

By Dale F. Benton

I thought I'd eaten in this pocket-sized bistro before. Was it in Montmartre, or was it near the Place des Vosges? Could it have been in Aix-en-Provence? Lyon? It really didn't matter. Pastis Bistro, on California Avenue in Palo Alto, is an unpretentious French bistro at home anywhere.

Pastis is possibly the most authentic casual French restaurant experience in the area. The premise is simple: five salads, seven small plates, seven main plates, four desserts with nightly specials, an affordable wine list, and an enthusiastic and

attentive waitstaff that infuses character and life into the restaurant.

The space is diminutive, a dozen or so tables with a few more seats streetside, weather permitting. The walls are mustardy pale with mirrors above a long banquette giving the illusion of more spacious quarters. Pendant lights dangle quietly from the ceiling. Sturdy wood framing defines the tiny bar area as well as menu boards and mirrors.

Owned by Bernard Cartal and nephew Max Roucoule, Pastis debuted in late December in the space vacated by Joanie's Cafe. Cartal, who owns Joanie's as well, had moved it a few doors

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up the street and expanded.

"There are no good French bistros in the area. We wanted to do one," Roucoule said. "There used to be many French restaurants in Palo Alto, not so many any more."

Ablly manning the kitchen is Jose "Andre" Hernandez, who was the original chef at Cartal's Cafe Brioche 16 years ago. He was cooking in Los Angeles when he heard Cartal was opening a French bistro and wanted to be part of it. "Much of our staff worked at Joanie's or Cafe Brioche for years," Roucoule added.

I had no misgivings over any dish I ordered. Portions were large, with the ingredients fresh and pacing perfect. The menu was straightforward, with relaxed, homey comfort food in the French manner. By that I mean several mussel dishes plus fish, poultry and beef. There were more green salads than one finds in similar bistros in France, but less offal.

That is, except for the salade au foie de volaille (\$13). It featured warm chicken livers and crispy pancetta over a cradle of spinach dressed with shallot-champagne dressing. In France, of course, the liver would have been glorious foie gras, but no need to get into that discussion here.

Pastis makes one of my favorite salads: frisee aux lardons (\$11) with poached egg in a shallot dressing. Lardons are small pieces of pork about the size of a jellybean, used to season salads and savory dishes. They are made from salt-cured pork (pancetta) and crisped accordingly. Some local restaurants substitute bacon, but it isn't quite the same thing. The Pastis salad was mouthwatering.

We tried only one of the mussels dishes, moules gorgonzola (\$14.95). It was a seemingly odd combination, shellfish and blue cheese, but the gorgonzola component was a light cream sauce with just enough pungency to



VERONICA WEBER

Poulet a la moutarde is chicken breast in a creamy mustard sauce served with whipped potatoes and ratatouille.

give it oomph.

The coquilles St. Jacques au gratin (\$11) was still bubbling in the shell-shaped plate when it was served. The bay scallops had been sauteed in white wine, butter and herbs, and topped with toasted garlic breadcrumbs. Talk about comfort food.

At lunch one day, the excellent quiche Lorraine (\$11.95) came with a salad, but the waiter wisely asked if I preferred French fries after noting I had ordered a salad for starters. The quiche crust was flaky and supple with

a hint of sweetness to balance the saltiness of the bacon and cheese.

Of the main dishes, the delectable poulet a la moutarde (\$17.95) was fork-tender chicken breast in a creamy grain mustard sauce with mushrooms, whipped potatoes and ratatouille.

The hachis parmentier (\$16) was sliced braised beef casserole topped with cheese. That night, the plate came with a pile of crisp lettuce dressed in olive oil. While satisfying, it was my least favorite dish. Not bad in any way, just less inspired. Better was the bavette l'echalotte (\$19.95): grilled flank steak smothered in sweet caramelized shallots.

Desserts were all excellent. The warm blackberry crumble (\$8) was served in a top-crust ramekin oozing with vanilla ice cream. The tarte tartin (\$8), also with ice cream, was delicately sweet-tasting and syrupy, and hadn't been over baked.

