

Mountain View VOICE

DECEMBER 5, 2014 VOLUME 22, NO. 45

www.MountainViewOnline.com

650.964.6300

MOVIES | 28

Winter
Class Guide

PAGE 37



MICHELLE LE

AN AMERICAN DREAM DEFERRED

What's spurring the surge of Central American immigrants to come to the United States? In a special report from Guatemala, the Voice uncovers the story of the threats that sent Francisco Tizol (carrying his daughter, above) from his rural community to Mountain View and back home again, as he seeks to bring his wife and children to a safer future in America. The story and photos begin on page 12.

MV police to wear body cameras

POLICE SAY PLAN TO EQUIP PATROL OFFICERS WITH CAMERAS
WILL ROLL OUT THIS WINTER

By Kevin Forestieri

Body cameras for on-duty police officers took the center stage in a national discussion on police accountability this week, but Mountain View's been planning to equip officers with the recording devices for the past year.

In the wake of riots and protests surrounding the shooting death of 18-year-old Michael Brown by a police officer in Ferguson, Missouri, President Barack Obama this week called for \$263 million to pay equipping and training local law enforcement with the cameras.

Mountain View police say

they're one step ahead of the game, and are finalizing a program that started years ago to equip 66 officers with the small, wearable cameras in the coming months.

The Mountain View Police Department has been considering the use of body cameras for four years, and last year decided to spend \$135,000 to equip patrol officers with the recording devices, according to Capt. Chris Hsiung of the Mountain View Police Department. Though the program is expensive, Hsiung said police officer behavior tends to improve when they have body cameras, and incidents of physical confrontation tends to go

down between officers and the public.

Hsiung and other advocates for police cameras cite a study of the Rialto Police Department, which found that the use of force by police officers dropped by nearly 60 percent when they had cameras on. Formal complaints against police also decreased by about 90 percent.

"Things become a lot more cordial," Hsiung said.

Before the department fully deploys the cameras, Hsiung said they still needs to finalize policies on how exactly police are supposed to use the cameras,

► See **BODY CAM**, page 9

Council OKs San Antonio center project; Milk Pail market saved

LINKEDIN DENIED AN EMPLOYEE-ONLY CAFE

By Daniel DeBolt

The City Council unanimously approved the second phase of the redevelopment of San Antonio shopping Center Tuesday night, and along with it, a new deal to save the city's popular Milk Pail Market.

"I have been worrying about the survival of the Milk Pail for over three years now," Milk Pail owner Steve Rasmussen told the council. "I'm very grateful for the support the community has shown to the Milk Pail."

The deal "pretty much resolves the dilemma of not knowing what our future was going to be," Rasmussen said of the agreement before the meeting.

In order to meet city parking requirements and stay open for business, Rasmussen will lease 31 parking spaces on an adjacent property from project developer Merlone Geier. It is now home to a taqueria and a sushi restaurant, and one or both would presumably be torn down to make way for the new Milk Pail parking lot, Rasmussen said. The Milk Pail had needed 11 more spaces to comply with city parking requirements to stay open, as a previous parking agreement to allow use the Ross and BevMo! lot was soon to expire.

The large redevelopment that was approved at the Tuesday, Dec. 2, meeting — with member John Inks abstaining because of a conflict of interest — was much

the same as one presented to the council several times this year that did not get approved.

The project will replace the Ross, BevMo! and several smaller buildings near the corner of California Street and San Antonio Road, including the site of the "birthplace of Silicon Valley," the former Shockley lab at 391 San Antonio Road. The

'There's what you wish you can do in theory and what you can do in reality.'

MAYOR CHRIS CLARK

project includes a 50,000-square-foot movie theater, 167-room hotel and a parking garage with over 1,300 spaces. It also plans for restaurants and shops around a courtyard with a monument to the silicon molecule, and office space expected to be leased by LinkedIn, with space for about 2,000 employees. The office tenant won't be allowed to have its own cafe in order to ensure that workers make use of the restaurants the development — a requirement said to be a first for the Valley.

Council members decided against an alternative project that included housing, despite calls for it from many residents earlier this year. Mayor Chris Clark said it would have meant the loss of the hotel and more than \$1.5 million a year in hotel tax revenue.

After some last-minute haggling for an additional \$2 million in funds, the project includes \$9.4 million in funds for public

► See **MILK PAIL**, page 7

INSIDE

VIEWPOINT 22 | WEEKEND 25 | GOINGS ON 29 | MARKETPLACE 30 | REAL ESTATE 32

TURN THE KEY



LOS ALTOS \$4,285,000

395 S. Gordon Way | 4bd/3ba
Carol & Graham Sangster | 650.941.1111



LOS ALTOS \$2,695,000

276 Delphi Court | 4bd/3.5ba
Kathy Bridgman | 650.941.1111



SARATOGA \$2,388,000

18843 Dundee Avenue | 6bd/4.5ba
Tom Correia | 650.941.1111



SARATOGA \$1,838,000

24685 Heather Heights | 4bd/3.5ba
Tiger & Cindy Teerlink | 408-741-1111



SUNNYVALE \$1,250,000

724 Carlisle Way | 3bd/2ba
Anita Hunter | 408.741.1111



SUNNYVALE \$1,095,000

869 W. Washington Avenue | 3bd/2ba
Gary Herbert | 650.941.1111



LOS GATOS \$899,000

135 El Olivar | 3bd/2.5ba
Denise Welsh | 650.941.1111



SUNNYVALE \$875,000

517 S. Cascade Terrace | 3bd/2.5ba
John & Robin Jenkins | 408.741.1111





SANTA CRUZ \$839,000

2220 Paul Minnie Avenue | 3bd/2.5ba
Margit Forsberg | 650.941.1111



See it all at
APR.COM

 /alainpinelrealtors
 @alainpinelrealtors

Los Altos Office 650.941.1111



Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in downtown Mountain View. Photos and interviews by Madeleine Gerson.

When the power goes out, what's your favorite way to pass the time?



"I would love to read a book like Game of Thrones. If the book's too complicated, I might fall asleep."

Wen Liu, Mountain View



"Meditate. It makes time pass a lot nicer and you can take it easy and not worry about things."

Sammy Elmi, Clovis



"I enjoy playing poker with my family by candlelight."

Heidi Larsen, Menlo Park



"I like to play soccer in the rain."

Gaby Arreguin, Mountain View



"Listening to music, trying to read books and listen to DVDs."

Anil Somaia, Mumbai

IT'S YOUR MONEY! USE IT OR LOSE IT.

Optimize Your 2014
Dental Benefits &
Flex Spending. Ends
December 31st 2014.



APPOINTMENTS FILL UP VERY QUICKLY AROUND THIS TIME OF YEAR. IN ORDER TO AVOID THE LAST MINUTE RUSH WE WOULD LIKE TO RESERVE A CONVENIENT DAY AND TIME FOR YOU!
CALL US TODAY. 650.564.3333

DR. WILLIAM HALL ~ DR. TIFFANY CHAN ~ DR. J. JANICE CHOU
DR. ROB VAN DEN BERG - ORTHODONTIST

100 W. El Camino Real, Suite 63A
Mountain View (Corner of El Camino & Calderon)
WWW.SMILESIDENTAL.COM | 650.564.3333

SMILES
DENTAL CARE
QUALITY · SATISFACTION · TRUST

Larry's knows Jeeps.

(& other American Vehicles)

You know you are dealing
with experts when ...

- Technicians are Nationally Certified Masters
- Technicians receive over 40 hours of specialized training every year
- They are certified environmentally friendly
- All repairs are guaranteed in writing for 3 years/ 36,000 miles — no other shop does this!
- Each technician is a specialist on the vehicle they service.



"You can expect superb customer service, superior quality of work and attention to details. Without exception in 8 years, it has been "Done Right the First Time". They hire the best master mechanics they can find with the most expertise and it shows in the results."

— Pamela K W. from Sunnyvale

LARRY'S
AutoWorks
When you want it right!

Hours: Mon - Fri 7:30 am - 12:30 pm, 1:30 pm - 5:30 pm
2526 Leghorn Street, Mountain View
650-968-5202 | Autoworks.com



Approved
Auto Repair





Kozy Brothers
De Martini Orchard
 www.demartiniorchard.com
 66 N. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos
 650-948-0881

*Open Daily
 8am-1pm
 Prices Effective
 12/03 thru 12/09*

*Farm Fresh and
 Always the Best*



<p>FLORIDA 48 SIZE STAR RUBY</p> <p>GRAPEFRUITS</p> <p>DARK RED SWEET AND JUICY</p> <p>4 \$2.00</p>	<p>TIME TO ORDER</p>  <p>DRY FRUIT TRAYS READY TO SHIP MINCE MEAT AND ALMOND PASTE</p>	<p>BROCCOLI CROWNS</p> <p>LOCALLY GROWN BEST BUY NO WASTE</p> <p>99¢ Lb.</p>
<p>SATSUMA</p> <p>MANDARINS</p> <p>CALIF. GROWN SEEDLESS SWEET & JUICY</p> <p>\$1.99 Lb.</p>	<p>SHELLED WALNUTS \$9.99 Lb.</p> <p>BLACK RAISINS \$1.99 Lb.</p> <p>RAW ALMONDS \$7.99 Lb.</p>	<p>ORGANIC SPRING</p> <p>SALAD MIX</p> <p>READY TO USE</p> <p>\$3.99 Lb.</p>
<p>ORGANIC LOCAL</p> <p>BABY BOK CHOY</p> <p>STIR FRY TIME</p> <p>\$1.49 Lb.</p>	<p><i>Your Everyday Farmers Market</i></p> <p>Online at www.DeMartiniOrchard.com</p>	

COMMUNITY BRIEF

COPS THAT CARE

Starting this week, donations are being accepted for the annual holiday gift giving program, "Cops That Care."

In 2003, Cops That Care was founded by now-retired Mountain View Police Officer Ron Cooper, and is currently led by the Mountain View Police Activities League (MVPAL).

The goal of the program is to provide needy children with toys for the holidays and every year over 1,700 Mountain View children receive donated gifts.

Mountain View Police Department officers volunteer at the event every year. Donations should be brought to the police station at 1000 Villa St. by Friday, Dec. 19. The event, which includes a visit from Santa, takes place at 201 S. Rengstorff Ave. on Saturday, Dec. 20, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information on how to participate or donate, go to mountainviewpoliceblog.com.

—Madeleine Gerson

CRIME BRIEFS

PURSE-SNATCHER ARRESTED

Mountain View police arrested an East Palo Alto man after he allegedly grabbed a woman's handbag and fled, causing a police chase that went yard-to-yard in Mountain View.

The victim was walking down the 100 block Castro Street on Nov. 22 at around 7:30 p.m. when the man, whom police identified as 21-year-old Rafael Tafolla, grabbed her handbag and struggled to wrestle it free from her. The suspect held onto the bag until Tafolla allegedly knocked her onto the ground and dragged her, causing abrasions to her arms and legs.

The woman eventually let go of the purse, and Tafolla fled towards Central Expressway. Police set up a perimeter around Moffett Boulevard and Central Avenue, and began checking backyards for the suspect. Tafolla was eventually arrested by police when he jumped a fence to the 800 block of Jackson Street, where perimeter officers were located.

Tafolla was booked into San Jose Main Jail on charges of attempted robbery.

HOME BURGLARY REPORTED

Police are looking for suspects who burglarized a Mountain View home on the night of Thanksgiving and stole jewelry and hundreds of dollars in cash.

The burglary occurred when the victims were out of the house between 4 and 9 p.m. on the 1700 block of Lemontree Court. When they returned home that night, they reported that the house had been burglarized. The suspect stole jewelry, about \$300 in cash and an antique handgun.

The residents believe the burglar was able to get inside the house through an unlocked side garage door. Police say there were no witnesses to the incident, and no information on the suspect at this time.

