

Mountain View VOICE

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**Spring
Home + Garden
Design**



MICHELLE LE

BY LEAPS AND BOUNDS

It was a breezy day at Shoreline Dog Park on April 9, but Finn, an 11-year-old boxer, didn't seem to mind. Enjoying the sunshine and clear skies, Finn leaped and lunged during a game of fetch with Lucinda Abbott. Abbott said she likes to take Finn to Shoreline because of the ample space and, as she put it, "the inviting community."

Pedestrian hit by car dies in hospital

81-YEAR-OLD WOMAN WAS WALKING ON SIDEWALK WHEN STRUCK

By Nick Veronin

Sarra Golukhov, the 81-year-old Mountain View woman who was struck by a minivan near the intersection of Rengstorff Avenue and Central Expressway on April 3, died in the hospital three days later, according to local police.

The police department is seeking the public's assistance in its

investigation of the accident.

Details of the accident were not released by the Mountain View Police Department until April 10. The Santa Clara Coroner's Office ruled the cause of Golukhov's death was accidental, the result of multiple blunt traumatic injuries from being struck.

The accident occurred at about 4:25 p.m. on April 3, after the

minivan — a gray, 2012 Honda Odyssey, which was traveling west on Central Expressway — veered off the road and onto the sidewalk, colliding with the woman. She was taken by ambulance to Stanford Hospital, where she died April 6. The driver of the car, a Mountain View resident,

See **PEDESTRIAN HIT**, page 14

Council wants to close expressway entrance

By Daniel DeBolt

The City Council is leaning towards closing a Central Expressway on-ramp at the end of Stierlin Road to create a public promenade and the start of a "cycle track" between downtown and Google headquarters

Council members stated their positions on the topic last week in a study session on an apartment project that will be built over the southern end of Stierlin Road, on Moffett Boulevard. Prometheus Real Estate Group proposes 190 apartments for 100 Moffett Blvd., replacing the County Social Ser-

vices building and auto shops on the end of Stierlin. Four stories will rise above an underground garage along Moffett and Central, sloping down to two stories along neighboring residences.

"That decision will be a tough

See **EXPRESSWAY**, page 6

City zeroes in on bike, pedestrian safety

DATA, DEATHS SPARK COUNCIL TO MAKE IT A TOP GOAL

By Daniel DeBolt

The city is continuing to ramp up efforts to make Mountain View more pedestrian friendly after residents called for safer streets in a series of *Voice* articles published last year.

Last week the City Council made pedestrian and bicycle mobility improvements a top goal for fiscal year 2013-2014.

Meanwhile, police have stepped up enforcement — reporting fewer collisions — while Mountain View's public works department has begun planning projects to increase street safety.

Projects the council may give the green light to soon include the narrowing of Castro Street in front of Graham Middle school to slow traffic and provide buffered bike lanes after several students were hit by cars there last year. Public works director Mike Fuller said studies are being proposed for bike and pedestrian improvements to highly trafficked California Street and Escuela Street, a densely populated area where residents say fixes should be a top priority.

A study is also proposed for a buffered bike lane (cycle track) up Shoreline Boulevard to encourage biking from downtown to Google headquarters, while several other smaller projects are being considered city-wide.

Fewer collisions

Despite a pair of pedestrian deaths in the last month, police

Lt. Tony Lopez says police have seen a significant drop in car collisions of all types. Last year police began using a plainclothes decoy to catch drivers who don't give pedestrians the right of way in crosswalks and added two more officers to its traffic enforcement team.

In March, police looked at the numbers and found they had given 3,068 tickets since March of 2012, after having issued only 1,138 during the same period

the year before. Police found 26 total collisions — both car versus car and car versus a bicyclist or pedestrian — in March from the previous 12 months, down from 55 over the same period the year before.

**A bicyclist
or pedestrian
was hit every
five days, on
average.**

Activists say that the city shouldn't stop with police enforcement, and City Council members seem to be getting the message. Council member Jac Siegel summed up the council's direction to city staff about its top goals last week, noting, "our goals (give) staff sensitivity as to what we care about."

"We said, wherever possible, we want to put in as safe a bike path as possible and as many pedestrian paths as possible," Siegel said.

The city can't "go back in time" and design itself around bikes, like Davis did when it was built as a university town, Siegel said, but "going forward we want to make sure it is as good as possible."

See **STREET SAFETY**, page 11

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Judy Bogard-Tanigami
(650) 207-2111
judytanigami@gmail.com
DRE# 00298975

Sheri Bogard-Hughes
(650) 279-4003
shughes@apr.com
DRE# 01060012

Cindy Bogard-O'Gorman
(650) 924-8365
cbogardogorman@apr.com
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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

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

What is your favorite thing to do during spring break?



"I like just walking around Los Altos. I also enjoy hiking in the redwood forests."

Karen Card, Los Altos



"I am from Mexico and I really enjoy going to Acapulco. It has great beaches and I always have a fun time."

Jacob Faca, Mexico



"I am founder of a company called Tastebuds. This spring break I spent my entire time building an app to help people buy and sell food that they make."

Eugene Otto, Mountain View



"I like to work outside instead of inside."

Thomas Knoll, Las Vegas



"I like to go to San Francisco. There's just lots to do. I like going to Haight Street and Dolores Park."

Megan Broome, Sunnyvale

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- Types of compost bins, including worm bins



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■ POLICE LOG

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200 block Ada Av., 4/2
1900 block W. El Camino Real, 4/2
500 block W. Middlefield Rd., 4/3
1000 block N. Rengstorff Av., 4/8
2400 block Charleston Rd., 4/8

BATTERY

Bryant St. & Villa St., 4/2
1900 block California St., 4/4
2100 block California St., 4/6
500 block N. Shoreline Bl., 4/6

STOLEN VEHICLE

100 block Bryant St., 4/2

SHOPLIFT BURGLARY

600 block Showers Dr., 4/4

GRAND THEFT

200 block Ada Av., 4/2
500 block Cypress Point Dr., 4/3
400 block Ellis St., 4/4

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

100 block Bryant St., 4/4
2000 block Montecito Av., 4/4
200 block Cypress Point Dr., 4/8

■ CRIME BRIEFS

SAFeway SHOVING MATCH

A shoving match in a Safeway parking lot ended not with a bang, but with murmured threats of mutual prosecution on Saturday, April 6, according to police.

The scuffle began around 2:30 p.m. at 570 N. Shoreline Blvd. after one man allegedly witnessed another man repeatedly and intentionally use the door of his car to strike an adjacent car, which had parked "too close" to his vehicle, according to Sgt. Sean Thompson, public information officer with the Mountain View Police Department.

When the man confronted the other man about his behavior, the alleged door-slammer started yelling at his challenger, Thompson said. The dispute escalated, and after some shoving, the witness managed to gain the upper hand and held the other man on the ground, instructing others in the parking lot to call for police.

When police arrived, officers inspected the car the man had allegedly hit with the door, but found no sign of damage, Thompson said. Both men told police and each other that if one pressed charges the other would press charges as well. Ultimately neither pressed charges, and they went their separate ways, police said.

TOOLS STOLEN

Tools, a toolbox and a tacklebox was stolen from a detached garage at the apartment complex located at 201 Cyprus Point,

► See **CRIME BRIEFS**, page 16

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■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

LOS ALTOS HIGH STUDENT HONORED

Mountain View's Challenge Team is honoring Los Altos High School student Ricky Juarez with the Student Champion award. He will be joined by former Los Altos mayor and councilmember Roy Lave, who will be awarded the 2013 Youth Champion of the Year at a May 8 event.

The Challenge Team is a nonprofit partnership composed of students, parents, school districts, police departments, community organizations and health-care and faith-based groups. They collaborate to bring positive influences into the lives of youth and guide them away from alcohol, tobacco, drugs and gang activity.

Juarez will be awarded for his dedication to the community of Mountain View. Juarez spends his time volunteering for various organizations and participating in local recreational programs like Mountain View's "Leaders in Training" and the "Youth Advisory Committee" that worked on the sub-committee for the new teen center.

According to LAHS Assistant Principal Galen Rosenberg, "Juarez has also done his best to be a positive influence to those around him." Mountain View Police Sergeant Ecdao also describes Juarez fondly. "Juarez is a natural leader, as Juarez has helped many at risk youth in his neighborhood."

Lave is the CEO and chairman of the Los Altos Community Foundation that organizes grants to fund organizations like A Learn, Children's Health Council, the Community School of Music and Arts, the Los Altos School District, YMCA, and numerous other organizations that serve youth in the community.

The Champions for Youth breakfast will be held on Wednesday, May 8 at 7 a.m. at Michael's restaurant, located at 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd.

Go to <http://event.pingg.com/ChallengeTeamChamp> for more information.

► See **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**, page 10



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Eco-warriors get their stories told

LOCAL FILMS FEATURED AT THE ANNUAL GREENLIGHT FESTIVAL

By Rebecca Wallace

“Think globally, act locally” becomes a lifestyle when you turn your property into a sanctuary for hundreds of birds, or decide to produce most of your food in your backyard. Or turn into Eco-Man.

OK, so the last guy is fictional. But Michele Raffin, the former high-tech executive who runs Pandemonium Aviaries in Los Altos Hills, is real. So is Forrest Linebarger, who heads the green Palo Alto design and construction firm Inhabiture and has a yard resplendent with fruit trees, goats and chickens.

Environment warriors both real and imagined are the heroes of 15 films being shown on April

18 at the eighth annual Greenlight Earth Day Film Festival awards ceremony at Palo Alto’s Cubberley Theatre. This year’s contest drew 66 film entries; judges chose 15 finalists. There will also be a new component to the event this year: an “eco fashion show” spotlighting designs by students and by San Francisco fashion designer Tuan Tran, who is fond of turning old telephone and electrical wire into dresses and purses.

“Life cannot be taken too seriously,” Tran notes on his website.

The annual event is fueled (and televised) by the Midpeninsula Community Center, with further sponsorship by the Palo Alto Weekly and the cities of Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale



COURTESY GREENLIGHT EARTH DAY FILM FESTIVAL

Michele Raffin of Pandemonium Aviaries in Los Altos Hills, is featured at the Greenlight Earth Day Film Festival.

and San Jose. This year, the young filmmaker finalists come from middle and high schools in Los Altos, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Atherton and Sunnyvale.

Films include “Pretty Mama,” produced by Nate Becker from

Los Altos High School. He follows Raffin and her bird sanctuary, which she started in 1996 by rescuing a hurt dove.

A longtime animal lover, Raffin continued taking in birds in need, and her sanctuary grew.

Now the aviary also focuses on promoting the survival of endangered species — as well as providing lifelong care for all its feathered charges. Some of

► See **FILM FESTIVAL**, page 15

New trend? Kindergarten enrollment rates drop

By Nick Veronin

Officials with the Mountain View Whisman School District have reported a significant drop in the number of kindergartners registering for school.

Only 529 kindergartners registered for MVWSD schools during this year’s open enrollment

period, which ran from Jan. 28 through March 5. That’s 101 fewer than the 630 that signed up during last year’s open enrollment, according to Craig Goldman, district superintendent.

In recent years, the number of new kindergartners in the district has been steadily rising.

The 15 percent dip can likely be attributed to a number of factors,

Goldman said — including families leaving the area in pursuit of better work opportunities or lower rents, shifting cutoff dates for kindergarten eligibility and an overall decline in birth rates.

“We attribute (the drop), to a large extent, to the fact that people are relocating because of jobs or they are relocating because they are being priced out

of the rental market,” Goldman said, adding that not only are housing and rental prices high in Mountain View, but that many people are also willing to pay those prices, making the market highly competitive.

Additionally, Goldman noted, in the 2013-14 school year, kindergarten enrollment eligibility will be pushed back one month,

from Nov. 1 to Oct. 1. The superintendent said his district is expecting this change accounts for about half of the dip — or about 50 kindergartners.

In 2011, in an effort to address the issue of children entering kindergarten too early, California passed Senate Bill 1381 — the

► See **KINDERGARTEN**, page 16



VOICE FILE PHOTO

Keith Moody, principal at Mountain View High School.

Principal drafted to head adult education

DISTRICT TAPS KEITH MOODY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW HIGH SCHOOL FOR PROMOTION

By Nick Veronin

The Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District has some changes planned for its line-up of top administrators. The district recently announced it has tapped Keith Moody, current principal of Mountain View High School, to replace Laura Stefanski, who will be leaving her post as the director of Adult Education and transitioning into a new role as associate superintendent of personnel.

The high school district’s board of trustees is scheduled

to vote on whether to approve the promotion at its April 22 meeting.

Assuming all goes as planned, MVLA Superintendent Barry Groves said Mountain View High School is likely to have a new principal by May.

The search for Moody’s replacement has begun, Groves said. The district has posted the position on job boards and is assembling a committee of about 15 staff, teachers, parents and students to help find the right fit. The goal is to present a candidate for board approval before June.

Groves commended Moody for the 11 years he has worked for the district — eight of them as principal for Mountain View high.

“I think his biggest legacy at MVHS will be his continuous commitment to all students — making sure that every kid is learning every day,” Groves said.

Moody was well liked by students, Groves said, recalling that students regularly asked to see his Super Bowl ring and that Moody always obliged. Moody was a defensive back for the Oakland Raiders, Groves said.

He played during the team’s 1980-81 championship season, which culminated in a victory over the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl XV.

Over the course of his time at Mountain View high, the school has grown both in enrollment and in student achievement, Groves said. During Moody’s tenure, MVHS was ranked in the top 2 percent of American high schools by U.S. News and World Report, and ranked in the top 1 percent for math and science by Newsweek.

Moody said he looks forward to his new position. ▣

EXPRESSWAY

► Continued from page 1

one. Good luck, let your conscience be your guide,” said Prometheus vice president Jon Moss of the option to close the on-ramp. He added, “If we were laying out streets today, we’d be hard pressed to believe council would want cut-through traffic through a residential neighborhood” and put an entrance to Central only 50 to 60 feet away from another entrance at Moffett.

On the council the opponents of closing the on-ramp were John McAlister and Mayor John Inks. McAlister told neighbors of the site: “You are going to have more traffic in your neighborhood” without the on-ramp because cars at the new complex would have to go through the neighborhood.

The rest of the council was either strongly supportive, open to it or leaning towards the idea of closing off the on-ramp to make the area more bike- and pedestrian-friendly, a top council goal this year.

“This connection right here is really going to be the primary bike-pedestrian connection from the (downtown) transit center to the heart of North Bayshore,” said bike advocate Jarrett Mullen, who supported the promenade option. “That’s a 10-minute bike ride. Any kind of unnecessary detours you make for bikes eats into the competitiveness for bikes.”

He added that the site is “a good location for this density. It’s 200 feet from Caltrain, VTA and shuttles. I don’t think there’s a

more transit-rich area in the city.”

