

# MountainView VOICE

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## Spring Class Guide

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## Worries mount about TCE's impacts



**EPA Project Manager**  
Alana Lee points out new TCE levels on a map at a community meeting March 3. See the story on page 14.

### Apartment owner changes stance on toxics testing

By Daniel DeBolt

An apartment building owner has finally allowed the Environmental Protection Agency to see if unsafe levels of toxic vapors are being trapped inside a 64-unit apartment complex.

Jim Ebert, a representative of the owners of the complex at 600 Whisman Road, Evandale Investors LLC, reversed course on Wednesday and said that indoor air testing would be allowed on the site, as well as groundwater testing. The complex may be affected by TCE fumes from Superfund sites on North Whisman Road.

The situation caught the attention of the neighborhood when it was first reported in the *Voice* on Feb. 15 that the EPA said it had been refused permission to do air sampling inside the apartments.

EPA officials said they had not been in direct contact with the owner, but received a note from the complex's property management firm — Prometheus Real Estate Group — saying that the owners "weren't going to be participating in the testing," said David Yogi, EPA Region 9 spokesman. "It was back in January. They didn't give any reasons why."

## Pregnant Google employees concerned about fumes

By Daniel DeBolt

A local expert on TCE issues says he spoke to Google employees who were exposed to toxic vapors while pregnant. Both worked at 369 and 379 Whisman Road, the pair of Google buildings found with elevated levels of toxic vapors late last year.

"They wanted to know more about it and whether they were at risk," said Lenzy Siegel, director of the Center for Public

Environmental Oversight in Mountain View. "From what I can tell, there were several and they knew each other."

Because the women hadn't had been in the buildings during the first trimester of pregnancy, "it's unlikely there were impacts, but it wouldn't hurt to tell their pediatrician about it," Siegel said he told the women.

As far as the women know, their babies were born healthy, Siegel said.

After a recent review of TCE (trichloro-

ethylene) studies done over the years, toxicologists from the Environmental Protection Agency said recently that there is "strong evidence" that a mother's exposure to TCE during the first trimester can cause malformations of the fetal heart as it undergoes critical stages of development over a period of three weeks.

Toxicologists employed by the pollut-

► See **TCE AT GOOGLE**, page 13

► See **APARTMENT TESTING**, page 13

## Hangar One saved?

GOOGLE IS STILL INTERESTED AS FEDS SEEK TENANT TO RESTORE, LEASE HANGAR AND RUN AIRFIELD

By Daniel DeBolt

In a move that could save Moffett Field's Hangar One, the federal government announced March 1, that it is seeking bids for the restoration and lease of the iconic structure.

According to a "Notice of Intent," a competitive bidding process administered by the General Services Administration will begin this spring to find a tenant for Hangar One, recently stripped by United States Navy contractors down to a painted

metal frame in an environmental cleanup. The federal government is also seeking a new manager for Moffett's massive airfield, which would remain under NASA ownership, as would Hangar One.

Congresswoman Anna Eshoo's office said in an email that the move was made after a meeting between Eshoo, the General Services Administration, NASA and the White House on Feb. 26.

"It looks like some uncertainty is start-

► See **HANGAR ONE**, page 8



MICHELLE LE

**Hangar One** needs a tenant to restore it.

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▶ CLIFF NOLL



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# Vintage Voices

## A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in Downtown Mountain View in June, 2010. Pictures and interviews by Emily Hamilton.

### What could Hangar One be used for?



*"Maybe have a museum detailing the history of having a base there. It could be a good resource between NASA and the community."*

**Michelle Graves, Mountain View**



*"They ought to make it a skate park."*

**Nora Voorhies, Menlo Park**



*"They should turn it into a homeless shelter."*

**Ben Haskins, Santa Cruz**



*"They could open it up and it could be an interesting space for art."*

**Chia Hwu, Palo Alto**



*"Hold football games! Store blimps in it. America is underserved in the blimp category."*

**Jon Pugh, Pacifica**

The future use of Hangar One is up in the air again – see story on Page 1

Have a question for **Voices Around Town**? Email it to [editor@mv-voice.com](mailto:editor@mv-voice.com)

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## LocalNews

### CRIME BRIEFS

#### FATAL PEDESTRIAN ACCIDENT

Mountain View police are seeking witnesses to a fatal accident Monday night on Phyllis Avenue.

Police said a Mountain View woman apparently was crossing the street at about 6:30 p.m. on March 4 when she was struck by a northbound car in the 1200 block of Phyllis Avenue near the intersection with Hans Avenue. She suffered major injuries and was taken to Stanford Hospital, where she later died, according to police spokeswoman Jaime Garrett.

The victim was identified as 59-year-old Ruifen Ma of Mountain View by the Santa Clara County coroner's office on Tuesday morning.

The Mountain View woman driving the car, a blue Nissan Maxima, stayed on the scene and cooperated with police, Garrett said in a press release. Police do not suspect alcohol use or excessive speed to have played a role in the accident, she said.

"In recent months, the Mountain View Police Department has been working to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety and has conducted several decoy operations targeting vehicles that do not yield to pedestrians at intersections and in crosswalks," Garrett said in the statement. "California law requires drivers to yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk."

Witnesses to the collision are asked to call police investigators at (650) 903-6344.

—Andrea Gemmet

#### COPS ARREST KNIFE-WIELDING TEEN

A student of Terra Bella Academy was arrested and booked into juvenile hall after slashing a fellow student with a knife just down the street from the school for troubled youth, according to a police spokeswoman. The victim was not badly hurt and declined medical attention.

The incident, which took place March 4 at 2 p.m. in the 1000 block of Linda Vista Avenue, appears to have escalated while the attacker and the victim — both of whom are from Sunnyvale — were arguing over money, according to Mountain View Police Department spokeswoman Jaime Garrett. The attacker believed the victim owed him money, the police report said. When the victim did not hand over the money, the attacker allegedly tried to take an article or multiple articles of the victim's clothing and his cell phone.

The victim resisted and the attacker pulled out a knife, Garrett said. The attacker used his knife to cause an abrasion on the victim's skin.

Police ultimately arrested the teen with the knife for assault with a deadly weapon and booked him into juvenile hall, Garrett said.

► Continued on page 7

### POLICE LOG

#### ASSAULT W/ DEADLY WEAPON

1000 block Linda Vista Av., 3/4

#### BATTERY

600 block Showers Dr., 3/1  
 600 block W. Evelyn Av., 3/2  
 1700 block Hackett Av., 3/2  
 Castro St. & W. El Camino Real, 3/4

#### BRANDISHING WEAPON

700 block E. El Camino Real, 2/27

#### COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

2400 block Charleston Rd., 2/28  
 500 block Showers Dr., 3/1  
 2400 block Charleston Rd., 3/1  
 500 block Showers Dr., 3/1  
 1200 block Pear Av., 3/2

1700 block Rock St., 3/2  
 700 block Church St., 3/4

#### RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

800 block E. El Camino Real, 2/28  
 2700 block St. Giles Ln., 3/2

#### ROBBERY

300 block Showers Dr., 2/27  
 Safeway, 3/4

#### STOLEN VEHICLE

400 block Clyde Av., 2/28  
 500 block Walker Dr., 3/1

#### VANDALISM

1800 block California St., 2/28  
 1000 block El Monte Av., 3/2  
 Graham Middle School, 3/4

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MICHELLE LE

The new girls lacrosse team practices defense on Mountain View High School's field on March 4.

## Lacrosse: it's not just for boys

MVHS JUNIORS PROVE NAYSAYERS WRONG, LAUNCH GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM

By Nick Veronin

When local teen Maggie Moor moved to the area from her native Texas, she was disappointed to discover that Mountain View High School did not have a girls' lacrosse team.

But instead of becoming resigned, Moor took action. Working with her mother and a fellow classmate, Moor met with school officials, raised money for equipment and her coach's

► See **GIRLS LACROSSE**, page 8

## City looks to trim \$100 million from Rengstorff Park plan

By Daniel DeBolt

The largest park in the city's most dense neighborhood is now closer to seeing a facelift.

Having passed on a \$136 million revamp of Rengstorff Park and its community center in 2011, City Council members took a liking to a modest \$32 million proposal on Tuesday.

City staff members came up with the plan themselves, and made use of an architect on the city's staff, Fred Fallah. It expands the footprint of the 22,000 square-foot 1964 community center by 7,000 square feet, adding three multi-purpose rooms, a kitchen, an elevator to the basement's social hall and new bathrooms.

The plan would also replace the 1959 aquatics building and pool, and improves the park's pathways and lighting. The general layout of the park is largely unchanged, though parking will expand from 111 to 174 spaces.

In 2011, a consultant came up with four plans to significantly change the park and add an entirely new community center, but council members balked at the cost estimate — ranging from \$86.7 million to \$139.6 million — and the number of trees that would have to be removed, between 84 and 111.

"I think you, the staff, really understood the community a lot better than an outside consultant," said council member Jac Siegel of the plan, which the entire council appeared to support. "I applaud what you have done. I think you really did listen and create a nice plan. I'm really happy with it."

The plan will now be refined and come back for City Council approval, though funding has yet to be identified. A narrow majority of the council also expressed interest in a cost estimate for a modest parking structure at the park. The revamp of the park could happen little by little as funds are available.

Four residents spoke, and some were concerned about new developments in the park "that shrink useable open space," said resident Paul Donahue.

The city government has been considering the closure of Crisanto Avenue along the park's northern edge to expand the park.

"If grade separation (of the train tracks) does happen, it would be nice to reclaim the street and be able to put in some grass," Donahue said. Council member Ronit Bryant suggested a bike path in place of the street.

► Continued on next page

## Rengstorff area bike tour highlights need for safer streets

By Daniel DeBolt

Mounted on their bikes, a group of residents and city officials rolled through the Rengstorff Park neighborhood on Saturday morning, stopping along the way to discuss how to make the area more bike and pedestrian friendly.

Organized by Wendee Crofoot and Jarrett Mullen of Great Streets Rengstorff Park, the tour was attended by over 40 people, including school board member Steve Nelson, council members Ronit Bryant and Margaret Abe-

Koga and community development director Randy Tsuda.

### Marked by tragedy

After a bike safety talk at the senior center, the group was off down Escuela Avenue to its first stop at the corner of California Street, the scene of the grisly high-speed collision that killed William Ware as he stood at a bus stop at Escuela.

California Street runs through the heart of the city's densest neighborhood, lined by apartment complexes, and is home to some of the city's poorest

residents, "people who tend not to drive as much or may not have access to a car," Mullen said. "Yet, look at that street. It's wide, people are driving fast. This street just screams, 'Drive quickly!'"

Mullen pointed to the bus stop on the southeast corner of the intersection. "Someone plowed through here at 80 miles per hour, ran through the red light and killed someone at that bus stop. It had so much momentum it took out three trees," he said.

► See **BIKE TOUR**, page 10



DANIEL DEBOLT

Jarrett Mullen leads a bike tour down California Street, followed by Randy Tsuda, the city's community development director.

# Nelson pushes for fire sprinklers

TRUSTEE WANTS TO INSTALL FIRE PREVENTION SYSTEMS  
IN SCHOOLS USING MEASURE G FUNDS

By Nick Veronin

Just as he promised, a local school board trustee is continuing his push to get fire sprinklers installed throughout the Mountain View Whisman School District.

At a recent special study session held to bring the district's board of trustees up to speed on the progress of Measure G projects, newly elected trustee Steve Nelson invited Harold Schapelhouman, chief of the Menlo Park Fire Protection District, to speak to the importance of installing fire sprinklers in all buildings throughout the district. He asked that the board use a portion of the \$198 million Measure G bond to install these fire protection systems.

Some might be surprised to learn that a school board would need to be asked to install fire sprinklers. But because they have been subject to different building codes than business and residential buildings, many older schools do not have fire sprinklers or alarms. Additionally, while a 2002 law mandated that all new school buildings and any school facilities undergoing significant repair or renovation would be required to install sprinklers,

the law included one exemption. If a school project is paid for entirely through local funds, the installation of fire sprinklers and alarm systems is not mandatory.

***'We want to install sprinklers where they're appropriate, not as a blanket rule.'***

SUPERINTENDENT CRAIG GOLDMAN

Because the fire prevention systems can be costly, school districts have been known to forgo installing them — opting instead to purchase insurance that would replace buildings lost in a fire.

Taking this approach is a mistake, according to Schapelhouman. Though he acknowledged that many school fires occur at night when no one is around to be hurt, that doesn't rule out the possibility of a school catching fire during the day.

At Green Oaks Family Academy Elementary School in East Palo Alto, a child heading to the

restroom noticed a fire burning in a nearby school building. If it had not been for this child, many children may have died. "The kids got out just in the nick of time," Schapelhouman said.

He asked that the board adopt a resolution to not take advantage of the exemption in the law, and install fire sprinklers in all district buildings.

Superintendent Craig Goldman said that he understands Nelson's and Schapelhouman's urgency but that he also understands rationale behind not installing fire sprinklers. Goldman noted that no student has died in a school fire in California since 1933. That doesn't mean he wouldn't support installation of some fire prevention systems, he said.

"We want to install sprinklers where they're appropriate, not as a blanket rule," he told the *Voice*.

Board member Phil Palmer seems to share Goldman's view. After the presentation by Chief Schapelhouman, he proposed that the board look into areas where they felt sprinklers would be most likely to save lives, install them there, and forgo installing them in buildings where students seldom go. ■

## RENGSTORFF PARK

► Continued from page 5

### Community Center a big focus

"It would be nice to have a building that looks like it was built in 2015 rather than a building built in the 1960s with a 45-year facelift," said council member Mike Kasperzak, noting the current building's "funky" architecture. Council member Ronit Bryant agreed. "It shouldn't be too difficult to make it fit with the child care center and senior center," both of which the city recently built elsewhere in the park.

"Frankly, a lot of the exterior of the building would be the addition and would look very much like a new building," said public works director Mike Fuller.

The cost of the community center upgrade would be \$14 million to \$17 million, while a new building of such size could cost \$32 million, city staff members said. The 2011 proposals put the cost at up to \$53 million.

The community center is now reaching 94 percent capacity on Saturdays and 30 percent capacity on Sundays for private rentals, but the city expects an increase in use with the remodel. Assistant community services director Regina Maurantonio noted the rise in popularity of the city's senior center after it was rebuilt recently, with the average number of daily patrons going from 420 to over 600.

"The addition of three new

multi-purpose rooms would open up capacity for expanded recreational opportunities such as special-interest classes, summer camps, and meeting space for nonprofit community groups," said a report by the community services department.

Private events such as weddings would see a boost with a catering kitchen built on to the community center's auditorium, which would be expanded from 200 to 256 seats with a new entrance at the rear where a little-used outdoor stage will be removed. City staff said the city's portable stage would suffice for outdoor events. The three new multi-purpose rooms would extend the front of the building towards Rengstorff Avenue, along with some new office space for city staff members and two towers on the front corners of the building.

The parking lot entrance at the community Center would also be moved to align with Stanford Avenue where a new stoplight would be installed.

Mayor John Inks expressed an interest in "trimming costs" even further and asked city staff to look into the added cost of the environmentally friendly LEED Silver rating the city requires for its own buildings.

In response, Siegel said, "I think it is much more critical to make it functional and beautiful than to try to cut a lot of corners and make it cheap. Quality stands out. If you do something good, it stays with us a very long time." ■

# Bullis Charter School passes on litigation 'pause'

CHAIR OF CHARTER'S BOARD SAYS BCS WILL WORK WITH LOS ALTOS DISTRICT, CONTINUE PURSUING LITIGATION

By Nick Veronin

An official with the Los Altos School District said he was disappointed to receive official notice that Bullis Charter School officials would not consider temporarily pausing litigation while the two organizations negotiate a facilities agreement for charter school's 2013-14 school year.