Kevin Forestieri

POLICE LOG

BATTERY 1600 block Villa St., 11/25 500 block Showers Dr., 11/25	100 block Horizon Av., 11/26 1700 block Lemontree Ct., 11/27
ROBBERY 800 block Leong Dr., 11/28	
GRAND THEFT 1800 block Latham St., 12/01	
STOLEN VEHICLE 600 block Ehrhorn Av., 11/30	
MISSING PERSON 500 block View St., 11/26	
VANDALISM 200 block Castro St., 11/29	
RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY 3400 block Shady Spring Ln., 11/25	

The Mountain View Voice (USPS 2560) is published every Friday by Embarcadero Media, 450 Cambridge Ave, Palo Alto CA 94306 (650) 964-6300. Periodicals Postage Paid at Palo Alto CA and additional mailing offices. The Mountain View Voice is mailed free upon request to homes and apartments in Mountain View. Subscription rate of \$60 per year. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Mountain View Voice, 450 Cambridge Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

Stanford | Continuing Studies WINTER 2015



Liberal Arts & Sciences

Featured Winter Courses:

- California: A Social and Cultural History • The Science of Willpower and Change
- World War II: History and Legacy • The Great American (Short) Novel
- Football 101: Inside America's Favorite Game • Four Hundred Years of Opera
- Surrealism • Before They Stopped the Party: The Greatest Pre-Code Movies

Stanford Continuing Studies offers a broad range of on-campus and online courses in liberal arts & sciences, creative writing, and professional & personal development. Courses are taught by notable Stanford faculty, experienced professionals, and leaders in their fields. All adults are welcome to attend.

Winter registration is now open and most classes begin the week of January 12.

Learn more and register: continuingstudies.stanford.edu



MICHELLE LE

Alison Hicks and Meghan Fraley hold a sign and candles to honor Michael Brown during a vigil held at the intersection of Castro Street and El Camino Real.

Vigil downtown for Michael Brown

By Kevin Forestieri

A handful of Mountain View residents gathered on the corner of Castro Street and El Camino Real for a candlelight vigil for Michael Brown the night of Nov. 25, holding candles and a sign that read, “Black lives matter.”

The vigil came a day after a Missouri grand jury decided not to indict Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson in the fatal shooting of 18-year-old

Michael Brown on Aug. 9. The decision sparked riots, protests and demonstrations all across the country, including violent protests in Oakland.

But Mountain View’s vigil took a more peaceful route, as participants talked about the decision by the grand jury, and what can be done to curtail police violence, particularly against African Americans.

Meghan Fraley, who helped organize the event, held one end of the sign with Alison

Hicks, as people drove by and honked, waved, and gave a thumbs-up to show their support.

“I personally feel very sorry for (Brown’s) family, and the young folks and poor folks that deal with institutionalized racism,” Fraley said.

The killing of Brown, Fraley said, was a poignant reminder that the country still needs to confront inequalities in the way

► See **VIGIL**, page 9

Water district extends call for conservation

NORTH COUNTY CITIES AREN’T MEETING GOAL OF 20 PERCENT REDUCTION IN WATER USE

By Kevin Forestieri

Rain has a welcome sight for the Bay Area this week, but the Santa Clara Valley Water District says more needs to be done to counteract the multi-year drought that has left California parched.

At a Nov. 25 board meeting, the water district board voted unanimously to spend millions of dollars more to extend its water conservation efforts and encourage residents in Santa Clara County to use 20 percent less water through June 30. Previous plans had the call for water

reduction to end after January.

Santa Clara County is in a “severe” drought, based on projected levels of groundwater storage, and local supplies like the Steven’s Creek Reservoir are at only 3 to 6 percent of their total capacity. Water levels in the Chesbro reservoir are so low they are below the district’s measuring gauge, according to a water district report.

To combat the drought, the water district has implemented a 15-part strategy that includes, among other things, a campaign to get water use among county residents down by 20 percent for

2014 -- a plan that has since crept into mid-2015. The extending the campaign will cost a total of \$3.8 million. The reduction, according to the report, can be made through voluntary “behavioral changes” to bring down residents’ personal water consumption.

North county cities like Mountain View and Palo Alto are falling short of the water district’s conservation goals, but there’s a reason why, according to Elizabeth Flegel, Mountain View’s water conservation coordinator.

► See **WATER DISTRICT**, page 11

Council OKs North Bayshore plan for offices only

By Daniel DeBolt

City Council members were compelled to justify their approval of a North Bayshore precise plan without the housing that, according to some observers, voters sought this month by electing three new members who clearly favor North Bayshore housing.

Between 1,100 and 5,000 units of housing are expected to be added to the plan after the three new members take office in January, replacing the three vocal opponents of North Bayshore housing on the council, Margaret Abe-Koga, Jac Siegel and Ronit Bryant. Council members at the Nov. 25 meeting voted 6-1 to approve the plan, with John Inks opposed.

The outgoing members took the opportunity to criticize the incoming members and other North Bayshore housing supporters after their opposition to housing in North Bayshore was scrutinized all year.

“I’m proud of what we’ve done,” said Abe-Koga, who took issue with statements from the three new members that the “voters have spoken” in support of North Bayshore housing. “One election that had lower voter turnout is not a mandate in any way,” she said, echoing sentiments expressed by other members.

The outgoing members made much of the fact they they had done extensive public outreach over six years, including coming up with a general plan for the entire city approved in 2012, and that they had also been elected by voters.

“You have to do it that way we did it,” Abe-Koga told the council members-elect, Lenny Siegel, Pat Showalter and Ken Rosenberg. “You have to talk to residents, you have to talk to businesses.”

“For the last several months I’ve been hearing from members of the public who attended those meetings and called for housing and were ignored,” Lenny Siegel said the next day. “Just because you’ve held meetings doesn’t mean you’ve heard from the public. The statistics all show our jobs-housing balance has gotten much worse and the

people who spoke last night on the council didn’t seem to recognize that as a problem.”

Mayor Chris Clark said the creation of the plan “spanned election cycles.” He and other members didn’t mention changes that appear to be driving a shift in public sentiment; the city’s balance between jobs and housing was not of much public concern until this year. But the situation has been driving a passionate conversation on skyrocketing rents with activism all over the Bay Area, including among members of Mountain View’s Campaign for a Balanced Mountain View.

During the election, the council members-elect, who will take their posts in January, said they wanted to balance jobs and housing in North Bayshore, replacing much of the offices in the plan. But what became clear Tuesday night was that property owners and developers in North Bayshore will be moving quickly to propose the 3.4 million square feet of offices allowed in the plan, room for about 20,000 employees at 175 square feet per employee. The area in the plan encapsulates nearly all of the city north of Highway 101.

“They set up a system that would lead a developer to rush to get in line,” said Siegel, who campaigned aggressively for fewer offices in North Bayshore. “I’m expecting a flood of proposals.”

A cap on peak-period vehicle trips into North Bayshore was established on Tuesday that may also encourage office proposals in North Bayshore. As of April there were 13,900 such trips and 18,900 will be allowed. City staff reported that the 14,500 new trips are expected to be created by the development allowed in the plan, and most would have to be by bike, carpool or employee shuttles.

To facilitate that, an extensive conceptual plan for \$41 million in transit and bike infrastructure was also approved Tuesday for the Shoreline Boulevard corridor between the downtown train station and North Bayshore. It includes protected bike lanes, a new pedestrian bridge over

► See **NORTH BAYSHORE**, page 11

Walking away from your sick-bed

EL CAMINO HOSPITAL USING MUSCLE-STIMULATING DEVICE
ON INTENSIVE-CARE PATIENTS

By Kevin Forestieri

Being stuck in a hospital bed can wreak havoc on the body, weakening and atrophying muscles, and causing long-lasting problems. El Camino Hospital officials are looking to change that with a new tool to keep muscles active, aiming for patients to leave the hospital with a spring in their step.

The device uses muscle-stimulating thermal and electric pads that kick-start muscle movement for patients who are in the intensive care unit and often suffer from weakness after being bed-ridden for several days. The pads are applied to the quadriceps in the legs twice a day for 30 minutes and cause the muscles to contract, making it easier for the patient to maintain muscle mass and walk after treatment.

El Camino Hospital was the first hospital in Northern California to start using the device, called the Niveus Muscle Stimulation System 110, which is developed by the Mountain View-

based company Niveus Medical, a medical device start-up.

More than 50 patients have received the treatment at El Camino Hospital, according to a press release by the hospital.

Recent research has found that "ICU-acquired weakness" is a significant problem among hospital patients in intensive care, according to Michael Purnell, nurse educator with the Critical Care Unit at El Camino Hospital.

Purnell said that within 24 hours of being in a bed, patients can end up with dizziness and weak legs, and require help to walk or do other basic activities. He said the problem affects people of all ages, including young and otherwise able-bodied patients.

Weakness comes on quickly, and the effects can linger. Patients might recover in the hospital after getting sick with sepsis or pneumonia, but won't have the same level of energy they used to when they leave and go back to work, even a year after they left the hospital, all from being stuck in a bed for

several days.

"We are creatures of mobility," Purnell said. "Increasing mobility and motion can be beneficial in the long run."

Brian Fahey, the CEO of Niveus Medical, said the muscle stimulation device is the company's first product, and the release this fall has been going well. He described it as surfboard-shaped pads that hook up to a nearby device.

"Basically, it's a small controller the size of a lunch box that can sit on a table or hook to the side of the bed that's hooked up to bandage-material pads that interface with quadriceps or tops of thighs," Fahey said.

An optional perk is called a "thermal-enhanced" approach, where the area is cooled, allowing for more effective recovery.

Before adopting the muscle stimulating devices, Purnell said there was little they could do to mitigate muscle loss if the patient was too sick to do basic movement exercises like sitting on the side of the bed or standing up.

"You want to help them but you



COURTESY NIVEUS MEDICAL

Pads are hooked up to a device to contract muscles in the legs of patients who are stuck in a hospital bed for extended periods of time.

can't because they aren't able to do any of the activities," he said.

But now, doctors are able to use the device to contract and release the leg muscles of patients and keep their bodies a little more active during intensive care. Patients receiving the treatment have said that it is not uncomfortable and doesn't hurt, and feels relaxing, according to Purnell. No patient that he knows of has declined to use the device.

Though the hospital doesn't have any concrete reports on feedback from patients, Purnell said one patient was sick at the hospital and in "bleak" condition but ended up surviving his illness, and came to back to let hospital staff know how much he appreciated the muscle stimulating part of the physical therapy that got him back on his feet.

Email Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com

AFFORDABLE NEW STUDIO APARTMENTS

COMING TO MOUNTAIN VIEW EARLY 2015!

APPLICATIONS
AVAILABLE
11/17/14*

For more information please go
to www.edenhousing.org
and click on "Now Leasing".



Studio 819 Apartments is a brand new, 49-unit affordable, workforce housing community coming to Mountain View.

Community room w/kitchen • Computer room • Laundry facilities • Ground & third floor patio areas

*A lottery will be held and preference will be given to current residents of Mountain View and/or persons employed in the City. Income and other restrictions apply.

We do business in accordance with Federal and State fair housing

laws. It is illegal to discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national origin, or any of the protected classes. Please contact us if you require reasonable accommodations or have questions about our equal opportunity policies.

Applications will be
accepted for the lottery,
Mon., 11/17/2014
up until 5pm,
Monday, 12/8/2014.
Applications may be
submitted in person
or by mail to
135 Franklin Street,
Mountain View, CA 94041,
Attn: Studio 819.

819 N. Rengstorff St., Mountain View • P: (650)600-8889 • TDD/TTY 1-800-735-2929



ROEM
CORPORATION

SAN ANTONIO

► Continued from page 1

benefits, including buffered bike lanes on San Antonio Road and California Street, and potentially more than \$3 million toward building a pedestrian tunnel under Central Expressway at the San Antonio train station, said to cost over \$5 million several years ago.

During a break, a representative of Merlone Geier was overheard calling the demand for more public benefit funds “extortion” while another Merlone Geier representative reassured LinkedIn real estate chief Jim Morgensen that the higher amount would be paid so the problem would “go away.”

