

Mountain View VOICE

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**Our
Neighborhoods
2013**



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2013: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

Cold cases, gang crime top '13 news

By Nick Veronin

Mountain View residents gained some closure this year after two cold cases were resolved, the driver who hit and killed a well-known resident was sentenced to a year in jail, and three gang members were sent to prison for sexually assaulting a 13-year-old girl.

The crime beat also offered some truth-is-stranger-than-fiction levity, with the case of the “blind date robbers” — three teens who duped several men into meeting up for some kinky fun, only to rob them of hefty sums of cash.

Cold cases

Daniel Garcia of Fresno was sentenced to 14 years and four months in prison after he confessed to killing Saba Girmai in Mountain View in January 1985.

Garcia, who lived in the area at the time, was implicated in the long-cold case with the help of DNA evidence developed by the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Crime Laboratory. The genetic profile was linked to Garcia, a repeat offender who has been in and out of jail for decades. After initially denying his involvement, Garcia admitted he had strangled Girmai, 21, and threw her body in a large garbage can behind the Bailey

► See **2013 CRIME**, page 8



Cynthia, 15, left, and her sister Briseyda Mendoza-Aguayo, 11, read on their bunk bed. They share the room with their parents in a one-bedroom apartment — a family feeling the effects of the city's housing crunch.

Housing crunch, toxic sewer lines among top stories of 2013

By Daniel DeBolt

Perhaps the most significant change in Mountain View over the past 12 months in terms of its impact on the city's social and cultural fabric had to do with staggering rent hikes and the subsequent displacement of residents who don't work for thriving high-tech firms or at other high-paying jobs.

Rents skyrocketed in 2013, with new employees at Google and other tech companies overwhelming the city's housing supply.

There were rent hikes of as much as \$500 a month in some apartment complexes, and a number of residents were forced out of the city altogether. “Anywhere else in

the world I think I would be able to live well,” said a single mother of three who was priced out of the city over the summer despite her \$70,000 a year job.

Real estate data-tracker RealFacts said average rents for a two-bedroom apartment rose from \$1,897 in 2009 to \$2,520 in 2012, and rents were clearly rising even more in 2013.

Meanwhile, the city's first new apartment development many years quickly became 100-percent occupied over the summer at Prometheus' Madera complex at 455 West Evelyn Ave. Rents there for a luxury two-bedroom apartment are now \$8,000 a month, reflecting a level of wealth and luxury the developer expected to see at two other large complexes it has in the works for Mountain View.

Meanwhile it was reported

that county-wide funds to build subsidized housing for low-wage workers had dropped in half in recent years and would continue to decrease.

City makes pedestrian safety a priority

Following public outcry over several deadly pedestrian and bicycle-related collisions with cars, the City Council made safer streets a top goal in early 2013, then took action.

By June's end a number of improvements for bicyclists and pedestrians were being planned, including: flashing lights for Shoreline Boulevard crosswalks; new bike racks for downtown; a bike-sharing system; a bicycle track from downtown to Google

► See **YEAR IN REVIEW**, page 9

School beat features spat over Bullis

By Nick Veronin

Local schools made plenty of headlines this year — some of them even drawing the attention of a wider audience as regional news outlets picked up stories that regular Voice readers will be familiar with.

The year kicked off with a handful of heated high school board meetings, in which parents, students, teachers and administrators debated what was acceptable for students to wear, say and do at school, at school dances and in the student newspaper.

The battle between Bullis Charter School and the Los Altos School District surged all year long, as officials from both educational organizations went back and forth between tentative agreements and taking jabs at one another through open letters.

And a newly elected trustee to the Mountain View Whisman School District has ruffled more than a few feathers in his new position. Steven Nelson was officially censured by his colleagues for what they described as continued and sustained unprofessional behavior.

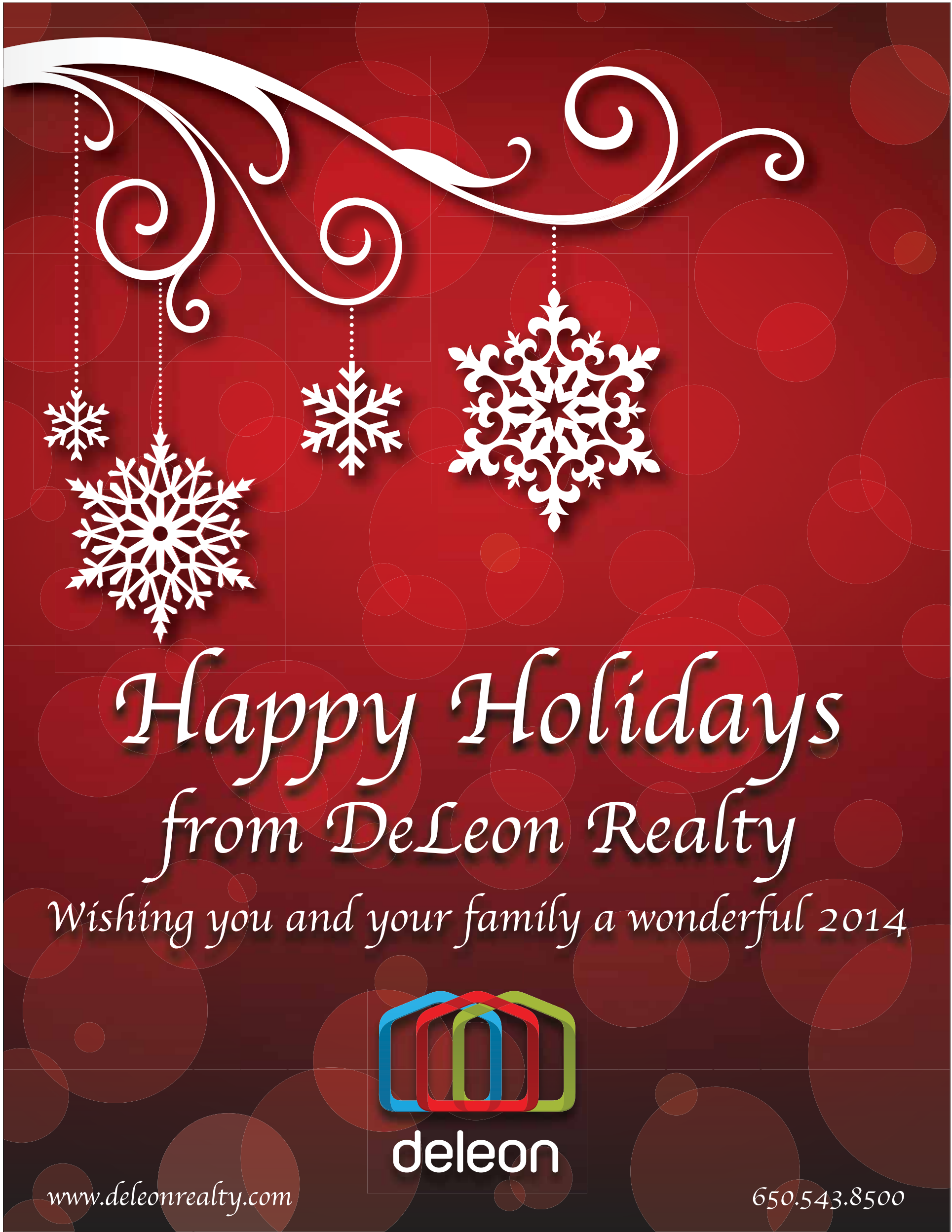
High schools debate values

At the beginning of the year, a group of mothers concerned that the high school district was not adequately enforcing many of its policies, and upset with a series of articles printed in a student-run newspaper, sparked a controversy that eventually drew the attention of many more parents,

► See **2013 EDUCATION**, page 8

INSIDE

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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in downtown Mountain View. Photos and interviews by Daniel DeBolt

Can you suggest a New Year's resolution for the U.S. government?



Stricter gun laws. It's just really unfortunate that gun violence is a legitimate concern in this day in age.

Rekha Thangellapalli, Sunnyvale



To compromise more with each other.

Bo Firestone, San Jose



I'm torn between policies to keep the environment in mind and a resolution to at least attempt to be honest.

Eleanor Sholz, Salt Lake City



For Congress to create more compromise rather than deadlock.

Nick Colcasure, Mountain View



Just stop bickering. Just compromise on something. Prevent all these government shutdowns.

Ambrose Chu, Boston

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

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DUI crackdown continues through New Year's Day

The Mountain View Police Department continues to crack down on drunken drivers. The department's annual "Avoid the 13" program kicked off Friday, Dec. 13, and will continue through the first of the New Year.

"Don't let a DUI be on your Christmas list this year!" a press release from the MVPD warned. According to the department's public information officer, law

enforcement agencies throughout the county are participating, with the goal of raising awareness and taking impaired drivers off the road.

Last year, Mountain View officers arrested 55 intoxicated drivers — the highest number in the county outside of San Jose.

"The bottom line is, if you drink, don't drive!" Jaeger said.

—Nick Veronin

POLICE LOG

AUTO BURGLARY

500 block Showers Dr., 12/16
600 block Cuesta Dr., 12/16
2500 block W. El Camino Real, 12/17
2600 block Terminal Bl., 12/18
600 block Tyrella Av., 12/21
100 block N. Whisman Rd., 12/22

GRAND THEFT

200 Castro St., 12/16

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

800 block High School Wy., 12/19

STOLEN VEHICLE

700 block E. El Camino Real, 12/17

ARSON

Springer School, 12/21

BATTERY

1000 block Miramonte Av., 12/16

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

2400 block Charleston Rd., 12/20

VANDALISM

Central Av. and Santa Rosa Av., 12/16

800 block E. Dana St., 12/16

300 block Escuela Av., 12/18

100 block E. El Camino Real, 12/18

St. Francis High School, 12/22

900 block Clark Av., 12/22

2600 block Bayshore Pkwy., 12/22

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Teachers concerned over pushing kids onto math fast track

By Nick Veronin

Math teachers at Crittenden and Graham middle schools are worried that students may be pushed into taking on too much, too early, if the district board approves the administration's current plan for implementing Common Core state standards.

Speaking on behalf of her department at a recent Mountain View Whisman School District board meeting, Crittenden math teacher Callie Ruiz said she and her colleagues are concerned that the plan could result in unprepared children being placed in one of two math fast tracks — which could lead to serious academic consequences down the road.

District Superintendent Craig Goldman said he understands Ruiz's concerns, but he believes the district is taking a "balanced" approach to the introduction of the Common Core.

Shift in standards

The outgoing California state standards in math called for on-track students to take algebra in eighth grade. The new Common Core state standards, which will be rolled out next school year, don't push for such rapid advancement. Under the Common Core, the normal math track will introduce algebra in the ninth grade.

Although Goldman said he is a proponent of the Common Core standards, he noted that many of his colleagues think that college-track students should have an earlier start in studying algebra.