In response to the charter school's decision, LASD board member Mark Goines said he would move through the annual facilities offer process with the intention of doing only that which he is required by law to do and nothing more. Considering the fact that both educational organizations have very different views on what is required by the law, it would appear there is no end in sight to the legal battle between Bullis Charter School and the Los Altos School District.

Shortly after countering the

district's preliminary 2013 facilities offer, Ken Moore, chair of the charter school's board of directors, sent an open letter to Smith. In it, he turned down a request to hit the pause button on litigation so that the two organizations might work toward a long-term resolution without having to simultaneously fight multiple lawsuits.

The district and Bullis are embroiled in multiple lawsuits over the facilities the district is required to provide to the grades K-8 charter school.

"We understand the LASD board of trustees' ... position regarding our continued legal issue," the letter says. "Put simply, we view the ... request to stay litigation ... as an attempt to avoid spending additional time working through the difficult allocation issues and further delay working together to make a split campus a workable alternative for the next school year."

It is likely that the letter came as no surprise to the LASD board. Moore told the *Voice* in mid-February that he did not support the idea. Still, Goines said he was "deeply" disappointed with the charter school's decision. "Either you want to collaborate, or you don't," Goines said. "And clearly, they don't want to collaborate. They just want what they want."

Had the charter school obliged the 90-day pause in litigation as proposed by Doug Smith, president of the LASD board, Goines said the district would have happily worked with the charter school toward a multi-year facilities agreement. But given the refusal to stall litigation, Goines said the district will only do what is "legally required" under Proposition 39 — the law which governs how districts must allocate facilities to charter schools.

"Prop 39 is very specific,"

Goines said, noting that the law only requires districts to negotiate one year at a time. "I'd be highly flexible on a solution if we didn't have litigation. Without that tenet being met, it will be one year at a time."

Goines has said he believes the legal battle is making it hard for the two parties to work together in earnest, as both sides are preoccupied with and embittered by the dark cloud of litigation. Taking a break from the courtroom could help lift that cloud, Goines said.

"Suspending litigation over the district's previous actions has nothing to do (with) now in order to avoid potential future litigation," Moore wrote. "Parties talk during lawsuits all the time — that's how suits get settled. We would be more than willing to stop legal action when it is clear that BCS students are afforded reasonably equivalent facilities."

Moore wrote in an email to the *Voice* that he is weary of putting the brakes on litigation based upon his past experiences working with LASD.

"BCS paused litigation last year at this same time and spent months in mediation talks only to have LASD walk from the agreement within two weeks of jointly announcing the deal," Moore wrote. "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me."

Goines said Moore's accusation that LASD "walked away" from mediation is not quite accurate. The way he tells it, the two parties had reached a framework they each liked, but before the board could approve it, they needed to get public input. The public, Goines said, made suggestions, which were added to the proposal. BCS would not accept the community's edits and that is why the talks disintegrated. ■

# Trustees question Measure G management

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS CALL FOR MORE INVESTIGATION BEFORE MOVING FORWARD ON BOND PROJECTS

By Nick Veronin

The Mountain View Whisman School District's board of trustees is prioritizing projects funded by the \$198 million Measure G bond. But some members of the board have reservations about the way the process is moving forward.

At a recent special study session, held Feb. 28, the board listened to a presentation from Todd Lee of Greystone West Company, the construction management firm hired by the district to oversee all Measure G projects. Board members examined information collected and synthesized from a series of meetings in which parents, teachers, students and the community at large were asked to identify projects they would like to see the district take on.

Projects most favored by those who attended these meetings include new classrooms, better technology infrastructure, paths and walkways, more open and green space, a greater focus on science, technology and math learning, and a stronger arts

program.

After the presentation, new board members Christopher Chiang, Steven Nelson and William Lambert all expressed concern that they still did not have all the information they needed to make prudent decisions about what the district's priorities should be in spending Measure G's \$198 million most effectively.

The meeting signaled a change from what was once a board that usually asked only a few, simple clarifying questions of administration and contractors during meetings. Since the election of the three new members in November, it has turned into a board that pushes back with regularity.

Chiang said that he would like to see the district do more research beyond the local community.

"Before we commit ourselves, I think that it would be good for us to see what our options are," Chiang told the *Voice*. "My discomfort on the priorities go back to the community wish list. Until the community knows the

full realm of what is possible, the list isn't complete."

Chiang said he would like to see the district look to other districts throughout the state and all over the country, to see what best practices have been adopted in other regions. He said he wouldn't feel comfortable directing the disbursement of Measure G funds without making such an effort.

Nelson, who has long complained that there was insufficient community input in the lead up to these meetings, renewed his critique by calling for more community outreach. He also said the list of potential Measure G projects presented to the board was too broad for him to make any kind of informed recommendation.

Lambert noted that he was disappointed by the low turnout at the series of community meetings, held in February. He wondered how the district could increase turnout at such meetings in the future.

Community member Greg Coladonato had an answer: tell parents that such meetings are

mandatory.

In response to the concerns raised by the board, MVWSD Superintendent Craig Goldman asked the trustees to listen to the recommendations made by the Measure G project management team.

"We've hired these people to help lead us through the process," Goldman said, defending the work the team has done, as well as defending the district's community outreach efforts. "We have vigorously worked to engage the community," he said, noting that while it may seem that things aren't moving the way the trustees had anticipated, that the process is "just beginning."

Lee also cautioned that the board members seemed to be "getting too far down in the weeds," noting that the process was still in its early days and that all he was looking for was for board members to help hone the list of potential projects. He also said there would be opportunities to continue interfacing with the community as Measure G projects go forward. ■

## CRIME BRIEFS

► Continued from page 4

### SHOPLIFTER WITH KNIFE

A shoplifter waved a knife at a security guard outside of Kohl's after the loss prevention agent tried to stop the man from making off with two shirts and a pair of jeans on Feb. 27, according to a police spokeswoman.

The shoplifter allegedly concealed the items and exited the store without paying, said Jaime Garrett, a spokeswoman for the Mountain View Police Department. When a Kohl's loss prevention agent approached the man, the shoplifter pulled out a knife and said, "I'll stab you." He then fled on foot.

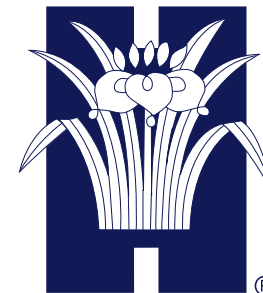
The shoplifter was described as a Hispanic man in his mid 20s, of medium to heavy build, 5 feet 11 inches tall, with a thin mustache and wearing a dark T-shirt, white baseball hat and gray shoes.

—Mountain View Voice staff

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## GIRLS LACROSSE

► Continued from page 5

stipend, and took to social networks and hallways to recruit a team — which will soon begin its inaugural season.

The sun is shining and a light breeze is blowing Monday, March 4, as the team of 26 girls run drills on the large field behind MVHS. They practice scooping up the rubber lacrosse balls from the grass while on the run and passing to one another without the receiver stopping.

The girls occasionally drop the balls and have trouble keeping them inside the mesh scoops at the end of their lacrosse sticks, but coach Andrea Keinath isn't worried.

"This is a pretty beginner team," she explains of her squad. It's a fact she understood upon taking the job, and she is excited for the opportunity to build the girls lacrosse program from the ground up.

"We are just trying to get the kids to catch and throw. They have already come a long way," she said, especially the girls who picked up a lacrosse stick for the first time three weeks ago. "I'm hoping that by the end of the season (which begins March 12) we'll have the skills down."

Keinath's goal is for her junior varsity team to win half the games they play this season.

Next year, Keinath says she aims to have



MICHELLE LE

**Tatum Millet** catches the ball during practice.

both JV and varsity girls lacrosse squads. But right now, given that it is the team's first year and considering the level of talent on the squad, Keinath said it made sense to only have a JV team this year.

The idea to start the team came last year while Moor and her classmate Leah Kidd (also a junior) struck up a conversation about lacrosse in their sophomore English class. Kidd, whose boyfriend played on the boys lacrosse team was picking Moor's brain about the sport — asking how it worked for girls and wondering if there was a way to start a team at MVHS.

The two girls decided to talk to Principal Keith Moody and Athletic Director John Payne. The school officials gave their blessing to the girls' project, but informed them that the district would not be able to contribute any money to the team. And so Moor and Kidd divvied up tasks — with Moor using her mother's expertise to launch a search for a coach and to raise money. After a number of interviews, Moor and her mother landed on Keinath — a Wheaton College grad with more than 10 years of experience playing lacrosse and coaching teams in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Silicon Valley.

The girls and their parents have raised a total of \$5,090 — for coach stipends, equipment, uniforms and other assorted items, and are happy to take more for the program. The money has been raised largely through word-of-mouth campaigns, mass emails to parents and through social media sites. Moor's mother, Karen, says that the girls are about \$1,000 shy of their goal.

While it is true that Moor's mother helped out in a significant way, it is clear that the team would not have been started without the two teen's passion for lacrosse. Knowing that the team was formed by students strikes sophomore team member Hannah Robinson as "really cool."

"I think that it will stay at the school because it is student-driven," Robinson says. "You can tell that the girls who started the team have a real passion for it."

That passion may stem from the nature of the sport itself, which Robinson described as being very "graceful" and "freeing."

The girls are proud of the work that they have done so far in getting the girls lacrosse team up and running. Looking back at the early days of the process, Moor recalls being told that she wouldn't be able to start a team because she was just a teenager and Kidd says she was sometimes laughed off by her peers who told her that lacrosse is a boys' sport.

Both of them now feel a sense of vindication and accomplishment.

"There's nothing I love more than beating the odds," Kidd says. "And somebody telling me that I can't do that just motivates me more to step forward and just do it."

Unfortunately, Kidd will not be on the team this year, due to health issues. But she may be back next season. ■

## HANGAR ONE

► Continued from page 1

ing to be erased," in regard to the airfield, said Mountain View Mayor John Inks, adding that there is now "potential for saving Hangar One and residing it."

### No response

Last year Eshoo expressed disappointment that NASA had not responded to a proposal from Google founders Larry Page and Sergei Brin — through H211 LLC — to restore and lease Hangar One as private airplane hangar. The restoration was estimated to cost over \$40 million. It appeared that Brin and Page had given up when the executives announced a plan last month to house their fleet of planes at San Jose's Mineta International Airport — a plan which the San Jose City Council is set to vote on soon.

However, the Google executives are still interested in Hangar One, perhaps in addition to the San Jose airport facility.

"We have a lot of time and effort already invested in H1," said Ken Ambrose, director of H211, in an email on Monday. "(We) will study the RFP very carefully when it is published."

There is also an effort by Save Hagar One Committee members to build an air and space museum in Hangar One, having formed the Air and Space West Educational Foundation. H211 officials had expressed interest in possibly sharing Hangar One with the museum.

Taking over management of the Moffett runways is something Google's founders may also consider.

"The government's statement that it will consider outsourcing management of the airfield is a new wrinkle that we have not

studied," Ambrose said. "When the RFP arrives, we will attempt to quantify what this means."

### Airfield expense

NASA Ames Research Center has complained that every year it covers several million dollars in airfield expenses that are not paid for by users of the runways at Moffett, including the Air National Guard's 129th Rescue Wing and Lockheed Martin. Last year NASA administrator Charles Bolden announced that entire airfield could be declared excess and given to another government agency.

The notice says the federal government wants to "eliminate NASA's operating and maintenance cost for the airfield."

"While the primary objective is to facilitate the expeditious re-siding of Hangar One, the government will also consider proposals to manage the Moffett Federal Airfield," the notice says.

"This notice of intent embodies my consistent goals over several years to save Hangar One and to keep Moffett Federal Airfield as a local and Bay Area public safety and national security asset, and home to the 129th Rescue Wing," said Eshoo in a statement.

The Air National Guard at Moffett also welcomed the announcement.

"On behalf of the more than 900 California Air Guardsmen who selflessly serve the Silicon Valley community, as well as their state and nation, words fail to convey our appreciation for Congresswoman Eshoo's steadfast leadership in preventing NASA Headquarters from expropriating Moffett Federal Airfield after signing a 50-year lease with the 129th Rescue Wing," said Steven J. Butow,

commander of the Air National Guard's 129th Rescue Wing, in a statement.

"Moffett Federal Airfield will NOT be excessed," Eshoo's office said, addressing concerns raised last year about NASA headquarters push to excess Moffett's airfield and Hangar One to another government agency in a lengthy process, jeopardizing efforts to reuse Hangar One. "It will remain a restricted Federal Airfield and NASA will remain its custodian."

There have been worries in Sunnyvale and Mountain View that the airfield could be opened up to the high traffic of air cargo flights, increasing noise over the cities. But with NASA remaining as the landlord, a limit of 25,000 flights year will remain in place, imposed by an environmental study done for the NASA Research Park in the late 1990s.

Managing the runways could give H211 some certainty that their planes would be able to use the airfield after signing a long-term lease for Hangar One, says Lenny Siegel, who has become familiar with the situation as a Save Hangar One Committee member and board member of the Air and Space West Educational Foundation.

### Challenges ahead

Allowing bids on Hangar One and Moffett Field also deals with a perception that the White House and NASA may have some favoritism for Google and H211.

"NASA Ames was under attack from Sen. (Chuck) Grassley for showing favoritism," Siegel said. "This is a way of dealing with that perception."

"It's conceivable someone else will show up with a plan, but I can't imagine whom," Siegel said.

There are some challenges to leasing Hangar One, including an ongoing battle between NASA and the Navy. The two have not come to an agreement over which is responsible for maintaining the new paint on the hangar's frame, underneath which sits toxic lead paint and PCBs which could not be entirely removed.

"While this is a major step forward toward saving the hangar, potential lessees may be discouraged from putting forward proposals by a letter to the Navy released by the NASA Ames environmental office on Thursday, February 28," said Lenny Siegel, director of the Center for Public Environmental Oversight, in an email. "NASA finds the Navy's 'removal action' for the hangar incomplete, and (the Navy) refuses to take responsibility for many of the long-term management activities requires to ensure that the hangar is safe."

H211 faces an obstacle as well. NASA's Inspector General has announced an investigation into all NASA Space Act agreements — including the one H211 uses to operate private planes on the federal airfield — and whether NASA is receiving "fair and reasonable benefits" from such agreements. H211 pays \$1.3 million a year to house its fleet in Moffett's Hangar 211, and has allowed NASA scientists to use the fleet of aircraft — including a Dornier fighter jet — for various kinds of research.

Eshoo says the community will be involved in future decisions for Moffett.

"GSA and NASA will work closely with the local community to explain the RFP process and produce the desired outcomes," Eshoo said. "I will continue to work with the agencies and my communities to see this critical process through." ■

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## BIKE TOUR

► Continued from page 5

The driver said he had swerved to avoid a car turning left onto California Street. Since Ware's death, "the city has taken a great first step with this new stoplight which has a protected left turn," Mullen said of the Escuela intersection. "But the corner could be tighter, the roadway could be narrower" to reduce car speeds.

## Castro School

California Street resident Valeria Craven, who works at Castro School, recalled the problems created by the previous stoplight. "Before it was very dangerous crossing the street because of the light, it was very very dangerous. Cars turning left would not always stop for pedestrians," Craven said. "We would say, 'Drivers, hey stop, we need to cross.'"