No housing added

“There’s what you wish you can do in theory and what you can do in reality,” said Mayor Clark, who said he met several times with Merlone Geier representatives on the issue of including housing in the plan. “If I wanted to add housing it would most likely entail replacing hotel with housing. We would only be getting 100 to 200 units. When you compare that with the revenue we’d be

getting from transient occupancy taxes we’d get from the hotel — you do that cost-benefit analysis as a council member — and it wasn’t worth it.”

The council also made a controversial decision earlier in the evening by approving a new “precise plan” for the San Antonio shopping center and surrounding area. It was controversial because it allows up to 600,000 square feet of offices. The plan “will exacerbate the jobs housing imbalance, in a part of town where most people believe housing development is appropriate,” said Lenny Siegel, newly elected council member and founder of the campaign for a Balanced Mountain View, in an email.

“More than 50 of us came to urge you to include housing in the precise plan,” said resident Joan Brodovsky. “That night, council listened. In November the electorate voted for candidates who are all for more housing. At one point there was talk about removing offices here and replacing it with housing. One month after the election (the developer) says he doesn’t feel like building housing. The city of Mountain View doesn’t have to be married to this plan and I urge the council reject it.”



COURTESY CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

City Council members rejected an alternative to Merlone Geier’s project that would have replaced the proposed hotel at San Antonio shopping center with housing.

No LinkedIn cafe?

LinkedIn’s Morgensen was heard complaining about the language of the requirement that the project’s office tenant cannot provide free meals to employees on a regular basis or subsidize meals by more than 50 percent (unless they are “patronizing restaurants in the center”), saying that it would prevent LinkedIn from having restaurants cater to the offices. Mayor Clark, a tech executive himself, said the ban would put the office buildings a disadvantage, saying it was a important for “team

building” to have a cafeteria. He got the council to agree to allow creative exceptions to the rule, with council approval.

“The condition of office space not having a cafeteria is absolutely necessary,” said council member Ronit Bryant. “The idea was critical to all of us” in order to support restaurants in the project, she said.

As for the Milk Pail, Rasmusen called the parking agreement “long-term” as well as “fair” and “definitely acceptable” and would allow him to continue to keep his prices lower than if he

had to rent his building. He would not to divulge details on how much he would have to pay per parking space or how long he would have rights to the parking.

In July, a similar deal fell through when the City Council did not approve the project as presented by Merlone Geier. It would have allowed Milk Pail customers to use a parking garage under an office building proposed to be built behind the market.

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

DENTAL ANXIETY IS A THING OF THE PAST

No more needles, no more drills

NO ADDITIONAL COST!

Call for New Patient Specials!



SOLEA

95% OF OUR PATIENTS ARE TREATED WITH NO ANESTHESIA

98% OF THOSE PATIENTS SAY THEY FEEL NO PAIN

APPROVED FOR PEDIATRIC PATIENTS

Call today or visit our website to schedule an appointment:

105 South Drive, Suite 200
Mountain View

www.drmmcevoy.com

(650) 969-2600

CONVERGENTDENTAL

Like us on Facebook



Patrick F. McEvoy
DDS, FAGD
The Art & Science of Dentistry

Patrick F. McEvoy, DDS, is Mountain View’s premier practitioner of general and implant dentistry. When you need a trusted, reliable dentist that cares about your needs and can create a beautiful smile that you will love, Dr. McEvoy is the only name you’ll ever need to know. He has built a solid reputation in his field as a caring, knowledgeable dentist that can enhance the beauty of any smile. Dr. McEvoy has attained the highest level of training for implant dentistry and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry and a Diplomate of the American Board of Implant Dentistry / Oral Implantology.

“Family Caregiver 101”

FREE Interactive Workshops

Join us Thursday, Dec. 11th

Palo Alto **3pm-4:30pm**

“The Gift of Simplicity”

This interactive workshop will provide techniques for promoting caregiver wellness as a gift we must give ourselves.

We will help one another cultivate the gifts of patience, emotional resilience and simplicity for this special time of the year.

Avenidas
450 Bryant St. Palo Alto
RSVP TO (650) 289-5400



Mountain View **7pm-8:30pm**

Join us for a free screening of “Alive Inside”

A poignant documentary on the power of music in combatting memory loss.

Avenidas Rose Kleiner Center
270 Escuela Avenue in Mountain View
PLEASE CALL (650) 289-5499 TO RSVP



County offers warrant forgiveness for the holidays

MONTH-LONG PROGRAM LETS NON-VIOLENT OFFENDERS
AVOID ARRESTS WITH NEW COURT DATES

By Kevin Forestieri

People who failed to appear in court and want to avoid spending the holidays in jail can get a second chance.

As of Monday, Dec. 1, the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office kicked off “Operation Second Chance,” a annual program that allows people with non-violent, misdemeanor warrants to turn themselves in and get a new court date rather than being arrested and booked into county jail. The program runs through Dec. 31, and includes warrants for both criminal and traffic violations as well as infractions.

The most common warrants in the county are called “bench warrants,” when people fail to appear in court on the date they were given, according to Sgt. Kurtis Stenderup of the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office. Of the 200 to 250 people who turn themselves in each year through the program, most of them have warrants for failing to show up in court.

“It allows people during the holiday time of year to take care of these warrants and not go to jail so they can spend time with their loved ones and family members,” Stenderup said.

Operation Second Chance will grant a new court date regardless of the bail, even if the warrant specifies “no bail” or “no cite and release.” Felony warrants, however, do not qualify for the program, as well as any misdemeanor warrant that includes violence, firearms, resisting arrest or giving false information to an officer.

Anyone with an outstanding warrant can call the Mountain View Police Department at 650-903-9344 to see if they are eligible for the program. Any law enforcement agency within the county should be able to look through its records and tell people whether they are eligible, according to Dee Ahl, warrant officer for the Mountain View Police Department.

Mountain View police have also posted an informational YouTube

video about the program.

The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office headquarters in San Jose is accepting self-surrenders through the program, as well as 10 police departments across the county, including Mountain View, Palo Alto and the Sunnyvale.

The program has been around for 10 years, and more than 2,800 people have used it to turn themselves in. The most common charges for people who use the program is for driving under the influence, according to Stenderup.

Still, 2,800 is a small fraction of the 34,837 outstanding warrants throughout the county. Stenderup said he would love to have as many people as possible take advantage of the program this holiday season.

“It saves money and jail space,” Stenderup said. “Instead of dealing with booking, feeding and housing, we are now allowing them to take care of this warrant.”

Email Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A PREPARATORY
DIVISION OPEN HOUSE
ON SATURDAY JANUARY 3, 2015



Cantabile

Youth Singers of Silicon Valley

Elena Sharkova, Artistic Director

PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL
FOR MORE INFORMATION
INFO@CANTABILE.ORG | 650.424.1410

Come Sing With Us! Cantabile:

- * Is internationally recognized for musical excellence
- * Performs on the world's great stages: from Carnegie Hall to St. Peter's Basilica in Rome
- * Tours nationally and internationally
- * Offers choirs for students from pre-school to twelfth grade



Students Experience:

- * The joy of singing with artistry and mastery
- * Personal growth and development
- * Fun, friends and community that lasts a lifetime
- * Learning from exceptional faculty

TO AUDITION PLEASE CONTACT US:
INFO@CANTABILE.ORG | CANTABILE.ORG | 650.424.1410
CLASSES ARE CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN LOS ALTOS

■ A & E BRIEFS

Sing and Play the Bing

Multicultural appreciation takes center stage at Stanford's Bing Theater Dec. 6 for an evening of unique performances by three Bay Area based groups: Peninsula Women's Chorus, Chinese Performing Arts of America and Tezkatlipoka Aztec Dance and Drum. For the third year in a row, Stanford Live will host an event showcasing the expanse of cultural performance the community has to offer.

The Palo Alto based Peninsula Women's Chorus was founded in 1966 and features both classical and contemporary music. Live performances and recordings have garnered international attention for the PWC, as well as the commissioning of original music.

The Chinese Performing Arts of America is committed to introducing Chinese culture to the area and using art as a means of promoting multiculturalism. CPAA specializes in ballroom and line dancing, as well as Shaolin Kung Fu, music, drama and other visual art performances.

Originally created as a traditional Aztec dance circle, Calmecac Tezkatlipoka Aztec Dance and Drum promotes an appreciation of pre-Columbian art forms through dance and music. The San Jose based school of dance and drumming works to combine multiple elements of Mesoamerican performance to celebrate movement, art and life.

Tickets for the event are free and will be available on the day of the event at the Bing Concert Hall box office (327 Lasuen St.). The performances start at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6 at the Bing Concert Hall. For more information visit live.standord.edu.

Redwood Bluegrass Association features Dale Ann Bradley and Steve Gully

From the heartland of American bluegrass culture comes two legendary artists for a special performance hosted by the Redwood Bluegrass Association. Dale Ann Bradley and Steve Gully have been influential members of the bluegrass community for several decades and have been big contributors to the continuation of the southern genre.

Bradley, a native of Kentucky, joined her first bluegrass band as a teen and has since recorded a number of albums and played countless shows. She has won the International Bluegrass Music Association Award for Female Vocalist of the Year a whopping five times. Fans admire Bradley for the genuine bluegrass quality of her music.

Born in Tennessee, Gully is the son of a founding member of the infamous Pinnacle Boys. He grew up to become the front man for three influential bluegrass bands: Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver, Mountain Heart and Grasstowne. He has been featured on many artists tracks, and co-wrote the IBMA's Song of the Year in 2008, titled “Through the Window of a Train.”

The pair will perform at Los Altos' Immanuel Lutheran Church (1715 Grant Road) on Saturday Dec. 6. The doors open at 4:30 p.m. for a jam session and the show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door and half price for teens and general students. Admission is free for kids under 13 and music students. For more reservations and more information, visit www.rba.org.

— Jennah Feeley

BODY CAM

► Continued from page 1

as well as communicate with the police officers association about privacy concerns.

Though officers are not expected to always have their camera on during long, 12-hour shifts including breaks, Hsiung said there is an expectation that the cameras should be recording prior to interacting with the public.

"The camera should be on anytime we know there's going to be an encounter between officers and people," Hsiung said. "If someone is threatening an officer, they have a lot more to think about besides stopping to turn on their camera."

The Menlo Park Police Department has similar guidelines for body cameras on their officers, but when three Menlo Park police were involved in the fatal shooting of a burglary suspect last month, neither of the two responding officers equipped with cameras had them switched on during the incident.

The cameras to be used by Mountain View police are called Axon Flex cameras, and are small recording devices that can be mounted onto helmets, sunglasses and collars. Hsiung said they chose the camera because of the way it adjusts to light and dark rooms similar to the human eye. He said it's important for the camera to reflect exactly what the cop saw and avoid problems where the footage appears to



COURTESY OF TASER INTERNATIONAL

show something that's at odds with what actually happened.

"We wanted something that would be as accurate as possible," Hsiung said.

To pay for the cameras, the department is using \$49,000 from drug asset forfeiture fund, as well as \$60,000 from its "digital photo project fund" to pay for most of the costs.

The digital photo fund was set aside by the department several years ago amid concerns over digital photography and whether the photos used by police would be admissible as evidence in court. It turns out digital photos weren't really problematic in the court system, Hsiung said, and the money has since been re-appropriated to pay for camera costs.

The \$135,000 will go towards purchasing the 66 cameras as well as any associated uploading and data storage costs.

In the presidential announcement, Obama said the body

Small, wearable cameras will be used by Mountain View patrol officers as part of the department's \$135,000 program rolling out this winter.

cameras would be a positive step towards improving relations between local law enforcement and the public, and that there is "simmering distrust" between police and minority groups. Tensions over the August shooting of Brown erupted anew when a grand jury report failed to indict the police officer who shot him, prompting demonstrations and riots across the country.

Hsiung said the Mountain View Police Department is not purchasing the cameras in response to the Ferguson situation, or any chronic unrest between law enforcement and the Mountain View community. Instead, he called the decision an opportunity to open up to the public.