Pastis is a vibrant addition to the California Avenue corridor. It's French all right, from the wait-staff to the decor. And the food is bistro-worthy: tasty, filling and well-prepared, with prices that don't offend. Reservations are highly recommended. ▣

■ DINING NOTES

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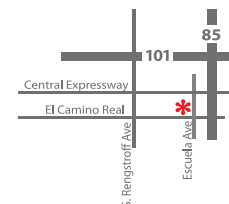


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Weekend

MOVIE TIMES

21 Jump Street (R) Century 16: 11:45 a.m.; 2:25, 5, 7:40 & 10:25 p.m.
Century 20: 11:40 a.m.; 2:15, 5:05, 7:45 & 10:30 p.m.

American Reunion (R) ★★ Century 16: 11:30 a.m.; 2:15, 4:55, 7:45 & 10:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:30 a.m.; 2:15, 5, 7:50 & 10:35 p.m.

Bully Century 16: 11 a.m.; 1:30, 4:05, 6:40 & 9:35 p.m.

The Cabin in the Woods (R) ★★★ Century 16: 11:25 a.m.; 2, 4:50, 7:50 & 10:20 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:35 a.m.; 12:45, 1:55, 3:10, 4:25, 5:45, 8:15 & 10:45 p.m.; Fri.-Wed. also at 7 & 9:25 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 10:25 a.m.; Thu. also at 9:30 p.m.

Casablanca (1942) Century 16: Thu. at 7 p.m. **Century 20:** Thu. at 7 p.m.

Ceiling Zero (1936) Stanford Theatre: Wed. & Thu. at 5:45 & 9:15 p.m.

Chimpanzee (G) Century 16: 11:30 a.m.; 1:40, 4:10, 7 & 9:30 p.m.
Century 20: 11:15 a.m.; 1:25, 3:35, 5:40, 7:50 & 10 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 10:30 a.m.

Damsels in Distress (PG-13) ★1/2 Palo Alto Square: 2 p.m.; Fri.-Tue. & Thu. also at 4:20 & 7:25 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 9:45 p.m.

The Dawn Patrol (1930) Stanford Theatre: Wed. & Thu. at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) Century 16: 11:15 a.m. & 3:50 p.m.; In 3D at 1:35 p.m.; Fri.-Wed. also at 8:50 p.m. (standard 2D); In 3D Fri.-Wed. also at 6:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 1:30, 6:10 & 10:40 p.m.; In 3D at 11:15 a.m.; 3:45 & 8:25 p.m.

Footnote (PG) ★★★ Aquarius Theatre: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 3, 5:45 & 8:30 p.m.

The Godfather: Part II (1974) (R) Century 16: Thu. at 2 & 7 p.m.

The Hunger Games (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: Noon, 3:20, 7 & 10:15 p.m.; Fri.-Wed. also at 11 a.m.; 2:10, 6:10 & 9:25 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:20 a.m.; 12:50, 2:30, 4, 5:40, 7:10, 8:55 & 10:20 p.m.

Jiro Dreams of Sushi Aquarius Theatre: 7 & 9:15 p.m.; Fri.-Wed. also at 4:45 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 2:45 p.m.

Lockout (PG-13) Century 16: 11:35 a.m.; 1:55, 4:35, 7:30 & 10:10 p.m.
Century 20: 11:55 a.m.; 2:25, 4:50, 7:25 & 9:55 p.m.

The Lucky One (PG-13) Century 16: 11:10 a.m.; 12:10, 1:40, 2:40, 4:20, 5:10, 7:15, 8:30 & 10:05 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:30 a.m.; 12:55, 2, 3:25, 4:30, 5:55, 7:05, 8:30 & 9:35 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 10:25 a.m.

The Metropolitan Opera: Manon Century 20: Wed. at 6:30 p.m.
Palo Alto Square: Wed. at 6:30 p.m.