As for California Street, "If you want to take your bike, you have

to take the sidewalk," Craven said, noting that the bike lanes are too narrow to feel safe riding between parked cars and cars going over 35 miles per hour.

Speeding cars may not notice the yellow crosswalks which signify the proximity of Castro elementary school and park, just 200 feet away. "It should be very easy to walk to that school, ride your bike to that school," Mullen said. "But the street design is sending a different message."

Later in the tour, Crofoot said of California Street, "it's marked 35, let's be honest, most people drive about 40. At 40 miles per hour if you are struck by a car you have an 80 percent chance of death and a 15 percent chance of injury, you will not walk away. This street is dangerous."

Chance of death reduces dramatically at lower speeds. At 30 miles per hour there is a 40 percent chance of death, at 20 miles per hour there is only a 5

percent chance. The organizers of the tour have called for narrowing California Street from two lanes to one lane in each in each direction to reduce speeds while allowing for protected bike lanes on each side. A smoother flow of traffic would be made possible by adding a center left-turn lane. Public Works director Mike Fuller as said such a street design is adequate for current traffic counts, but may not be in the future, possibly increasing cut-through traffic on side streets.

As the tour turned down California Street, Mullen asked people to notice how it felt riding in the unprotected bike lane with cars whizzing by. "Would you let your kids ride down (California) street to school by themselves or would you be terrified?"

## Hit-and-run

The tour stopped at Ortega Avenue, where Los Altos High School student Dana Meyerson

told of being the victim of hit-and-run on her bike at California Street. She was able to walk away, but her bike suffered a bent rear wheel.

"I was biking along and this car just goes through (the intersection)," Meyerson said. "They see me and they hit my bike and they just drive off. Some people stopped and asked if I was OK, and I was like, 'Yeah.' I didn't bike much after it, partially because I was scared."

It was suggested by one attendee that a 911 call would be enough for the city to document the number of such incidents to illustrate a problem at an intersection. But a 911 call itself "does not generate any type of permanent report for documentation," said Lieutenant Greg Oselinksy, in an email.

"We do not take reports of non-injury or private property collision," he added. "In these cases, we refer people to our internet reporting system at [www.mvdpd.gov](http://www.mvdpd.gov)."

The tour rode down Latham Street to Escuela Avenue, where a car honked at the crowd as it crossed the busy four-way intersection controlled by a stop sign, near Castro elementary school.

"Who felt a little intimidated?" Mullen asked. "We face harassment. The message was, 'You don't belong here, why are you here, why are you in my way?'"

"It's one of the worst intersections!" shouted one of the riders in the group.

"If you are getting harassed, you aren't a bike-friendly community," Mullen said. "It forces people into cars, because they are scared. This isn't even a commute hour, this is a Saturday."

## Escuela stop signs

The tour stopped to hear from John Farrell, who owns Bumble Bee Health Foods store that has been at the intersection of Escuela and Latham since 1957.

For many years, "there were no stop signs on Escuela," Farrell said. "In the '90s it got really crazy. We were hearing squealing tires every day, near misses constantly. I see bicyclists hit, pedestrians hit. We've got this bird's eye view of this intersection. I call 911 all the time if something is happening."

"Two to three times a day we hear squealing brakes. They put a stop sign in the intersection, that made a huge difference," he said.

With Castro Elementary school 200 feet away, "We have a huge amount of students come through the intersection," said Elena Pacheco. "They bike and go to Los Altos High." She echoed Farrell's comments that it used to be much worse without the stop signs.

## Better in Palo Alto

The next stop, on Chiquita Avenue, Stanford graduate student Ariel Mendez discussed his commute from the area to Stanford, highlighting obstacles many cyclists in the group were familiar with, particularly San Antonio shopping center.

When he hits bike-friendly Palo Alto — with its bike boulevards on quiet residential streets closed off to through car traffic — "it's both wonderful and it's heartbreaking because you can see how nice residential, bike-friendly neighborhoods can be and we just don't have them yet in Mountain View."

Mendez said his preferred route to Stanford is Latham Street to San Antonio Shopping Center, where he cuts through the loading area behind Walmart. Normally he'd ride by Trader Joe's, but because of construction going on, he says he goes past Chili's "and then I basically ride on the sidewalk of El Camino for half a block. Then there's that one block to get over to Fayette," which leads to a bike bridge over a creek into Palo Alto. "Basically a block of heart-pumping, really-alert, gotta-pay-attention" sort of riding.

His conclusions: "You'd have to be nut-case to ride your bike on El Camino" and "You shouldn't have to be an adrenaline junkie to want to ride your bike to work."

After a jaunt down California Street to Shoreline Boulevard, the group stopped at Villa and Shoreline.

"When I lived here (near the corner) nobody stopped when making a right turn here, including the police," said Jack Miller, standing on the southeast corner of the intersection. Miller sits on the board of the Silicon Valley Bike Coalition.

Miller and resident Thida Cornes talked about all the ways the intersection is dangerous. "I will actually go around the back of the police station and come under Shoreline and out the back by Microsoft (now Google). I almost never make this intersection anymore."

Miller then led the tour behind the police station and under the Shoreline overpass to show everyone the relatively peaceful detour.

After ride down Villa Street, a highly biked two-lane street where Miller says cars have been found to average 34 miles per hour, the tour ended where it started, at the city's senior center on Escuela.

## Community meeting

Mullen and Crofoot repeated a recommendation by council

► Continued on next page



## LYTTON GARDENS SENIOR COMMUNITIES

Community Housing, Inc.

656 Lytton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301

(650) 617-7318

**LA LISTA DE ESPERA PARA OBTENER VIVIENDA SUBSIDIADA PARA PERSONAS MAYORES ESTARA ABIERTA A PARTIR DEL 18 DE MARZO HASTA EL 22 DE MARZO DE 2013**

Lytton Gardens Senior Communities se complace en anunciar que abrirá el periodo para la lista de espera de apartamentos subsidiados de vivienda independiente en nuestra propiedad Lytton Gardens IV (Court-yard) que se encuentra localizada en la siguiente dirección: 330 Everett Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301. Lytton Gardens ofrece vivienda subsidiada para personas mayores de bajo ingreso y de extremado bajo ingreso.

## PERSONAS ELEGIBLES:

Una persona aplicante debe tener 62 años o más  
El ingreso máximo anual para una persona debe ser \$35,500.00 o menos.

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## PARA APLICAR:

Las aplicaciones serán distribuidas en Lytton Gardens (Arbor), 656 Lytton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301 los días 18, 20 y 22 de Marzo de 2013 de las 11:00 a.m. a las 3:00 p.m., y los días 19 y 21 de Marzo de 2013 de las 12:00 m. a las 4:00 p.m.

Las aplicaciones deben ser devueltas por correo a Lytton Gardens Senior Communities, P.O.Box 51907, Palo Alto, CA 94303

Las aplicaciones con stampilla de correo fechadas después del 15 de Abril de 2013 no serán consideradas y serán devueltas a su destinatario.

Las aplicaciones serán seleccionadas por medio de un sorteo de lotería para determinar el número del aplicante en la lista de espera, dependiendo de su elegibilidad. Los nombres serán escogidos entre Mayo 1 a Mayo 15 de 2013.

Copia de la tarjeta del seguro social debe ser adjuntada a su application. La Autorización y Consentimiento de la información del Aplicante tienen que ser completada, firmada y adjuntada a la aplicación, incluyendo la forma HUD 9887 & 9887-A. Caso contrario, no aceptaremos su aplicación.

\* Miembros de la familia incluyen:

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# High-speed rail hits speedbump in its Caltrain partnership

By Gennady Sheyner

What was billed as a historic occasion for the California High-Speed Rail Authority and its Bay Area partners ended on an awkward note Wednesday morning when the rail authority failed to get votes it needs to renew its vows with Caltrain and other agencies involved in building the controversial, \$68 billion rail line.

The rail authority was scheduled to approve at its Wednesday meeting a new “memorandum of understanding” with the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board (which oversees Caltrain) and seven other agencies — the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the San Francisco County Transportation Authority, the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), the City of San Jose, the City and County of San Francisco, the San Mateo County Transportation Authority and the Transbay Joint Powers Authority. The new document would supplant the rail authority’s existing agreements and formally commit the agencies to build a “blended system” in which high-speed rail would share tracks with Caltrain along the Peninsula.

The proposed agreement had been the subject of months of negotiations between staff from the rail authority and other agencies, including Caltrain, and has received support from the area’s Sacramento representatives, some of whom have been skeptical about high-speed rail in the past. Early in the Wednesday morning meeting, rail authority CEO Jeff Morales called the new agreement a “triumph of common sense and practicality,” Board member James Hartnett called the new agreement a “historic landmark” and board Chair Dan Richard called it an “example of what the public wants and expects for us.”

But the public will now have to hold its expectations for another

month. Board Vice Chair Lynne Schenk, a long-time skeptic of the “blended” approach championed in the Peninsula, appeared to surprise her colleagues by playing the role of runaway bride and taking a stand against the new agreement. Since the nine-member board has three vacancies and because

another board member, Michael Rossi was out of town, Schenk’s opposition effectively deprived the board from having the five votes it needs to ratify the new agreement.

Schenk, a former Congresswoman from San Diego and the board’s senior

member, said she would be voting her “conscience” in opposing the new agreement. While her colleagues, most of who have been appointed in the past three years, have largely embraced the blended system first proposed by then-state Sen. Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, Assemblyman Rich Gordon, D-Menlo Park, and U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo, D-Palo Alto, Schenk has not been swayed. She said Wednesday that she cannot support the electrification of Caltrain “at the expense of the ultimate goal of high-speed rail.”

“I owe the people of California nothing else than voting my conscience,” Schenk told her colleagues at the Wednesday meeting in Redwood City, to which she jokingly referred as the “lion’s den.” “I hope you all expect that this is not something that is reflective of the work you’ve done and your very legitimate goals here.”

The board’s discussion followed comments from various area business leaders and from Caltrain Executive Director Michael Scanlon, who all praised the new agreement, which among other things calls for electrification of the Caltrain corridor, a project that the agency has been pursuing for more than a decade. Over the past three years, the rail authority’s new board, led by Richard and Jim Hartnett,

have largely embraced blended-system proposal and Caltrain’s electrification a key carrot for the Peninsula, where the rail project has been facing enormous resistance and multiple lawsuits (the latest of these was dismissed last week).

Schenk, whose term extends back to the board’s earlier and more rancorous days, has been more reluctant about letting Caltrain tap into high-speed rail funds. In May 2011, shortly after the “blended” system was unveiled by Peninsula makers, Schenk joined then-Chair Curt Pringle in blasting the proposal, saying she would hate to see “our precious high-speed-rail funds” diverted to local causes and used to “bail out any regional transportation system.”

On Wednesday, Schenk said

that while she “fully understands and supports” the goals of Caltrain electrification, she “cannot support it at the expense of the ultimate goal of high-speed rail.”

Her comments came after her colleagues all praised the proposed memorandum of understanding. Morales said the agreement between the rail authority and the various agencies “leverages resources and demonstrates the sort of partnerships that we need to make this program a reality across the state.” Hartnett, a former Redwood City mayor, said the new document is “a reflection of tremendous amount of work and debate that’s gone on for years.” Richard called it “an example where people came together to discharge their public duties to make sure we’re

delivering a seamless system and doing it through collaboration and cooperation.”

“I think it’s a very good day,” Richard said, before Schenk made her comments.

Once Schenk made her position clear, Richard took the unusual step of asking Schenk for a “courtesy vote” in favor of the agreement, in recognition of the fact that Rossi is out of town and that the document would have passed had he been present. He also took a five-minute break to confer with Schenk and legal counsel. After that, he declared that the item would not be voted on but would be deferred to next month’s meeting.

Meanwhile, Caltrain’s board of directors is scheduled to approve the new memorandum at its meeting Thursday morning. ■

***‘I owe the people of California nothing else than voting my conscience.’***

LYNNE SCHENK



## LYTTON GARDENS SENIOR COMMUNITIES

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#### **TO APPLY:**

Applications will be distributed at Lytton Gardens I (Arbor), 656 Lytton Avenue, Palo Alto CA 94301 on March 18th, 20th and March 22nd, 2013 from 11:00 AM. to 3:00 PM. and on March 19th & March 21st, 2013 from 12:00 PM. to 4:00 PM.

Applications must be returned by mail to Lytton Gardens Senior Communities, P. O. Box 51907, Palo Alto, CA 94303.

Applications postmarked after April 15th, 2013 cannot be considered and they will be returned to sender.

Selection will be made by lottery to determine applicants’ order on the waiting list, pending verification of eligibility. Names will be chosen between May 1st/13 and May 15th/13

Copy(ies) of your social security card(s) should be attached to your application.

Applicant’s Authorization and Consent for Release of Information, and HUD Forms 9887 & 9887A, must be filled-out, signed and attached to your application, or we will not be able to accept your application.

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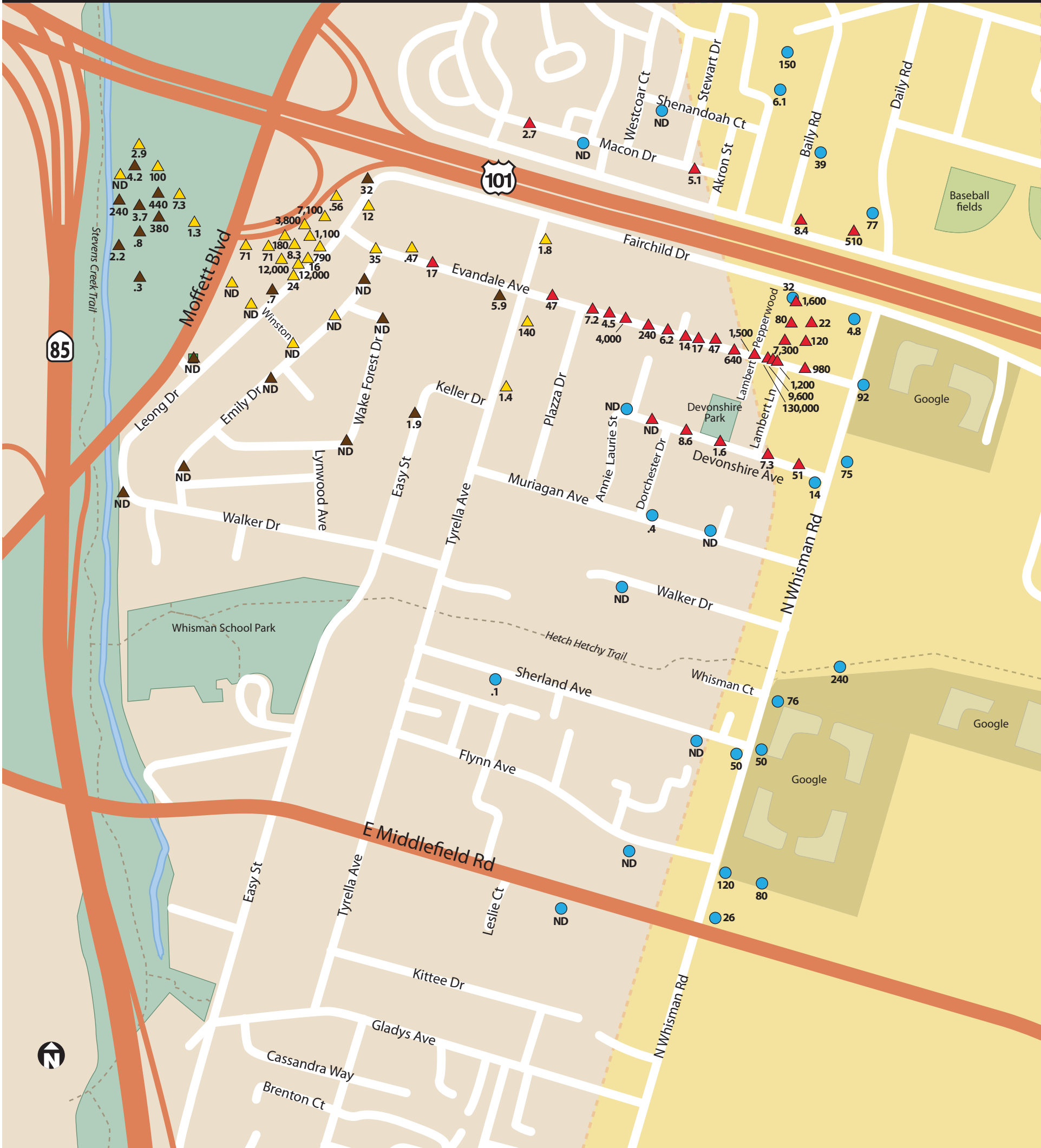
member Bryant that people attend at a joint meeting between the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the City Council’s transportation advisory committee meeting on Wednesday, March 6, at 6 p.m. in

the library’s community room at 585 Franklin Street.