With or with out the on-ramp, the site could be the start of a bi-directional “cycle track” up the length of Stierlin Road to Shoreline Boulevard where it could run to North Bayshore, Shoreline Park and Google headquarters. According to a city staff report, it would be the width of the Stevens Creek Trail — 14 feet — with “physical barriers” separating it from walking paths and vehicle traffic. It

could remain with the road, but the cycle track would have to be combined with the walking paths, like the Stevens Creek Trail.

How to fit the cycle track along the rest of Stierlin and Shoreline has yet to be studied.

Neighbors who spoke at the meeting were split over whether to close the on-ramp.

Central Avenue resident Vince Gomez said he welcomed the closure of the on-ramp to keep cars from cutting past his home from Moffett Boulevard to get the on-ramp at Stierlin and avoid the rush hour traffic backup at Central Expressway on Moffett.

“It becomes almost a freeway in front



This rendering shows the 100 Moffett Blvd. project with a bike- and-pedestrian promenade replacing the Stierlin Road on-ramp.

PROMETHEUS REAL ESTATE GROUP

of my driveway,” Gomez said, adding that he supported the option to “close it and stop the freeway coming down Central” Avenue.

Neighbor David Zuckerman disagreed. He said one reason he moved to the neighborhood was “my easy access to Central Expressway.” He said that without the on-ramp, “you are proposing putting hundreds of vehicles in our non-arterial streets” with the new project, because residents leaving the new project would have nowhere to drive but through the neighborhood.

Neighbors are also concerned about adding to the traffic that backs up at Moffett at Central during rush hour when train crossing arms are often down.

“This is a tough one,” said council member Jac Siegel. “In general, for the neighborhood I think it is better to close the amp, although I’m not sure,” he said, adding that he wished he had more information.

Council members didn’t support increasing the number of apartments by 10 percent beyond general plan limits in exchange for “significant” community benefits, a move allowed by the new 2030 general plan. Moss had offered a set of community benefits he valued at \$1.9 million in exchange for the higher density, including a \$250,000 gateway “Mountain View” arch sign for nearby downtown, \$325,000 worth of sidewalk along Central Expressway from Moffett Boulevard to Granada Avenue, a \$65,000 VTA bike-sharing station. He also offered \$500,000 in park improvements if the project’s park fees were used to build a park nearby, possibly on the site of the Community Services Agency building next door. CSA could move if a larger building is found because the non-profit is looking to expand, Moss said.

“I don’t see the public benefit to justify going larger,” McAlister said, though he expressed interest in the gateway sign that could go above Castro Street near the train tracks.

“We just finished the general plan,” explained council member Jac Siegel after the meeting. “For them to come in immediately and ask for higher (density), we just didn’t want it, we just said no.”

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

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County asks state Attorney General to investigate DA Rosen

By Sue Dremann

The California Attorney General has been asked to investigate a pay-compensation policy District Attorney Jeff Rosen has given to supervising attorneys in his office for the past 16 months.

County Executive Jeff Smith on Tuesday asked the Attorney General to look at Rosen's policy, which has created a fervor. An NBC investigative report showed he circumvented a contract between the county and the union by giving his top attorneys administrative leave to make up for lost compensation.

Rosen admitted he gave 15 of his top attorneys administrative leave to counteract the cut in differential pay.

Top-paid supervising deputy district attorneys received a 5 percent differential-pay cut as part of a contract deal between the Government Attorneys Association union and Santa Clara County that started Sept. 5, 2011.

The cut spared lower-level deputy district attorneys and the courts from a furlough day as part of union concessions. The agreement saved the county millions of dollars, said Christopher Platten, an attorney for the GAA. The concessions are to remain until June 23, 2013.

But Rosen's arrangement allowed supervising attorneys to preserve paid vacation time that can later be cashed out as unused vacation, either annually or when an employee leaves. That means the 104 hours of administrative leave granted to the supervising attorneys is the equivalent of preserving the 5 percent cut in terms of pay, Platten said by phone on Monday.

Supervising deputy district attorneys receive salaries of about \$193,000 annually after the differential cut, he said.

Platten said in an opinion letter to union officials that Rosen's policy could be illegal.

But Rosen maintains he did nothing wrong. In a letter he wrote to staff on April 8, he said that county and union officials were aware of the policy, and the county had supported it.

"All effected (sic) prosecutors, including their GAA representatives, were aware of this policy. Many expressed their support. None objected. This was not a 'secret' policy," he said.

But GAA President Max Zarzana disputed Rosen's claims.

"That's flat-out untrue," he said by phone on Tuesday.

Zarzana said that Rosen never informed him or the GAA of the policy.

"To this day, the GAA board has never sat and discussed this 'policy' in any format with any member of executive management. Because we were never informed until the NBC story that there was an official policy of awarding 5 percent, we were unaware until this weekend of the legal issues surrounding admin leave," the GAA said in a written statement.

Rosen's policy could cause the county millions of dollars if other labor agreements are nullified regarding cost-saving cuts, Zarzana said by phone on Tuesday. Many county-employee contracts have a "Me Too" clause, which could open a Pandora's box for the county if other unions decide to throw out their concessions, he said.

Overall, the unions gave \$75 million in concessions to the county, he said.

"We're talking potentially millions of dollars of givebacks to other employees," Zarzana said.

In his letter to employees, Rosen called the county and union agreement unfair.

Lower-paid deputy district attorneys took a pay cut of approximately 3 percent, while their supervisors took an 8 percent pay cut — the 3 percent plus the 5 percent reduction, he said.

"The result of this unequal treatment was bitterness and divisiveness in the DA family. I believed then, and I believe now, that removing the 5 percent differential was fundamentally unfair. I then spent weeks working with the county to find a way to restore it. Those efforts were unsuccessful," he wrote in the letter.

The contract expressly included the district attorney's authority to grant administrative leave, he added.

"It is, and was well known, and has been thoroughly documented. In fact, as recently as last week, County Executive Jeff Smith told our chief assistant that such use of administrative leave is authorized. Other East Wing officials, including attorneys in the County Counsel's office, confirmed that we were authorized to grant administrative leave under the terms of county policies and the MOU," he said.

But Zarzana said while Rosen can grant administrative leave pursuant to the contract, "he does not have authority to violate the contract between Santa Clara County and the GAA, which suspended the lead-pay differential."

Zarzana said the GAA represents three groups of county lawyers: deputy district attorneys, deputy public defenders and

child-support services lawyers, who all had the same 5 percent cut. But only Rosen's top 15 supervisors received the administrative leave arrangement, which left out other groups in the department, including criminalists and other investigators, he said.

"It seems pretty unfair that he focused on one small group of people," Zarzana said.

Platten said Rosen had opposed the pay cut during negotiations. On Monday, Platten blasted the district attorney for what he said was "probably a gift of public funds." The costs to taxpayers could be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, he added.

"Mr. Rosen has made it real clear that he circumvented the memorandum of understanding by providing administrative leave to the supervising deputy district attorneys in an amount equal to 5 percent of full-time work hours for at least one full calendar year," he said.

Rosen may have violated civil and criminal law, Platten wrote in an April 7, opinion letter to union Zarzana following the NBC investigative report.

"This is an additional cost to the county and a financial benefit to the employee. It is clear that Rosen has approved a gift of public funds in violation of Government Code, Section 8314. (unlawful use or permitted use of public resources for personal or other purposes not authorized by law). He may have violated

► See **DA ROSEN**, page 12

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Bullis not happy with district's facility offer

CHARTER SCHOOL BALKS AT LASD'S 'MOST GENEROUS' ALLOCATION YET

By Nick Veronin

While the Los Altos School District described its April 1 facilities-sharing arrangement to Bullis Charter School as "the most generous that the district has ever offered," it seems that officials with the charter see it more like a cruel joke.

"LASD might say this final offer is its most generous yet, but in terms of where we are today and where we're going, we still have a lot of work to do to get to 'reasonably equivalent,'" BCS board member Joe Hurd said in an April 4 press release.

Each year, in accordance with Prop. 39 — shorthand for California's charter school law — Los Altos district officials have provided an offer of facilities to the charter school. And each year, for the past four years, while district officials have maintained that their offer is "reasonably equivalent" to what students in similar district schools have, BCS officials have contended that LASD has not

met that requirement.

This year the trend continues, as officials from both educational organizations blame the other for being unreasonable and continue to battle each other in the courts.

"The district doesn't believe we should exist," Ken Moore, chair of the BCS board, told the *Voice* while speaking about a recent court ruling in favor of the district. That ruling, issued in March, denied the charter school's attempt to block an LASD request for information on Bullis' donors and admissions practices.

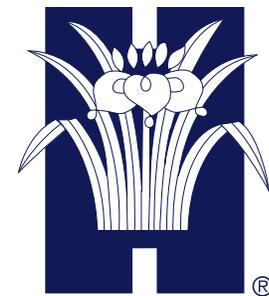
While Moore has said the district already has all the information they need, and is simply trying to stall and vilify the charter school with such requests, LASD board member Mark Goines said in the aftermath of the ruling that it was BCS officials that were attempting to draw things out. "Our experience with BCS is that they question every court decision," Goines said. "I'm very disappointed in how long

this has taken."

Judging by the tone of the press release issued by Bullis in response to the latest facilities offer from LASD, Goines is in for more disappointment.

The Bullis release states that the latest facilities offer for the 2013-14 school year is once again inadequate. According to Janet Medlin, chair of the BCS Prop. 39 subcommittee, the new offer will ensure that Bullis' Egan site will be "more crowded than ever," that the charter's sixth-graders won't have any access to blacktop space, and that under the LASD proposal, a "school-wide assembly will be impossible" for BCS.

While officials at Bullis say that LASD is not providing them with enough space and that they are being unfairly treated, Goines remains skeptical. Goines said that the charter needs to turn over information on registration and fund-raising practices to prove that they are being treated unfairly. "Part of their claim is that they are being hurt," Goines said. "Are they really?"



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Community college district to make tough cuts

AROUND 30 EMPLOYEES WILL LIKELY LOSE THEIR JOBS AT Foothill, DE ANZA

By Nick Veronin

Although good news appears to be on the horizon for higher education, the Foothill-De Anza Community College District is “not out of the woods yet.” Around 30 employees, mostly classified support staff, will likely be laid off, according to a top official familiar with the district’s fiscal health.

Kevin McElroy, vice chancellor of business services for the district, said that with the passage of Gov. Jerry Brown’s tax package, Proposition 30, the district avoided about \$6 million in cuts. Foothill-De Anza officials may even see the budget increase next year, as Brown is proposing to inject the community college system with an additional \$197 million in the 2013-14 school year, McElroy said.

In the meantime, the community college district is planning to eliminate a total of 61 full- and part-time staff positions, 27 faculty positions and three administrative roles, McElroy said. The district board of trustees unani-

mously approved the reductions at its March 4 meeting. The cuts are scheduled to go into effect June 30.

It wasn’t easy to recommend that the cuts be made, McElroy said, but “because of the workload reductions from the state and just the sheer magnitude of the dollars we had to eliminate,” he said the district had no other real options. This year, the district had to make up for a \$5.7 million cut, he said, and even if the community college system gets an additional \$197 million next year, it will be a “drop in the bucket” when that money is disbursed among all the state’s 112 campuses.

But Ken Horowitz, a long-time dental hygiene and health instructor at Foothill College, said he thinks the board should have pressed the district’s administration for a better plan.

“I was disappointed,” Horowitz said. “They need to be more beholden to the community, instead of the administration.”

As a faculty member, Horowitz said he won’t be directly impacted by the cuts. Still, he

said, he gets upset when he sees the district eliminating the jobs of support staff — especially because he feels the people who often get let go in cuts to support staff are the ones who are most in need of work.

“I think there’s a disproportionate disparity in the people that are being cut versus the high salaries that the faculty are making,” Horowitz said. “It’s the people that least can afford it get cut.”

McElroy said that the administration doesn’t target one group of employees over another arbitrarily. He said that faculty positions that could be eliminated were eliminated. But, McElroy also pointed out, the nature of teaching positions makes them harder to eliminate than some support staff positions, which in some cases can be automated or computerized.

McElroy also noted that of the 61 positions slated to be eliminated, 28 of them are currently vacant, which means that the only 33 people are at risk of losing their jobs, as the vacant positions will just not be filled.

That number drops even lower when considering that some of those employees in positions being cut will be able to move to other open positions within the district, he said.

But this shifting around of positions only reinforces Horowitz’s point, he said. When all was said and done, Horowitz explained, the vast majority — 24 — of faculty positions

weren’t filled. The three faculty in the remaining positions up for elimination will all be able to move into other positions, at least temporarily. “There were really no faculty cuts,” Horowitz concluded.

Of the three administrator positions up for elimination, only one will result in a person losing his or her job, according to McElroy. ▀

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'EMMA' CREATOR HAS ANOTHER HIT AT THEATREWORKS WITH 'EARNEST'

THEATER REVIEW

By Jeanie K. Smith

The TheatreWorks recipe for a successful new musical: Take one brilliant comedy that has withstood the test of time, toss in catchy tunes with charming and witty lyrics to match the script, and cast it with wonderful singer-actors perfectly suited to their roles. Add an inventive set and eye-popping period costumes, and voila: You'll have a thoroughly enjoyable evening's entertainment, and a hit show.

TheatreWorks has done it again, bringing to fruition a budding musical spotlighted at its 2012 New Works Festival and staging the newly developed work superbly well. Composer-lyricist Paul Gordon (known to local audiences for previous hits "Emma" and "Daddy Long Legs") and Grammy- and Emmy-nominated composer Jay Gruska have concocted an update of the venerable comic masterpiece "The Importance of Being Earnest," by Oscar Wilde. Setting the story in 1965 London, with

the backdrop of mod fashion, rock music and shifting morality, Gordon and Gruska wisely keep a significant percentage of Wilde's original dialogue, yet manage to augment and enhance it with delightful songs.

The wacky Wildean plot has two young men, Jack Worthing (Hayden Tee) and Algernon Moncrieff (Euan Morton), posing as other than themselves and using the name "Earnest" in order to woo lovely young women, Gwendolen Fairfax (Mindy Lym) and Cecily Cardew (Riley Krull). Gwen's mum, Lady Bracknell (Maureen McVerry), negates Jack's proposal of marriage when he appears to have less than stellar parentage. In turn, Jack will make his ward, Cecily, into an old maid and Algy a professional bachelor if he can't have Gwendolen.