Mirror Mirror (PG) ★★1/2 Century 16: 11:05 a.m.; 1:45, 4:15, 6:50 & 9:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:45 a.m.; 2:20, 4:55, 7:30 & 10:10 p.m.

Monsieur Lazhar Guild Theatre: 4:15, 7 & 9:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 1:45 p.m.

The Raid: Redemption (R) Century 20: 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35 & 10:15 p.m.

Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG-13) Century 20: 11:25 a.m. & 2 p.m.; Fri.-Tue. & Thu. also at 4:40, 7:15 & 9:50 p.m. **Palo Alto Square:** 1:50, 4:30 & 7:15 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 9:50 p.m.

Scarface (1932) Stanford Theatre: Fri.-Sun. at 5:45 & 9:15 p.m.

Think Like a Man (PG-13) Century 16: 11 a.m.; 1:50, 4:40, 7:35 & 10:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:20 a.m.; 12:40, 2:10, 3:35, 4:55, 6:30, 7:45, 9:25 & 10:35 p.m.

The Three Stooges (PG) Century 16: 11:20 a.m.; 2:05, 4:30, 7:10 & 9:45 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:25 a.m.; 12:35, 1:50, 3, 4:15, 5:30, 6:50, 7:55, 9:15 & 10:20 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 10:20 a.m.

Titanic 3D (PG-13) Century 16: 11 a.m. (standard 2D); In 3D at 3:10 & 7:20 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:50 a.m. (standard 2D); In 3D at 3:50 & 8 p.m.

Twentieth Century (1934) Stanford Theatre: Fri.-Sun. at 7:30 p.m.; Sun. also at 4 p.m.

Wrath of the Titans (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: 11:40 a.m.; 4:45 & 9:50 p.m.; In 3D at 2:20 & 7:25 p.m. **Century 20:** Noon & 5:10 p.m.; In 3D at 2:30, 7:40 & 10:25 p.m.

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★ 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 CABIN IN THE WOODS

★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) As written by Drew Goddard ("Cloverfield") and Joss Whedon ("The Avengers"), "The Cabin in the Woods" is a next-generation "Scream," a self-referential horror film that tongue-in-cheekily deconstructs its own genre. On that level, it's a certified hoot. If this film isn't quite as fun or as scary as "Scream," it is certainly more audacious, and that creative energy is undoubtedly the film's chief selling point. With the help of crack cinematographer Peter Deming of "Scream," Goddard directs this ambitious sci-fi/horror hybrid with authority, and the duo orchestrate some potent visual jokes as well. One involves a slaying that's ignored by foreground characters as it plays out in the background (a trope we also saw in "Scream"); another hilariously spoofs J-horror (Japanese horror films like "The Ring"). Horror cinema has a tendency to indict the audience, and drawing attention to that is not a new idea, but "The Cabin in the Woods" does present a fresh narrative twist on it, and it intriguingly forces the audience to wonder if they should be rooting for the slain or the slayers. *Rated R for strong bloody horror violence and gore, language, drug use and some sexuality/nudity. One hour, 35 minutes.* — P.C.

AMERICAN REUNION ★★

(Century 16, Century 20) At least for a while, it's tempting to think of "American Reunion" — the third big-screen sequel to the 1999 sex comedy "American Pie" — as having subversive potential. The notion of randy high-schoolers looking into a cinematic crystal ball to find stale marriages, dead-end jobs and a dispiriting high school reunion may be an intriguing social experiment, but the impact is predictably mitigated by a parade of boobs, "f"-bombs and reassurances that there'll always be sexual escapades, (now over-age) drinking, law-breaking adventures, and friends and family to keep the party going. The situation comedy dreamed up for the characters has a sort of comfort-food familiarity about it: Jim's Dad remains embarrassingly frank about sex and Jim always stumbles his way into compromising situations, while Stifler doles out outrageous embarrassments, gets his comeuppance, but somehow everyone just has to love him anyway. Predictability is the fatal flaw of any "American" sequel, and while this one comes closest in tone to the original film, that's a decidedly double-edged sword. "American Reunion" is such a loving tribute to "American Pie" that it may bring a tear to the eye of die-hard fans, an achievement that's not to be pooped on. *Rated R for crude and sexual content throughout, nudity, language, brief drug use and teen drinking. One hour, 53 minutes.* — P.C.