“We can have an impact on the way we get around,” Mullen said.

For more on the proposals made by Great Streets Rengstorff Park, see their website at [greatstreetsrp.wordpress.com](http://greatstreetsrp.wordpress.com). ■

**TCE groundwater results in shallow groundwater as reported by the Environmental Protection Agency**



 2012 MEW grab groundwater location

 2011 EPA grab groundwater location

▲ 2005 EPA grab groundwater location

● Groundwater Monitoring Well Location

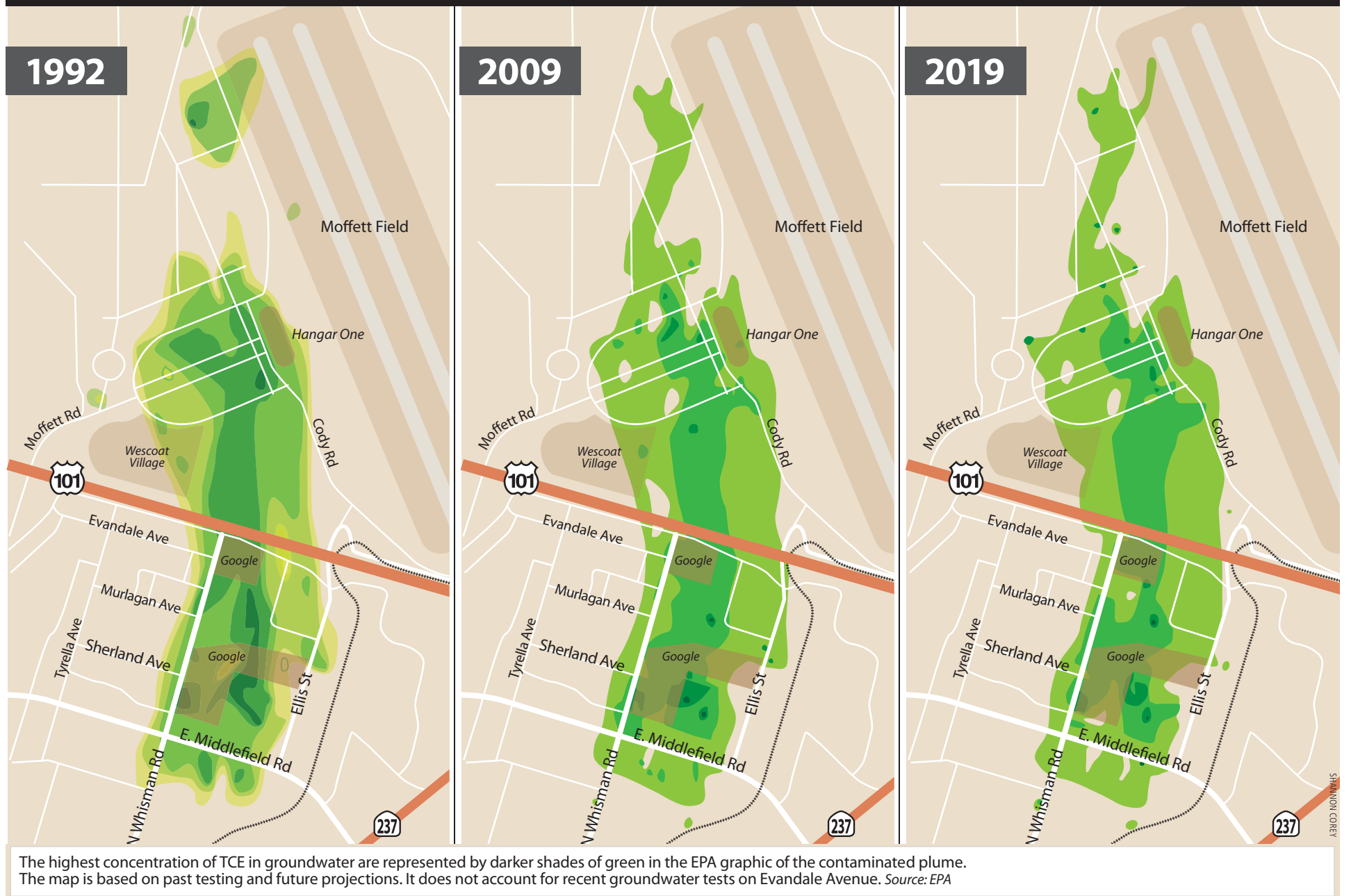
The result shown is the TCE concentration in ppb from groundwater monitoring well samples collected in 2011

**ND** = Not detected. <0.5 parts per billion (ppb) TCE

 Vapor study area. Estimated TCE in groundwater > 5 ppb TCE based on 2011 groundwater results

Source: EPA

## TCE groundwater contamination



## APARTMENT TESTING

► Continued from page 1

The *Voice* has been in contact with four residents of the complex who are interested in indoor air testing, including Enrico Granata. He also contacted property managers and was told that the EPA or their contractors “didn’t want to provide the insurance which we require for anyone doing work on the property,” he said in an email.

“I am surprised that an agency of the federal government can be refused access to residential units,” Granata said in an email.

Prometheus had an entirely different message after the *Voice* contacted Jon Moss, the Prometheus executive representing several large apartment projects seeking approval from the City Council.

“The expectation is to cooperate fully with whatever the EPA wants to do out there,” Moss said. “There’s no reason why the owner or us as managers would have any issues with EPA providing any kind of testing on the site.”

“There’s no reason not to be cooperative,” Ebert said. “It is super important to make sure our residents are happy.”

Ebert said he hadn’t heard about the issue until Wednesday and chalked it up to a misunderstanding.

Granta was happy to hear the news

that testing would be allowed.

“I believe that a combination of the serious concern of residents and having the local press giving ample coverage to the issue has been key to unlocking this and making the larger issue of health and safety for people prevail over petty procedural problems,” he said.

The apparent refusal had community leaders ready to fight.

“If that sampling does not take place the people I work with will fight to see that happen,” said Lenny Siegel, director of the Center for Public Environmental Oversight in Mountain View. “In that area in particular, people have a right to know what they are breathing.”

When told about the situation on March 1, council member Jac Siegel said denying tests on the site is “near criminal in my mind. What do they have to hide?”

“If there is a problem, they damn well better do something about it,” Siegel said.

If it had turned into a fight, it might have been one over principle.

“It’s quite possible — based on previous crawlspace sampling — that they won’t find anything,” Siegel said.

Air sampling of the complex’s crawlspaces in 2010 found low levels of TCE vapors — 0.2 micrograms per cubic meter. The EPA limit is 1 microgram per cubic meter, intended to protect build-

ing occupants from various TCE-related health problems, including cancer from long-term exposure and birth defects when pregnant mothers are exposed over short periods.

The situation raised an important question, Siegel said.

“It’s not clear to me, if you are just talking about indoor air testing, why they have the right to refuse,” Siegel said. “If I’m a tenant, why don’t I have the right to bring in a suitcase or a bottle of beer or anything? I don’t know why the landlord has a right to refuse.”

EPA spokesman David Yogi said in an email that “EPA must either get permission from the property-owner and tenant or use CERCLA authority (through an order and/or a warrant from the court) to require access for response activities. It is EPA policy not to require access where a property owner refuses at their own home.”

Yogi added that no other landlords have refused requests for indoor air testing.

Residents on Evandale Avenue between Whisman Road and Tyrella Avenue qualify for indoor air tests, as do those who live along North Whisman Road. To inquire about such tests, contact EPA Vapor Intrusion Project Manager Alana Lee at Lee.Alana@epa.gov or 415-972-3141. ■

## TCE AT GOOGLE

► Continued from page 1

ing businesses in Mountain View disagree and have pointed to studies that contradict that conclusion.

Siegel said that he spoke with two women directly, but another pregnant woman’s situation came up as well. The women delivered their babies in October and January. Google began occupying the buildings in July.

According to indoor air sampling results from January, the building now has only trace amounts of TCE vapors, amounts well below the 5 micrograms per cubic meter limit local EPA officials have proposed for office buildings, based on exposure during a 50-hour work week. In December, levels were as high as 7.8 micrograms per cubic meter had been found in one building, and 6.4 in the other.

Siegel also looked to see if the women worked in the portions of the buildings where the highest indoor air concentrations were found — high enough to cause birth defects from short term exposures.

“They were not necessarily in the area with the highest levels,” Siegel said.

Siegel said the Mountain View site is the first in the country to apply indoor air vapor intrusion limits designed to protect against the effects of short-term exposures, particularly for pregnant women. ■

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# Neighbors express fears over toxic plume

EPA MEETS WITH RESIDENTS CONCERNED ABOUT TCE DANGERS

By Daniel DeBolt

In a meeting with residents of Mountain View's Wagon Wheel neighborhood on Sunday, EPA officials addressed fears about the cancer-causing toxics recently found to be evaporating from the ground on Evandale Avenue.

EPA officials said residents in the area should only be concerned about being exposed to toxic vapors trapped inside buildings, adding assurances that the city's water supply is safe, as well as the outdoor air in the area after tests of "hundreds of outdoor air samples."

Gardners don't need to worry either, the EPA said, noting that vegetables grown above the plume are safe to eat.

### Free testing

There is an ongoing effort to notify residents along Evandale Avenue, from Whisman Road to Tyrella Avenue, of free voluntary indoor air testing that is available to make sure homes are safe. So far 30 homes have been tested and two have been found with TCE (trichloroethylene) vapor levels above the EPA's limit of 1 microgram per cubic meter. Both homes are on the northern side of Evandale Avenue near Whisman Road, an area the EPA considers to be a "high priority" for indoor air testing.

The EPA still doesn't know how the toxics made their way under Evandale Avenue. The samples may be connected to the massive plume that was thought to exist mostly on the east side of Whisman Road. EPA officials said that throughout the 1960s, 1970s and into the 1980s, Silicon Valley's original chip manufacturers dumped manufacturing solvents into the ground, with the primary pollutant being TCE. The responsible parties include Intel, Raytheon and Schlumberger Corp., the descendant of the first chip manufacturer in the Valley, Fairchild Semiconductor. Along with the United States Navy and NASA on the other side of Highway 101, the companies left behind a 1.5-mile long, 1-mile wide plume of groundwater pollution.

The portion near Evandale Avenue is known as the "MEW" because it is roughly bordered by Middlefield Road, Ellis Street and Whisman Road.

### Worried residents

On March 3 a group of about

100 residents assembled on a poolside patio at 114 Flynn Avenue after an electrical outlet caught fire as the meeting began in the housing complex's recreation room. Several EPA officials spoke, including EPA vapor intrusion project manager Alana Lee, toxicologist Dan Stralka and groundwater project manager Penny Ready. Also chiming in from the audience was Lenny Siegel of Mountain View's Center for Public Environmental Oversight. He introduced himself as a Mountain View resident who has followed the massive plume of toxics in the area for 30 years.

Many residents were left with some uncertainty about whether their health had been affected. One woman asked if her dog's rare case of Lupus wasn't a sign that she might also develop health issues soon.

"How do I know that it is not affecting my health or my pet's health or anybody that comes to my house?" said Brian David, a longtime resident of a home where TCE vapors were found at levels acceptable to the EPA (.44 micrograms per cubic meter) on Whisman Road near Evandale.

A woman asked if there was a way to be tested for exposure to TCE and Stralka said such tests are not readily available for humans. "What we are able to measure now are high levels in short-term exposure," he said. "We're concerned about levels that are so low in long-term exposure" that it can't be detected.

### Cancer risk

In 2011 the EPA issued its Final Health Assessment for TCE, calling it "carcinogenic to humans by all routes of exposure" and reporting that inhalation can cause "hepatic, renal, neurological, immunological, reproductive, and developmental effects." It is also linked with kidney and liver cancer as well as non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

The indoor air limits applied in Mountain View are intended to protect against birth defects from short-term exposures. Stralka said the concern was during a "21-day period when (the heart) is actually forming" in the first trimester of pregnancy.

Stralka addressed the Bay Area Cancer Registry report on cancer rates in the area, which looked at rates of kidney and liver cancer and non-Hodgkin lymphoma, finding nearly double the regional rate of NHL between 1996 and

2005. Some have questioned why other types of cancer were not studied, and Stralka said other types "are not directly associated with what we are seeing in lab animals." EPA officials also said they don't use such reports when considering where to test for toxics.

### Surprising levels

EPA officials said they were surprised to find extremely high concentrations of TCE late last year under Evandale Avenue. Whether it came from the larger "MEW" plume or another source is still under investigation, EPA officials said on Sunday.

"It could be dumping something down a drain or falling off a truck, we don't know what the source is at this point," Ready said.

Contrary to some news reports, EPA officials said the MEW is not a "runaway plume." Evandale Avenue had simply not been tested before, and EPA officials said they did not know why. Every other street in the area had been.

Groundwater samples taken every 100 feet along Evandale Avenue had no logical pattern. The results "are puzzlingly curious," Ready said.

One particular "hot spot" on the 200 block of Evandale Avenue had 130,000 parts per billion of TCE in the groundwater, "higher than any concentration we have in our plume right now," Ready said.

The EPA's groundwater cleanup goal is 5 parts per billion.

She said the hot spot was found 13 feet down — the same depth as a sewer line running under the street, which could have a layer of gravel around it that could also be acting as a conduit to the rest of the plume. The EPA is also examining a video city workers took of the inside of the sewer line to see if it could also be a conduit.

An extraction well could soon be installed on such hot spots to pull the groundwater out and clean it, while also providing enough suction to keep it from spreading, Ready said. There are several other extraction wells in the MEW that "contain the plume" and are checked three times a week to make sure they are operational.

Ready said that TCE is heavier than water and sinks down to the layer of clay deep underground before dissolving into the water and evaporating, a volatile

chemical “that can migrate up through conduits and preferential pathways,” Lee told residents at the meeting.

EPA has not completed sampling the area’s groundwater and is trying to get permission from private property owners to see how far the plume really goes. Ready lamented not being able to do more testing just north of Evandale on Fairchild Drive. She said a number of utility lines in the street had blocked the necessary drilling.

### Leong Drive residents

Some residents attending the meeting were surprised to learn of another area with elevated levels of TCE in the groundwater, but where indoor air testing isn’t being done on nearby homes for lack of funds.

