

MountainView VOICE

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MOVIES | 23



MICHELLE LE

Graeme, a border collie, brings enthusiasm to his job chasing geese and coots from the Shoreline Golf Links.

Thank dog, city's golf course finally breaks even

NEW OPERATOR ATTRACTS MORE PLAYERS, SHOOS GEESE AND COOTS AWAY

By Daniel DeBolt

At Shoreline Golf Links there are fewer geese and they are less of a nuisance, the turf is in better shape than ever and the course has finally made a profit after several years of being deep in the red.

And part of the credit goes to a very enthusiastic border collie named Graeme.

The turnaround can largely be credited to Touchstone Golf, hired to run the city-owned course after its deficit in 2011 threatened to take away over \$1 million from funding for core

city services, like the police department and the library.

Turning its first profit in many years, the course made \$30,000 in the fiscal year ending in June — a big change from 2011-12, when it lost

► See **GOLF DOG**, page 10

Emails, board report paint picture of Nelson's offending behavior

MV WHISMAN TRUSTEE
FACES CENSURE VOTE

By Nick Veronin

Judging from email exchanges between Mountain View Whisman School District trustee Steven Nelson and his colleagues on the board and members of district staff, frustra-

tion has been building over Nelson's behavior — both in private and in public meetings — since he took office late last year.

The emails, obtained by the *Voice* through a state Public Records Act request, and evidence compiled by Bill Lambert, one of Nelson's colleagues on the board, paint a picture of a trustee quick to make serious, and often

inaccurate, accusations. They show a pattern of threatening and insulting district staff members and attempts by Nelson to use his position on the board to gain political leverage over Superintendent Craig Goldman.

As of the *Voice's* Oct. 2 press deadline, the school board was

► See **NELSON**, page 13

Made to order Mexican

WEEKEND
page 20



Interns evicted during shutdown

CLOSURE IMPACTS NASA OFFICES
AS FURLOUGH TAKES HOLD AT MOFFETT

By Eric Van Susteren
and Andrea Gemmet

It's one thing to be out of work during the federal shutdown, but it's another to get evicted when you're far from home.

That's the situation NASA Ames interns found themselves in when many federal government operations ground to a halt at midnight Monday after Congress failed to pass a budget in the culmination of a bitter battle over the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

The first government shutdown in 17 years will not close the Department of Veterans Affairs or U.S. Postal Service, but NASA and the Menlo Park office of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) have been shuttered.

Besides furloughing employees at Mountain View's NASA Ames Research Center, visitors cannot even gain access to NASA's website, which states: "Due to the lapse in federal government funding, this website is not available. We sincerely regret this inconvenience."

NASA Ames intern James Mishra contacted the *Voice* to say that he and other interns who are housed on campus were evicted from their dorms on Tuesday. Interns were given a week's notice that they might have to find alternate housing during the shutdown, Mishra said.

"Most of the interns, including myself, were unfamiliar with the San Francisco Bay Area and struggled to make arrangements. Many senior scientists and engi-

neers made generous offers to let interns stay at their homes," he said.

Members of Mountain View's Hacker Dojo have stepped into the breach, offering places to stay, and several members are offering the interns paid work at their startups during the shutdown, said Katy Levinson, the Dojo's director of development. Hacker Dojo got involved when NASA Ames interns started posting fliers asking for somewhere to stay, she said.

Levinson said she's trying to get confirmation of how many interns were ousted, and believes there are as many as 50. "We've verified the locations and safety of 15, and we're looking for the other 35," she said.

The dorm, called the NASA Exchange Lodge, is used by other companies in the summer, including Google and SETI, she said. "It can easily hold 600 kids. There are usually a lot fewer in winter, and they spread them out, so even (the interns) don't know how many of them are in there."

Levinson said she stayed in the same dorm several years ago, when she was an intern. "If it had happened to me, I'd be 3,000 miles from home, and (have) less than \$1,000 in my bank account," she said. "I wouldn't want it to happen to me, and we're going to fix it."

Blood drive canceled

The local blood bank is being left high and dry by the shut-

► See **SHUTDOWN**, page 14

INSIDE

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▶ **ELAINE KLEMM**



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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

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

What do you think about the government shutdown?



"All that's going to happen is there will be a bunch of negotiations and they'll turn the government back on in two or three days, and in the meantime everyone has to deal with all the pain and suffering — no checks, no services, nothing."

Terry Bates, Mountain View



"I think it is ridiculous. This doesn't happen in other countries as far as I know. It leads to inefficient government. I'm from Turkey, and I'm surprised to see this in the U.S."

Ali Ergun, Mountain View



"Obviously it is absurd. We've never had this back home in China. But the world is still running. It is affecting my friends, though. They were planning to go to a national park. I also have some friends who work for the government."

Liwen Chen, Mountain View



"I was laughing. It is kind of ridiculous. I'm not a political guy. I just find it quite funny that the government shuts down because people are fighting internally."

Mohamed Mansour, Mountain View



"It's an unfortunate situation. It kind of magnifies the split in parties — Republicans and Democrats."

Doug Denu, Mountain View

Have a question for **Voices Around Town**? Email it to editor@mv-voice.com

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10:00 a.m. Roundtable

Maple Pavilion, Stanford University

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KQED happy to be media partner for
the 2013 Roundtable at Stanford University



Katie Couric
ABC News



Jennifer Aaker
Stanford Graduate
School of Business



Firdaus Dhabhar
Psychiatry and Behavioral
Science, Stanford
School of Medicine



Ian H. Gotlib
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founder of IDEO,
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■ CRIME BRIEFS

ROBBED AT KNIFE-POINT

A trio of concert-goers were robbed of their tickets by a knife-wielding man after they parked their car at the Shoreline Amphitheatre and were preparing to walk to the main gate on Saturday, Sept. 28, at about 8 p.m., police said.

The three victims — two 21-year-olds and a 20-year-old from Martinez — had just parked and were getting ready for the Beyond Wonderland electronic dance music festival when a man approached them and asked if they had tickets, according to Sgt. Sean Thompson, public information officer for the Mountain View Police Department.

