

MountainView VOICE

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SUMMER
Class Guide

Making a splash at the Olympics

MV NATIVE IS COACHING U.S. WOMEN'S WATER POLO TEAM AT THE SUMMER GAMES

By Nick Veronin

When the parade of nations enters London's Olympic Stadium for the 2012 Summer Games, one Mountain View family will have reason to cheer louder and longer than most local sports fans. The Krikorians will watch proudly as their son Adam leads the United States' Women's National Water Polo Team around the track and ultimately, they hope, to the gold.

"We're obviously proud of him," Gary Krikorian says, his wife Joyce nodding in agreement. The two are sitting in the living room of the Waverly Park home where they raised their three boys. It's April 30, two months to the day before the first women's water polo match of the summer games is scheduled. They have pulled out an assortment of their son's trophies, plaques and are flipping through family albums filled

► See **OLYMPIC COACH**, page 8



COURTESY ADAM KRİKORIAN

Adam Krikorian, who was raised in Mountain View, will be coaching the U.S. water polo team at the Olympics in London.

City wins grant to launch nine bike-sharing stations

By Daniel DeBolt

By early fall Mountain View will join the ranks of such cities as Paris, Barcelona and London in having its own bike-sharing network, which will place up to 117 bikes at stations around the city.

"I'm thrilled we are one of the cities chosen to try this out," said council member Ronit Bryant on Tuesday. "We live in an amazingly car-centric society.

We need to move to new solutions." As one of five Silicon Valley cities to have the first bike sharing system on the West Coast, on May 8 the City Council approved the location of nine automated bike sharing stations, courtesy of a \$4.3 million Metropolitan Transportation Commission grant administered by the

'Why not try it?'

MARGARET ABE-KOGA

Valley Transportation Authority. Each station requires the use of a credit card that may be charged in case one of the GPS-equipped bikes is lost.

Mountain View was selected along with Palo Alto, San Jose, Redwood City and San Francisco for the two-year pilot program, which divides 1,000 bikes among the five cities.

Those who can ride to another station within 30 minutes are not charged for the ride, said VTA planner Aiko Cuenco, though an undetermined membership fee will be charged at different rates for daily, monthly or annual memberships.

The system was a bit difficult for some council members to understand, as it

► See **BIKE-SHARING**, page 14



VERONICA WEBER

Volunteer Harvey Dondershine holds a cat at Palo Alto Animal Services Center.

Despite protests, council switches animal services, leaving Palo Alto

By Daniel DeBolt

A group hoping to save Palo Alto's animal shelter swayed only one member of the City Council on Tuesday in an effort to keep Mountain View from switching to a Santa Clara-based animal services provider.

The council voted 6-1 to enter into a joint powers authority agreement with Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority on Thomas Road in Santa Clara, with council member Laura Macias opposed. The move will save the city \$40,000 a year, said police Capt. Max Bosel. The council had voted to end its contract with Palo

Alto in November.

"We did take this decision seriously," said council member Ronit Bryant. "We took a lot of time visiting both Palo Alto and SVACA. We found more comprehensive services at SVACA."

The move means Palo Alto will lose \$450,000 a year to run its shelter on Bayshore Road, spurring Palo Alto to examine outsourcing animal services and possibly allow a car dealership on the site. Up to 13 employees could be out of work.

The move was supposed to save Moun-

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INSIDE

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Dwight Chen, MD, gynecologic oncologist;
Barbara Phelps-Sandall, MD, obstetrician and
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oncologist; Katherine Sutherland, MD,
obstetrician and gynecologist; and
Randy Creamier, laparoscopic and
robotics program coordinator.

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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

Is it ever appropriate to cap a CEO's pay?



"There is always a point where something reaches a plateau and then becomes an excess. So, yes, there should be some sort of cap. But how to determine that cap depends on what is it they are bringing to the table and how important is that to the community that they serve."

Elizabeth Fogie, Palo Alto



"In order to keep innovation and hire the best people, I'm not sure if a cap on salary is going to be the best idea. I think allowing the market to determine that is really the best way to go."

Mohammed Abdoolcarim, San Mateo



"It's certainly a handicap (for an organization) to put a cap on (the CEO's) salary, but I can see reasons for doing it."

Gavin Morgan, Mountain View



"A salary cap would inhibit growth and (an organization's) ability to attract talent, but there is a problem with how much money CEOs are making and how their bonuses are generated."

Joseph Talerico, Mountain View



"I think that's a difficult question to answer, because it's an absolute. It may be appropriate in some instances and it may not be appropriate (in others). Every situation is different."

Vikki Brown, San Jose

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COURTESY JAVIER RUIZ

A FROLICKING FIESTA

Roland Martinez of East Palo Alto and Sofia Ruiz of Mountain View perform traditional dances with members of Raices de Mexico on May 5 at Pioneer Park. The local ballet folklorico group added to the festivities celebrating Cinco de Mayo.

LASD, Bullis reach tentative agreement

By Nick Veronin

The battle over Bullis Charter School appears to be over — at least tentatively. After ducking out of the public eye for a series of private mediation sessions, officials from the Los Altos School District and the local charter school reached a compromise that will give Bullis an existing campus in the district, according to a joint press release from the two educational organizations.

Bullis and LASD have agreed to jointly back a bond measure proposed for the November ballot, the statement said. Bullis will get a campus in the 2013-14

school year if the bond passes and in the 2014-15 school year if the bond fails.

According to the release, Bullis will be provided one of four school sites — Almond, Gardner Bullis, Santa Rita or Covington. If the measure is approved, the district will build a new campus for the students that are displaced when Bullis gets its campus. While the new school is being built, displaced students will be spread throughout the district's schools.

If the measure is not approved, Bullis would have to wait another year before getting one of the district's campuses. In this scenario, "LASD would likely

consolidate its students in existing facilities while seeking passage of a new bond measure in 2014," the statement said. It is not clear whether Bullis would be obligated to support that second bond measure.

Bullis has agreed to stay on its current site at Egan Junior High School until one of the two scenarios unfolds.

Many of the details are yet to be worked out, but both organizations exchanged amicable words in the joint press release, a change of pace from the heated rhetoric that's marked the contentious legal wrangling over campus facilities for the charter school. ▣

Housing at Mayfield mall site now set for offices

PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL AND PARK SPACE
KILLED ALONG WITH HOUSING PLAN

By Daniel DeBolt

It took almost a decade of contentious planning and untold millions to design, but the 27-acre housing community planned for the Mayfield Mall site has been ditched for a \$90 million deal to re-use the existing buildings as an office campus.

Citing the demand from tech companies for an office campus near a Caltrain station, Rockwood Capital and Four Corners Properties have paid \$90 million for the 500,000-square-foot building at 100 Mayfield Avenue that once housed the region's first indoor mall, built in 1966. It was set to be demolished this year but instead the property will undergo a renovation and be renamed "San Antonio Station."

It's news that is sure to grab Google's attention. Thanks to the company's growth, no other office campuses are available in Mountain View.

"It's fair to say that people are very happy," said Wouter Suverkropp, chair of the Monta Loma Neighborhood Association, which wrestled with the planning of the housing development for years. "This is by far the most environmentally friendly way to deal with the site and will dramatically reduce the impact of years of construction in the neighborhood."

Suverkropp also noted that hundreds of old trees on the site would stay, "or at least it looks that way right now."

It won't be the first time the building was used this way. Hewlett Packard converted the building into office space in 1986, but it has been vacant for much of a decade after the company consolidated elsewhere.

"We are seeing strong demand from companies that desire their own campus, but there are few, if any quality existing structures available and the majority of new construction is not designed for a true campus environment," said Bruce Burkard, principal at Four Corners Properties, in a press release. "San Antonio Station will also be ready for occupancy well in advance of new construction because we are simply renovating the existing property, which has incredible existing infrastructure."

The investment firms purchased the property from William Lyon Homes, which went into bankruptcy three months after the 260-unit housing project was approved in September. Suverkropp said he had predicted delays in the project after the bankruptcy news, but was surprised to hear from the new owners. They have been very communicative with the neighborhood association members, telling them it would only take a year to renovate the property, Suverkropp said.

It is relatively easy under the city's rules for the new owner to make such a major change in direction for the property, said

► See **MAYFIELD MALL**, page 10

Smoking ban takes effect Tuesday

By Daniel DeBolt

A new ban on smoking near publicly accessible buildings and outdoor dining areas goes into effect Tuesday, May 15, which means a \$50 citation for those caught violating the new law.

Under the new law smokers cannot stand within 25 feet of windows, doors — even cracks and vents in the walls — of workplaces, restaurants or any publicly accessible building where smoking is already banned.

Smoking is now largely banned

in busy commercial areas like Castro Street though an exception is given to smokers who "are actively passing from one destination to another," said Kim Castro of the city's community services department.

The City Council voted 4-3 in support of the ban on Jan. 24 and in a second vote on Feb. 14, with members Tom Means, John Inks and Laura Macias opposed.

The Council also banned smoking within 25 feet of outdoor dining areas, including those at restaurants and picnic areas in public parks, where smoking is

already banned within 30 feet of a playground.

Business owners are responsible for educating employees about the ban, said police spokeswoman Liz Wylie. Businesses face fines for ignoring the ban, but there has to be proof that a business "knew, or reasonably should have known" of violations, Wylie said. Deputy City Attorney Nicole Clemens said business owners would likely receive infractions, with a fine of \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for the second offense

► See **SMOKING BAN**, page 8



MICHELLE LE

The Mayfield Mall site will be converted to an office campus.

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City Council wrestles with grade separation designs

RENGSTORFF TO GO UNDER TRACKS BUT NO PLAN YET FOR CASTRO

By Daniel DeBolt

Facing plans for increased use of the Caltrain corridor by Caltrain and high-speed rail, City Council members adopted an official line Tuesday to separate the train tracks from Rengstorff Avenue. But dealing with a grade separation at Castro Street proved much more difficult.

On a 6-1 vote, the council approved a design policy written by member Ronit Bryant indicating support for a grade separation at Rengstorff.

