

Mountain View VOICE

JANUARY 17, 2014 VOLUME 21, NO. 51

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**A dining
renaissance**
WEEKEND | 18



MICHELLE LE

Joey Ordonez leads Graham Middle School students across Castro Street at Harpster Drive, shortly after several Graham students were hit by cars in late 2012.

Council OKs 15 mph speed limits for schools

By Daniel DeBolt

Drivers take note: 15-mile-per-hour speed limits may be coming to a school near you.

The City Council voted unanimously Tuesday to lower speed limits near 15 schools in Mountain View, though some

of the more dangerous locations are left out of the plan.

In June, new speed limit signs will go up at all of the city's public and private schools, except for six schools. The schools where the speed limit won't go down include Graham Middle School, where several students were hit by cars in late

2012, spurring a push to narrow that portion of Castro Street from four to two lanes, now a funded city project that awaits council approval. State law prohibits the 15 mile-per-hour speed limits in areas where streets have at least four lanes or

► See **SCHOOL SPEEDS**, page 15

Police arrest 8 in meth bust

MOUNTAIN VIEW RESIDENTS AMONG SUSPECTS

By Nick Veronin

Law enforcement officials arrested eight people for allegedly selling more than 2 pounds of methamphetamine to undercover police officers last Friday.

The police have yet to release much information about the case, but Sgt. Saul Jaeger, public information officer with the Mountain View Police Department, confirmed that the bust was made on Jan. 10.

Police were aided in the operation by the MVPD's K9 officer, Zeus — a black Labrador. Using his olfactory powers, Zeus sniffed out 2.3 pounds of meth in a vehicle at about 6:30 p.m., in southern Santa Clara County.

Zeus, one of the department's narcotics dogs, is currently assigned to the Santa Clara County Specialized Enforcement Team. Police posted a photo of Zeus posing with his discovery on the department's Facebook page.

The suspects, who included one 17-year-old, "were mainly from Fresno and Mountain View," Jaeger said. The juvenile was booked into Juvenile Hall and the adults were booked into San Jose Main Jail.

A department spokeswoman said the police are planning to release more information on the case soon. Updates to the story will be posted on the Voice website, www.mv-voice.com.

—Email Nick Veronin
at nveronin@mv-voice.com



COURTESY MOUNTAIN VIEW POLICE DEPARTMENT

Zeus, a K-9 officer with the Mountain View Police Department, poses with the methamphetamine he sniffed out.

Tough year for victims of flu

COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS CONCERNED ABOUT DANGEROUS H1N1 INFLUENZA STRAIN

By Nick Veronin

If influenza hospitalizations and deaths continue on their current trajectory, this flu season could turn out to be more severe than last year's, according to Amy Cornell, communications manager for the Santa Clara County Public Health Department.

As of Jan. 15, 18 people in the Bay Area have died from the flu this season, according to public health officials. Four of those people — all under the age of 65 — were residents of Santa Clara County.

That's half of the total number of deaths the county saw last year, and there are still about two months to go in the current season. The peak of flu season is between January and March, according to health officials.

Last year, eight people under

the age of 65 died from the flu in Santa Clara County, Cornell said. The county has had 13 severe cases of flu this season, meaning 13 people under the age of 65 have been hospitalized because of the flu or complications of the flu, she said.

**'We want to
let people
know that it's
not too late to
get a flu shot.'**

AMY CORNELL

"We are seeing more severe cases earlier this year," Cornell said.

The county does not keep track of the victim's home cities. However, Cornell said, they do keep track of the victim's ages. Those

who have died this season have been 41, 56, 61 and 62, respectively. At least one of the victims had an underlying health issue.

"We want to let people know that it's not too late to get a flu shot," Cornell said.

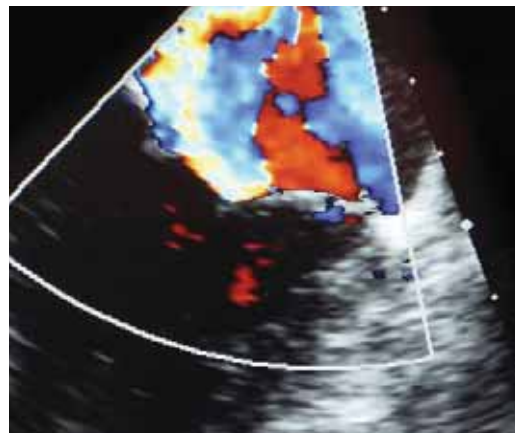
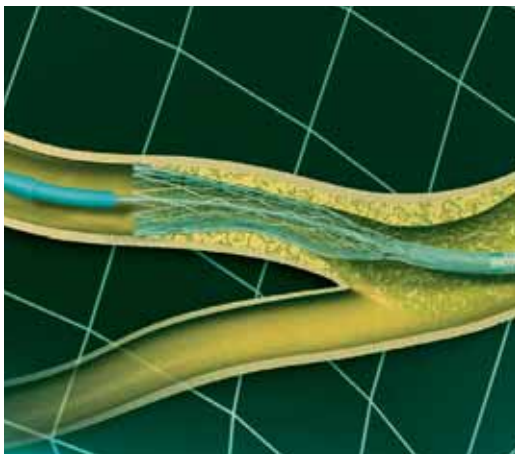
Part of the reason county

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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in downtown Mountain View. Photos and interviews by Katie Straub

What is your biggest challenge in conserving water?



"Making sure every tap in the house is closed."

Maria Padilla, Mountain View



"At home, we do our best at conserving water. We're trying to make sure we use bottled water that we purchase for drinking and cooking."

Stacy Avalos, San Jose



"Not watering my plants as much."

Chau Pham, San Jose



"Giving up long hot baths. I know they use more water than showers, but they're much more relaxing."

Emily Henderson, London



"My approach to being more conservative with water? I would say take faster baths."

Wellington Desan, Brazil

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





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— Kay P. from Palo Alto, Subaru owner

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*Associate Clinical
Professor, Associate
Director Division of*

*Gynecologic Oncology,
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■ CRIME BRIEFS

DIRTY DANCING

Three men told police that they had their pockets picked by one of two women on the dance floor of Molly Magees in the early hours of Sunday morning.

A 40-year-old man from San Jose, a 33-year-old man from Daly City, and a 22-year-old man from Sunnyvale each had similar stories to tell officers when they responded to a call from the Castro Street bar at 12:38 a.m. on Jan. 12, according to Shino Tanaka, public information officer for the Mountain View Police Department.

All three of the men told police they had been dancing with the same two women earlier in the night, only to realize that their wallets had gone missing later in the evening, according to Tanaka.

The youngest of the victims told police that he had been standing by the DJ's booth when one of the women beckoned him to dance with her, Tanaka said. After dancing he went to buy a drink but discovered his wallet was gone.

Police interviewed the two women that the men identified, but none of their wallets were found, Tanaka said. No arrests were made.

POT DEAL GONE BAD?

According to Sgt. Saul Jaeger, public information officer with the Mountain View Police Department, the suspect pulled a pellet gun and held it by his side during what may have been a drug deal gone bad with the Sunnyvale man.

Police apprehended Jerome Love, a 37-year-old local man, near the location of a reported robbery, around 10:30 p.m. that night, Jaeger said.

Love was accused of stealing cash, various small bags and marijuana from the Sunnyvale man.

Love was booked into jail for robbery and destroying the Sunnyvale man's cell phone, in an attempt to prevent him from calling for help.

The victim was not arrested, although he allegedly had been in possession of the marijuana prior to the robbery. "He previously possessed it, but he didn't possess it at the time" of the encounter with police, Jaeger said.

SUSPICIOUS FIRE

A suspicious fire that burned behind an auto body shop in Mountain View early Monday morning destroyed three cars, a fire department spokeswoman said.

Firefighters responded to reports of a fire at Pedro's Auto

► See **CRIME BRIEFS**, page 6

■ POLICE LOG

ARSON

2100 block Reinert Rd., 1/10

2600 block Marine Way, 1/14

300 block Castro St., 1/14

500 block Logue Av., 1/14

AUTO BURGLARY

700 block Continental Cir., 1/8

2200 block W El Camino Real, 1/14

INDECENT EXPOSURE

1500 block El Camino Real, 1/11

AUTO THEFT

1700 block Villa St., 1/10

2300 Block W Middlefield Rd., 1/11

POSSESSION OF NARCOTICS FOR SALE

2000 block Lathan St., 1/10

BATTERY

500 block Showers Dr., 1/9

Castro St. & Villa St., 1/11

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

1900 block Mount Vernon Ct., 1/8

1700 block Begen Av., 1/12

1000 block El Monte Av., 1/14

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

500 block San Antonio Rd., 1/9

1600 block Plymouth St., 1/9

Michael's Restaurant, 1/10

VANDALISM

900 block Clark Av., 1/8

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State budget no boon to local schools

By Nick Veronin

Though Gov. Jerry Brown is calling for big increases in education spending, Mountain View schools aren't likely to benefit all that much from his recently proposed budget, according to local school officials.

The superintendents of Mountain View's two school districts agreed that the governor's proposal is a step in the right direction. However, each noted that the increases called for in education spending aren't likely to amount to much locally, as the majority of those funds will be earmarked to pay back money deferred from other districts during the recession.

"It doesn't have a big impact on our school district," said Barry Groves, superintendent of the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District. "We will only see incremental increases for our district."

Craig Goldman, superintendent of the Mountain View Whisman School District seconded Groves, saying he does not expect his district's general fund to get a big boost from Brown's proposed budget.

"We will see very little benefit from it," Goldman said.

According to a press release from the the governor's office, Brown has proposed allocating about \$10 billion in new funding for schools. That breaks down to "an increase of more than \$2,188 per student in 2014-15 over 2011-12 levels," the release said.

While it is promising that Brown is allocating more money to state schools, both Groves and Goldman said it will be some time before California students are getting the amount of funding they truly need.

"The 2015-2016 California Governor's budget proposal is much better for California's kids than past year's reductions," Groves said. "However, on average, California will remain in the bottom 10 percent of states in funding per child. Our higher education and other services for children also remain woefully underfunded."

► See **BUDGET**, page 14



MICHELLE LE

Kyle Doerksen rides a prototype of the Onewheel electric skateboard he developed outside his Mountain View office.

A skateboard with only one wheel

MV INVENTOR USES KICKSTARTER FUNDING TO GET PROJECT ROLLING

By Daniel DeBolt

A Mountain View company may have developed the simplest electric vehicle yet.

Designed by Faraway electric bicycle designer and former IDEO employee Kyle Doerksen (he left his design job there in July to focus on this) the Onewheel self-balancing skateboard is a study in simple vehicle design.

It has only one moving part: its wheel. It has a custom-made 500-watt electric motor inside it, and a surprisingly "ideal" tire from a high performance go-kart wrapped around it. A tiny gyroscopic sensor taken out of a smart phone senses your lean angle as you stand, adjusting the motor's speed to keep you from doing a face plant on the sidewalk. Onewheel's older cousin, the Segway scooter, used expensive sensors and gears to do that job.

In the Old Middlefield Way parking lot of his company headquarters, Future Motion CEO Doerksen floated around like Marty McFly in "Back to



Lithium batteries power the Onewheel, which uses tiny gyroscopic sensors for self-balancing.

It has only one moving part: its wheel.

the Future" on a Onewheel prototype, which he's been working on for four years. The trick, he said, is learning to trust it as you lean forward to make it go — up to 12 miles per hour — and lean back to slow or stop.

The prototype doesn't like

nervous movements, though. Doerksen said improvements may soon make it more beginner-friendly. Twice this reporter was sent flying off the front when its nose dug into the ground, though thankfully not to meet the asphalt. Others have apparently mastered it, as evidenced in a video of posted in OneWheel's Kickstarter campaign. Doerksen says that most people can learn to ride it in a few minutes.

Onewheel has proven a very

► See **ONEWHEEL**, page 14

Council struggles with North Bayshore

OFFICE PROJECTS AWAIT PLAN'S OK

By Daniel DeBolt

In the first real City Council meeting of the year, members found themselves wrestling with a monstrous task — how to use a precise plan to manage the explosive office growth that is waiting in the wings for the North Bayshore area.

"This is really important stuff to be fiddling with late at night," said council member Mike Kasperzak. "This is so visual. I'm trying to visualize what this could look like over 15 years. It's really hard to imagine all of this and we're all struggling with that."

Council members were tasked with where to put 3.4 million square feet of new offices north of Highway 101 by 2030 — room for 15,000 to 20,000 new employees — with buildings up to eight stories tall along Highway 101 and Shoreline Boulevard and a three-story maximum along the edges of Shoreline Park and Stevens Creek.

Council members apparently were worried that there would be pressure to develop more than 3.4 million square feet as soon as the North Bayshore precise plan is finished at the end of the year. It wouldn't be a first. Last year office development proposals quickly exceeded the 1.1 million square feet allocated in the 2030 general plan for the Whisman Area.

"I know everybody wants to get it done," Kasperzak said of all the landowners, developers and companies like Google with plans for rapid expansion. "But we're talking about a 15-year plan here."

With job growth clearly outpacing housing growth in Mountain View and causing traffic jams on Highway 101 and Shoreline Boulevard, council members and residents are very worried about making the situation worse.

