

Mountain View VOICE

DECEMBER 12, 2014 VOLUME 22, NO. 46

www.MountainViewOnline.com

650.964.6300

MOVIES | 24



MICHELLE LE

SNOW COMES TO MOUNTAIN VIEW

America, 10, and Diogo, 6, sled down a man-made snow slope during the Mountain View Community Tree Lighting Celebration on Monday, Dec. 8. The city held its annual holiday celebration with snowball fights, caroling and the ceremonial lighting of the community tree. More scenes from the event are on page 14.

Free shuttle to connect tech companies and downtown

By Daniel DeBolt

Starting Jan. 12, new shuttles with green and blue logos will become a common sight during commute hours in Mountain View, ferrying employees of major tech companies to and from the downtown train station.

Though the 20-person shuttles will be free and available for public use, the MVgo shuttle service is not to be confused with the electric shuttles donated by Google that will run a loop around the city, which is also launching in January. Those shuttles are aimed at residents. The MVgo shuttle is aimed at

commuters.

"It's obvious from the route and schedule design of MVgo that it's very well thought out, coordinated with Caltrain arrivals and departures, and should be extremely productive in serving "last mile" Caltrain ridership

► See **SHUTTLE**, page 8

Jail sentence for teen instigator of out-of-control party

\$40,000 FINE FOR TEEN WHO OPENED HOME, LEADING TO ARSON, THEFTS

By Kevin Forestieri

The Mountain View teen convicted of breaking into a house and kicking off 10 days of drug- and alcohol-fueled parties, culminating in a fire that destroyed the home, was sentenced last week by a Santa Clara

County Superior Court judge. Gilbert Gomes, 18, is one of two adults charged in the incident. He received a 30-day jail sentence on Friday, Dec. 5, along with three years of probation. During probation, Gomes will be prohibited from using illegal drugs and alcohol, and will be

subject to searches and drug tests.

Gomes also was ordered to pay up to about \$40,000 in restitution for damage to the interior of the home, which was "trashed" after the parties, according to Judge

► See **JAIL SENTENCE**, page 13

Games
and grub
WEEKEND | 21



Council OKs 164 apartments for Rose Market site

DEVELOPER WINS PRAISE FOR 'EXTRAORDINARY' EFFORTS TO KEEP SMALL BUSINESSES ON SITE

By Daniel DeBolt

A real estate developer was praised by a wide swath of the community at the City Council meeting on Tuesday evening for going to great lengths to preserve several small businesses in a redevelopment project at the corner of Castro Street and El Camino Real.

City Council members voted 4-3 to approve the plan for 164 apartments with ground floor retail as proposed by international development firm Greystar. The developer cut deals on affordable long-term leases for several small businesses so they could remain on site in the ground floor space of new four-story buildings: The Rose

International Market, Sufi Coffee shop and cultural center, Le's Alterations and Tanya's hair design. Peet's Coffee will also remain on the site in a new corner location adjacent to a plaza.

Four of the businesses will be provided temporary structures during construction, in the Chase Bank parking lot, across the street, and in a vacant lot at the corner of Victor Way and Castro Street. The Rose Market was deemed too large for a temporary structure and will be compensated some other way during construction, according to Greystar. Gochi Japanese Fusion Tapas is also receiving relocation assistance to another site in Mountain View, after owners complained that they had spent their life savings on interior improvements, not knowing of the owner's development plans.

Voting against the project were council member Jac Siegel and John McAlister, who said the four-story buildings were too tall, and Margaret Abe Koga, who expressed concern about the reduction in retail space on the 2.38 acre site, from 22,380 square feet to 10,800.

"Here we have another project cutting (retail) space by half," Abe-Koga said.

To compensate, she said that the council could "maybe require

more BMR (below market rate) units as a community benefit" to go beyond the five units included in the project that would be affordable to low income residents. Other council members were apparently not interested in pressing for more

concessions from the developer.

Council member Mike Kasperzak said developer Dan Deibel might have mitted other developers for setting the bar higher by accommodating small businesses on the site. Despite his opposition to the project, Vice Mayor McAlister called the accommodations "extraordinary" and Mayor Chris Clark said Greystar was going "above and beyond what we'd normally require."