"The grade separation shall be designed to support improved

connectivity across the rail tracks for all modes of transportation, pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers alike," the policy says. "The design shall focus on minimizing disruption to the neighborhood context, encouraging multi-modal use and improving the safety to all users."

Facing a \$500,000 price tag for a study, the council decided not to study any design that doesn't lower both Rengstorff Avenue and Central Expressway under the tracks, which would remain at ground level.

"Where you go in and where you come out, you make it a place, you make it a plaza, you create a sense that you are somewhere," Bryant said of pedestrian access under the tracks along a sunken Rengstorff Avenue. "It would clearly be more expensive but this is a part of our city. It should be developed for our residents and not just for the cars."

Council member Laura Macias was opposed, saying that depressing Rengstorff was "the worst option" and that every other option should be studied so Rengstorff would not simply become a thoroughfare.

Council members have had plenty of time to think it over as a design for a grade separation at Rengstorff was created by the city years ago, though Bryant has called it an "engineer's design" that is not acceptable to her.

The council members also was set to approve a policy for Castro Street, but could not reach a consensus after apparently concluding that their preferred "railroad-in-a-trench" alternative is too expensive.

Resident Don Ball pushed the council to drop the option to sink Castro Street along its historic 100 block which would allow Castro to run under the tracks.

"Keep Castro at grade so we don't destroy the character of the downtown we worked so hard on," Ball said.

But doing so would require an aerial platform for the tracks or closing Castro Street off as the remaining alternatives.

"With Castro I would say let's take a deep breath and maybe wait until something has to be done, maybe close the street to cars," Bryant said.

That raised concerns for Macias.

"We shouldn't definitively say that if we can find no good solution for Castro we have to just close Castro," Macias said, calling it "the street that gives us life. That is completely shooting ourselves in the foot."

Council members briefly discussed other options for connecting the downtown across the train tracks, possibly by widening Villa Street to better connect with Shoreline Boulevard, though there may not be enough room. Or by putting a bridge across the tracks at the north end of Calderon Avenue, a plan that was in the works years ago, recalled council member Jac Siegel.

"We do have a transportation circulation problem downtown," Bryant said. "We have never looked at it seriously." ▀

Email Daniel DeBolt
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CRIME BRIEFS

► Continued from page 4

they returned home. There was no sign of forced entry.

At press time, the full police report hadn't been written in the second incident, Wylie said, but small electronic items were also stolen.

In the final incident, a Mac-

book Pro laptop, a Macbook laptop and an Ausprey hiking backpack were stolen from a third-floor apartment, Wylie said. Again, the front door was locked when the victims left in the morning and there was no sign of forced entry.

Wylie said investigators are looking into the possibility that the incidents are related.

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Student research helps 'change the world'

HIGH SCHOOL BIOLOGY CLASS CONTRIBUTES TO INTERNATIONAL BARCODE OF LIFE DATABASE

By Nick Veronin

A group of biology students at Los Altos High School took part this year in a worldwide science project by contributing small, but vital bits of information to a global database.

Meghan Shuff's Advanced Placement biology students served as researchers for the International Barcode of Life project — an initiative to assemble a database of unique DNA "barcodes" for every animal, plant and fungus currently living on Earth.

"It is the largest biodiversity and genomics project ever undertaken," said Bob Hanner, an official with the project and associate professor at the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario at the University of Guelph. There are more than 1,000 researchers working on the iBOL project in at least 26 countries, according to Hanner. And some of those researchers are high school students. One scientist described the project as a "Yellow Pages" for all multicellular organisms on the planet.

It isn't common for high school students to participate in primary scientific research, Shuff and Hanner said. According to Shuff, most of the time her students are working on textbook assignments where the outcome is already known. It's even less common for the primary research of high school students to be published for the worldwide scientific community.

However, due to the barcode project's massive scale — "We've literally mapped more stars in the sky than we have described species on Earth," Hanner observed — the scientific community has turned to "crowdsourcing" to complete the necessary research. "We need to work with all of the resources that we have," Hanner said.

Shuff and her students have been more than happy to help. "It's extremely interesting," said Omri Fried, a Los Altos High School senior and project leader.

Fried intends to study biology in college and said working on the iBOL project was great "hands-on" preparation — better than any other classwork he could imagine. "We felt as if this was our own research project, so

we paid more attention to it and were very meticulous about it," Fried said.

"They're doing pretty much everything that a research scientist would do," Shuff said of her students' work on the assignment, which began in early January with a trip down to Ventura. There she and her class hopped on a boat with Ralph Imondi and Linda Santschi — a pair of professional research biologists — and cruised off the coast to collect rockfish samples for the iBOL database.

After a day on the boat, Shuff's class headed home with their rockfish tissue samples, using their laboratory instruments to examine the "barcode" portion of fish's DNA and record their observations.

According to Hanner, for every organism within the kingdom animalia, biologists need only to look at one particular stretch of DNA to determine the species. The same goes for fungi; and with plants it is a pair of markers that scientists look to for species confirmation.

Imondi and Santschi are co-directors of Coastal Marine Biolabs, a member organization of the worldwide consortium of iBOL research affiliates. The two scientists and their staff work with teachers and students teaching them how to properly harvest samples and record DNA barcodes.

While Shuff's students get to feel like professional scientists, they are learning at the same time. "This project pretty much covers all we need to cover as far as curriculum goes. In fact, I feel that it covers the curriculum at a greater depth."

"What really gets students over the moon with this is that they cannot believe they have been given the opportunity to join the scientific community and contribute to the world's largest biodiversity genomics initiative," Santschi said. "They really are helping to change the world." ▀

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Public hearing

Flood Control Benefit Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year 2012-2013



You are invited

Topic : Flood Control Benefit Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year 2012-2013

Who : Santa Clara Valley Water District

When : Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 9:00am

Where: Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters—Board Room
5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118

This public hearing will cover the "Flood Control Benefit Assessments Report, 2012-2013 through 2029-2030, dated "April 2012." The written report incorporates by reference a description of each parcel and the expected amount of assessment under the approved formula for each parcel within the flood control zones of the District. At the hearing, the Board of Directors will hear any and all protests. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board may adopt or revise any assessment and will make its determination upon each assessment referred to in the report.

A copy of the report may be inspected at the Office of the Clerk of the Board at the above address at any time during business hours. Copies of the report have also been placed and may be inspected at the following locations:

Campbell City Hall
70 North First Street
Campbell, CA

Cupertino City Hall
10300 Torre Avenue
Cupertino, CA

Gilroy City Hall
7351 Rosanna Street
Gilroy, CA

Gilroy Branch Library
7652 Monterey Street
Gilroy, CA

Los Altos City Hall
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA

Los Altos Hills Town Hall
26379 Fremont Road
Los Altos Hills, CA

Los Gatos Town Hall
110 East Main Street
Los Gatos, CA

Milpitas City Hall
455 East Calaveras Blvd
Milpitas, CA

Milpitas Library
160 North Main Street
Milpitas, CA

Morgan Hill City Hall
17555 Peak Avenue
Morgan Hill, CA

Monte Sereno City Hall
18041 Saratoga Los Gatos Road
Monte Sereno, CA

Mountain View City Hall
500 Castro Street
Mountain View, CA

Mountain View Public Library
585 Franklin Street
Mountain View, CA

Palo Alto City Hall
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA

San Jose City Hall
200 East Santa Clara Street
San Jose, CA

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library
150 E. San Fernando Street
San Jose, CA

Hillview Branch Library
1600 Hopkins Drive
San Jose, CA

Pearl Avenue Library
4270 Pearl Avenue
San Jose, California

Santa Clara Central Park Library
2635 Homestead Road
Santa Clara, CA

Santa Clara City Hall
1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA

Saratoga City Hall
13777 Fruitvale Avenue
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650 W. Olive Avenue
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To secure information on an individual parcel assessment, you must know your Assessor Parcel Number. If you do not know it, call the Assessor at **(408) 299-5570** and ask for it, giving your name and street address. Using that parcel number, you can learn your proposed assessment by calling the Santa Clara Valley Water District Tax Assessment Hotline at **(408) 265-2607, ext. 2810**.

Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to attend this public hearing. For additional information on attending this hearing including requesting accommodations for disabilities or interpreter assistance, please contact the **Office of the Clerk of the Board** at **(408) 265-2607, ext. 2277**, at least three days prior to the hearing.

Se harán los esfuerzos razonables para ayudar a las personas con discapacidades que deseen atender a esta audiencia pública. Para información adicional sobre la asistencia a esta audiencia incluyendo una solicitud de apoyo para asistir a los asistentes con un intérprete por favor contacte a la Oficina del Secretario del Buró al **(408) 265-2607, extensión 2277**, cuando menos tres días antes de la audiencia.

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Academics

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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 **408-553-0537**

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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)**

(continued on next page)

OLYMPIC COACH

► Continued from page 1

with pictures of Krikorian.

As the youngest of the bunch, Krikorian says he idolized his older brothers Blake and Jason. And while he says he inherited his love of sports from the whole family, he credits his brothers for pulling him into the water.

Krikorian enjoyed soccer, basketball and baseball when he was younger — playing in multiple youth leagues. “I just naturally loved sports,” he remembers of his elementary and middle school years at Bubb and Graham schools. “When I got home from school, the first thing I wanted to do was something athletic.”

But despite his love for multiple sports, by the time Krikorian entered high school and seeing his older siblings competing in the pool, he had made up his mind. He would concentrate on water sports.

“I swam, basically, because my older brothers swam,” he says. “It was pretty simple. I wanted to be just like them.”

Krikorian played varsity water polo all four years at Mountain View High School before he was accepted to the University of California, Los Angeles, where he studied psychology with a focus in business and continued to play. In his first year out of college he landed a job as assistant water polo coach for both the men's and the women's teams.

In retrospect, he says, the reason he applied for the position was to “stall entering the real world.” He didn't like the idea of getting a job in an office. But in his first year as coach he realized how much he loved the work — even though the rosters he worked with didn't perform as well as they could have.

“It was frustrating to be part of a team that underachieved and a team that I thought we could have made better,” Krikorian says. “Being very competitive, I wanted to make it better.” The

next year they did better and the year after that they won a championship.