“We just found out it is not funded, that worries us,” said Ben Longoria, a resident of Easy Street, as he pointed to an area on a map shown as the “Moffett study area.”

“We are actively searching for responsible parties in this area” to fund cleanup and indoor air testing, Ready said. Siegel added that it was unlikely that a pollutant would be found with “deep enough pockets” to help.

Lee said the EPA had not done any indoor air testing in the homes on Leong Drive closest to the hot spots on the site of a former Denny’s and a motel, where the indoor air was found at acceptable levels. Groundwater samples from 2011 showed concentration as high as 12,000 parts per billion in two locations across the street from homes.

“Just because you are in that area doesn’t mean you are on Leong where you should be particularly concerned,” Siegel said at the meeting.

Concentrations as high as 440 parts per billion were found nearby on the west side of Moffett Boulevard on a property once home to the county’s vector control yard, purchased a few years ago by the city, possibly for a shopping center.

After the meeting, Siegel said he wanted to make it clear to those in the Wagon Wheel neighborhood that it is unlikely most people are going to be affected by the contamination.

“They tested 30 homes and only came up with two. Even if they find something, they can install a system that protects you,” Siegel said, referring to vapor control systems.

Officials said they were going to be going door-to-door in the neighborhood soon and would send out a new fact sheet that discusses the dangers of TCE over the following week.

### TCE disclosed?

“Everybody who moves into the area has to know that sam-

pling is available,” Siegel said. “If you’ve had your property sampled, it should be disclosed.”

Not every new homeowner is notified. There might be a notice buried in paperwork for a home that “tells you about a Superfund area,” Siegel said. “But they don’t tell you about your specific house. I don’t believe California requires that specific info. But I’m not an attorney so I can’t guarantee that.”

For homes with elevated levels, vapor control systems are installed by the polluters to draw the vapors out from under the home and exhaust the vapors above the roof-line, which Lee assured residents was safe.

Of the two homes with elevated levels on Evandale, one had a ventilation system installed in early February that still requires modification to clear up the air to levels to below the EPA limit. The other household is still having its system designed. The systems also protect homes from radon, a naturally occurring carcinogen that some consider more dangerous than TCE, said Peter Strauss of the Center for Public Environmental Oversight.

The EPA once estimated that it would take 300 years to clean the plume but more recently, the estimate was revised to 100 years, Siegel said. “Pump and treat” methods have pulled tons of TCE out of the ground and filtered it out, but the last little bit is proving very hard to remove. Intel has begun experimenting with cleanup methods that involve injecting TCE-eating bacteria into the ground, called “in-situ bioremediation” with promising results. But it is hard to cover large areas with it, or areas where buildings stand in the way of drilling into the ground, Siegel said.

“The question is, will it take forever?” Siegel of the cleanup. “The responsible parties are arguing that you can’t totally clean it up, so why try?”

For more information, visit the EPA Region 9’s MEW study area website at [tinyurl.com/ofquyf](http://tinyurl.com/ofquyf). Or contact these EPA officials:

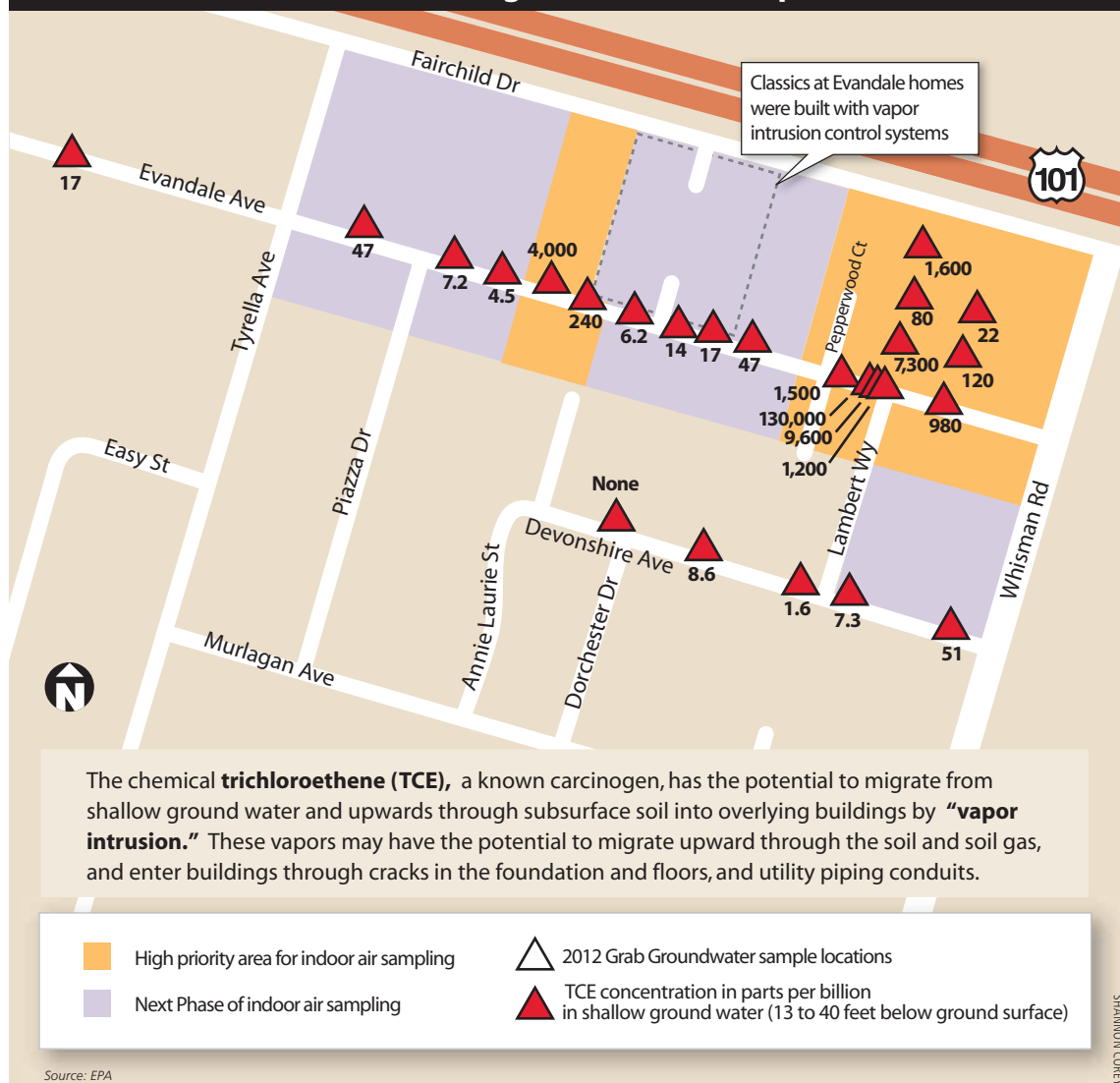
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EPA Vapor Intrusion Project Manager  
[Lee.Alana@epa.gov](mailto:Lee.Alana@epa.gov)  
415-972-3141

**Penny Reddy**  
EPA Groundwater Project Manager  
[Reddy.Penny@epa.gov](mailto:Reddy.Penny@epa.gov)  
415-972-3108

**Leana Rosetti**  
EPA Community Involvement Coordinator  
[Rosetti.Leana@epa.gov](mailto:Rosetti.Leana@epa.gov)  
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## Trichloroethene (TCE) found in ground water samples



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Tom Gibboney (223-6507)

#### EDITORIAL

##### Managing Editor

Andrea Gemmet (223-6537)

##### Staff Writers

Daniel DeBolt (223-6536)

Nick Veronin (223-6535)

##### Photographer

Michelle Le (223-6530)

##### Contributors

Dale Bentson,  
Angela Hey, Sheila Himmel,  
Ruth Schecter, Alissa Stallings

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Shannon Corey (223-6560)

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## EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

# Another lifeline for Hangar One

Nine lives may not adequately describe how many times Hangar One has been written off for dead only to come back with another lease on life. When the United States Navy turned Moffett Field over to NASA in 1994, it tried to squirm out of any obligations to clean up the toxic mess around Hangar One, but after a heated fight with the new landlord, officials agreed to remove — but not replace — the toxic siding covering the massive hangar.

And when the siding finally was removed, leaving only the skeleton of the iconic structure that has long been a landmark for Mountain View and the Silicon Valley, it was thought that in times of tight money in Washington, D.C., no one ever would step up to restore Hangar One.

Then H211, the company that oversees Google's small squadron of private planes, offered in late 2011 to do the job in return for a long-term lease on the hangar. But that deal was curiously ignored in Washington, even though it offered the government a no-cost option to get the job done.

Five months later, NASA administrator Charles Bolden shocked the preservationists and other interested parties when he announced on April 6 a plan to turn Hangar One and the Moffett Federal Airfield over to the General Services Administration for disposal in the federal system. Such a fate could have left the hangar and runway in limbo for years, while the GSA looked for an agency to take over the properties.

That was where things stood until about two weeks ago, when Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, the White House, the General Services Administration and NASA shocked everyone by announcing that the GSA will seek bids

for the restoration and lease of Hangar One and for management of Moffett Federal Airfield.

The dramatic change means that the government will issue requests for proposals on behalf of NASA, which now is committed to seeing Hangar One recovered, rather than being left to rust away as many had feared. If plans materialize according to this latest scenario, it could mean that the hangar and airfield will be on solid footing for years to come.

Although at this point it is not clear what companies might be bidding to do the job, H211, the manager of Google's fleet of private planes, told the Voice that the company will take a serious look at the proposal, despite recently making a commitment to move its planes to San Jose's Mineta International Airport. An earlier offer by H211 could have brought more than \$40 million to restore the hangar's siding. The company also has said it might be open to sharing Hangar One with the budding effort by the Save Hangar One Committee, which hopes to build an air and space museum in the gargantuan building.

This is a plan that we hope the entire Moffett community can support. With the right artifacts, and with Google's support as a tenant, Hangar One can remain the iconic structure that serves as a landmark for Moffett Field and residents of the South Bay. It is a link back to the Navy's dirigibles, including the USS Macon, which crashed into the Pacific ocean off Point Sur during a mission that began at Moffett. The hangar is a historical asset that is priceless in today's market. Any questions about its value to this community should be put to rest with this latest development.

## GUEST OPINION

VOICE FROM THE COMMUNITY

# Little League should drop religious pledge, stick to baseball

By Paul Kandell

Where would you expect someone to ask my 11-year-old to pledge aloud, in front of hundreds of onlookers, "I trust in God"?

- A) Church
- B) Synagogue
- C) Mosque
- D) Youth baseball field

If you chose D — in this case McKelvey Park, a county ball-field administered by the City of Mountain View — you'd sadly

be correct.

That's because the traditional Little League pledge, adopted in 1954 as a response to the Red Scare, starts with those words, and our Mountain View affiliate asks players to recite them — despite the national organization not requiring the ritual.

So, on Sunday at McKelvey my fifth grader will stand proudly in his baseball uniform while an adult stranger asks that he pro-

► Continued on next page



## LITTLE LEAGUE

► Continued from page 16

claim his faith.

Is that OK? The president of Mountain View Little League says it is. Indeed, he told me that in five years I'm the only one to object to the pledge, and that when he told my concern to his board of directors they voted unanimously to keep the tradition.

How can that be? Surely, there are baseball parents who would leave religion off the field.

For starters, there are agnostics and atheists for whom the pledge must be an affront. Studies by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life show that 12 percent of Californians either do not believe in God or have doubts about whether God exists; in secular Silicon Valley, that number is surely higher.

Then, there are the families of all faiths — like mine — who expect their kids' religious observance to be conducted at home or in houses of worship, by teachers of their own choosing.

Finally, there are those of us who think no one — certainly not a child — should be compelled on a public stage to address his or her religious beliefs or lack of them. This doesn't happen in soccer, basketball or foot-

ball. Not in gymnastics, dance or karate. At a professional baseball game, are we asked about God? Of course not.

No, it's only in Little League where adults in charge have this power. If I want my son to play — if he wants to join his friends who already are in the league — we have no choice but to subject him to the pledge. Or to feel like outcasts.

And making us feel like outcasts is the end effect of what MVLL's president offered me — by suggesting my son not say those words or just not attend the ceremony. Sure, those are options, but humiliating ones — options that speak to exclusion, not the inclusion I'm sure Little League would want to project.

MVLL, are you sure you want to treat us — all of us — this way, especially when altering the tradition by leaving out one line, as other Bay Area Little Leagues have done, would be so easy? Why is it so important to you in 2013 that our little sluggers, born long after the Cold War ended, continue to say these words when all they really want to do is just play ball?

*Paul Kandell is a Bay Area journalism educator who lives on Lotus Lane.*



From left to right are students Haley Ecker, eighth grade; Emma Jacobsen, eighth grade; Rachel Klemm, seventh grade; Yasmine Naeta, seventh grade; and Angela Chen, eighth grade. All are students at Crittenden Middle School.

## ■ LETTERS

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

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VERONICA WEBER

**Panos Paganos** cuts off a bit of chocolate from a bar from Claudio Corallo's Terreiro Vehlo Plantation at the new Alegio Chocolate in Palo Alto.

■ FOOD FEATURE

## Hometown chocolate

ALEGIO CHOCOLATE OPENS A SECOND LOCATION IN PALO ALTO TO BE CLOSER TO PENINSULA CUSTOMERS

*By Rebecca Duran*

Since recently opening Alegio Chocolate in Palo Alto, co-owner Panos Panagos has welcomed customers who are already familiar with the business' Berkeley location.

"Most of the people who come now, they know the place and told us that we are competing with ourselves," he said with a laugh.

Seven years after opening in Berkeley, Panagos and co-owner Robin Everson opened the doors to the Palo Alto shop in late February, to serve all the Silicon Valley residents who would go up to Berkeley to buy chocolate from them, he said.

"We had too many people from Palo Alto — a lot," he said.



VERONICA WEBER

**Alegio Chocolate** carries truffles, but the shop's focus is on chocolate bars.



VERONICA WEBER

**Chocolates** from Barcelona's Enric Rovira make a striking display.

Tucked away on Bryant Street downtown, the shop greets people with classical music and red walls adorned with photos and shelves of high-end chocolate bars.

The store carries single-source chocolate made by Claudio Corallo, as well as truffles and chocolates made by Barcelona's

Enric Rovira. Panagos calls it "honest chocolate" that is pure cacao, with only the addition of nuts, fruit and organic sugar. Two of the more popular offerings are the 100 percent and the 75 percent chocolate.

Corallo, who produces the chocolate in Sao Tome e Principe in West Africa, will attend the

store's as-yet unscheduled grand-opening celebration.

"We don't feel we're ready yet," Panagos said of plans for a grand opening. "We need everything to function perfectly."

Panagos said he hopes that while he's here, Corallo will be able to give a lecture at Stanford University about his ideas and

philosophy. "Claudio is a very difficult man to work with, but I feel privileged to be working with him," he said. "He's a great guy. He's a perfectionist."

Corallo initially left Europe for Africa interested in growing coffee beans rather than cocoa. It was when his family moved to Principe that his interest in cocoa beans grew.

Panagos said he met Corallo in Barcelona about eight or nine years ago, when he was looking for a job that would allow him enough time to spend with his kids when he moved to the United States. The name of the shop is a combination of Panagos' two sons' names — Alexander and Giorgio.

Everything used to make the chocolate is from the island of Sao Tome e Principe. Corallo's philosophy and refusal to compromise are the reason that Panagos said he is so passionate about the business. It's important, he said, given the state of the food industry.