"The cameras are not a result of any sort of distrust, but an effort to bring out more transparency in how we interact with the community," Hsiung said.

Email Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com

VIGIL

► Continued from page 5

African Americans are treated by law enforcement and the prison system.

Hicks said she was naively hoping the case would go to trial, and that she was disappointed the grand jury decided not to indict Wilson. But, she said, she was also happy to see people getting the word out about rising inequalities. She called the results of the grand jury a wake-up call, and said that she's happy action is being taken across the country following the decision.

"I'm glad people are bringing attention to it, because something needs to be done," Hicks said.

Fraley posed the question to the others: What do you think can be done on a local level?

Hicks pointed out that cameras worn by police officers could yield a more fair trial because the facts of the case can't be fabricated. She said the technology for police cameras is out there, and it would be a good start to make sure all police in the area

are equipped with a camera.

But police cameras might not solve the problem. A police shooting of a burglary suspect in Menlo Park last month wasn't recorded because only two of the three officers involved had their cameras on them, and neither camera was recording at the time. The Menlo Park Police Department has an exemption that allows police officers not to take the time to activate their body cameras in urgent, dangerous situations.

Monique Kane, who came to the vigil with her husband, said the constant shooting of black men by police officers is a real concern to her.

"We're creating an environment where black people don't feel safe," Kane said.

Kane's husband, Bill Heinz, said the process used by the grand jury lacked transparency, and that it's very rare for the jury to come back with no indictment.

"It's shocking, but not surprising," Heinz said. "It's clear there was an altercation, but it doesn't warrant shooting anyone."

In the grand jury's announcement, St. Louis County prosecutor Robert McCulloch said the 12-person jury determined there was no probable cause to charge Wilson. McCulloch blamed social media and the 24-hour news cycle for rumors that hindered the investigation.

President Barack Obama, in a speech following the grand jury decision, said there is a "deep distrust" that exists between police and communities of color, and called for better relations-building between communities and law enforcement in cities around the country. He said violent protests following the decision won't help that cause.

"What we need to do is to understand them and figure out how do we make more progress," Obama said. "That won't be done by throwing bottles. That won't be done by smashing car windows. That won't be done by using this as an excuse to vandalize property. And it certainly won't be done by hurting anybody."

Email Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com

The Girls' Middle School

3400 West Bayshore Road • Palo Alto, CA 94303
650.968.8338 x133 • www.girlsms.org
admissions@girlsms.org

OPEN HOUSE
Sunday
December 7
1-4pm

The 28th Annual Los Altos Kiwanis Tree Lot

QUALITY NOBLE FIRS, WREATHS, GARLANDS, CENTERPIECES



It makes a difference where you buy your tree!
All proceeds benefit local schools and other community organizations.

Monday-Friday • 3:00pm-7:30pm Saturday & Sunday • 9:00am-6:00pm
Opening Day — Friday, November 28 • 10:00am-5:00pm

When you purchase a tree, the following is donated to your PTA:
\$5 with the purchase of up to a 6ft tree
\$10 with the purchase of a 7ft or bigger tree



Located at:
Lucky's parking lot @ Foothill Expressway
& Arboretum, Los Altos

- We pay the sales tax!
- All sizes — 2ft to 12ft trees.
- All trees shaken and netted.
- Delivery & tree set-up available.

For info call 650-735-1552
or visit www.kiwanistrees.org

CITY SPORTS
SIGNATURE CLUB

CITY SPORTS CLUB GRAND OPENING

CELEBRATE WITH US

YOU'RE INVITED!

We've put the finishing touches on our new club and you're invited to see the results!



**Saturday,
Dec. 6th
10 am – 6 pm**

**MOUNTAIN VIEW
1040 Grant Road, Ste. 165
(650) 429-4085**

Join us for a day of complimentary sports club amenities, snacks, prizes and entertainment for the whole family!

- Take a Club Tour and become a Member!
- Bring your workout clothes and enjoy Complimentary Workouts
- Try a sample ZUMBA® Class at 12 noon
- Complimentary Fitness Assessments
- Complimentary Healthy Snacks
- **GRAND PRIZE GIVEAWAY!**
Enter to win an Apple® iPad®!*



- Live DJ
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 10 am with Chamber of Commerce Mountain View
- **49ers Gold Rush Cheerleaders**
Appearance from 8:30 am – 10:30 am
- Kiddie Train Rides from 10 am – 3 pm
Face Painting Clown from 10 am – 3 pm
- *And more! Call for details.*



 Chamber of Commerce
MOUNTAIN VIEW

BRING YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY – EVERYONE WELCOME!

*No purchase necessary. Call club for contest rules. City Sports Club is not associated with Apple Inc. or its affiliates. Apple® iPad® is a registered trademark of Apple Inc. Image courtesy of Apple. Advertisements schedule of events subject to change. Guests using club facilities must prove they are at least 18 years of age or older or are at least 14 years of age and accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. ©2014 City Sports Club. All rights reserved.

NORTH BAYSHORE

▶ Continued from page 5

Highway 101 at Shoreline and a reversible bus-only lane replacing one of the southbound lanes on Shoreline Boulevard north of Middlefield Road. Much of it may be funded by a special fee on office development in the area, which could be \$15 per square foot of office space approved — based on a similar amount paid by Intuit — said city planner Martin Alkyre. That would mean \$51 million from all 3.4 million square feet.

North Bayshore is home to the headquarters of Google and LinkedIn, both of which had representatives speaking in support of the plan. Google promised further reductions in vehicle trips.

Google's Jeral Poskey said the Shoreline corridor plan was "bold and innovative" and "helps us move from an auto-driven society to one where people use

alternative modes."

The plan has a goal that 45 percent of trips into North Bayshore would be by single-occupancy vehicles (SOVs), and that there would be 2,000 bike commuters.

"That's an incredibly ambitious goal," Poskey said of the bike-commuter goal. A Google study "showed 800 bikers currently on the corridor, almost entirely along the Stevens Creek and Permanente Creek trails."

Poskey said of the 45 percent SOV rate: "We're almost there and we will continue to go beyond the 45 percent SOV goal."

Few residents spoke at the meeting. Two construction trade union representatives asked that the new council be able to vote on the plan, while the Sierra Club and Audubon Society supported it. A handful of residents who spoke were divided on the issue.

Council members took the opportunity to attack council member-elect Siegel, who had

told the council that housing would be approved in North Bayshore "in one form or another."

"I find it interesting (Lenny Siegel) is speaking for the council and knows what we're going to be doing and isn't even seated yet," said outgoing member Jac Siegel (no relation).

"When you are elected to council, you hopefully take off your hat as an activist or campaigner and put on your hat as council member," said Mayor Clark. "The three incoming members do not form a majority and will need one of us to do anything they'd like to do."

In response, Lenny Siegel said the day after the meeting: "One of the things that distinguishes me is I organize people. I will continue to engage people throughout the community on these important decisions that are ahead of us. I'm fully capable of working with people who disagree with me, but I have my principles." ▀

WATER DISTRICT

▶ Continued from page 5

Flegel said the city receives 90 percent of its water from the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, which is only calling for a 10 percent water reduction. Mountain View followed suit, and announced in February that city residents should cut down on water use by 10 percent.

But Flegel said the city is also honoring the Santa Clara Valley Water District's call for water reduction, and has reduced its water use specifically from sources of water within the water district by more than 20 percent.

Mountain View has reduced its water use overall by 14 percent this year, slipping down to 13 percent for the month of October. Palo Alto, likewise, had a 15 percent water use reduction for 2014, but dropped down to only 10 percent in October. Morgan Hill was the only city in the county to break that 20 percent goal, reaching 24 percent overall water reduction for the month of October.

The reductions in Mountain View alone translate into 405 millions of gallons of water saved, according to the city website, with the biggest reductions in the early months of the year.

"We've been really impressed with our customers and all of their efforts they've put into dealing with the drought," Flegel said.

Conservation tips from the water district include fixing leaks, installing water-efficient toilets, washing machines and low-flow showerheads, and watering lawns less frequently during the fall and winter sea-

sons. The water district website also recommends people aim sprinkler heads correctly, and reminds them that no matter how much they water it, concrete will not grow.

At the Nov. 25 meeting, Morgan Hill resident John Muirhead asked water district board members what they expect people to do to reduce water use by 20 percent when they are already going out of their way to conserve water. Board President Tony Estremera said people at a previous town hall meeting expressed the same concerns, and that the conservation campaign is really geared towards people who haven't "changed their minds yet."

"I'm still outside on the sidewalk telling my neighbors, 'Hey, what are you doing washing your car? Haven't you figured out what's going on out here?'" he said.

Most of the conservation campaign, according to Estremera, has been about telling people who have conserved water to keep up the good work, while also telling people who haven't adjusted their behaviors to 'step it up.'

"We're not trying to bother the people who have already helped us get to this point, we're trying to wake up the rest of us that haven't yet gotten there," Estremera said.

Board member Brian Schmidt, who represents the north county, questioned whether people should be watering outdoors at all during the wintertime, and suggested a possible ban of outdoor water use with very few exceptions.

"It doesn't make sense to water in the wintertime," Schmidt said.

If severe drought conditions

continue, Schmidt said the water district could continue the ban into spring, and that it would be easier to keep the ban in place, rather than trying to introduce the ban in May when people have started to water their lawns again.

Staff member Garth Hall said the water district will work with cities and other water retailers to promote water conservation, and that it would be appropriate to ask them whether they could support a ban on outdoor watering and whether they would need to fit the ban into an existing city ordinance or modify an ordinance to make it work.

Hall said the water district will also be in touch with water retailers to see how they will respond to the board's decision on the extended call for water reduction. A report by the district predicts that increased costs and lower water use are going to bring up the cost of water rates in the next fiscal year. ▀

Inspirations

a guide to the spiritual community

LOS ALTOS LUTHERAN

Bringing God's Love and Hope to All

Children's Nursery
10:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 Sunday School
11:15 a.m. Fellowship

Pastor David K. Bonde
Outreach Pastor Gary Berkland

460 South El Monte (at Cuesta)
650-948-3012
www.losaltoslutheran.org

To include your
Church in
Inspirations
Please call
Blanca Yoc
at 650-223-6596
or email
byoc@pawekly.com

MOUNTAIN VIEW CENTRAL SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Sabbath School: 9:30 a.m.

Saturday Services: Worship 10:45 a.m.

Wednesday Study Groups: 10-11 a.m.

Pastor Kenny Fraser, B.A.M. DIV

1425 Springer Rd., Mtn. View - Office Hrs. M-F 9am-1pm
www.mtviewda.adventistfaith.org Phone: 650-967-2189

Graphic Designer

Embarcadero Media, producers of the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac, Mountain View Voice, Pleasanton Weekly, PaloAltoOnline.com and several other community websites, is looking for a graphic designer to join its award-winning design team.

Design opportunities include online and print ad design and editorial page layout. Applicant must be fluent in InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator. Flash knowledge is a plus. Newspaper or previous publication experience is preferred, but we will consider qualified — including entry level — candidates. Most importantly, designer must be a team player and demonstrate speed, accuracy and thrive under deadline pressure. The position will be approximately 32 - 40 hours per week.