“Going from that rough year to being a part of creating something special — after you experience something like that, it's in your blood,” he says. “I just wanted to continue.”

So he stayed on. In 1999, Guy Baker, UCLA's coach at the time, took the job Krikorian now holds, as coach of the national women's team. Baker was able to stay on in a limited capacity, and Krikorian began managing more of UCLA's water polo teams until 2009 when Baker moved on to become director of Olympic development for the U.S. national water polo team, leaving the coaching position open for Krikorian.

Krikorian's father says that his son's competitive spirit and love of the game are not the only things that drove him to pursue a career in water polo.

“He's a quick thinker and a student of the game,” Gary says, recalling that when his son was 9 years old he would keep a detailed log of the kids on his soccer team, as well as on the opposing team. At an age where many children are still trying to get the soccer ball to go in direction they want it to, Krikorian was teaching himself how to be a coach.

Looking ahead to London, Krikorian says he is filled with many emotions: excitement, joy, pride — both in himself and in the women he coaches — and above all, a sense of “patriotism that is, at times, hard to grasp, because it is so large. O You realize that you are a part of something that is almost impossible to grasp.”

The thought that he will soon be walking out on a global stage to represent his country has touched Krikorian in a very profound way. “Not too many people get the opportunity to represent their country,” he says. “It's an incredible honor.” ■

SMOKING BAN

► Continued from page 5

within one year and \$500 for each additional offense within one year. Business owners could also face misdemeanor charges in severe cases.

Bars and night clubs fiercely opposed the ban, saying it would drive customers away and encourage smokers to gather in nearby parking lots and alleys instead of designated outdoor

patios.

The creation of the ordinance was funded with a \$53,788 grant from Santa Clara County to reduce exposure to second-hand smoke.

No smoking signs are available from the city for businesses. More information can be found at mountainview.gov under announcements.

Email Daniel DeBolt
at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

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Hospital pay cap qualifies for November ballot

By Nick Veronin

An initiative that would cap executive pay at El Camino Hospital has qualified for the November ballot. Proponents collected the signatures needed for to bring it before voters, officials from the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters confirmed.

While those in favor insist that their initiative is simply about putting an end to the hospital's unfair payment policies, El Camino officials say that it is merely a political move, backed by vindictive members of the healthcare organization's workers' union.

More than 16,000 people signed petition in support of the initiative, according to Stacey Hendler Ross, communications director for the South Bay Labor Council. The proposal needed only 9,100 to qualify for the November ballot.

The hospital's board has the option of accepting the stipulations outlined within the initiative, which would keep the union-backed legislation off of fall ballots.

"I don't think it's likely that will be the outcome, due to the fact that it would prohibit our ability to hire the right talent in a very competitive environment," said Chris Ernst, a spokeswoman for El Camino.

"I just don't think that's true," said Kary Lynch, a psychiatric technician at El Camino. Lynch is a steward for the hospital's work-

ers union — the Service Employees International Union-United Healthcare Workers — which provided financial backing for the initiative. He said that there is no reason upper level administrators at El Camino should be paid so much, especially when average workers are paid so much less and recently had to accept cuts to benefits. "Our executives' salaries are way out of range."

Not true, Ernst countered. "There are hospitals close to us whose executives make a great deal more than our leadership. If you look at competitive salaries, across the board, that's the median — we are right there in the average salary of CEOs running hospitals our size."

According to the March 10, 2011, issue of Payers & Providers — a weekly publication covering healthcare business and policy news in California — the highest paid district CEO in the state last year was Nancy Farber, who earned a total compensation package of \$905,084. El Camino CEO Tomi Ryba, who earns a base salary of \$695,000, could earn about that, should the district board decide she deserves to be awarded all the bonuses for which she is eligible.

According to Ernst, the hospital simply pays what the market demands.

"We don't take taxpayers dollars and pay anyone's salary," she said.

► See **HOSPITAL PAY CAP**, page 15



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW 2030 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

TOWN HALL MEETING

Saturday, May 19, 2012 – 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Mountain View City Hall,
Council Chambers – 500 Castro Street

This meeting will allow the public to comment on the Draft 2030 General Plan, Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program, and Draft 2030 General Plan Environmental Impact Report.

The City Council will hold public meetings on the Draft 2030 General Plan at dates to be scheduled in June or July 2012. Information on these and other meetings is available at www.mountainview2030.com or by contacting the Community Development Department at (650)903-6306 or community.dev@mountainview.gov.

Copies of all 2030 General Plan materials are available at www.mountainview2030.com, or can be viewed in the Community Development Department and City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 500 Castro Street, and at the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin Street. Compact discs of materials are available by contacting the Community Development Department.

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

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)

Mid-Peninsula High School

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

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.

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

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 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

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

India Community Center Palo Alto/Sunnyvale/ Summer Camps 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 Community

Child Care (PACCC)

PACCC summer camps offer campers, grades kindergarten to 6th, a wide array of fun opportunities! K-1 Fun for the youngest campers, Nothing But Fun for themed-based weekly sessions, Neighborhood Adventure Fun and Ultimate Adventure Fun for the more active and on-the-go campers! Swimming twice per week, periodic field trips, special visitors and many engaging camp activities, songs and skits round out the fun offerings of PACCC Summer Camps! Registration is online. Open to campers from all communities! Come join the fun in Palo Alto!

www.pacc.com 650-493-2361

TechKnowHow Computer

& LEGO Camps Palo Alto/ Menlo Park/Sunnyvale

Fun and enriching technology classes for students, ages 5-14 Courses include LEGO and K'NEX Projects with Motors, Electronics, NXT Robotics, 3D Modeling, and Game Design. Many locations, including Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Sunnyvale. Half and all day options. Early-bird and multi-session discounts available.

www.techknowhowkids.com 650-638-0500

Theatreworks Summer Camps

In these skill-building workshops for grades K-5, students engage in language-based activities, movement, music, and improvisation theatre games. Students present their own original pieces at the end of each two-week camp.

www.theatreworks.org/learn 650-463-7146

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Summer Camps Palo Alto/ Menlo Park/San Carlos

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www.wizbots.com info@wizbots.com



MICHELLE LE

Mayfield Mall's San Antonio Road frontage.

MAYFIELD MALL

► Continued from page 5

Randy Tsuda, the city's planning director.

"The re-occupancy of the office building was always permitted, even under the new precise plan," Tsuda said, adding that City Council or city staff approval of the renovation would not be required unless architectural changes are made.

There are some drawbacks to the deal. A pedestrian tunnel required for the housing development would have gone under Central Expressway to the San Antonio train station, but is not required for the re-

use of the buildings, Tsuda said. The tunnel was valued at \$6 million, which William Lyon Homes had agreed to put into a developer agreement that goes with the title of the property. The requirement is only triggered if the approved housing project is built, though it could still be built if the new owners so desire, Tsuda said.

In a press release, the new owners cited the property's proximity to "The Village at San Antonio Shopping Center," now under construction on El Camino Real. But it is on the other side of Central Expressway, which workers would also need to cross on foot to reach the train if they are rail commuters.

Access to both is apparently a major selling point for the new owners, who note in a press release "the strong demand for a campus located near Caltrain, as the site is across the street from Mountain View's San Antonio Caltrain stop, a 50-minute train ride from San Francisco."

Suverkropp says neighbors don't view the tunnel as a necessity for themselves.

"In the grand scheme of things, I don't think it's a top priority," Suverkropp said of neighborhood's desire for the tunnel. But Suverkropp said it was unfortunate to lose the three acres of public park space in the approved housing project plans.

"Traffic remains our number one concern," Suverkropp said of the neighborhood, which is bordered by San Antonio Road and Central Expressway, both well known for traffic jams. Suverkropp said there are mixed opinions about whether the offices would mean more traffic, but "the traffic generated by the office building is likely to be more predictable than traffic generated by housing."

"Revitalizing the former Mayfield Mall, which is proximate to transit, housing and retail, is one of the 'greenest' forms of investment our firm can make," said Rockwood partner Bob Gray. "We are confident that a high quality renovation of San Antonio Station, which will include the latest building technology, will be well received by Silicon Valley companies." ■

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

ANIMAL SERVICES

► Continued from page 1

tain View over \$150,000 a year after five years, according to a staff report for a study session on the issue last year. But city staff members weren't making that claim Tuesday.

"It turns out it's going to be pretty close to a wash," said council member Jac Siegel about saving money with SVACA.

Siegel called it a "tough decision. I found the most caring people I've ever seen in my life at both facilities."

Council members weighed numerous pros and cons of the two shelters. Both have had similar euthanasia rates over recent years. Members praised Santa Clara's relatively new facilities, while Palo Alto's is in need of a rebuild. Fees are higher at SVACA for adopting a dog, for example, which costs \$150 versus \$100 at PAAS, but spaying and neutering pets is cheaper on average at SVACA. And a trip to SVACA may take a few minutes longer than to PAAS, according to Google maps, but council members said they found the trip using Central Expressway to be quick and convenient.

In opposing the switch, Macias cited concerns raised by a Palo Alto group called "Save Our Shelter" over a \$150 fee for surrendering animals at SVACA (Palo Alto takes them for free) and concerns over the limited availability of spaying and neutering services at the SVACA shelter, though the service is offered there at a lower

average cost. SOS members said the switch would result in more stray animals.

"The report did not study usage of the Palo Alto spay and neuter clinic by Mountain View and whether SVACA is able to provide similar service," said Mountain View resident Christina Peck.

"The whole idea of having to pay for surrendering an animal, that really is heartbreaking to me," said Mountain View resident Gloria Jackson. "I've known people who really could not take care of their animals and had to move."

Bryant noted that SVACA director Dan Soszynski promised to be flexible with those who could not afford a \$150 fee to surrender their pets, which has become more common during the recession as people move away or downsize into an apartment that doesn't allow pets.

"We do our best to work with everyone," Soszynski said. "We're not going to leave an animal at risk for a surrender fee."

"It does comfort me if there is hardship they can receive some help," Bryant said.