"Mr Deibel, you might want to check your card with other developers because there is going to be an expectation with future developments," Kasperzak said. "I'm astounded at the amount of community benefit. What a normal developer would do is come in and build all this space, not

► See **ROSE MARKET**, page 9

INSIDE

HOLIDAYS 17 | GOINGS ON 27 | MARKETPLACE 28 | REAL ESTATE 30



Season's Greetings



Judy Bogard-Tanigami
650.207.2111
judytanigami@gmail.com
CalBRE# 00298975

Sheri Bogard-Hughes
650.279.4003
shughes@apr.com
CalBRE# 01060012

Cindy Bogard-O'Gorman
650.924.8365
cbogardogorman@apr.com
CalBRE# 01918407

ConsultantsInRealEstate.com
Ranked in the Top 100 Nationwide
by *The Wall Street Journal* for the
6th Consecutive Year



As the Holiday Season approaches, our hearts focus on those in our community and surrounding areas. With that in mind, we have searched for ways to make the holiday season (and beyond) a little merrier for all. If you also feel the giving spirit, particularly at this time of the year, we invite you to join us in contacting one of the organizations below to find ways to give back to our community. Whatever your talents may be, there is someone in need!



The Almost Eden Project
www.almosteden.org



Family Giving Tree
www.familygivingtree.org



www.build.org



Learning Ally
www.learningally.org



Second Harvest Food Bank
www.shfb.org



Downtown Streets
www.streetsteam.org



Silicon Valley Bicycle Exchange
www.bikex.org



HandsOn Bay Area
www.handsonbayarea.org



RAFT - Resource Area For Teachers
www.raftbayarea.org



Silicon Valley Faces
www.svfaces.org



American Red Cross
www.redcross.org



Full Circle Farm
www.fullcirclesunnyvale.org



Community Services Agency
www.csacares.org



VolunteerMatch
www.volunteermatch.org



Salvation Army
www.salvationarmyusa.org

We understand that there are MANY, MANY worthy causes and organizations in our area. These are just a few that we found and wanted to share with you.

May this holiday season be filled with fond and lasting memories in the years to come!

Judy, Sheri and Cindy

Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

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

Will body cameras help police prevent accusations of excessive force?



"I think it is an interesting idea but we have evidence that video evidence is not substantial."

Joe Wilcox, Palo Alto



"My friend is a police officer in Oakland. He believes it is a great practice because he can always prove in court that he is following the law."

Kat Bessenova, San Jose



"I think it will help prevent incidents. People can really see what is going on."

Cary Higgins, Mountain View



"The court system can then have a clear understanding of what the police encounter and not just depend on unreliable witnesses."

Katherine Janson, Los Altos



"It is a good idea. If they had cameras in Ferguson, it would have eliminated a lot of guesswork."

Brett Bradley, Campbell

Have a question for [Voices Around Town](#)? Email it to editor@mv-voice.com

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

xceedfinancial
credit union

at work for you™

Nice Ride. Even Nicer Loan.

AUTO LOAN RATES AS LOW AS

1.29% APR¹

Low car loan payments start with our low auto loan rates as low as 1.29% APR¹ for 50 months.

We help members get more car for their money. Visit your local Xceed Financial Center and find out what we can do for you.

San Jose
2195 Monterey Hwy
408.283.4300

Mountain View
601 Showers Drive
650.691.6500

XFCU.ORG 800.XFCU.222



¹Actual rates may vary based each individual's credit history, loan type, and underwriting factors, but may not be lower than 1.29% annual percentage rate (APR) for new auto loans and 1.29% APR for used auto loans. The 1.29% APR reflects a rate reduction of .35% off the standard rate for automatic payment from an Xceed Financial checking account. Programs, rates, terms and conditions are effective as of 07/01/14 and are subject to change at any time without notice. A 50-month loan at 1.29% APR requires 50 payments of approximately \$20.55 per \$1,000 borrowed. Not all vehicle years, makes and models will qualify. Other terms, conditions and restrictions apply. Xceed Financial Federal Credit Union ("Xceed Financial") is an equal opportunity lender. Ask an associate for complete details.