As soon as they replied in the affirmative, the man pulled out a knife and demanded the tickets, Thompson said. Fearing for their safety, they handed him their tickets and the man walked away through the parking lot.

The women reported the crime to the first officer they encountered, Thompson said. They described the robber as a white man, between 25 and 30 years old, standing about 5 feet, 10 inches tall.

Police did not locate the suspect. There were no witnesses and no video surveillance of the robbery.

HIT-AND-RUN WITNESSES SOUGHT

A woman in her late 70s was injured by a hit-and-run driver early Monday morning at the intersection of Rengstorff and San Luis avenues.

Police have announced that a tip led them to locate a suspect car and driver — a 28-year-old Mountain View man. No arrests have been made and investigators are asking that anyone with any further information come forward to help with the case.

The 77-year-old was crossing Rengstorff Avenue when she was hit by what investigators believe to be a silver, late-'90s model Honda Accord, according to a press release issued by the Mountain View Police Department. The woman, a Mountain View resident, was taken to a local hospital with moderate injuries and was in stable condition, police said.

After issuing a plea for public help, police said that a tip from the community led them to the vehicle and its driver. They have not yet released the suspect's name nor said whether an arrest has been made.

The police department turned to social media to look for witnesses and information after the accident. "We are seeking the public's assistance in locating both the vehicle and driver that fled the scene," said a police statement that was also posted on the department's blog, its Facebook page and its Twitter account.

"It isn't OK to hit a person and think you can leave the scene," said MPPD Lt. Greg Oselinsky.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call 650-903-6395. The case reference number is 13-5530. Tipsters may remain anonymous.

► See **CRIME BRIEFS**, page 12

■ POLICE LOG

AUTO BURGLARY

Central Av. and Orchard Av., 9/26
Horizon Av. and Willowgate St., 9/26
600 block Showers Dr., 9/28
1 block Amphitheatre Pkwy., 9/28

500 block Del Medio Av., 9/26
600 block Franklin St., 9/26
2400 block Alvin St., 9/28
1300 block San Domar Dr., 9/29

BATTERY

1 block Amphitheatre Pkwy., 9/26
1500 block W. El Camino Real, 9/29

ROBBERY

1 block Amphitheatre Pkwy., 9/28

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

1 block Amphitheatre Pkwy., 9/28
2400 block Grant Rd., 9/29

STOLEN VEHICLE

1000 block Grant Rd., 9/25
100 block Calderon Av., 9/26
1900 block California St., 9/28
400 block Oak St., 9/29
300 block Tyrella Av., 10/1

GRAND THEFT

2200 block Latham St., 9/25

VANDALISM

600 block W. Evelyn Av., 9/25
1 block Amphitheatre Pkwy., 9/30

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

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MICHELLE LE

Lupita Garcia, 25, invites high school students to a dinner at a workshop about the DREAM Act.

Immigrant students get DREAM Act crash course

By Nick Veronin

Although Gov. Jerry Brown signed California's DREAM Act into law two years ago this month, it isn't always clear to eligible students how to take advantage of the new legislation. Some of that confusion was cleared up Sept. 25 at an immigration rights workshop held at Mountain View High School.

The event, organized by local immigrant rights activist Elena Pacheco, provided answers to Mountain View and Los Altos high school students who immigrated to the U.S. illegally — often when they were very young — and who now want to apply for state grants to help them attend college.

More than 20 teens and parents attended the workshop at

Mountain View High School's Spartan Theatre, where speakers with expertise in immigration law explained the difference between California's DREAM Act — passed in October of 2011 — and the proposed federal DREAM Act, which has not been signed into law. Attendees also learned about "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals," a discretionary policy put forward by President Barack Obama, which allows temporary protection from deportation for immigrant youth living illegally in the U.S.

Immigration experts warned the attendees — most of whom are living in the country without proper documentation — to beware of scam artists, who might extract money in exchange

► See **DREAM ACT**, page 9

Google expansion brings mixed feelings

COMPANY TO MOVE INTO ITS FIRST BRAND-NEW MV BUILDING

By Daniel DeBolt

While Google has been in Mountain View for years, the company has yet to occupy an entirely new building in the city. That will change soon.

Google has signed a lease with the Sobrato family for a 156,317-square-foot building to be con-

structed at 1255 Pear Avenue, one of three moves the company made to expand in Mountain View over the summer.

The company also signed a lease for the 500,000-square-foot building that once housed the Mayfield Mall — now undergoing a massive renovation — and bought a 2.3-acre property at 1161 San Antonio Road with a

pair of R&D buildings measuring 23,610 square feet and 10,380 square feet.

All told, Google will soon have space for 2,500 more employees at the Mayfield site, 785 on Pear Avenue and 170 more on San Antonio Road. City officials estimate that Google already has over 20,000 employees in Mountain View, which is grow-

ing as the company renovates a number of existing buildings around its headquarters at 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway. Only about 2,000 Google employees live in Mountain View, now a city of over 75,000 people, city officials say. The company currently owns or leases well over 60 buildings in Mountain View.

"Mountain View certainly isn't the town it was 20 or 30 years ago, but neither is Silicon Valley," said council member Mike Kasperzak. The impacts of Google's growth have become obvious, he

said: Shoreline Boulevard is more gridlocked than ever, there's been an unprecedented spike in rents and restaurants are struggling as a bigger percentage of workers eat free gourmet lunches on campus. Home owners, however, (including every City Council member) "are getting wealthier on paper" as their property values rise.

"I have concerns about the cost of housing in Mountain View," Kasperzak said. "Anybody that owns their property is probably

► See **EXPANSION**, page 11

City Hall to switch off Google WiFi

By Daniel DeBolt

Perhaps another sign that Google's free WiFi system in Mountain View is on its last legs, city officials are getting ready to switch off Google's system inside city buildings and replace it with a WiFi system costing \$130,000 over the next five years.