"What most people are talking about is they don't believe this level of office growth works or can be dealt with in this traffic

► See **NORTH BAYSHORE**, page 14

MV fix-it man hangs up tools after 50 years

By Andrea Gemmet

John Acord didn't start out as an appliance repairman.

He was working on oil rigs in Saudi Arabia for Standard Oil when he and his wife decided to move back to California for the sake of their young son's schooling. Fixing broken washing machines and the like was a sideline he'd picked up overseas, filling a need and teaching himself as he went along.

Acord says a friend gave him the idea of starting his own repair business when he returned to the United States, and that's exactly what he did. In 1963, he set up shop on Calderon Avenue

in Mountain View, took out a few newspaper ads (he'd missed the deadline for the Yellow Pages) and put up his card in local laundromats. For the next 50 years, Acord's Appliance Service did a steady business from referrals and repeat customers, he says. His motto: "All of your appliances in Acord."

"I started doing a considerable amount of business for apartment owners, and it grew and grew," he said.

Now, after half a century in Mountain View, he's retiring.

"When you get to be 85, it's time to stop," he says.

A long-time member of the Mountain View Chamber of



John Acord who has been repairing Mountain View appliances for 50 years, is retiring at age 85.

MICHELLE LE

Commerce, his business has always been based in Mountain View, although he lives across the border in Los Altos. He gave up his office space a few years back, but kept his Mountain View business license.

He still loves the work, but it's gotten harder since his back surgery, he says. An inveterate tinkerer, he says he'll probably still take on a job or two. "I love fiddling," he says. Acord and his wife Charlene have a motor home and a love of state parks, he says, and plan to put his new-found free time to good use.

He contacted the *Voice* about his retirement because he wanted a way to say thank you to his customers.

"It's been a good business.



We never got rich, but the good Lord will supply," Acord says. "Mountain View has been very

good to me."

—Email Andrea Gemmet at editor@mv-voice.com

■ CRIME BRIEFS

► Continued from page 4

Clinic at 1080 Terra Bella Ave. at 3:28 a.m. on Jan. 13, Mountain View fire spokeswoman Jaime Garrett said.

The fire was quickly extinguished, but three sedans in the rear of the business were destroyed, and two other vehicles had minor damage, fire officials said.

No injuries were reported.

The cause of the blaze remains under investigation, but the fire is considered suspicious, Garrett said, telling the *Voice* that the vehicles that caught on fire had been parked in the same place for quite some time. Parked cars, she noted, "don't typically self-combust."

She said any community members who witness suspicious activity should call authorities. The fire department is working with the Mountain View Police Department on the investigation.

"We always encourage our residents, 'If you see something, say something,'" Garrett said.

BURGLARY

An iPad, camera, jewelry and a DVD player were stolen during a burglary of a home on the 1000 block of El Monte Avenue, police said.

Sometime between 8:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Jan. 14, someone reportedly broke into the house through a window, according Sgt. Saul Jaeger, public information officer for the Mountain View Police Department.

—Nick Veronin

■ OBITUARY

HELEN WALKER

Helen Walker, a Mountain View resident, died Jan. 7 at her son's home. She was 77.

Born to Helen and Irving Thrall in Wisconsin, she moved to the Mountain View area in 1955, and married Leonard Dow Walker in 1960. She was known for her red hair and pink cheeks, and

enjoyed fishing, bingo, playing cards and walking through the neighborhood with her grandchildren, her family said.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Leonard and two



Helen Walker

siblings. She is survived by her son David Walker; six siblings; and grandchildren Isaac and Chantel.

A memorial service is set for 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 18, at Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary, 96 West El Camino Real, Mountain View. A reception will follow, with the location to be announced at the service.

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■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

POLICE STATION RENOVATION OK'D

After a survey found that voters were hesitant to approve a bond measure to fund large city projects, including a new police station costing as much as \$65 million, the City Council quietly and unanimously approved a \$971,300 renovation Tuesday, Jan. 14.

The 33-year-old police and fire department headquarters at 1000 Villa Street will see a slew of refinements, according to the approved plans.

There are thorough renovations set for the building's kitchen and upper bathrooms. There will be new lockers, including refrigerated lockers, while a larger booking area for detainees addresses security concerns police have had. There's new flooring, lighting, a new projection screen and flat screen monitors for the station's heavily used auditorium, and new cabinetry and fixtures for its kitchenette.

A new conference room will be built in place of a little-used courtyard near the front entrance where two large conifer trees will be removed, to be replaced by four new trees on the station's grounds. After some regrading of the entry way, police officials hope there will no longer be puddles at the front door after it rains.

The renovation was approved on the City Council's consent calendar without discussion.

—Daniel DeBolt

ASSEMBLYMAN SEEKING INTERNS

Assemblyman Richard Gordon is seeking college students for part-time spring internship positions at his Los Altos district office. Applications are accepted now through Wednesday, Jan. 22.

The Assemblyman's office is looking for motivated,

independent interns with a basic knowledge of state government and local issues, strong writing and research skills, and computer and Internet knowledge.

The internships are part-time with an expected start date of Feb. 3 and approximate end date of June 13. The positions are unpaid but may be eligible to receive school credit.

Interns will learn about state government and the legislative process, network with professionals, and serve their community, according to a statement from Anna Ko, Gordon's senior field representative.

For more details on the internship and the application process, contact Anna Ko at 650-691-2121, or by email Anna.Ko@asm.ca.gov.

—Katie Straub

BIKE SHARE EXPANDING

Bay Area Bike Share has logged more than 100,000 trips made by people using its bikes in the first four months of the pilot program, a spokesman for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District said today.

The 100,000 trips were made between Aug. 29, when the program started, and Dec. 29. The cities participating so far are San Francisco, Redwood City, San Jose, Mountain View and Palo Alto, air district spokesman Tom Flannigan said.

When the program began, there were 700 of the seven-speed bikes available at 70 kiosks scattered throughout the participating cities.

By the end of this year, the number of bicycle stations in those cities will expand to 100, and there will be a total of 1,000 bikes in the system, Flannigan said.

The bikes are intended for short trips of 30 minutes or

less. A daily pass costs \$9 and allows the user to make unlimited short trips on the bike. If the bike usage exceeds 30 minutes, the user is charged a \$4 fee.

Three-day passes cost \$22, and an annual membership costs \$88.

The \$11.2 million project is a partnership between the air quality district, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Caltrain, SamTrans, the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority, San Mateo County, San Francisco and Redwood City.

WATER LINE BREAKS

A fire water service line broke Monday night and prompted public works crews to briefly shut down a connected main water line, a water department supervisor said.

The break in the line that fire officials use was reported around 9:30 p.m. Monday at 505 Cypress Point Drive, water department supervisor Will Medina said.

To get to the broken valve that was spilling water onto the street, the water main that runs along Cypress Point Drive to Moffett Boulevard had to be shut off around 11 p.m., Medina said.

The main line was turned back on around midnight, he said.

Some of the nearby residents' water service was affected during the brief shutdown, he said.

There was some damage to the road and sidewalk where the line broke, but those repairs will not be made until Thursday, which is when the fire line is expected to be fixed, Medina said.

In the meantime the fire line is turned off.

—Bay City News Service

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Stanford panel: economy, not war on poverty, failed

By Chris Kenrick

The U.S. economy's failure to deliver jobs has left the country with persistently high rates of poverty and income and wealth inequality, a panel of experts convened at Stanford University said Monday.

Growing gaps in educational achievement and health — including life expectancy — reflect the income and wealth disparities, panelists said.

Six years after the start of the Great Recession, the proportion of 25-to-54-year-olds who hold jobs, the so-called “prime-age employed,” was nearly 5 percent lower than it was at the recession's beginning in December 2007, New York University sociologist Michael Hout said.

“What we see is an upstream economy that's failing to deliver jobs and then generates much poverty, which places unrealistic demands on our schools, our penal system and health-care system,” said Stanford sociologist David Grusky, who directs the university's Center on Poverty & Inequality.

Grusky convened fellow sociologists, economists and political

scientists from Stanford, New York University, University of Michigan, Columbia University and the Federal Reserve Board to present what he said is the center's first annual report on poverty and inequality.

“It's definitely not sexy, but what we're committed to is making sure the general public has the data, information and facts they need to participate meaningfully in discussions about poverty and inequality,” Grusky said.

The nation's official poverty rate increased from 12.5 percent in 2007 to 15 percent in 2012, with child poverty rising from 18 percent in 2007 to 21.8 percent in 2012, the report said. The increase would have been significantly larger had it not been for aggressive safety-net programs, the report said.

Grusky assembled a panel of experts to discuss what he called the “downstream” effects of joblessness.

Those include disparities in health outcomes and life expectancy and a widening income-related educational achievement gap even as progress is measured on the racial achievement gap.

Because the income-related educational achievement gap is already large when children enter kindergarten and grows only modestly thereafter, “there are reasons to think a lot of these trends don't have to do with the quality of schools but with the quality of early childhood environments,” Stanford Professor of Education Sean Reardon said.

But Reardon reported that recent testing of kindergartners found some narrowing of an income-related achievement gap after a long period of widening. Reasons for the progress are not yet clear, he said.

“Vast social disparities” persist in health outcomes, including life expectancy, despite U.S. health spending that exceeds that of other developed nations, University of Michigan epidemiologist Sarah Burgard said.

Since 1960, American men have gained 10 years of life expectancy and women eight years, but most of those gains have occurred to people above median income, Burgard said. The increase in life-expectancy was greatest for higher income brackets and “stagnant for lower income brackets,” she said.

Despite continued growth in U.S. health spending, the proportion of Americans who have any health insurance has declined since 1999. As of 2012, slightly less than 85 percent of all Americans were insured, but the proportion of children with insurance increased by more than 3 percent between the late 1990s and 2012, attributable to the 1997 Children's Health Insurance Program, Burgard said.

The Great Recession increased the amount of income inequality, but not the amount of consumption inequality or the share of total income going to the top 1 percent, the report said.

But after the recession ended in 2009, income and consumption inequality increased, “resuming what has been a nearly relentless growth in inequality over the last 30 years,” the report said.

In 2012, the bottom 20 percent secured 3.4 percent of total income.

Former University of Michigan economist Sheldon Danziger, now president of the Russell Sage Foundation, refuted the idea that safety-net programs enacted 50 years ago by President Lyndon

Johnson have failed.

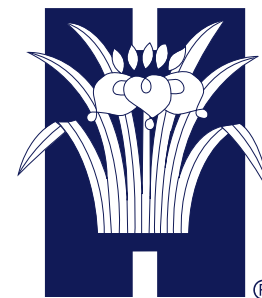
“We did set in motion a safety net that's much broader than it was 50 years ago, but it's the economy that failed,” Danziger said. “If we counted all the safety net programs, poverty would be lower — it would not have fallen from 19 percent to 15 percent, but from 19 percent to 11 percent.”

“There's been a failure of economic growth to benefit not only the poor but also the middle class,” he said.

Founded in 2006, the Stanford Center on Poverty & Inequality is one of three national research centers on poverty, said Ajay Chaudry, deputy assistant secretary in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The other two are at the University of California at Davis and the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

“Diminished opportunities for economic mobility is the defining challenge of our time and the focus of President Obama's second term,” Chaudry told the assembled Stanford crowd of more than 150 Monday.

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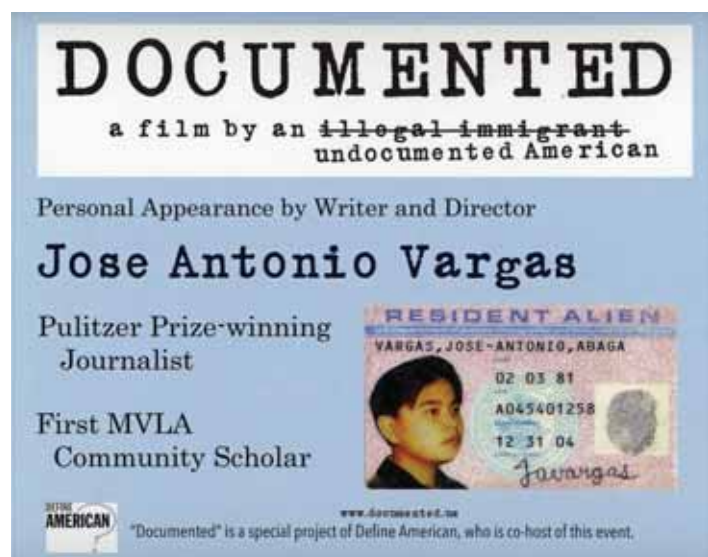
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Emergency officials get autism training

By Nick Veronin

Mountain View's police and fire departments have been getting special training lately — learning how to improve their interactions with people with autism.

Brad Boardman, executive director of the Morgan Autism Center, talked with the *Voice* about the workshops he gives around the Bay Area, including the seminar he held last month in Mountain View for local emergency responders.

It is increasingly common for police and firefighters to encounter autistic men and women when responding to the scene of a crime or fire, Boardman said. That's because rates of autism have been on the rise for many years — especially in the Bay Area and Silicon Valley — and because federal, state

and local government spending cuts have led to reductions in the number of affordable daytime programs for severely autistic adults. Afterschool programs for autistic children have also suffered cuts.

It is particularly important for police and fire officials to know how to spot signs of autism in individuals they may contact, Boardman explained. Severely autistic men and women may have trouble communicating or might act inappropriately in the presence of an emergency responder, and being able to determine that someone is possibly autistic can help in improving communication and understanding.