Kozy Brothers
De Martini Orchard
 www.demartiniorchard.com
 66 N. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos
 650-948-0881
Farm Fresh and Always the Best



<p>BRUSSEL SPROUTS LOCALLY GROWN TENDER AND TASTY \$1.99 Lb.</p>	<p>TIME TO ORDER  FRESH FRUIT BASKETS ORDER NOW FOR CHRISTMAS DRIED FRUIT TRAYS WE CAN SHIP FOR YOU</p>	<p>AVOCADOS HASS JUMBO SIZE RICH AND CREAMY \$1.69 EACH</p>
<p>KALE SPROUTS MUST TRY CROSS BETWEEN KALE AND BRUSSEL SPROUTS \$3.99 PKG.</p>	<p>Now In Stock NUTS IN SHELL GLACÉ FRUITS & CHESTNUTS MINCEMEAT - ALMOND PASTE CHOCOLATE DIPPED APRICOTS</p>	<p>COMICE PEARS NORTHWEST VERY SWEET AND JUICY \$1.49 Lb.</p>
<p>CRANBERRIES BUY NOW FREEZE FOR USE LATER \$1.99 PKG.</p>	<p>ORGANIC LOCAL BROCCOLINI TENDER BABY BROCCOLI \$1.99 BUNCH</p>	<p>NATURAL GIZDICH FUJI APPLES No WAX No SPRAY TASTY 2 LBS. \$3.00 FOR</p>
<p>ORGANIC LOCAL BROCCOLINI TENDER BABY BROCCOLI \$1.99 BUNCH</p>	<p>ORGANIC LOCAL KALES & SPINACH LARGE FRESH BUNCHES 2 BUN. \$3.00 FOR</p>	<p>ORGANIC LOCAL BABY BOK CHOY STIR FRY TIME \$1.99 Lb.</p>

Your Everyday Farmers Market
Online at www.DeMartiniOrchard.com

Stanford | Continuing Studies **WINTER 2015**



Professional & Personal Development

Featured Winter Courses:

- Product Management: The Art & Science of Building Great Products
- Mergers & Acquisitions: A Hands-On Approach • Insights and Tools for Creative Thinking
- Getting from an Early Idea to a Real Business • Marketing Without Money
- Building a Career of Meaning and Impact • Enhancing Emotional Intelligence

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

■ **CRIME BRIEFS**

TRAFFIC STOP LEADS TO ARREST

A traffic stop by Mountain View police turned aggressive last week when one of the suspects in the car allegedly reached for a baseball bat, disobeying an officer's orders.

Officers stopped the vehicle at a Shell Gas Station at 110 N. Rengstorff Avenue at 11:24 a.m. on Dec. 3 for a traffic violation. When officers asked one of the occupants, identified by police as 29-year-old Shawn Dickerson of Palo Alto, to step out of the vehicle, one of the officers allegedly saw him concealing a baseball bat under a coat in the backseat and warned the other officers.

Dickerson allegedly lunged back into the vehicle and grabbed the bat despite officers warning him not to, according to Sgt. Saul Jaeger of the Mountain View Police Department. Dickerson was arrested on charges of resisting a police officer.

Police searched the vehicle and said that the driver, a 34-year-old transient woman, was in possession of drug paraphernalia, marijuana and burglary tools. The woman was issued a citation and released.

MAN INVADES A VEHICLE

Police arrested a Mountain View man last week after he allegedly sneaked inside someone's car without his consent.

Raymundo Gallegos, 57, was discovered inside the victim's parked vehicle at 4:39 a.m. at the 500 block of Mariposa Avenue on Friday, Dec. 5. The victim, a 41-year-old Mountain View man, called police and placed Gallegos under citizen's arrest.

Officers arrived and found that Gallegos had allegedly made his way into the vehicle and had been drinking alcohol, violating his probation, according to Sgt. Saul Jaeger of the Mountain View Police Department.