The system was a gift to the city from Google in 2006, providing free internet access from hundreds of light-pole mounted nodes and in city buildings. Now, even inside the city's library and inside City Hall, users say the WiFi network hasn't been fully functional for months.

"We started to get a lot of complaints," said Steve Rodriguez, the city's IT manager. "We generally get them in the library. From what I can tell it's pretty much not working anymore. We get asked a lot, 'What is going on with the Google wireless?'" Rodriguez's response? "I don't know."

Last Tuesday the connection appeared to be working in the library, but staff said they receive at least one or two complaints every day from patrons not able to log on, or who log on and find a slow or spotty connection. "The service is just not cutting it," said one library staffer, who

said service became noticeably poor in January.

The city is switching to a WiFi network from Smart Wave technologies, taking the opportunity to piggy back on a contract Smart Wave won from the City of San Jose, a practice which saved the city from being required to conduct its own bidding process, Rodriguez said.

"It's just a service that needs to be addressed," Rodriguez said.

► See **GOOGLE WIFI**, page 6

A sign in the Mountain View library warns patrons that the Google WiFi doesn't work.



DANIEL DEBOLT

Zero tolerance for drugs at Shoreline rave

AT LEAST 100 ARRESTS AT BEYOND WONDERLAND ELECTRONIC MUSIC FESTIVAL

By Nick Veronin

Local authorities received more than 100 noise complaints and at least 90 people were arrested on drug- and alcohol-related offenses at a two-day electronic music festival at Shoreline Amphitheatre held over the weekend.

Beyond Wonderland, which featured performances from big-name electronic music producers including Calvin Harris, AVICII and David Guetta was held at the local music venue Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 28 and 29.

According to Sgt. Sean Thompson, public information officer with the Mountain View Police Department, at least 90 people were arrested at the festival. Other Bay Area news outlets have reported that more than 100 were arrested.

Thompson also said the MVPD received more than 100 noise complaints from residents saying the festival was too loud. In comments left on the *Voice* website, many readers reported that the noise from the concert continued late into the night and singled out the bass frequencies emanating from Shoreline Amphitheatre as being particularly bothersome.

Residents made 105 complaints about noise from the event on Saturday night even though the sound levels were below the 98 decibels specified in the city's contract with promoters, said J.P. De la Montaigne, community services director. The booming bass from the event "is not reflected so much in decibel levels," De la Montaigne said.

De la Montaigne blamed the noise levels on the way two of the

event's stages were set up in a parking lot, facing Highway 101 instead of towards the Bay, like Shoreline Amphitheatre's main stage. After receiving the complaints on Saturday night, the city met with the promoter and reduced the sound levels. "From the emails I saw this morning it made a big difference," De la Montaigne said, adding that Sunday night drew only 20 or 30 complaints.

"We certainly apologize for the level of noise that impacted residents on Saturday night," De la Montaigne said.

Thompson said there were no serious injuries reported at the festival.

While noise complaints are not out of the ordinary for Shoreline Amphitheatre, the 90 people arrested was an unusually high number for the concert venue, Thompson said.

Thompson attributed the volume of arrests to a no-tolerance policy by law enforcement for public drug use by concertgoers and because people frequently bring drugs, primarily marijuana, with them to rave festivals.

The local law agencies that assisted Mountain View police during the two-day affair included Los Altos and Palo Alto police, the Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety, the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office and the county's Special Enforcement Team, Thompson said.

Police estimated that about 25,000 people attended the music events during each of the two days, Thompson said. ▀

—Staff writer Daniel DeBolt and Bay City News Service contributed to this story

GOOGLE WIFI

► Continued from page 5

"Being where we are, the expectation is pretty high that we at least have something, especially in the library."

The new WiFi system — limited to city buildings — is expected to be functional in the library by November, shortly followed by a system in City Hall, the Community Center at Rengstorff Park, the Senior Center, the Teen Center, the Center for Performing Arts and Michaels at Shoreline, including its outdoor patio. There's also a possibility of it working outside in Civic Center Plaza, Rodriguez said.

In July Google promised an

announcement about the future of its free network after users complained at the start of the year about spotty and nonexistent connections from its nodes, mounted on over 500 light poles around the city, providing those with special signal repeater devices free home internet. The company has said increased demands for bandwidth from increased use of sites like Netflix and Hulu have overwhelmed the original infrastructure. Google said this week that an announcement on Google WiFi was still coming, but did not provide any new information by press time. ▀

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

OCT. 2013

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Help for picky eaters

FOOD ALLERGIES CAN BE DEADLY;
LOCAL RESEARCHERS ARE WORKING ON A FIX

By Nick Veronin

Stephanie Lau-Chen's children are picky eaters. According to the Mountain View mother, there are only a handful of restaurants where she can take her kids, and most of the time she and her husband cook at home — making sure the food is just right. And for good reason. If they didn't, their children might die.

Lau-Chen's two daughters both have food allergies. Her older daughter, a 9-year-old, is allergic to shellfish, which isn't too hard to avoid, according to Lau-Chen. But feeding her 7-year-old girl, who is allergic to milk, egg, peanuts and tree nuts, poses a much bigger challenge.

"We've had three close calls with my younger daughter," Lau-Chen said. Her daughter has gone into anaphylactic shock — a serious allergic reaction, which can cause death if not treated immediately, often with a shot of epinephrine. "We need to carry medication everywhere we go — an EpiPen or an EpiPen Junior."

Lau-Chen's daughters are just two in a growing cohort of people with food allergies. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the prevalence of children experiencing allergic reactions to food has risen nearly 2 percent since 1997.

It's an increase that has gotten the attention of the medical community, prompting studies such as ones now being conducted at El Camino Hospital.

Lau-Chen's younger daughter recently engaged in a double-blind allergy test to determine whether she might be a good candidate for a study led by Dr. Kari Nadeau of Stanford University. The Stanford Alliance for Food Allergy Research (SAFAR) is working with patients from the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital in an effort to come up with ways to help children overcome their allergies to food — and learn more about food allergies in the first place.