To apply, please send a resume along with samples of your work as a PDF (or URL) to Lili Cao, Design & Production Manager, at lcao@pawekly.com

 embarcadero media

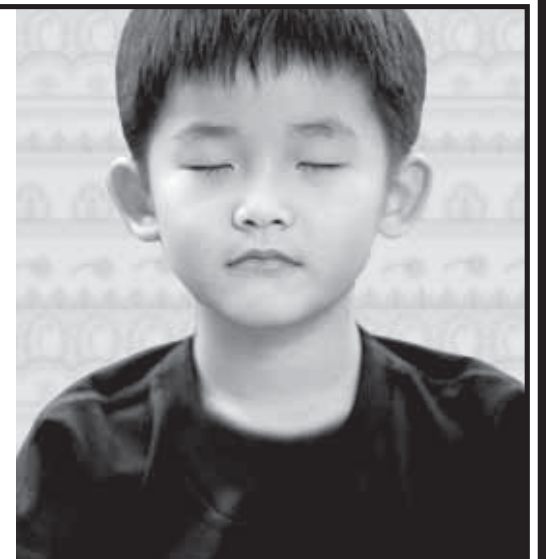
450 CAMBRIDGE AVENUE | PALO ALTO

Transcendental
Meditation®

*The technique for inner
peace and wellness*

*An easy-to-learn technique that helps
children lower their stress level, and
improve their learning ability*

South Drive Medical Center
305 South Drive, Suite 3, Mtn. View
650.424.8800 / www.tm.org



story and photos MICHELLE LE

AN AMERICAN DREAM DEFERRED



Left: Francisco Tizol prays before his meal at home in Tierra del Pueblo in Guatemala. **Above:** Corn tortillas, left over from the morning, are stacked on the kitchen stove. **Top:** Diana, 3, rests her eyes as she and her family drive home.

VIOLENCE IN GUATEMALA DRIVES FAMILY TO SEEK A BETTER LIFE IN MOUNTAIN VIEW

It's said that the nail that sticks up gets pounded down.

It's a harsh reality for Francisco Tizol, a father living in rural Guatemala. As a migrant worker in the United States and an entrepreneur in Guatemala, he has twice begun to lift himself out of poverty. Each time, threats of violence and extortion, endemic problems in his country, have pushed him back down.

While his story is unique, his situation is not. The surge in immigrants from violence-plagued Central American countries seeking refuge in the United States paints a bigger picture about the fears and ambitions that drive people to leave everything behind and make the risky journey to a new life.

Today, Tizol works as a pig

farmer in a rural area outside Mazatenango, an area that tourists are advised to avoid and locally is known for drug trafficking. But Tizol's story has taken him to Mountain View — home to a number of people from his small community in Guatemala — around the Bay Area and back.

He said he came to the United States to fulfill a dream he had since he was 16 — to leave his country, where the social and political structures were still in tatters from a civil war, and build something better for himself and his family. After living and working in the Bay Area for three years, he got a frantic call from his wife, Erlinda Gomez-Lopez, in Guatemala. A man had called her, threatening to kidnap, rape and murder their

two young daughters if they did not pay a steep price: 300,000 quetzals, or about \$40,000.

Leaving his wife to raise their three children alone wasn't an easy decision for Tizol. Speaking through a translator, he told the *Voice* that opportunities in Guatemala are few, and he had been left deeply in debt after taking out a loan to develop land he inherited as a cattle ranch.

He hired a coyote to smuggle him across the border, paying for three attempts. The first time he was caught and returned. The second time he was bused through Mexico and crossed through Texas. He had traveled with two others, splitting up for the night after they crossed the border. He hid out in a ranch, while the other two traveled on the road. They were

picked up by U.S. Immigration. The next morning, Tizol met with his contact and headed to Mountain View.

LIFE IN THE BAY AREA

Tizol said he chose Mountain View because many people from his community live there. When he arrived, his friend Marvin introduced him to the Day Worker Center of Mountain View. There he met Susan Sullivan, who taught an English class there. They became friends and he often sought her advice, he said.

Living in a two-bedroom apartment in Mountain View with five other men, Tizol found work as a carpenter and cleaner. After three years in the Bay Area, he was able to save money and pay off his debt. But his modest success, along with the land he had inherited back home, didn't go unnoticed. "He appears rich to poor people; word gets out that he's wealthy and people start extorting," said Sullivan.

But while working in the Bay Area helped lift his family out of poverty, his wife and children were paying the price back in Guatemala.

LIVING IN FEAR

The phone call she received was ominous: "Erlinda, listen, we know that Francisco is in the United States, you have two kids who study at El Colegio de Carmen. We know you just sold a parcel (of land). We want 300,000 quetzals," recounted Gomez-Lopez, her voice quivering, sitting on the edge of her bed.

Gomez-Lopez said she panicked. They yelled expletives at her that she refused to repeat. "And if you don't, do you want one of your kids to come back raped or murdered? We'll call you back in two hours." The ransom, for a family that earns about 7,000 quetzals a month, was impossible to raise.

In Guatemala, wealth is relative. In bigger cities like Antigua and Guatemala City, the Tizol family would be considered poor, but in its rural home town, the family is comparatively well-off.

Gomez-Lopez said she felt as if her life had been taken away. She moved the girls to a different school and hired drivers to take them there. She never went alone to the market. She said she never felt safe.

With no idea who was making the threat, she said, she became distraught and paranoid, while still remaining busy running a small business and raising her



From top: Erlinda Gomez-Lopez and husband Francisco Tizol; Tizol holds a photo of Susan Sullivan, a friend he made while living in Mountain View; Tizol walks towards his pig farm, down the road from his home in Tierra del Pueblo.

three kids alone.

"Don't give room to the enemy," advised Olivia Gomez, a neighbor and longtime friend. Rather than pay the ransom, Gomez-Lopez and the children moved into Gomez's house. They stayed there for two months, asking God's help through prayer and fasting.

"The girls didn't go to school for two, three, four ... I don't know how many weeks," said Gomez-Lopez.

They changed their phone number, and the calls stopped, but the fear did not. Like many others in Guatemala, Tizol said, they didn't believe the police would do anything and didn't report the threat.

SMALL TOWN LIFE

Tierra del Pueblo, the small farming town where the Tizols live, is a short, bumpy drive from the center of Mazatenango. A long, narrow road with potholes is lined with small shops, including Tizol's cafe, near his modest pig farm and his house. Teens in private school uniforms walk home, some stopping to buy ice cream or snacks at Tizol's cafe. Young boys play soccer on the field adjacent to his home. Prayers are heard in the nearby Evangelical Church. By nightfall, families are locked up inside their homes, and in bed before 10 p.m. Late at night the silence

► See GUATEMALA, page 14

**Do you
want one of
your kids to
come back
raped or
murdered?**



GUATEMALA

► Continued from page 13

is broken by the baying from packs of roving dogs followed by the crowing of roosters. But just beneath the surface of the seemingly peaceful countryside, there's the constantly looming threat of violence.

The evidence is all around. One of Tizol's cousins lives in a drafty, makeshift shack with no locks, next door to her brother, a former Nationalist who suffers from severe PTSD. Long scars on her arm are a constant



reminder of the time he tried to kill her with a machete. Though he suffers from delusions, there's no help available for him — or protection for her.

Another cousin said he watched as his friend was shot in the head — he survived only because the killer's gun jammed as he pulled the trigger. Tizol's father, a former Nationalist soldier, was murdered for speaking up and advising youth not to join either political party. Tizol said his mother fears the same fate awaits him.

BACK HOME

After his wife received the threatening calls, Tizol said he returned home. With the money he made in America, Tizol was able to add on to his concrete house.

Among residents of Tierra del Pueblo, Tizol is considered a rising middle class man. It's a town where many people live in shacks or squeeze large families into just a few bedrooms.

He invested his savings from the U.S. in land, started the pig farm and opened his cafe, where



the family sells freshly made corn tortillas. Then, the threatening phone calls started again. At this point, Gomez-Tizol was two months pregnant with Diana, their fourth child.

"If you don't bring us money, we will bring a bomb to your house," Tizol said the caller told him.

This time, they thought they had someone to help them. The stepfather of daughter Wendy's classmate befriended Tizol and Gomez-Lopez. He told them he was a police officer and could help with the extortionists. He advised them to negotiate a lower ransom of 45,000 quetzals, and said he would deliver the money for them.

The calls stopped, and eventually, Tizol said, they realized they had been deceived. Their new friend, Rene Aparicio Santiago Mejilla, had been working with the extortionists all along. This time, they did seek help from the police, and unexpectedly, the local police came through. Court documents show that Mejilla was arrested and is serving time in prison, but Tizol said he fears for his family when Mejilla is released. Only four years remain of his eight-year sentence and revenge is common in the country. Tizol said he recently spotted an armed man outside his home and people familiar with Mejilla have warned him he would seek retribution. Tizol said he heard rumors Mejilla may be released early for good behavior.

So Tizol has begun downsizing his pig farm in preparation of the day his family might have to flee. He said he dreams of bringing his family to the United States, where people can trust the police to keep them safe, and it's easier to earn a living.

But moving to the U.S. is fraught with obstacles and dangers. Tizol's options are to hire a coyote to smuggle his family into the U.S. or to seek humanitarian visas and, ultimately, asylum. At Sullivan's urging, he is trying to take the legal route.

"He was really frightened," Sullivan said. "He didn't know what to do. He called, worried about his wife and kids."

She said she told him to register with the embassy and tell them the story. "At least you have your name in line. And, if it gets desperate, get a coyote," she said she told him. "You hear these stories over and over again. Poverty, desperation, complete lack of a strong legal institution and ignorance. They still live in fear."

President Barack Obama's recent executive actions have temporarily loosened some restrictions on immigration, especially for families already in the United States, but it doesn't appear to help families in Tizol's

From top:
Olivia Gomez sheltered Erlinda Gomez-Lopez and her children after an extortionist threatened their lives; daughter Cindy's room is decorated with a mix of American pop stars and religious icons; Cousin Elubia Luna Tizol's arm bears the scars of a machete attack by her brother.



From top: Francisco Tizol and son Javier prepare a pig for slaughter; Tizol and wife Erlinda Lopez-Gomez sell chicharrones, or pork rinds, from their pig farm. Gomez-Lopez holds her youngest daughter Diana.

situation. With an additional emphasis on border security, it will make it harder for immigrants trying to enter the country illegally.

Even with the well-documented threats against the family, being granted asylum is far from certain. Marilia Zellner, a immigration attorney who is not involved with Tizol's case, said people who request asylum are required to either be in the

'Word gets out that he's wealthy and people start extorting.'

SUSAN SULLIVAN



U.S. or travel to the border. It's a complex process.

"Most people who want to come to the U.S. have to present themselves at the border, request a 'credible fear' interview, get paroled into the U.S., and seek asylum here," she told the *Voice*.

Despite the uncertainty, Tizol said he would prefer to get to America legally. Life, he said, is "respected there."

"We don't mean to leave, and move somewhere else, but this is the life situation that we have to face. And to be honest, I'm worried," said Tizol. ▣



Day workers give thanks to volunteers

By Daniel DeBolt

If life seems bleak this holiday season, consider the story of day worker Paul Ramirez.

Newly divorced, jobless and broke, Ramirez said he worried that last Christmas wasn't going to go well with his kids. When he saw them for the holiday, all he had were some simple gifts he had made while waiting for work at the Day Worker Center Mountain View, with materials and instructions from volunteers. He had sewn a hand bag and knitted a dog sweater, re-purposed from a failed effort to knit a cap. He wasn't sure how his kids were going to react.



Paul Ramirez

"When I knocked on the door and said, 'Look what I did for you,' these guys were so excited about something I did for them," he recalled. "Wow, how a very simple thing can make a big difference with



my kids. These volunteers not only impact my life, they impact my family life, too."

Ramirez says he was in the middle of a very rough year when he found a sort of sanctuary at the center, where he waits with over 50 others for an odd job from a homeowner or contractor. Not only divorced, he had lost his construction job and his truck was stolen along with his tools.

"I feel very good in this place," Ramirez said. "For most of us, this is our last chance. We don't got any other options, that's the reason we are here."

Ramirez is organizing an event to thank the more than 100 volunteers who help struggling workers at the Day Worker Center of Mountain View. The Day Worker Center is one of the local nonprofit organizations that benefit from



MICHELLE LE

Gabriel Torres, right, and Carmen Lopez take notes during an English class at the Day Worker Center on Dec. 1.

donations to the *Voice's* annual Holiday Fund.

"We've got computers, books, a roof to cover our bodies," Ramirez said. "People that teach us music, English, art, a lot of stuff, man. They bring clothes, they bring shoes. The only thing I can say is thank you to these guys. These people are making the difference for us," he said.