Gallegos was arrested and booked into San Jose Main Jail on charges of malicious mischief to a vehicle, as well as a probation violation charge.

MAN FOUND GUILTY OF EMBEZZLEMENT

A Superior Court judge found the former executive director of the Peninsula Symphony Association guilty of tax fraud following an embezzlement of \$272,000 from the Los Altos orchestra last year.

Stephan Jay Carlton, a 46-year-old Novato man, was found guilty of two felony counts and a misdemeanor for filing false tax returns. He faces 16 years in prison.

Carlton had written checks to himself from symphony funds, and used the money to pay off back taxes and other personal debts, according to an investigation by the Los Altos Police Department.

Carlton also under-reported wages from the association and did not report the embezzled funds as income, according to a press release from the Santa Clara County District Attorney's office.

The symphony association was alerted to the embezzlement late last year when it reported that most of their endowment and operating funds — about \$500,000 — had gone missing. Carlton resigned from the association shortly after it was discovered that two of its endowment accounts had been almost completely drained of funds. Carlton was arrested in February.

Earlier this year, Carlton pleaded no contest to charges of grand theft, forgery, identity theft and embezzlement. He will be sentenced next year.

Kevin Forestieri

■ **POLICE LOG**

AUTO BURGLARY

800 block Donovan Way, 12/04
 500 block Cypress Point Dr., 12/04
 2400 block Charleston Rd., 12/03

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

2300 block Rock St., 12/07
 2100 block Rock St., 12/06

BATTERY

1600 block Plymouth St., 12/03

STOLEN VEHICLE

800 block Donovan Way, 12/08
 1900 block California St., 12/07

GRAND THEFT

1900 block Grant Rd., 12/08
 100 block E. Middlefield Rd., 12/04
 400 block Ellis St., 12/03

VANDALISM

500 block N. Rengstorff Ave., 12/05
 2400 block Thaddeus Dr., 12/05
 400 block San Antonio Rd., 12/02

The end of the Groves era at MVLA

HIGH SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCES PLANS TO RETIRE IN JUNE

By Kevin Forestieri

Superintendent Barry Groves of the Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District announced Monday night he will retire after leading the district for nearly nine years, ending a 37-year career working in California public schools.

Groves, 61, said he will step down June 30, and plans to continue to work as a public education consultant and coach in the coming years.

At the Dec. 8 board meeting, Groves thanked the school board and district staff for their dedica-

tion to improving schools, as well as parents and community members who have “supported our efforts to provide the best education possible for our students.”

“I have truly loved my time in MVLA — the best school district ever,” Groves said.

At the board meeting, Groves pointed out that he is the district’s 10th superintendent in the last 103 years, putting the average stay well above that of other school districts. Studies show that superintendents spend an average of three-to-six years

► See **GROVES**, page 13



MICHELLE LE

Superintendent Barry Groves chats with Rita Villanueva, one of the students he’s been mentoring since middle school, at her art class at Los Altos High School. Groves announced plans to retire in June.

City’s fees for affordable housing to be highest in region

By Daniel DeBolt

City Council members decided Tuesday night to charge higher fees on office development than any other city in the region, in order to raise desperately needed funds for affordable housing projects.

Council members voted 6-1, with member John Inks opposed, to raise the fees charged to rental housing and office development. The biggest jump came from office development fees, raised from \$10.26 to to \$25 per square foot for office projects larger than 10,000 square feet, putting Mountain View above Palo Alto’s

\$19.31, which was previously the highest. Affordable housing advocates wanted the city to go even higher for office development, to \$50 a square foot, having singled out office development as the biggest driver of the city’s shortage in both affordable and market-rate housing.

The \$25 fee on office development would generate \$85 million from the 3.4 million square feet of new office projects for Google and others that could be allowed in North Bayshore, accommodating an estimated 20,000 employees. Over the last 10 years the city has spent \$35 million in such funds to build

351 affordable homes, but also used \$61 million from other sources, including state and federal funds that have been heavily

‘It really bothers me to more than double the fee.’

MAYOR CHRIS CLARK

cut. Housing advocates say the city’s spending on affordable housing has been woefully inadequate.