To keep Mountain View, city staff members reported in November that PAAS offered to extend its shelter hours from 30 to 43 hours a week, 7.5 hours more than SVACA's posted shelter hours. PAAS also offered to waive any costs for renovating its aging shelter facility, Mountain View's share of which was an estimated \$2 million. And recently proposed budget cuts to

► Continued on next page



PUBLIC NOTICE

Measure C Parcel Tax Senior Exemptions 2012-2013

The Mountain View Whisman Elementary School accepts requests for Senior Exemptions for the Measure C Parcel Tax. Homeowners age 65 or older are eligible for an exemption for their principal residence. Forms are available at the District Office at **750-A San Pierre Way, Mountain View, CA 94043**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or you may call 650-526-3548 to request a form be mailed to you. The forms are also available online at <http://mvwsd.org/district-info/parcel-tax> under Senior Exemption Form.

Once the form is completed and signed, the Senior must bring the form along with proof of residence, proof of age, and a copy of tax bill to the Mountain View Whisman School District Office. The suitable forms of identification are:

<u>Ownership Verification</u>	<u>Residence Verification</u>	<u>Birth date Verification</u>
Tax Bill	Driver's License/DMV I.D. Utility Bill	Driver's License/DMV I.D. Birth Certificate/Passport

This must be your primary residence, rental properties are not eligible for exemption.

All exemptions must be submitted and verified by June 29, 2012 to be eligible for the year 2012-13 exemptions.

Mountain View Whisman School District

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN (TK) ENROLLMENT FOR 2012-13

BEGINS MAY 1

For students born between
November 2, 2007,
and December 2, 2007.

Registration information is available at
www.mvwsd.org/parent-page/enrollment
or call the Mountain View Whisman School
District Office at 650-526-3500, ext. 1044.



► Continued from previous page

PAAS could also save Mountain View an untold amount.

"If it's not broken, don't fix it," Jackson told the council. "If you don't like the price, I suggest you negotiate with" Palo Alto.

Council members cited having an influence over how SVACA is run as a major selling point, along with fewer animal control duties put upon local police and the city attorney's office, who would no longer waste time "chasing strays" and holding vicious dog hearings.

But it turned out that the city's influence on SVACA's joint powers board may be less than hoped. As a member of the multi-city board, Mountain View has only two votes, while Santa Clara has five, Campbell has two and Monte Sereno has one vote. Bosel said there was "spirited discussion" about having a number of votes more proportionate to the population of the cities on the board, but no luck. Nevertheless, it's an upgrade to being at Palo Alto's whim with the PAAS contract, said council member Margaret Abe-Koga.

"I'm not not completely happy with the way the weighted voting has been set up but at least we have a vote," Abe-Koga said. "With Palo Alto we didn't have



VERONICA WEBER

A dog awaits adoption at Palo Alto Animal Services Center.

much say at all, quite frankly." Mountain View's contract with Palo Alto Animal Control Services ends January 1, 2013.

PAAS has not granted an early termination of the contract requested by Mountain View for July. ■

John Michael D'Zurko

May 9, 1924 – March 4, 2012

John Michael D'Zurko: born in Pittsburgh, Penn., on May 9, 1924, and died peacefully at Stanford on Sunday, March 4, 2012, of complications from lymphoma. He is survived by his younger brother, William D'Zurko of Mountaintop, Penn.; son, Michael D'Zurko of San Jose; and daughter, Marla Mulkey (Mike) and two children Marisa and Matthew Mulkey, of Mountain View.

A hero to his family, John was one of eight children orphaned at a young age. He worked hard and with integrity, attending college at UCLA, and Miami University in Ohio. He served in the navy as a radioman in both WWII and the Korean War until honorable discharge 1946 and 1951, respectively.

He settled after in San Francisco where he met his bride to be, Mary Johnson. They enjoyed life together until her passing in 1989 in Southern California. Time together entailed raising two children Mike and Marla, rallying with college friends who supported each other through business ventures, local and world travel, bridge groups, charity affiliations, and much laughter through the years.

John was a business and numbers guy who was an accountant for Shell Oil Co. for many years before starting a successful formal wear business with

locations throughout Southern California. He retired in the late 1990s, moving to The Forum in Cupertino to live closer to his grown children. There he enjoyed wood shop, playing bocce, hosting family for holiday meals, and jetting out in his Prius to watch his grandchildren play in music recitals, sporting events, and graduations.

He always left thoughtful small items on the doorstep to make life joyful for his family, and lit up when his grandchildren were around. He is, and will continue to be, missed terribly.

Services were held graveside in Fresno on Saturday, March 10, on a beautiful, crisp, clear afternoon under an oak tree. Each of his family paid tribute by a song, poem, or talk. The Honor Guard played Taps, and formally presented the flag. Services were led by his nephew, Pete Gavrilis. John was buried next to his wife, Mary.

Donations in his honor may be made to the American Cancer Society or the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.



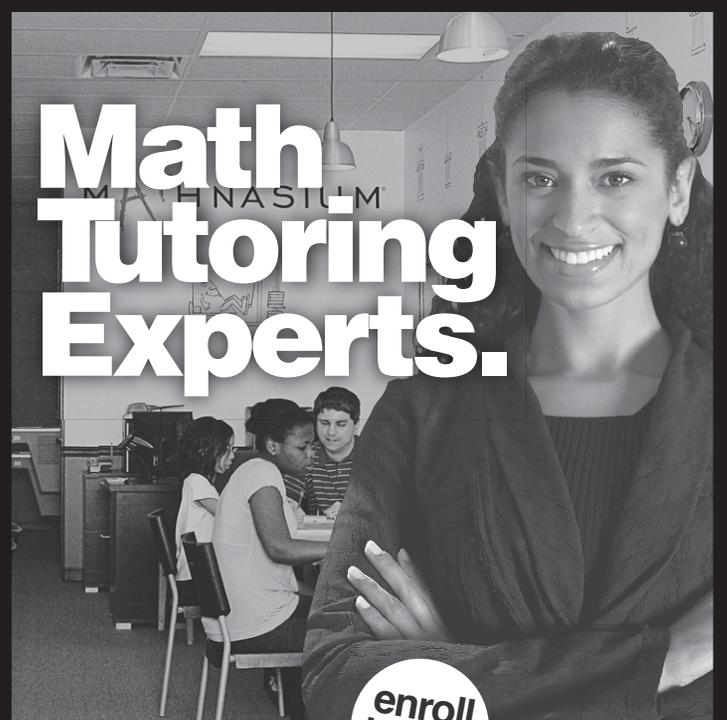
PAID OBITUARY

MOUNTAIN VIEW LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND OF PROPOSAL FOR INCREASING SCHOOL FACILITIES FEES AS AUTHORIZED BY EDUCATION CODE SECTION 17620 AND GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65995

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that immediately following a public hearing on the matter, a resolution will be considered by the Board of Trustees of the Mountain View Los Altos High School District at its regular meeting on May 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., which, if adopted by the Board, will increase development fees established by the District against residential construction and reconstruction to \$1.07 per square foot and against new commercial or industrial construction to \$0.17 per square foot. The proposed fees are authorized by Education Code Section 17620 and Government Code Section 65995. Data pertaining to the cost of school facilities is available for inspection during regular business hours at the District's administrative offices at 1299 Bryant Avenue in Mountain View. The increased fees, if approved by the Board of Trustees, will become effective on July 20, 2012 which is 60 days after the proposed adoption by the Board of the resolution levying such fee.

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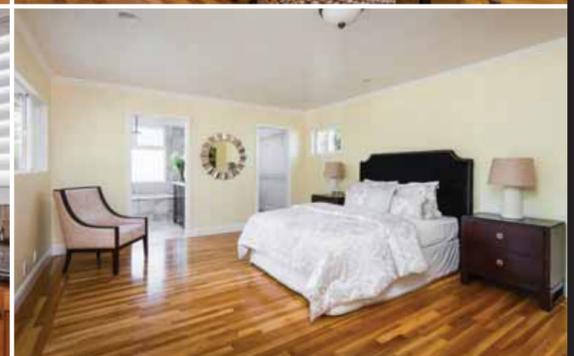
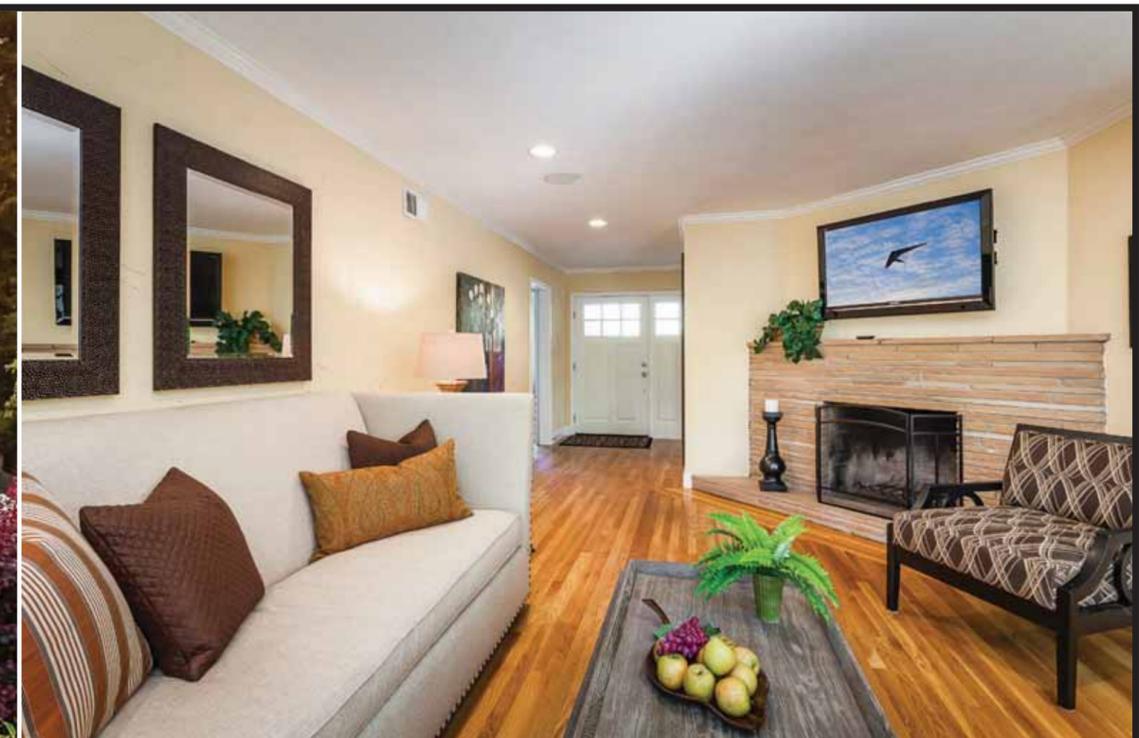
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Perfectly located just 3 blocks from the downtown shopping district, this charming 3 bedroom, 3 bath home incorporates over 1,700 sq. ft. of living space on a 7,200 sq. ft. lot. Completely updated, the home features a bright and inviting living/dining room with slate surround wood-burning fireplace, large picture windows and back yard access, a remodeled eat-in kitchen with granite counters, cultured marble backsplash, plantation shutters and high-end stainless steel appliances. Two spacious bedrooms share an updated hall bathroom with wainscoting and soaking tub with shower, while the master suite features a large walk-in closet, access to the patio and a marble en suite bath with skylight, soaking tub and rain shower. The gorgeous, expansive back yard has been meticulously landscaped and features a lush lawn, mature trees, colorful flower beds, two vegetable gardens, a gravel walkway, mulched goat/chicken pen area and a partially covered slate tile patio – ideal for entertaining. Mountain View schools include: Landels Elementary, Graham Middle and Mountain View High (buyer to verify enrollment).