"Many times people with autism don't understand social hierarchies," Boardman said. They might not follow directions well, which could lead an

officer to assume a subject is being disrespectful or even represents a threat.

An autistic person might even "reach for an officer's badge or gun," Boardman continued — not in an attempt to attack the officer, but simply because the item interests them. In some cases, an autistic person may not be able to speak or even understand the speech of others, he said.

Boardman said he helps emergency officials understand how the autistic mind works, how to look for signs of autism, and some tips on how to have more productive exchanges with autistic people.

According to Boardman, he has encountered many officials during these training sessions who recall an interaction with an autistic individual, which they believe would have gone better had they been better trained. ▀

School's Haiti club needs community's help

By Nick Veronin

A student club at Los Altos High School is gearing up for trip to one of the poorest and most dangerous countries in the world — and they need the community's help to make it happen.

The school's Haiti Solidarity Club is raising funds to travel to the embattled island nation, to continue work on LAHS' sister school. The students leave in early February, and they are looking for donations from local individuals and companies to help finance the trip, as well as the other humanitarian and charity work the club does year-round.

Seth Donnelly, adviser to the school's Haiti Solidarity Club, said he is excited at the chance to get back to a country he's grown to love over the past decade, and lead his students on an excursion they are likely to remember for the rest of their lives.

Since the summer of 2010, when Donnelly began taking groups of LAHS students to Haiti, the club has made eight trips — roughly two each year. On Feb. 16, the club will embark on its ninth trip to Haiti.

While in the country, Donnelly and the high schoolers have worked "shoulder to shoulder" with local Haitians building the SOPUDEP school. The Society of Providence United for the Economic Development of Pétion-Ville is a Haitian grassroots organization working to provide free education, support women's rights and empower the

country's poorest citizens.

The kids take in Haitian culture, gain a more worldly perspective and learn about ways U.S. foreign policy can help the developing world. During their stay the students will stay with Haitian families — not in a hotel.

"I think that's what makes this experience distinct from other charity work," Donnelly said.

It not only introduces the students to the kinds of conditions this world's less fortunate live in on a daily basis, it also shows them that people can live a meaningful life without all the creature comforts to which even the least-fortunate LAHS student is accustomed, according to Donnelly.

"No matter what somebody's background, I think the level of poverty in Haiti really is quite shocking," he said. "That, of course, deepens a sense in our students to not take for granted all the resources we have here, like drinking fountains with water that doesn't make us sick, tutors and computers."

The U.S. Embassy in Port Au Prince, Haiti, warns Americans to be very cautious when visiting the country, and according to the head of the high school district, the group is very careful when in the country.

"We take significant precautions in taking students there," said Barry Groves, superintendent of the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District.

Groves traveled with the club last February and said that the

risks of traveling to Haiti are worth the rewards that both the students and SOPUDEP school get in return.

"It was the most impactful educational experience I've had in my 35-plus years in education," Groves said. "To see the outpouring of support and empathy of the students was incredibly impressive."

Groves said that the Haitians he's met really appreciate the help and support, and that they want to ultimately transition into building their country themselves.

In order for the Haiti Solidarity Club to continue supporting the society, it needs support from the local LAHS community, Donnelly said.

On Jan. 26, from 2 p.m. to 2:40 p.m., the group plans to hold a fundraiser at First & Main Sports Lounge in Los Altos. The event will feature a silent auction where members of the community can bid on different projects the club wants to tackle — like the installation of a 70,000-gallon clean water cistern at the school, or the construction of a new classroom.

Those interested in tickets or information on the fundraiser can email haiticlub.lahs@gmail.com. You can also contribute to the cause by visiting 32auctions.com/sopudep.

More information about SOPUDEP can be found at the organization's website, sopudep.org.

—Email Nick Veronin
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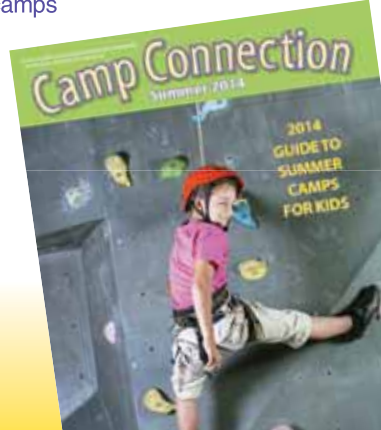
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NORTH BAYSHORE

► Continued from page 5

situation,” said one resident. “People are talking about whether it’s time to move.”

“I strongly encourage you to allow a few hundred housing units there” in North Bayshore said resident Chris Carpenter, addressing the council’s rejection of plans to build 1,000 homes in North Bayshore for tech employees. “We have a very serious housing problem. San Francisco is going to get on our case if we don’t provide housing for people that work here.”

In contrast to all the job growth planned, the city’s new general plan allows up to 6,539 new homes in the city by 2030.

Consultant Matt Raimi revealed that if all of North Bayshore were allowed to develop at a maximum allowed density in the new 2030 general plan,

26 million square feet of new office space would be built. At 200 square feet per employee, that means potentially adding 130,000 employees. Today, 7.6 million square feet of office exists in North Bayshore.

In an effort to not exceed 3.4 million square feet, Kasperzak raised the possibility of a lottery for office developers to enter in which the only the best project are periodically selected for approval. Raimi said such ideas were being considered for the draft North Bayshore precise plan to be presented to the council in June.

Council member Margaret Abe-Koga said it was comforting to know that a North Bayshore traffic study will be presented to the council in April to help determine what will be needed to manage the area’s traffic. “How many more shuttle buses can you even accommodate?” she asked, referring to the scores

of white buses that bring Google employees from all over the Bay Area to Mountain View.

City planners say a large array of options will have to be utilized to fix North Bayshore’s traffic problem, from new pedestrian and bike paths to dedicated shuttle lanes and new transit lines.

“We have the numbers (of commuters) to increase or improve our transportation system as is,” Abe-Koga said. “The real crux is, how do we get the investment to do that? Maybe we have to require that investment up front.”

“Where did the 3.4 million square foot number come from?” said council member Jac Siegel, to which planning director Randy Tsuda answered that it came from an economic forecast done during the general plan process.

“I don’t see the need for eight-story buildings,” said council member Ronit Bryant. “The new five story office on Middlefield Road and Logue Avenue — that’s really, really big. We will run out of development space really, really quickly. I think it’s silly.”

Bryant said she wanted North Bayshore to look like Stanford, a place where “there is actually a lot of development” though it doesn’t feel that way. Others noted how streets inside Stanford were closed to car traffic and where bicycles are the norm, and expressed a desire that such be duplicated in North Bayshore.

“The idea of tall towers in wide open spaces has been tried and has failed because people don’t like living like that,” Bryant said. Projects “left open green spaces which were supposed to be wonderful and were absolutely awful. I don’t want to look across the (Shoreline) lake and see eight-story buildings there.”

The plan so far includes a walkable “core” along Shoreline Boulevard north of the highway with ground floor retail, although council members questioned its viability, given the number of restaurants and other business in North Bayshore who say they haven’t been able to compete with Google’s free food and other amenities.

“The chances for retail not being particularly good right now makes the idea of the walkable area not really credible,” Bryant said. “Do we really even need a core?”

“For many of the employees out there, it is more convenient for them to go out to the cafeteria than to get in their car and drive out to restaurant, plus it’s free,” Raimi said. “We believe there are many people who would happily leave the confines of the campus if (retail and restaurants) were easier to get to.”

Google’s John Igoe had brief comments about the planning effort.

“We are very much in favor of most of the principles of the precise plan,” said Igoe, real estate director for Google. “It’s our belief the precise plan be as consistent with the general plan as much as possible. A lot of community input and a lot of hard work went into it. We look forward to continuing to work with the city.”

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ONEWHEEL

► Continued from page 5

successful Kickstarter fundraising campaigns, meeting its \$100,000 goal in a single week. As of Jan. 13, nearly 100 people committed to one of the boards, which are not cheap at \$1,299 for the standard version. More than \$146,000 has been raised to help Doerksen hire

some employees and get the boards to production.

“People are definitely having an emotional response to it,” Doerksen said, reflecting on its popularity online.

Doerksen said its intended use is “recreational transportation.” At 25 pounds, it can be taken onto a bus or train and used for the “last mile” of a commute. One skilled skateboarder has already learned to do a 180 degree flip with it.

Onewheel was a favorite at the International CES trade show in Las Vegas last week, where tech journalists praised its design. As for its aesthetics, some of those with more modern tastes have asked, “Does it have to have wood on the top?” and Doerksen’s response is a certain yes. “We’re tying into the whole wood thing” on skateboards, snowboards and surfboards, Doerksen said. While there isn’t much to Onewheel, it has “a very

California aesthetic” with a tiny bit of the aerospace industry, skateboard and hot rod aesthetics mixed in.

Given the price, you probably won’t be buying one for your kid’s next birthday. Doerksen said the plan has always been to introduce a “high-end” product, and develop a cheaper version later. A pricier \$1,399 model is most popular so far and comes with a charger that will fill the batteries in only 20 minutes, instead of two hours for the standard-issue charger. The 48-volt lithium phosphate battery has a 4-6 mile range and is rated for more than 1,000 cycles of charging and discharging.

It should also be noted that Doerksen plans to manufacture the boards somewhere on the West Coast, probably in California.

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BUDGET

► Continued from page 5

“Even with the increases, we’re still going to see California’s per-student funding at the bottom of the country,” Goldman said. “We’re still seeing class sizes amongst the highest in the country.”

That said, Goldman is grateful that the governor is so clearly focused on increasing educa-

tion spending. He said that the proposed increases could mean more funding for his district in specific categorical areas, such as special education and transportation, which Mountain View Whisman has had to pare back in recent years. It just isn’t clear how much money could be coming.

“I can’t even guess,” Goldman said.

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MICHELLE LE

A Crittenden Middle School student runs across Rock Street on her way to school on Jan. 15. Speed limits will drop to 15 miles per hour by the school.

SCHOOL SPEEDS

► Continued from page 1

have speed limits above 30 miles per hour.

Resident Christian Hilty said his daughter “almost got hit twice” on Rock Street in front of Crittenden Middle School, one of the streets to get the new speed limit.

“People on Rock Street are going way to fast,” Hilty said. “I’ve never once seen a police officer there. Because of the glare from the sun, it’s very hard to see the kids. And people are doing 30 to 35 miles per hour down there.”

Another resident questioned the effectiveness of simply lowering the speed limit, saying that flashing yellow lights would be more effective in letting drivers

know about the presence of kids. Council members said that was an expensive solution, but that the city might be able to partner with schools to pay for it. The 15 mile-per-hour signs will cost the city \$137,000.

“I don’t want to create speed trap, that’s not why we are doing this,” said council member Jac Siegel.

Traffic engineer Sayed Fakhry said that lower speeds “reduces the severity of the injury” when collisions happen. According to the National Highway Traffic safety administration, only 5 percent of people die when hit by a car going 20 miles per hour or less, while the chances of death jump to 40 percent at 30 miles an hour or more.

Council member Ronit Bryant said there was no need to complicate the issue.

“There’s a school, there’s kids, and cars need to go slowly and that’s all there is to it,” Bryant said. “You would think there would be no need to say something like that but every parent who has kids has encountered the problem of people driving incredibly quickly by schools. It’s a no brainer to me.”

Other schools not affected by the change include Mountain View Academy, Saint Francis High School, Saint Joseph elementary school, Slater school and Landels elementary school. Landels is the only school on a two-lane street that does not qualify for the lower speed limit, because of Dana Street’s 35 mile-per-hour speed limit there.

Email Daniel DeBolt
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FLU DEATHS

► Continued from page 1

health officials are worried, according to Cornell, is that the H1N1 strain of the virus — also known as “swine flu” — is the “predominant strain this year.”

“What we’re seeing is that H1N1 is affecting normally healthy people and making them ill,” Cornell said.

One of the most recent deaths — the first in Solano County this season — came after a 40-year-old Vallejo man was infected with H1N1 and died. In Sonoma County, a 23-year-old died from the flu earlier this season.

Cornell advised anyone who believes they have the flu to stay home and limit contact with others — unless the symptoms become severe, in which case, people should seek medical

attention.

“If people have severe symptoms and they feel very sick, it’s best to get checked out by a doctor rather than not,” she said.

The website of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention identifies the main flu symptoms as: fever, chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headaches, fatigue, and vomiting and diarrhea in some people (especially children).

Many of the symptoms associated with the influenza virus are similar to symptoms associated with the common cold. However, Cornell noted, with the flu, severe cases can lead to complications, such as bronchitis, ear and sinus infections, and pneumonia. Complications from the flu can lead to death.

Cornell said her department wanted people to know that

flu vaccination shots are readily available through the public health department at the Adult Immunization Clinic, located on the first floor of 967 Lenzen Ave. in San Jose. Vaccine is also available at multiple locations in Mountain View, including the free RotaCare Clinic on the El Camino Hospital campus, Palo Alto Medical Foundation’s Mountain View Center, Kaiser, Safeway and various chain drug stores.