“We see the faces of the afford-

able housing crisis every day at CSA,” said Tom Myers, executive director of the Community Services Agency, which runs a food bank and other programs for the needy. “The actions you do take on this issue have a profound impact on low-income people in Mountain View.”

Local church leaders pressed the council to go to \$50 a square foot for office development.

“A \$50 fee will not stop office proposals from coming to you,” said Edie Keating of Peninsula Interfaith Action, who said the city is seeing more office development than housing development because it is so profitable.

“If \$50 really is too high a fee then higher fees will motivate developers to switch to housing proposals. And housing proposals are what will most benefit the region and Mountain View.”

A group representing office developers, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association, had a different view. Representative Dennis Martin urged the council to adopt an “incremental increase” in the fees, calling them “a factor in go, no-go decisions.” He said the council was on a “world wide playing field” in attracting office development.

► See **HOUSING**, page 15

Students delve into the world of coding

MV SCHOOLS PARTICIPATE IN WEEK-LONG COMPUTER SCIENCE EVENT

By Kevin Forestieri

Students of all ages across Mountain View are getting a taste of what it’s like to be a computer programmer this week, as elementary and high schools participate in the nation-wide “Hour of Code” event.

The Hour of Code is part of Computer Science Education Week, which schools can participate in across the country to

promote programming, computer science, and other STEM subjects including biology, physics and chemistry. More than 15 million students participated last year, according to the Hour of Code website, and now organizers are aiming to reach 100 million this year.

The event is put on by Code.org, a Seattle-based nonprofit that launched last year with two goals in mind: expanding participation in computer science,

and increasing the number of women and underrepresented minorities in STEM fields — science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Los Altos High School is one of many Bay Area schools taking part in the event, which runs from Dec. 8 through Dec. 14. Throughout the week, 1,750 students will sacrifice one of their math periods to learn about coding through a program called Blockly, which gives

students a visual representation of what lines of code can do.

Galen Rosenberg, assistant principal at Los Altos High School, said the program gives students a conceptual introduction to coding, making it more accessible and is something students can “jump right into.” He said the school participates in the event because of the availability of tech jobs as well as student demand.

“Computer programming skills are in high demand, especially around here, and students are interested in it,” Rosenberg said.

A popular lesson that uses

Blockly involves characters from the Angry Birds game, where students use preset directions to guide Red, the main protagonist in the game, through a maze and towards the objective — a green pig.

The lesson explains that programming, similarly, use lines of code as “directions” for how to run, and getting Red through the maze is like successfully getting lines of code to execute the right way.

That includes roadblocks too. If students misunderstand the directions they’re giving Red,

► See **CODING**, page 15

Supervisors OK county's first living wage plan

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors Tuesday approved its first-ever resolution to require companies and non-profits with county contracts to pay a living wage as of July 1.

The supervisors voted for the combined ordinance and policy direction to create an hourly wage of \$19.06 for employers with county contracts who provide no worker health and retirement benefits and \$17.06 for those who do, according to its co-sponsor Supervisor Ken Yeager.

Supervisor Dave Cortese, also a co-sponsor, said at the Dec. 9 meeting that the county's plan would mirror San Jose's living wage policy, with hourly rates reviewed each year and annual cost of living adjustments.

The living wage is needed to help working families meet the high cost of living in the county, where many low-wage earners have to seek county services to meet their basic needs, Yeager and Cortese stated in a joint memo to the board.

Both hourly and salaried employees working for con-

tracted commercial firms and nonprofit groups would receive at least one hour of sick leave per 20 hours worked to a maximum of 12 days earned per year to cover employee sick days or caring for an ill family member.

The living wage would apply to county contracts worth at least \$100,000, contractors

services, according to Yeager.

Cortese said the board has the right to get rid of parts or all of the ordinance should it turn out its costs are too high.

The discussion among board members before the vote was contentious at times, as city officials could not provide an estimate on how much the living

worth \$2.2 billion and if labor costs for just 1,000 of those contracts were to increase by \$40,000 due to the higher wage, it would amount to \$40 million more for contractors.