There are still many questions that remain unanswered when it comes to food allergies — in particular why exactly they occur and why they may be on the rise, according to Tina L.R. Dominguez, a physician assistant, clinical manager and trainer with SAFAR.

Dominguez said she and the researchers at SAFAR understand the mechanism behind food allergies — for some reason the body interprets certain foods as threats and attacks them with

antibodies, which in some cases can cause the kind of swelling that will close up a person's throat and lead to asphyxiation. But it's not exactly clear why the body would think something as seemingly benign as a tree nut is a danger.

Researchers think that it may have something to do with the way food is grown, harvested and processed. Environment and genetics also are likely contributors.

"When you look at society and the way it was a generation before, things weren't mass produced in the way they are today," Dominguez said.

Genetic modification of food has been vastly expanded in the past generation or two. Processed food is pumped full of preservatives, artificial colors and flavors, and is subject to cross contamination from other foods and pollutants. Dominguez said she believes that all of those things have to play a factor in the rise of food allergies. "When you add up the amount of changes in manufacturing, all the environmental pollution, and you add the genetic component, that seems to be the combination that is causing some of these food allergies."

Research projects like SAFAR, and others around the country, are yielding results. According to Dominguez, it is possible to help the severely food allergic, like

Lau-Chen's younger daughter, overcome their violent reactions to peanuts.

With the help of the doctors, nurses and scientists working at SAFAR, Lau-Chen's younger daughter — if selected — will undergo a process called "oral immunotherapy." If she is accepted to the study, she should eventually be able to eat a full serving of peanuts.

Oral immunotherapy, or OIT, is a process by which a food-allergic patient is slowly introduced to a larger and larger portion of the food to which they are allergic, Dominguez explained. Starting with an almost imperceptible portion, the patient's dose is steadily increased over a matter of months until he or she is able to eat a full serving of whatever had caused allergic reactions.

The process is still "experimental," according to Dominguez. And once someone has a resistance to a given food they have to keep eating a certain amount of that food every day in order to maintain that resistance — in other words there is no "cure."

The FDA has yet to approve oral immunotherapy and it can only legally be conducted in a highly regulated setting. "Safety has to be absolute," Dominguez said. "This isn't even allowed in clinics for allergists to do."

► See **ALLERGIES**, page 9

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James Satake

1924 – 2013

Resident of Mountain View

James (Jim) Satake, 89, passed away at home on Friday, September 27. Born in Mountain View and raised in Palo Alto, James is survived by his wife Fumie Satake, three children and their spouses, Russell Satake & Anita Lusebrink, Julie Satake Ryu & Edwin Ryu, Gail Satake-Nakamura & Stacy Nakamura. Also by his grandchildren, Nicole Ryu, Danielle Ryu, Rachel Nakamura, Rossten Nakamura, Erin Keikoan and Lisa Keikoan. He is survived by his sister and her husband, Rose & Haruo Hayashi and his sister-in-law, Mary Satake. Also stepchildren Bruce & Judy Keikoan and Gail Keikoan. He is survived by many nephews and nieces, including special niece Fay Matsumoto and her husband, Larry. James voluntarily relocated to Delta, Utah in 1942 during World War II. James was drafted into the US Army, served



in Germany and was honorably discharged in 1945. In the 1950's, Jim built a greenhouse and began a wholesale bedding plant business known as Satake Nursery, which he and his son Russ operated for 60 years. Jim held many leadership positions in organizations such as the Mountain View Buddhist Temple, Fremont Fire District, Tri-City Association, Hiroshima Nikkei Jin Kai and has been an Honorary Ambassador for the Mountain View-Iwata City Sister City Program.

Friends and family are invited to a viewing at Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary on Sunday, October 6 from 11AM to 1PM and a funeral service on Sunday, October 6 at 3PM at Mountain View Buddhist Temple 575 N. Shoreline Blvd, Mtn. View. Please sign guestbook at: cusimanocolonial.com.

PAID OBITUARY

Bullis, LASD may be on way to compromise

MEETINGS BETWEEN DISTRICT, CHARTER SCHOOL ARE 'GOOD FIRST STEP,' OFFICIAL SAYS

By Nick Veronin

While lawmakers in the nation's capital continue to wait for their respective opponents to blink, a smaller-scale but equally vitriolic local political standoff may be showing signs of progress. But just as some pundits are predicting the government shutdown won't be resolved anytime soon, those familiar with the Los Altos School District-Bullis Charter School debate aren't likely to be holding their breath.

The possibly game-changing move comes in the form of a proposed school bond — one that would raise enough money to build two school campuses in the Los Altos School District: one district school and one that would serve as a permanent campus for the charter school. Additionally, the district appears to be prepared to make significant short-term concessions to BCS, provided the charter school is willing to reciprocate.

Hurd said of the proposed measure, which members of his board have been discussing with the LASD trustees. "We don't want it to be about Bullis. We are one of 10 public schools in the district. We want nothing more than our fair share."

Smith agreed that the bond isn't simply for the benefit of Bullis, explaining that the district is in need of an additional school. Given the district's student population, which has jumped in recent years, and the increase in development on the Mountain View-Los Altos border, Smith said LASD schools are overcrowded. The last time the district had as many students as it does now — roughly 5,000 — was in 1973, he said, and back then the district had 12 schools, while today it has only nine campuses.

In addition to the school bond proposal, the district has floated language for a potential "Resolution and Forward Path Agreement." The document, written in the form of a board resolution, indicates that the district is willing to meet many of Bullis' demands — including increasing the number of students allowed at each Bullis site, giving the charter permission to build a playground and allowing younger BCS students to attend classes at Blach, which was originally reserved only for the charter's middle school-aged kids.

In exchange for these and other concessions, the district asks that Bullis — among other things — walk away from all of its lawsuits against LASD.

That's all well and good Hurd said, but noted that nowhere in the language for the potential resolution does LASD mention anything about walking away from the lawsuits it has initiated.