That includes Brigitte Saraff, associate superintendent of education services with the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District. Saraff told the *Voice* that she believes children should be taking algebra in eighth grade whenever possible.

"The potential is always there (to fall behind) when kids get pushed beyond their limits," she said. "But I believe we have a lot of children in our community who are ready for that challenge (of algebra in eighth grade)."

Goldman, who has been working closely with Saraff and administrators in the Los Altos School District, said he also

believes there are plenty of students who ought to be taking algebra earlier than ninth grade.

And so, in coordination with the high school district and the Los Altos district, administrators from Mountain View Whisman have developed a plan to offer three separate math tracks for students — "grade level," "accelerated" and "advanced accelerated."

Concerns raised

Though she could not be reached to elaborate on her comments at the Dec. 12 school board meeting, Ruiz indicated that she was wary of the district's plan.

"While we acknowledge that there are many factors dictating the need for acceleration, we do not believe it is in the best interest of our students to push acceleration," she said. "We hope that algebra will not be the status quo for eighth grade math in this district."

The teacher's voice quavered with emotion as she told of seeing too many children struggle to keep up in math, only to end up with poor marks on their report cards. She acknowledged that certain students are ready for algebra and geometry by the time they reach eighth grade. But, she emphasized, those who are allowed into fast track programs should be thoroughly vetted beforehand, as the consequences for pushing the children too hard can be life altering.

"For years, I have watched students struggle emotionally with mathematics because they were not ready for the level at which they were being asked to perform," she said. "That's not to say that those students were not extremely bright and capable children — they were — but rather, they had not yet fully developed what was needed to be successful."

Struggles like these, Ruiz said, have caused children to give up on math entirely, or conversely, to spend so much time poring over equations that grades in their other courses suffered.

"We firmly believe it is better for students to slow down, so that they can finally be given the chance to fully understand the

► See **MATH**, page 9



MICHELLE LE

Robert Adams, left, mentors Wilson Cai, joining him recently at a downtown cafe, through the Partners for New Generations program.

Mentors guide local youth to success

By Daniel DeBolt

To Wilson Cay, the four words that best describe his relationship with his mentor are "motivation, encouragement, guidance and friendship."

"The first time I met him it was really quiet at first, but it was very easy to start talking to each other with how open he was," Cay recalled. "We would just talk about anything. It was comforting."

At the time Cay was a student



at Mountain View's Alta Vista High School, a continuation school he attended after struggling at Palo Alto's Gunn High School. Cay is now a student at De Anza College.

Last week Cay was happy to report that "I finally figured out what I want to do," which is to become a physician's

assistant, possibly a doctor — "it's a possibility," he said. He added that "my grades have been straight A's."

Cay attributes some of his focus and success to his relationship with retired businessman Bob Adams, whom he met through Partners for New Generations (PNG), a mentoring program Adams helped to start with the local Rotary Club in 1996. PNG is one of several local nonprofits that benefit

► See **HOLIDAY FUND**, page 11

Man found in burned mobile home committed suicide, coroner says

by Nick Veronin

The county coroner's office has ruled that the man found dead inside his burned-down unit in a Mountain View mobile home park took his own life.

Leroy Beal died of a self-inflicted shotgun wound to the mouth, according to an official with the Santa Clara County Medical Examiner-Coroner's Office.

Beal's body was discovered by firefighters on Dec. 2, after the Mountain View Fire Department extinguished the blaze that tore through his unit early that morning at the Santiago Villa mobile home park, located

at 1075 Space Park Way.

Two residents of Santiago Villa, Gabriel Lujano and Kay Ritchey, both told the *Voice* that at least one of Beal's neighbors reported hearing a "small explosion" prior to the fire. It is unclear at this time if what they heard was a gunshot or something else.

The fire department's investigation has not been completed, and it is unclear whether the fire was set intentionally. A spokeswoman from the department said investigators were still working to determine the cause of the blaze. "There's nothing we can say at this time," said Jaime Garrett, public information officer for the Mountain View Fire Department.

Ritchey, a six-year resident of the park, said Beal was known as a musician by his friends and neighbors in Santiago Villa. She told the *Voice* she would often see him on his motorcycle while she was out walking her dog and she would wave.

Betty Cook, manager of the mobile home park, said Beal was well liked by his neighbors. "He was a very quiet person," she said. "He didn't bother anyone."

A *Voice* reader discovered what appears to be a suicide note, published on Beal's personal website.

The *Voice* will update this story at MV-Voice.com as information becomes available. ■



**PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MOUNTAIN VIEW
WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT MEASURE G
BOND PROJECTS**

RFQ NO. 1

**ALL qualifications must be submitted in a sealed envelope
no later than 3:00 PM local time on Friday, January 17, 2014.**

Mountain View Whisman School District invites responses from qualified firms, partnerships, corporations, associations, persons, or professional organizations to enter into agreements with the District to construct improvements to the Mountain View Whisman School District Measure G Bond Projects ("Projects") pursuant to the lease/leaseback structure (Education Code section 17406, et seq.) and to leaseback a "turn key" Project(s) to the District.

Interested firms or persons are invited to submit one (1) original and five (5) copies of your completed Qualifications package to:

**RFQ for Construction of MVWSD Measure G Bond Projects
Mountain View Whisman School District
Attn: Terese McNamee, CBO
750-A San Pierre Way
Mountain View, CA 94043**

If you have questions regarding this RFQ, please submit in writing **via fax** on or before January 13, 2014 at 2:00 PM to Greystone West Company, attention Todd Lee, **707-996-8390**. A complete RFQ may be obtained from the District's Construction Manager: Greystone West Co., at 707-933-0624 or downloaded from <http://www.mvwsd.org/program-information>

A Mandatory Pre-Proposal meeting for these projects will be held on Thursday, January 9, 2014. Please meet at: MVWSD District Office, 750-A San Pierre Way, Mountain View, CA 94043. Time of Meeting: 2:00 PM

The District may, at its discretion, interview some of the respondents. The District intends to schedule these interviews between January 21 and 23, 2014. This RFQ is neither a formal request for bids, nor an offer by the District to contract with any party responding to this RFQ. The District reserves the right to reject any and all responses. The District also reserves the right to amend this RFQ as necessary. All materials submitted to the District in response to this RFQ shall remain property of the District.



**Joint Public Workshop for the
San Antonio &
El Camino Real Precise Plans**

The Mountain View City Council adopted a new General Plan on July 10, 2012. To implement the General Plan, new precise plans are being created in the San Antonio and El Camino Real areas. The precise plans will contain new development standards and regulations.

Information on the precise plans may be found on the project websites:

www.SanAntonioPrecisePlan.com
www.ElCaminoRealPrecisePlan.com

JOINT PUBLIC WORKSHOP

The City of Mountain View will hold a joint public workshop for the precise plans on: **Saturday, January 11, 2014 - 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at the Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94040

The workshop is an opportunity to discuss draft land use, urban design and transportation options for the precise plan areas. Public input at the workshop will be shared with the Environmental Planning Commission (EPC) and City Council in subsequent public hearings tentatively scheduled for January 22, 2014 (EPC) and February 4, 2014 (Council).

Visit the project websites or contact the Community Development Department at (650)903-6306 or community.dev@mountainview.gov if you have questions or to sign up for notifications of future meetings.

PRE-WORKSHOP WEB FORUM

Start the conversation early, by visiting the project websites' Open Town Hall forums to contribute photos of what you would like to see in these areas and how you think they can be improved. Interested members of the public are encouraged to participate online before the workshop.

Give blood for humans, help the Humane Society

The Stanford Blood Center is partnering with Humane Society Silicon Valley as part of the center's "Give Good" campaign during this holiday season.

For each donor who rolls up his or her sleeve from Dec. 18 through Jan. 12, a monetary donation will be made toward lifesaving vaccines and other medical needs for animals, according to a press release from the Stanford Blood Center.

"Humane Society Silicon Valley has a mission to save and enhance lives, which is a natural fit with Stanford Blood Center," Stanford Blood Center spokesperson Deanna Bolio said in the release. "Donors who come in during the run of this campaign will be helping to save the lives of humans and animals alike."

The winter holidays are an especially difficult time to maintain adequate supplies of blood

because people are often traveling, busy, or sick, Bolio said. As a reward to blood donors during the holiday season, the center will offer collectible tote bags.

This is Stanford Blood Center's first "Give Good" campaign, in which the center will partner with community organizations to double the impact of blood donations.

Cristie Kamiya, vice president for medical operations at Humane Society Silicon Valley, noted that her organization is an independent nonprofit not affiliated with the Humane Society of the United States. "Only 25 percent of our income comes from program fees. We rely on donations from our community members to provide the remaining 75 percent," Kamiya said. "The Give Good partnership will contribute to those essential funds, helping

to ensure that all our animals receive lifesaving vaccines and vital medical care."

The campaign includes donors at both center and mobile blood drives. On Jan. 5, the blood center will hold a mobile blood drive from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Humane Society Silicon Valley's Animal Community Center, 901 Ames Ave. in Milpitas.

"We hope to see many people come out and donate," said Bolio. "It's an easy way to make a difference in the New Year."

Donors should be in good health with no cold or flu symptoms. They must eat well prior to donation, drink fluids and present photo identification at the time of donation. The process takes about an hour.

For more information or to schedule an appointment online, call 888-723-7831, or visit blood-center.stanford.edu.

Raise a fork to 2014

LOCAL RESTAURANTS RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH MANY COURSES

By Rebecca Wallace

Kale may be trendy, but is it festive? *Ja*. Many Danes eat kale on New Year's because the leaves look like folded currency and might bring economic fortune. Cabbage and collard greens are popular for the same reason, especially in the American South.

Other folks eat beans on New Year's Eve (the little round guys look like coins). Here on the Midpeninsula, there will be grilled quail. And bison with squash, and chicken with waffles. These dishes may not be symbolic, but they might be tasty.

Either way, they're among the New Year's Eve specials at local restaurants. While the Midpeninsula isn't the big city for midnight partying, there are meals and events planned. Here's a sampling.

Restaurants with special New Year's Eve meals include:

In Mountain View, **Morocco's Restaurant** has a five-course meal (\$60) commencing with a spinach fruit & nut salad with honey-pomegranate vinaigrette. Live jazz and belly dancing are also on the menu. Morocco's is at 873 Castro St. Go to moroccosrestaurant.com or call 650-968-1502.

Palo Alto Grill is dishing up a la carte plates including crispy chicken breast and waffle, squash-and-vegetable pot pie and a "Snowfall" beet salad (goat cheese provides

the precipitation). Live music and a midnight Champagne toast top off the evening. The restaurant is at 140 University Ave. Go to paloalto-grill.com or call 650-321-3514.