The county should not be expected to cover the increased labor costs from the new wage borne by for-profit contractors and will work with the non-profits until June 30 to help them prepare it, according to Smith.

The new wage rate, based on the experiences of 12 other jurisdictions with a living wage such as San Jose, San Francisco, Oakland and Hayward, would increase the county's contracting costs by just 0.035 percent of its total budget, Smith said.

For Santa Clara County, with a budget of \$4.9 billion, that cost would be \$1.7 million, he said.

San Jose enacted its living wage policy in 1998 and has not reported any significant negative impacts since, he said.

Supervisor Joe Simitian said he supported a living wage as a concept but that it did not make

sense for the board to approve one without first knowing how much it would cost.

The county should at least set a cap to limit future costs should there be unintended consequences for the county down the road, Simitian said.

"I'm worried our board will do the right thing in a wrong way," he said.

The vote for the living wage plan was close, with supervisors Yeager, Cortese and Cindy Chavez for, Supervisor Mike Wasserman against and Simitian abstaining.

Wasserman said he was concerned that the proposed ordinance had "significant unknowns" as the county prepares to face \$120 million in payroll costs next year.

Simitian offered two amendments for the ordinance, one to delay passing it until May to give county staff time to report on how much the higher wages would cost and another to cap the cost of implementing it at \$5 million, but both failed by votes of 4 to 1.

Bay City News Service

'I'm worried our board will do the right thing in a wrong way.'

SUPERVISOR JOE SIMITIAN

employing 20 workers or more and individual employees who work at least five hours a week in the contract.

The new rules would take effect on July 1 and during the interim, county staff is directed to study and report on the costs of the higher wages to contractors, specifically how it would impact smaller-budget nonprofit groups that provide county

wage would actually cost versus the current state minimum wage of \$9 per hour.

County Executive Jeffrey Smith said the cost increase based on the higher living wage for the county's for-profit and nonprofit contractors could amount to "the many tens of millions."

Smith said the county has about 2,000 service contracts

DENTAL ANXIETY IS A THING OF THE PAST

No more needles, no more drills

NO ADDITIONAL COST!

Call for
New Patient
Specials!



Introducing the
Solea Dental Laser



S O L E A

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.drncevoy.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.



MICHELLE LE

CAR WRECK ON MIDDLEFIELD ROAD

A two-car collision on Middlefield Road at Terra Bella Avenue ended with the terrible sight of a car flipped over on its roof on Wednesday morning, Dec. 10. Mountain View police and firefighters came to the rescue — at least one person was injured in the crash and taken to the hospital.

County brings social services to the community with satellite offices

By Sue Dremann

Santa Clara County's Social Services Agency has launched a pilot program to staff "satellite offices" at non-profit organizations with county social workers in the northern part of the county.

The program has long been pushed by Supervisor Joe Simitian to make access to vital services easier for more residents especially those in communities such as Palo Alto and Mountain View since most services are located in San Jose.

Earlier this year, Simitian helped secure a new Mountain View office for the Social Services Agency after it lost the lease on its previous location.

But "while having an office close to our clients is tremendously helpful, it still presents challenges, particularly for people without reliable, affordable transportation," he said.

In July, Simitian proposed that the county administration explore ways to send social services staff to North County and West Valley nonprofit groups for one or two days per week, a practice sometimes called "co-location," on a trial basis.

Starting in November, sites began hosting the social work-

ers and Second Harvest Food Bank representatives at their offices one day a week. With this model, clients are able to receive services from their local nonprofits and apply for medical and food aid through the county at the same time and place, he said in a Dec. 1 announcement.

North County and West Valley nonprofit partners include Community Services Agency of Mountain View-Los Altos, InnVision Shelter Network in Palo Alto, Sunnyvale Community Services, and West Valley Community Services. These organizations already provide safety-net services that complement county-run programs.

"These programs serve the county's most vulnerable residents. Where it's possible, I'd like us to go to them, instead of asking all of them to come to us, which is sometimes a lot to ask of those with limited resources," Simitian said. "In many ways, this is a lot like the Sidewalk Office Hours I hold throughout my district. Accessibility is key. And frankly, I think we all learn a lot when we get out of the office."