When all meet at Jack's country estate, including slightly odd governess Miss Prism (Diana Torres Koss) and slightly randy Reverend Chasuble (Brian Hernon), various truths come spilling out — of the handbag, so to speak. Whether you're unfamiliar with the play or you've seen

INFORMATION

"Being Earnest," a new musical based on the play by Oscar Wilde; book & lyrics by Paul Gordon, music by Paul Gordon & Jay Gruska; presented by TheatreWorks at Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, 500 Castro St. Through April 28, with shows at 7:30 pm Tuesdays & Wednesdays; 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturdays; 2 p.m. Saturday & Sunday; and 7 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$23-\$73. Go to theatreworks.org or call 650-463-1960.

it dozens of times, you're in for a treat with the staging of the final reveal.

It's hard to imagine songs complementing Wilde's urbane wit, but these provide musical interludes sure to please the master comedian himself, with a light sentiment and sweet romantic touches.

Gwendolen's ode to the name Earnest, "Age of Ideals," appeals with wit and with Lym's saucily flawless delivery. Algernon's adoring ballad of "Cecily" reveals his new heart in a dreamy endorsement of love. "Absolutely



COURTESY MARK KITAOKA

Cecily (Riley Krull) is wooed by Algernon (Euan Morton), who masquerades as Jack's "wicked brother Ernest" in TheatreWorks' "Being Earnest."

Perfect" unites Morton and Krull in a charmingly funny duet, later reprised to great comic effect by McVerry. The musical motif first introduced in "No Romance" by the two young men becomes familiar and catchy by the end; you'll find yourself humming it after.

"Absolutely Perfect" might also be sung about this cast — not a weak link among them. They're all so well-matched to their roles, with terrific vocals in addition

to obvious comedic skills. Morton's velvety voice particularly stands out, and he has numerous opportunities to shine. Lym's smooth, liquid delivery at first hides the lovely surprise of her humorous abilities, and she and Krull do great justice to the famous Cecily-Gwendolen garden scene. Krull's youthful brashness as Cecily comes across in her vivacious vocals and

► See **THEATER REVIEW**, page 16

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

► Continued from page 4

DISPATCHER PRAISED

The city of San Francisco and the 9-1-1 for Kids Foundation is honoring Mountain View resident Dan Nguyen with award for his life-saving work as a public safety dispatcher.

Nguyen will receive the "9-1-1 for Kids" award, which is presented to dispatchers for their exceptional performance while answering or dispatching emergency services.

Nguyen is one of many dispatchers who receive millions of emergency calls per year in the Bay Area.

"Nguyen's job was vital in the emergency response call made by a 14-year-old girl, whose mother was injured after their ceiling collapsed," said Francis Zamora, public information officer for the San Francisco Department of Emergency Management.

Nguyen and other dispatchers' quick response and compassion guided the girl and the rest of her family throughout the ordeal, often times assuring them that help was on the way. "I'm primarily concerned with maintaining my demeanor in a high stress situation," said Dan Nguyen. "If I can remain calm, collected and professional, then I can help keep callers calm as well."

Nguyen constantly gave directions and medical assistance to

keep the mother safe as well as helping the young girl to stay calm until paramedics arrived.

Nguyen, who lives in Mountain View and attended Mountain View High School, said that the "reason he became a police dispatcher was because he found helping people enjoyable."

The award ceremony was held at San Francisco City Hall on Wednesday, April 10.

ROMEO & JULIET AT MVHS

The Mountain View High School Theatre Department is presenting "Romeo and Juliet," Shakespeare's famous tragedy, for its spring production.

The play will be showing April 25-27 in the Spartan Theatre at Mountain View High School, located at 3535 Truman Ave.

"Romeo and Juliet" depicts the timeless story of two lovers torn apart by their family's rivalry. The play will not only be performed by the students, directed by them as well.

Shows on Thursday and Friday begin at 7 p.m. and on Saturday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors, and can be purchased at the door or at the Mountain View High School Finance Office.

Make reservations via email at mvhstheater@gmail.com or via phone by calling (650) 940-7406. More information is online at <http://tinyurl.com/MVHStplay>.

— Samson So

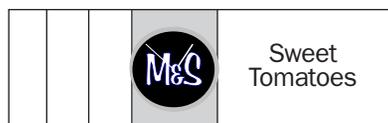
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STREET SAFETY

▶ Continued from page 1

Map reveals danger spots

Using police data, *Voice* staff mapped incidents where vehicle drivers collided with bicyclists or pedestrians, indicating where the city needs to target police enforcement and road improvements, advocates say.

The clarity provided by the map drew expressions of shock from Wendee Crofoot of Great Streets Rengstorff Park, which is pushing for bike and pedestrian friendly streets in the highly-trafficked, lower-income Rengstorff Park area, where collisions cluster on the map on and around California Street. “This map shows the conflicts faced by pedestrians and bicyclists in a city where the roads are designed to transport cars as quickly as possible,” she said.

“We have seen City Council and staff taking steps to redesign Mountain View infrastructure and hope that they will use data like this to create a city that is designed to move people safely to their destinations,” Crofoot said.

A bicyclist or pedestrian was hit every five days, on average, between September of 2007 and September 2012, according to data police are now tracking. Seven people died in those accidents.

Of 357 collisions with cars, 244 involved bicyclists and 113 involved pedestrians. All resulted in injuries or death. The number of pedestrian- and bike-related collisions every year remained at roughly the same level between 2008 and 2011 — between 43 and 46 collisions a year.

The map and data above doesn't include the recent death of Ruifan Ma, struck and killed March 5 while crossing Phyllis Avenue, nor the death of Sarra Golukhov on April 6, after being hit by a minivan April 3 while walking on a Central Expressway sidewalk.

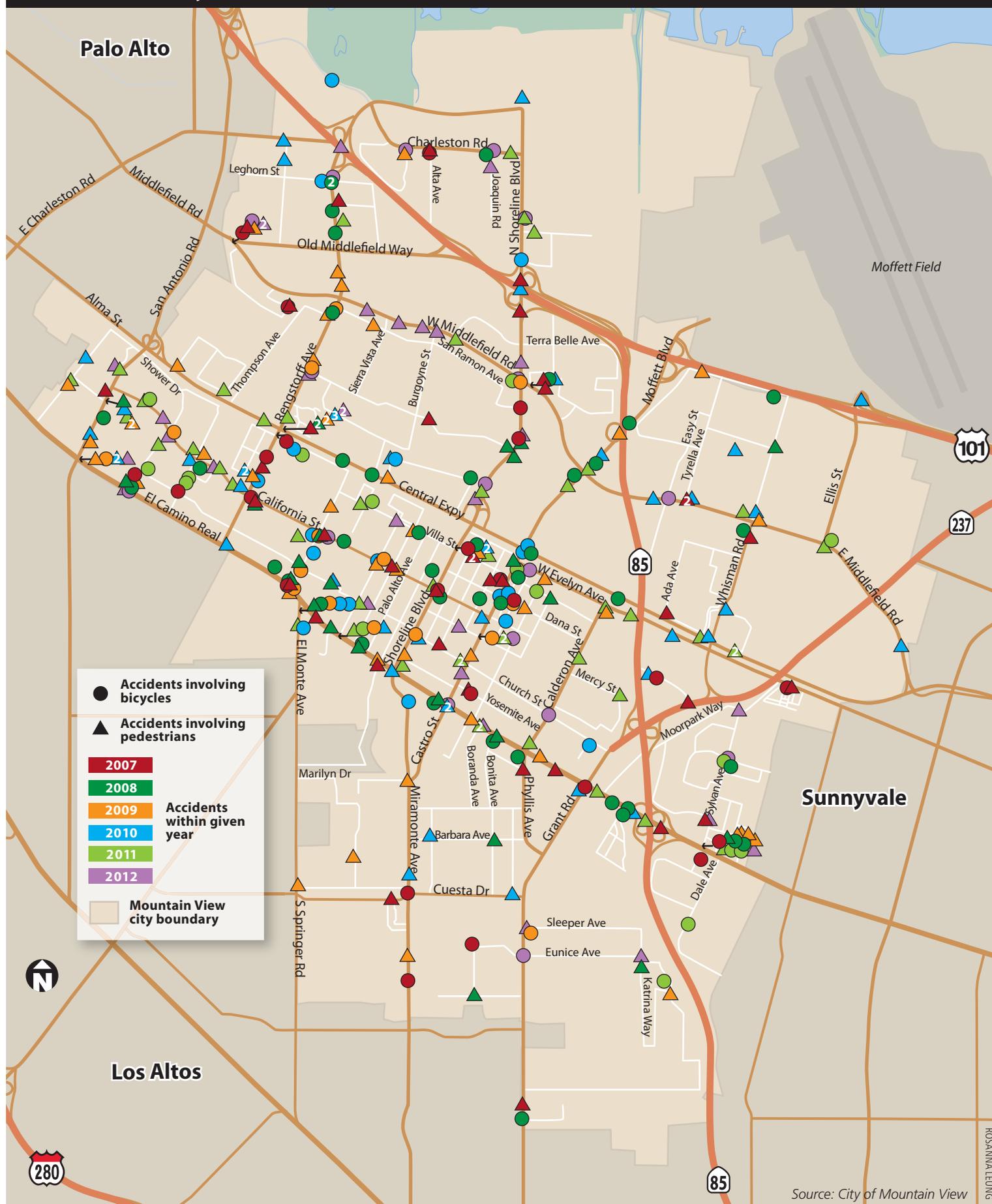
While fewer collisions over the last 12 months is good news, “the sad part is we've had two fatalities in the last month,” Lopez said. “How can you prevent someone from driving on the sidewalk?” he said, referring to Golukhov's death. “I don't know of anything we could do to stop that.”

Most dangerous intersections

According to the map the most dangerous intersection in all of Mountain View is Sylvan Avenue and El Camino Real. Police recorded 12 collisions with bikes and pedestrians there over the five year period, about double the amount typical of the city's other dangerous intersections, which also tend to be on El Camino Real.

“The number of accidents

Pedestrian and bicycle accidents in Mountain View 2007-2012



there is horrible,” said Mountain View cyclist and blogger Janet LaFleur. “It’s near the freeway. People take a while to adjust to changes of conditions when people are driving 70 miles per hour and then it changes to 35. Whenever I ride by a freeway, people are driving like they are still on it.”

“I know that our guys have spent a lot of time there in the past looking for speeding or red light violations, but it wasn't unusual,” Lopez said of the Sylvan Avenue intersection. He noted that Grant Road's El Camino

Real intersection is much worse, a place “we can go anytime at rush hour and catch people running red lights or speeding. It is constantly on our radar to focus on that intersection.”

In contrast, Lopez mentioned that police have been ticketing large numbers of drivers who don't stop for the police decoy at crosswalks on Shoreline Boulevard at Mercy and Dana streets. After residents of the area complained about problems crossing the six-lane street near downtown, “we went out there ourselves and said, ‘Oh my

goodness, they are correct.’ We need to work on this quite a bit,” Lopez said.

Lopez mused that it might be a matter of drivers not expecting them to be there. Police are working with the public works department to come up with a solution — an example of how community is working together, Lopez said.

“It is one of those scenarios where the community points it out, we go out and look at the concern and verify it, and now public works is trying to come up with a physical solution to make

it safer,” Lopez said.

“We are trying to brainstorm whether it's lights in the ground or additional signing or lights on poles,” for highlighting the Shoreline Boulevard crosswalks, Lopez said. “Something is going to be getting done there, we are just kind of in an evaluation phase of what that will be. We wish we could say, ‘That's a great idea, let's do it next week,’ but that's not how it works.” ■

Email Daniel DeBolt
at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

DA ROSEN

► Continued from page 7

Penal Code Section 424 (illegal use or dispersion of public funds without authorization or knowingly keeping a false account.)

“Rosen spent public funds in the form of administrative leave for the private benefit of individual supervising deputy district attorneys,” Platten wrote.

The union should inform its members that receipt of the administrative leave constitutes a gift of public funds, and it should recommend members immediately offer to re-credit the county for the administrative leave and cooperate with any investigation, Platten said in his letter.

Rosen maintains he instituted a transparent policy regarding the additional leave to recognize his supervisors for their additional duties, experience, and responsibilities.

He said the issue cropped up after a recent discovery that a supervisor’s paycheck hadn’t taken the 5 percent hit that it was supposed to, 1.5 years after the cut should have gone into effect. When the county notified the DA’s office that the supervisor was receiving extra, the DA’s office agreed that the employee was not entitled to it and that the employee is paying it back.

The administrative leave was also discussed at that time. In his letter Rosen said the county counsel confirmed:

“Administrative leave hours were properly granted ... as authorized by the Santa Clara County District Attorney’s Policy and Procedure Manual ... These hours have been documented in our payroll system pursuant to a process approved by the district attorney with the assistance of County Labor Relations.”

But the GAA wrote on Monday: “The GAA is unaware of a formal letter or message being sent to any district attorney members of GAA advising them of this policy. The district attorney’s Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM) has never been updated to reflect Rosen’s new policy. The county informed both GAA and Jay Boyarsky that the only valid policies are those which are in writing in the PPM or written agreements with the union.”

County officials did not comment on Rosen’s assertions.

Rosen said in a statement on Tuesday that he welcomes the Attorney General’s review.