At the Rosewood Sand Hill Hotel, the **Madera** restaurant is planning two dinner seatings. The first (starts at 5:30-6:30 p.m., \$105 for adults, \$50 for children) offers a three-course prix fixe menu including cured Arctic char and Dover sole. More elaborate is the second (8-9:30 p.m., \$205 for adults and \$100 for children). The five-course menu includes poached lobster, grilled quail and cinnamon-spiced cake, with a toast. Madera is at 2825 Sand Hill Road in Menlo Park; go to maderasandhill.com or call 650-561-1540.

Unsurprisingly, **The Sea by Alexander's Steakhouse** has a menu swimming with seafood. The \$185 six-course tasting menu features scallops with sake-glaze fregula and lobster with caviar, beets, wasabi and tarragon. For landlubbers, there's bison. The restaurant is at 4269 El Camino Real in Palo Alto. Go to theseausa.com or call 650-213-1111.

The **Left Bank** NYE fete at 635 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park features a \$64.50 four-course menu with herb-roasted beef sirloin medallions and salmon roulade. Party favors and a toast, too. Go to leftbank.com or call 650-473-6543.

At **LB Steak**, the \$71.50 four-course meal includes carnaroli risotto with Perigord truffle and beef Wellington, along with a toast and favors. The restaurant is at 898 Santa Cruz Ave. in Menlo Park. Go to lbsteak.com or call 650-321-8980.

In East Palo Alto, **Quattro at the Four Seasons** is planning two seatings (6 p.m. \$90, 9 p.m. \$119), with the latter including an after-party and midnight toast. The hotel is at 2050 University Ave. Go to quattrorestaurant.com or call 650-470-2889.

Other local New Year's events include:

For seniors, the annual City of Palo Alto **New Year's Eve Day Bash** is 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 31, with a buffet lunch, raffle, noon toast and ballroom dancing. The venue is the Oshman Family Jewish Community Center at 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Admission is \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door. Go to cityofpaloalto.org or call 650-387-7048.

In downtown Redwood City, the **Fox Theatre** (at 2215 Broadway) and its sister venue **Club Fox** (at 2209 Broadway) have musical nights planned for NYE. The Fox evening starts at 8:30 p.m., featuring DJ Dinero and two sets by pop-soul band Pride & Joy, with a midnight balloon

► Continued on next page



Orland Campos, center, signs in his family at the Trinity United Methodist Church gift exchange and holiday activities on Dec. 21.

Church makes Christmas brighter for the poor

By Daniel DeBolt

A disabled and homeless military veteran got help providing Christmas gifts for his younger daughter at Hope's Corner on Saturday, when donated toys and other gifts were distributed to 86 of the area's poorest children.

The event followed the free breakfast program, which is held on Saturday mornings at Hope's Corner, located downtown in Trinity United Methodist Church at the corner of Hope and Mercy streets.

"I'm homeless so my kids can have a place to live," said the veteran, who gave his name as Charlie. He said that without the program, he wouldn't have been able to provide any gifts for his daughters, 11 and 20, who share a room in Sunnyvale, with Charlie's Social Security payment helping to pay the rent. Unable to work and still battling the military for his retirement benefits, he sleeps in his car. When his 11-year-old daughter was asked

what their situation was like, she simply said, "sad."

Saturday was a break from such harsh realities for the dozens of kids who gathered in the church's meeting hall, where they took photos with Santa and were treated to plates of cookies and brownies. They worked on Christmas ornaments and other crafts with help from a local Girl Scout troop, which had also collected donated gifts for the kids.

"People will have a better Christmas as a result of this," said Leslie Carmichael, chair of the board for Hope's Corner. "Because of the Hope's Corner breakfast programs, we know there are a lot of people here who struggle making their rent payment."

In the church's basement hallway, parents picked out five gifts for each child and brought them to a room where wrapping paper had been laid out. There was a raffle for a limited number of children's bikes, donated by the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition's bike exchange program. "They take donated bikes and fix them

up," Carmichael said. "We've got 20 bikes and four tricycles."

"It's perfect for a 4-year-old," said a volunteer as she helped one of the parents, who had her eye on an older kid's bike with chrome wheels and a banana seat. Mother Mytzy Coss happily picked out a small pink bike with training wheels while holding her young daughter, who will be able to ride it soon, though an older niece will probably be enjoying it first. "It's helpful because we don't have a lot of money," she said.

Eloisa Garcia had picked out gifts for her two children, 13 and 11. She and her husband are laborers at Mountain View's Day Worker Center, where they pick up whatever work they can get — often cleaning houses or doing landscaping — to pay the rent for the one-room unit the whole family shares in Mountain View.

Garcia said the donated gifts would allow her to "focus on having a nice Christmas dinner."

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

► Continued from previous page

drop. General admission is \$40; access to the "VIP Lounge" brings a ticket to \$50. At Club Fox, the night starts at 8 p.m. with the rock tribute band Rock-Skool playing tunes from the '70s through the '90s. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 the day of the show. Go to foxrwc.com or club-foxrwc.com, or call 650-369-7770 or 877-435-9849.

Also downtown, Angelica's at 863 Main St. in Redwood City is throwing a dinner and dance

party featuring blues, funk and jazz singer Paula Harris along with Beast & Blues and The Big Ass Band. The dinner show starts at 9:30 p.m.; individual table seating is \$40-\$60. Go to angelicasllc.com or call 650-679-8184.

Enthusiasts of English country dance can ring in 2014 with the New Year's Eve Contra Dance. The Contra Bandits provide the live music, and participants bring a potluck to the party, which goes from 8 p.m. to 12:15 a.m. at First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto at 625 Hamilton Ave.

Admission is \$20 general, \$16 for members and \$10 for students. Go to bacds.org.

On New Year's Day, the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra plays its annual free concert at the First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto at 625 Hamilton Ave. The 3 p.m. performance features Giovanni Bottesini's Double Bass Concerto No. 2 in B minor and Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto No. 2 in G minor, Op. 22. Pianist Jon Nakamatsu and bass player Jared Pabilona will be featured. Go to sfchamberorchestra.org. ■

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2013 EDUCATION

► Continued from page 1

local broadcast news and even a few educators on the East Coast.

Tabitha Hanson, Christy Reed and Dr. Sara Robinson — mothers of children enrolled in Mountain View High School — first addressed the board of trustees for the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District on Jan. 21. The three mothers said administrators and teachers were turning a blind eye to dress code violations and foul language on campus, and that not enough was being done to ensure that students acted appropriately at school dances.

The mothers called for a number of actions, which ranged in severity from stepping up enforcement of dress code and language violations, to suggesting that an officer with a drug-sniffing dog might police school dances.

Soon thereafter, a group of parents, including Hanson, Reed and Robinson, returned to the MVLA board to blast two packages of articles that ran in “The Oracle,” Mountain View High School’s student-run paper. One of the packages contained articles about drugs, and drug and alcohol use by local high school students. Another package was titled “Sex and Relationships,” and featured

a variety of stories — some tame, others more explicit.

Some parents and community members were outraged. At least one parent suggested that the district might be wise to take disciplinary action against the teacher in charge of overseeing “The Oracle.” The outrage was met by a backlash — as students, parents and teachers defended the student newspaper and its right to publish both packages.

It all came to a head on March 11, when teachers, parents, students, administrators and other community officials filled about two-thirds of the seats in the 375-capacity Spartan Theater to listen and share their views on the role of the student newspaper. The event was covered by local NBC and ABC television news affiliates.

Ultimately, district Superintendent Barry Groves said he wished that some of the student journalists had chosen to use less racy language. However, he strongly defended the students’ right to pursue the topics they are interested in. Furthermore, he noted, California law prohibited him from taking any action that could be perceived to be an attempt on chilling the First Amendment rights of the student journalists.

Bullis vs. LASD

The years-long battle between

Bullis Charter School and the Los Altos School District continued to rage in 2013. And while there were a number of ceasefires called over the course of the year, the two parties appear no closer to coming to an agreement.

Over the course of the year, the two educational organizations traded barbs in the media with a series of open letters.

In early August, things took a particularly ugly turn when LASD officials had the locks changed at Blach Intermediate School — effectively locking Bullis teachers out of their classrooms, which officials from the charter said they needed to access in order to prepare for the coming school year.

While LASD officials said they changed the locks because Bullis was refusing to sign a facilities use agreement, officials from the charter claimed that the action was meant only to antagonize and belittle them.

Two months later, it appeared that the two organizations had moved past the lockout episode, as officials from both BCS and LASD were talking about working together on a district school bond that would allow two new schools to be built — one for Bullis and one to offset the swelling student population in LASD schools.

Those talks quickly fizzled, however, with members of Bullis’

board of directors questioning whether LASD really wanted the bond to fail, by framing it as a “Bullis bond.”

The communities of Los Altos Hills, Los Altos, and the portion of Mountain View in the Los Altos School District have been divided by the battle between Bullis and LASD.

Nelson censured

Many were surprised when Steven Nelson was elected to the board of trustees of the Mountain View Whisman School District in 2012 — Nelson may have been the most surprised of all. Last year, at an election night party hosted by local cable access channel KMVT, Nelson indicated that he expected to lose.

One of Nelson’s opponents, Peter Darrah, was also shocked. In an interview with the *Voice* immediately following the announcement that Nelson had won, he let his guard down and expressed concerns that Nelson would be bad for the district. Darrah pointed to Nelson’s behavior at previous board meetings, where, attending as a citizen, Nelson had developed a reputation for reciting song lyrics, holding up crudely drawn visual representations and criticizing district officials in a manner that could be described as less than constructive.

Although Nelson told the

Voice that he planned to change his “style” of commentary now that he was on the board, he has continued to rub people the wrong way, including many of his fellow trustees, district Superintendent Craig Goldman, and other administrators in the district. He is known for interrupting his colleagues on the board and taking a confrontational tone during meetings, and he has been criticized for attempting to use his position on the board to micromanage school principals and other school district administrators.

In September, the *Voice* learned that a plan was in the works to formally censure Nelson.

In the run-up to the censure vote, district trustees Ellen Wheeler, Chris Chiang and Bill Lambert said they were concerned with Nelson’s combative behavior and outbursts. In one such outburst, which Nelson admitted was out of line, the trustee raised his voice in the district office and said that Goldman was “full of sh**.”

“We’ve tried talking to Steve individually,” Chiang told the *Voice* in September. “We’ve tried having a meeting that was mediated by a professional facilitator. None of it is working.”

In a 4-1 vote on Oct. 3, with Nelson opposed, the board of trustees censured Nelson. ▀

2013 CRIME

► Continued from page 1

Park Plaza shopping center at 570 N. Shoreline Blvd. Her body was found on Jan. 18, 1985.

The case remained cold until 2011, when investigators from the county D.A.’s office began seriously looking into the case again. They called Garcia in for extensive interviews. He was arrested and charged with murder Jan. 4, 2013, and sentenced in September.

Another cold case was resolved this year after a jury convicted 26-year-old Giovanni Duarte on Nov. 4 for shooting and killing Alejandro “Alex” Fernandez in September 2004.