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BIKE-SHARING

► Continued from page 1

requires people to ride from one bike sharing station to another.

“So you are assuming people are going to do this point-to-

point thing?” said member Tom Means, who was the only member to vote against it.

“That is the point of bike share, yes,” Cuenco said.

Means said people would be more inclined to take a bike with them, to work for example.

“If you take it to work with you, all the bikes will be gone and the stations won’t work,” Cuenco said.

Cuenco decried the program as a way to supplement buses, trains and light rail. Means, a libertarian, said he thought it was something that private industry could probably figure out better.

Member Margaret Abe Koga rebuked the skeptics.

“Here’s an opportunity for us to be one of the first in this area,” Abe-Koga said. “For all the pride we take in being cutting edge and progressive ... why not try it? There’s not a lot of skin we’re putting into this.”

Mayor Mike Kasperzak and

council member Bryant both said they saw the system work well in Europe. “I kept looking with surprise at how well they were used,” Bryant said of London’s system.

Kasperzak questioned the location of bike sharing at the Middlefield Road and Evelyn Avenue light rail stations. “There’s nowhere for those people to go,” he said.

Public works engineer Helen Kim said that people could take the Stevens Creek Trail from those light rail stations to other bike sharing locations, including two near Google headquarters. Others are planned for City Hall, the downtown train station, San Antonio shopping center, the La Avenida Avenue trailhead of the Stevens Creek Trail and the corner of Middlefield Road and Rengstorff Avenue. The locations were given the stamp of approval by the city’s bicycle and pedestrian advisory committee.

It was noted that no bike sharing stations are planned south of El Camino Real. Cuenco said the stations were for denser, high-activity areas.

“I would like to see this work a little more for the residents here as opposed to it being the last mile for transit,” Kasperzak said.

Kim said there were limited choices for where to place the bike sharing racks because the stations had to be placed on public property, though the city might be able to strike deals with private land owners for better locations.

The program is funded by a \$4.3 million grant from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. Cuenco said ongoing operations and maintenance for the program will be paid with membership fees. ▀

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

KEEP YOUR VTA YOUTH DISCOUNT

►► Apply for a Youth Clipper® card at an upcoming Walgreens event.

Starting July 1, 2012, VTA youth monthly passes will be available only on Clipper. To apply for the Youth Clipper card, bring your proof of age to an upcoming application event (a parent/guardian signature is also required).



- **Wednesday, May 9**
2012 El Camino Real
Santa Clara, 5pm - 8pm
- **Saturday, May 12**
1795 E. Capitol Exp.
San Jose, 9am - 12pm
- **Saturday, May 12**
770 First St
Gilroy, 2pm - 5pm
- **Tuesday, May 15**
4170 El Camino Real
Palo Alto, 5pm - 8pm
- **Thursday, May 17**
342 W. Calaveras Blvd
Milpitas, 5pm - 8pm
- **Saturday, May 19**
1130 Bird Ave
San Jose, 9am - 12pm



For a list of accepted proofs of age, visit clippercard.com/VTA or call 877.878.8883.

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NOTICE OF STEVENS CREEK TRAIL BRIDGE CLOSURE

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If you would like more information about the project, or if you have questions or concerns, please contact the Public Works Department at (650) 903-6311 or visit the City’s website at www.mountainview.gov.

HOSPITAL PAY CAP

► Continued from page 9

All tax money goes back to the community benefit and back to capital improvement for the hospital. It is important to note, Ernst said, because everyone who signed the petition in support of the salary cap initiative was led to believe that tax payer money is used to pay executive salaries at El Camino.

Pam Carper, a respiratory therapist at El Camino Hospital's pulmonary lab, said she believes hospital administrators earn their pay.

Although Carper is a member

of the SEIU-UHW she does not support capping anyone's pay at the hospital. "I think it's a tremendous waste of time, money and energy that the SEIU is pursuing this initiative," she said. "This is just an issue they're trying to use to agitate and cause dissent and slow down everybody's work. It's just another game."

Though Lynch admitted that his union had hired signature gatherers, he defended the practice, saying the union was simply working to "raise public awareness."

"The union didn't put this initiative on the ballot," Lynch said. "The voters did." ▼

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■ EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Bonds will help upgrade local schools

Some elementary and middle school classrooms in the Mountain View Whisman school district are more than 50 years old and obviously need to be renovated or replaced.

But that won't happen anytime soon unless voters pass Measure G, a \$198 million bond issue that addresses an array of shortcomings on local elementary and middle school campuses that have built up over the years. If approved, the cost to local property owners would be a maximum of \$30 a year for each \$100,000 of assessed valuation (not market value), or \$150 on a home assessed at \$500,000.

The June 5 vote comes at the end of a long process that began several years ago when district officials and school board members decided to take an inventory of what renovations and repairs would be needed to bring the district's nine campuses up to the standards for providing students a 21st Century education. Using a very broad yardstick, two board members met with designers, experts and builders and conducted four public hearings before deciding to move forward with a \$198 million bond issue that is on the June 5 ballot. The proceeds would pay for renovations and repairs that will touch each campus.

Among the improvements listed on Measure G promotional materials:

■ All schools will be brought up to current fire and earthquake standards;

■ Hazardous materials like lead and asbestos will be removed from all buildings;

■ Repairs and upgrades will be made to plumbing, sewers and classrooms and all schools will be made accessible to children with disabilities;

■ Science labs, classroom computers and other technology will be upgraded, and;

■ Energy and operational efficiency will be upgraded to save money that can be used to protect quality programs and teachers.

None of the bond funds can be used for salaries, pensions or benefits, nor can they be taken away by the state. If passed, a bond oversight committee will be selected to make sure funds are spent correctly, and more public meetings will be held at school campuses to solicit comments from parents and teachers.

To illustrate the importance of the bond measure, school officials told the Voice that some of the numerous portable classrooms that will be phased out if the bonds pass are not in use now due to their poor condition. In addition, passage of the bonds will permit the board to reoccupy the leased-out Whisman school campus if enrollment numbers keep growing, as they have in recent years.

Measure G has been endorsed by a long list of residents and school officials, as well as state Sen. Joe Simitian and Mayor Mike Kasperzak. And the district is also helped by its strong growth in achievement for district students, whose average test scores have advanced from 783 in 2007 to 834 in 2011.

We urge residents of the Mountain View Whisman school district to do their part by voting yes on Measure G when they go to the polls June 5. The bonds are a small price to pay for the tremendous improvements that will keep the district on a solid trajectory in the years ahead.

■ LETTERS

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

TAXES ARE NECESSARY AND VALUABLE

I see many complaints that taxes are too high and need to be cut or eliminated. Apparently, these people consider taxes to be worthless and unnecessary. I disagree. I think taxes are necessary and valuable. I also think taxes are too low, by a significant amount.

There are many things I want governments to do that they are skimping severely on: teachers, police and fire fighters; road and park maintenance; help for the poor, including food, clothing and shelter, but also including education, job training and help finding jobs; and many other things that are important and necessary.

But these things can't be done without taxes to pay for them.

I see many complaints that government employees are greedy, expensive, lazy and incompetent. Those who are lazy and incompetent should be fired. Firing government employees is difficult to prevent a recurrence of the spoils system and nepotism

but it can be done — and should be when the employee is lazy and incompetent.

But it is important to note that the fraction of government employees who actually are lazy and incompetent is too low to have a noticeable effect on government budgets — especially because they would have to be replaced by energetic, competent employees. This would be a better outcome, but would not make a noticeable reduction in the cost of government.

I also think the "greedy and expensive" complaint is another way of saying "lazy and incompetent" but I have to agree that the pensions being offered to state and local employees are higher than private and federal government pensions and need to be adjusted. However, it would be legally and morally wrong to take away existing pensions just because we have come to a belated recognition that they are too high; we must cut only future pensions.

Doug Pearson
Fordham Way

WE NEED TO ENFORCE IMMIGRATION LAWS

Your May 4 page 1 article on May Day marchers seeking immigration reform reminded me that the reform we need regarding our immigration problems is to

enforce our current laws.

We allow many people to come legally into our country, but millions more have come here illegally. I read estimates of 12 million illegal aliens in our country, many of them in



Viewpoint

California. They may work hard, but many are also in our public schools raising the cost to taxpayers. It would be stupid to let such people stay in our country illegally, and give them a path to citizenship. They should go home and follow the legal path to come to our country and obtain citizenship legally, as do immigrants from many countries. No amnesty for those here illegally.