"We are very happy that after more than a year and a half of discussion and debate, LASD has finally acknowledged that its short-term facilities offers have been deficient and they've put it in writing," Hurd said. However he added: "It takes two to tango." Hurd said LASD has to be prepared to acknowledge that the litigation between the parties is running both ways before he'd be willing sign onto any resolution.

"I still think there's a lot of ground to cover," Hurd concluded. But the meetings about the potential resolution and school bond are "a good first step." ■

'We don't want it to be about Bullis. We are one of 10 public schools in the district. We want nothing more than our fair share.'

JOE HURD, BULLIS BOARD MEMBER

Still, Doug Smith, president of the LASD board of trustees, and Joe Hurd, a Bullis board member, each told the *Voice* that nothing is final yet. Smith said that getting the LASD community on board with the school bond proposal would be challenging, considering how divided local families are over the years-long district-charter school fight. Hurd said there are still things the district needs to be willing to do, before he would consider the recent proposals genuine compromises.

Smith said that the "optics" of the bond will likely pose an issue with many in the community, as the measure has the potential of being interpreted as only being of benefit for Bullis.

For his part, Hurd has a problem with the idea that this is a "Bullis bond."

"The bond is not about Bullis,"

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MICHELLE LE

Undocumented students from local high schools talk after a workshop that aims to help them get a college education and explains their rights.

DREAM ACT

► Continued from page 5

for immigration help that never comes.

Afterward, attendees were given the chance to visit with representatives from a variety of immigrant advocacy organizations, including a group from Foothill College, a local branch of the Mexican Consulate, and Educators for Fair Consideration, a San Francisco-based non-profit which helps undocumented students go to college and university.

Manny Diaz attended the event representing the Foothill College organization Students United Encouraging 'N Achieving — or "SUENA," which translates to "dream" in Spanish. Like many who attended the Sept. 25 workshop, Diaz grew up under the shadow of the label "illegal immigrant," even though he came to the country when he was 2 years old and considers the U.S. his home.

He eventually became a legal citizen after his father applied for and was granted permanent residency. It came just in time for Diaz, who was 17 at the time. He was able to apply for financial aid from the state and federal government, was accepted to U.C. Berkeley, and graduated with a degree in social welfare in 2011.

"I'm grateful, but I also feel guilty," Diaz said. While he and his nuclear family have all been granted permanent residency in the U.S., he still has many extended family members who live in constant fear of deportation.

His guilt has motivated him to help undocumented youth attain the education he values so dearly.

After the presentation and before attendees went to talk to representatives like Diaz, there was a question-and-answer session. During the session, a woman living in the country illegally revealed she had been scammed by a person claiming to be an "immigration consultant." The con artist took her money and disappeared.

The anecdote underscored just how little many in the undocumented community understand about their rights.

One of the Mountain View High School students who attended the event said she learned a lot at the presentation. "I didn't know that I could get money from the government to go to college," said the girl, who came to the U.S. from Guatemala five years ago and asked to remain anonymous because she was undocumented.

Now that she knows about

she is eligible for grants under California's DREAM Act, college seems more within her reach, she said, adding that she might want to study to become a nurse or a teacher. "I like taking care of babies and taking care of people."

A pair of sisters who came to the event with their parents said their entire family left Mexico for the U.S., even though they were living more comfortably south of the border. The girls' father and mother said it was true: they owned a house in Mexico and they currently rent in Mountain View.

"I saw that my girls would have a better opportunity in this country than in Mexico," their father said, adding that it was a tough decision, but he still thinks he has done right by his family.

Their mother agreed. She said she wanted her daughters to come to the event so that they could learn about their options for higher education, noting that she is very appreciative of California's DREAM Act and the opportunity it will give her daughters to go to college. She believes that her daughters will do great things one day, as long as they work hard and take opportunities when they are given. "I keep telling my daughters: 'You have to keep trying.'" ■

are allergic, "you literally have minutes" to take action to avoid serious complications, including death, she said.

Despite the dangers of OIT, Lau-Chen is keeping her fingers crossed that her daughter will be accepted into the study.

"It would eliminate some of our daily fears," Lau-Chen said,

speaking for her daughter and for herself. Both of them could breathe easier knowing that they didn't have to worry about whether a meal may contain trace amounts of peanuts. Peanuts — which she said, are responsible for 58 percent of all deadly food allergy reactions. "It would be life-changing." ■

ALLERGIES

► Continued from page 7

Everyone at SAFAR is trained to recognize the subtlest of symptoms of an allergic reaction, Dominguez said. If someone is administered too high of a dose of the food to which they



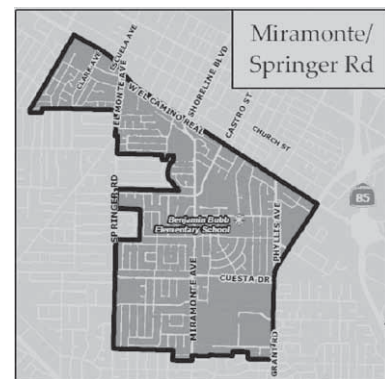
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The City of Mountain View Council Neighborhoods Committee will be meeting with residents in the Miramonte/Springer Road Neighborhoods area on October 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. (area designated on the map below).

The Council Neighborhoods Committee invites residents in this area to participate in a forum to hear about new projects in the community and discuss issues vital to your neighborhood. This is an opportunity to make a difference in the future of your neighborhood and express your thoughts about ways to improve city services.

For further information, please call the City's Neighborhood Preservation Division at (650) 903-6379



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Mountain View Whisman School District
Attn: Terese McNamee, CBO
750-A San Pierre Way
Mountain View, CA 94043

All proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope labeled **RFP for DSA Project Inspection Services** on the envelope and mailed or hand delivered to the above address no later than **3:00 PM local time on Friday, October 11, 2013.**

RFP packets can be downloaded <http://www.mvwsd.org/program-information> or be picked up at the District Office, listed above.