With evidence gathered by local police and the FBI’s Safe Streets Task Force (which helps local municipalities combat gang violence), prosecutors convinced the jury that Duarte and a friend, 25-year-old Anthony Figueroa, went out the night of the shooting specifically looking for a rival gang member to confront. Duarte and Figueroa — both members of a Norteno-affiliated Mountain View gang — encountered Fernandez, then a 17-year-old Los Altos High School student

and self-identified member of the Sureno-affiliated gang, the Nortenos’ main rival.

Figueroa, 25, pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter for driving the car. Duarte could face up to 40 years in prison. His sentencing is expected to take place early next year.

Sexual assault

Three gang members pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting a 13-year-old girl at Castro Park last November.

Carlos Sarceno and Jose Pinto — both 17 at the time of the attack — were arrested and charged as adults in the case, which Clarissa Hamilton, the prosecuting deputy district attorney, called “particularly heinous.” Pinto’s older brother, Mario, was also arrested for his role in the assault.

According to the police report, the three men and the girl all knew each other. They were all drinking the night of the attack in November 2012. The victim became drunk and all three of the attackers forced themselves upon her, continuing even after she made cries for help. All three men were members of a Sureno-affiliated street gang.

Passers-by found found the girl, drunk and alone, in the park

at about 9:30 that night.

The two Pinto brothers were sentenced to eight years in state prison. Sarceno was sentenced to five years in state prison.

Pumar found guilty

The family of William Ware — a well-known local man who was hit and killed by a speeding motorist last summer — expressed relief after a jury found Matthew Pumar guilty of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence.

Pumar, who struck Ware on the morning of June 21, 2012, maintained that he had not been driving recklessly before losing control of his gray Audi A4, which jumped a curb and killed Ware, who was waiting for a bus on the 1800 block of California Street.

Jurors were convinced by Deputy District Attorney Duffy Magilligan, who argued that Pumar had been driving well over the posted speed limit on California Street, before he tried to squeeze through a yellow light at Escuela Avenue. Testimony from witnesses, traffic experts and police suggested that Pumar entered the intersection at least one second after the light had turned red, swerved to avoid an oncoming truck completing

a legal left turn, and hit Ware while traveling between 46 mph and 62 mph.

That’s the speed he was estimated to have been going after his Audi jumped the curb, after two wheels were ripped from the vehicle, and after the car plowed through a street sign. The posted speed limit on that particular stretch of California Street is 35 mph.

Pumar, who looked stunned when he was convicted, was sentenced to one year in county jail and three years’ probation. Ware’s brother, Jim, said he was pleased with the ruling, as it gave him some closure. He said he did not harbor any ill will toward Pumar.

“It’s incredibly sad for both families,” Ware said outside the courthouse on Sept. 12, the day Pumar was convicted. “We got justice for Bill; we’re not looking to get revenge for Bill.”

‘Blind date robbers’

Two men were robbed of \$2,000 and a third was taken for \$1,500 after they each were lured to the 600 block of Tyrella Avenue, believing they would meet a date there, spread the cash out on top of a bed and have sex on top of that money — thus fulfilling the fantasy of

their “date.”

There was just one problem: There wasn’t a woman waiting for them. Instead, the victims were met by two men — one carrying a knife, the other carrying a gun — who demanded money, then ran off into the night.

It all occurred in a little more than a week’s time. The first victim was rolled for his cash on May 28, the second on May 29, and the third on June 5.

A fourth man told police that he planned to meet a very similar sounding “date” but got spooked at the last minute and decided to leave, with his money. None of the victims was hurt.

Police eventually nabbed three suspects — Nazario Cruz, 19, of Mountain View; Jose Urias, 19, from East Palo Alto, and an unnamed 17-year-old girl.

All of the hookups were set up using the dating service Badoo. The alleged blind date robbers’ tactics weren’t exactly smooth, according to a police spokesman, who said police were able to use the communications sent between the robbers and their victims to trace their respective locations.

The *Voice*’s story gained national attention when the Gawker Media-owned blog Gizmodo, covered the incident. ▀

YEAR IN REVIEW

► Continued from page 1

headquarters that includes a promenade at 100 Moffett Boulevard; and a road-narrowing plan to slow traffic and add bike lanes on Castro Street in front of Graham Middle School, where several students were hit by cars in late 2012.

City staff also responded quickly to install a new stop sign at the intersection of Hans and Phyllis avenues after Ruifan Ma was struck and killed in the crosswalk there in March.

Police stepped up enforcement as well, using crosswalk decoys to catch a large number of drivers not stopping for pedestrians on Shoreline Boulevard near downtown. Police announced in March that the number of reported collisions with bicyclists and pedestrians dropped nearly in half from the year before.

Contamination found in homes, Google offices

It was big year for news related to the 2-mile-long underground plume of toxics in northeastern Mountain View left behind after decades of semiconductor manufacturing along Whisman Road.

Despite over two decades of cleanup and attention, regulators and watchdogs were surprised to find trichloroethylene (TCE) vapors rising from the basements of two homes on Evandale Avenue and also inside two Google office buildings at 369 and 379 Whisman Road, where several pregnant women were put at risk

for birth defects.

The exposures in the office building were blamed on a faulty ventilation system, but the situation on Evandale Avenue was more baffling. The EPA said that the only plausible explanation was that sewer lines had leaked TCE into the ground near the homes, a theory that may explain as many as six other hot spots of TCE in northeastern Mountain View that have been a mystery for years.

The EPA tested more than 95 homes in the Evandale Avenue and Leong Drive area, finding toxic vapors in six of them, though four were under EPA action levels.

New hope for Hangar One

Potentially closing a long, uncertain chapter in the history of Hangar One at Moffett Field, the federal government announced that it was seeking proposals for its re-use in May.

Because of delays from the federal government shutdown in October, as the year closes it is still uncertain which of the proposals submitted for the hangar by the Dec. 2 deadline would be chosen. Possibilities include parking a fleet of private planes for Google's founders, hosting one of two organizations looking to spur the private space exploration industry, or housing a major air and space museum created by the Air and Space West Foundation, whose director was rumored to be looking to also make Moffett Field into an airport for business jets.

With the massive runways of the Moffett airfield also up for

grabs, likely bringing business jet air traffic to the area's skies, the scheduled announcement sometime in January of a long-term tenant at Hangar One is one many await, with the Google executives rumored to be one of two bidders.

Council flip-flops in cat license controversy

Showing that a little scrutiny can go a long way, in June the City Council made its most dramatic change in position on a matter in at least seven years when the *Voice* published a story titled, "You got a license for that cat, mister?"

The news that council members had almost unanimously approved a new cat license and vaccination requirement with a new animal control ordinance caused a considerable backlash from the city's numerous cat owners, with concerns about its effects, including the possibility that it would discourage cat rescue operations, would impose an unnecessary cost on cat owners, and would put some cats at a health risk from a vaccination that veterinarians don't always recommend.

A week after the news broke, the council voted nearly unanimously to reject the entire animal control ordinance — which turned out to have a number of problems that had gone unnoticed — and voted unanimously in September to not require any licensing for the city's cats.

Email Daniel DeBolt
at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

MATH

► Continued from page 5

mathematics we so desperately want them to learn," Ruiz said. "After all, wasn't that the reason for adopting Common Core?"

Goldman acknowledged that the old state curriculum was often criticized for being "a mile wide and an inch deep" — a problem the new standards were meant to fix. But, he noted, more students may be ready for algebra by the time they reach their final year of middle school under the new system, as fundamental algebraic concepts will be sprinkled in with more elementary math lessons in the primary grades.

Goldman said he wants to allow students who feel they are ready to get on an accelerated track to do so. "Many of our kids and many of our parents want to see an option that allows an accelerated pathway," he said. "We believe it's important to offer that option."

The key, according to Goldman and Saraff, is balance. "We will

strive for balance," Saraff said. "We don't want to be pushing kids beyond what is healthy, but also we don't want to become gatekeepers."

Goldman said his district is exploring tools that will allow them to accurately assess which students are ready to take an "accelerated" or "advanced accelerated" math track — adding that, like Saraff, he does not want to push children into something they aren't ready for, but also that he does not want to hold anyone back.

Minding the gap

According to Matt Hammer, executive director of the education reform organization Innovate Public Schools, the more kids that develop strong math skills early in life, the better.

"I'm hopeful that the new Common Core standards are going to do a better job at teaching kids deeper understanding of math," Hammer said.

In Silicon Valley, there are far too many low-income and minority students lagging in math. The

result of this math learning gap is that fewer low-income and minority students are able to get into four-year colleges — which often have a high minimum-math requirement — and fewer of those students are getting into science, technology, math and engineering, or STEM, fields.

"This is an incredible job market that we have here," Hammer said, "and more and more jobs are requiring math and science knowledge. We need to make sure that we can prepare kids to pursue those jobs and careers if they want to."

Hammer said he wasn't advocating that students be pushed into math classes they can't handle. But, he said, any student who is capable should be able to pursue a fast-track in math.

Goldman said that the district is still fine-tuning its Common Core math plan, and he plans to listen to concerns from the community. "As a district, we try to be reflective," he said. "And we try to implement policy based on best practices and what's best for our students and our community." ■

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Day Worker Center

The Day Worker Center of Mountain View provides a secure place for workers and employers to negotiate wages and work conditions. It serves an average of 60 workers a day with job placements, English lessons, job skills workshops or guidance.

Partners for New Generations

Partners for New Generations matches adult volunteer mentors with at-risk youth in the Mountain View, Los Altos and the Los Altos Hills area and offers tutoring to many students, including some in high school and beyond.

Community School of Music and Arts

The Community School of Music and Arts provides hands-on art and music education in the classrooms of the Mountain View Whisman School District. Nearly 45 percent of the students are socio-economically disadvantaged, and 28 percent have limited English proficiency.

Mountain View RotaCare Clinic

The RotaCare Free Clinic provides uninsured local residents with primary care and many specialty care services. The clinic is frequently the last resort for this underserved demographic group.

YWCA Support Network for Domestic Violence

This group operates a 24-hour bilingual hotline and a safe shelter for women and their children. It also offers counseling and other services for families dealing with domestic violence.

Community Services Agency

CSA is the community's safety-net providing critical support services for low-income individuals and families, the homeless and seniors in northern Santa Clara County, including Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills.

Community Health Awareness Council

CHAC serves Mountain View, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and seven school districts. Among other things, it offers school-based programs to protect students from high-risk behaviors, such as drug and alcohol abuse.

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Support Network provides safe haven for abused women, children

By Andrea Gemmet

For children staying at the YWCA's emergency shelter for domestic violence victims, this is a tough time of year.

"Everyone wants to be around their family, feel the warmth, the joy of the holiday spirit," said Amie McClane, the shelter manager. "It's hard to keep that alive in a shelter."

The 16-bed shelter is filled year-round with women and children who have made the leap from an abusive home into an uncertain future.