Charlie Larson
Sylvan Avenue

WORRIED ABOUT PROMETHEUS PROJECT

In light of all the attention received by the Prometheus project at the Old Minton site, I only hope more attention will be paid to another proposed by the company at the site of the Social Service building on Moffett Boulevard.

The original proposal was made by another developer for

a much smaller project. Prometheus bought them out and has proposed a massive leased-only apartment building.

Prometheus has plans to purchase all the remaining small businesses on Stierlin Road to add to the size of its complex. Because our neighborhood doesn't have the clout of Old Mountain View, we are sure Prometheus will have their way with the city and have an adverse effect on our neighborhood.

I also have concerns regarding the planned study of the traffic issue north of Bayshore and the possible "sky tram" that was considered for Stierlin Road. If the Prometheus project is accepted, what will happen to the sky tram? And why another leased apartment complex? Can't we have condos? Two-thirds of Mountain View is rental property.

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FOOD FEATURE

MOVIE TIMES

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Far West Fungi offers a colorful array of mushrooms, such as (from left) yellow and pink tree oyster, shimeji and shiitake.

VERONICA WEBER

FOOD FEATURE

Fancy fungus among us

GARRONE FAMILY'S FAR WEST FUNGI BRINGS ORGANIC SPECIALTY MUSHROOMS TO FARMERS MARKETS

By Bryce Druzin

Most companies would avoid describing their products as ugly. But Far West Fungi has some fun with its sometimes alien-looking products, selling “ugly shiitake baskets” filled with misshapen mushrooms at farmers markets across the Bay Area.

“They’re not perfectly formed, but they’re so delicious,” said John Perez, who comes every other week to the Mountain View market to pick up an “ugly” basket.

Toby Garrone, who owns Far West Fungi with her husband John, said, “People always laugh and say: ‘Well, I don’t really care what they look like. They taste the

same, right?’”

The Garrones have been the sole owners of Far West Fungi since 2004, and grow their organic mushrooms in Moss Landing in Monterey County. Besides offering shiitake, Far West grows and sells bulbous large-stemmed king trumpets, delicate and ghostly tree oysters, maitakes resembling miniature coral reefs, and other varieties.

The company has stands at 16 farmers markets, including the Saturday Palo Alto and Sunday Mountain View and Menlo Park markets. They also sell non-organic “agaricus” varieties such as white and brown buttons from Global Mushrooms in Gilroy.

“We carry them because they’re such the standard mushroom,” said Robbie Desanto, who works at Far West’s stand at farmers markets and the company store in San Francisco.

Desanto said he’s witnessed customers purchase the more common mushrooms for years before trying the more exotic varieties. “It’s that initial getting away from the ‘regular’ mushrooms that scares people at first.”

At a recent Sunday market in Mountain View, Desanto sold mushrooms, answered questions and handed out recipe ideas along with co-workers Hope Moseley and Merl Sabado.

When a customer asked Sabado what to do with yellow oysters, she recommended dropping them in a soup. “But towards the end. Don’t let them sit too long,” said Sabado, who has worked with the Garrones for over 25 years.

Sauteeing mushrooms with vegetables or using them in omelettes are common customer uses for their fungi. But Caitlin Eanes said she had a more elaborate dish in mind for her mushrooms: chestnut pappardelle in a brown butter sauce with English peas. “I’m using maitake, but black trumpet would have been better,” she said.

Back at the Moss Landing farm, Toby Garrone said risotto is “always good with mushrooms” and likes to use a combination of shiitake, oyster and king trumpet.

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King trumpet mushrooms are offered at Far West Fungi's farmers market stands.



Christine Manzano sorts shiitake mushrooms into an "ugly" basket.

Her husband's latest recipe involves taking the large stemmed king trumpet mushroom, cutting them paper thin and sauteing them in butter. "The mushroom itself comes out like a chow fun noodle, and sauteing them in butter makes a really nice, sweet, mushroomy sauce," he said.

He added that king trumpets are also firm enough to be cut in half and thrown into a roast.

Customers at the Mountain View market repeatedly mentioned the willingness of Far West's employees to talk about their mushrooms. When a customer asked Desanto why organic button mushrooms are hard to

find, he gave a detailed answer about the variety's susceptibility to mold that makes organic growing uneconomical.

"They are so delighted to give you information," said Orly Ben Yosef, who has visited Far West's farm and is a member of a group dedicated to promoting mushrooms.

John Garrone has been selling mushrooms at the Palo Alto market for more than 25 years. He said the market has an unusual feel because of its ties with Avenidas, a senior organization that receives donations from the volunteer-run market. "The

► Continued on next page

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VERONICA WEBER

Christine Manzano and Christina Dubois set up at Far West's stand in the Ferry Building in San Francisco.

► Continued from previous page

dynamic is very community-oriented," he said.

The Garrones have witnessed a dramatic increase in the number of farmers markets, from the 1980s when Palo Alto had the only market on the Peninsula, to

the present day, where some cities hold multiple markets in a week.

Though the increase has ultimately been good for business, Toby said there was a time when the addition of new markets diluted sales. "It felt like you had to keep on doing more and more farmers markets just to make what you used to make at two of

them," she said.

The Garrones said the biggest challenge to their business is the large number of inexpensive shiitakes imported from Asia, which can sell for a third of the price of Far West's product.

Regional demand for organic food is key to their business, they said. "We're fortunate that we

have a nice, niche market in the Bay Area," John said.

About a third of Far West's production is sold at farmers markets, with the rest going to wholesalers such as Whole Food, Veritable Vegetable and Earl's Organic Produce.

Toby said that without companies willing to pay a higher price, the business would be completely dependent on farmers markets. "We're running out of kids and trucks. There's only so many farmers markets we can do."

The Garrones weren't shy about sharing their feelings about the quality of their imported competition. "They smell funny," John said.

Toby added: "I couldn't put my mushrooms in a plastic bag and put them on a ship for three weeks and have them come out looking like something you want to eat. So we are really clear that it is somehow processed."

John and Toby said they can not only identify imported shiitakes by sight, but that they can also recognize their own from other domestically grown.

They recalled being in a Whole Foods and seeing shiitakes that they suspected were their own, but were labeled "grown in Washington." After asking a worker to bring out the original box, they found their suspicions confirmed.

"We were laughing later, going, 'That's a little neurotic: We know our own little babies,'" Toby said.

Costs for growing have also increased, they said. Far West grows most of its mushrooms out of blocks made up of red oak sawdust and organic rice bran.

"At one time sawdust was a free item that people wanted to get rid of," Toby said. "Now it's an expensive item." ■

■ INFORMATION

Far West Fungi has a store at the Ferry Building in San Francisco and a farm in Moss Landing, and makes regular appearances at local farmers markets. The company is at the downtown Palo Alto market on Gilman Street on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon, May through December. On Sundays, there are tables at the Menlo Park market off Chestnut Street and the Mountain View market at Hope Street and W. Evelyn Avenue, both from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. all year. For details, go to farwestfungi.com or call 650-871-0786.

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MOVIE REVIEWS

THE AVENGERS

★★★★ (Century 16, Century 20) In "The Avengers," Joss Whedon helms with a master craftsman's focus and a devoted fan's enthusiasm in adapting the popular Marvel comic book series. The screenplay (also by Whedon) is witty and rife with whip-smart dialogue; visual effects and costume design are exceptional; character dynamics are deeply developed; and the ambitious action scenes are astonishing. The result is the most impressive superhero film ever produced. "Avengers" assembles a handful of "Earth's mightiest heroes" when mischievous Norse god Loki swipes a powerful object dubbed the Tesseract. Loki has made a pact with an alien army in hopes of dominating our humble planet. Whedon has created something of a masterpiece with "The Avengers." It is a tremendous viewing for action and science-fiction fans alike. But for comic book fans it is akin to cinematic euphoria: a thrilling, creative, crowd-pleasing triumph. *Rated PG-13 for intense sci-fi action/violence and a mild drug reference. Two hours, 23 minutes.* — T.H.

THE FIVE-YEAR ENGAGEMENT

★★★ (Century 16, Century 20) Albert Brooks meets Hal Ashby meets Judd Apatow in "The Five-Year Engagement," a new romantic comedy whose pessimism, sweetness, raunch and loopiness make for a pleasantly offbeat blend. Jason Segel and Emily Blunt star as Tom and Violet, a San Francisco couple ready to take their relationship to the next level ... or so they think. Planning follows proposal, but everything gets put on hold when Violet gets a chance at having it all. Director Nicholas Stoller — who co-wrote the script with Segel — is equally adept at crafting legitimate "aw shucks" sweetness that doesn't lose the film's "cool," so to speak. The inherently male point-of-view somewhat upsets the film's balance, but it also means a thorough exploration of the unfairer sex's post-feminist defensiveness. Because this is an Apatow production, absurdity is welcome, the film can be too eager to shock, and the running time creeps past two hours. But the heroes remain likeable, thanks to Segel and Blunt. The film is full of funny performances and its emotional range distinguishes it, up to and including a climax that achieves true romance. *Rated R for sexual content and language. Two hours, four minutes.* — P.C.