For questions regarding this RFP, contact the District's Construction Manager:

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MICHELLE LE

Above: Graeme chases a flock of geese as golfers look on. **Left:** Mark Wilson and Graeme search Shoreline Gold Links for geese and coots.



GOLF DOG

► Continued from page 1

\$450,000. The year before that — while the city was still operating the course — there was a \$600,000 loss.

The operator has had to do more than cut costs — aggressive marketing and improving the course itself have also been factors in breaking even and increasing the number of rounds played, company officials said. Touchstone already had some experience doing this,

having successfully turned around Oakland's Lake Chabot course as well.

"The greenskeeper has done an enormous amount of work," said Touchstone's Robbie Gray as she showed off the course on a recent Friday afternoon.

The reputation of the course had suffered from a huge population of geese and coots attracted to its freshwater ponds. The large Canada geese were hard to miss, leaving droppings everywhere, but the American coots were worse. "They would actually eat chunks out

of the greens," said greenskeeper Mark Wilson, who has spent hours repairing the turf. That's a challenge, given that the course is built over a clay landfill cap.

Graeme's canine enthusiasm can be credited with keeping the birds from continuing to damage the course's reputation. Six times a day, Wilson leads Graeme around the course in a golf cart while the dog happily scatters the birds, scaring them but never killing them.

"He's like every other dog, except he has a job," Wilson said.

Draining several freshwater ponds helped as well, along with putting up natural and artificial barriers around the edges of the remaining lakes to discourage the birds from coming in and out. A group of regular golfers also volunteer to shoo the birds away, Gray said.

The efforts have been effective. Community Services director J.P. De la Montaigne said there's an average of 250 geese on the course this year, down from 400 last year. Coots are down to 50 right now from 300 last year. That's a dramatic decrease from the 5,200 coots counted in 2008, and 800 geese counted in 2007.

"We hope the word is out among the flocks of coots that Shoreline Golf Links is not going to be the 5-star feeding ground that it has been for them," Gray said.

Thanks to all the work, the course's reputation is improving, said Gray. Players are returning after years of playing elsewhere, saying, "We heard Shoreline's really good now," Gray said.

Among the ways Touchstone is promoting the course is a frequent player program to encourage regulars, and newspaper ads promoting events. Gray says there are four times more tournaments and events under Touchstone's management, including nighttime play corresponding with Shoreline Amphitheatre concerts so golfers can hear the show. There's a night golf event set for Oct. 18, complete with glowing golf balls and greens lined with glow sticks. On Oct. 25, the course is hosting a fundraiser and children's pajama drive for the Community Services Agency. ▀

Email Daniel DeBolt
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EXPANSION

► Continued from page 5

thrilled with what's going on, but the price of entry is going up rapidly. I haven't seen an apartment or rent spike like this in a long time. That causes a lot of concern to everybody on the council."

According to data service Real Facts, average rents for a two-bedroom, two-bath apartment in Mountain View went up from \$1,897 in 2009 to \$2,520 in 2012, and rents are continuing to rise dramatically this year.

New North Bayshore office

The five-story office building planned for Google at 1255 Pear Ave. was approved by the city's zoning administrator in July, and will be the first entirely new building in North Bayshore to be built during Google's tenure there.

New development north of Highway 101 is largely at a standstill for the next two years until the City Council develops a precise plan to guide development in the area, but the 1255 Pear Ave. project was able to go forward because it does not take

advantage of the city's new general plan, which allows for three times more square footage on the property. Over 75 percent of the 10.25-acre lot will be covered with open space, a courtyard and over 500 parking spaces. The site is bordered by the Sahara Village Mobile Home Park, Pear Avenue, Inigo Way and La Avenida. To be demolished soon are nine buildings totaling 141,878 square feet, including the site of a Crossfit gym and a few small tech companies.

Google had previously proposed 1.1 million square feet of new office space at NASA Ames, as well as a large new building at Shoreline Boulevard and Charleston Road, but both projects are now on hold as the City Council gets ready to deliberate on specific plans for the area.

"One of the reasons for Google's acquisitions strategy is the uncertainty of their ability to build," Kasperzak said of the wait for precise plans to guide development in North Bayshore and the Whisman area. "If they can't build, they've got to buy."

As a result, Google has been buying and leasing property just outside of Mountain View,

including a recent lease for 14.75 acres with 200,000 square feet of space on East Meadow Circle in Palo Alto. Google is reportedly committed to occupying enough space for 10,000 to 15,000 new employees in the area.

Kasperzak says many people are happy to have Google in Mountain View. Some read news about the company expanding in Sunnyvale and Palo Alto, and say, "Oh my God, Google is moving! There is this feeling, 'I don't

want them to leave, but do they have to grow so fast?' I get the sense sometimes that people are conflicted," Kasperzak said. ▀

Email Daniel DeBolt
at ddebolt@mv-voice.com



COURTESY CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Google's plans for a new building on Pear Avenue are shown in this rendering.

Johnfranco Angera

Johnfranco Angera (John) passed away unexpectedly on September 14, 2013. He was 56. John was born in Greenwich, Connecticut and grew up in Torino, Italy. He moved to New York after college and started his career as a Software Engineer which led him to Mountain View.

John is survived by his loving mother, Frances Bonafide Angera of Torino, Italy; sister and brother-in-law, Claudia and Claudio Siroto of Torino, Italy and nieces and nephews Myriam Siroto and Nicholas Siroto of Torino, Italy and Sean Mills, Brandon Mills and Kelly Hill of Santa Rosa, California. John is also survived by many friends who will miss him.

A service was held for John on Thursday, September 26, 2013 at St. Joseph's Church in Mountain View. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations in John's name be made to Pets in Need in Redwood City, CA or El Camino Hospital Foundation in Mountain View, CA.

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—R.G., Mountain View

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LocalNews

CRIME BRIEFS

► Continued from page 4

People with information can also send a text message to 274637 and include "mvtps" in the body of the text message.