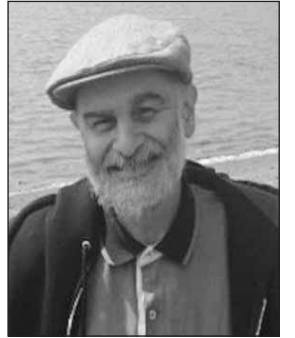
Although there have been reports of temporary shortages at various flu shot providers, overall there’s a good supply of vaccine. Health officials all over the Bay Area are urging everyone 6 months and older to get vaccinated. The vaccine takes about two weeks after inoculation to be fully effective.

—Bay City News
contributed to this report

Joel Daniel Kazarian

February 7, 1958 – December 24, 2013

Joel Daniel Kazarian went to be with the Lord on Christmas Eve in San Jose, CA, 14 months after he was diagnosed with cancer. Joel was born in 1958 in Hawthorne, CA, and was raised in Palos Verdes. He went to college at UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz, graduating with a double major in Physics and Economics. He spent most of his adult life in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties, working in a variety of jobs including stereo salesman, radar tube engineer, and two long-time pursuits in Redwood City: owner of a photography business and manager of a wheelchair shop. He had many interests including astronomy, sailing, airplanes, space, wine, and motorcycles. Later in life Joel became passionate about ministry and served in recovery and outreach to single men. During this time he lived in Mountain View and attended Abundant Life Christian Fellowship. He is survived by his father, two brothers and two sisters, and numerous nieces and nephews.



A celebration of life will be held at Abundant Life Christian Fellowship in Mountain View, Calif., at noon on Feb. 7.

In lieu of flowers please consider making a donation to Santa Clara Valley Medical Center where Joel received exceptional care during his illness.

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EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Quest for fresh food a boost for gardens

What could be more fun and educational for you and your children than growing your own food? It is an activity that more and more city residents are craving, but there is not enough space to accommodate everyone seeking one of the city's small plots.

The popularity of the city's community garden has generated a long waiting list of possible gardeners who are eager to work the soil. If the sign-up list for plots is any indication, there are a lot more gardeners in Mountain View than there is space to accommodate them. There are now 84 plots being worked at the Willowgate community garden on Andsbury Avenue, with a long list which means it could be a five-year wait for an opening to start gardening.

Now, as a result of the 1.22-acre parcel that the city recently purchased from resident Frances Stieper for \$3 million, there is another possibility that a community garden, open to anyone who wants to pitch in, could be created amid the fruit trees already in place at the city's new holding at 771 North Rengstorff Ave. More people could take part in such a large garden, which could produce enough food to share.

An online petition calls on the city to support the community gardening effort, although it does not specify support for small plots over larger gardens, and large shared gardens could potentially involve many more people. The petition closed this week and was to be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission Jan. 15, after the *Voice* went to press.

We hope the city can find ways to meet this renewed interest in gardening by local residents who lack a place to grow their own produce. After all, long before tech firms were the city's major industry, Mountain View was known for its orchards and extensive growing season. Although a dry spell has left some crops without adequate water, smaller plots are thriving due to the attention of gardeners who make sure every plant is getting quality care.

The city should assess its land holdings to see where small or even large plots could be set aside for one or more community gardens. Resident Kieran Gonsalves, who is promoting establishing a community garden on the Stieper property, told the *Voice*: "Studies have shown that with a community garden in a neighborhood crime goes down, neighborhood pride does up, people come together and talk about things of community interest. And they share," he said. All of these are positive outcomes that could contribute to a richer neighborhood experience for many more residents.

Another way to go might be a shared garden organized like a demonstration farm, such as Full Circle Farm in Sunnyvale or Veggielution in San Jose. Both of these gardens are supported by nonprofit organizations.

With more than 272 signers by Jan. 14, the online petition should have received some attention at the Parks and Recreation Commission Jan. 15. We hope it ushers in at least the start of the city expanding its gardening potential to the Stieper property or to other unused property around town.

LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

FOUNDATION HAS GOOD DAY AT WHOLE FOODS

Thanks in part to the *Voice* article published in December, the Mountain View-based Burwen Education Foundation (BEF) had a successful fundraiser at Whole Foods on Dec. 10.

The Whole Foods Market in Los Altos generously donated 5 percent of the day's proceeds to the BEF, resulting in a check of \$6,426.05 to the foundation. This money will go a long way towards providing scholarships and mentoring for first-generation college-bound students from Mountain View High School's AVID program.

A big thanks to the many BEF supporters and Mountain View residents who not only shopped at Whole Foods that day but also stopped by our information table to talk to us, ask questions, and offer encouragement. We couldn't have done it without all of you.

Jennifer Pence

Burwen Education Foundation

SEAHAWKS HAVE BUILT-IN FANS IN MOUNTAIN VIEW

There's a strange phenomenon that haunts one of the local pubs in Mountain View and its origin

is Seattle.

Why so many Seahawks fans live around here might only be conjectured from the fact Microsoft has a division here, and I've heard that all MS employees are required to be Seahawks fans, akin to those head-bobbing things we see in the rear windows of cars. Individuality is not tolerated at MS.

I would like to make the observation for the enlightenment of all Seahawks fans that it's obvious their team lacks the talent to win without their fans making so much noise in their home stadium that all the teams far superior to the Seahawks cannot perform properly. Seahawks fans are covering up for their team's glaring deficiencies.

But even if the Seahawks manage to pull off a miracle and beat the Niners this coming Sunday in Seattle, the truth of just how incapable and over-rated the Seahawks are will become obvious when the Pats crush them in the Super Bowl in February.

Jeffrey Van Middlebrook
Easy Street

CAPTAIN ORTHOTIC



801 El Camino project is highly flawed

By Konrad Sosnow

Mountain View has an opportunity to upgrade El Camino Real, and in particular, the southwest corner of El Camino and Cuesta. The current empty lot and strip mall does not represent the best economic or esthetic use of the land. However, the 801 El Camino Real Project, as it stands, is not the solution, as it is highly flawed.

The quality of life section of the 2030 General Plan states that the goal is preserving the land uses within most neighborhoods and establishing policies to help enhance and support their distinct characters, with high density development focused along transit corridors in the El Cami-

no Real, East Whisman, and San Antonio Road areas.

The project at 801 El Camino Real will be built primarily along Castro Street and not El Camino Real. Thus, it should not be considered as being located along a transit corridor but as being primarily located along Castro Street in the Cuesta Park neighborhood. The high-quality Cuesta Park environment should be maintained by preserving the land uses within the neighborhood.

The development at 801 El Camino Real will add 176 cars to the already congested El Camino Real, thus increasing congestion along this important state route. All retail traffic in and out of the

development will be forced into the existing alley, which will be shared by delivery truck traffic and garbage pickup for the businesses and residents. Increased traffic in the area will pose safety issues for pedestrians, school children, bicyclists and even drivers. Another shortcoming of the project is that the 170 one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartment units will have only 176 underground parking spaces restricted to residents only. In addition, the current 162 parking spaces for existing retail would be reduced by 59 spaces, about one-third less, and shared by retail customers and employees, apartment employees, and residents of the 170 units and their guests. Also, there is no designated guest parking for the development.

As a result, tenants of 801 El Camino and their guests will be forced to park in the streets of the Cuesta Park Neighborhood, destroying the quality of life for the residents of Cuesta Park.

I like the architecture of the four-story building at 800 El Camino Real as it has generous set-backs, an open area and sculpture in the front, and was designed to be pleasing to the eye. It is appropriate as it is not next to single-story residences. On the other hand, the proposed development at 801 El Camino Real is four stories next to single-story residences. How would you like this mammoth project next to your home? How would you like your neighbors to be able to look into your backyard?

Gochi's Japanese Fusion Restaurant will be excluded from

the development and forced to close or relocate. While there are plans to temporarily relocate Rose Market during the two-year construction phase, there is no guarantee that they will not be adversely affected by the relocation and permanently move or even close.

Let's not ruin this opportunity to make 801 El Camino Real a development that is not only economically and esthetically pleasing, but one that contributes to the quality of life in the Cuesta Park neighborhood.

Konrad M. Sosnow
lives on Trophy Drive



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FOOD FEATURE

A DINING RENAISSANCE

PALO ALTO'S DINING SCENE REVEALS A NEW GUARD OF RESTAURANT CONCEPTS

Story by Elena Kadvany // Photos by Veronica Weber

There's a generally held perception that the Peninsula dining scene is dead.

But a walk through downtown Palo Alto on any given day at dining hours will tell you otherwise: The local dining scene is booming.

On hot summer nights, hordes of people stand in a blocks-long line for close to an hour to eat ice cream sandwiches. Throughout the year, hungry diners put their name on a waiting list at an Israeli hummus shop owned by a local tech entrepreneur. It's nearly impossible to get a reservation at 18-year-old Greek classic Evvia, unless it's made way in advance or diners are willing to eat after 9 p.m. Parking is notoriously difficult.

Palo Alto is undergoing a dining renaissance of sorts, with a host of niche, casual restaurants leading the way.

"There's an evolution," said local restaurant consultant Frank Klein. "A base has been built, and now people are understanding that other (restaurants) can be successful."

That base remains, with some longstanding restaurants like Evvia holding their own amidst all the change. But newcomers to the scene indicate a move away from the city's higher-end roots and toward casual eateries that fill a specific dining need in Palo Alto.

Take Oren's Hummus Shop, an Israeli restaurant that opened at 261 University Ave. about three years ago. The small, 45-seat eatery is consistently full, with people waiting in line outside on almost any given night — not just weekends — to rip homemade pita and dip pieces of it in hummus made with garbanzo

beans imported straight from Israel. Oren's also does enormous take-out business, so much so that the ownership is plotting a new location in Mountain View with a dedicated register and area for take-out customers.

Oren Debronsky, an Israeli-born technology entrepreneur, opened the restaurant in 2011 with his wife and another couple, David and Mistie Cohen.

"The short of it is there was really no good hummus, falafel, Israeli food," said David Cohen, the restaurant's executive chef. "And being the entrepreneur and outgoing guy who solves problems, Oren basically said, 'Well, if it doesn't exist, I'm going to make it.'"

So he did. Oren's concept isn't rocket science — it's basically Israeli street food done well, at reasonable prices and with high-quality service — but it hit a hard-to-find sweet spot in the current Palo Alto dining scene.

"We have what people are wanting in the overall dining experience: a fun, light, airy environment; a communal experience; really good food, healthy food; quality service — all at a pretty reasonable price," Cohen said.

No more 'white tablecloths'

Oren's is part of what Cohen sees as an overall trend in the dining world away from the high-end, white tablecloths of Palo Alto's past.

"I remember when Spago was here and Zibibbo was three times as big and there was that whole trend going on here," Cohen said, referring to celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck's American restaurant, Spago, and Zibibbo, an



Lunchtime diners soak up the sunshine outside La Boulange in downtown Palo Alto.

upscale Mediterranean restaurant still operating on Kipling Street. "There was that higher level of dining ... and that's kind of tapered off, following a general trend of dining."

Though Cohen himself comes from the fine dining world — he got his start cooking in Philadelphia, went on to receive a culinary degree from renowned European cooking school Le Cordon Bleu and spent years as a chef in Napa, San Francisco and the South Bay — that's not the

future, he said.

"You look at niche places like CREAM — in the summertime there's 80 people standing in line for an ice cream sandwich. If you told a kid from Philadelphia that's how it was going to be, he would have never believed you."

"I think it really epitomizes, I'll boldly say, the direction of American dining."

Mario Ortega, who has been Evvia's chef for more than seven years and before that worked at San Francisco sister restaurant

Kokkari, agrees.

"I think there's a big opportunity for that middle-ground type place to do well here," he said. "It doesn't necessarily have to be an Evvia or Tamarine or Reposado. I think the next level is more in between those two types of dining experiences."

But, he added, just any restaurant won't make it.

"You can't just do what's already here. ... Anyone could open that kind of concept and fit it in between those type of

caliber restaurants we have. It's still putting together a package for people to draw (them) in."

Cohen sees other Palo Alto restaurants as heading in the same direction of the quick, casual, health-driven concept that are successfully drawing today's diners in. He pointed to LYFE Kitchen, the informal, health-centric restaurant on Hamilton Avenue, and Umami Burger, the outpost of a very popular, upscale Los Angeles-based burger chain that couldn't contrast more with local burger establishments like Kirk's Steakhouses.

"You're going to see these concepts get bigger and bigger," Cohen said. "It's going to — we hope, LYFE hopes, Umami Burger hopes — reshape some of American dining. And bring that quick, casual, healthy idea for the first time into the mainstream."

Finding the right recipe

Though it seems simple, not everyone can make it work.

Blocks away from Oren's is 185 University Ave., which is now home to Sam's Chowder House, the second location of a Half Moon Bay seafood restaurant. Sam's opened in November of last year under the same ownership of the space's previous tenant: Campo Pizzeria, a sort of farm-to-table Italian restaurant with

pizza, pasta, small plates and the like cooked by well-established San Francisco chef Sean O'Brien.

Campo closed after less than nine months in business.

"As much as we love Campo, there are eight Italian restaurants and 10 pizzerias in contiguous downtown Palo Alto, and there aren't any seafood restaurants like Sam's," a goodbye note on Campo's website read when it closed in September of last year. "So we thought it was time, and we think this is the perfect spot."

Owner Julie Shenkman said it was the pressure to open another Sam's that drove their decision to close Campo but acknowledged that the restaurant concept might not have been different enough to make it.