MOVIE CRITICS

S.T.- Susan Tavernetti, P.C. Peter Canavese,
T.H.-Tyler Hanley

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■ HIGHLIGHT

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Presentations of wild cats are scheduled for 1:30 and 3 p.m. In addition to exhibits by Los Altos Hills committees, environmental organizations and school groups' electric cars will be on display. April 22, 1-4 p.m. Free. Westwind Community Barn, 27210 Altamont Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-947-2518. www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/

ART GALLERIES

Fanny Retsek Exhibition Opening reception with artist for exhibition "Power: Drawings and Prints by Fanny Retsek" at CSMA's Mohr Gallery. April 20, 6-8 p.m. Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Call 650-917-6800 x306. www.arts4all.org/attend/mohrgallery.htm

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Indian Cooking Class - Tea Ceremony
Class Outline: Chicken Keema Samosas, potato samosas, Paniyarams (round rice & lentil spiced dumplings), Peaju (chickpea fritters), tamarind chutney, mint chutney, plain chai, masala chai, ginger liqueur tea. Address will be provided after registration. April 21, 3-6 p.m. \$60/person I Heart Curry, Near Castro Street, Mountain View. Call 650-691-5306. indianteaceremony-eorg.eventbrite.com/

CLUBS/MEETINGS

Rhododendron Society plant sale The De Anza Chapter of American Rhododendron Society will have a plant sale featuring rhododendrons. April 21, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. In front of the Citibank, 130 Main St., Los Altos. www.deanza-ars.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Schools Squeezed Featuring Speaker Craig Goldman, superintendent of the Mountain View Whisman School District, the League of Women Voters invites community members to attend "Lunch with the League", and learn more about how our schools are being "squeezed" by tough economic times, and what we can all do to help.

April 20, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. \$20 (covers lunch & presentation). Bella Vita Ristorante, 376 First St., Los Altos. Call 650-941-4846. www.lwvlamv.org/lwl.html

CONCERTS

Houston Jones Americana concert Houston Jones is an Americana quintet from the San Francisco Bay Area. The band performs an original repertoire of folk, bluegrass, blues and gospel music. April 22, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$15. Dana Street Roasting Company, 744 W. Dana St., Mountain View. Call 650-390-9638. danastreetroasting.com/

FAMILY AND KIDS

Family Concert - Halau o Keikiali'i A CSMA Family Concert featuring the dance, music and culture of Hawaii. Two performances, at 2:00 pm and again at 4:00 pm. April 22, 2-5 p.m. Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org

HEALTH

'Rest, Replenish, Renew' This weekly group teaches students to express themselves through movement, drawing, creative writing and mindfulness activities designed to help tap into innate creativity. Wednesdays from Jan. 18 on, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Free. Cancer Support Community, 455 Whisman Road, Suite 300, Mountain View. Call 650-968-5000. www.cancersupportcommunity.net

LIVE MUSIC

Live Jazz Music with Johnny Williams

Johnny Williams will be around for a night of lively Jazz and Blues. Johnny and his music for all ages will add to your experience in the magical Morocco's Restaurant. All songs performed are original work. Performance at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, April 3-24, 5-9:30 p.m. Free Morocco's Restaurant, 873 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-968-1502. www.moroccosrestaurant.com

ON STAGE

'Of Mice and Men' TheatreWorks presents 'Of Mice and Men.' Adapted for the stage by Steinbeck, this is a portrait of the strength of friendship and the depth of the American dream. April 4-29. \$19- \$69. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. www.theatreworks.org