—Nick Veronin

SHERIFF'S DEPUTY CHARGED WITH CHILD MOLESTATION

A San Mateo County sheriff's deputy has been arrested and charged with molesting an underage female relative, a deputy district attorney said Tuesday, Oct. 1.

Galen Underwood, 40, was arrested last Wednesday night at his Gilroy home after a teenage relative told a school counselor that he had sexually abused her over the course of several years, starting when she was under age 14, Deputy District Attorney Stuart Scott said. The alleged abuse reportedly took place in Mountain View and Morgan Hill.

Underwood, who has worked for the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office since January 2005, has since been charged with seven felony counts stemming from the alleged abuse, Scott said.

The charges are three counts of continuous abuse of a child between the ages of 11 and 13, and one count each of oral copulation on a person under 16, rape by foreign object, lewd acts on a child and penetration of a family member, Scott said.

Underwood appeared in Santa Clara County Superior Court on Monday but did not enter a plea. He is scheduled to return to court on Oct. 15, Scott said.

A spokeswoman for the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office said Tuesday that Underwood has been placed on paid administrative leave.

His most recent assignment had been working in South County Patrol, predominantly in unincorporated areas around Menlo Park and North Fair Oaks, Deputy Rebecca Rosenblatt said.

Underwood is being held in Santa Clara County Jail on \$2 million bail.

MISSING TEEN FOUND

An at-risk teenage boy that had gone missing earlier Friday in Mountain View has been found, police said.

The 16-year-old boy was reported missing around 2:15 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27, in the area of Grant Road, Mountain View police said.

Police tweeted at about 5:30 p.m. saying that the boy had been safely found. The 16-year-old boy who responds to "Raistlin" had been last seen walking towards Grant Road, according to police.

—Bay City News Service

NELSON

► Continued from page 1

scheduled to vote to censure Nelson at its Oct. 3 meeting.

In his own defense, Nelson prepared a point-by-point response to the accusations compiled by Lambert, and emailed the response to the *Voice* in advance of the meeting. Though the trustee admitted that many of the accusations levied against him were true and problematic, he argued that some of the items listed under the "Evidence" section of the "Statement in Support of the Resolution to Censure of Trustee Steven Nelson" were either inaccurate or were not deserving of reprimand.

Nelson fully admits he crossed the line when it comes to the most egregious incident reported in Lambert's packet.

During a one-on-one meeting between Nelson and Goldman on March 28, Goldman wrote that Nelson "accused me of resisting a Bay Area News Group request for earnings information and falsely claimed responsibility for getting the District to provide the requested information. I both defended myself against these allegations and expressed my belief that he (Nelson) did not care about the students."

At this point in the conversation, Nelson reportedly yelled at the superintendent, "You are full of sh--," before leaving the room and proclaiming in a raised voice to a number of district employees, "If Craig Goldman says I don't care about kids, he is full of sh--."

Nelson told the *Voice* that when he shouted at Goldman, he was awaiting word on a cancer biopsy. "It was a very stressful time," he said, noting that the uncertainty may have contributed to the incident.

Nelson's profane outburst is merely one example of his bad behavior, according to Lambert's packet.

According to the supplemental materials attached to the board's Oct. 3 agenda, Nelson has threatened Goldman by saying he wouldn't support the superintendent's contract renewal unless he supported one of the trustee's "personal initiatives;" Nelson has violated board policy by sending emails directly to district staff instead of sending those communications through the superintendent; and in his emails to staff, Nelson has been "confrontational, threatening, insulting demeaning, and/or offensive."

In an email sent on Aug. 1, Nelson claimed that the board would be breaking the law if it

went forward with a planned special meeting with multiple items on the agenda. "The law is pretty darn clear," Nelson wrote, "only one item may be on a special meeting agenda."

After Goldman responded, stating he had never heard of the rule, Nelson returned his email: "Probably MY BAD," he wrote. "In a two minute search - I cannot find that limitation."

Later in the month, Goldman wrote an email to trustee Chris Chiang about Nelson overstepping lines and making false accusations, only to backpedal with an apology. "I believe that

patterns of abuse are not rectified by repeated apologies," he wrote. Chiang responded with an email in which he intimated that he believed censuring Nelson might be in order.

Reflecting on many of the incidents outlined in Lambert's information packet, Nelson said he believes he should be censured.

However, in a conversation with the *Voice*, the trustee said there were a number of incidents described in the statement supporting his censure that are inaccurate or trivial.

He strongly denied that he used

his position on the board to push pet projects or that he willfully fed "mischaracterizing information concerning the district to the media" — two accusations made in Lambert's packet.

If those items were removed from the list of charges he is facing, he said he would gladly vote to censure himself. "I stepped over that line," he said.

A detailed list of alleged offenses can be found on the district website in informational materials that accompany the board's Oct. 3 agenda. Check mv-voice.com for an update story after the meeting. ■

Public Notice for KSFH Mountain View, CA

On November 29, 2005, KSFH was granted a license by the Federal Communications Commission to serve the public interest as a public trustee until December 1, 2013. Our license will expire on December 1, 2013. We have filed an application for renewal with the FCC.

A copy of this application is available for public inspection during our regular business hours. It contains information concerning this station's performance during the last license term commencing on December 1, 2005.

Individuals who wish to advise the FCC of facts relating to our renewal application and to whether this station has operated in the public interest should file comments and petitions with the FCC by November 1, 2013.

Further information concerning the FCC's broadcast license renewal process is available at Station KSFH, (1885 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View, CA 94040), or may be obtained from the FCC, Washington, D.C. 20554.



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SHUTDOWN

► Continued from page 1

canceled when more than 1,000 NASA Ames employees were furloughed, said spokesperson Deanna Bolio. The Stanford Blood Center is urgently in need of O-negative blood, and the shutdown of the federal government is affecting the center's ability to meet that demand, she said. The drive was expected to collect 75 units of whole blood.

"It's unfortunate that the government shutdown is impacting the local blood supply," said Bolio. "NASA Ames employees have been tremendously supportive of the blood center over the last 27 years, having donated thousands of units to help patients in the community."