THE PIRATES! BAND OF MISFITS

★★★★ (Century 16, Century 20) "Wallace & Gromit." "Chicken Run." "Arthur Christmas." In its consistent excellence, England's Aardman Animations might well be called EuroPixar if its U.S. distributor weren't Sony, and if clay didn't trump pixels at Aardman. Aardman's streak continues with "The Pirates! Band of Misfits," 88 minutes of sublime silliness. Due to its often sophisticated humor, "The Pirates! Band of Misfits" should appeal in equal measure to adults and children. The madcap plot concerns the also-ran Pirate Captain, who covets the "Pirate of the Year" award but stands little chance of winning it for his bumbling plundering. All bets are off when The Pirate

► Continued on next page

MOVIE TIMES

Showtimes for the Century 20 theater are for Friday through Tuesday unless otherwise noted

- The Artist (PG-13) ★★★1/2** Century 16: Fri.-Mon. at 11:30 a.m.; 2 & 4:30 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 7:30 & 10 p.m.; Sun. & Mon. also at 7 & 9:30 p.m. Century 20: 12:30, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20 & 9:40 p.m.
- Ball of Fire (1941)** Stanford Theatre: Fri.-Sun. at 5:25 & 9:15 p.m.
- Battleship (PG-13)** Century 16: Thu. at 12:01 a.m. Century 20: Thu. at 12:01 a.m.
- The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (PG-13)** Palo Alto Square: 1:15, 2:30, 4:15 & 7:15 p.m.; Fri.-Sun., Tue. & Thu. also at 5:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 8:30 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 10:15 p.m.
- Chimpanzee (G) ★★★1/2** Century 16: 11:20 a.m.; 1:40, 3:55, 6:20 & 8:50 p.m. Century 20: 11:15 a.m.; 1:25, 3:35, 5:40, 7:50 & 10 p.m.
- Dark Shadows (PG-13)** Century 16: 11 a.m.; noon, 12:50, 1:50, 2:50, 3:50, 4:50, 5:50, 7 & 9 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 10 a.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 8, 10:20 & 11:05 p.m.; Sun.-Thu. also at 7:50, 9:50 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Thu. at 11:15 a.m.; 2, 4:45, 7:30 & 10:15 p.m.; Fri.-Tue. also at 11:55 a.m.; 12:35, 1:15, 2:40, 3:20, 4, 5:25, 6:05, 6:50, 8:15, 8:55 & 9:35 p.m.
- Darling Companion (PG-13)** Aquarius Theatre: 4:15, 7 & 9:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 1:45 p.m.
- The Dictator (R)** Century 16: Tue. at 12:01 a.m.; Wed. & Thu. at 11 a.m.; 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 8:10 & 10:30 p.m.
- The Five-Year Engagement (R) ★★★** Century 16: 12:30, 3:40, 7:05 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 11 a.m.; 12:30, 2, 3:20, 4:50, 7:45 & 10:35 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. & Tue. also at 6:15 & 9:05 p.m.
- Girl in Progress (PG-13)** Century 16: 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:20 & 9:50 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 10 a.m. Century 20: 12:10, 2:30, 4:55, 7:15 & 9:40 p.m.
- His Girl Friday (1940)** Stanford Theatre: Fri.-Sun. at 7:30 p.m.; Sun. also at 3:40 p.m.
- The Hunger Games (PG-13) ★★★** Century 16: 11:50 a.m.; 3:20, 6:30 & 9:45 p.m. Century 20: 12:40, 3:50, 7 & 10:05 p.m.
- The Lucky One (PG-13)** Century 20: 11:30 a.m.; 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:35 p.m.
- Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) ★★★★★** Century 16: 12:10, 3:30, 7:10, 8:30 & 10:30 p.m.; Fri. (standard 2D) also at 10 a.m.; In 3D at 11:40 a.m.; 12:50, 3, 4:20, 5, 6:10, 6:40, 7:50 & 9:30 p.m.; In 3D Fri. also at 10:40 a.m.; In 3D Fri. & Sat. also at 10:05 & 11:05 p.m.; In 3D Sat. & Sun. also at 10 a.m.; In 3D Sat.-Thu. also at 2:20 p.m.; In 3D Sun.-Thu. also at 10 p.m. Century 20: 11 a.m.; 1:05, 2:15, 4:20, 5:35, 7:40 & 8:55 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. (standard 2D) also at 10:50 p.m.; In 3D at 11:30 a.m.; noon, 12:35, 1:40, 2:45, 3:15, 3:50, 4:55, 6, 6:35, 7:10, 8:15, 9:20, 9:55 & 10:30 p.m.
- The Metropolitan Opera: Die Walküre** Century 20: Mon. at 6:30 p.m. Palo Alto Square: Mon. at 6:30 p.m.
- The Metropolitan Opera: Siegfried** Century 20: Wed. at 6:30 p.m. Palo Alto Square: Wed. at 6:30 p.m.
- Monsieur Lazhar (PG-13) ★★★** Guild Theatre: 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 1 p.m.
- The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) ★★★** Century 16: 11 a.m.; 4:10 & 9:10 p.m.; In 3D at 1:20 & 6:50 p.m. Century 20: 12:20 & 5 p.m.; In 3D at 2:40, 7:20 & 9:40 p.m.
- The Raven (R)** Century 20: 11:35 a.m.; 4:40 & 9:35 p.m.
- The Road to Glory (1936)** Stanford Theatre: Wed. & Thu. at 5:35 & 9:10 p.m.
- Safe (R)** Century 20: 2:15 & 7:15 p.m.
- Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG-13)** Century 16: Fri.-Mon. at 11:10 a.m.; 1:45, 4:25, 7 & 9:40 p.m.
- Sound of My Voice (R)** Aquarius Theatre: 4:45, 7:30 & 9:55 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 2:30 p.m.
- The Thing from Another World (1951)** Stanford Theatre: Wed. & Thu. at 7:30 p.m.
- Think Like a Man (PG-13)** Century 16: 1, 4, 7:15 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: 11 a.m.; 1:50, 4:40, 7:30 & 10:20 p.m.
- Wings (1927)** Century 16: Wed. at 2 & 7 p.m.

- ★ 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.



Inspirations

a guide to the spiritual community

MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTRAL SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.
Saturday Services: Worship 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Study Groups: 10-11 a.m.

Pastor Kenny Fraser, B.A.M. DIV

1425 Springer Rd., Mtn. View Office Hrs. M-F 9am-1pm
www.mtviewda.adventistfaith.org Phone: 650-967-2189

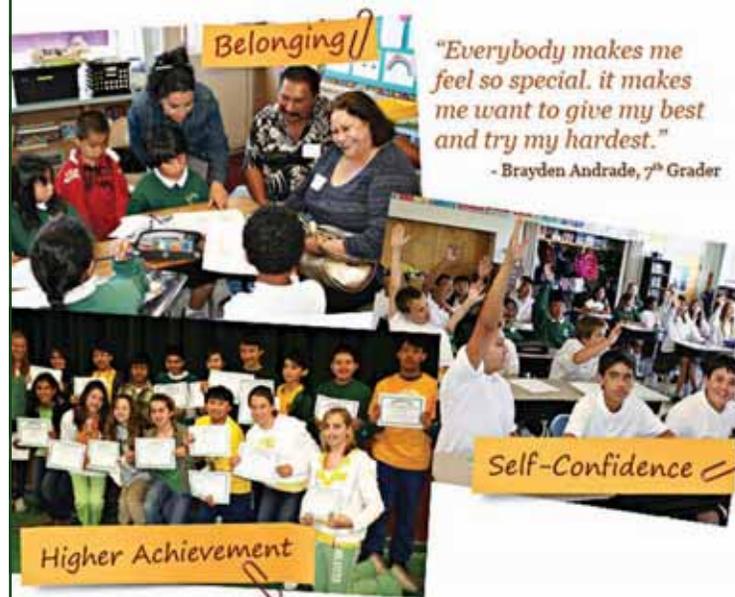
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Mountain View, CA 94040

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Open House

New applications now available.

Wednesday, May 16, 2012
6:30 PM

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For more information visit www.sjmv.org or call us at 650-967-1839

K - 8th Grade

**The El Camino
Hospital District
Board of Directors
invites you to learn
more about Board
candidates during
interviews open
to the public.**

SATURDAY, MAY 12

9:30 a.m.

**El Camino Hospital
Conference Center
2500 Grant Road
Mountain View, CA 94040**

*For agenda and more information, visit
www.elcaminohospitaldistrict.org*



El Camino Hospital® District



Left: "The Avengers" brings together Marvel's comic book heroes.

► *Continued from previous page*

Captain and his crew haplessly board the Beagle. Though they discover Darwin has no booty, the naturalist recognizes the Pirate Captain's "parrot" Polly to be the last living dodo. And so our hero resets his sights on the Royal Society's "Scientist of the Year" award. The story doesn't skip on the looting, cutlasses, plank-walking and funny hats, but everything gets a winningly ironic spin. The picture offers visual delights in old-school Claymation style, with an assist from some CGI effects (plus, pie-throwing in 3D). The production design comes courtesy of three-time Oscar nominee Norman Garwood ("Brazil"), and the soundtrack includes the Pogues, the Clash and Flight of the Conchords. Though the film is full of Anglophile easter eggs for adults kids will appreciate the action, the goofy characters and sentiments like this one: "It's only impossible if you stop to think about it." *Rated PG for mild action, rude humor and some language. One hour, 28 minutes.* — P.C.

MONSIEUR LAZHAR ★★★

(Guild) "Monsieur Lazhar" is a sensitive and subtle work, with the deceptive simplicity of a well-honed short story. "Monsieur Lazhar" takes an interest in both its titular hero, an Algerian immigrant who comes to teach a sixth-grade class, and his troubled students. After students discover their teacher's body hanging in their classroom, Mr. Lazhar walks into the school and volunteers his services, explaining he taught in Algiers for 19 years. He turns out to be just what the students need, and perhaps the job is just what he needs. The director gently depicts the love-hate relationship between the suicide's witnesses: class clown Simon, given to aggressive acting out, and Alice, who quickly takes a shine to the school's sole male classroom instructor. The keen leading performances never hit a false note, but Simon gets the showpiece with an emotional breakthrough about his late teacher. *Rated PG-13 for thematic material, a disturbing image and language. One hour, 34 minutes.* — P.C.

CHIMPANZEE★★

(Century 16, Century 20) This new G-rated Disney nature documentary may prove a "gateway drug" of sorts to get young kids interested in nature and science-themed documentaries, and so its stylistic crimes are probably excusable. Like most docs of its ilk, "Chimpanzee" allows information to take a back seat to manufactured drama, ruthlessly constructed to maximize short attention spans. The film captures impressive fly-on-the-tree footage of a baby chimp in his formative years. "Oscar" begins in the company of mother "Isha" but (spoiler alert) when a Disney-style parental tragedy separates the two, Oscar bonds with alpha male "Freddy." The narration, read by Tim Allen, would love to turn "Chimpanzee" into "The Lion King," and it's full of anthropomorphisms about "our boy Oscar." Sometimes the commentary is downright puzzling. Following a climactic battle, Allen intones, "Teamwork has beaten brute force" (what movie is he watching?). Decide for yourself if the narration is a necessary concession for kids. *Rated G. One hour, 18 minutes.* — P.C.