Staff from the YWCA's Support Network program make sure that Christmas is as happy as it can be for shelter residents, McClane said, from a big holiday party with games and dinner cooked by the staff, to an on-site holiday "gift shop" full of donated toys and clothes where residents can pick out presents. "My favorite part is seeing the children shop for their moms," McClane said.

A safe place to stay and a little holiday cheer is a small part of what the YWCA Support Network offers domestic violence victims. From art therapy to legal advocates, running a crisis hotline to providing counseling, the staff of 16 full- and part-time employees are there to help with the transition from living in fear to building a safe, healthy home.

The \$1.2 million annual budget comes from a variety of local, state and federal sources, along with private donations. Contributions to the *Voice's* Holiday Fund help support the Support Network, one of seven local agencies that receive an equal share of donated funds.

In Silicon Valley, where housing costs are skyrocketing, the need is especially great. The average of 35 days spent in the emergency shelter is rarely enough time for victims to find affordable permanent housing and stabilize their finances, McClane said.

If there were more funding,

the top priority would be housing, said Adriana Caldera, the director of the YWCA's domestic violence department.

The shelter, a secure building in a confidential location, is one of four in Santa Clara County. When all the shelter beds in the county are full, which is usually the case, Support Network staff looks for spaces in other counties or dip into an emergency fund to pay for motels. When the fund is tapped out, the staff helps create "very specific" safety plans for victims who may be staying with friends or even remaining in the home, McClane said.

Caldera said she'd like to have more funding for rental assistance, to help abuse survivors pay security deposits or the monthly utilities bill. Also on the wish list is a housing advocacy specialist who could work with apartment complex managers to find safe, affordable housing for their clients.

"It's a struggle to find permanent housing," Caldera said, pointing out that in this area, it's difficult for any single parent to support a family.

There's only one small transitional domestic violence shelter in the county, she said, and those beds fill up quickly.

"We're there for the emergency portion, when people need to remove themselves from danger," she said. "I'd love to see more transitional (services) — more time for job training, to search for employment or educational attainment while they're still in a safe environment, where there are services for the children."

McClane said that, across the county's four shelters, last year about 1,200 victims had to be turned away due to lack of space.

"Homelessness is a crisis in itself; on top of that, if you add the trauma of domestic violence,

it's almost a recipe for disaster," she said.

Helping victims cope with the emotional aftermath of abuse, including depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and anxiety, is a big concern. They're offered a host of services, from culturally appropriate counseling and art therapy to grounding techniques to quell anxiety.

"The children come in with a fear-based mentality, they may be clinging to their mother, having tantrums, acting out, or they're withdrawn," McClane said. "After a few weeks with no one getting hit or yelled at, they start to come out of their shells, there's laughter and play."

With the struggle to find a job and housing, sometimes children's emotional needs can be overlooked.

"It's really scary for children; they can't rationally or logically make sense of it. They start to internalize (the abuse) and think it's their fault," McClane said. "It's the same thing with victims. They believe the abuse was brought on by some action of theirs."

Domestic violence is a choice made by the abuser, she said. "It's easy to blame the victim, but the batterer is responsible for domestic violence. It's not a behavior, it's not the hitting, it's about how they use their power to control another person."

Prevention programs are among the first thing to get cut when money is short, said Caldera. Support Network has done some programs on healthy dating for eighth-graders in Cupertino, but outreach programs for younger children focusing on healthy relationships and bullying are needed, she said.

"We really need to invest in that," she said. "We need to be in schools more, having community conversations with young people and their parents."

Besides tackling victims' emotional needs, Support Network has to provide for more mundane and immediate needs. Like shoes and toothbrushes, bras and towels. Many people come through the doors with nothing but the clothes on their backs, Caldera said.

"They've left with the kids, and they're holding a teddy bear, in their pajamas, it's the middle of night — so we try to have basic needs items available," she said. "A church bought us over 100 different sizes of shoes, because we don't know who's going to be coming in to our shelter."

The often-cited statistic still holds true, according to Caldera — one in four women will experience domestic violence in their lifetimes, and one in seven men. The shelter sees people from all walks of life.

"We've had people with very, very high incomes, but he might have frozen her assets, or she needs a confidential location because he might kill her or hurt her," said McClane.

The need for safety is paramount, and there are a number of security measures in place, from the secret location of the shelter to the special "escape" button on the Support Network's web page — clicking it flips to a search page for "cookie recipes." When the Support Network's office was located in Mountain View, an abuser showed up outside with a weapon, but no one was hurt, said Caldera.

"We've had couple abusive partners show up at shelter," McClane said. "Luckily, police responded quickly, but it was terrifying."

Despite the stresses of the job, the work is rewarding, and the strength and resiliency of the survivors is inspiring, she said.

"I'd rather be doing it than not," McClane said. "Working in this kind of place can change your world view — what some of them have gone through is just horrific." ■



HOLIDAY FUND

► Continued from page 5

from the *Voice's* Holiday Fund.

"Each year we mentor roughly 100 students from the three high schools — Alta Vista, Mountain View and Los Altos high schools," Adams said. "We are tutoring in the neighborhood of 300 kids a year" in local elementary and middle

schools.

The relationships often last much longer than high school; some turn into life-long friendships, Adams said.

"I can safely say the adults get as much or more out of it than the students do," Adams said. "Normally adults don't reach out to kids unless they get paid for it, like a teacher. They don't meet many adults. It just gives them another experience,

another outlook on life they wouldn't normally get."

Cay said that such a relationship makes his goals "more important," and he feels "more motivated to follow through" with them.

PNG is always looking for mentors and tutors — adults who are "interested in working with kids, (who) have a little time. Tutoring takes about one hour a week; mentoring, about

the same," Adams said, adding that a background check and some training is involved.

"It's been very helpful," Cay said. "Just having a friend who is always going to be there to help you out. He's helped me through a lot."

For more information, visit pngmvla.org.

Email Daniel DeBolt
at ddebolt@mv-voice.com



Happy Holidays



from all of us at

MountainView
VOICE

The Almanac

Palo Alto
Weekly



2013



■ FOOD FEATURE

From grape to glass

SHORELINE LAKE'S NEW WINE SEMINAR SERIES TEACHES THE INS AND OUTS OF WINE

Story by Elena Kadwany // Photos by Michelle Le

On a recent Wednesday evening at Shoreline Lake in Mountain View, wine importer Eric Stauffeneger, a native of France, animatedly walked a group of 12 or so people through how to taste two white wines, one a California sauvignon blanc and the other, a French Sancerre.

"Just smell the wines first, a couple of times each," he told the group in a strong French accent,

putting his nose deep into his own glass of wine. "Then taste the California; taste the French and go back and forth."

The evening was one of eight informal wine seminars recently launched by Shoreline Lake, meant to educate anyone — novices and wine connoisseurs alike — on the often mystifying world of wine.

"Sometimes lectures or lessons in wine are quite serious or they might be quite long in nature,"

said Christina Ferrari, president of the Shoreline Aquatic Center and Lakeside Cafe. "So (the seminar) is something that we could offer where people could learn something a little bit about wine, not feel intimidated or put off by that mysticism, (and) they could increase their knowledge and also learn some of those technical facets of the wine."

► Continued on next page

Above: Vigneron Imports Associate Juliet Blackwell pours French and California pinot noir for guests during the Basic Wine Tasting seminar, held at Shoreline Lake. Right: A French and a California pinot noir.



► Continued from previous page

The series kicked off in November with an evening devoted to Beaujolais nouveau, a French red wine released every year on the third Thursday of November (the seminar also took place on that Thursday). The group also discussed kosher and holiday wines, coinciding with Hanukkah and the ensuing holiday season.

Each seminar has a different focus, from something as specific as Beaujolais nouveau or wine preservation to broader topics such as wine pairing or U.S. and French wine basics.

"It's meant for those of varying expertise," Ferrari said. "It's not for only novices; it's not only for those (who) have gone to Napa Valley."

For "Basic Wine Tasting," Stauffenegger — who owns an Oakland-based wine importing company and has worked as a sommelier in London, Belgium and France — selected four pairs of wines from France and California. This was not to compare the two competitively, he said, but rather to contrast, understand and appreciate different flavors. (Competition between the two wine regions does run fierce, especially since the "Judgment of Paris" blind tasting com-



Smoked salmon over cucumber and toast with cheese is paired with French and California white wines during the recent Basic Wine Tasting seminar, held at Shoreline Lake.

petition in 1976, when Golden State wines trumped France's.)

"Typically, California wines are more bold," he explained to the group, urging them to taste the difference between the two. "They're bigger; they're more alcoholic. They tend to be more oaky, in general, and the French wines tend to be more mineral."

One participant, Brian Day, said he came in with a distinct

preference for California wines, but left with a better appreciation for those from France.

"I still quite frankly had a bias toward the California wines, but I will be the first to admit that that's because I've grown up here," said Day, who works at NASA Ames in Mountain View. "(Stauffenegger) obviously had picked out French wines that were representative of characteristics he also wanted to

demonstrate. So that's something that on my own I would not have been able to do."

Stauffenegger also answered many questions from participants, for example: What's the best way to store wine? (In a cool temperature and on its side so the wine has contact with the cork, which prevents it from drying out.) Is there a difference between screw-top wines and

wines with corks? (California winery Plumpjack conducted an experiment comparing the two for 30 years and found no huge difference, but there is something romantic about popping the cork.) How long should a bottle of wine be uncorked before serving? (It depends on the wine, but for both red and white, at least about 30 minutes.)

Though wine is the main

■ INFORMATION

Upcoming seminars
(all are 6 to 7:30 p.m.):

Basic Wine Preservation:

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Basics of Serving Wine:

Wednesday, Jan. 29

Wine and Romance:

Wednesday, Feb. 12

U.S. Wine Basics:

Thursday, Feb. 27

French Wine Basics:

Wednesday, March 12

Cost is \$25 per seminar.

To register, go to www.shorelinelake.com/regwine.html

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player at these seminars, there are also small bites served to pair with specific wines. At "Basic Wine Tasting," there was a small piece of rye bread, topped with a cheese spread, slice of cucumber and smoked salmon with two pieces of cheese on the side to cleanse the palate. Later in the evening came a mushroom tartlet meant to be consumed alongside two syrahs, a red wine.

The series is a new venture for Shoreline, an out-of-the-way lake complex with an aquatic center and restaurant. But it does fall in line with what Ferrari envisions the lake to be: "something for people to escape to," she said.

She added that the series is meant to take advantage of the winter and early spring months, when the lake might not be in much use. "It's taking advantage of those short days (when) the nights are cool and crisp, but it's cozy. We'll be outside either by the fire pit or we'll be in the banquet room doing these seminars.

"And summer is just around the corner so we'll see what happens then," she added, envisioning a summer seminar where participants would taste rose, shuck oysters and watch the sun set over the lake. ▀

Elena Kadvany can be emailed at ekadvany@pawebkly.com.