NASA Ames hosts five blood drives each year, she said. Anyone interested in donating at Stanford's Mountain View, Palo Alto or Menlo Park locations can get information at bloodcenter.stanford.edu.

USGS

The USGS stated in a contingency plan that the majority of its operations would be shut down in the event of a lapse in appropriations, with the exception of those functions to protect life and property.

USGS spokesman Justin Pressfield said that nearly all of the more than 8,600 full-time USGS employees would be furloughed

beginning Tuesday at 12 p.m. Only 43 employees nationwide, most of whom are in the "hazard mission" area dealing with earthquakes, volcanoes and floods, will not be furloughed, including three at the Menlo Park office.

Pressfield said that in the event of a seismic event, seismologists "in the bullpen" can be activated on an as-needed basis. Only the USGS websites for earthquakes and water will remain open, he said. The rest will be shut down because they cannot be updated and maintained on a timely basis.

The SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory will remain open for the time being but only because it's being supported by a reserve of carryover funds from 2013, said SLAC spokesman Andy Freeberg. Freeberg said there's no word on how long those funds will hold out.

U.S. Rep. Anna Eshoo said her offices in Palo Alto and D.C. will remain open.

"My consistent vote throughout this ordeal has been to keep the government functioning," she said in a statement. "A shutdown costs taxpayers approximately \$150 million a day and has many consequences. The people of our country deserve far better than the spectacle of Congress lurching from one manufactured fiscal crisis to another."

Eshoo also provided a brief primer on the effects of the government shutdown. ■



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EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

A sensible start on Rose market site

The owners of popular Castro Street businesses like the Rose Market and Peet's Coffee and Tea got a surprise last week when the developer Greystar reduced the size of its planned apartment complex on the corner of El Camino Real and Castro Street and in the process agreed to offer most displaced owners ground-floor retail space in the new building.

It was a major concession that perhaps was caused by the outpouring of support for the businesses in the last few months, including one meeting where more than 200 people showed up to back owners who feared they would simply be evicted when construction begins in two years. In addition to Rose Market and Peet's, the new design shows space for Sufi Coffee shop, Tanya's Hair Design and Le's Alterations. The developer also indicated he may be willing to line up temporary space at an open lot across the street for the businesses to use during construction of the new building.

A Greystar executive, Dan Diebel, said at a City Council study session that relocating the merchants is "a moral issue" with his company. "Right now we're making deals with them (the merchants) to relocate them and move them back in. We would accept a condition to do that."

Neither the merchants or Greystar mentioned whether rent in the new space would be comparable to rent now charged on Castro Street.

At this time it is not known whether Greystar will accommodate Gochi Japanese Fusion Tapas at 1036 Castro St., whose owner said he and his wife spent their life savings to open the restaurant in August, and were never told by the landlord that there was a chance the building would be sold and redeveloped so soon. Unfortunately the business was not among those Greystar said it would accommodate, although we hope it will be.

But even given all the good news, concerns remain about the project, which the owners hope will receive approval this year. There are questions about traffic, and there was a lot of discussion about where to locate a ground-floor plaza for the building. A location on the corner of El Camino and Castro is favored by the developer, who pointed out that although it would be close to the busy thoroughfare, there would be seating behind a glass screen. The council backed the idea, rather than an alternate plan located behind Peet's on an alleyway.

And there is concern among some vocal neighbors about a possible new "road diet" on Castro that will squeeze traffic into two lanes. Whether this would increase traffic, as neighbors suggest, is unclear. But even a slight increase in traffic is unlikely to outweigh the concern among City Council members, school officials and parents about the speed of cars in front of Graham Middle School, where several kids were hit by cars last year.

Narrowing the street will decrease crossing distances and encourage drivers to not use the street like an expressway. Taking the road diet off the table would be an unnecessary sacrifice to the safety of the city's kids.

Another plus is the city will get a major infusion of new housing downtown within walking distance of shops and for tenants, the transit center on Evelyn Street. And with a four-story design that is stepped down in the rear, the neighbors have escaped looking at what could be an eight-story building that is permitted by the city's new general plan if it includes "significant community benefit."

In this first round of discussions, Greystar has responded to the concerns of some of its critics. The question for the city now is whether they have offered enough.

LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

MUZZLING BOARD MEMBERS UNLAWFUL

I just read the additions to bylaws preliminarily adopted by the majority of the Mountain View Whisman elementary school board on Sept. 19 and set for final adoption on Oct. 3.

The stated purpose of the new rules is to silence any board member who might wish to report to the public anything about the operation of the school district that could call into question the motives or actions of the superintendent, other employees and even other board members.

The proposed restrictions are directly contrary to the public interest and plainly unlawful.

Gary Wesley
Continental Circle

more impressed that the one neighbor who lives right next to the project was complimentary about the design. Mike was more concerned about one family that supported high-density than the hundreds who do not.

It should be noted that the Environmental Planning Commission had brought up the three issues to City Council because they thought that the issues are important. As usual, five members of City Council blew off the Environmental Planning Commission's ideas.

Mike Kasperzak said that it could be worse — the building could be up to eight stories. His message is quite clear — don't complain or you'll see even taller buildings and even higher density.

Council members Jac Siegel and John McAlister expressed concern over the impact to the Cuesta Park neighborhood. Margaret Abe-Koga and Ronit Brant were concerned about having a place for them to drink Peet's coffee and not at all concerned about the impact to the Cuesta Park neighborhood.

Mayor John Inks and Mike Kasperzak don't want any more study sessions as they maintain that what is good for out-of-town developers is good for Mountain View.

Konrad Sosnow
Trophy Drive

PLANS MAKE ROOM FOR ROSE MARKET, OTHERS

Residents of the Cuesta Park neighborhood brought the City Council a petition containing hundreds of signatures asking for the developer to reduce the El Camino Real/Castro Street proposed development to three stories instead of four, and to omit the coffee corner and the road diet on Castro Street.

Council member Mike Kasperzak quickly blew off the petition, saying he was





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