Ramirez said the idea for an event to say thank you to the Center's volunteers "was burned in my brain eight months ago." For the Dec. 20 event at the Community Center in Rengstorff Park, Ramirez says he's lined up a rock band from Oaxaca called *Entre Surcos*, mariachi singers Sergio Y Angeles, and a band called *Sones Jarochos* that performs Mexican folk music unique to the city of Veracruz. There will also be a dance performance and dinner will be served, Ramirez said. "It has to be very good — the show has to be beautiful," Ramirez said, adding that it would also be a way of sharing "a little taste of our culture" with volunteers.

"This is what the center is about, good intentions, good workers," said executive director Maria Marroquin. She said the idea and energy for it came from the workers. "They (the



MICHELLE LE

Volunteer Patricia Markee, the ESL coordinator at the Day Worker Center of Mountain View, gives a lesson on verbs.

workers) want to raise the funds. They don't want the center to pay for anything."

The Day Worker Center is establishing itself with another good year at its new permanent home on the north end of Escuela Avenue, after years of moving from church to church. This year there are slightly fewer workers but there were 2,500 more jobs for them, she said.

The center spent a good chunk of the year without a kitchen, which was upsetting

for many. Santa Clara County officials decided to require that the center's residential-grade kitchen had to be upgraded to commercial kitchen standards with \$150,000 of equipment, even though city zoning doesn't allow the kitchen to be used for commercial purposes. Marroquin said the center was able to raise the money relatively quickly earlier this year and now breakfast and lunch are served from a kitchen suited for restaurant use.

Winter time is the slowest time for the center, as many potential employers get busy with the holidays. Workers say residents shouldn't hesitate to ask for a hand, whether it's with landscaping or sewing, construction or housecleaning.

"I don't want people to feel sorry for us," Ramirez said. "If you need us, we are here. We want to do our best."

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com



Carmen Lopez listens during an English as a second language class run by volunteers.



PUBLIC NOTICE

MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Board of Trustees of the Mountain View Whisman School District is seeking qualified, interested individuals to serve on a committee of community leaders which will serve as the independent Citizens' Oversight Committee ("COC") for the implementation of the District's Measure G school facilities bond program.

On June 5, 2012, voters residing in the Mountain View Whisman School District passed Measure G, which is a \$198 million bond measure that authorizes funding for needed repairs, upgrades, and new construction projects for the District's schools. After a bond authorized under Proposition 39 is passed, state law requires that the Mountain View Whisman School District Board of Trustees appoint a Citizens' Oversight Committee to work with the District. The Committee responsibilities include: informing the public regarding the District's expenditure of bond proceeds, ensuring bond proceeds are expended only for the purposes set forth in Measure G, and presenting an annual report to the Board of Trustees on their conclusions regarding the expenditure of Measure G proceeds.

If you wish to serve on this important committee, please review the committee by-laws for more information about the committee's role and responsibilities and complete the application from the COC website at <http://www.mvwsd.org/citizens-oversight-committee>. Completed applications should be sent or faxed to the Chief Business Officer of the Mountain View Whisman School District by 4:00 PM on Wednesday, December 10, 2014.

Holiday Fund

How to Give

Your gift helps children and families in need

Contributions to the Holiday Fund will be matched dollar for dollar to the extent possible and will go directly to the nonprofit agencies that serve Mountain View residents. Last year, more than 150 Voice readers and the Wakerly, the William and Flora Hewlett and the David and Lucile Packard foundations contributed more than \$115,000, or more than \$16,000 each for the nonprofit agencies supported by the Voice Holiday Fund. We are indebted to the Silicon Valley Community Foundation which handles all donations, and deducts no administrative costs from your gifts, which are tax-deductible as permitted by law. All donations will be shared equally with the seven recipient agencies.

This year, the following agencies will be supported by the Holiday Fund:

Day Worker Center

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

Mentor Tutor Connection

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

Community School of Music and Arts

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

Mountain View RotaCare Clinic

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

YWCA Support Network for Domestic Violence

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

Community Services Agency

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

Community Health Awareness Council

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

Donate online at
www.siliconvalleycf.org/mvv-holiday-fund

Enclosed is a donation of \$ _____
Name _____
Business Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
E-Mail _____
Phone _____
Credit Card (MC, VISA, or AMEX) _____ Expires ____/____/____

Signature _____
I wish to designate my contribution as follows: (select one)
 In my name as shown above
 In the name of business above
OR: In honor of: In memory of: As a gift for:

(Name of person)



All donors and their gift amounts will be published in the Mountain View Voice unless the boxes below are checked.

- I wish to contribute anonymously.
- Please withhold the amount of my contribution.

Please make checks payable to:
Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Send coupon and check, if applicable, to:
Mountain View Voice Holiday Fund
c/o Silicon Valley Community Foundation
2440 West El Camino Real, Suite 300
Mountain View, CA 94040

The Mountain View Voice Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of Silicon Valley Community Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. A contribution to this fund allows your donation to be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Dreams become reality

With a short term and **low rates** — you can be mortgage free in 10 years!*



STAR ONE
CREDIT UNION

(408) 543-5202 | (866) 543-5202

www.starone.org

STAR ONE HOME LOANS | 10-YEAR MORTGAGE

*RATE OF 2.543% APR (ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE) AS OF 12/2/14 AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. SAMPLE MONTHLY PAYMENT ON A \$100,000, 10-YEAR MORTGAGE AT 2.50% INTEREST RATE IS \$942.69 FOR 120 MONTHS. THIS SPECIAL 10-YEAR MORTGAGE RATE IS AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME. APPLY BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2014.

De Anza Branch | Cupertino
10991 N. De Anza Boulevard
De Anza Blvd & Homestead Rd

El Camino Branch | Palo Alto
3903 El Camino Real
El Camino Real & Ventura Ave

Blossom Hill Branch | San Jose
1090 Blossom Hill Road
Blossom Hill Rd & Almaden Expy

Stevens Creek Branch | San Jose
3136 Stevens Creek Boulevard
Stevens Creek Blvd & S. Winchester

Enterprise Branch | Sunnyvale
1080 Enterprise Way, Ste 150
Enterprise Way & 11th Ave

Join Us! Membership is open to individuals who live, work or attend school in Santa Clara County.

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE! CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW BELOW MARKET RATE (BMR) RENTAL WAITLIST

The City of Mountain View's BMR Rental Program is accepting applications for the waitlist. Palo Alto Housing Corporation (PAHC), a local non-profit affordable housing organization, assists in administering the application process and waitlist for the City.

Applications accepted November 17, 2014 - December 8, 2014, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To be eligible for a BMR apartment, households must have a combined annual income of between 50% and 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) shown to the right.

2014 BMR Income Limits	1 Person	2 Persons	3 Persons	4 Persons	5 Persons
Minimum Income (50% AMI)	\$35,700	\$40,800	\$45,900	\$50,950	\$55,050
Maximum Income (80% AMI)	\$49,050	\$57,050	\$64,200	\$71,300	\$77,050

There will be a lottery for placement on the BMR rental waitlist. Applicants will be selected from the waitlist to fill available BMR rental units, based on their lottery ranking and the BMR Program preferences.



Domus on the Boulevard
2650 W. El Camino Real
5 one-bedroom BMR apartments
3 two-bedroom BMR apartments

2014 BMR Rents

1 Bedroom - \$1,223
2 Bedroom - \$1,377
3 Bedroom - \$1,528

These rents are subject to change in 2015



Verano on the Boulevard
865 & 881 E. El Camino Real
2 one-bedroom BMR apartments
2 two-bedroom BMR apartments

Obtain Applications by:	Submit Applications in person or by mail to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downloading it from: www.paloaltohousingcorp.org • Picking one up from PAHC during office hours • Calling (650) 321-9709 x 10 	<p>PAHC 725 Alma Street, Palo Alto, CA 94301 Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.</p>

Applications postmarked on or before December 8, 2014 but received after that date will not be accepted. Emailed or faxed applications will not be accepted. Only one application per household will be considered.

Let their imaginations soar!



Illustration from 'Quest' by author Aaron Becker.

By Debbie Duncan

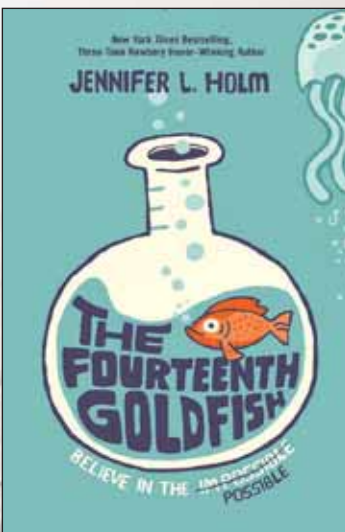
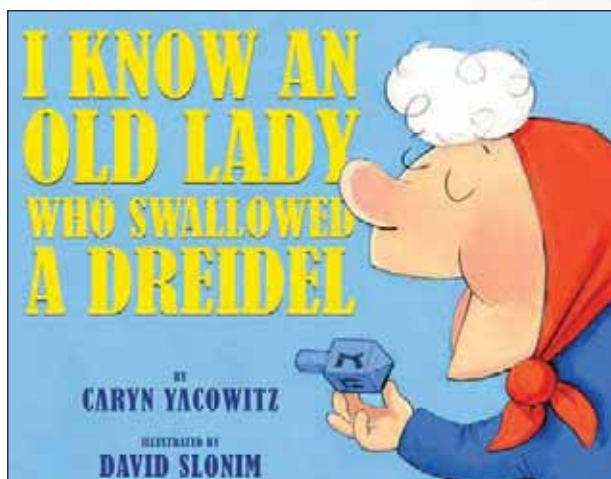
Where can kids find magic and science, art and writing, history and holidays, and inspiration galore? Why, in the pages of these new and notable children's books.

Remember, for both overall development and sheer enjoyment, there is no better gift for a child than a book.

I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Dreidel
by Caryn Yacowitz, illustrated by David Slonim; \$17; Levine/Scholastic; ages 2-8.

For a humorous holiday take on a familiar rhyme, look no further than Palo Alto author Caryn Yacowitz's latest clever creation. Her old lady doesn't swallow a fly.

The fun begins when Bubbe swallows a dreidel "she thought was a bagel." Her family members, who just want to enjoy Chanukah with their Bubbe, are increasingly alarmed as she swallows larger and more complicated Chanukah-themed



Kids' book authors offer humorous take on classic rhyme and new stories destined to become classics

items, including oil, latkes, brisket and even a menorah. "Perhaps it's fatal." (But of course it isn't.)

Bubbe's resolution to her eating binge will have little ones laughing out loud and asking for repeat readings.

Adding to the charm of Yacowitz's poem is David Slonim's artwork, which itself is based on famous works of art, including Mona Lisa, American Gothic, The Scream and even a statue local children may know from visiting Stanford's Rodin Sculpture Garden: The Thinker.

Quest
by Aaron Becker; \$18; Candlewick; ages 2-8.

Author/illustrator Aaron Becker's 2013 wordless fantasy picture book, "Journey," won a strong following among children and adults, as well as

a Caldecott Honor from the American Library Association.

Celebration of the imagination continues in "Quest" when a king, just before his capture, gives a map to two children escaping the rain. Following the map leads the boy and girl on an adventure to exotic lands, sea and sky, and the opportunity to retrieve markers in all colors of the rainbow, draw their way out of danger and rescue the king.

The Fourteenth Goldfish
by Jennifer L. Holm; \$17; Random House; ages 8-12.

This is one of those books on its way to classic, every-kid-loves-it status. (The last novel I said that about was R.J. Palacio's "Wonder," still topping the bestseller list more than two years after publication.)

"The Fourteenth Goldfish"
▶ Continued on page 21





VERONICA WEBER.

Volunteers, from left, Jessica Weare, Larry Chow, Kathy Veit, Matthew Bahls and Joe Stockwell carve turkeys for the Thanksgiving feast at All Saints Episcopal Church.