Vigneron Imports Owner Eric Stauffenegger discusses French and California wines during Basic Wine Tasting, held at Shoreline Lake.

Inspirations

a guide to the spiritual community

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PENINSULA



Discover the best places to eat this week!

AMERICAN

Armadillo Willy's
941-2922

1031 N. San Antonio Road, Los Altos
www.armadillowillys.com

The Old Pro

326-1446

541 Ramona Street, Palo Alto
www.oldpropa.com

ITALIAN

Cucina Venti

254-1120

1390 Pear Ave, Mountain View
www.cucinaventi.com

CHINESE

Ming's

856-7700

1700 Embarcadero East, Palo Alto
www.mings.com

CHINESE

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www.shopmountainview.com/luunoodlemv

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Janta Indian Restaurant

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369 Lytton Ave.
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MOVIE REVIEWS

12 YEARS A SLAVE

★★★★1/2

It can be hard to see the tree for the forest when it comes to films about culturally loaded topics, none more so than American slavery. It's useful to keep in mind that "12 Years a Slave" is the story of a man: a tale of physical and emotional survival that, unlike "All is Lost" and "Gravity," derives from a true story. The man is Solomon Northup, who endured the titular torture before penning his autobiography of the same name (as told to white lawyer David Wilson). Director Steve McQueen's cinematic adaptation, scripted by John Ridley, begins in 1841, where free New York resident Northup (Chiwetel Ejiofor), a husband and father, entertains an offer to play the violin on tour with a circus. The offer turns out to be a ruse, and Northup is kidnapped, transported by a domestic slave ship to New Orleans, and sold into slavery. Above all, "12 Years a Slave" explores one man's terrifying realization of the fragility of his existence and, accordingly, his sense of self. *Rated R for violence/cruelty, some nudity and brief sexuality. Two hours, 13 minutes.* — P.C.

AMERICAN HUSTLE ★★★

"American Hustle" (with a script credited to Eric Singer and Russell) loosely derives from the late-'70s, early-'80s FBI Abscam operation, so named for its employment of an "Arab," a fake sheik used to entrap politicians into accepting bribes. Director David O. Russell buys himself free rein by admitting he's cherry-picking history for juicy bits while allowing himself to design the characters and story for maximum tickling. Christian Bale plays skilled fraudster Irving Rosenfeld. Along with his mistress Sydney Prosser (Amy Adams, affecting a British accent), Rosenfeld bilks investors, until one turns out to be FBI agent Richie DiMaso (Bradley Cooper), a slickster in his own right who's not all he cracks himself up to be. *Rated R for pervasive language, some sexual content and brief violence. Two hours, 18 minutes.* — P.C.

ANCHORMAN 2: THE LEG-END CONTINUES ★★1/2

Inappropriate anchorman Ron Burgundy is back, and he's still failing upwards. Will Ferrell returns in his best role, and just like Ron, he's surrounded by his team: David Koechner as "dangerous alcoholic ...

(and) racist" Champ Kind ("Whammy!"), Paul Rudd as sorta-suave sports reporter Brian Fantana, and Steve Carell as ape-like, low-IQ weatherman Brick Tamland. As before, part of the joke is looking back in laughter at period fashions and outdated mores. The sequel takes place in 1980, with the launch of 24-hour news channel Global News Network standing in for the journalistic revolution that was CNN. *PG-13 for crude and sexual content, drug use, language and comic violence. One hour, 56 minutes.* — P.C.

BLUE IS THE WARMEST COLOR ★★★1/2

IFC Films describes "Blue Is the Warmest Color" as "The story of a young lesbian couple's beginning, middle and possible end." While that's reductive, it does nominally describe the three-stage rocket that is Abdellatif Kechiche's three-hour film. But let's not bury the lead: It's also an NC-17 film with a seven-minute sex scene that has made it cinema non grata in Idaho. Both romance and sexual odyssey, Kechiche's film takes the point of view of Adele (doe-eyed Exarchopoulos), who's 17 going on 18 and bi-curious, if not simply gay-repressed. After a literary lesson in the power of a "love at first sight" glance (via Marivaux's "La Vie de Marianne"), lo and behold, Adele experiences one for herself in passing the provocatively blue-haired Emma (Seydoux) on the street. *Rated NC-17 for explicit sexual content. Two hours, 57 minutes.* — P.C.

THE BOOK THIEF ★1/2

There will never be enough Nazi Germany-set dramas to fill the awards-season maw. Unfortunately, "The Book Thief" is conspicuously phony in its ruthless attempt to manipulate audiences. Deposited with foster parents, little Liesl (Sophie Nelisse) serves as coming-of-age witness to unfolding history. Most importantly, she develops a curiosity about reading, and so surreptitiously snatches (just like Bradbury's Guy Montag) a book from a censorious fire. The taciturn girl soon takes to her kindly foster father Hans (Geoffrey Rush), who smooths over the horrors of war with his squeeze box and reading lessons; his wife, Rosa (Emily Watson), meanwhile is tough as leather. The manner in which the film depicts Rosa as heartless then reveals her heart of gold emblemizes the film's desire to yank chains and subtly scold the audience for preconceiving exactly what the filmmakers mean us to preconceive. *Rated PG-13 for some violence and intense depiction of thematic material. Two hours, 11 minutes.* — P.C.

DALLAS BUYERS CLUB

★★★1/2

Jean-Marc Vallée's film, scripted by Craig Borten & Melisa Wallack, opens in 1985, as the world awoke to Rock Hudson as the sudden celebrity face of AIDS. McConaughey plays Ron Woodruff, a hard-charging electrician and rodeo cowboy first seen plowing women in the shadows before bull-riding with money riding on how long he can hold on. It's a canny entree into the story: When Woodruff sprints away after losing his bets, he's been swiftly established as an all-around reckless character, his sexual recklessness a possible cause of his looming AIDS diagnosis. Faced with a doctor (Denis O'Hare) who tells him, "Frankly, we're surprised you're even alive," and a T-cell count of nine, Woodruff fiercely roots out his limited options. He gets wind of a human trial for AIDS-combating drug AZT, but he's denied access. In the process of literally saving himself (long outliving his diagnosis), Woodruff creates a drug pipeline that he shares with his new community of fellow patients. *Rated R for pervasive language, some strong sexual content, nudity and drug use. One hour, 57 minutes.* — P.C.

GRAVITY ★★★1/2

"At 600 km. above the Earth," we're told in the new film "Gravity," "There is nothing to carry sound. No air pressure. No oxygen. Life in space is impossible." And yet, there we are. The evocation of Ridley Scott's 1979 "Alien" ("In space, no one can hear you scream") is apt: "Gravity" is a bit like "Alien" without the alien, replacing it with existential despair that's just as likely to take a fatal bite out of the heroine. Here the heroine is Dr. Ryan Stone (Sandra Bullock), a medical engineer sent via space shuttle to assist in repairs to the Hubble Space Telescope. In the film's first sequence — a bravura 12-minute segment crafted to appear as a single camera shot with no cuts — satellite debris shoots at the shuttle and the telescope, causing a fatal accident that threatens to strand and thereby kill Stone and shuttle commander Matt Kowalski (George Clooney). Dwindling oxygen and thruster power threaten their survival, as does Stone's natural panic due to the circumstances and her inexperience. *Rated PG-13 for intense perilous sequences, some disturbing images and brief strong language. One hour, 30 minutes.* — P.C.

THE GREAT BEAUTY ★★1/2

Italy's official submission for Academy Award consideration plays at times like a more conventional, less daring version

of 1972's "Roma." Reluctant journalist Jep Gambardella ("Gomorra"'s Toni Servillo, here vaguely annoying) is famous for being famous, known for his one-and-done early novel but more so these days as "king of the socialites." A typically self-aware snob defined by cynical ennui, the distressingly privileged Gambardella attends soirees by defeatist default, since there's nothing better to do. He finds a perch and looks down at his peers as they dance-train to "We No Speak Americano." When pressed, he will insult his peers to their faces, calling them on their misplaced superiority, thorough hypocrisy, lack of ambition and failure of accomplishment. Of course, when he lashes out, he also acknowledges his own self-loathing, but we're meant to sympathize with him because he is smarter than the rest, and because he is willing to face the truth. The sympathies don't actually kick in until he nebulously decides to do something about his human condition, which involves attempts to care (mostly about his editor, a proud little person played by Giovanna Vignola), strike up new relationships, and perhaps even do his job of investigating the world. *Not MPAA rated. Two hours, 22 minutes.* — P.C.

THE HOBBIT: THE DESOLATION OF SMAUG ★★★

Director Peter Jackson's grandiose vision of J.R.R. Tolkien's Middle-earth reaches a crescendo with this thrilling second installment in "The Hobbit" trilogy. When viewers last saw hobbit burglar Bilbo Baggins (Martin Freeman, wonderful) and his dwarf companions, they were headed for the Lonely Mountain to reclaim the dwarf kingdom from the murderous dragon Smaug. Led by dwarf king Thorin Oakenshield (Richard Armitage) and guided by the wizard Gandalf (Ian McKellen), the dwarves are a rag-tag lot that includes father-figure Balin (Ken Stott), robust Bombur (Stephen Hunter) and brothers Fili (Dean O'Gorman) and Kili (Aidan Turner), among others. *Rated PG-13 for extended sequences of intense fantasy action violence, and frightening images. Two hours, 40 minutes.* — T.H.

THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE ★★★

Adapted by Simon Beaufoy and Michael Arndt (under his pseudonym Michael

deBruyn) from Suzanne Collins' YA novel, "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" gets a new director in Francis Lawrence ("I Am Legend"). But in true franchise fashion, the style and tone remain consistent with those established by Gary Ross in last year's "The Hunger Games." Crack archer Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence, on her game as always) again finds herself pressed into the titular battle to the death after some mutual mooning with friend Gale (Liam Hemsworth), firmly situating fellow competitor Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson) in the friend zone (yeah, like that'll last), participating in mass-media pomp and sizing up the 22 other contestants. Oh, yes, we have twists, the up-front one being that the players in the 75th anniversary Hunger Games are all "experienced killers" reaped from the pool of former winners. Correction, as per Katniss' alcoholic mentor Haymitch (Woody Harrelson): "There are survivors; there's no winners." *Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some frightening images, thematic elements, a suggestive situation and language. Two hours, 26 minutes.* — P.C.



INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS

★★★★

Like a rolling stone, singer-guitarist Llewelyn Davis tumbles through the Greenwich Village folk-music scene of the '60s and onto any available couch of his friends. Oscar Isaac, in a breakout role as the title character, owns every sliver of spotlight in the Coen Brothers' most compelling character study to date. Understated and laced with the siblings' signature sardonic humor, the film explores why some talents shoot to stardom, whereas others struggle passionately and tirelessly yet never become successful artists — and all the while, the times they are a-changin'. *Rated R for language and some sexual references. One hour, 44 minutes.* — S.T.

MOVIE CRITICS

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

Movie times were not available at press time.