"There's only three major companies controlling everything we eat," he said. "We all have to say enough is enough. We can't buy almonds without having something added to it."

He said vanilla, a commonly added ingredient that people associate with the taste of choco-

late, is a flavor that covers up everything else. It might be covering up the taste of a bad bean, he said.

Panagos said that is not the case with Alegio because there is no bitterness to the beans, which Corallo roasts over wood fire without burning them, using a specific — and secret — kind of wood.

The 100 percent chocolate is what he calls a "naked" chocolate, and contains no other ingredient but the cocoa beans.

"To me, it's important to taste an honest chocolate, to be able to go out and buy chocolate that's just chocolate," he said.

Experience has shown him that people are willing to go out of their way for his chocolate. He gave the example of a man visiting Palo Alto from Canada who drove up to the Berkeley shop, and a regular customer who bought \$600 worth of chocolate before leaving the country. He found that some people would complain about the drive or having to rent a car to get there.

"Robbin said me, 'We're going to have to do something about it,'" he said. "We looked and we happened to have found this place here, just by accident."

Panagos, while grateful for the store's following in Berkeley, has

► Continued on next page

## DINNER BY THE MOVIES AT SHORELINE'S Cucina Venti



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*From our kitchen to yours. Buon appetito!*

CHEF MARCO SALVI, EXECUTIVE CHEF



#### INGREDIENTS:

- ¾ CUP WATER
- 36 LITTLENECK OR MANILA CLAMS IN SHELLS, SCRUBBED (ABOUT 2 1/2 POUNDS)
- 6 QUARTS WATER
- 3 CUPS BROCCOLI FLORETS
- 3 TABLESPOONS EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL, DIVIDED

#### PREPARATION:

BRING 1 CUP WATER TO A BOIL IN A LARGE STOCKPOT. ADD CLAMS; COVER AND COOK 4-5 MINUTES OR UNTIL SHELLS OPEN. REMOVE CLAMS FROM PAN; RESERVE 1 CUP COOKING LIQUID. DISCARD ANY UNOPENED SHELLS.

BRING 6 QUARTS WATER AND 2 TEASPOONS SALT TO A BOIL IN LARGE POT. ADD BROCCOLI, AND COOK 3 MINUTES OR UNTIL THE BROCCOLI IS BRIGHT GREEN. REMOVE BROCCOLI WITH A SLOTTED SPOON (DO NOT DRAIN WATER FROM STOCKPOT). PLACE BROCCOLI IN A COLANDER, AND RINSE WITH COLD WATER. DRAIN BROCCOLI; COARSELY CHOP.

RETURN WATER TO A BOIL. STIR IN PASTA AND RETURN TO A BOIL, STIRRING FREQUENTLY. COOK 8 MINUTES OR UNTIL THE PASTA IS AL DENTE, STIRRING OCCASIONALLY.

- 6 GARLIC CLOVES, SLICED
- ½ TEASPOON CRUSHED RED PEPPER
- ¼ CUP ITALIAN PARSLEY, CHOPPED
- 1 POUND UNCOOKED LINGUINE
- SALT
- SHAVED ASIAGO CHEESE

WHILE PASTA COOKS, HEAT 2 TABLESPOONS OIL IN A LARGE NONSTICK SKILLET OVER MEDIUM HEAT. ADD GARLIC; COOK 30 SECONDS OR UNTIL FRAGRANT AND TRANSLUCENT, STIRRING CONSTANTLY. ADD BROCCOLI AND RED PEPPER; COOK 2 MINUTES OR UNTIL BROCCOLI SIZZLES. STIR IN CLAMS AND RESERVED 1 CUP COOKING LIQUID; BRING TO A BOIL. REDUCE HEAT, AND SIMMER 2 MINUTES OR UNTIL BROCCOLI IS TENDER.

ADD PASTA TO SKILLET, STIRRING WELL TO COAT. BRING MIXTURE TO A BOIL. STIR IN 1/2 TEASPOON SALT AND CHOPPED PARSLEY; COOK 1 MINUTE, STIRRING CONSTANTLY. SERVE IMMEDIATELY AND DRIZZLE EACH SERVING WITH 1/2 TEASPOON OF EXTRA VIRGIN OLIVE OIL AND 4-5 SHAVINGS OF ASIAGO.



Co-owner Panos Panagos adds chocolate bars to the store's display.

VERONICA WEBER

► Continued from previous page

found that people in the Palo Alto area are more willing to pay a higher price for great chocolate.

"I have a community there that supports me greatly, but Berkeley is a different thing," he said. "They want fair trade, organic and cheap. Here, people are much more willing to do it." Even though he wishes all three — cheap, organic and fair-trade — could be possible in a chocolate, they aren't, he said.

Panagos said it's not always the easiest message to convey.

"It's difficult to sell the message to people here without having them taste it, to convey the message that this is high-end chocolate," he said. "People are getting confused. They don't understand the difference between the price and the value. We're just surviving."

Alegio offers a chocolate-tasting tour that teaches about the

history of the company and island, while offering samples of an assortment of types of chocolates. The chocolates Alegio carries never have less than 70 percent cocoa. The most expensive chocolate they sell, the 100 percent cocoa with ginger, was the favorite chocolate of the late Steve Jobs, he said. Other popular offerings are an 80 percent with crystallized sugar, one made with orange, and one with "drunken raisins" — raisins macerated in liquor.

Panagos said he has seen many people switch to Alegio after they have tried its chocolate.

"A lot of people come back and say, 'You ruined my life,'" he said. "Once they have tried the chocolate, they didn't want to go back to other chocolates." ■

#### ■ INFORMATION

Alegio Chocolates is at 522 Bryant St. in Palo Alto. Call 650-324-4500 or go to alegio.com.

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### CHINESE

#### Chef Chu's

948-2696

1067 N. San Antonio Road  
www.chefchu.com

#### Ming's

856-7700

1700 Embarcadero East, Palo Alto  
www.mings.com

#### New Tung Kee Noodle House

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520 Showers Drive, Mountain View  
www.shopmountainview.com/luunoodlemv

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MOVIE REVIEWS

THE GATEKEEPERS

★★★1/2

(Palo Alto Square) Dror Moreh’s documentary “The Gatekeepers” proves more intellectually engaging than Hollywood’s “Zero Dark Thirty,” and at least as unsettling. Moreh pursued the participation of former heads of the Shin Bet, Israel’s secret service. Six of these men agreed for the first time to explain their actions, discuss their successes and air their regrets. Obviously men who have run the Shin Bet will be both canny enough and skilled enough to say just what they want, no more or less. Essentially the sole criticism of Moreh’s film is that it gives the men a venue to couch their past actions in the best possible light and to polish their legacies by explaining how they have, in hindsight, turned certain political corners. The sometimes-slick visual approach, incorporating recreations of satellite surveillance and an animated photographer’s-eye view of the 1984 debacle, can at times feel like overkill, but they also help to put what’s otherwise a series of talking heads in the game with other eye-catching top docs. *Rated PG-13 for violent content including disturbing images. One hour, 41 minutes.* — P.C.

IDENTITY THIEF ★★1/2

(Century 20) Known for stealing scenes, Melissa McCarthy adds to her jacket by taking on the title role of “Identity Thief.” Seth Gordon’s action-comedy follow-up to “Horrible Bosses” proves far from perfect but difficult to resist, thanks to McCarthy and co-lead Jason Bateman. Bateman plays Sandy Bigelow Patterson, a Colorado accountant whose life turns upside down when McCarthy’s identity thief goes to town on his credit. The confusion threatens Sandy’s brand-new job. That means flying down to Florida, apprehending Diana and hauling her back to face the music. And so what begins as a fruitful comic premise about identity theft turns out to be two parts “Planes, Trains, and Automobiles” and one part “Midnight Run.” An expert in both verbal and physical comedy, McCarthy is a worthy successor to John Candy, who also had a gift for warming up caricatures with loveable humanity. Despite some tangles, there’s something appealing in how the film amounts to the opposite of a revenge narrative, considering the roots of Diana’s waywardness and extending her chances to earn her redemption. *Rated R for sexual content and language. One hour, 52 minutes.* — P.C.

JACK THE GIANT SLAYER

★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) The classic folk tale has become a fascination for Hollywood lately, and the evolution of visual effects has made such stories easier to translate to the big screen. Director Bryan Singer’s take on the “Jack and the Beanstalk” fable may be the best film adaptation of a time-honored yarn yet. Singer, of “The Usual Suspects” and “X-Men” fame, infuses the film with just the right balance of action, romance and goofy fun. The picture moves at a brisk pace, the effects are spot-on and the script is refreshingly sharp. Up-and-comer Nicholas Hoult (“X-Men: First Class”) plays Jack, a humble farmhand who lives in relative squalor with his uncle. Jack’s uncle tasks him with taking a horse to town to sell, and Jack reluctantly parts with the animal for — you guessed it — a handful of unusual beans. But the beans’ bearer issues an ominous warning: Don’t

get them wet. Hoult’s Jack is an admirable blend of heroics and aww-shucks humility, but the usually spectacular Stanley Tucci is miscast as a less-than-honorable royal advisor. *Rated PG-13 for intense scenes of fantasy action violence, some frightening images and brief language. One hour, 55 minutes.* — T.H.

LES MISERABLES ★★

(Century 16) One has to admire the ambition of this through-sung play that’s now a big-screen musical. A condensation of Victor Hugo’s 1862 epic novel, the musical by composer Claude-Michel Schonberg and lyricists Alain Boublil and Jean-Marc Natel achieved enormous popular appeal with its melodies and melodrama. But it’s equally true that “Les Miserables” has never been known for its subtlety, with its storytelling in all-caps and its music thunderously repetitive. None of this changes, exactly, in the film adaptation helmed by Tom Hooper, Oscar-winning director of “The King’s Speech.” And like so many movie musicals, this one’s a mixed bag of suitable and not-so-suitable choices. On balance, though, it’s about as compelling a screen version of “Les Mis” as we have any right to expect. Hugh Jackman stars as Jean Valjean, a parole violator in 19th-century France who lifts himself out of poverty and decrepitude

but lives in fear of discovery by his former jailer, Inspector Javert (Russell Crowe). From his new position of power as a factory owner, Valjean becomes entangled in the fortunes of one of his workers, despairing single mother Fantine (Anne Hathaway), and he begins to feel responsible for the woman and her child, Cosette (Isabelle Allen). Jackman is perhaps the only sensible choice to headline the picture, and though he’s able enough, his performance typically feels calculated. The same could be said for Hathaway, who’s given an Oscar-savvy showcase in her single-take performance of the uber-emotive aria “I Dreamed a Dream.” *Rated PG-13 for suggestive and sexual material, violence and thematic elements. Two hours, 37 minutes.* — P.C.

LIFE OF PI ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) In Ang Lee’s exhilarating “Life of Pi” — based upon the bestselling novel by Yann Martel — a boy adrift reads a “Survival at Sea” manual. “Telling stories is highly recommended,” it says. “Above all, do not lose hope.” In the hands of Ang Lee, “Life of Pi” elegantly walks Martel’s philosophical line while also brilliantly using every modern cinematic tool to tell an epic yarn. Most prominent among these tools is 3D. Lee joins the ranks



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MOVIE TIMES

All showtimes are for Friday through Sunday only unless otherwise noted. For other times, as well as reviews and trailers, go to mv-voice.com/movies.

**21 and Over (R)** Century 16: 11:20 a.m. & 2, 4:50, 7:40 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: 11:45 a.m. & 12:50, 2:10, 4:30, 5:30, 6:55, 9:20 & 10:45 p.m.

**A Good Day to Die Hard (R)** Century 20: 3:05 & 8:05 p.m.

**Argo (R) ★★1/2** Century 20: 11:10 a.m. & 1:55, 4:45, 7:35 & 10:20 p.m. Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 4:15, 7:15 & 10 p.m.

**Dead Man Down (R)** Century 16: 11 a.m. & 1:45, 4:30, 7:35 & 10:35 p.m. Century 20: 11:30 a.m. & 2:15, 5, 7:50 & 10:40 p.m.

**Emperor (PG-13) Aquarius Theatre:** 1:30, 4:30, 7:30 & 10 p.m. Century 20: 11:25 a.m. & 2, 4:35, 7:10 & 9:45 p.m.

**Escape from Planet Earth (PG)** Century 16: Fri 2:30 p.m. In 3D 12:15 & 5 p.m. Sat 2:30 p.m. In 3D 12:15 & 5 p.m. Sun 2:30 p.m. In 3D 12:15 & 5 p.m. Mon 2:30 p.m. In 3D 12:15 & 5 p.m. Tue 2:30 p.m. In 3D 12:15 & 5 p.m. Wed 2:30 p.m. In 3D 12:15 & 5 p.m. Thu 2:30 p.m. In 3D 12:15 & 5 p.m. Century 20: 11:35 a.m. & 4:40 p.m. In 3D 2:15 & 7:05 p.m.

**The Gatekeepers (PG-13) ★★1/2** Palo Alto Square: 2, 4:30, 7:25 & 10:05 p.m.

**Greedy Lying Bastards (PG-13)** Century 16: 11:30 a.m. & 1:50, 4:10, 6:40 & 9:20 p.m.

**Identity Thief (R) ★★1/2** Century 20: 11:40 a.m. & 2:30, 5:05, 7:55 & 10:40 p.m.

**Jack the Giant Slayer (PG-13) ★★** Century 16: noon & 2:50, 5:50 & 8:50 p.m. In 3D 10:40 a.m. & 1:40, 4:20, 7:25 & 10:05 p.m. Century 20: 12:45, 3:30, 6:15 & 9 p.m. In 3D 11:30 a.m. & 2:10, 5, 7:45 & 10:30 p.m.

**The Last Exorcism, Part II (PG-13)** Century 16: Fri 10:15 a.m. & 4 & 10:35 p.m. Sat 10:15 a.m. & 4 & 10:35 p.m. Sun 10:15 a.m. & 4 & 10:35 p.m. Mon 10:15 a.m. & 4 & 10:35 p.m. Tue 10:15 a.m. & 4 & 10:35 p.m. Wed 10:15 a.m. & 4 & 10:35 p.m. Thu 10:15 a.m. & 4 & 10:35 p.m. Century 20: 1:15, 3:35, 5:50, 8:15 & 10:35 p.m.

**Les Miserables (2012) (PG-13) ★★** Century 16: Fri noon & 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. Sat noon & 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. Sun noon & 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. Mon noon & 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. Tue noon & 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. Wed noon & 3:30 & 7:30 p.m. Thu noon & 3:30 & 7:30 p.m.

**Life of Pi (PG) ★★1/2** Century 16: Fri 3:10 & 9:40 p.m. In 3D 11:50 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Sat 3:10 & 9:40 p.m. In 3D 11:50 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Sun 3:10 & 9:40 p.m. In 3D 11:50 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Mon 3:10 & 9:40 p.m. In 3D 11:50 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Tue 3:10 & 9:40 p.m. In 3D 11:50 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Wed 3:10 & 9:40 p.m. In 3D 11:50 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Thu 3:10 & 9:40 p.m. In 3D 11:50 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Century 20: 1:25 & 7:15 p.m.