Finding the meaning in 'happy holidays'

If your holidays feel like more of a jumble than joyful, social-psychology research helps to explain why

By Joyceln Dong

*Happy holiday
Happy holiday,
While the merry bells
keep ringing
May your every wish come true.*

When it comes to the holidays, crooner Bing Crosby summed up the prospects — and the pressures — aptly. If ever there were a time of year when people expect amped-up happiness, it is the month of mistletoe, parties and gifts galore.

And yet, rather than experiencing the most wonderful time of the year, some people marshal all their energy only to end up feeling harried and spent.

Why does the pursuit of holiday happiness sometimes lead to exactly the opposite?

Recent social-psychology research sheds some light on the

phenomenon. It turns out, people often confuse happiness with meaningfulness.

“There’s a significant overlap in happiness and meaningfulness. The two constructs are very highly, significantly correlated,” said Emily Garbinsky, a doctoral candidate with the Stanford Graduate School of Business, who worked with Roy Baumeister of Florida State University, Kathleen Vohs of the University of Minnesota, and Jennifer Aaker, a marketing professor at Stanford, on a study that was published in the *Journal of Positive Psychology*.

What the researchers found was that happiness and meaningfulness in life resemble one another but are also distinct. Not understanding the powerful differences between the two can lead people to pursue happiness at the expense of meaning, leaving a gnawing sense of emptiness

despite all the festivity and merriment.

To determine the key factors of each, the researchers surveyed nearly 400 adults across the country about their concepts of happiness, meaning and self and how well 36 different activities (shopping, social networking, praying, organizing, etc.) reflected their sense of self. They looked for activities that made people very happy but held little meaning for them and also the reverse — activities that were highly meaningful but didn’t necessarily make people happy.

They also conducted supplemental research with 124 students, who rated adjectives and phrases as to how strongly those related to meaningfulness and happiness.

“We asked people, ‘What do you think of when you think of happiness?’” Garbinsky said. “And we got this robust finding.”

One key difference the researchers discovered: Meaningful activities are associated with longer-term thinking and tend to integrate a person’s past, present and future.

“Meaning links experiences and events across time, whereas happiness is mostly in the moment and therefore largely independent of other moments,” the researchers wrote in the *Journal of Positive Psychology* article.

“People associate meaning with permanence,” explained Garbinsky, who will start as an assistant professor at Notre Dame next summer. “When people have a meaningfulness mindset they think into the future. Meaning has this lasting effect.”

By contrast, happiness centers more on having one’s needs satisfied and on feeling good more often than feeling bad, researchers found.

The study didn’t specifically study holiday-oriented activities. But based on the findings, it’s easy to see why traditions — by definition, activities that people and their families or friends repeat year after year — create meaningfulness during the holidays.

“I agree that traditions would be considered more meaningful because they incorporate the temporal element,” Garbinsky said.

Conversely, a season spent hopping from party to party might result in momentary happiness that is quickly forgotten.

Another big difference between happiness and meaningfulness, which should come as no surprise, is that meaning is derived from giving to others, whereas happiness is correlated with receiving from others.

“People who think they have meaningful lives think of themselves as givers rather than takers. People who think about happiness see themselves as takers rather than givers,” Garbinsky said.

That goes a long way in explaining why people, seeking to share the meaning of the season, flock to volunteer and donate money to charity.

But don’t people report feeling happy when they do something good for others? According to the study, that kind of happiness may not actually spring from altruistic acts but from the sense of meaningfulness people get when caring about others.

“In everyday life, helping others makes the helper’s life meaningful and thereby increases happiness,” the study states.

What would be even more meaningful for people would be to engage in the same charitable work each holiday season — for example, delivering meals to shut-ins on Christmas, or tak-

ing one’s children to the toy store to select gifts for children in need — thus incorporating both long-term involvement and being others-oriented.

Local theologians have struck a similar message on the difference between happiness and meaningfulness.

“There is, it turns out, something that’s way more important and more significant and better than the happy life, and that’s what might be called the meaningful life, John Ortberg of Menlo Park Presbyterian Church said in a recent sermon series on happiness.

He spoke of a “happiness paradox,” which he described as, “I will never be happy if the ultimate goal of my life is for me to be happy.”

“Happy is one of those things that comes only as a byproduct when we’re pursuing something else, something bigger, or something better,” Ortberg said.

The paradox parallels what the researchers found.

“If you pursue meaning, that will ultimately lead you to becoming more happy. If you pursue happiness, your life doesn’t necessarily lead to a more meaningful life,” Garbinsky said.

Both researchers and theologian also consider another psychological insight that might be helpful for the season: Those who are suffering can experience meaningfulness even if life, or the season, isn’t necessarily happy. In fact, the study found when people make meaningful choices, they might actually be less happy — such as when someone sacrifices time or money for a greater cause like rearing a child or caring for disabled parents. But the researchers found that people who reported feeling less happy didn’t feel their lives were less meaningful.

All of which begs the question: Is there anything wrong with pursuing happy holidays? Not at all. As Garbinsky noted, happiness and meaningfulness significantly overlap.

But chasing after good feelings could deprive people of a more lasting, richer experience of life.

“There’s nothing wrong with it per se,” Garbinsky said. “But data would suggest that people tend to feel empty in spite of pursuing happiness. They feel something is missing.”

In the end, not everything that makes a person happy is meaningful. And not everything that is meaningful makes a person happy. But going through the season without the pursuit of meaningfulness is no “happy holiday” at all.

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

► Continued from page 19

has a unique and fun premise, a bit of magic, science and science history, touches of humor and real heart. That it's set in Silicon Valley is a bonus for local readers.

Soon after starting middle school, Ellie's best friend from forever decides volleyball is her new passion. Ellie feels lost, until one evening her scientist grandfather shows up — as a 13-year-old boy! — to live with her and her mom. He's discovered a cure for aging and demonstrated it on himself. This gruff old man in a growing boy's body even goes to school with Ellie.

She alternates between embarrassment (Grandpa gets detention because he "used the facilities" without a hall pass) and pride (when he encourages her to "believe in the possible"). Too, he helps her make a new friend: the goth, heavily pierced, wise and witty Raj.

But what if Ellie's grandfather's experiment has gone too far? Is old age like polio, something to be cured? Ellie and Grandpa confront these and other important questions of science and morality as they decide what to do about his discovery, and Grandpa himself.

El Deafo

by Cece Bell; \$11 paperback; Amulet/Abrams; ages 8-12.

Some of the most affecting books for young people published in the last few years are graphic novel memoirs about growing up obviously different from other kids.

Meet El Deafo, superpower alter ego of author Cece Bell, who became profoundly deaf after a

bout of meningitis at the age of 4. Cece the character may have tall ears like all the other bunnies in the book, but in order to hear at school she needs her Phonic Ear: a box she wears around her neck with earpieces attached to wires, paired with a microphone for her teacher. It's bulky and embarrassing, but it also gives her superpowers: She can hear her teachers anywhere in the building, even the bathroom!

Sensitive Cece has friend challenges. One friend is bossy; another talks too loud. Her boy crush just likes the powers of her Phonic Ear. The girl Cece gets along with best turns against her because she's afraid of hurting Cece and giving her another disability.

Young readers will cringe when the mean P.E. teacher drops and breaks the microphone, and they will feel for Cece as she tries to fit in with her classmates by tipping them off when their teacher is about to return to the classroom. They'll laugh at what might have been sad in a traditional novel. Most of all, they won't forget this story about a special kid.

Brown Girl Dreaming

by Jacqueline Woodson; Nancy Paulsen/Penguin; \$17; ages 10 and up.

Young Jackie Woodson grows up in the shadow of her older, brilliant sister. But oh, can Jackie tell stories.

"Brown Girl Dreaming" is her memoir-in-verse, an ode to childhood in a world that is changing during and after the Civil Rights movement. In lyrical specificity, it brings to life the midcentury segregated South and its place in American history.

Jackie lives with a blanket of love from her South Carolina grandparents, yet they also sit in the back of the bus. Jackie hears about trainings for marchers as well as those protesting at Woolworth lunchcounters. "Colored" becomes "negro" and then is "black."

When their mother leaves, Jackie and her sister and brother are pulled into their grandmother's religion, Jehovah's Witness. Later, Jackie's mother moves her children to New York. In Brooklyn, Jackie's friends, especially her "forever friend" Maria, become her anchors.

Early on Jackie recognizes the power of words. She and her siblings aren't allowed to say bad words. But stories? "Stories are like air to me," she says. Stories convince her feminist teacher that Jackie is going to be a writer, even though she has trouble reading.

"Brown Girl Dreaming" shows where and how a brilliant writer of this and other beloved books emerges from a tumultuous, important period in this country's history. Last month it was awarded the 2014 National Book Award for Young People's Literature.

Debbie Duncan is a Stanford writer and author who has been reviewing children's books for the Weekly since 1997.

Meet Your Happy Chemicals
dopamine
serotonin
oxytocin
endorphin



Stimulate them naturally in 45 days

InnerMammal Institute.org

paper \$10
ebook \$7

the artifactory
COOPERATIVE



Polymer Clay Pin by Dotty Calabrese

Fine Crafts ♦ HOLIDAY FAIR ♦ Local Artists
December 5, 6, 7, 2014
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10-5
Hoover House (aka "The Girl Scout House")
1120 Hopkins, Palo Alto
for information
650-625-1736 or TheArtifactory@aol.com

SV EXPRESS CAR WASH

GRAND OPENING OF NEW CAR WASH – SPECIAL DEALS
AUTOMATIC CAR WASH \$4
Enter Code 86423 (VOICE) at pay station to get all discounts
OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY!
Corner of Independence Ave & Old Middlefield Way

Self Service Car Wash \$3



Deluxe Wash
Foam Bath
Foambrite Wash
Clear Coat
Rinse, Dry
~~\$8~~ NOW ONLY \$6 with code

All Car Washes \$2 off when you enter Code 86423 at pay station. Tell your friends and family and come as many times as you would like. Exp 1/15/15



Ultimate Wash
Deluxe Wash + Tri Foam Detergent
Double Pass Wash
Rain Shield Protection
~~\$10~~ NOW ONLY \$8 with code

Silver Wash
Foambrite Wash
Clear Coat Protectant
Rinse, Dry
~~\$6~~ NOW ONLY \$4 with code

Self Service \$3 For 4 minutes

2378 Old Middlefield Way, Mountain View
650-669-8080 Visit us at www.svexpresscarwash.com



SHOP ONLINE • FREE SHIPPING or IN-STORE PICK-UP
Complimentary Gift Wrap



Create your shopping list online too!

173 Main Street, Los Altos • 650.941.6043
www.AdventureToysLosAltos.com

MountainView
VOICE

Founding Editor, *Kate Wakerly*

STAFF

EDITOR

Andrea Gemmet (223-6537)

EDITORIAL

Associate Editor

Renee Batti (223-6528)

Staff Writers

Daniel DeBolt (223-6536)

Kevin Forestieri (223-6535)

Intern

Madeleine Gerson

Photographer

Michelle Le (223-6530)

Contributors

Dale Benton,

Angela Hey, Sheila Himmel,

Ruth Schecter

DESIGN & PRODUCTION

Marketing and Creative Director

Shannon Corey (223-6560)

Design and Production Manager

Lili Cao (223-6562)

Designers

Linda Atilano, Colleen Hench,

Rosanna Leung, Paul Llewellyn

ADVERTISING

Vice President Sales and Marketing

Tom Zahiralis (223-6570)

Advertising Representatives

Adam Carter (223-6573)

Real Estate Account Executive

Rosemary Lewkowitz (223-6585)

Published every Friday at

450 Cambridge Avenue

Palo Alto, CA 94306

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

Email news and photos to:

editor@MV-Voice.com

Email letters to: letters@MV-Voice.com

News/Editorial Department

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

Display Advertising Sales

(650) 964-6300

Classified Advertising Sales

(650) 964-6490 • (650) 326-8286

fax (650) 326-0155

Email Classified ads@MV-Voice.com

Email Circulation

circulation@MV-Voice.com

The Voice is published weekly by Embarcadero Media Co. and distributed free to residences and businesses in Mountain View. If you are not currently receiving the paper, you may request free delivery by calling 964-6300. Subscriptions for \$60 per year, \$100 per 2 years are welcome.