Mila Zelkha, spokeswoman for Palo Alto-based InnVision Shelter Network, said the orga-

nization is already seeing clients who receive or qualify for county-administered benefits such as CalFresh or CalWorks.

"It just makes good sense to put as many services as possible together in one place," she said. Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto of West Valley Community Services agreed.

"We have clients who are juggling work, childcare, and limited transportation access. Before, we had to tell them to go to another office in another city to access county programs. A one-stop-shopping approach helps them tremendously," she said.

Social services staff were temporarily housed in the offices of North County nonprofits during the county agency's transition to the new Mountain View location earlier this year, according to Simitian.

"It worked well for the county, the nonprofits, and our constituents. It was a winner all around. The county has built strong partnerships with local nonprofits, and this takes those partnerships and our services to the next level. We are serving more clients, more easily, and more effectively," he said.

Email Sue Dremann at sdremann@paweekly.com

Phyllis (kit) Marie Reller

Phyllis (Kit) Marie Reller, daughter of Knut and Bertha Malmgren; wife of John O. Reller, Jr.; mother of Susan Flyer; grandmother of Vanessa Flyer; aunt to nephew Mark Reller and nieces Marsha Zimmerman and Christine Miller, passed away on November 22, 2014 at age 89.

Born in Iowa Falls, IA, in 1925, Kit was raised in Iowa Falls and Chicago and later moved to Tacoma, WA, with her family. She was active in Alpha Delta Pi at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA, where she met and married her husband, John in 1945. Kit and John then moved to Mountain View, CA, where John began his career at NASA Ames Research Center. Kit's interests in interior design led to a successful career in real estate sales in Saratoga, CA, where she enjoyed working with the many people she met. Kit and John lived in Mountain View until retiring to Oxford, OH, to be near John's brother, Herbert, now deceased, and his family.

Vivacious, bright, artistic, and fun, Kit loved people and was loved in return. Friends and family will celebrate Kit's life and cherish her memory always. Condolences may be sent online to www.oglepaulyoungfuneralhome.com



PAID OBITUARY



Cantabile

Youth Singers of Silicon Valley

Elena Sharkova, Artistic Director

Bravi: A Young Men's Ensemble for changing and changed voices - Enrolling Now!

David Belles, Conductor

We Invite you to:

- Sing a varied repertoire of engaging, authentic choral music for young men's voices.
- Receive specialized training for maturing male voices, build solid vocal technique and be proud of your results.
- Create exciting musical experiences and become a part of one of the fastest growing male vocal ensembles in the area!

Please join us:

- Please call the office for more information or to schedule a visit to a rehearsal

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US:

INFO@CANTABILE.ORG | CANTABILE.ORG | 650.424.1410

CLASSES ARE CONVENIENTLY LOCATED IN LOS ALTOS



**NOT JUST AUTO REPAIR
BUT AUTO CARE**



"As always, promptly fixed what needed to be repaired and advised me on what didn't need to be done yet. I always appreciate this." —K.C.

Schedule your appointment by calling us today:



650-961-0302
Open Mon-Fri 8am-5:30pm; Sat 8:30-4pm
2037 Old Middlefield Way,
Mountain View
deansautomotive.com



PUBLIC NOTICE

**MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
APPLICATION FOR BOUNDARY ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

The Mountain View Whisman School District is seeking qualified, interested individuals to serve on a task force of community leaders which will serve as the District's Boundary Advisory Task Force ("BATF") to provide input and recommendations on the District boundaries.

On October 9, 2014, the District's Board of Trustees were presented with a demographic study on the current and projected enrollment of the District. The study highlighted a significant disparity in the enrollment growth of the District's middle school campuses. On November 20, 2014, the Board approved the establishment of two schools at Castro Elementary School effective for 2015-16 school year. In addition, the Board has been considering whether to open an elementary school campus in the Whisman/Slater neighborhood. These issues impact enrollment and facilities across the District and necessitate a review and possible realignment of the attendance boundaries for both the elementary and middle schools.