**Lincoln (PG-13) ★★1/2** Century 20: 12:05 & 6:50 p.m.

**No (R)** Aquarius Theatre: 1, 4, 7 & 9:45 p.m.

**Oz the Great and Powerful (PG)** Century 16: 10 & 10:50 a.m. & 2:10, 4:30, 5:30 & 9 p.m. In 3D 11:40 a.m. & 12:20, 1:10, 3, 3:40, 6:20, 7:10, 8, 9:50 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: Fri 11:15 a.m. & 12:40, 2:20, 3:45, 5:25, 6:50, 8:30 & 9:55 p.m. In XD 1:20, 4:25, 7:30 & 10:35 p.m. In 3D noon, 3:05, 6:10 & 9:15 p.m. Sat-Sun 11:15 a.m. & 12:40, 2:20, 3:45, 5:25, 6:50 & 8:30 p.m. In 3D noon & 3:05, 6:10 & 9:15 p.m. In XD 10:20 a.m. & 1:20, 4:25, 7:30 & 10:35 p.m.

**Quartet (PG-13) ★★** Century 20: 11:55 a.m. & 2:35, 4:55, 7:25 & 9:50 p.m. Guild Theatre: 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.

**Rear Window (1954)** Stanford Theatre: Fri 7:30 p.m. Sat-Sun 3:30 & 7:30 p.m.

**Safe Haven (PG-13) 1/2** Century 20: 11:10 a.m. & 1:50, 4:35, 7:20 & 10 p.m.

**Silver Linings Playbook (R)** Century 16: 10 a.m. & 12:45, 3:40, 7 & 9:55 p.m. Century 20: 11:20 a.m. & 2, 4:50, 7:35 & 10:25 p.m.

**Snitch (PG-13) ★★1/2** Century 16: 10:10 a.m. & 12:50, 3:50, 7:15 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:50 & 10:25 p.m.

**To Catch a Thief (1955)** Stanford Theatre: 5:35 & 9:35 p.m.

**Warm Bodies (PG-13)** Century 20: 9:30 p.m.

**Zero Dark Thirty (R) ★★1/2** Century 16: 7:50 p.m. Century 20: 3:20 & 10:05 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](http://www.mv-voice.com) and click on movies.





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## Valley Transportation Plan 2040 Public Meeting Notice

The Valley Transportation Plan 2040 (VTP 2040) is the county-wide long-range transportation plan for Santa Clara County. As the Congestion Management Agency (CMA) for the county, the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) periodically updates this 25-year plan.

VTP 2040 provides a planning and policy framework for developing and delivering future transportation projects. Location-specific improvements for all modes of travel are covered in program areas. The Plan also identifies existing and future transportation needs through a systematic approach based on input from local jurisdictions, elected officials and the community.

VTA is holding four public meetings to listen and share information in regards to Valley Transportation Plan 2040. These meetings will have the same format and content.

### Monday, March 11, 2013

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (Presentation begins at 5:15 p.m.)  
Los Gatos Adult Recreation Center  
208 East Main Street, Los Gatos, CA 95030  
*This location is served by VTA Bus Lines 48 and 49.*

### Tuesday, March 19, 2013

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (Presentation begins at 5:45 p.m.)  
Mountain View Public Library  
585 Franklin Street, Mountain View, CA 94041  
*This location is served by VTA Bus Lines: 22, 35, or 522.*

### Thursday, March 21, 2013

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (Presentation begins at 5:45 p.m.)  
City of Morgan Hill Community and Cultural Center  
17000 Monterey Road, Morgan Hill, CA 95037  
*This location is served by VTA Bus Line 68.*

### Monday, March 25, 2013

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. (Presentation begins at 5:45 p.m.)  
Mayfair Community Center  
2039 Kammerer Ave. San Jose, CA 95116  
*This location is served by VTA Bus Lines 22, 23, 70, 77 and 522.*

Individuals who require language translation, American Sign Language, or documents in accessible formats are requested to contact VTA Community Outreach at (408) 321-7575 / TTY (408) 321-2330 at least 5 business days before the meeting. The meeting facility is accessible to persons with disabilities.

If you are unable to attend these meetings, project information and presentations can be found online at [www.vta.org/vtp](http://www.vta.org/vtp).

For more meeting details please call VTA Community Outreach at (408) 321-7575, or email [community.outreach@vta.org](mailto:community.outreach@vta.org).



1302-8760

## Weekend

of auteurs using new 3D cameras, gainfully employing the technology for its full ViewMaster "pop" effect, but also in more magical ways. Suraj Sharma plays the teenage Piscine Molitor (aka "Pi"), who, having been raised in South India, winds up in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, warily sharing a lifeboat with a zebra, an orangutan and a Bengal tiger. As a boy, Pi (Ayush Tandon) becomes something of a "Catholic Hindu," who sees the gods of various religions as his "superheroes." Pi's spiritual picaresque shifts into a high gear once he's fighting for survival on the "life"boat. Pi's attempts to reach detente with the tiger create a fearful intimacy analogous to some people's experience of God. "I have to believe there was more in his eyes than my own reflection staring back at me," Pi says, but the film's visual motifs of mirrored surfaces might just as well suggest that people under sufficient emotional duress see what they want to see. *Rated PG for emotional thematic content throughout, and some scary action sequences and peril. Two hours, seven minutes.* — P.C.

### QUARTET ★★★

(Guild, Century 20) In telling its tale of four retired musicians, "Quartet" doesn't avoid all of the traps of the cutesy and sometimes condescending old-age-pensioner movie

genre, but Director Dustin Hoffman does show good taste, particularly in casting. The setting is Beecham House, a home for retired musicians. It's a rambling estate with amenities and lush greenery, which warmly embraces its residents — all of whom daily practice their vocation. Still, there is trouble in paradise. The residents fret about the home's dwindling funds and the necessity of a boffo success for the home's annual benefit. This concern coincides with the arrival of a new resident who throws everyone into a tizzy: bona fide opera diva Jean Horton. Hoffman adds to already sturdy material a few smart touches, such as a well-timed classical montage for the title sequence and a subtle refusal to follow through on genre clichés. One genre expectation remains firmly in place. The senior-citizen movie remains a showcase for elder talent, which Hoffman maximizes not only with stars but also with supporting players who, once upon a time, made theatrical, operatic and musical history. "Quartet" is no classic, but with the talent involved, it's certainly catchy. *Rated PG-13 for brief strong language and suggestive humor. One hour, 39 minutes.* — P.C.

### SAFE HAVEN 1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) Movies based on Nicholas Sparks books are like the "natural

flavors" synthesized in a laboratory to trick your taste buds. The romantic-drama results remain pretty much the same: a date movie that's likely to induce friskiness in couples. With "Safe Haven," producer Sparks risks killing the mood by introducing "thriller" elements. There's a Pretty Young Thing (Julianne Hough) who travels to a picturesque seaside idyll. There she walks right into a job and housing, meets another Pretty Young Thing (Josh Duhamel), resists romance, succumbs to romance, then almost loses romance due to the emergence of a Dark Secret. Duhamel can and does nominally act here, but Hough can't be bothered to do anything other than flash toothy smiles and crinkle her dimples just so. Given the soulless-cash-grab material, who can blame her? *Rated PG-13 for thematic material involving threatening behavior, and for violence and sexuality. One hour, 55 minutes.* — P.C.

### SNITCH ★★1/2

Century 16, Century 20) "Snitch" fictionalizes the case of 18-year-old Joey Settembrino, a first-time offender who landed a 10-year prison sentence after being entrapped by a friend in a drug sting, adding spoonfuls of action sugar to make the social message go down. Dwayne Johnson plays the father, John Matthews, whose son Jason makes one bad call and winds up in the Big House. As the owner of a big-rig freight-shipping outfit, John's in a "good" position to offer drug traffickers an enticing proposition. Entrapping one of his employees, John gets a meet with dealer Malik, who in turn connects John with Mexican drug cartel head Juan Carlos. Stunt coordinator-turned-director Ric Roman Waugh shows his sure hand with the impressive if overblown, driving stunts, which constitute most of the limited action in what's otherwise an indie-flavored thriller. The cast helps. For a man of not unlimited acting talent, Johnson shows he has a good understanding of his range and a firm handle on his career, this role being just the sort he ought to be playing. That said, he'd be nowhere without his supporting cast. In its modern way, "Snitch" is almost Dickensian in its intent, missing no opportunity for melodramatic confrontation. *Rated PG-13 for drug content and sequences of violence. One hour, 52 minutes.* — P.C.

### ZERO DARK THIRTY ★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) By most cinematic measures, "Zero Dark Thirty" is one of the best-made films of 2012. It also probably shouldn't exist. An encore presentation by the team of director Kathryn Bigelow and screenwriter Mark Boal — who collected Oscars for 2008's "The Hurt Locker" — the film recounts the CIA's hunt for Osama bin Laden. By following a fiercely determined CIA officer (Jessica Chastain's Maya), "Zero Dark Thirty" creates an identification with her agony of defeat and thrill of victory along the way, building a rooting interest while otherwise eschewing character development in favor of detail-oriented procedural. While Boal's screenplay is based on journalistic research, one might well say, "Consider the sources." And the calendar. It's fair to suggest that the Hollywood treatment of such politically delicate history comes "too soon," and lacks the historical perspective that comes with time. Instead of dealing with the inherently political dimensions of their narrative, the filmmakers have disingenuously insisted upon the film's apoliticism in its embrace of procedural narrative. *Rated R for language and strong violence including brutal images. Two hours, 37 minutes.* — P.C.



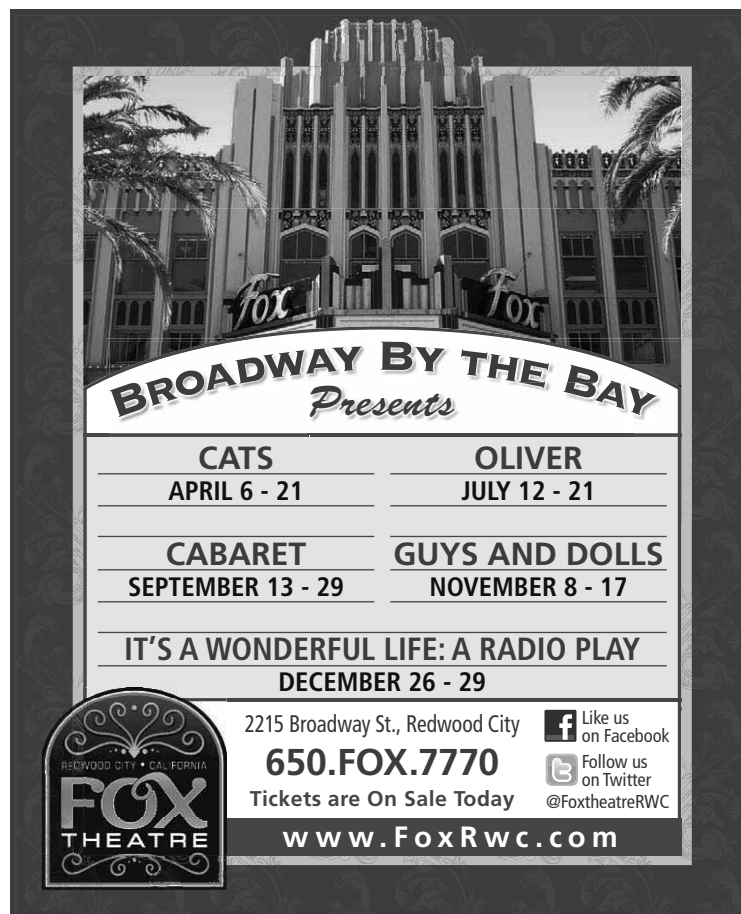
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MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ HIGHLIGHT

## DISNEY'S THE LITTLE MERMAID, JR

The City of Los Altos Youth Theatre Presents: A musical performed by youth from Los Altos and surrounding towns. March 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23 at 7:30 p.m. and March 10, 16, 17, 24 at 2 p.m. \$12-17. Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos . Call 650-941-0551. busbarn.tix.com/Schedule.asp?ActCode=87545

## ART GALLERIES

**'Asia Travels' by Roy Harrington** Gallery 9 Los Altos features an exhibit of photographs by Bay Area artist Roy Harrington. The exhibit, on display through Mar. 30, includes works from recent travels in Asia. Reception for the artist: Friday, March 1, 5-8 p.m. Gallery Hours: Tues.-Sat., 11-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-4 p.m. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos. www.gallery9losaltos.com

**'Rwanda, Land of Reconciliation,' a photographic exhibition by Katie Cooney** The exhibit includes "Door of Hope," a 2x3 piece, chromatic print on archival paper, made in January 2012 in Kigali, Rwanda. Through March 24, CSMA Mohr Gallery, 230 San Antonio Road, Mountain View. Call 650-917-6800 x 306. www.arts4all.org

**Cafe Ole** The Santa Clara Valley Watercolor Society members' exhibit celebrates cafe life and fun in general. Visitors to the cafe are able to vote for their favorite work. The votes will be counted on March 14 and announced at the cafe Sat. March 16, 3 p.m. Sunday cafe hours: 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Others: 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Main Street Cafe and Books, 134 Main St., Los Altos. www.scwvs.org

**Wild Heart One Bird Singing** An exhibit of watercolors, haiku, and calligraphy from a new book by Floy Zittin, Patricia Machmiller, and Martha Dahlen. Three arts, three artists, and two cultures. Reception Fri. evening, March 1, 5-8 p.m. Sun. gallery doses 3 p.m. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Viewpoints Gallery, 315 State St., Los Altos. www.viewpointsgallery.com

## BENEFITS

**GMS Scholarship Breakfast w/ Kamala Harris** The Girls' Middle School Annual Scholarship Breakfast will include keynote speaker California Attorney General Kamala Harris. Attendees hear the first woman, the first African American, and the first South Asian to hold the office in the history of California. Tickets available online. March 8, 8:15-9:30 a.m. \$100 (\$70 tax-deductible). Crowne Plaza Cabana Hotel, 4290 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. www.girlsms.org/breakfast

**MVEF Taste of Moutain View Gala** The Mountain View Educational Foundation's Spring Gala and Auction features food from eight restaurants, a cash bar, exciting live and silent auctions, music and dancing, and the opportunity to support K-8 education in the Mountain View Whisman School District. March 9, 6:30-11 p.m. \$40-60. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-526-3500, x1030. www.mvef.org

**Ragazzi Boys Chours presents Sing It Forward** Ragazzi Boys Chorus, one of the largest boys choruses in the Bay Area, celebrates 25 years of remarkable music with Sing It Forward, a fundraising gala. Sing It Forward features a cocktail hour, silent and live auction, and gourmet buffet dinner with entertainment provided by the boys. March 10, 5 p.m. \$125. Fremont Hills Country Club, 12889 Viscaino Place, Los Altos Hills. www.Ragazzi.org

## CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

**'Foundational Social Skills Development Group'** Designed for children ages 3-4 who have difficulty interacting with other children. Non-competitive games and cooperative activities designed to develop social, communication, problem-solving, negotiation, emotional regulation/identification and play skills. Children do not need a diagnosis to attend. Mondays, 3:30-4:45 p.m. \$600 for an eight-week session. Abilities United, 3864 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-618-3353. www.abilitiesunited.org/therapyclinic

**'Learn to Square Dance'** Classes are held by the "Bows & Beaus Square-Dance Club" on Mondays at 7:30 p.m. First class free; \$5 per class thereafter. Loyola School, 770 Berry Ave., Los Altos.

**Do-It-Yourself Will** LegalForce is providing free educational webinars for the public to utilize and enjoy. These webinars will cover a variety of topics, all of which aim to share knowledge and expertise to the general public. This webinar

will be recorded and posted online for additional accessibility. March 13, 7-8 p.m. LegalForce Book-Flip, 323 University Ave., Palo Alto.