"We knew there were other Italian restaurants in the neighborhood, but in a year, from when we first opened Campo to when we opened Sam's, the dining scene did change," she said. "A lot of new restaurants (were) opening and in a similar vein, to the point where it did get to be a crowded market for that type of concept."

185 University also reportedly has the highest restaurant rent in downtown Palo Alto at \$32,000 per month. Rents are an increasingly significant force within the Palo Alto dining scene, many within the industry say.



Mario Ortega, *Evvia's executive chef, says high rents are a deterrent to opening his own restaurant.*

"It was rumored that Campo was paying between \$30,000 to \$35,000 (per month)," said local restaurant consultant Klein, who also owns Asian Box in Town & Country Village. "That was what the space was offered to me at. That's just astronomical. That's astronomical. You need to do \$5 million a year to make that economically viable."

"He's the most challenged guy on the street," said long-time Silicon Valley restaurateur Bruce Schmidt of lessee Paul Shenkman.

Schmidt knows what it's like to be that guy. He opened Lavanda,

an upscale Mediterranean-Croatian restaurant, at 185 University in 2002. He too entered the market with the goal of filling a gap in the downtown dining scene, and did so for 10 years until his lease came up and he couldn't renegotiate, he said. This is a common, cyclical pattern in Palo Alto. As years-long leases expire, waves of restaurants come and go.

High rents can make or break a restaurant concept in Palo Alto, said Klein, who has consulted on restaurants from MacArthur Park and Junnoon in Palo Alto to Cliff House and Original Joe's in San Francisco.

"You just can't say, 'OK, I'm opening up now and I feel good about now.' You have to say, 'What are the economics?' Not just your business, but what are the costs of your operation in years one, two and three? I imagine it's going to be a hell of a lot more than people are expecting. And so if you're paying rents — high rents — and you're paying more to operate, that can be a death note, even for a good concept in Palo Alto."

Klein used Mantra, an upscale California-Indian restaurant that opened on Emerson Street in 2006, as an example.

"We were very successful as a restaurant, but it was tough as a business," said Mantra owner Ashwani Dhawan, citing not only rent but also labor and the cost of food as challenging. Tellingly, Dhawan decided to forego the risk of niche-fine dining for the commercial success of a mainstream concept, opening SliderBar Cafe on University as his next venture.

Signing on to pay high rents, on top of all the other costs of sustaining a business in an already challenging industry, is a significant financial investment — and a risk, especially for independent operators making

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their first go at a restaurant.

Evvia chef Mario Ortega said he'd love to open a restaurant of his own, but high rents and other costs deter him.

"The rents on University are prohibitively high for small (restaurants)," said Howie Bulka, who owns Howie's Artisan Pizza at Town & Country Village and previously ran upscale French-American restaurant Marche in Menlo Park. "It's beyond entrepreneurship anymore."

"There is almost like a plateau in Palo Alto," echoed Schmidt. "It could have something to do with rents. You really have to play it safe. You can't be as experimental as maybe they are in Oakland."

But for well-established restaurant groups with the capital, infrastructure and manpower to do it, opening a restaurant in Palo Alto is a no-brainer.

And many are doing it. There's Tacolicious, the mini upscale taqueria empire based in San Francisco. The Tacolicious restaurant group, owned by Joe Hargrave, made its first jump outside of San Francisco to Emerson Street last year, spending \$500,000 for construction alone, plus new furniture, supplies and all the trimmings a new

restaurant needs.

Across the street from Tacolicious is the space that housed Palo Alto icon Empire Tap Room for two decades, but is now being transformed into San Francisco favorite Delfina Pizzeria. When the restaurant closed earlier this year, the space was quickly snatched up by Craig Stoll, a James Beard award-winning chef who owns four Italian restaurants in San Francisco.

Many hail the impending arrival of Stoll's Delfina Pizzeria — a standout even in the much more competitive San Francisco food scene — as a major sign that increasingly, Palo Alto is a place to be — and eat.

"When we decided to expand, Palo Alto was our first choice of places," Stoll said. "Outside of San Francisco, it's one of the more densely populated areas with a really great, well-traveled, sophisticated dining public who is really diverse as well, from tech to professors and families. ... It's the public most similar to people in San Francisco who already appreciate the food we cook."

In the shadow of the City

The expansion of San Francisco restaurants like Tacolicious and Delfina to Palo Alto inevitably invites comparison between the two cities' dining scenes.

"From my point of view, there's still a lot lacking in terms of restaurants (in Palo Alto)," said Bulka of Howie's Artisan Pizza. "When we really want to go on a food safari or we really want to entertain people or do an upscale dinner, we still eat in the City. And our best eating experiences are still in San Francisco."

Why is that? Simply put, San Francisco has many things that Palo Alto doesn't: a longstanding tradition of fine dining and cutting-edge chefs, urban (versus suburban) demographics, a wider labor pool, a booming bar and cocktail scene and a strong tourism industry. All those elements make for a steady stream of eaters and drinkers all over the City, Bulka said.

"When I go to San Francisco, we walk out the door of a restaurant at 10 o'clock and there's a whole 'nother crowd walking in," Bulka said. "The bars are just getting started. In restaurant vernacular, that's a third seating. That's a \$3,000 Friday night bar tab."

"I don't think that exists here. Even downtown Palo Alto pretty much rolls up the carpets at 8:30, 9 o'clock. And with us, Friday and Saturday night we have a long wait list, but by 9 o'clock, it's all over."

Palo Alto restaurants draw business from the many fami-



Oren's Hummus is crammed with lunchtime diners.

lies in the area as well as the university, which means they're dependent on those demographics' schedules, Bulka said.

"Whether it's a homogenous demographic or not, it's a fairly homogenous eating pattern (in Palo Alto). So they go on vacation at the same time. They don't eat out after 9 o'clock. They generally have kids in the car when they're going out mid-week. ... There's down months and up months because of school schedules, things like that. It's hard to run a tight-margin cash business on that basis, where you can have up and down cycles month to month."

The influx of San Francisco restaurateurs trying to bring a piece of the City to Palo Alto diners, though on the rise right now, is not a new trend.

In the 1990s, many notable San Francisco chefs and restaurateurs expanded south. Renowned chef Jeremiah Tower opened an outpost of his San Francisco restaurant, Stars, on Lytton Avenue in 1995. When Stars didn't make it, investors brought in Puck to run a new restaurant, Spago, in the same space. Zibibbo also opened in the late 1990s as a sister restaurant to San Francisco's Restaurant LuLu.

"We went to open Zibibbo because Palo Alto was like the next fashion — the next fruitful territory where we could open a similar restaurant," said Tacolicious owner Hargrave, who worked at Restaurant LuLu at the time.

Though many have tried, both then and now, it seems that no restaurateur can fully replicate the San Francisco dining experience in Palo Alto.

"What they're trying to do is they're trying to save you the trip," said restaurateur Schmidt, of Delfina Pizzeria as well as Sam's Chowder House (in Half Moon Bay). "But it's not the same, and I'll tell you why. When you go up to the City, you get the whole package. When you go to Sam's on the coast, you've got otters frolicking in the kelp. You're not going to get that in Palo Alto."

However, for restaurateurs,

there are some downsides to doing business in San Francisco, and Palo Alto can become an attractive alternative.

"San Francisco has become the single most expensive city in the United States to own a restaurant," said Tim Stannard, founding partner of Bacchus Management, which operates Mayfield Bakery and Cafe at Town & Country Village, The Village Pub in Woodside and Spruce in San Francisco, among others. "It's prohibitively expensive now."

San Francisco has the highest minimum wage in the nation (\$10.44 per hour) as well as increasingly expensive real estate, on top of costs such as payroll taxes and expenses mandated by the city's Board of Supervisors, Stannard said.

"I think that you will see more and more and more flight of restaurateurs away from San Francisco as long as San Francisco continues to make the city more and more expensive," he added. "People like me will continue to look to communities like the Peninsula that have everything we need."

But what does the Palo Alto dining scene itself need? Many in the industry say there are still holes to be filled and much room for culinary innovation.

"I still think there's a couple things that are needed in Palo Alto that aren't being served, and those are small, chef-driven restaurants," Klein said. "Where are the smaller Evvias? Where are the other Mayfields that are off University?"

Bulka said he's fond of the saying, "There's a whole lot of restaurants and nowhere to eat."

"It still strikes me as bizarre how little proprietorship there is and how little really cutting-edge things and quality and most contemporary trends you might point to (there are)," he said.

But perhaps it's this current dining renaissance, more than any previous time, during which those kind of restaurants will finally emerge — and succeed — in Palo Alto.

Elena Kadavany can be emailed at ekadavany@paweekly.com.

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MOVIE OPENINGS



Will Arnett voices Surly in “The Nut Job.”

The Nut Job
★1/2

(Cinema 16, Cinema 20) OK, so you didn’t plan ahead, but don’t worry. The new animated flick “The Nut Job” has squirreled away enough lame nut puns to get you through the winter. More than enough. Opening shortly after anyone who would want to see it has gone back to school, “The Nut Job” feels for all the world as if it’s being dumped into the marketplace because, well, it had to come out sometime. And while it’s not aggressively bad, the picture doesn’t distinguish itself in any way. Given the animation boom we’re living in, that’s probably the kiss of death. Who will want to see “The Nut Job” when they could go to the screen next door and see “Frozen”? That said, there’s no accounting for the taste of 7-year-olds, and this could well become their instant favorite movie ... until they see another one and forget this one ever existed. Set in the late ‘50s in the fictional town of Oakton, “The Nut Job” concerns one Surly (sitcom star Will Arnett), a ruthless rodent self-described as “just a squirrel trying to get a nut.” For participating in a nut-gathering incident gone disastrously wrong, Surly gets banished from the city park where a community of critters has been struggling mightily to save enough nuts to sustain them through winter. So Surly, trailed as ever by his dim-bulb buddy Buddy, faces the harsh world of city streets and alleyways and storefronts, but lo! It’s a nut store! Sweet providence! And a chance for Surly to redeem himself, if

he chooses to play nice with those who’ve rejected him. Playing peacemaker is Katherine Heigl’s Andie, but Liam Neeson’s tin-pot tyrant Raccoon proves, y’know, a tough nut to crack. Meanwhile, a human drama — actually, a human noir — is playing out among the denizens of the nut store: crooks using the shop as cover to plan and execute a bank heist. This would seem to be enough material for an 86-minute movie, but before long, it’s apparent that the screenwriters have enough to sustain interest for about half that length. It should come as no surprise, then, that the rubbery “The Nut Job” has been expanded from director Peter Lepeniotisi’s 2005 short film “Surly Squirrel.” Like many rodents, the plot runs in circles, covering over and over again the same ground of whether or not characters can be trusted or redeemed until finally delivering the (obvious) answers. During all that storyline stalling, one can enjoy the decent animation (offered up in 3D) that specializes in facial expressiveness. But, with the exception of the story’s inciting event, the action is pretty dull, and the comedy, despite striving at times for a Looney Tunes vibe, lacks creative energy. But if you go, go armed with the knowledge that this is a Canadian-Korean production. That way, you won’t be thrown for a loop by the bizarrely out-of-left-field animated cameo, in the closing credits, by Korean pop star Psy, who parties like it’s 2012. Rated PG for mild action and rude humor. One hour, 26 minutes.

— Peter Canavese



MOVIE REVIEWS

LONE SURVIVOR ★★1/2

Above all an action movie, “Lone Survivor” bucks the trend of recent thought-provoking tales of survival like “All is Lost,” “Gravity” and “12 Years a Slave.” The firepower-filled film based on Marcus Luttrell’s nonfiction book (co-written with Patrick Robinson) takes for granted the simple psychological drive of survival and doesn’t pause to consider philosophical implications. The main impression “Lone Survivor” leaves is of bodies taking incredible punishment and clinging to life while under constant attack. Producer-star Mark Wahlberg plays Luttrell, one of a four-man SEAL team tasked with locating and assassinating senior Taliban commander Ahmad Shah (Yousuf Azami). Dispatched as a part

of 2005’s Operation Red Wings, Luttrell’s colleagues include team leader Lt. Michael P. Murphy (Taylor Kitsch), Danny Dietz (Emile Hirsch) and Matthew Axelson (Ben Foster). Based in Bagram, the men hunker down in the Hindu Kush mountains of the Kunar province to stake out Shah and plan their move. Rated R for strong bloody war violence and pervasive language. Two hours, one minute. — P.C.

AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY
★★★

Based on Tracy Letts’ Pulitzer Prize-winning drama (also Best Play at the Tonys), “August: Osage County” probably isn’t for most boxing or MMA enthusiasts. But it’ll be raw meat for theater fans or anyone who enjoys seeing a dysfunctional family strap on the gloves and go a few rounds. The Weston clan is, by design, the mother of all post-Greek tragedy dysfunctional families, and since that “mother” is Meryl Streep, hold on to your popcorn. Streep plays Violet Weston, who reluctantly

plays host to her three grown daughters (and their significant others) when their soused father Beverly (Sam Shepard) goes AWOL. The mystery of Beverly’s disappearance serves as little more than a catalyst for explosive reactions amongst the characters and secrets jammed into the dim, depressing Weston house (tapping the shades, one character ruefully remarks, “You can’t tell if it’s night or day”).