MOVIECRITICS

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

CKIS

CHAMPION INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE – 3 locations

Preschool (2-5): 5/11, Fri. 5:00-6:00pm
1055 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Rd. Sunnyvale, 94087, (408)735-8333

Palo Alto (5-12): 5/11, Fri. 5:30-6:30pm
870 N. California Ave. Palo Alto, 94303, (650)85801880/ (650)353-0882

Mountain View (5-12): 5/11, Fri. 5:30-6:30pm
2094 Grant Rd. Mt. View, 94040, (650)353-0881

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Creative Interactive Mandarin Immersion Programs

For ages Pre-K to Grade 5
Full and Half-Day Programs
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LOS ALTOS ROTARY'S OPEN-AIR ART SHOW

37TH ANNUAL

Fine Art in the Park

May 19-20 • 10 am to 5:30 pm
Lincoln Park, Los Altos

*Sculptures by Barbara Glynn Prodanjuk.
Figures from paintings by Jacqueline Osborn.*

WWW.ROTARYARTSHOW.COM

GoingsOn

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ HIGHLIGHT

PEAR SLICES 2012

Nine new plays for the theater's ninth season. The plays are by writers in the Pear Playwrights Guild. May 11-June 3, 8-10 p.m. \$15-\$25. Pear Avenue Theatre, 1220 Pear Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-254-1148. www.thepear.org

ART GALLERIES

'Land and Sky,' by Teresa Ruzzo The exhibit is a tribute to nature and the landscape of California and the Southwest. Ruzzo works almost exclusively in pastel and hopes to convey something of the subtleties and beauty of what she sees and feels. May 1 - June 2, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Viewpoints Gallery, 315 State St., Los Altos. www.viewpointsgallery.com

AUDITIONS

Secret Garden, Spring Version Director: Michelle Markwart Deveau Musical Director: Asa Stern Auditions: May 14, 7-9pm May 16 6:30 - 9 p.m. Callbacks: May 19, 11 a.m. -4 p.m. call for appointment. Casting ages 12-24, ages 10-11 with permission Those interested can visit the web page for details and audition form and bring filled-in form with you to audition. May 14-19, 6:30-9 p.m. Hillview Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. www.losaltosrecreation.org/auditions.html

BENEFITS

13th Annual Out to Eat Gala Help support Outlet Program for LGBTQ Youth at this gala. Appetizers and silent auction, sit-down dessert with youth speakers, live auction and special guest speaker Jose Antonio Vargas, MV High grad, Pulitzer Prize-Winning Journalist. May 11, 6-10 p.m. \$150. Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Call 650-965-2020 x22. outtoeat.org

Friends of Mtn View Library Book Sale Friends of Mtn View Public Library Book Sale Located in Library Bookmobile Garage. Sat May 19, 2012 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, May 20, 2012 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Bag Sale May 20th from 2-4 p.m. Friends of Mtn View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7031. www.mvlibraryfriends.org

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Graywater for Landscape Irrigation Graywater is water from the shower, clothes washer, and bathroom sink that is re-used for landscape irrigation. Register by phone or online. May 12, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Mountain View Senior Center. www.bawasca.org

COMMUNITY EVENTS

International Night 2012 Participants can join Foothill College to celebrate the 11th Annual International Night event. International Night is a celebration of cultures from around the world, a night of music, dance, traditional costumes and tasty cuisine. Admission includes a banquet, performances and a traditional fashion show. May 18, 5:30-10:30 p.m. \$10 General Public or \$14 At the Door. Foothill College, Smithwick Theater, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7105. www.foothill.edu/night

Mother's Day with Meaning

Global Women's Leadership Network will host a celebration in the Stonebrook Estate in Los Altos Hills for families to recognize mothers and important women in their lives. Participants will get a champagne reception, gourmet brunch, a silent auction and exploring the mansion. Pre-register at www.gwln.org (required) 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. \$60 per adult, \$30 per child (12 and under). Stonebrook Estate, 12335 Stonebrook Court, Los Altos Hills. www.gwln.org

El Camino Youth Symphony Ice Cream Social Concert

At El Camino Youth Symphony, the talent is served a la mode. The Ice Cream Social concert will feature four orchestras and a flute ensemble. The event combines a fun festive concert with an equally fun all-you-can-eat ice cream sundae bar. May 12, 6:15 p.m. \$15. Albert & Janet Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. www.ecys.org

FAMILY AND KIDS

Merit Scholar Mother's Day Concert

Merit Scholars from Community School of Music and Arts in a concert in honor of Mother's Day. Performers include the new Merit Scholarship String Quartet, the Advanced Brass Ensemble, the award-winning Early Music Minstrels, plus chamber music featuring piano, violin, & voice students. May 12, 5-7 p.m. Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org

Sue Fliess The children's author will lead a storytime event with her new picture book, "A Dress for Me." Attendees can wear fancy dresses. May 12, 4-5 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View. www.booksinc.net

FILM

Miss Representation: Film and Panel Discussion "Miss Representation" challenges the media's portrayal of women and girls, uncovering how mainstream media contribute to the under-representation of women in power. Includes a discussion panel with an optional peer-to-peer discussion for teens. May 15, 6:30-9 p.m. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Call 650-223-8605. www.paloaltojcc.org/missrep

LIVE MUSIC

Students Recitals Voice Solo Recital, Saya Jenks, graduate student 2012. May 18, 8-9 p.m. The Gorin School of Music, 2290 W. El Camino Real, Mountain View. Call 650-961-4910.

SENIORS

Drop-In Bridge Visitors can meet new people by playing this popular card game. Playing cards will be provided, but there is no formal instruction. May 15-June 26, 5:15-7:15 p.m. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

SPECIAL EVENTS

2012 SUMMIT: Free Energy, Alien Intervention, New Politics, Ascension Participants will hear seven speakers on a variety of community oriented, global awareness and conscious awakening topics. May 12, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. \$26.00 Trinity United Methodist Church, 748 Mercy St., Mountain View. Call 415-895-6069. www.ccevents2012.com

Mansaku-no Kai Kyogen Mansaku-no Kai Kyogen, one of Japan's most celebrated

companies, performs "Tied to a Stick" and "The Owl," traditional Kyogen works. Featuring Artistic Director Mansaku Nomura, designated a Living National Treasure of Japan. One of only 3 performances on the 2012 US tour. May 13, 3-5 p.m. \$35. Tateuchi Hall, Community School of Music and Arts at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Call 650-917-6800 x314. www.arts4all.org/attend/kyogen.htm

TEDxStanford 2012 From cutting-edge science and medicine that is changing lives to behind-the-scenes of remarkable start-ups, TEDx-Stanford will feature digital innovation, philosophy talks, student inventions, virtual reality, yoga, Taiko drumming, and dance. May 19, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. \$99 general admission. Stanford University, Graduate School of Business, Cemex Auditorium, Knight Business Center, Stanford. tedx.stanford.edu

SPORTS

AYSO Region 45 Fall Soccer American Youth Soccer Organization region 45 registration has begun. AYSO Region 45 primarily serves Mountain View, the southern portion of Los Altos and Montclair school in Cupertino. Player division age range: 5-18. Walk-in registration May 12, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Castro Elementary School. Scholarships available. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Castro Elementary School, 505 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. www.ayso45.org

U8 Boys Soccer Tryouts The Mountain View Los Altos Soccer Club is hosting tryouts for the upcoming fall season for all interested boys born between 8/1/2004-7/31/2005. Training philosophy is all about skill development. Tryouts: May 15, 4-5:30 p.m. At Huff Elementary; May 17, 4-5:30 p.m. At Hillview; May 19, 9-10:30 p.m. At

Los Altos High School. 4-5:30 p.m. Call 408-603-7872. mvlasc.org

TALKS/AUTHORS

Hugh Ross, Reasons To Believe Attendees can come hear how the latest scientific advances provide evidence that God created and sustains the universe. Friday, May 11, 7:30-9 p.m. Bridges Community Church, 625 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-917-9107. www.reasons.org/participate/chapters-and-networks/san-jose

Iran Today and nuclear issues A free public lecture "Iran Today and Its Place in the Nuclear Puzzle." Ralph Kuiper will show his photo journal of Iran; Martin Hellman, Stanford professor emeritus, speaks on Iran's nuclear program. Co-sponsors World Affairs Council - Peninsula, Los Altos Library. May 16, 7:30-9 p.m. Los Altos Youth Center, 1 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos.

VOLUNTEERS

Become A Trained Volunteer Music Teacher Make a difference and keep music in our schools. Join our team of dedicated volunteers who teach music in K-3 classrooms in schools throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. May 14, 12-1 p.m. music for Minors, 883 N.Shoreline Blvd. c120, Mountain View. Call 650-237-9130. www.mfm.org

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

The City of Mountain View Recreation Division invites you to the Annual

Community Yard Sale

Saturday, May 12, 2012
8:00am - 2:00pm
at Rengstorff Park

HOT BARGAINS & GOOD FOOD!

ONE PERSON'S JUNK IS ANOTHER PERSON'S TREASURE!
JOIN OVER 100 SELLERS IN ONE LOCATION!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE COMMUNITY YARD SALE, PLEASE CALL THE RECREATION OFFICE AT (650) 903-6331.

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MVLA SOCCER TRYOUTS

Club Wide Fall 2013 Tryouts

See www.mvlasc.org/tryouts for team-specific information

- ☆ Want to play for an established top club?
- ☆ Play for elite level coaches?
- ☆ Want to find out why MVLA is "more than a club?"

See www.mvlasc.org/tryouts for team-specific information

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CELEBRATING NATIONAL NURSES AND HOSPITAL WEEK, MAY 6 TO 12.

Delivering high-quality care is one thing. Delivering it with compassion and a personal touch is another thing altogether. Thanks to our doctors, nurses, employees, and volunteers, we can offer comprehensive treatment and care in a truly exceptional healing environment. So this week, we're taking time to salute the people of El Camino Hospital who consistently do whatever it takes to serve our community well.

For more information, visit our website or call today.



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www.elcaminohospital.org



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