'The Government Inspector' An unfortunate case of mistaken identity sends a whole Russian village spiraling into a tizzy of panic and greed when a government inspector comes to call in this adaptation of Nikolai Gogol's classic comedy by Jeffrey Hatcher. April 12-May 5, 8 p.m. \$26-32. Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-941-0551. www.busbarn.org

OUTDOORS

California Native Plant Society: Native Plant Sale Attendees can discover scores of hard-to-find native plant species suitable for California gardens. Experts are available to speak with about lawn alternatives such as native perennials, wildflowers, and grasses. Native plant books on sale. April 21, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Hidden Villa Ranch, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. www.cnps-scv.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. 7:30-9 p.m. donations accepted. St. Timothy's/Edwards Hall, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-857-0904. imsb.org

SENIORS

Annual FCA Conference Stanford University Professor Dr. Carl Thoresen will talk about research into achieving a healthier and longer life. Breakout sessions afterward for Q and A on the lecture, mortuaries, cemeteries, hospices, Funeral Consumer Alliance, and veteran death benefits. Refreshments, free literature. April 22, 2-4:30 p.m. Los Altos Public Library, 13 San Antonio Rd., Los Altos. www.fcapeninsula.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

Rengstorff House unveiled The historic Rengstorff House opens its doors for a free bridal fair and rental open house. Attendees meet and greet with experienced event professionals, taste hors d'oeuvres/desserts, and view floral arrangements, photography, tables, linens, china and more. RSVP's requested, please. 1-3 p.m. Rengstorff House, 3070 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6088. www.mountainview.gov

SPORTS

Free Basketball Clinics The clinics will be open to girls and boys in grades 3 - 9. Kids can learn skills from MVHS coaches and have fun at the same time. Free pizza lunch. April 21, 10

a.m.-1 p.m. Mountain View High School, 3535 Truman Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-479-5906. www.SpartansSportsCamp.com

Group runs The running store On Your Mark has organized four weekly running groups, with runners of all ages and skill levels welcome. No registration necessary. All runs are three to five miles with the start and finish behind the store. Mondays at 6 a.m., Wednesdays at 6:30 a.m., Thursdays at 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Free. On Your Mark, 378 Main St., Los Altos. Call 650-209-5526. www.onyourmarkperformance.com

VOLUNTEERS

Become a Trained Volunteer Music Teacher Attendees can join our team of dedicated volunteers and teach music in K-3 classrooms in San Mateo & Santa Clara counties. Informational meeting on April 20th in Mountain View. April 20, 12-1:30 p.m. Music for Minors, 883 N.Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Call 650-237-9130. www.mfm.org

PNG Mentor and Tutor Open House Tutors can make a huge difference in the life of a young person by volunteering just 4 hours a month for children, grade K-8 or high school students. Excellent training and support are provided. April 24, MVLA School District Offices Boardroom, 1299 Bryant Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-766-2162.

Tutor with JustREAD JustREAD is a non-profit, literacy program dedicated to improving the reading/writing skills of students. Volunteers are trained by JustREAD and work one-on-one with students. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. JustREAD Tutorial Center, 1299 Bryant St., Mountain View. Call 650-691-0416. justreadcenters.org

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NATIONAL HEALTH CARE VOLUNTEER WEEK, APRIL 15 – 21.

In honor of National Health Care Volunteer Week, we want to thank the many dedicated people who generously donate their time, energy, and skills to help make El Camino Hospital a warm, caring institution. Auxiliary volunteers are a welcome sight throughout the hospital campuses, directing visitors, assisting in the health library, or providing information. In the RotaCare Clinic, more than 300 health care professionals donate their time to serve more than 2,700 underserved patients a year. And volunteers in the El Camino Hospital Chaplaincy provide spiritual support to patients and their families, hospital staff, physicians, and Auxiliary members. Volunteers also make a valuable contribution to events and outreach for the El Camino Hospital Foundation, our Chinese Health Initiative, and the South Asian Heart Center. It is only with the gracious help of our selfless volunteers that we are able to do whatever it takes to serve our communities well.

To join our team of dedicated volunteers, please call or visit our website today.



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