And so the three sisters — Barbara (Julia Roberts), Ivy (Julianne Nicholson) and Karen (Juliette Lewis) — commiserate and attempt to handle, or simply bear, their overbearing mother, whose ironic mouth cancer has her doubling down on her addictions to pills and sowing unhappiness. Rated R for language including sexual references, and for drug material. Two hours, one minute. — P.C.

MOVIE CRITICS

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

MOVIE TIMES

12 Years A Slave (R) ★★★1/2	Century 16: 10 p.m.
American Hustle (R) ★★★	Century 16: 12:20, 3:40, 7:05 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: 12:45, 3:55, 7:15 & 10:30 p.m.
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG-13) ★★★1/2	Century 16: 10:30 a.m., 4:35 & 10:40 p.m. Century 20: 11:05 a.m., 2, 5, 7:55 & 10:45 p.m.
August: Osage County (R) ★★★	Century 16: 10:35 a.m., 1:25, 4:20, 7:20 & 10:10 p.m. Century 20: 10:45 a.m., 1:35, 4:25, 7:20 & 10:15 p.m.
The Bitter Tea of General Yen (1933)	Stanford Theatre: 5:50 & 9:40 p.m.
Devil’s Due (R)	Century 16: 10:30 a.m., 12:50, 3:15, 5:35, 8 & 10:25 p.m. Century 20: 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30 & 10 p.m.
Fast Times at Ridgemont High (R)	Century 20: Sun 2 p.m.
Frozen (PG)	Century 16: Fri 1:30 & 7 p.m. In 3-D at 10:45 a.m. & 4:15 p.m. Century 20: Fri 1:25 & 6:55 p.m. In 3-D at 10:50 a.m., 4:15 & 9:35 p.m.
Gravity (PG-13) ★★★1/2	Century 20: 8 p.m.
Her (R) ★★★★★	Century 20: 10:35 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 7:25 & 10:20 p.m. Palo Alto Square: 1, 4, 7 & 10 p.m.
The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (PG-13) ★★★★★	Century 16: 3:20 & 7 p.m. In 3-D at 11:40 a.m. & 10:35 p.m. Century 20: 11:30 a.m. & 6:35 p.m. In 3-D at 3:05 & 10:05 p.m.
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) ★★★	Century 16: 1:20 & 7:25 p.m. Century 20: 12:35 p.m., 3:50, 7:05 & 10:20 p.m.
Inside Llewyn Davis (R) ★★★★★	Palo Alto Square: 1:45, 4:30, 7:15 & 9:50 p.m.
The Invisible Woman (R)	Century 16: 10:50 a.m., 1:40, 4:30, 7:15 & 10 p.m.
Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit (PG-13)	Century 16: 11:05 a.m., 1:55, 4:55, 7:50 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 11:55 a.m., 2:30, 5:05, 7:50 & 10:40 p.m.
The Legend of Hercules (PG-13)	Century 16: 1:50 & 9:55 p.m. In 3-D at 11:20 a.m., 4:25 & 7:25 p.m. Century 20: 12 & 10:35 p.m. In 3-D at 2:35, 5:15 & 8:05 p.m.
Lone Survivor (R) ★★1/2	Century 16: 10:40 a.m., 12:05, 1:35, 3, 4:35, 6:15, 7:35 9:15 & 10:35 p.m. Century 20: 12:40, 3:30, 6:30 & 9:25 p.m. In IMAX at 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:55, 7:50 & 10:45 p.m.
Lost Horizon (1937)	Stanford Theatre: 3:40 & 7:30 p.m.
Nebraska (R) ★★★	Aquarius Theatre: 3:30 6 & 8:30 p.m.
The Nut Job (PG)	Century 16: 10:25 a.m., 3:05 & 7:45 p.m. In 3-D at 12:45, 5:25 & 10:05 p.m. Century 20: 10:40 a.m., 3:10 & 7:40 p.m. In 3-D at 12:55, 5:25 & 10 p.m.
Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones (R)	Century 20: 12:05, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10 & 9:40 p.m.
The Past (PG-13) ★★1/2	Aquarius Theatre: 1, 4, 7 & 9:55 p.m.
Philomena (PG-13) ★★★	Guild Theatre: 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.
Ride Along (PG-13)	Century 16: 11:15 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:30 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: 11:10 a.m., 12:25, 1:40, 2:55, 4:10, 5:25, 7, 8, 9:25 & 10:30 p.m.
Saving Mr. Banks (PG-13) ★★	Century 16: 12:55, 4, 7:10 & 10:05 p.m. Century 20: 10:40 a.m., 1:30, 4:25, 7:25 & 10:20 p.m.
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (PG) ★1/2	Century 16: 11 a.m., 4:50 & 10:30 p.m. Sat 11 a.m., 4:50 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 11:15 a.m., 1:55, 4:40, 7:35 & 10:15 p.m.
Walking With Dinosaurs (PG)	Century 20: 10:55 a.m. & 3:25 p.m. In 3-D at 1:10, 5:45 & 10:25 p.m.
The Wolf of Wall Street (R) ★★1/2	Century 16: 11:45 a.m., 3:50 & 7:55 p.m. Century 20: 12:10, 4 & 8:05 p.m.

AQUARIUS: 430 Emerson St., Palo Alto (266-9260)
CENTURY CINEMA 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (800-326-3264)
CENTURY 20 DOWNTOWN: 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City (800-326-3264)
CINEARTS AT PALO ALTO SQUARE: 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (493-3456)
STANFORD THEATRE: 221 University Ave., Palo Alto (324-3700)
For show times, plot synopses and more information about any films playing at the Aquarius, visit www.LandmarkTheatres.com

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

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



LOS ALTOS STAGE CO.: 'CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF'

The Los Altos Stage Company is putting on a production of Tennessee Williams' "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof. Jan. 23-Feb. 16, Wednesday through Sunday, 8-11 p.m. \$32. Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-941-0551. www.losaltosstage.org

ART GALLERIES

'Portraits of Jamestown, Ghana' Exhibit Photographs by Bay Area artist Bill Scull will be on display at Gallery 9 through Feb. 1. The exhibit includes portraits from Jamestown, a fishing village in Ghana in West Africa. Gallery 9 hours: Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., noon-4 p.m. Free. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos. www.gallery9-losaltos.com

AUDITIONS

Silicon Valley Boychoir spring auditions The Silicon Valley Boychoir auditions for boys ages 7-12 will be held near downtown Palo Alto by appointment. The multi-level choir is held after school and performs locally in May. Older boys with experience may audition for upper levels. Jan. 7-17. Free audition; semester tuition. First Lutheran Church, 600 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. www.svboychoir.org

BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

MVLA Community Scholars MVLA Community Scholars will screen "Documented," a movie by journalist Jose Antonio Vargas, Mountain View High School graduate and first recipient of the MVLA Community 4-year Scholarship. Vargas will be present at the event. Jan. 27, 7 p.m. \$27. Mountain View Center for the performing arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. www.mvlacommunityscholars.org/announcements/documented_film/

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

'She's Geeky' - Bay Area 2014 Conference "She's Geeky" - Bay Area 2014 is a networking conference for women in science, technology, engineering and math. Jan. 24, 8:15 a.m.-6 p.m. \$240 for all three days; \$90/day; until Nov 30: \$200 and \$75. Microsoft Silicon Valley, 1065 La Avenida St., Mountain View. www.eventbrite.com/e/shes-geeky-bay-area-2014-tickets-9193673525

Autism Spectrum Disorders Parent Education Program This program, coordinated by the Stanford Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and Child Development, is designed to provide parents and caregivers with information about autism, Asperger's disorder, PDD-NOS as well as a discussion on when to talk

to one's children and others about these conditions. Jan. 25, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$30 per person. Stanford University/Child Psychiatry Building, 401 Quarry Road, Stanford. Call 650-721-6327. www.childpsychiatry.stanford.edu

Brew University: Seasonal Beers From Around the World Learn from Gordon Biersch Brewmaster, John Tucci, about seasonal beers from around the world. Registration is required. Jan. 21, 7-8:30 p.m. Free Downtown Library, 270 Forest Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-838-2931. www.califa.evanced.info/paloalto/lib/eventsignup.asp?ID=6274

Introduction to Mindfulness This five-week course on mindfulness is taught by Insight Meditation South Bay teachers. No registration required. Jan. 23-Feb. 20, Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m. Free (donations accepted). St. Timothy's/Edwards Hall, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-857-0904. www.imsb.org

Square Dance Lessons Learn how to square dance with the Bows & Beaus Singles & Couples Square Dance Club (for adults). Register online; first class is free. Jan. 20-31, Mondays, 7:30 p.m. Free. Loyola Elementary School, 770 Berry Ave., Los Altos. Call 408-250-7934. www.bowsand-beaus.org

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Young Meditators Night This night is designed specifically for meditators age 18-40, hosted every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. 7:30-9 p.m. Free (donations accepted). Silicon Valley Shambhala Meditation Center, 2483 Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View. Call 615-330-3622. www.siliconvalley.shambhala.org/program-details/?id=138840

CONCERTS

Audra McDonald Performance Actress and singer Audra McDonald ("Ragtime," "Raisin in the Sun," "Porgy and Bess") will perform showtunes, classic songs from the movies and original pieces written especially for her. Jan. 17, 7:30-9 p.m. \$10-175. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. www.live.stanford.edu/calendar/january-2014/audra-mcdonald

Music from Around the World The Community School of Music and Arts' World Harmony Chorus performs a repertoire of love songs from Kenya, Finland, Georgia, Puerto Rico and the

Basque country. Jan. 27, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/attend/concerts.htm

Master Sinfonia Concert - Los Altos Maestro David Ramadanoff conducts Chabrier's "Fetes Polonaise," Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1 in E-flat major with cellist Amos Yang and Schubert's Symphony No. 9 in C Major, "The Great." A free reception with artists will take place at intermission. Jan. 26, 2:30-4:30 p.m. \$15-\$25. Free for youth under 18 Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-348-1270.

DANCE

Latin Dance Class Learn the Latin dances -- rumba, cha-cha, samba, tango -- with instructors Ellen Murray and Gene Esswein in this Mountain View Adult Ed class. Singles and couples welcome. Deadline for registration is Jan. 23. The class runs Jan. 17-March 17, Mondays, 7:30-9 p.m. \$39. Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-940-1333. www.mvlae.net

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

ENVIRONMENT

Tree Planting - 8th Anniversary of MVTrees Local organization Mountain View Trees is hosting a tree planting event to celebrate its 8th anniversary and Tu B'Shevat - supplemental planting on a small unlandscaped city parcel. Children OK if with an adult. No experience necessary - instructions, trees, tools and refreshments provided. Wear gardening clothes. Jan. 18, 10-11:30 a.m. Free (\$15 donation encouraged). Unlandscaped lot at corner of Shoreline & Dana, 301 South Shoreline Boulevard, Mountain View. Call 415-412-1127. www.mountainviewtrees.org

EXHIBITS

'Revealing the Unseen' Exhibit Paintings by Andy Gouveia and drawings by Drew McSherry are on exhibit through Jan. 26, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.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 and Sundays until 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

Mountain View Parent Nursery School Open House Mountain View Parent Nursery School is hosting an open house. Enrollment for new families for the 2014-2015 school year begins the same day, Jan. 18. 10 a.m.-noon. Free. Mountain View Parent Nursery School, 1299 Bryant Ave., Mountain View. Call 408-332-1401. www.mvpngs.roundtablelive.org/

Nature Games and Crafts at Hidden Villa Hidden Villa's environmental education interns will teach children a few games and crafts especially designed to bring them closer to nature. Jan. 25, 1-3 p.m. \$8 per person. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-6326. www.hiddenvilla.org/programs/calendar-of-events/61-public-programs/182576-nature-games-crafts

St. Timothy's Church Preschool Open House St. Timothy's Church Preschool -- a play-

based, faith-directed program -- is hosting an open house at which new families can register. Sessions: 3-year-olds - Tuesday/Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon, \$355 monthly; 4-year-olds/Pre-Kinder - Mon./Wed./Fri., 9 a.m. to noon, \$480 monthly. Jan. 18, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-967-4724. www.sttimothyspreschool.org

FILM

Screening of 'Disleksia: The Movie' Athena Academy, Parents Education Network: Silicon Valley and filmmaker Harvey Hubbell to host a screening of the documentary "Disleksia: The Movie," which is about dyslexia. Hubbell himself is dyslexic. A discussion will follow the film. Jan. 21, 7-9 p.m. \$10. Athena Academy, 525 San Antonio Ave., Palo Alto. Call 650-543-4560. www.DisleksiaTheMovieScreening.eventbrite.com

HEALTH

'Living Strong Living Well' YMCA Program This 12-week small group-program is designed for recent adult cancers survivors who have become deconditioned or chronically fatigued from their treatment and/or disease. Registration is required. Jan. 21-April 10, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-1:45 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Family YMCA, 3412 Ross Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-725-5014. http://slw.stanford.edu/

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/

LIVE MUSIC

Laudami Ensemble: Music of Bach and Son The Laudami Ensemble will perform works by Johann Sebastian Bach and his son, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach. Jan. 17, 7-9 p.m. \$10-20. Immanuel Lutheran, 1715 Grant Road, Los Altos. Call 650-380-3996. www.michaelpeterson.org

Live Jazz Music at Morocco's Restaurant Morocco's Restaurant in Mountain View hosts Johnny Williams to perform live jazz and blues music. Jan. 7-28, 5-9:30 p.m. Free. Morocco's Restaurant, 873 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-968-1502. www.moroccosrestaurant.com/