©2014 by Embarcadero Media Company. All rights reserved.

Member, Mountain View
Chamber of Commerce



WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

All views must include a home address and contact phone number. Published letters will also appear on the web site, www.MountainViewOnline.com, and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

Town Square forum

Post your views on Town Square at MountainViewOnline.com

Email

your views to letters@MV-Voice.com. Indicate if letter is to be published.

Mail

to: Editor
Mountain View Voice,
P.O. Box 405
Mountain View, CA 94042-0405

Call

the Viewpoint desk at 223-6528

EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Promising decision on splitting Castro school

School board members had a tough call to make in deciding whether to split Castro Elementary into two separate schools operating on the same campus. The school now comprises two educational programs: Dual Immersion, in which students receive instruction in both Spanish and English; and a traditional school program, which draws children from the Castro neighborhood.

In a unanimous decision on Nov. 20, the Mountain View Whisman school board supported an advisory task force's recommendation to split the school and structure each educational program under separate principals. Behind that decision is an urgent desire to lift the troublesomely low achievement level of students in the traditional program; of those students, 90 percent are English-language learners and from families classified as "low socioeconomic status." Test scores for students in the traditional program indicate that only 32 percent are proficient in English and language arts, and 54 percent are proficient in math.

Those unacceptable scores have been somewhat obscured because they are incorporated in Castro's overall scores, and students in the Dual Immersion (DI) program, which draws students from throughout the district, score significantly higher.

The Castro Restructuring Task Force, which included Castro parents, teachers, the principal and the assistant principal, viewed separating out the two programs into two individual schools as an opportunity to improve instruction for the school's traditional program students and narrow the achievement gap. It will channel supplemental funds targeting low-income and minority students — funds that are now shared

by both educational programs at Castro — into the traditional school's budget.

The split was supported by Castro administrators and teachers, and many of the parents. But some people understandably have expressed concern that, given the demographics of each of Castro's programs, creating two schools can lead to diminished opportunity for the traditional program students. Where there now is a system in place that results in a joint effort by Castro administrators, teachers and parents to support and educate all the school's students, will splitting the school institutionalize a lurking segregation based on ethnic and socioeconomic background? If there are two schools, will there be two PTAs, with the generally wealthier, better-educated parents of the Dual Immersion school no longer supporting fundraising and other efforts on behalf of traditional school students?

As the planning process begins in earnest for the opening of the two schools in the 2015-16 academic year, school leaders — parents and administrators — need to put strategies in place to ensure that those fears don't materialize as unintended consequences of a positive move to boost student achievement. In the past, Castro students in both programs have interacted on the playground, during lunch and through some classroom projects. Parents have joined together for benefits and other events. There's no reason efforts can't continue to prevent a segregated culture for either school on the Castro campus.

Meanwhile, the school board approved spending \$50,000 to be split between the two schools for plotting the way forward. If that process includes crafting a strategy to ensure a supportive environment connecting the schools, it will be money well spent. ▣

LETTERS

COUNCIL'S ACTIONS ARE IN CONFLICT

What are we to make of a City Council which raises the minimum wage by 50 percent, but is oblivious to the low-wage worker's plight when thrown into competition with high-tech newcomers and municipal employees for an artificially curtailed housing supply? How can a city government which says workers should be paid more deliberately raise the price of housing by creating jobs with no housing and permitting the destruction of existing homes, sending the workers who live there to join the 7,000 homeless already in Santa Clara County?

Moreover, workers will get zero dollars for the hours they spend trekking to and from Tracy in traffic jams, and pay out substantial sums for auto payments, maintenance, gaso-

line, and child care for children they will never see in daylight. What do you suppose is going on in our leaders' minds?

*Stephanie Munoz
Palo Alto*

MORE BIKE CARS NEEDED ON TRAIN

I'm a programmer; I live in San Francisco and I've worked at jobs in SF and up and down the Peninsula for the last 15 years. While I currently work in SF, it's likely that I will work in the South Bay again in the next couple of years. Whenever I work in the South Bay, I commute by biking to Caltrain from home, bringing the bike on board, and then biking to my workplace.

I'm happy that Caltrain is buying more of the new Bom-

►See LETTERS on next page



Better solutions to housing puzzle than in North Bayshore

By Margaret Abe-Koga
John McAlister
and Ronit Bryant

The General Plan Update and the Precise Plan processes have been an extensive endeavor of community engagement over six years to identify areas where the city could appropriately add both housing and businesses. Back in 2008 when we started the process, few residents seemed concerned about commercial growth while, until recently, many opposed building more housing. We carefully thought through and deliberated upon the question of housing in the North Bayshore (NBS) Planning area multiple times and decided North Bayshore was not the appropriate place.

Though some contend that this last low-voter-turnout election called for North Bayshore housing, we heard residents express many concerns including traffic congestion and even a desire to slow down development. If in fact, residents want more housing, the General Plan Update allows for significant increases in housing in appropriate locations in town.

Our vision for North Bayshore calls for a unique environment where nature meets technological advancement — where we restore the Bay, protect sensitive wildlife and open space, and inspire high-tech innovation with such a unique environment. After work hours and on weekends, the area serves as a quiet place of respite from our increasingly urban environment.

We looked at studying 1,100 housing units in North Bayshore in transit corridors without displacing businesses, but we decided that these units would be better in other parts of town, where they could add to our vibrant and diverse neighborhoods and be close to services such as grocery stores and schools (which do not exist in North Bayshore and require more residents than 1,100 units would provide). The completed El Camino Precise Plan and the San Antonio Pre-

cise Plan, which is agendized for Dec. 2, are such areas that could benefit from increased density to attract enhanced neighborhood services.

The South Whisman Precise Plan is yet to be started, and for that reason the council voted recently to deny a gatekeeper request for office projects in that area until the Precise Plan is underway and a study on adding housing could be conducted. We also looked at a proposal for an enormous office project on 23 acres at 700 East Middlefield Road in the Whisman area; we determined that this site, close as it is to public transit, other residences, a park, and a school, could in fact be ideal for housing that follows smart growth principles.

To oppose housing in North Bayshore has been called NIMBYism; but in fact, the call for housing there has been fueled in part by those who would rather have housing out in North Bayshore than in their neighborhoods.

Proponents argue that housing near jobs in North Bayshore would decrease traffic congestion, yet there is no guarantee that employees would live there. Our Housing Element identifies housing-appropriate parcels that are well within a 20-minute walk or a 10-minute bike commute from North Bayshore. The Precise Plan includes an innovative plan to add bike and transit options to the area.

Other challenges to North Bayshore housing: noise from Shoreline Amphitheatre concerts, lighting from office buildings throughout the night, air quality concerns from the commute traffic congestion, and the interface of humans with sensitive wildlife.

Some think housing in North Bayshore would be more affordable. With land prices around \$20 million/acre, concerns about sea level rise and its effects on flooding and landfill as well as necessary toxic cleanup estimated in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, building housing in this location would likely be even more expensive than in

other parts of town.

Four companies own 78 percent of the land out in NBS. They want to expand office, not housing. The rest of the land is mostly city-owned, prized open space and landfill. Regulatory agencies have not yet determined that landfill is safe for housing. So realistically, where would the housing be placed?

We have implemented every tool in the toolbox for increasing affordable housing and lead the way in the county with such measures. Mountain View has more housing units in the pipeline per capita than San Jose, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, and Palo Alto. We simply cannot solve the affordability and jobs/housing puzzle alone, but must work regionally. All cities need to do their fair share on both sides of the equation. Some cities have chosen to be primarily residential while others allow for employment growth.

Over 19,000 housing units are in the pipeline in the five cities mentioned, adding greatly to the supply, which should in turn help stabilize housing prices. An effort has started to work as a Santa Clara County region to meet ABAG's RHNA numbers (number of housing units needed to be built by cities to respond to expected job growth).

Some San Jose council members have said that they would be open to building more housing if they could also get more transit dollars. A recent Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) study revealed that 80 percent of commutes start and end in the county. We should really focus on better transit that connects those increasing supplies of housing in the county with the jobs, calling for true investment by our private-sector partners to enhance our transportation infrastructure. Let's work together on improving transportation rather than be divided over housing in North Bayshore.

The authors are members of the Mountain View City Council.

LETTERS

► Continued from previous page

bardier cars and electrifying the service. I respectfully request that these new cars include bike racks, and that a third bike car be added to all-Bombardier

trains to increase bike capacity on those trains to 72.

Only with consistent capacity that eliminates bumping can Caltrain be reliable and trusted; only with that reliability will more people use Caltrain and leave their cars behind. In my

experience, there is no substitute to the combination of Caltrain and bicycling to allow me to engage in a long commute in a dependable, flexible and healthy way.

*Martin MacKerel
San Francisco*

GIRLS SOFTBALL SIGN UP TODAY! WWW.MVLAGS.ORG

HAVE A BALL!! **JOIN WITH A BUDDY**

SPRING 2015 **GIRLS 5-16**

SIGN UP TODAY **COACH & PLAYER CLINICS**

Girls. Softball.
It's all we do. Since 1972.
A California 501(c) nonprofit corporation.



Multimedia Advertising Sales Representative

Embarcadero Media is a locally-owned and independent multimedia company based in Palo Alto. We have published in Palo Alto for the last 35 years, with award winning publications such as the Palo Alto Weekly, Mountain View Voice and Menlo Park Almanac on the Peninsula, and the Pleasanton Weekly in the East Bay. In each of these communities our papers are the dominate, best-read and most respected among its various competitors. We also operate extremely popular interactive community news and information websites in all of our cities, plus unique online-only operations in Danville and San Ramon.

We're looking for talented and articulate Outside Sales Representatives for our Retail Sales Team. Experience in online, social and print media sales is a plus, but not a requirement. Familiarity with the advertising industry and selling solutions to small and medium size businesses is a big plus. Four year college degree is preferred.

As a Multimedia Account Executive, you will contact and work with local businesses to expand their brand identity and support their future success using marketing and advertising opportunities available through our 4 marketing platforms: print campaigns, website and mobile advertising, and email marketing.

The ideal candidate is an organized and assertive self-starter who loves working as a team to achieve sales goals, possesses strong verbal, written, persuasive and listening interpersonal skills, can provide exceptional customer service and is not afraid of hard work to succeed.

If you have the passion to achieve great success in your career and can contribute significantly to our leadership position in the market, please email your resume and a cover letter describing why you believe you are the right candidate for this fantastic opportunity. (NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE)

Submit your resume and cover letter to:
Tom Zahiralis, Vice President Sales and Marketing
tzahiralis@embarcaderopublishing.com



450 Cambridge Avenue | Palo Alto, CA 94306 | 650.326.8210
PaloAltoOnline.com | TheAlmanacOnline.com | MountainViewOnline.com

PERSONALIZED

PICK A PRIMARY CARE DOCTOR WHO PUTS YOU FIRST.

Open Enrollment is your chance to make sure your insurance and your doctors are meeting your needs. If you don't have a primary care physician (PCP), or you're considering changing, consider how important this relationship can be. A good PCP helps manage your overall health, and works with you to prevent injury and illness, along with providing treatment when you're sick. El Camino Hospital can help you find the doctor that fits your needs. We are privileged to partner with leading community physicians across the South Bay, including many who are fluent in different languages used commonly in our diverse population. All of them have access to our specialists, our facilities, and all the services the hospital has to offer.

To find a physician affiliated with El Camino Hospital,
visit www.elcaminohospital.org/doctors or call 800-216-5556 today.



Learn about Silicon Valley Primary Care, where you'll find personalized, expert care right near our Mountain View campus. Visit www.elcaminohospital.org/svpc

Two campuses • 2500 Grant Road, Mountain View • 815 Pollard Road, Los Gatos

800-216-5556

www.elcaminohospital.org