“I have the highest regard for the Attorney General. However, I told the County Executive that the Attorney General has endorsed my candidacy for reelection as district attorney and may not be the appropriate person to review this matter due to the potential conflict of interest,” he said. ▣



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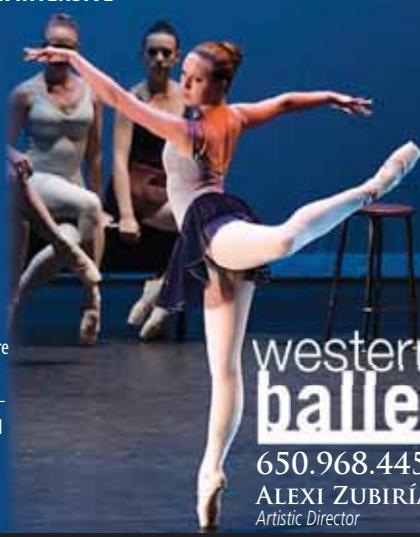
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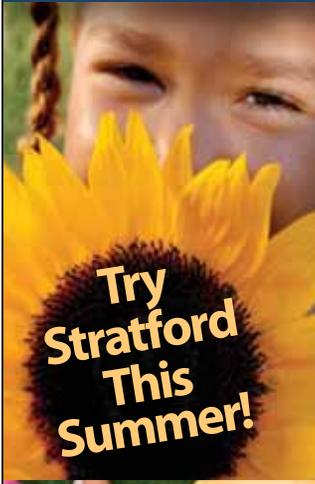


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Peninsula

408-351-6400

Arts, Culture, Other Camps

Busy Bees & Astro Kids Summer Adventure Camps

Mountain View

Join us for these half-day camps designed for 3-8 year olds as we have fun, participate in games and crafts, and go on fun field trips! Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Avenue
<http://mountainview.gov>

Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA)

Mountain View

50+ creative camps for Gr. K-8! Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Musical Theater, School of Rock, Digital Arts, more! One- and two-week sessions; full and half-day enrollment. Extended care available. Financial aid offered.
www.arts4all.org

650-917-6800 ext. 0

DHF Wilderness Camps

Rancho San Antonio

Open Space Preserve

Children ages 6-14 can meet the livestock, help with farm chores, explore a wilderness preserve and have fun with crafts, songs and games. Older campers conclude the week with a sleepover at the Farm. Near the intersection of Hwy 85 and Hwy 280
mountainview.gov

Pacific Art League of Palo Alto

Palo Alto

PAL offers morning and afternoon art camps in cartooning and comics, printmaking, glass fusing, mixed media and acrylic and watercolor painting for children 5-18 years. It is a great place to explore imagination and creativity in a supportive, encouraging and fun environment with a lot of personal attention. Scholarships are available. 227 Forest Avenue
www.pacificartleague.org

650-321-3891

Palo Alto Community Child Care (PACCC)

Palo Alto

PACCC summer camps offer campers, grades kindergarten to 6th, a wide variety of fun opportunities! K-1 Fun for the youngest campers, Neighborhood Adventure Fun and Ultimate Adventure Fun for the more active and on-the-go campers! New this year: Sports Adventure Camp for those young athletes and Operation Chef for out of this world cooking fun! Swimming twice per week, periodic field trips, special visitors and many engaging camp activities, songs and skits round out the fun offerings of PACCC Summer Camps! Registration is online. Open to campers from all communities! Come join the fun in Palo Alto!
www.paccc.org

650-493-2361

Theatreworks Summer Camps

Palo Alto

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

650-493-7146

Western Ballet

Mountain View

Children's Summer Camp

Students attend ballet class and rehearsal in preparation for the recital of either Peter Pan or The Little Mermaid at the end of the two week session. Separate Saturday classes are also offered. Ages 4-9. 914 N. Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View
<http://westernballet.org/documents/summerchildrens.html>

Western Ballet

Mountain View

Intermediate Summer Intensive

Students obtain high quality training in ballet, pointe, character, jazz, and modern dance, while learning choreography from the classical ballet Paquita. The students dance in featured roles in a final performance. Ages 9-12. Audition required 914 N. Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View
<http://westernballet.org/documents/summerpre-intermediate.html>

Western Ballet

Mountain View

Advanced Summer Intensive

Students obtain high quality training in ballet, pointe, character, jazz, and modern dance, while learning choreography from the classical ballet Paquita. The students dance in featured roles in a final performance. Ages 13-23. Audition required. 914 N. Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View
http://westernballet.org/documents/summer_int_adv.html

Summer at Peninsula School

Menlo Park

This is a child's delight with trees to climb, rope swings, and unpaved open spaces. Our engaging and creative program includes time to play and make friends. Peninsula School, 920 Peninsula Way. Visit website for class listings.
www.peninsulaschool.org/pensummerschool.htm

650-325-1584, ext. 39

Athletics

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Atherton

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www.alanmargot-tennis.net

650-400-0464

City of Mountain View Recreation Division

Mountain View

Discover fun with us this summer through the many programs available with the City of Mountain View Recreation Division. From sports to traditional day camps, to cooking camps, dance camps and art camps... we have it all! Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Avenue
<http://mountainview.gov>

City of Mountain View Swim Lessons Rengstorff and Eagle Parks

Mountain View

We offer swim lessons for ages 6 months to 14 years. Following the American Red Cross swim lesson program, students are divided into one of the 11 different levels taught by a certified instructor. Rengstorff Park Pool, 201 S Rengstorff Ave and Eagle Park Pool, 650 Franklin St.
<http://mountainview.gov/>

Club Rec Juniors & Seniors

Mountain View

Club Rec Juniors and Seniors is open for youth 6-11 years old. These traditional day camps are filled with fun theme weeks, weekly trips, swimming, games, crafts and more! Monta Loma Elementary School, 490 Thompson Ave.
<http://mountainview.gov>

Foothills Day Camp

Palo Alto

What will you discover? Foothills Day and Fun Camps, for youth ages 8-10 and 5-7 respectively, includes canoeing, hiking, animal identification games, crafts, and more- all for less than \$5 an hour. Registration begins February 15th for residents. (February 22nd for non-residents.) Hurry, spaces are limited!
cityofpaloalto.org/enjoy

650-463-4900

J-Camp

Palo Alto

Exciting programs for kindergartners through teens include swimming, field trips, sports and more. Enroll your child in traditional or special focus camps like Surfing, Archery, Animal Adventure, Circus Camp and over 50 others! Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way
www.paloaltojcc.org/jcamp

650-223-8622

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Palo Alto Menlo Park/Redwood City

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www.KimGrantTennis.com

650-752-8061

Nike Tennis Camps

Stanford University

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www.USsportsCamps.com/tennis

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

Spartans Sports Camp

Spartans Sports Camp offers multi-sport, week-long sessions for boys and girls in grades 3-6 as well as sport-specific sessions for grades 6-9. There are also strength and conditioning camps for grades 6-12. Camps begin June 10th and run weekly through August 2nd at Mountain View High School. The camp is run by MVHS coaches and student-athletes and all proceeds benefit the MVHS Athletic Department. Lunch and extended care are available for your convenience. Register today!
www.SpartansSportsCamp.com

650-479-5906

Spring Down Camp Equestrian Center

Portola Valley

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

650-851-1114

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StanfordWaterPoloCamps.com

650-725-9016

Summer at Saint Francis

Mountain View

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

650-968-1213 x650

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Mountain View

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

650-968-1213 x650



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June 3 to August 2

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Addison Kids' Club
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OPERATION: CHEF

NEW! 4-week camp
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*Please check brochure for specific camp dates.

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Walter Hays Kids' Club
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LocalNews

PEDESTRIAN HIT

► Continued from page 1

remained on the scene and was cooperative with investigating officers.

Early police reports indicated

that the driver of the car was "distracted" at the time of the accident. However, the April 10 press release makes no mention of distraction. Instead, the release says that the MVPD is "investigating the collision to

determine a cause." Neither alcohol nor speed are believed to have been a factor.

Details remained scarce for a week following the accident. Sgt. Sean Thompson, public information officer for the MVPD, confirmed a few days after the incident that the victim was an 81-year-old woman, but it was not revealed that she had died on April 6 until about 7:30 p.m. on April 9, when the press release was posted to the MVPD website. An email, alerting local media to the press release was sent out shortly after 7 a.m. on April 10.

Thompson said the police department was delayed in releasing information because the traffic investigation team wanted to make sure it had all the basic facts of the incident correct before putting out a press release.

The MVPD is requesting that anyone who may have seen the accident to get in contact with investigators to help them reconstruct what happened on April 3. Anyone with information on the incident is encouraged to call 650-903-6344.

Pedestrian, bike safety

In addition to providing details on the accident, the MVPD press release included information on recent department efforts to crack down on dangerous driving practices in Mountain View.

"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," the release noted. "Pedestrian safety is a serious issue."

Over the past year, Mountain View has seen a number of fatal car-on-pedestrian collisions. On June 21, 2012, William Ware of Mountain View was struck and killed while he waited for the bus on California Street. Ruifan Ma was hit by a car while crossing Phyllis Avenue on March 4; she later died in the hospital. A Huff Elementary School crossing guard was hit by a car less than a month later and only a few blocks away — at the intersection of Phyllis Avenue and Grant Road — and suffered a concussion. And in October 2012, three Graham Middle School students were hit by cars near their school, resulting in injuries, all within three weeks of each other.

The Mountain View City Council recently approved a "Pedestrian Master Plan" in January. The plan provides a rough outline of steps the city will take to make the streets safer for cyclist and pedestrians. According to the MVPD release, pedestrian deaths account for about 19 percent of all traffic fatalities in California. ▣



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FILM FESTIVAL

► Continued from page 5

the rarest birds are green-naped pheasant pigeons and bleeding-heart doves.

In "The Lands of Forrest Linebarger," Lauren Salinero of the Freestyle Academy of Communication Arts and Technology at Mountain View High School looks at Linebarger's green lifestyle (and his pink home-grown strawberry guavas).

In the lean, green, waste-fighting machine category, Palo Alto High School's Jack Brook created "Eco-Man," about a boy trying to save the planet by recycling. And Solarman battles Dieselman in "The Adventures of Solarman," by Graham Middle School students Lucas Forgy, Ethan Onyett, Braydon Ross and Sam Sayer.

Other topics covered in the finalist films include: the importance of shopping and eating locally, ways to re-use old T-shirts, and how to catch a litterbug. Finalists are competing for bragging rights and cash prizes.

Students are also playing a major role in the environmentally themed fashion show, serving as both designers and models. The hats and clothing on display will have their roots in donated and recycled textiles.

Meanwhile, Tuan Tran's recycled-wire fashions will serve as a backdrop for the show, with the designer himself as emcee. The evening's co-hosts, former Palo Alto councilman Peter Dreke-meier and Media Center host and producer Louise Pencavel, will be decked out in Tran's creations.

A native of Vietnam, Tran finds inspiration in the Japanese arts of ikebana (flower-arranging) and sakiori (recycling old cloth). His wire dresses have such names as "Orangina," "Saturn Rings" and "Wisteria," while his recycled-fabric looks include hemp suits, a woven-satin dress and a white evening gown with ostrich feathers. He also makes intricate wire sculptures that can have low-watt bulbs hung inside.

Tran writes on his website that he feels he's part of a long tradition of utilizing found objects in art, going back to Marcel Duchamp: "My art is an embodiment of the forefathers' idea of recycling, re-purposing and reusing. The idea of viewing and appreciating that which our society has produced, but no longer values." ▣

INFORMATION

The Greenlight Earth Day Film Festival awards ceremony, with an "Eco Fashion Show" at Cubberley Theatre, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. April 18 from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is free. Go to cityof-paloalto.org/greenlight. The event will be shown live via the Media Center; to watch it, or to find information on later showings, go to midpenmedia.org/watch/stream/. For more about fashion designer Tuan Tran, go to zhibit.org/tuantran.



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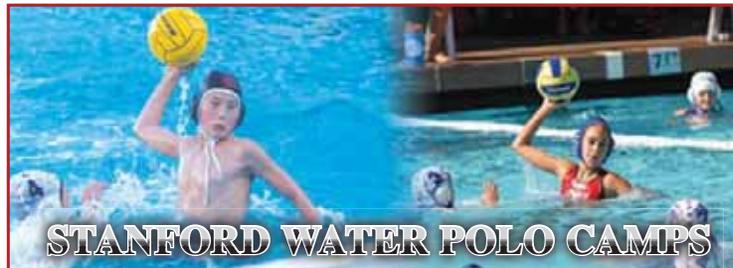
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endearing demeanor.

Tee, playing the more conservative of the men, is no less attractive with solid voice and droll expressions. Torres Koss and Herndon add delicious color and comedy in their roles as well as strong ensemble vocals.

Joe Ragey's gorgeous set morphs into various locales rather effortlessly, establishing a familiar mid-century British context. Fumiko Bielefeldt's mod costumes are another character unto themselves; they're fun and memorable. Musical direction by William Liberatore and sound design by Jeff Mockus achieve a near-perfect balance of instrumentation and voices — no easy feat with amplified instruments. Kudos to director Robert Kelley for bringing it all together in such smart staging.

You may want to see this one more than once before it takes Broadway by storm. It's great fun, and great humor, and adds up to a terrific evening. In Act Two, the authors pay homage to Wilde himself with insertions of his famous witticisms, and projections of Wilde seem somehow appropriate. He would no doubt approve of the ending projections; don't rush too quickly for the exit. ▣

KINDERGARTEN

► Continued from page 16

Kindergarten Readiness Act — which moved the cutoff date up to Nov. 1 this year and will move the cutoff date up to Sept. 1 in the 2014-15 school year, where it will remain.

Goldman pointed out that U.S. birthrates began declining following the onset of the Great Recession — an assertion backed by a recent Pew Research study and by the preliminary results of the district's demographic survey.

"It appears, not surprisingly, that beginning five to six years after the economic crisis hit, we are starting to see evidence of declining birth rates in kindergarten enrollment numbers," he said. ▣

CRIME BRIEFS

► Continued from page 16

police said.

The 58-year-old victim said that the items went missing sometime between 2 p.m. on April 7 and 2 p.m. on April 8. A neighbor told her that her garage door was open and when she came to investigate she discovered the items were gone. ▣



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■ STAFF

EDITOR & PUBLISHER

Tom Gibboney (223-6507)

EDITORIAL

Managing Editor

Andrea Gemmet (223-6537)

Staff Writers

Daniel DeBolt (223-6536)

Nick Veronin (223-6535)

Editorial Intern

Samson So

Photographer

Michelle Le (223-6530)

Contributors

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

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Design Director

Shannon Corey (223-6560)

Designers

Linda Atilano, Lili Cao,
Diane Haas, Rosanna Leung,
Paul Llewellyn, Scott Peterson

ADVERTISING

Vice President Sales and Marketing

Tom Zahiralis (223-6570)

Advertising Representatives

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Real Estate Account Executive

Rosemary Lewkowitz (223-6585)

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(650) 964-6300 fax (650) 964-0294

Email news and photos to:
editor@MV-Voice.com

Email letters to:
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News/Editorial Department

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■ EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Military families hit with bad water, TCE

One can hardly blame the military families who live in Moffett Fields Wescoat Village for being highly concerned about the air and water in their homes.

Several weeks ago the *Voice* received an anonymous letter from a resident who said brown water was running out of her tap and that bathing in that water caused itching. But the most concerning part of her complaint was not the dirty water, but the claim that the Department of Defense and the company managing the 181 units in her complex had not warned residents about — or even provided an explanation — about the dirty water episode.

In addition, the resident said she and her neighbors are worried about vapors from the toxic chemical TCE that have been found nearby and could be seeping underground toward the military housing complex. And despite the severity of the chemical scare, residents of the the Wescoat complex turned down offers by the R. J. Lee Group to test their homes for toxic vapors as they did in nearby areas last week. The reason: the military families fear being disciplined if they took it upon themselves to allow their homes to be tested without prior approval.

And they have good reason — if they were to be forced to leave the military housing, they say there is no way they could afford market rate rents in Mountain View. Military wages are hardly in the same league as the salaries paid at Google.

The Environmental Protection Agency heard the concerns of the Wescoat families and has promised to meet with them this Monday, April 15, at a NASA Ames site. We hope the government can make sure these families are given all the help possible to assure that they have access to clean water and air in their homes.