**Fiction Book - Now!** Joel's book-writing workshop: Students will name their books, design and structure them, and begin to write them. Advice on publishing. March 10, 9 a.m.-noon. \$50. Joel's home, 2418 Benjamin Drive, Mountain View. Call 650-918-7147. www.meetup.com/JoelTrainsAuthors/events/101813952/

**Introduction to Mindfulness** Introduction to the meditative development of mindfulness. Five-week course taught by Insight Meditation South Bay teachers. No registration required. Thursdays, Feb. 28-March 28, 7-9 p.m. St. Timothy's/Edwards Hall, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-857-0904. imsb.org

**Spring Quarter Registration** Foothill College Spring Quarter 2013 classes begin the week of April 8 and continue through June 24. California residents pay \$31 per unit plus basic fees; fees are due at the time you register. Review the class schedule, apply and register, pay fees, and buy books at www.foothill.edu. Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7325. www.foothill.edu/admissions.php

**T'ai-Chi** A Tai-Chi class that promotes balance, flexibility and mental acuity. Led by Dona Mariot, Foothill College instructor. Mondays, Jan. 7-March 27, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Mounain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-948-1827.

**Terrible Adult Chamber Orchestra** A friendly and sociable monthly gathering for musicians of all instruments and all levels of skill to play symphony orchestra music together for fun, no performance and no pressure. Music provided, members bring instrument, stand, appetizers to share, and good humor. Register through website. Sundays, Jan. 27-June 30 2-5 p.m. \$10/session or \$25/three sessions. Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave, Los Altos. Call 650-793-2218. www.tacosv.com

## CLUBS/MEETINGS

**Astronomy Club Meeting** Monthly meeting of the Peninsula Astronomical Society, open to the public free of charge. March Meeting - "Meteorites - An Update" by Landon Curt Noll. Room 5015. Park in Lot 5. Observatory will open after the meeting, weather permitting. March 8, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. www.pastro.org/dnm/

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**'The Dos and Don'ts of Passover with Rabbi Eidlitz'** Rabbi Eliezer Eidlitz offers a free Passover tour of the Palo Alto store, with questions and answers. March 10, 2:30 p.m. Free. Mollie Stone's, 164 S. California Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-323-8361. www.molliestones.com

**Huge Used Book Sale to Benefit PA Libraries** Friends of the Palo Alto Library is holding monthly sales of used books, CDs, and DVDs on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 9-10 and March 9-10. Sale hours: Saturday, Main Sale Room open 11 a.m.-4 p.m.; Children's and Bargain Rooms open 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, all rooms open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-213-8755. www.friendspaloalto.lib.org

**Mothers Symposium** This year Kristin Neff, Kelly McGonical and Leah Weiss, three award winning authors/lecturers will lead a program in how cultivating a kind inner voice can reduce stress and improve connections with others. March 9, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$25. Cubberley Auditorium, 459 Lasen Mall, Stanford. Call 650-814-5614. www.motherssymposium.org

**Peninsula French Fair** Vendors, artists, a fashion show, French charcuterie, crepes, cheeses, gourmet food and pastries are planned. March 23, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Free. Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road , Palo Alto. Call 469-463-3605. www.frenchfair.org/

**Summer Camp Fair** An opportunity to meet camp staff, ask questions, and plan a fun summer for a child. Drop-off registration for Mountain View Residents and handing out online registration information will also be accepted. Proof of residency required. March 9, 2-4 p.m. Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave.,

Mountain View. Call 650-903-6331. www.mountainview.gov/city\_hall/comm\_services/recreation\_programs\_and\_services/default.asp

**Swearing-In Ceremony for Joe Simitian** Ceremony for Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian, followed by a screening of the documentary film "The Waiting Room," and Q&A session with producer William B. Hirsch. Seat reservations required at DistrictFive.eventbrite.com. March 17, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Children's Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 408-299-5050. DistrictFive.eventbrite.com

## CONCERTS

**Canconier** Music for the Dancing Plagues of the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Canconier is devoted to music from the Middle Ages to the Renaissance. March 8, 8-10 p.m. \$28-\$35. First Lutheran Church, 600 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. app. ticketturtle.com/index.php?show=28930

**Fortnightly Music Club - March Concert** This concert will feature piano solos by Haydn and Brahms, vocal selections by Bach, Dvorak and Bizet, and Copland's sextet for clarinet, string quartet and piano. The performers will include Corinne Barkin, Meredith Kennedy, Andrew Lan, Kevin Jim and Karen Heather. March 10, 7-1:30 p.m. Lucie Stern Community Center Ballroom, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. www.fortnightlymusicclub.org

**Music for the Schools Benefit Concert (Castilleja)** There will be music for the Community's 3rd Benefit Concert in the Chapel Theater. Showcasing diverse performances (acapella singing to short films to dance) with an extensive raffle including a \$100 JCrew card. Proceeds for Music in the Schools Foundation, supporting music programs in 4 local under-resourced schools. March 10, 2 p.m. Recommended at-door donation of \$10/5. Castilleja School, 1310 Bryant St., Palo Alto.

**Music of the Galant Masters** The Congregational Oratorio Society and Orchestra, conducted by Gregory Wait, performs recently rediscovered works of 18th century Galant-style liturgical music, including works by Leonardo Leo and Baldassare Galuppi. March 10, 3 p.m. \$15 general/\$10 student and senior. First Congregational Church of Palo Alto, 1985 Louis Road (at Embarcadero), Palo Alto. Call 650-856-6662. www.fcipa.org/FCCPA\_Site/Concerts.html

**Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra Concert** Violinist Kaila Flexer brings Balkan-flavored compositions the stage, plus her own back-up band of oud, saz, and darbuka. Also featuring classical works for string orchestra: Mendelssohn: Sinfonia No. 2 in D Major; and Dohnanyi: Serenade for String Orchestra, Op. 10 and two string quartets. March 9, 8 p.m. Cubberley Theatre, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-856-3848. www.pacomusic.org

**San Francisco Opera Center** The San Francisco Opera Adler fellows will perform songs by Jewish composers and arias from operas. March 14, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$25-\$30. (\$20 members/students, \$18 Moldaw residents). Albert and Janet Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. www.paloaltojcc.org/opera

**SF Choral Artists: Voices of Women** The award-winning San Francisco Choral Artists celebrate music by women and about women. Female composers include Eleanor Aversa, Meredith Monk, Alice Parker, and Pauline Oliveros. Also on the program: Hymn to St. Cecilia by Britten, Waltz for Debbie by Bill Evans, and anima gaia by Mark Winges. March 9, 8-10 p.m. \$30 (discounts for seniors and students) St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto. Call 415-494-8149. www.sfca.org

**Soli Deo Gloria performs Organic Voices** Soli Deo Gloria under the direction of Artistic Director Allen H Simon presents Organic Voices on March 9, a concert of choral music with organ featuring organist Angela Kraft Cross in a performance of Kodaly's Missa Brevis and works by Brahms, Britten and Howells. Additional concert in Alameda on March 10. 5-6:30 p.m. \$25/20. First Lutheran Church, 600 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. www.sdgloria.org

## DANCE

**Gustavo & Jesica Hornos Tango Work-**

**shop** Gustavo & Jesica Hornos will concentrate on the core approach to Argentine tango for any level at this workshop. March 9, 1-3 p.m. \$25. Cheryl Burke Dance, 1400 North Shoreline Blvd. # A-1, Mountain View. Call 650-864-9150. www.cherylburkedance.com/MountainView/

**Andrea Monti & Gato Valdez Tango Workshop** Andrea Monti & Gato Valdez will focus on intermediate-level content in their Argentine-tango workshop. March 16, 4-6 p.m. \$25. Cheryl Burke Dance, 1400 North Shoreline Blvd. # A-1, Mountain View. Call 650-864-9150. www.cherylburkedance.com/MountainView/

**Jacqueline Bequette & Bill Carr Tango Workshop** Jacqueline Bequette & Bill Carr lead an Argentine-tango workshop covering three classes -- beginning, intermediate and advanced -- as well as a Milonga. March 9, 9 p.m.-midnight. \$15-\$25. Cheryl Burke Dance, 1400 North Shoreline Blvd. # A-1, Mountain View. Call 650-864-9150. www.cherylburkedance.com/MountainView/

## FAMILY AND KIDS

**Afternoon Cow Wow** Kids ages 5 and up can help milk Cleo the Cow and hang out with the new baby calf and learn fun cow facts while they help feed and care for the dairy queen. March 9, 3:30-5 p.m. \$25 per person. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. www.hiddenvilla.org/programs/calendar-of-events/61-public-programs/41395-afternoon-cow-wow

**Cheese Please** Attendees llearn how to make mozzarella cheese on the farm, search the garden for edible flowers and greens, then create a own pita pizza and freshly picked salad for a healthy lunch. This is a kids-only class, no adult required to attend. March 9, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. \$35 per child. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-9704. www.hiddenvilla.org/programs/calendar-of-events/61-public-programs/41392-cheese-please-pizza-lunch

## HEALTH

**Nutrition Month Author Event: Stephanie Lucianovic** Along with readings from her book, Stephanie Lucianovic, author of "Suffering Succotash: A Picky Eater's Quest to Understand Why We Hate the Food We Hate," will discuss the science and emotional impact of pickiness, including the cooking techniques she used to help overcome her pickiness. March 13, 7-9 p.m. Palo Alto Medical Foundation-Mountain View, 701 E. El Camino Real, Mountain View. www.pamf.org/ClassesSearch/view?sid=17&g\_op=event&masterid=2151

## LIVE MUSIC

**Foothill Symphonic Winds Concert** The Foothill Symphonic Winds presents its winter concert, "Noble Element," on Sunday, March 10. Conductor David Bruce Adams will lead the band in this concert featuring "Lincoln Portrait" by Aaron Copland, narrated by Scott Dickerman. A full listing of the concert program is on the website. March 10, 3:30-5:30 p.m. \$10, \$5 seniors and students. Cubberley Theater, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-969-0191. www.windband.org/foothill/index.htm

**James Reams and The Barnstormers** Their 2011 CD release was titled "One Foot In the Honky Tonk (and the Other In the Blues)," and that sums up their sound perfectly. March 9, 7-10 p.m. \$20 advance, \$22 door, half-price for teens, free for under-13 and music students First Presbyterian Church, 1667 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-691-9982. rba.org

## ON STAGE

**'Into The Woods'** Paly Theatre presents "Into The Woods." Serving up a witch's curse and large helpings of classic fairy tale figures. March8 and 9 at 7:30 p.m. and March 10 at 2 p.m. Adults: \$10, studetns/seniors: \$7. Haymarket Theatre, Palo Alto High School, 50 Embarcadero Road , Palo Alto. www.palytheatre.com

**'The Crucible'** Salem, Massachusetts, 1692: a small, devout town is thrown into chaos with accusations of witchcraft and spiritual possession. Arthur Miller's account of the famous Salem witch trials caused a sensation with its parallels

to the Communist scares of the 1950s. Fridays, Saturdays through March 9, 8-10:30 p.m. Tickets \$5-15. Pigott Theater, 551 Serra Mall, Stanford. www.stanford.edu/dept/drama/12\_13-events/crucible.html

**Legally Blonde the Musical** Legally Blonde The Musical is coming to Gunn's Spangenberg Theatre. March 15, 8 p.m. \$8-17. Spangenberg Theater, 780 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto. www.guntheatre.org/shows/tickets/

**Spring Awakening** Foothill Music Theatre presents "Spring Awakening." Winner of eight Tony Awards, this groundbreaking musical with its rock score is a universal coming of age story tells the timeless story of teenage self-discovery and budding sexuality as seen through the eyes of three teenagers. Thurs.-Sun through March 10, 7:30 p.m. \$10-\$28. Lohman Theatre, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7360. www.foothillmusicals.com

## RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

**Emotion, Compassion and Altruism: Dr. Paul Ekman** Psychologist and author Dr. Paul Ekman will speak about Emotion, Compassion and Altruism on Tuesday March 12, 2013 in Mountain View. Dr. Ekman was selected by Time Magazine as one of the 100 most influential people of 2009. 7:30-9 p.m. Suggested donation \$15. St. Timothy's church, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 408-904-8493. imsb.org

## SENIORS

**A Matter of Balance** This free program by Stanford Hospital and Clinics emphasizes practical strategies to manage falls. This program is geared for older adults (60+) and includes facilitated discussion of fall prevention and gentle but effective exercise program. Pre-registration for this class is required. March 1-April 9, 8:45-10:45 a.m. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Amish Spring Luncheon** Local author Suzanne Woods Fisher will be speaking on the topic "Plain Talk About the Amish." Ms Fisher is a bestselling author of fiction and nonfiction books of the Old Order Amish for Revell. She hosts a weekly radio show and is a columnist for Christian Post. March 11, 12 p.m. \$10. Union Presbyterian Church, 858 University Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-303-9185.

## SPORTS

**Free Tennis Play Day** Eagle-Fustar Tennis Academy/Mountain View Tennis Play Day for kids 10 and under. Red, Orange, and Green ball courts for different ages and ability levels. Email registration required. March 16, 4:30-6 p.m. Free. Cuesta Tennis Center, 685 Cuesta Drive, Mountain View. mountainviewtennis.net

## TALKS/AUTHORS

**'Face to Face with CEO of Udemy'** Eren Bal of Udemy discusses "learning to learn by yourself." March 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$25. Samovar Conference Hall, 1077 Independence Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-469-3243. tedxbayare-march2013.eventbrite.com/

**Mohammad Qayoumi** San Jose State University president Mohammad Qayoumi will speak at an event about World Friendship Day. March 10, 1-4 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 650-961-3539. ffsfba.org

**SJSU's President speaks on Higher Education** Friendship Force's World Friendship Day program features Mohammad H. Qayoumi, President of San Jose State University, speaking about "Higher Education at a Crossroads." March 10, 1-4 p.m. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 650-961-3539. ffsfba.org

**The Age of Edison** In late 19th century arguably the most important invention was Thomas Edison's incandescent light bulb. The Age of Edison places the story of Edison's in the context of a technological revolution . Ernest Freeberg in conversation with John Hollar. March 7, 12-1 p.m. Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. www.computerhistory.org/events

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**HEART ATTACKS CAN  
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From left: Hardeep Ahluwalia, MD,  
medical director, Vascular Surgery,  
El Camino Hospital Los Gatos;  
James Joye, DO, director of research and  
education, Heart & Vascular Institute;  
Jane Lombard, MD, cardiologist; and  
Chad Rammohan, MD, medical director,  
Chest Pain Center and Cardiac Cath Lab.

Along with the inevitable colds and flu, winter can bring a significant rise in the incidence of heart attack. But El Camino Hospital can help. How? With quite possibly the finest cardiovascular program in the state. Our world-class specialists lead the way in the prevention and treatment of heart disease. That helped us earn designation in Mountain View as an Accredited Chest Pain Center — the first in the region! Studies show that fully Accredited Chest Pain Centers give quicker, better care, and can reduce mortality by 37 percent.\* We screen patients immediately upon arrival to our ER, fast-tracking those who need immediate attention. We excel in the most advanced diagnostic and therapeutic interventional techniques. And we maintain an impressive “door-to-balloon” rate for rushing patients to the cath lab for lifesaving treatment. So this winter, fight heart disease — strike first by connecting with a physician from the Heart & Vascular Institute at El Camino Hospital.

**Almost 80% of cardiovascular disease is preventable, and even small lifestyle changes make a difference. Learn more by watching our video at [www.elcaminohospital.org/HeartVideo](http://www.elcaminohospital.org/HeartVideo).**



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\*Sources: *Circulation: Journal of the American Heart Association*; also stated on the website of the Society of Cardiovascular Patient Care.