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MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

HIGHLIGHT

'REVEALING THE UNSEEN'

Paintings by Andy Gouveia and drawings by Drew McSherry are on exhibit, both exploring the theme of a narrative that must be coaxed out to be understood. Through Jan. 26, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 to 3. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. arts4all.org

ART GALLERIES

'Art Meets Technology' Art Meets Technology" presents work by 10 individuals whose accomplishments reside at the intersection of art, science, mathematics and technology. The exhibit draws on manuscript collections from the Stanford University Libraries. Ongoing every day through Jan. 15, 2014. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Peterson Gallery and Munger Rotunda, Green Library Bing Wing, 459 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. www.events.stanford.edu/events/391/39145/

Carrie Mae Weems Exhibit This exhibit is dedicated to contemporary artist and photographer Carrie Mae Weems. More than 100 photographs, installations and videos are on display until Jan. 5, Wednesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford.

Jim Dine and Claes Oldenburg Exhibit Jim Dine and Claes Oldenburg are two American artists who depict every day objects in various ways; 20 of their prints will be on display. Ongoing from Dec. 11 to April 27, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. www.events.stanford.edu/events/385/38539/

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Foothill College Winter Quarter Registration Foothill College Winter Quarter classes will run Jan. 6-March 28. Continuing students can register Nov. 25-Jan. 5 and new/returning students, Nov. 30-Jan. 5. Review more registration dates and instructions at www.foothill.edu. No fee to apply for admission; California residents pay \$31 per unit plus basic fees. Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7325. www.foothill.edu/admissions.php

Zoom In - Digital Video Workshop Zoom In is a 15-hour intensive video workshop that covers how to create a digital video, edit it, upload it to Youtube and produce a DVD. Class includes all software, equipment plus a booklet. Feb. 3-12, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$145 Mid Peninsula Media Center, 900 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-494-8686 ext. 11. www.midpenmedia.org/

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Mountain View Certified Farmers Market This farmers market features more than 60 certified local producers with farm-fresh fruit and vegetables with organic and Asian varieties, grass-fed beef, eggs, mushrooms, bakeries, plants, herbs, sprouts, cheese, melons and garden tomatoes. Sundays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. until Dec. 31. Caltrain Station, 600 W. Evelyn Ave., Mountain View. Call 800-806-3276. www.cafarmersmks.com/markets/category/mountain-view

DANCE

Scottish Country Dancing A fall session starts on Sept. 4 with "Intro Night," and is free for first timers. After that, the drop-in fee is \$10 or \$133 for the full session (\$8 per night). Everyone is welcome, from complete beginners to experienced dancers. Classes run until Feb. 4. 7:45-10 p.m. Mountain View Sports Pavilion, 1185 Castro St., Mountain View. www.mtview-rscds.org

FAMILY AND KIDS

Annual LEGO Holiday Extravaganza See a variety of LEGO creations made by members of Bay Area LEGO User Group and Bay Area LEGO Train Club, featuring train layouts, Bay Area landmarks, castles, miniature cities, and more. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times in the exhibit. Open Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays from Dec. 13 to Jan. 19. 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. \$2 per person; BayLUG and MOAH members are free. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. www.moah.org

Pascal Lee at Books Inc. Pascal Lee - chairman of the Mars Institute, planetary scientist at the SETI Institute and director of the NASA Haughton-Mars Project at NASA Ames Research Center - will be at Books Inc. to show kids how they can start training to join the first crew to the

Red Planet projected for 2035 with Mission: Mars. Jan. 4, 4 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-428-1234. www.book-sinc.net/event/2014/01/13/month/all/all/1

FILM

'Flesh and Metal' on Film A variety of films by or about artists featured in the Cantor Art Center exhibit "Flesh and Metal: Body and Machine in Early 20th-Century Art" will run continuously concurrent with the exhibition. Ongoing every day from Nov. until March 16. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. Wed.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Thursdays until 8 p.m. Free. Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. www.events.stanford.edu/events/397/39751/

HEALTH

Affordable Mental Health Program Deborah's Palm, a community women's center in downtown Palo Alto, has started an affordable psychotherapy program to benefit low-income women. Nov. 19-Jan. 19, Tuesdays, 4-7 p.m. Fees start at \$40/hour. Deborah's Palm, 555 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-473-0664. www.deborahspalm.org

Jacki's Aerobic Dancing Classes These fitness classes include core work, strength training and aerobic routines. Jacki's also offers complimentary childcare; bring children and get the first month of classes for free. 9 a.m.-10 a.m. \$4 per class. Mountain View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St., Mountain View. Call 650-941-1002. www.jackis.com/

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Compline: An Evening Service of Song This 30-minute service of hymns, anthems and chant is sung by Stanford and local choral ensembles on Sundays (during the academic year with the exception of university holidays and academic breaks). 9-9:30 pm Free. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Call 650-723-1762. www.events.stanford.edu/events/410/41079

Insight Meditation South Bay Shaila Catherine and guest teachers lead a weekly Insight Meditation sitting followed by a talk on Buddhist teachings. Nov. 26-Jan. 21, Tuesdays, 7:30-9 p.m. Free (donations accepted). St. Timothy's/Edwards Hall, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-857-0904. www.imsb.org

University Public Worship Memorial Church at Stanford University is open for public worship on Jan. 5, 10-11 a.m. Free. Stanford Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Call 650-723-1762. www.events.stanford.edu/events/406/40647

SENIORS

29th Annual New Year's Eve Day Bash The Oshman Family JCC hosts a New Year's Eve Day event, with a buffet lunch, ballroom dancing, raffle prizes and a special champagne toast to the New Year. Dec. 31, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$15 in advance; \$18 at the door. Oshman Family Jewish Community Center, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Call 650-387-7048. www.cityofpaloalto.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

New Year's Eve at Morocco's Restaurant Morocco's Restaurant in Mountain View will

be open on New Year's Eve, serving a five-course meal at 5 p.m. (\$60 per person). From 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. the restaurant will serve five small plates with one drink for \$35 per person. There will also be belly dancing and live jazz music. Dec. 31, 5 p.m. \$45/\$60. Morocco's Restaurant, 873 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-968-1502. www.moroccosrestaurant.com

SPORTS

Media Center Sports Broadcasting Workshop The Midpeninsula Media Center is hosting a one-day sports broadcasting workshop for ages 12 and up. Dec. 30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$75. Midpeninsula Media Center, 900 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-494-8686 ext. 11. www.midpenmedia.org

LECTURES & TALKS

'What Matters to Me & Why': Yvonne Maldonado Yvonne A. Maldonado, MD, professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Health Research and Policy, and chief of the Division of Infectious Diseases at Stanford University School of Medicine, will speak as part of "What Matters to Me and Why," a Stanford Office of Religious Life program. Jan. 8, Noon-1 p.m. Free. Old Union, 520 Lasuen Mall, Stanford. Call 650-723-1762. www.events.stanford.edu/events/407/40771/

Fashion at Stanford: Annie Leibovitz & Pascal Dangin Cathy Horyn, fashion critic for The New York Times, will sit with Annie Leibovitz, photographer, and Pascal Dangin, founder of Box Studios and CEO and Creative Director of KiDS, to discuss image-making and branding. This is the second event of the Fashion at Stanford series. Jan. 9, 6-7:30 p.m. Free. CEMEX Auditorium, 641

Knight Way, Stanford. Call 650-736-0705. www.artsinstitute.stanford.edu/fashion

Humanist Community Forum Hear a different speaker speak each Sunday on a range of topics: philosophy, politics, humanism, health, relationships, history, the environment. A buffet lunch (complimentary for first-time visitors) immediately follows. See website for each Sunday's speaker and topic: www.humanists.org. Oct. 27-Dec. 29, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Free (donations accepted). Palo Alto High School Student Center (in the main quad - see http://goo.gl/maps/eWMfv), 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-964-7576. www.humanists.org

'Shedding Light on Lighting' A lighting expert will lead this talk and describe new lighting/light bulb options and tips for how to retrofit or replace existing high-energy use lighting. Jan. 8, 7-9 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos. www.sacl.org

'Travel Tuesdays' Talk: River Cruising Maureen Jones of All Horizons Travel will discuss river cruising in inland waterways in Europe and Asia. Jan. 7, 1-2 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 South San Antonio Road, Los Altos. www.sacl.org

VOLUNTEERS

Living Classroom docent winter training Living Classroom, a Los Altos Community Foundation program that offers garden-based education for youth, is hosting training for its winter lessons. New docents are encouraged to attend. Jan. 7, 9-11:30 a.m. Free. Mountain View Whisman School District Board Room, 750-A San Pierre Way, Mountain View. Call 650-526-3500 ext. 1118. www.living-classroom.org

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*if diagnosed with chronic venous insufficiency

Clinical Classifications

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Skin Changes



Ulcer



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243 Green Valley Rd., Ste. A

Thurs., January 16
Fremont
1999 Mowry Ave., Ste. C1

Wed., January 15
Morgan Hill
18511 Mission View Dr., Ste. 120

Fri., January 17
Los Altos
658 Fremont Ave.

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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Considering Adoption? Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 877-362-2401 (AAN CAN)

Pregnant?
Thinking of adopting? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching Birthmothers with Families Nationwide. LIVING EXPENSES PAID. Call 24/7 Abby's One True Gift Adoptions. 866-413-6293. Void in Illinois/ New Mexico/Indiana (AAN CAN)

Dance Expressions Menlo Park
Moms/Daughters- \$ Stanford
new Holiday music
original ringtones
Spring Down Holiday Horse Camp
Stanford music tutoring
substitute pianist available

130 Classes & Instruction

Airline Careers
begin here – Get FAA approved Aviation Maintenance Technician training. Job placement and Financial assistance for qualified students. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 888-242-3382 (Cal-SCAN)

German language class
Instruction for Hebrew
Bar and Bat Mitzvah
For Affiliated and Unaffiliated
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Hebrew/Jewish Education
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133 Music Lessons

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www.HopeStreetMusicStudios.com

Piano Lessons in Palo Alto

Call Alita at 650.838.9772
135 Group Activities
Square Dance Lessons
Stanford Memorial Church choir

140 Lost & Found

ADULT BICYCLE FOUND
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AROUND 11/10/13 NEAR GUNN HIGH SCHOOL AND BOL PARK.

CALL WITH DESCRIPTION
650-493-4990, LEAVE A MESSAGE IF NO ANSWER
Lost Meyers Parrot
Went missing on Dec.4,13 Answers to 'Oscar' Grey w/ Yellow crown on head Green Breast and Blue under wings. about 6 inches tall and is very social, a really sweet dispositioned creature. Probably Cold,hungry, and wants to find home. May land on your shoulder.