ON STAGE

Stanford Savoyards present 'The Mikado' The Stanford Savoyards presents its production of "The Mikado," a comic opera originally done by Arthur Sullivan and W. S. Gilbert. Jan. 31-Feb. 15, Fridays and Saturdays. All shows are at 8 p.m. except for Saturday, Feb. 15, when it's at 2 p.m. \$10-20. Dinkelspiel Auditorium, 471 Lagunita Drive, Stanford. www.savoyards.stanford.edu

OUTDOORS

Mushroom Hike at Hidden Villa Learn to identify a variety of mushrooms in this mushroom hike at Hidden Villa, led by naturalist guide from the Mycological Society of San Francisco, who will discuss both edible and poisonous varieties. Hikes are leisurely. No collecting. Cameras are encouraged. Ages 10 and up. Jan. 25, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$12 per person. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-6326. www.hiddenvilla.org/programs/calendar-of-events

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Yoga on the Labyrinth Stanford hosts a yoga class in the labyrinth of Memorial Church. Attendees should bring their own yoga mats. Jan. 23, 5:30-7 p.m. Free. Stanford Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Call 650-723-1762. www.events.stanford.edu/events/410/41071

SENIORS

Community Services Agency Info Session Community Services Agency's senior case managers will discuss resources for adult education, as well as employment advocacy and rights. Jan. 21, 10-11 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. www.mountainview.gov/city_hall/comm_services/recreation_programs_and_services/senior_center/

Legal Planning Basics Workshop The Elder Law Education Project of Senior Adults Legal Assistance (SALA) is sponsoring a presentation with Mitoshi Fujio-White, an estate planning attorney in private practice and volunteer attorney at SALA. Jan. 21, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

Visual Impairments and Independent Living Irene Garnel, a rehabilitation counselor, will lead a class on how to live independently despite visual impairments. Jan. 23, 1-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

SPECIAL EVENTS

'Step Out for Choice!' Roe v. Wade Anniversary March This annual pro-choice march, marking the anniversary of landmark case Roe v. Wade, will be preceded by a program featuring Dr. Sylvia Yen from Mountain View's Center for Adolescent Health, Dr. Ellen Shaffer (a reproductive health specialist) and Liz Kniss, San Mateo County supervisor. There will also be a performance by the Raging Grannies. The event is sponsored by the Los Altos/Mountain View branch of the American Association of University Women and by the Santa Clara County Pro-Choice Community. Jan. 22, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$2 donation requested. Los Altos Youth Center, 1 N. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 650-968-8476.

LECTURES & TALKS

'Screen Time' Technology & Kids Talk Early childhood educator Sylvia Ford will discuss child development and technology use by children 0 to 8 years old. Adults only. Sign up online. Jan. 23, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6897. www.mountainview.gov/city_hall/library/default.asp

Astronomy Talk on Black Widow Stars Roger Romani a Stanford University physics professor, will give a talk on "Black Widow Pulsars: Vengeful Star Corpses." Jan. 22, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Foothill College Smithwick Theater, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. www.foothill.edu/ast/ast_story.php?sr=2&rec_id=3209

Caroline Arnold at Books Inc. Managing director at Goldman Sachs in New York City Caroline L. Arnold will discuss her book, "Small Move, Big Change: Using Microresolutions to Transform Your Life Permanently." Jan. 23, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-428-1234. www.booksinc.net/event/2014/01/13/month/all/all/1

Japanese Art from the Larry Ellison Collection First in a series presented by the Asian Art Museum, this exhibit will focus on 80 works of Japanese art spanning 1,300 years from Larry Ellison's private collection. The program will be presented by docent Michelle Wilcox. Jan. 22, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library Program Room, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 650-948-7683. www.sccd.org

Talk: Safety and Security in a Transnational Environment Vinton G. Cerf, vice president and chief internet evangelist for Google, will speak at this talk, hosted by the Center for International Security and Cooperation (CISAC) at Stanford University. Jan. 22, 4:30-6 p.m. Free. Tresidder Memorial Union, 2nd Floor, 459 Lagunita Drive, Stanford. Call 650-736-0414. www.cisac.stanford.edu/events/drell_lecture_safety_and_security_in_a_transnational_environment/

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115 Announcements
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Parents/Children- \$ Stanford
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Spirit of Uganda: amazing!!
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Square Dance Lessons
Stanford music tutoring
Stanford Research Healthy Women
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WPNS Preschool Open House

130 Classes & Instruction

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135 Group Activities
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www.jazzercise.com
140 Lost & Found
Found pitbull dog

145 Non-Profits Needs
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Parents/Children- \$ Stanford
WISH LIST FRIENDS PA LIBRARY

150 Volunteers
Creek Enhancement Day
Fosterers Needed for Moffet Cats
FRIENDS OF THE PALO ALTO LIBRARY
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Parents/Children- \$ Stanford

152 Research Study Volunteers

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If you are 60 years or older, you may be eligible to participate in a study of Non-Drug Treatments for Insomnia sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, and conducted at the Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Medical Center. Participants will receive extensive sleep evaluation, individual treatment, and reimbursement for participation. For more information, please call Stephanie at (650) 849-0584. (For general information about participant rights, contact 866-680-2906.)

155 Pets
POODLE WANTED
I WANT TO BUY A SMALL STANDARD POODLE (30# TO 40#), THAT IS FULLY HOUSE TRAINED A FEMALE IS PREFERRED.

For Sale

201 Autos/Trucks/ Parts

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Almost brand new less than 6k miles, loaded, dark cherry red ext. beige int.20" factor wheels . 1 minor ding, see w/ appointment please. This is KBB or close.

toyota 2001 highlander - \$11,000

202 Vehicles Wanted

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Any Car/Truck. Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come To You! Call For Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808
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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)

210 Garage/Estate Sales

RWC: 1228 Douglas Ave., 1/17, 11-2; 1/18, 9-1
BIG RUMMAGE SALE benefits Lucile Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford. (Just south of Woodside Rd., bet. Broadway and Bayshore Fwy.) **CASH ONLY.** (650)497-8332 or during sale (650)568-9840

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The Almanac, The Palo Alto Weekly or
The Mountain View Voice call 326-8216
or visit us at fogster.com

215 Collectibles & Antiques

Nice! Grateful Dead Poster Rare! - \$79.00

Wow Jimi Hendrix Rock Poster! - \$29.00

Wow! Grateful Dead Rock Poster - \$69.00

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

Sewing Machine Cabinet - \$85.00

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Ladies MBT Walking Shoes - 50

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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UtiliQuest is hiring locators in your area. No exp. req. Company Truck, paid training provided. Apply online www.utiliquest.com. UtiliQuest is an EOE (Cal-SCAN)

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Needed — Part Time Assistant for a Mountain View Family Childcare
MF 8am-1:30. Fluent English & legal to work in US. Call Mitiko after 6pm (650)917-9501

525 Adult Care Wanted

Adult Care Needed
Adult care needed,work 3 times in a week (\$400 per wk) work experience is required

560 Employment Information

Drivers: CDL-A
Train and Work for Us!Professional, focused CDL training available. Choose Company Driver, Owner Operator, Lease Operator or Lease Trainer. (877) 369-7126 www.CentralTruckDrivingJobs.com (Cal-SCAN)

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Dedicated home weekly! Solos up to \$175,000/year, \$2500 Sign-on Bonus! Teams up to \$350,000 year, \$5000 Sign-on Bonus! Forward Air 888-652-5611 (Cal-SCAN)

Drivers: Top 1% Pay
and CSA Friendly Equip. \$\$\$ Up to 50 cpm \$\$\$ Full Benefits + Pet & Rider. CDL-A Req 877-258-8782 www.ad-drivers.com (Cal-SCAN)

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Work and Travel \$\$\$\$
Energy jobs available in Northern California... \$500.00 - \$1200.00 per week... must be 18+. BBB accredited Company... apply online at www.energyplus1.com, 1(208)590-2870. EOE. (Cal-SCAN)

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640 Legal Services

Injured in an Auto Accident?
Auto Accident Attorney. Call InjuryFone for a free case evaluation. Never a cost to you. Don't wait, call now, 1-800-958-5341 (Cal-SCAN)

645 Office/Home Business Services

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project valued at \$500.00 or more
in labor and materials. State law also
requires that contractors include their
license numbers on all advertising.
Check your contractor's status at
www.cslb.ca.gov or 800-321-CSLB
(2752). Unlicensed persons taking
jobs that total less than \$500.00
must state in their advertisements
that they are not licensed by the
Contractors State License Board.

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• Custom Cabinets
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Concrete**

Roe General Engineering
Asphalt, concrete, pavers, tiles, sealing,
new construct, repairs. 36 yrs exp. No job
too small. Lic #663703. 650/814-5572

**779 Organizing
Services**

End the Clutter & Get Organized
Residential Organizing
by Debra Robinson
(650)941-5073

Real Estate

**801 Apartments/
Condos/Studios**

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 - \$1500.00/m
Mountain View, 5+ BR/3.5 BA - \$875

**825 Homes/Condos
for Sale**

Menlo Park, 3 BR/2 BA - \$1099000

Palo Alto, 3 BR/2 BA - \$899000

Sunnyvale, 3 BR/2 BA - \$599999

**840 Vacation
Rentals/Time Shares**

Ghulam Abbas I Electrical Engine

**855 Real Estate
Services**

Roommates.com
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)

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**Need to publish a
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
STATEMENT
in a Santa Clara County
newspaper of
general circulation?**



**Call the
Mountain View Voice
223-6578**

**MountainView
VOICE**

Public Notices

**995 Fictitious Name
Statement**

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):
RENEO, 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)

DONG LAI SHUN
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No.: 586404
The following person (persons) is (are)
doing business as:
Dong Lai Shun, located at 545 San
Antonio Road, Suite 32, Mountain View,
CA 94040, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Limited
Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the
owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
DLS US LLC
160 E. Remington Dr. #138C
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
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 December 30, 2013.
(MVV Jan. 10, 17, 24, 31, 2014)

SUPREME FIT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No.: 586421
The following person (persons) is (are)
doing business as:
Supremely Fit, located at 257 Barbara
Dr., Los Gatos, CA 95032, Santa Clara
County.
This business is owned by: An
Individual.
The name and residence address of the
owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
KAREN S. CLARK
257 Barbara Dr.
Los Gatos, CA 95032
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 December 31, 2013.
(MVV Jan.10, 17, 24, 31, 2014)

MIE BELLE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No.: 586762
The following person (persons) is (are)
doing business as:
Mie Belle, located at 380 Sherland
Circle, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa
Clara County.
This business is owned by: An
Individual.
The name and residence address of the
owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):
MARIANA O. SOLOMON
380 Sherland Circle
Mountain View, CA 94043
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 January 9, 2014.
(MVV Jan. 17, 24, 31 Feb. 7, 2014)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
Date of Filing Application: December
27, 2013
To Whom It May Concern:
The Name(s) of Applicant(s) is/are:
SUNNY BOWL INC.
The applicants listed above are applying
to the Department of Alcoholic
Beverage Control to sell alcoholic
beverages at:
1477 Plymouth St.,
Ste. D
Mountain View, CA 94043-1220
Type of license(s) applied for:
47 - ON-SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE
(MVV Jan. 10, 17, 24, 2014)

The Mountain View Voice
publishes every Friday.

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TO ADVERTISE IN
THE VOICE PUBLIC
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5 P.M. THE
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Royce...and the art of Real Estate

Mountain View's Condo Weekly Update

Available Listings

Address	bd/ba	sq. ft.	age	list price
924 Camille Lane	3/3.5	2,041	11	\$998,000
217 Ada Avenue #22	2/2	1,103	31	\$649,000
1915 Mount Vernon Court #9	2/1	1,056	49	\$515,000
400 Ortega Avenue #109	2/1	928	39	\$495,000
505 Cypress Point Drive #12	1/1	662	43	\$385,000

Pending Sale

Address	bd/ba	sq. ft.	age	list price
421 Sierra Vista Avenue #4	3/2.5	1,560	27	\$769,000
46 Starlite Court	2/1.5	1,174	40	\$599,000
905 W Middlefield Road #983	2/2	998	998	\$587,500
1943 Mount Vernon Court #207	2/2	1,200	37	\$585,000
725 Mariposa Avenue #305	1/1	839	40	\$448,000
123 Evandale Avenue #B	1/1	615	54	\$375,888

*This information was pulled from MLS Listings, Inc. as of 1/14/2014. If you would like further information, please contact Royce.

PENDING SALE



**46 Starlite Court
Mountain View**

2 bed | 1.5 ba | 1,174 sq ft
Updated townhome end unit
with multiple windows, fireplace,
private yard & 2 car garage

List Price \$599,000

Received multiple offers!

COMING SOON



**83 Devonshire Avenue
Mountain View**

3 bed | 1.5 ba | 1,164 sq ft
Two story townhome with
fireplace, inside laundry plus
garage

List Price TBD

COMING SOON



**500 W Middlefield Road
Mountain View**

2 bed | 2 ba | 1,158 sq ft
Spacious top floor condo/
townhome end unit with
generous size bedrooms,
fireplace & private balcony

List Price TBD

Royce Cablayan

BRE# 01062078

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Colleen Rose

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Starting in the Low - \$1,000,000s

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*In an effort to constantly improve our homes, Classic Communities reserves the right to change floor plans, specifications, prices and other information without prior notice or obligation. Special wall and window treatments, custom-designed walks and patio treatments and other items featured in and around the model homes are decorator-selected and not included in the purchase price. Maps are artist's conceptions and not to scale. Floor plans not to scale. All square footages are approximate. Broker # 01197434.