The good news from local TCE expert Lenny Siegel is that only a small portion of Wescoat housing sits over areas with elevated TCE levels in the shallow groundwater aquifer. And Wescoat was built in 2006 with passive slab ventilation systems which are designed to keep the TCE vapors from coming through the floor.

For its part, the EPA said it had provided residents of Wescoat with fact sheets about TCE, but many said they had not received such information.

But regardless of whether a warning was issued, it now appears that action will be taken to notify residents about potential water problems, which have subsided after the system was flushed.

More worrisome is the TCE problem. Although the Wescoat homes may be protected by a system which can keep the toxic vapors out, at the very least the EPA should test these homes to make sure the systems are functional and the air is free of the dangerous vapors.

This is also an opportunity for the government to do right by military families who have extremely limited resources to deal with these problems.

After all, members of the military live in this housing with their families are performing rescue missions overseas in the service of the U.S. government. The least we can do is assure them that the air and water in their homes is safe.

■ LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

RESIDENT SOUGHT HELP FOR GRANT, SLEEPER

I live near the intersection of Grant Road and Sleeper Avenue, next to Cuesta Park. Countless residents — and many of them with kids — cross Grant at this intersection on their way to our lovely park. I personally have almost been struck by cars there on more than one occasion.

I have written our mayor multiple times regarding my concerns and requesting a crosswalk be placed there at least, and

possibly a stop sign. People tend to drive quite fast at this portion of Grant Road.

I have never gotten a reply regarding my concerns.

I'm wondering if you can suggest a course of action in pursuing this matter. Hopefully one positive thing that may come out of recent unfortunate pedestrian injuries is attempting to prevent them from recurring as opposed to just picking up the pieces after something tragic has already happened.

Bob Nguyen
Sleeper Avenue

■ TOWN SQUARE HERE'S WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ON TOWN SQUARE

County asks state Attorney General to investigate DA Rosen

The California Attorney General has been asked to investigate a pay-compensation policy District Attorney Jeff Rosen has given to supervising attorneys in his office for the past 16 months.

Posted by USA.

"A move by Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen to counteract a cut in differential pay by giving administrative leave to top supervising attorneys could be illegal. " If he is good, wouldn't he already know that?"

Central Expressway on April 3, died in the hospital on April 6, according to police.

Posted by AC

I'm really not sure how the recent push for residential density will make the goal of road safety any easier or cheaper. More people mean more need for fast roadways. And fast roadways that are not separated from foot and bike traffic means more accidents and fatalities. And better separation of foot and bike traffic means road development and eyesores that no NIMBY would like. To say nothing about affordability and quality of life for fixed income elderly, or schooling and kids in the streets. Good heavens, are we thinking these things through? It doesn't seem like it.

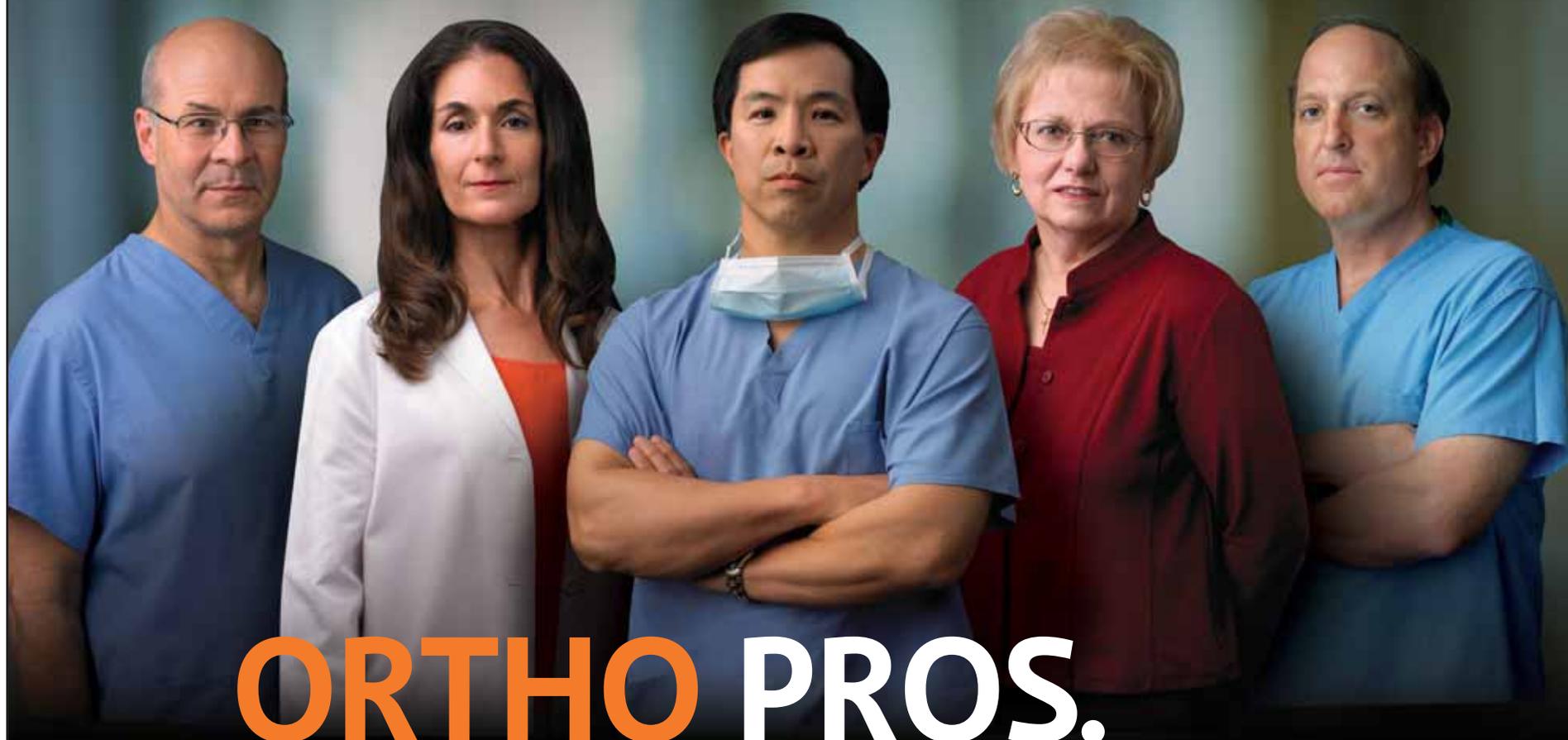
PEDESTRIAN KILLED

Posted by editor.

Sarra Golukhov, the 81-year-old Mountain View woman who was struck by a car near the intersection of Rengstorff Avenue and



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■ FOOD FEATURE

For German baker, there's no slowing down

IN HIS LONG CAREER, ERNST RUCKABERLE HAS MADE PASTRIES FOR CRUISE SHIPS, AIRLINES AND CELEBRITIES

By Jocelyn Dong

Working beneath the skylight in an industrial kitchen last week, Ernst Ruckaberle's gently wrinkled hands deftly molded a lump of marzipan. His movements were quick, efficient, as he transformed the red almond paste into a delicate rose.

At 74, with six decades of baking under his belt, Ruckaberle could be traveling around the world, as he did when he worked as the pastry chef on a cruise ship in the early '70s. Or, he could be resting on his laurels: He's made strudel for Arnold Schwarzenegger, petit fours for German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and cakes and cookies for hundreds of TV celebrities.

Instead, Ruckaberle shows up at 6 a.m. seven days a week to the kitchen on Old Middlefield Way in Mountain View,

► Continued on next page

Clockwise from left: Ernst Ruckaberle deftly molds a marzipan rose at Esther's German Bakery in Mountain View; marzipan creations include bunnies and fruit; Ruckaberle, 74, got his start as a baker's apprentice in Germany.



MICHELLE LE



MICHELLE LE

Hazelnut marzipan tortes decorated with Ruckaberle's chocolate fans.

► Continued from previous page

ready to turn flour, butter, eggs, chocolate and sugar into Old World cakes and confections. The German native surveys what's already in the icebox, makes his mental list of what needs to be baked that

day, and gets down to business.

At Easter, there are hot cross buns. At Christmas, there is stollen. For New Year's, melt-in-your-mouth doughnuts called Berliners.

And every week, he makes cakes and pastries with

names like *zimtschnecke*, *apfel streuselkuchen* and *mandel-hörnchen* for his employer, Esther's German Bakery.

"I tried to get him to take a day off," Esther Nio, the bakery owner, said with a smile. "I gave up. He's a workaholic. He can't go home until all the

refrigerator is filled up."

The hard-working Ruckaberle has been the backbone of Esther's since he was hired in 2006, just two weeks after selling his business of 30 years, Schroder's Bakery in San Bruno. Schroder's first supplied hotels and then airlines, churning out 8,000 rolls a day, plus desserts. But after Sept. 11 and the avian flu rattled the airline industry, he grew tired of economic vicissitudes of running his own operation. At Esther's, he hoped to enter a new stage of his life and focus on the craft he's been perfecting since he was 14 years old: making pastries.

None of his recipes — or "formulas" as he calls them — are written down. He works by hand, shunning most machines that are standard in an industrial kitchen. All of the dozens of different cookies, cakes and tortes are made from scratch.

Although Ruckaberle enjoys telling stories and jokes, and likes to show how he can whistle "Happy Birthday" with his tongue curled into a "U," he prefers to work in solitude.

On a recent Tuesday, Ruckaberle filled a paper cone with

soft, gooey chocolate and swiftly but precisely decorated a hazelnut marzipan torte with delicate fans. His hands were steady as he placed the chocolate on the white-frosted cake: a quarter turn of the cake stand; another brown fan laid down.

As Ruckaberle worked, Nio praised his expert preparation of the chocolate so that it was neither runny nor too hard. Other bakeries use pre-packaged icing that come in bottles and every shade of the rainbow. Those, she said, use "chemicals" and don't require the baker to have an intimate knowledge of ingredients.

Both Nio and Ruckaberle lament the standards of today's mass-produced baked goods. They cited the traditional Christmas cake, stollen, which Ruckaberle makes with yeast, raisins, fruit, rum, citron, nutmeg and other spices.

"There is not an item in the baking industry that the people mix up so much," Ruckaberle said, his German accent making his words rumble like a race-car engine. "It's a catastrophe. It's true, yes?"

Nio nodded.

"Nowadays what they put in

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CUCINA VENTI RECIPE

All coastal regions of Italy serve some version of this dish. In the north it is *Burridda alla Genovese*, in Tuscany it's *Cacciucco Livornese* and along the Amalfi coast it's *Zuppa di Pesce*. The American dish *Cioppino* gets its beginning from these dishes. No matter the myriad of names and recipe variations, this dish holds an honored and storied place in Italian cooking.

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Chef Marco, Venti's Chef

Zuppa di Pesce

(Fish soup)

- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- pinch of red pepper flakes
- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 2 lb squid, cleaned and cut into 1/2-inch rings and tentacles (about 1 lb when cleaned)
- 1 cup dry white wine
- 2 large ripe tomatoes, peeled, seeded, and chopped
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh flat-leaf Italian parsley
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups water
- 1 lb black mussels, soaked in cool water for 30 minutes and well scrubbed
- 1 lb assorted firm-fleshed fish filets such as whiting, monkfish, porgy bream, red snapper, and sea bass, cut into chunks
- 1/2 lb large shrimp, deveined
- 4 slices crusty bread, toasted and rubbed on one side with a garlic clove

Preparation:

In a large saucepan over medium heat, sauté the garlic and pepper flakes in the olive oil until the garlic is slightly golden, about 2 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, remove the garlic. Add the squid and cook and stir until opaque, about 2 minutes. Add the wine and simmer for 1 minute longer. Add the tomatoes, parsley, and salt and cook until the juices evaporate, about 10 minutes longer.

Add the water and bring to a simmer. Add the clams (discard any that do not close to the touch) and fish, cover, and cook until all the clams open and the fish is opaque throughout, about 5 minutes. Discard any clams that failed to open. Adjust the seasonings.

Place a bread slice in each warmed soup plate. Ladle the soup over the bread and serve.



“Nowadays what they put in it is unacceptable,” she said of the mass-produced kind.

Ruckaberle starts baking stollen in July and freezes it for the Christmas season.

“The older the stollen, the better the stollen,” he said. “When the stollen age, it’s so moist, it melts in your mouth.”

So authentic is the yeasty cake, people have placed orders for it from Hawaii and Japan, Nio said. Despite making 1,000 pounds each year, “We always sell out. We never have enough.”

In sticking with the Old World traditions, Esther’s has resisted swaying with food trends that invariably come and go. The bakery uses organic flour, Nio said, but she draws the line at offering gluten-free products.

“I say, ‘Listen. I’m a German bakery. ... I cannot suddenly

become gluten-free. German baking uses flour,” Nio said, a touch exasperated.

Over the years, the bakery — which supplies local farm-

None of his recipes — “formulas” as he calls them — are written down. He works by hand.

ers markets as well — has found an audience. Ex-pat Germans flock to the restaurant on San Antonio Road in Los Altos, which also serves food. Israelis, Russians and, more recently, Japanese and Chinese also have become

regulars, Nio said.

And that’s great for Ruckaberle, who is no stranger to long hours. As an apprentice in Germany in the 1950s, he started work at 1 a.m. every day and made deliveries by bicycle from 6 to 9 a.m., snow and ice notwithstanding.

On the cruise ship, loaded with 400 passengers, breakfast service started at 6 a.m. and the final buffet at midnight, with lunch, snack time and dinner in between. He would work every single day for 11 months each year.

“You have to be an idealist to go into this business,” said Ruckaberle, whose baking and confectionary training lasted 10 years. “You never look at the hours; you never look at the holidays.”

Even these days, he sometimes can’t leave his work in the kitchen. He’s been known to take bricks of marzipan

home, where he forms them into peaches, bananas, flowers and rabbits. Accompanied by a glass of wine, he finds the activity relaxing, he said.

“It’s like art. ... For me, whatever I do, my heart is over there.”

When Ruckaberle is not baking, he enjoys swimming, cooking and wine. Each Oktoberfest, he throws a party and cooks ham with breadcrust, cabbage, spaetzle, onion pie, pea soup and other German food for 40.

Talk to the energetic septuagenarian long enough, and it’s clear he has no plans to retire. In part, Ruckaberle said, it’s because he enjoys a good working relationship with Nio and her husband, Robert. Every day, Ruckaberle and Nio start the day by chatting in German for 20 minutes.

“He’s the most amusing person,” she said. “This per-

sonality you don’t find often. There’s just one Ernst.”

In nearly seven years of working together, they’ve never had a fight or disagreement, Ruckaberle said.

And besides, if he were to retire, what would he do?

“Many people, they go, ‘You’re crazy, at 74 years you work seven days.’ But I tell them, ‘You never know what you miss.’ When I go in the morning to work, all the elderly guys with the little doggies, they walk on the street. I say to myself, ‘Uh-uh. Not me. I’ve got to work.’”