145 Non-Profits Needs

Moms/Daughters- \$ Stanford

150 Volunteers

Fosterers Needed for Moffet Cats
Moms/Daughters- \$ Stanford
Sing for Vets on Christmas Day

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For Sale

201 Autos/Trucks/ Parts

toyota 2001 highlander - \$11,000

202 Vehicles Wanted

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Donate Your Car
Fast Free Towing 24 hr. Response - Tax Deduction. UNITED BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION. Providing Free Mammograms & Breast Cancer Info. 888-792-1675 (Cal-SCAN)

203 Bicycles

Adult Trike - \$300-350

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Contemporary Nude Oil Painting - \$425
From France, BEATLES Trade Cards - \$195.00
Summit Adult Trike - \$350

Wow! Russia BEATLES Trade Cards - \$95.00

235 Wanted to Buy

Cash for Diabetic Test Strips
Don't throw boxes away-Help others. Unopened /Unexpired boxes only. All Brands Considered! Call Anytime! 24hrs/7days (888) 491-1168 (Cal-SCAN)

240 Furnishings/ Household items

Dining Table -Iron Work & Glass - \$450



GE French Door Refrigerator
Refrigerator is less than 6 months old. Measures 68"H x 32.5"W x 32.5"D.
Wool Area Rug 5x8 Red - \$130

245 Miscellaneous

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for just \$29/mo! BUNDLE & SAVE with AT&T Internet+Phone+TV and get a FREE pre-paid Visa Card! (select plans). HURRY, CALL NOW! 800-319-3280 (Cal-SCAN)

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Kid's Stuff

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New Sunnyvale Small Child Care

Jobs

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Menlo Park, CA. MS in CS, CE, EE., Applied Math, or related + 3 yrs exp in job offered or as software eng. in distributed systems field. Develop eCommerce platform. Apply: Grid Dynamics, qu83rJ@dropbox.theresumator.com

Technology
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560 Employment Information

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Cut your STUDENT LOAN payments in HALF or more even if you are Late or in Default. Get Relief FAST Much LOWER payments. Call Student Hotline 855-589-8607 (Cal-SCAN)

645 Office/Home Business Services

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751 General Contracting

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Real Estate

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Mountain View, 2 BR/2 BA - \$2,600

803 Duplex

Redwood City, 2 BR/1 BA - \$2,500.00

805 Homes for Rent

Menlo Park, 3 BR/2 BA - \$5,000.00
Palo Alto, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$4350

809 Shared Housing/ Rooms

Menlo Park, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1800/mont

825 Homes/Condos for Sale

Central Woodside: 4BR/4BA
2 car. Updated 6 Stall Barn. Offered at \$4,950,000. Email timmckeegan@sbcglobal.net Phone: 650-208-0664

Mountain View, 3 BR/2 BA - \$149000

855 Real Estate Services

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Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: http://www.Roommates.com . (AAN CAN)

Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

GRAND PARTNERS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 585321
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Grand Partners, located at 800 El Camino Real, #180, Mountain View, CA 94040, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Corporation.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are): CALIFORNIA PARTNERS, INC.
800 El Camino Real #180 Mountain View, CA 94040
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on November 21, 2013.
(MVV Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2013)

GINSENG KOREAN B.B.Q. & TOFU
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 585276
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Ginseng Korean B.B.Q. & Tofu, located at 475 Castro St., 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): HEE WON LEE
954 Henderson Ave. #139 Sunnyvale, CA 94086
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on Nov. 20, 2013.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on November 20, 2013.
(MVV Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2013)

PEREZ PAINTING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 584931
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Perez Painting, located at 316 Escuela Av. #22, Mountain View, CA 94040, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are): ROQUE PEREZ
316 Escuela Ave. #22 Mountain View, CA 94040
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on November 13, 2013.
(MVV Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2013)

BUFFALO; BEERS BURGERS BAOS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 584863
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Buffalo; Beers Burgers Baos, located at 292 Castro St., 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): JENNIFER POON
538 Arastradero Rd. Palo Alto, CA 94306
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on November 12, 2013.
(MVV Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2013)

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS MOUNTAIN VIEW- SOUTH PALO ALTO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 585643
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Holiday Inn Express Mountain View-South Palo Alto, located at 1561 West El Camino Real, Mountain View, CA 94040, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Corporation.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are): RPK INVESTMENTS INC.
1561 W. El Camino Real Mountain View, CA 94040
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/21/2013.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 4, 2013.
(MVV Dec. 13, 20, 27, 2013, Jan. 3, 2014)

SCIENCEQUIPMENT.COM
SCIENCELIGHTING.COM
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 585908
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
1.) Scienceequipment.com, 2.) Sciencelighting.com, located at 922 San Leandro Ave., Ste. B, Mounth View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Corporation.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are): HI-TECH LAMPS, INC.
922 San Leandro Ave. Ste. B ountain View, CA 94043
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/02/2013.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 11, 2013.
(MVV Dec. 20, 27, 2013, Jan. 3, 10, 2014)

FELLOW ROBOTS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 585889
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Fellow Robots, located at 20 S. Akron Rd., MS 20-1, Moffett Field, CA 94035, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Corporation.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are): 9TH SENSE INC.
20 S. Akron Rd. MS 20-1 Moffett Field, CA 94035
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/26/2013.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 10, 2013.
(MVV Dec. 20, 27, 2013, Jan. 3, 10, 2014)

RENEO
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 585938
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Reneo, located at 231 Cypress Pt. Dr., Mt. View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Corporation.
The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are): RENE0, INC.
231 Cypress Pt. Dr. Mt. View, CA 94043
Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 12/4/2013.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 12, 2013.
(MVV Dec. 27, 2013, Jan. 3, 10, 17, 2014)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
BARBARA H. JUHL
Case No.: 1-13-PR-173638
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of BARBARA H. JUHL.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: MEGHAN JUHL in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA.
The Petition for Probate requests that: MEGHAN JUHL be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
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 January 8, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in Dept.: 12 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 defined in section 58 (b) of the 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/ Frank B. Doyle WealthPlan, LLP
1635 The Alameda, Second Floor San Jose, CA 95126 (408)918-9030 (MVV Dec. 13, 20, 27, 2013)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
FRANCES CAROLE LIND
Case No.: 1-13-PR-173711
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of FRANCES CAROLE LIND.
A Petition for Probate has been filed by: VIVIAN I. LIND in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA.
The Petition for Probate requests that: VIVIAN I. LIND 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 January 24, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in Dept.: 12 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 defined in section 58 (b) of the 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/ Marleen Brady Kuttner
1901 S. Bascom Avenue, Suite 1240 Campbell, CA 95008 (408)371-0854 (MVV Dec. 20, 27, 2013, Jan. 3, 2014)

NOTICE OF BULK SALE TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
--

Notice is hereby given to the Creditors of: DAVID QUANG LE, Seller(s), whose business address(es) is: 126 CASTRO STREET, City of MOUNTAIN VIEW, County of SANTA CLARA, State of California, 94041, that a bulk transfer is about to be made to: OREN'S HUMMUS MOUNTAIN VIEW LLC, Buyer(s), whose business(es) address is: 126 CASTRO STREET, City of MOUNTAIN VIEW, County of SANTA CLARA, State of California, 94041.
The property to be transferred is located at: 126 CASTRO STREET, City of MOUNTAIN VIEW, County of SANTA CLARA, State of California, 94041.
Said property is described in general as: All stock in trade, fixtures, equipment, goodwill and other property of that RESTAURANT business known as THE WORKSHOP BURGERS, and located at: 126 CASTRO STREET, City of

MOUNTAIN VIEW, County of SANTA CLARA, State of California, 94041.
The bulk transfer will be consummated on or after the 15TH day of JANUARY, 2014.
This bulk transfer is subject to Section 6106.2 of the California Commercial Code. If Section 6106.2 applies, claims may be filed at FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY, Escrow Division, Escrow No: 5015301-LC, One Daniel Burnham Court, Suite 218-C, San Francisco, CA 94109. Phone: 415.359.2540 Fax: 415.520.6641

ESCROW NO: 5015301-LC

X This bulk transfer includes a liquor license transfer. All claims must be received prior to the date on which the Notice of Transfer of the liquor license is received by Escrow Agent from the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

So far as known to the Buyer(s), all business names and addresses used by the Seller(s) for the three years last past, if different from the above, are: NONE

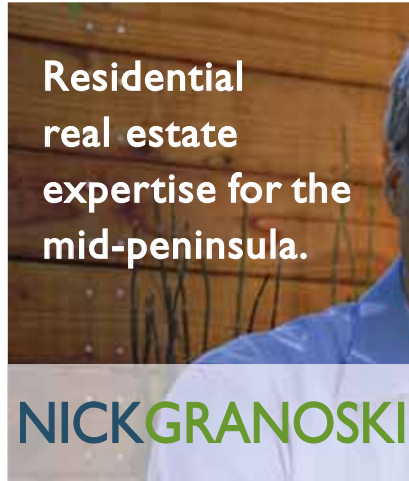
Dated: OCTOBER 28, 2013
OREN'S HUMMUS MOUNTAIN VIEW LLC
BY: FIDELITY NATIONAL TITLE COMPANY
AS ESCROW AGENT

BY: TIFFANY CRIGER, AUTHORIZED SIGNER (MVV Dec. 27, 2013)

The Mountain View Voice publishes every Friday.

THE DEADLINE TO ADVERTISE IN THE VOICE PUBLIC NOTICES IS: 5 P.M. THE PREVIOUS FRIDAY

Call Alicia Santillan at (650) 223-6578 for more information

	
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	<i>Wishing You and Your Family the happiest of Holidays and a New Year full of Peace, Love and Prosperity.</i> KEVIN KLEMM CalBRE# 01857018 650.269.6964 Kevin.Klemm@cbnocal.com www.KevinKlemm.com  
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS
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approach of paying the agent commission based on how much a buyer pays for a house misaligns incentives. Your agent should not make more money because you agreed to pay more or earn less because they told you not to put in an offer based on problems in the inspection reports. Our agents are paid great salaries, get full benefits and matched 401(k) contributions.

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 **INTERO**
REAL ESTATE SERVICES
*Per 2013 # of homes sold on MLS

#1 AGENT 2013: combined sales in LA, LAH & MV*



1655 Villa
Mountain View



1940 San Ramon
Mountain View



10903 Northfield
Cupertino



271 Velarde
Mountain View



418 Sierra
Mountain View

*No one knows your neighborhood
like your neighbor*



Kim Copher

Coldwell Banker

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kim.copher@cbnorcal.com

DRE #01423875



441 Poppy Pl
Mountain View



14341 Liddicoat
Los Altos Hills



554 Manet Terrace
Sunnyvale



350 Tasso Street
Palo Alto



4004 Martin
San Mateo



711 Vera Avenue
Redwood City



5705 Poppy Hills
San Jose



204 Lyndhurst
Belmont



712 Russett Terrace
Sunnyvale



460 Ives Terrace
Sunnyvale



679 Chiquita
Mountain View

Happy Holidays
Wishing you and your family
a wonderful 2014

Just a few of Kim's home sales in 2013