Buying or selling a home? Try out Mountain View's Online real estate site, the most comprehensive place for local real estate listings.



We offer the one online destination that lets you fully explore:

- Interactive maps
- Homes for sale
- Open house dates and times
- Virtual tours and photos
- Prior sales info
- Neighborhood guides
- Area real estate links
- and so much more.

Our comprehensive online guide to the Midpeninsula real estate market has all the resources a home buyer, agent or local resident could ever want and it's all in one easy-to-use, local site!

Agents:

You'll want to explore our unique online advertising opportunities. Contact your sales representative or call 650-326-8210 today to find out more.

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TheAlmanacOnline.com
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And click on "real estate" in the navigation bar.

"I love your real estate website! I like the ability to customize the map and table view for my specific home search needs. Your Neighborhood Guides are very easy to see and full of detailed info that I can't find anywhere else."

— Theresa Kinane, prospective Midpeninsula home buyer

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Bus tours bring interested buyers to homes for sale



Specialized Agents are on salary - Not commission!



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Free legal consultation for the transaction

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DeLeon Realty has fundamentally changed the way Silicon Valley homes are sold by providing aggressive marketing campaigns, virtual tours, an in-house attorney, interior designer, contractor, handyman and in-house marketing department (all available free of charge). Now, DeLeon Realty is changing not only the way clients sell homes, but also the way clients buy homes.

Despite formerly having some of the best independent agents in Silicon Valley, DeLeon Realty has decided to switch to utilizing only highly-qualified **salaried** area specialists to help clients buy homes. The traditional

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.

DeLeon Realty buyers have access to free legal consultation about the transaction, an ASID accredited interior designer, 7 hours of contractor time, and much more. We also host area tours on our 14-passenger Mercedes Limo Bus.

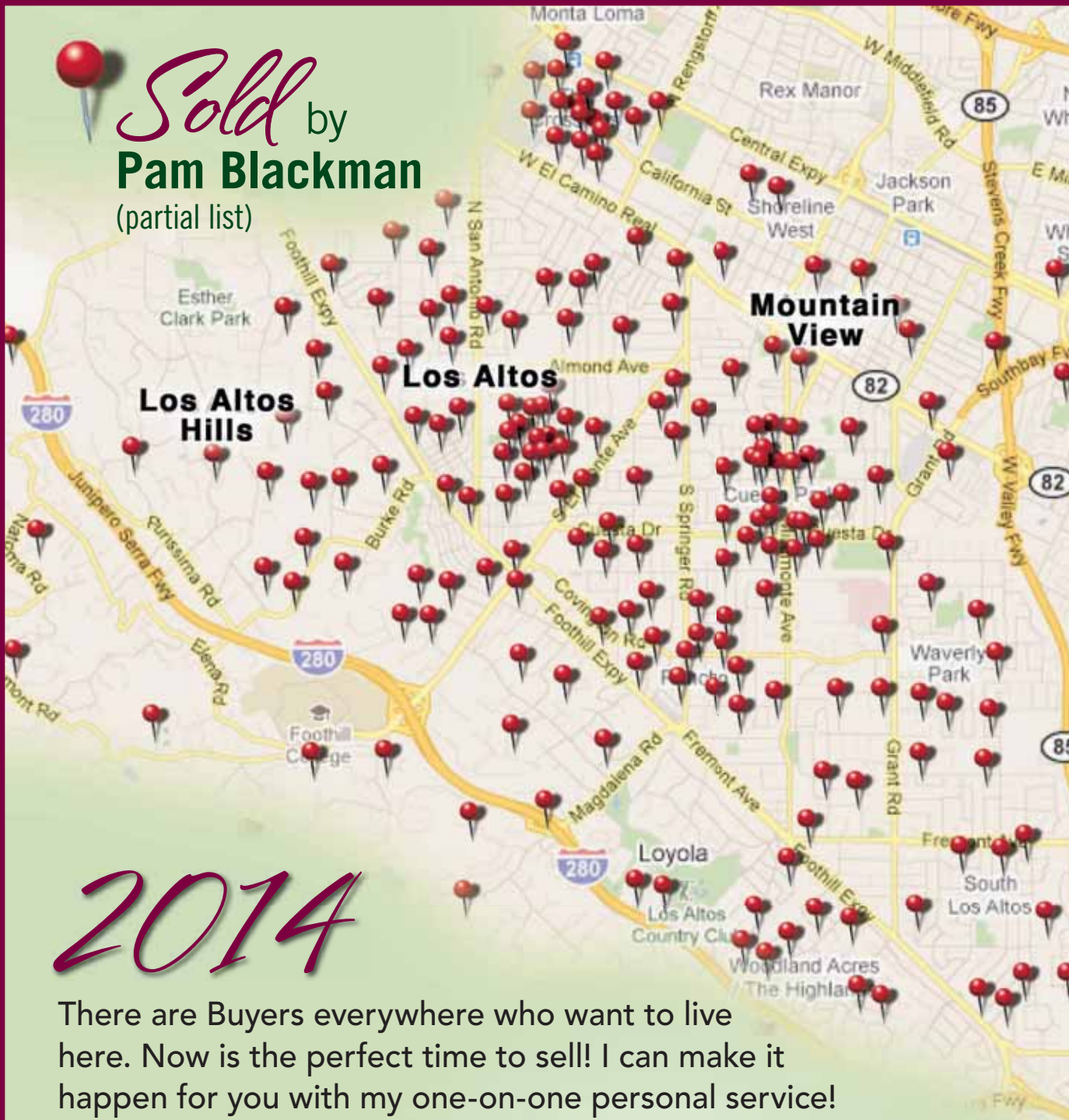
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Sold by
Pam Blackman
(partial list)



2014

There are Buyers everywhere who want to live here. Now is the perfect time to sell! I can make it happen for you with my one-on-one personal service!

LOS ALTOS

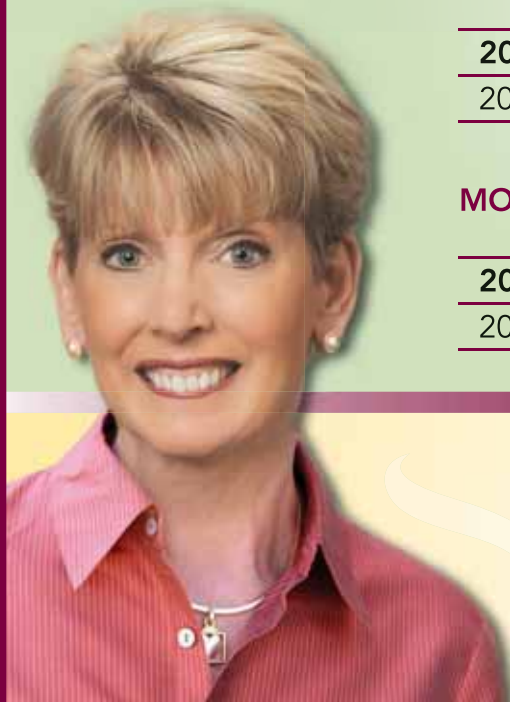
	# Sales	Med. \$	Avg. \$	Sale \$ vs. List \$
2013	323	\$2,100,000	\$2,161,519	107%
2012	363	\$1,825,000	\$1,975,220	103%

LOS ALTOS HILLS

	# Sales	Med. \$	Avg. \$	Sale \$ vs. List \$
2013	114	\$2,796,500	\$3,069,500	100%
2012	110	\$2,602,500	\$2,946,160	98%

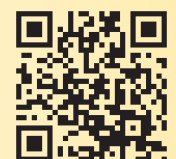
MOUNTAIN VIEW

	# Sales	Med. \$	Avg. \$	Sale \$ vs. List \$
2013	280	\$1,275,000	\$1,346,475	108%
2012	323	\$1,100,000	\$1,128,850	105%



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FOR SALE at \$2,298,000
11662 Par Avenue, Los Altos



FOR SALE at \$2,698,000
11656 Par Avenue, Los Altos



FOR SALE at \$2,498,000
11650 Par Avenue, Los Altos

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2013 In Review

City	Number of homes sold in 2013	Lowest	Highest
Santa Clara	564	\$377,500	\$1,595,000
Sunnyvale	592	\$391,000	\$1,949,000
Mountain View	279	\$635,000	\$4,200,011
Los Altos	323	\$700,000	\$5,000,000
Los Altos Hills	110	\$1,250,000	\$7,950,000
Palo Alto	397	\$595,000	\$10,000,000
Menlo Park	337	\$295,000	\$4,500,000

It's no surprise that our local Real estate market was strong this past year, but what is surprising is how "high" our values accelerated!

What to expect in 2014... Well, if December is any indication, we are off to a strong start for 2014: More multiple offers, more value increases. The one possible wrench being; when, and how high, interest rates are increased. The higher the rates the less buyers can afford [and pay] for properties, which will result in fewer offers/bids on properties.

Thinking of selling? I highly recommend doing so early this year, before our annual inventory increase occurs, and before higher interest rates reduce the buyer pool. Call me if you would like to discuss market strategy and/or timing that can **best serve you**.



Tori Ann Atwell

Broker Associate
Alain Pinel Realtors



(650) 996-0123

BRE #00927794

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CalBRE# 01112790

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#1 IN CALIFORNIA



SAN JOSE Sat 1:30 - 4:30 **\$349,000**
175 W Saint James St #402 | BR | BA Downtown living at its best!!!
Close proximity to San Pedro square, SAP center; & more.
Jim & Katie Galli CalBRE #00944554, 01925901 650.941.7040



REDWOOD CITY Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$360,000**
472 3rd Ave | BR | BA Builders Delight or Fixer. Studio & storage
shed on property.
Geraldine Asmus CalBRE #01328160 650.325.6161



EAST PALO ALTO Sat/Sun 1 - 4 **\$505,000**
121 Mission Drive 2 BR 2.5 BA W of 101 LR,FR/ofc,gated secure
complex new wood flrs,carpet & paint.Pets allowed.est
Trish Eby CalBRE #01920615 650.941.7040



SUNNYVALE Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$719,000**
693 Borregas Ave 4 BR 3 BA 2 master bedrooms, separate FR, hard-
wood floors, updated kitchen & bath, approx. 1520 sqft
Bonnie Kehl CalBRE #00896243 650.941.7040



REDWOOD CITY Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4 **\$749,000**
332 G Street Charming 3 bedroom, 1 bath in Redwood City
DiPali Shah CalBRE #01249165 650.325.6161



BELMONT Sat/Sun 1 - 4 **\$979,000**
1224 Lane St 3 BR 1.5 BA A gorgeous bay view, spacious LR, lovely
patio ideal for entertaining or dining alfresco.
Parvin Parineh CalBRE #01879258 650.941.7040



LOS GATOS Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$1,038,000**
1525 Elwood Dr 3 BR 2 BA Beautifully remod home in a great neigh-
borhd. Spac LR w/frplc. Open flr plan in FR & kit.
Steven Ho CalBRE #1234462 650.941.7040



CUPERTINO Sat/Sun 1 - 5 **\$1,088,000**
10008 Dove Oak Ct 3 BR 2.5 BA This End unit townhome is the one
you have been waiting for! Featuring over 1,700 SF.
Shelly Potvin CalBRE #01236885 650.941.7040



MENLO PARK Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$1,198,000**
1030 Lucky 3 BR 2 BA Great floorplan w/ hardwd flrs, AC, 2 car
garage, Las Lomitas schools, desirable location
Diana Sumner CalBRE #01434566 650.325.6161



LOS ALTOS Do not miss! **\$1,799,000**
4 BR 2 BA Large C-D-S lot. Beautiful hardwood flooring throughout.
Updated kit.Fresh paint in & out.
Lindy Latham CalBRE #01906589 650.941.7040



PALO ALTO Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$1,800,000**
3405 Bryant St 3 BR | BA Beautiful, updated Midtown expansion.
Hardwood floors. Cathedral ceilings.
Ken Morgan & Arlene Gault
CalBRE #00877457 & 01242236 650.328.5211



LOS ALTOS Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30 **\$1,995,000**
680 Riverside Drive 4 BR 2.5 BA Sought after street and location, sep
FR, updated kitchen, remodeled baths.
Terri Couture CalBRE #01090940 650.941.7040



SAN MATEO COUNTY By Appointment Only **\$4,998,000**
Pristine Mountain Top Views 39 Acres with well, septic, electricity,
phone and gated entry
Jan Strohecker CalBRE #00620365 650.325.6161



ATHERTON By Appointment Only **\$5,250,000**
5 BR 4 full BA + 2 half Beautifully renovated 5+ bedroom home w/
custom accents, charming landscape & guest house.
Susie Dews & Shena Hurley
CalBRE #00781220 & 01152002 650.325.6161



LOS ALTOS By Appointment Only **Call for price**
5 BR 6.5 BA EXCLUSIVE Outstanding new construction! Lots of
impressive features throughout home!
Rod Creason CalBRE #01443380 650.325.6161

Los Altos | Palo Alto

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