“It makes me happy,” Ruckaberle said, standing in his kitchen and surrounded by stacks of spring-form pans and bags of sugar. “I like to work. I don’t have a problem with that.”

Palo Alto Weekly Editor Jocelyn Dong can be emailed at jdong@paweeekly.com.

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MOVIE TIMES

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42 (PG-13)	Century 16: 11 a.m. & noon & 2, 3:10, 5, 7, 8:20 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: 11:50 a.m. & 2:45, 5:50 & 8:50 p.m. In XD 1:20, 4:20, 7:20 & 10:25 p.m.
Admission (PG-13) ★★1/2	Century 16: 12:10, 3:40, 6:50 & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: 12:50 p.m.
Baadshah	Century 16: 12:20, 4:10 & 8:30 p.m.
The Call (R)	Century 20: 11:25 a.m. & 5 & 10:45 p.m.
The Company You Keep (R)	Guild Theatre: 1, 4, 7 & 9:55 p.m.
The Croods (PG) ★★1/2	Century 16: 11 a.m. & 3:45 & 8:50 p.m. In 3D 1:20 & 6:15 p.m. Century 20: 11 a.m. & 1:30, 4, 6:30 & 9 p.m. In 3D 12:05, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40 & 10:05 p.m.
Evil Dead (2013) (R) ★★1/2	Century 16: 11:30 a.m. & 2:10, 4:30, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 11:40 a.m. & 12:50, 2, 3:10, 4:20, 5:35, 6:50, 8, 9:15 & 10:25 p.m.
From Up on Poppy Hill (PG) ★★★	Century 16: 11:15 a.m. & 1:35, 4, 6:40 & 9:05 p.m.
G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13)	Century 16: 11:25 a.m. & 4:40 & 10:25 p.m. In 3D 2:05 & 7:40 p.m. Century 20: 12:35, 3:15, 5:55 & 8:35 p.m. In 3D 11:15 a.m. & 1:55, 4:35, 7:15 & 9:55 p.m.
High Society (1956)	Stanford Theatre: Fri 7:30 p.m.
The Host (PG-13) 1/2	Century 20: 1:45 & 7:40 p.m.
Jurassic Park (2013) (PG-13)	Century 16: 2:20 & 9:50 p.m. In 3D 11:20 a.m. & 12:30, 3:30, 5:20, 7 & 10:10 p.m. Century 20: 3:15 & 9:20 p.m. In 3D 11 a.m. & 12:15, 1:50, 4:45, 6:15, 7:45 & 10:40 p.m.
Life of Pi (PG) ★★1/2	Century 20: 3:50 & 10:05 p.m. In 3D 7 p.m.
Not Today (PG-13)	Century 20: 11:20 a.m. & 2:15, 5, 7:45 & 10:30 p.m.
Oblivion (PG-13)	Century 20: 8 & 11 p.m.
Olympus Has Fallen (R)	Century 16: 11:50 a.m. & 3:20, 7:10 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 11:30 a.m. & 2:15, 5:05, 7:55 & 10:45 p.m.
Oz the Great and Powerful (PG) ★★1/2	Century 16: 2:40 & 9:10 p.m. In 3D 11:10 a.m. & 6:05 p.m. Century 20: 3:45 & 9:50 p.m. In 3D 12:30 & 6:50 p.m.
The Place Beyond the Pines (R)	Century 20: 12:30, 3:45, 7 & 10:10 p.m. Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 3:20, 4:40, 6:30 & 8 p.m. Fri & Sat also at 9:40 p.m.
The Sapphires (PG-13)	Aquarius Theatre: 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.
Scary Movie 5 (PG-13)	Century 16: 11 a.m. & noon & 1:30, 2:30, 3:50, 4:50, 6:30, 7:30, 9:30 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 11:05 a.m. & 12:05, 1:20, 2:30, 3:35, 4:45, 5:55, 7, 8:05, 9:15 & 10:20 p.m.
Silk Stockings (1957)	Stanford Theatre: Fri 5:20 & 9:30 p.m.
Silver Linings Playbook (R)	Century 16: 11:40 a.m. & 3, 6:20 & 9:20 p.m.
Stage Fright (1950)	Stanford Theatre: Sat-Sun 5:30 & 9:40 p.m.
Starbuck (R) ★★	Century 16: 11:05 a.m. & 1:40, 4:20, 7:20 & 10:05 p.m.
Trance (R)	Aquarius Theatre: 1:30, 4:15, 7 & 9:30 p.m. Century 20: noon & 2:30, 5, 7:35 & 10:10 p.m.
Tyler Perry's Temptation (PG-13)	Century 20: 11:55 a.m. & 2:35, 5:10, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m.
Witness for the Prosecution (1957)	Stanford Theatre: Sat-Sun 3:20 & 7:30 p.m.

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★ Skip it
 ★★ Some redeeming qualities
 ★★★ A good bet
 ★★★★ Outstanding

For show times, plot synopses, trailers and more movie info, visit www.mv-voice.com and click on movies.



MOVIE REVIEWS

ADMISSION ★★★1/2

Who doesn't want the inside track to the brutally competitive college-admission process? At its best, director Paul Weitz's uneven comedy skewers students, parents and the Ivy League alike over the fat-envelope frenzy endured by so many. Adapted from Jean Hanff Korelitz's novel of the same title, the narrative focuses on admissions officer Portia Nathan (Tina Fey). Fey excels at character-driven comedy, whether portraying the quirky "30 Rock" heroine Liz Lemon, whom she created, or stepping into the more sensible shoes of a woman who has spent 16 years recruiting students and reviewing heaps of paperwork. But even Fey can't overcome the awkwardness of Karen Croner's screenplay when Portia sleeps with former Dartmouth classmate John Pressman (Paul Rudd), who contends that the most gifted student (Nat Wolff) at his alternative high school might be the biological son that she secretly gave up for adoption while in college. There's nothing wrong with the chemistry between Fey and Rudd — and everything is more than right about Lily Tomlin's show-stealing performance as Portia's no-nonsense, feminist mother. Yet the comedy feels surprisingly flat, considering Weitz's comic chops as the director of "American Pie" and the more nuanced "About a Boy." Thousands of our nation's best and brightest lead fulfilling lives, despite once being denied entry into the ivy-covered universities of their choice. Nor will the disappointing "Admission" define the future of its talented ensemble cast. *Rated PG-13 for language and some sexual material. 1 hour, 57 minutes.* — T.H.

THE CROODS ★★★1/2

Monty Python alum John Cleese once co-wrote a book called "Families and How to Survive Them." Given that, I suppose my jaw shouldn't have dropped, then, to see his co-story credit on the animated adventure "The Croods," in which a bickering modern Stone Age family daily enthuses, "Still alive!" Nevertheless, Cleese's name comes as a surprise after an hour and a half, given the degree to which "The Croods" — though set in a world of mortal danger — plays it safe. Writer-directors Kirk DeMico and Chris Sanders (the latter best known for "How to Train Your Dragon") carry the rock over the finish line with enough slapsticky action and mild gags to hold kids' attention. But discerning audience members will wish for more in the plot department and greater courage in convictions. Even as it panders to kids, "The Croods" takes care not to offend parents too badly for being behind the times, as there's also a theme of parental sacrifice and unspoken love, rewarded with hugs all around at the end. It's just disappointing that "The Croods" feels an obligation to be reassuring and noncommittal, wrapping up with the thought "Anyone can change. Well, sort of." *Rated PG for some scary action. One hour, 38 minutes.* — T.H.

EVIL DEAD ★★★1/2

Let's put it this way: There are two types of people in the world. Those who should never, under any circumstances, see the horror sequel/reboot "Evil Dead" and those who just gotta see it. Based on Sam Raimi's charmingly raggedy 1981 debut film "The Evil Dead" (infamously funded by Detroit dentists and doctors), Fele

Weekend

Alvarez's cover version is a different beast. Whereas Raimi's initial "Evil Dead" gave off a sense of its filmmaker's irrepressible fun in making it, Alvarez's version gives off a vibe of ruthless efficiency, establishing its cred with the grimy grottness modern viewers expect from remade '70s and '80s horror films, before moving on to gonzo horror with astonishingly disgusting imagery. The basic plot remains the same: Five friends abscond to a cabin in the woods, where a book of the dead unleashes demons determined to possess their souls and thereby unleash apocalypse. Gore fans and "Evil Dead" fans are likely to agree that, in an age where "PG-13" rules the multiplex, this horror picture delivers the goods. It easily qualifies as one of the most audaciously revolting movies ever made, one that keeps daring you not to look away. *Rated R for strong bloody violence and gore, some sexual content and language. One hour, 31 minutes.* — P.C.

FROM UP ON POPPY HILL

★★★★1/2

There's nothing supernatural about the latest film from Hayao Miyazaki's legendary animation house Studio Ghibli. No one flies; animals don't speak; and the only sparkles come off Tokyo Bay. Still, there's magic in the craft of hand-drawn animation, a defiantly old-fashioned style here applied to a nostalgic story. The story concerns Umi Matsuzaki (dubbed by Sarah Bolger), a high-schooler living and working in a boarding house overlooking the bay. In the absence of her mother, a medical professor studying abroad, Umi looks after her grandmother and younger siblings. Entirely unlike the audio-visual onslaught customary in American animated features, "From Up On Poppy Hill" feels like a nature walk with friends. That will be some folks' knock against the movie, a J-teen romance that's unabashedly sentimental and could just as easily have been filmed in live-action. It's fair to say that the film will appeal less to the jaded and more to tweens who still dream in chastely romantic terms about having someone to hold hands with. Taken on its own terms, "From Up on Poppy Hill" is plain nice, and there's nothing wrong with that. *Rated PG for mild thematic elements and incidental smoking images. One hour, 31 minutes.* — P.C.

THE HOST

★★★★1/2

"Kiss me like you want to get slapped." When a character comes out with this howler in "The Host," it's enough to make you wonder if writer-director Andrew Niccol — adapting Stephenie Meyer's YA novel — is having a laugh at someone's expense... as in taking the money and running. The film proposes a future in which an alien invasion has left most Earthlings possessed by delicate-tendriled light slugs. No, really, that's the plot. How slugs that can fit in the palm of one's hand achieved interstellar travel and conquered, y'know, Earth, maybe they'll explain that in the prequel. "The Host" proves inept at character development and even worse at developing any tension. The picture feints in the direction of philosophy: The alien "Souls" see their symbiosis as entirely natural, and instead of changing the culture of each world, they "experience it and perfect it." On Earth, they've eliminated hunger, healed the environment and ended international conflict. Of course, they've also mind-raped most of humanity into something near brain-death. Do not consume "The Host" before operating heavy machinery. Fits of giggling may ensue. *Rated PG-13 for some sensuality and violence. Two hours, five minutes.* — P.C.

LIFE OF PI

★★★★1/2

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 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. (Reviewed Nov. 23, 2012)

OZ THE GREAT AND POWERFUL

★★★★1/2

The "sound-alike" has long been a practice of those looking to borrow the cachet of a piece of music. Well, Disney has a shiny new "Oz" movie that's a "look-alike" of Warner property "The Wizard of Oz." This prequel tells how the Wizard installed himself in the Emerald City. James Franco plays roguish carnival magician Oscar Diggs (aka "Oz"), whose balloon gets whipped by a tornado into the magical land of Oz. There he meets fetching witch Theodora (Mila Kunis), who informs him that he must be the wizard foretold in prophecy to inherit the Emerald City throne. Theodora takes Oz to meet her sister Evanora (Rachel Weisz), who regards him with suspicion but sends him on a mission to kill witch Glinda (Michelle Williams) and earn his position. In story terms, this sort of connect-the-dots prequel is a dead end, doomed to a foregone conclusion. The script by Mitchell Kapner and Pulitzer Prize winner David Lindsay-Abaire ("Rabbit Hole") mostly settles for revisiting every trope of the original story. "Oz" gets saved from the junk heap by Franco and especially by director Sam Raimi, who happily treats the enterprise as a sandbox. Like Ang Lee and Martin Scorsese before him, Raimi finds his first foray into 3D creatively invigorating, at least in visual terms. *Rated PG for sequences of action and scary images, and brief mild language. Two hours, 10 minutes.* — P.C.

STARBUCK

★★★★1/2

One logical conclusion to the genealogy trend of recent years has just made its way to American theaters: the French-Canadian film "Starbuck." The high concept of Ken Scott's comedy-drama is to reverse the curiosity about those linked to us by DNA, making the investigation not about ancestors but descendants. To be exact, 533 of them. Twenty-three years ago, David Wozniak (an amiably goofy Patrick Huard) deposited enough in a sperm bank to unwittingly sire hundreds of children. Now 142 of those pigeons have come home to roost in the form of a class-action lawsuit by those determined to uncover their father's

identity. The case captures the public imagination, and soon everyone in Quebec seems to have an opinion about David, pseudonymously known as "Starbuck." The film initially shows some bite and reasonably strong comic and visual sensibilities, but it grows cutesier and cutesier, revealing director Ken Scott's mainstream instincts. There's an intriguing point at the heart of the picture, about the ultimate responsibility of conceiving a child, but the way in which it's underlined with the fresh pregnancy emblemizes the film's unsubtle agenda, hurtling toward an unsurprisingly sentimental resolution. *Rated R for sexual content, language and some drug material. One hour, 49 minutes.* — P.C.

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MOUNTAIN VIEW

Sat. & Sun. May 4 & 5

Downtown Mtn. View

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GoingsOn

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ HIGHLIGHT

PEAR SLICES 2013

The Pear Avenue Theatre presents its 10th annual offering of new short plays by members of the Pear Playwrights Guild. Featuring eight actors in nine original works. Sunday performances are at 2:00 pm. April 5 through 28, Thursdays through Sundays, 8-10 p.m. \$10-\$30 Pear Avenue Theatre, 1220 Pear Avenue, Mountain View. Call 650-254-1148. www.thepear.org

ART GALLERIES

'Channelling Picasso' An exhibit of paintings and sculpture by Charlotte Coqui. Exhibit through April 27, Tue. and Wed. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Thurs.-Sat. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Free. Gallery House, 320 S. California Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-326-1668. www.galleryhouse2.com

Naomi Mindelzun Palo Alto artist Naomi Mindelzun displays mixed-media paintings and drawings on such topics as bird wings, river rocks and moonscapes. April 2-28, Tue.-Sat from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun from noon to 4 p.m. Free. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos. gallery9losaltos.com

BENEFITS

'Dreaming In Color' benefiting Special Spaces Allure Salon will present a makeover show and silent auction to benefit Special Spaces, a non-profit that provides room makeovers for children and teenagers with life threatening illnesses. For tickets: mvalloresalon.com. April 12, 5-9 p.m. \$25 or donation. Allure Salon, 888 Villa St., Mountain View. Call 650-996-1658. www.specialspacesanfrancisco.org/?page_id=1227

'J'adore Cello! Nocturne' The Gift of Music Foundation presents "J'adore Cello! Nocturne." Net proceeds from the concert will benefit the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. April 21, 6-8:30 p.m. \$20. Smithwick Theatre, 12345 El Monte Rd., Los Altos Hills. Call 510-364-6029.

AAUW Author's Lunch Local writers Barbara Plum and Debra Michel will read from their own works and answer questions about their writing experience at a luncheon sponsored by the Los Altos/Mtn View branch of the American Assoc. of University Women. All are welcome to attend, eat, and participate in the Q&A session. April 13, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. \$35. Michael's at Shoreline, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Call 650-967-0756.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

'Beyond Calligraphy' A class on calligraphy writing as a work of art used in collages, cards and scrapbooks. Various writing tools will be explored as well as a history of writing in general. Instructor is Taun Relihan. Fridays, April 12-May 31, 10-11 a.m. \$50 (\$40 members). Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 650-289-5436. avenidas.org

'Build a Shortwave Radio' In this class, students learn about the basic physics of radio wave generation, propagation, and reception; what a radio wave is; and about some of the scientists and engineers who made it all happen. As a class project, students make their own short wave radio receiver. Ages 10 and up. Sundays, April 13-May 11, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$75 Members/\$85 Non-members. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-321-1004. www.moah.org/education

'Citrus-Tree Care' Master Gardener Roberta Barnes will be talking about the different types of citrus that thrive in this area, with tips on how to care for citrus as well as how to manage diseases and pests. Advance registration required at 650-289-5400. April 12, 1-2 p.m. Free. Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 408-282-3105. master-gardeners.org/scc.html

'Impressionist-Style Painting' Students will learn about color theory, value concept, composition, modern-art history, technique and limited-palette method. Still-life and landscape possibilities with loose brush strokes and acrylic colors. No class May 21. Tuesdays, April 16-June 11, 1-3:30 p.m. \$90 (\$80 members). Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 650-289-5436. avenidas.org

'Introduction to Seed Saving' This presentation by Patrick O'Connor of the Bay Area Seed Interchange Library (BASIL), will discuss the fundamentals of seed saving of common vegetable families. Registration required. April 13, 1-3 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6337. ca.evanced.info/mountainview/lib/events/signup.asp?ID=5545&rts=&disptype=&ret=eventcalendar.asp&pointer=&returnToSearch=&SignupType=&num=0&ad=&dt=mo&mo=4/11/2013&df=calendar&EventType=ALL&Lib=0&AgeGroup=&LangType=0&WI24

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'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.

Autism Spectrum Disorders Parent Education Program The Stanford Autism Center at Packard Children's Hospital presents "Building Independence with Homework and Chores" for parents of children ages six to 11 years. The workshop is presented by Dr. Jennifer Phillips. For parents of children/adolescents ages 12 to 18 years, the workshop will be presented by Dr. Linda Lotspeich. April 13, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$30. Stanford University, 401 Quarry Road, Stanford. Call 650-721-6327. www.childspsychiatry.stanford.edu

Improv Workshop Avenidas hosts an improvisation workshop with skill-building exercises and short dramas. No previous experience is required. Starting April 11, Thursdays from 1 - 2:45 p.m. Cost is \$20 for members and \$30 for non-members. Avenidas, 450 Bryant St, Palo Alto. Call 650-289-5436. www.avenidas.org

CLUBS/MEETINGS

Astronomy Club Meeting Monthly meeting of the Peninsula Astronomical Society including a free public talk by Elinor Gates of Lick Observatory on black holes. The college's observatory will be open after the meeting from 9 to 11 p.m., weather permitting. April 12, 7:30-9 p.m. Free (\$3 parking). Foothill College, Room 5015, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. www.pastro.org/dnn/

Charity-of-the-Month Knit & Crochet Club Inaugural meeting of a new club dedicated to making items for charity. Participants will make squares to be joined into afghans for homeless shelters and nursing homes. Tuesdays, April 9-Sept. 10, 3-5 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library program room, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 650-948-7683. sccd.org

Peninsula Democratic Coalition The PDC hosts a buffet lunch, featuring Sabahat Rafiq on "The New Great Game," the struggle for political power and control of natural resources in Central Asia. Open to the public. Reservations required and can be made on-line at www.peninsulademocrats.com or by calling Jim Thurber at 650-948-8259. April 20, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. \$25 for buffet lunch. Ming's Restaurant, 1700 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-948-8259.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

'The Interfaith Experience: Youth Conference' Youth-led Interfaith Conference planned by local high school students of various faiths. April 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. www.hiddenvilla.org/programs/calendar-of-events/61-public-programs/49344-diveneck-forum-the-interfaith-experience-youth-conference

Earth Day Celebration This event contains information by Los Altos Hills committees, environmental organizations and school groups; educational presentations of live wildcats at 1:30 and 3 p.m.; electric cars; a farmers' market; and "green games." April 21, 1-4 p.m. Free. Westwind Community Barn, 27210 Altamont Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-947-2518. www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/parks-and-recreation/parks-and-recreation

Friends Nursery School Fiesta The Friends Nursery Schools hosts its annual Spring Fiesta carnival and fundraiser, with games, crafts, a bake sale, lunch and live music. A silent auction will feature trips, spa treatments and gift certificates. April 20, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Friends Nursery School, 957 Colorado Ave, Palo Alto. Call 650-856-6152. www.pafns.org

CONCERTS

'Ensemble Mirable' The First Lutheran Church in Palo Alto presents "The Uncommon Grounds and Sonatas of the Italian and Spanish Baroque," an ensemble of music from the 16th and 17th centuries. April 19, 8-10 p.m. \$28 to \$35. First Lutheran Church, 600 Homer Ave, Palo Alto. Call 510-528-1725. www.sfems.org

Fortnightly Music Club April Concert

Works by Prokofiev, Berlioz and Rachmaninoff will be featured in the Fortnightly Music Club's April concert. Performers will include violinist Seungja Kimn, vocalist Jonathan Clark and pianists Christine McLeavey Payne, Maho Nabeshima and Ching Shih. April 14, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Lucie Stern Community Center Ballroom, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. fortnightlymusicclub.org

Peninsula Trombone Choir Spring Concert The Gordon Stewart Peninsula Trombone Choir, an ensemble composed entirely of trombones, will perform a concert of classical, ragtime and popular music. April 20, 2-3 p.m. Free. St. Andrews United Methodist Church, 4111 Alma St., Palo Alto, CA. Call 650-493-4257.

ENVIRONMENT

Baylands Earth Day The Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve will host a celebration of Earth Day on April 20. The event includes live animals, scavenger hunts, guided Audubon walks, hands-on science, net fishing, art projects and more. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, 2775 Embarcadero Rd., Palo Alto. Call 650-493-8000. www.EVols.org

FAMILY AND KIDS

Hidden Villa Stargazing Hidden Villa hosts a stargazing night with hot cocoa where the whole family can create a star chart and learn about the night sky's constellations, stars and planets. April 13, 8-10 p.m. \$10. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-9704. www.hiddenvilla.org

Mother's Day Mini Photo Shoots Maria D. Photography will be on-site at Ava's Downtown Market giving 15 minute professional photo sessions. Participants can then choose a photo from a private online gallery to give as a Mother's Day gift. April 14, 1-4 p.m. \$50. Ava's Downtown Market, 340 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 925-290-8454. www.mariadphotography.com

Palo Alto Art Center Spring Family Day The Palo Alto Art Center hosts Spring Family Day, an afternoon of art-making for families with children ages five and up. April 14, 2-4 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. www.cityofpaloalto.org/gov/depts/csd/artcenter/cals.asp?ViewBy=7&CalDate=4/14/2013&EventDateID=6524

HEALTH

Pelvic health program for women of all ages The El Camino Hospital is offering a seven-week, 14 session exercise and educational program, designed to help strengthen muscles to achieve a stronger pelvic core, flatter abs and improved bladder control. April 9 through May 23, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. \$150. Park Pavilion Outpatient Rehab Department, 2400 Grant Road, Mountain View. www.elcaminohospital.org/pelvichealth

LIVE MUSIC

Spicmacay Stanford presents a Hindustani Concert by Dr. Pooja Goswami Pavan Dr. Pooja Goswami Pavan, a Minneapolis-based performer, composer, teacher, and scholar of Hindustani (North Indian) classical music will perform with Dr. A. Pavan, tabla, and Sri Vivek Datar, harmonium. April 13, 8 p.m. Free. Campbell Recital Hall, 471 Lagunita Dr., Stanford. Call 650-723-3811. music.stanford.edu/Events/calendar.html

Wesla Whitfield at Bus Barn Jazz vocalist Wesla Whitfield, in concert with pianist Mike Greensill and bassist Dean Reilly, performs music from the Great American Songbook. April 14, 5-6:30 p.m. \$45. Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos, . Call 650-941-0551. www.busbarn.org

ON STAGE

'Being Earnest' TheatreWorks presents the world premiere of "Being Earnest" a new musical from Paul Gordon. Set in 1965 London, this adaptation moves "The Importance of Being Earnest" to a bachelor flat near Carnaby Street, where mod

fashion, music and morality inspires a quartet of lovers. Tues-Sun, April 3-28. \$23-\$73. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-463-1960. www.theatreworks.org

'Spring Awakening' The Ram's Head Theatrical Society presents "Spring Awakening," a rock musical adaptation of Frank Wedekind's 1891 expressionist play. April 12-13 and 18-20, 8-10 p.m. \$10-\$20. Memorial Auditorium, 551 Serra Mall, Stanford. musical.stanford.edu

'The House of Blue Leaves' The Bus Barn Theater presents "The House of Blue Leaves," a comedy about America's obsession with celebrity. Winner of the 1971 Critics Award and the Obie Award for Best American Play. Playing April 11 through May 5, Wednesday through Sunday. \$18-\$30. Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-941-0551. busbarn.org

'Twelfth Night' Stanford Theater and Performance Studies will celebrate the Memorial Auditorium's 75th anniversary with an American Conservatory Theater performance of the building's inaugural production, Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night." Anniversary gala to follow. April 16, 7-8:30 p.m. \$10-\$75. Memorial Auditorium, Pigott Theater, 551 Serra Mall, Stanford. drama.stanford.edu

Firebird Dance Theatre's Annual Benefit Performance The Oshman Family JCC will host the Firebird Dance Theatre as it presents its Annual Benefit Performance in memory of its founder Rosa Lysaya. April 14, 5-7:30 p.m. \$15 for members and students, \$25 for Moldav residents, \$20 for non-members, \$18 at the door. Albert and Janet Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. www.paloaltojcc.org/firebird

MVHS Presents Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' Mountain View High School will present Shakespeare's famous tragedy of star-crossed lovers for its spring play. Tickets are available at the door or in the MVHS Finance Office. April 15-27, 7-9 p.m. \$10 adults, \$5 students/seniors. Spartan Theatre, 3535 Truman Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-940-7406. www.mvs.net

OUTDOORS

Foothill College Spring Plant Sale The Foothill College Environmental Horticulture and Design Program presents its Annual Spring Plant Sale, including tomato plants, bamboo, shrubs, succulents and more. Items are first come, first served. Payment must be cash or check; no credit cards. Bring bags or boxes to transport purchases. April 20, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Free admission; parking is \$3. Foothill College Environmental Horticulture Facilities (adjacent to Lot 8), 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7427. www.foothill.edu/bio/programs/hort/

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

'Insight Meditation South Bay' Shaila Catherine and guest teachers lead a weekly "Insight Meditation" sitting followed by a talk on Buddhist teachings. Tuesdays, March 19-May 14, 7:30-9 p.m. St. Timothy's/Edwards Hall, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-857-0904. imsb.org

Compline: Evening Service of Song A reflective, contemplative 30-minute service of hymns, anthems and chant sung by Stanford and local choral ensembles in the tranquil candlelit ambiance of Memorial Church. A different choral group sings every week. Sundays, April 14-June 2, 9-9:30 p.m. Free. Stanford Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Call 650-723-1762. events.stanford.edu/events/366/36683

Messages from the Other Side East West Bookstore hosts energy healer and medium Alexandra Leclere for an evening of direct messages from the "other side." Call 650-988-9800 to reserve a seat. April 12, 7:30 - 9 p.m. Free. East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-988-9800. www.EastWest.com

RESEARCH SUBJECTS

Genealogy Lecture This introductory lecture will discuss how to conduct genealogy research, including the basics of document discovery and how to proceed with the amount of information

located. An 8-week workshop will start the following week. April 18, 2-3 p.m. Free. Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 650-289-5401. avenidas.org

SENIORS

Day Worker Center The Mountain View Senior Center hosts a workshop on the Day Worker Center, which is down the street. The workshop will cover how the Day Worker Center works, volunteer opportunities and handyman services available for hire. April 18, 1-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

Introduction to Printing The Mountain View Senior Center's technology lab allows users to print 25 pages each day for five cents each. Attend this workshop to learn how to get the most from your money, learn how to print only the pages and information you want, how to print double-sided pages and more. April 17, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

'Proportion Distortion' The Mountain View Senior Center hosts Khahn from the Second Harvest Food Bank for this free nutrition workshop. April 16, 10-11 a.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

Seniors Driving Safety This half-day course will cover topics related to driver safety for seniors including myths about older drivers, rules of the road, safe driving tips and the role of nutrition, fitness, and medication. Certificate may be given to insurance provider for possible discount. Pre-registration required. April 17, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. Call 650-289-5401. avenidas.org

TALKS/AUTHORS

'Face2Face' with Polyvove co-founder Tedx Bay Area presents "Near Future Predictions about Personal Computing," featuring Pasha Sadri, the creator of Yahoo! Pipes and a co-founder of Polyvove. April 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$25. Samovar Conference Hall, 1077 California Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-469-3243. tedxbayareapril2013.eventbrite.com/

'Failed Stars and Free-Floating Planets' Dr. Gabor Basri of UC Berkeley will give an illustrated, non-technical talk on "Brown Dwarfs & Free-floating Planets: When You're Just too Small to be a Star" as part of the Silicon Valley Astronomy Lecture Series. Brown dwarfs, which Dr. Basri helped discover, are failed stars. Open to the public. April 17, 7-8:45 p.m. Free. Foothill College Smithwick Theater, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. www.foothill.edu/ast/ast_story.php?sr=2&rec_id=2978

'What VCs Look For In Series A Deals Today' A series of leadership sessions includes this talk, featuring a keynote by Ken Elefant of Intel Capital. Other panel speakers include Pat Kenealy from IDG Ventures. April 19, 9-11:15 a.m. \$30-40 online advanced purchase, \$40-\$50 at the door. Bingham McCutchen, 1177 California Ave., Palo Alto. Call 415-875-9544. www.rhpartners.com/event_execution_matrix.html

SRI Talk With John Markoff John Markoff of The New York Times will explore SRI International's beginnings, and how research moves from laboratory to marketplace, with William Mark, vice president of information and computing sciences and SRI's CEO Curt Carlson. Registration required at computerhistory.org/events. April 17, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. www.computer-history.org/events

'The Return of the Secret Handshake - The Future of Social Networks' Wilmer Hale law firm hosts a panel of experts who will share their experience and insights into the future of social networks. April 17, 6-9 p.m. Until April 10th: \$15-30; Regular: \$20-35; \$50 at the door. Wilmer Hale, 950 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-386-5015. www.gaba-network.org

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements



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For parents and kids ages 2-4
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210 Garage/Estate Sales

Menlo Park, 1155 Hidden Oaks Dr., Apr 13 9-4

Menlo Park, Mckendry Drive Block Sale, Saturday, April 13, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mountain View, 570 Bush Street, April 13, 8-3

PA: Citywide Yard Sale, June 8
Helping the environment and making money has never been so easy. Reusing - whether you donate, buy, or sell - is one of the best ways to reduce waste and keep usable stuff out of the landfill.

Join us for the Palo Alto Citywide Yard Sale on June 8.

Details will be posted on <http://www.PaloAltoOnline.com/yardsale/>

The map and listings will be uploaded to this page and be printed in the **June 7, 2013** edition of the **Palo Alto Weekly**.

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245 Miscellaneous

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4/13 Heirloom Seeding Sale
Choose from 30 plant varieties, including tomatoes, cucumbers, herbs, flowers, beans, squash, and more!
Sales support local nonprofit Collective Roots.

Where: DeMartini Orchard, 66 North San Antonio Rd, Los Altos 94022
When: Sat., April 13th, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

More info and pre-sales: 650/324-2769, www.collectiveroots.org

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Palo Alto - \$5000

803 Duplex
Redwood City - \$2,500

805 Homes for Rent
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Menlo Park, 3 BR/2 BA - \$5,200.00
Palo Alto, 4 BR/2 BA - \$4900. mon
Redwood City - \$4,000.00
Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$4,000.00
Redwood City/emerald Hills - \$4700

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Palo Alto, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1075

811 Office Space
Palo Alto, Studio - \$1695/mont

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995 Fictitious Name Statement

T2 MUAY THAI FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 576654

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
T2 Muay Thai, located at 140-144 S. Whisman Rd., Suite G, Mountain View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual.

The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
RYAN ROY
1028 S. De Anza Blvd. #B211
San Jose, CA 95129

Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name (s) listed herein on 01/14/13.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on March 29, 2013.
(MVV Apr. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2013)

FRAUSTO FITNESS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 575500

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Frausto Fitness, located at 144 S. Whisman Suite G, Mt. View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual.

The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
PAUL FRAUSTO
1841 Bristol Bay
San Jose, CA 95131

Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 10/3/12.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on February 28, 2013.
(MVV Mar. 22, 29, Apr. 5, 12, 2013)

OREGON DIAMOND FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 575325

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Oregon Diamond, located at 523 Walker Dr. #5, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual.

The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
ENDER BOLUKGIRAY
523 Walker Dr. #5
Mountain View, CA 94043

Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 02-25-2013.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on February 25, 2013.
(MVV Mar. 22, 29, Apr. 5, 12, 2013)

SOUL BUDS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 576138

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Soul Buds, located at 1614 Pomeroy Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95051, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
NURIT LESHEM
20305 Gillick Way
Cupertino, CA 95014

Registrant/Owner has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on March 14, 2013.
(MVV Mar. 22, 29, Apr. 5, 12, 2013)

LukAsip's FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 575848

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
LukAsip's, located at 414 Martin Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: A General Partnership.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
DAVID LUK
937 Castilleja Ct.
Los Altos, CA 94024

ESTHER LUK
937 Castilleja Ct.
Los Altos, CA 94024
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 3/08/2013.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on March 8, 2013.
(MVV Mar. 29, Apr. 5, 12, 19, 2013)

NEXT STEP STYLE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 576663

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Next Step Style, located at 217 Ada Ave., #52, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
KENDRICK POON
217 Ada Ave., #52
Mountain View, CA 94043

Registrant/Owner has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on March 29, 2013.
(MVV Apr. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2013)

SPRATTMEDIA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 576506

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Sprattmedia, located at 620 Willowgate Street #7, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
RYAN SPRATT
620 Willowgate St. #7
Mountain View CA 94043

Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 7/1/2005.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on March 26, 2013.
(MVV Apr. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2013)

DOMINIC KWOK CONSTRUCTION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 576861

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Dominic Kwok Construction, located at 916 South Bernardo Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94087, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
DOMINIC KWOK CHENG
916 S. Bernardo Ave.
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 2-1-2013.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on April 4, 2013.
(MVV Apr. 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2013)

GLASSY WINES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 576943

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Glassy Wines, located at 201 Ada Avenue, Unit 26, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
AMRITA NAIK
201 Ada Ave., Unit 26
Mountain View, CA 94043

Registrant/Owner has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on April 5, 2013.
(MVV Apr. 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2013)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
ROBERT H. RUBIN
Case No.: 1-13-PR-172238

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ROBERT H. RUBIN, ROBERT RUBIN, BOB RUBIN. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: JIANG LI in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. The Petition for Probate requests that: JIANG LI be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

Attorney for Petitioner: /s/ Janet L. Brewer
Law Office of Janet L. Brewer
2501 Park Boulevard, Suite 100
Palo Alto, CA 94306
(650)325-8276
(MVV Apr. 5, 12, 19, 2013)

California, County of Santa Clara, located at 191 N. First St., San Jose, CA, 95113.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner: /s/ Andrea Starrett
150 Almaden Blvd., 10th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113
(408)938-7900
(MVV Mar. 29, Apr. 5, 12, 2013)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
KATHERINE A. ORR, aka KATHY ORR
Case No.: 1-13-PR171887

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of KATHERINE A. ORR, aka KATHY ORR. A Petition for Probate has been filed by:

DAVID ORR in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. The Petition for Probate requests that: DAVID ORR be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on April 29, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept.: 3 of the Superior Court of California, County of Santa Clara, located at 191 N. First St., San Jose, CA, 95113.

If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. If you are a creditor or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as define in section 58 (b) of California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner: /s/ Janet L. Brewer
Law Office of Janet L. Brewer
2501 Park Boulevard, Suite 100
Palo Alto, CA 94306
(650)325-8276
(MVV Apr. 5, 12, 19, 2013)

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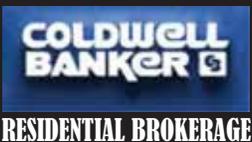
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OPEN SAT & SUN
1:30 - 4:30PM



**500 W Middlefield Road #4
Mountain View**

2 bed | 2 ba | 1,158 sq ft
Single level townhome in
desirable Willow Park with a
huge living room & fireplace
Private balcony

Offered at \$495,000

PENDING SALE



**2111 Latham Street #219
Mountain View**

2 bed | 2 ba | 1,206 sq ft
Spacious living room
Custom remodeled kitchen
Private balcony

List Price \$475,000

Received multiple offers!

JUST SOLD



**505 Cypress Point Drive #145
Mountain View**

2 bed | 1 ba | 843 sq ft
Ground floor condo end unit
Private patio

List Price \$375,000

Sold Price \$444,000

Sold with multiple offers!

JUST SOLD



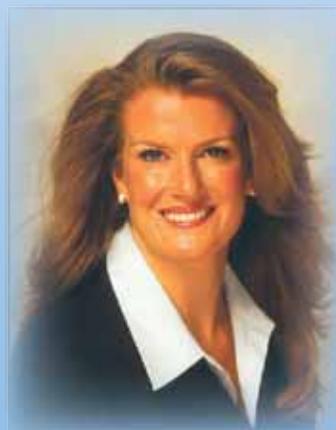
**532 Tyrella Avenue #29
Mountain View**

3 bed | 1.5 ba | 1,128 sq ft
2 story townhome end unit
Remodeled kitchen
Private backyard

List Price \$495,000

Sold Price \$560,000

*No one knows your neighborhood
like your neighbor!*



Kim Copher

Direct: 650-917-7995

kim.copher@cbnorcal.com

DRE #01423875

*It's not about quantity of transactions,
but the QUALITY given to YOUR transaction.*

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and their equity as if it were my own.*

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Royce Cablayan

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Colleen Rose

DRE# 01221104

(650) 947-2919 • colleen@serenogroup.com



CASSIDY REAL ESTATE

Open Sat. April 13th & Sun. April 14th 1:30-4:30



22025 Creekside Ct. Cupertino

Tucked away on a quiet cul de sac in the top rated Cupertino School district, this three bedroom, two bath home offers a superb floor plan for comfortable living. Spacious entry foyer opens to living room and formal dining room. Light filled kitchen with breakfast bar opens to family room and features french doors to a private patio — perfect for entertaining. French doors off master bedroom provide views to inviting pool. Wonderful natural light throughout!! Convenient to shopping and transportation.

Offered at \$1,350,000

(650) 305-0065

1530 Miramonte Avenue • Los Altos

WHAT A PLEASURE TO BE CLOSE TO EVERYTHING!



Open House Sat & Sun
JUST LISTED!

280 EASY STREET #407, MOUNTAIN VIEW

\$425,000

Close proximity to Castro Street, Caltrain and VTA, restaurants and entertainment venues.

- 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom
- Spacious floor plan approximately 894 sf
- Ground floor unit with large private patio
- Fresh interior paint and dual pane windows
- Pool and clubhouse features a pool table and foosball
- Laundry center next to clubhouse
- Additional storage closet

- One assigned covered parking space
- Plenty of guest parking
- Low monthly HOA dues of \$342 include: water, gas heat, garbage and professional management
- Easy access to Highways 101/85/237 and some of the Valley's largest employers such as Google, Intuit, Symantec, Microsoft and LinkedIn!



CHRISTY YING

Broker Associate

(650) 867-5566

christy@serenogroup.com

www.ChristyYing.com

DRE # 01275770

—VIRTUAL TOUR—

www.tourfactory.com/984913



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This information was supplied by reliable sources. Sales Associate believes this information to be correct but has not verified this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyers should investigate these issues to their own satisfaction.

**4388 EL CAMINO REAL, #118
LOS ALTOS**

**EXTENDED HOURS: FRIDAY, 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM**
www.4388ElCaminoReal118.com
\$725,000



2 BEDS 2 BATHS APPROXIMATELY 1,200 SQ. FT. BUILT JUST 4 YEARS AGO
CONVENIENT TO EVERYTHING LOS ALTOS SCHOOLS



DAVID TROYER

650·440·5076
david@troyer.com
DRE# 01234450



*Per 2012 # of homes sold on MLS



#1 AGENT 2012: combined sales in MV, LA & LAH*

Coldwell Banker #1 IN CALIFORNIA



WOODSIDE Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$2,498,000**
240 Allen Rd 4 BR 3.5 BA Extensively and beautifully remodeled home. Breathtaking view of forest and ocean.
Lea Nilsson DRE #00699379 650.328.5211



SUNNYVALE Sat/Sun 1 - 4 **\$685,000**
1110 Munich Ter 2 BR 2.5 BA Three levels w/2 Master Suites located on the top Mt-Lrg Bonus Room-attach 2 car garage
Niloo Karimi DRE #01354198 650.941.7040



SAN JOSE Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$1,198,000**
10600 Story Ln 4 BR 2.5 BA Spanish villa w/classic Old World charm. 1.41ac w/amazing views. Great for entertaining!
Greg Stange DRE #01418178 650.325.6161



SAN JOSE Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$790,000**
4291 Verdigris Cir 3 BR 2.5 BA Located in California Impressions development off 1st St. near 237 & more!
Ric Parker DRE #00992559 650.941.7040



PALO ALTO Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$1,895,000**
1529 Dana Av 3 BR 3 BA Wonderful home w/large lot near Duveneck. Gourmet kitchen, living room w/vaulted ceilings.
Sharon Witte DRE #00842833 650.325.6161



MOUNTAIN VIEW Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$929,000**
2448 Elka Ave 3 BR 2 BA Expanded master suite, garden refuge, many updates, hardwood floors, natural light
Nancy Adele Stuhr DRE #00963170 650.941.7040



MENLO PARK Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$499,000**
1132 Henderson Av 2 BR 1 BA Stunning remodel w/designer finishes! Many updates. Bonus room, large lot, covered patio.
Drew Doran DRE #01887354 650.325.6161



MENLO PARK Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$549,000**
420 6Th Av 3 BR 2 BA This lovely Fair Oaks home features a very private backyard. Don't miss seeing this one!
Brendan Callahan DRE #01397059 650.325.6161



LOS ALTOS HILLS Your Own Paradise! **\$3,985,000**
11210 Hooper Ln 4 BR 4 BA Updated home on a quiet & private lane. Close to shopping & hwy 280. Shows like a model!
Alexandra von der Groeben DRE #00857515 650.325.6161



LOS ALTOS HILLS Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$4,695,000**
26020 Bentley Ct 4 BR 3 full BA + 2 half Privately located at end of cul-de-sac. Minutes to the Village.
Terri Couture DRE #01090940 650.941.7040



LOS ALTOS Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$3,177,848**
1380 Holly Ave 5 BR 6.5 full BA Quality built architect designed custom home, Gourmet Kitchen, Guest House, Great Mstr Ste
Kevin Keating & Joanne Alvord DRE# 01071912 & 01444106 408.996.1100



LOS ALTOS Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$1,950,000**
1238 Gronewall Ln 4 BR 2.5 BA This park-like home feels worlds away, nestled into a natural setting on a St well hidden.
Pat Diaz DRE #00943484 650.941.7040



CAMPBELL Sat/Sun 2 - 4 **\$695,000**
4173 De Mille Dr 4 BR 2 BA Needs TLC, Large home on a lrg lot. Sep. living n family rm Close to shopping & freeways
Linda Kingsbury DRE #00981402 650.941.7040



SAN JOSE Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$500,000**
240 Beegum Wy 3 BR 1.5 BA Lovely Blossom Valley hm.2 car gar. Hardwd & tile flrs. Granite slab in kit. FR w/bay window.
Ric Parker DRE #00992559 650.941.7040



REDWOOD CITY Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$1,575,000**
805 Toyon Wy 5 BR 3.5 BA Custom Emerald Hills home on cul-de-sac. Bay views. 3 car garage. Private courtyard entry.
Tom Huff DRE #922877 650.325.6161

Los Altos | Palo Alto

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