The BATF responsibilities include the following: (1) representing the community as a whole in the process of reviewing the demographic study and the impact of enrollment growth, (2) reviewing the impact of growing enrollment at the two Castro Schools and (3) reviewing the impact of opening an elementary school campus in the Whisman/Slater neighborhood. The BATF will make recommendations on specific boundary related issues and inform the public about the recommendations.

To the extent possible, participants would include the following:

- 6 parents, including at least one parent from each of the following: an elementary school, a middle school, PTA, District Advisory Committee, and District English Language Advisory Committee
- 2 community members from local neighborhood associations
- 1 representative from the City of Mountain View
- 1 representative from Mountain View Educational Foundation
- 2 principals
- 2 teachers (including one representative from MVEA)
- 1 classified representative
- 2 Board Members
- 2 District Office administrators

Applications and additional information can be downloaded at <http://www.mvwsd.org/boundaries> or may be picked up at the District office, 750-A San Pierre Way, Mountain View, CA 94043. Completed applications should be delivered, mailed, emailed (supt@mvwsd.org) or faxed (650-964-8907) to the Superintendent's Office of the Mountain View Whisman School District, so that it is received by 4:00 PM on Wednesday, January 7, 2015.



COURTESY CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

The MVgo shuttle route is designed to link employees with the downtown train station, but the free shuttles will be open to the public.

SHUTTLE

► Continued from page 1

needs," said Mountain View resident and transit planner Cliff Chambers, who works on shuttle system design, but did not work on this particular system.

Chambers also praised the logo design. "It's the kind of effort I was hoping for the MV community shuttle ... I'm quite excited about MVgo, not so much about the community shuttle."

The service will be a consolidation of five separate employer shuttle systems. "Through this consolidation, approximately 12,000 shuttle vehicle miles are saved per year," said Denise Pinkston, chair of the board operating the system.

The biggest employers and office developers in the city are paying for the service, including Google and LinkedIn, thanks to a requirement placed on new office development by the Mountain View City Council.

The MVgo shuttles will run weekdays during commute hours on three routes that originate at the downtown train station. There will be 24 trips to North Bayshore between 6:38 a.m. and 10:20 a.m. and 12 trips to the Whisman area. Typical wait times range from 15 to 33 min-

utes for morning shuttles.

Two routes serve Google, Intuit and LinkedIn's North Bayshore (dividing the area north of Highway 101 into east and west routes) and a third route makes a loop around offices on Whisman Road, Middlefield Road and the area just east of Ellis Street where a new Samsung campus has been under construction. The shuttle will not run on major holidays and on weekends.

Perhaps fitting for their high tech industry the shuttles serve, there will be geo-locating devices on board each shuttle so rides can track shuttle using their smart phones. The gasoline powered shuttles are also equipped with bike racks and wheelchair lifts.

High school senior Jamar Pagpaguitan won a contest held by Mountain View's Community School of Music and Arts to come up with a logo for the shuttles that saw over 100 submissions. "My inspiration came from my own love and effort to draw and knowing it would be shown all over Mountain View," he reportedly said of the effort.

The companies running the MVgo shuttle have formed the Mountain View Transit Management Association (MTMA), a requirement of office develop-

ment in Mountain View to run shared shuttles and find other ways to manage traffic congestion.

"Private companies in Mountain View are effectively collaborating and working in partnership with the city and local transit agencies to fill gaps in the local transportation network and allow people to travel to work car-free," said MTMA chair Denise Pinkston in a statement. "MTMA represents the first and only partnership that includes Valley employers (Google, LinkedIn, Intuit, and Samsung Research America) and Valley landowners (Broadreach Capital Partners, Sares Regis, the Sobrato Organization, and TMG Partners) working together to solve challenging traffic problems that face us all."

A similar shuttle service nearly came about in 2001. It included a lunchtime shuttle service between downtown and North Bayshore to bolster business for downtown restaurants, but a lack of interest and funding meant putting the whole idea on the back-burner.

For more information on the two shuttle systems launching next month, visit mvgo.org and mountainview.gov/depts/pw/community_shuttle.asp

ROSE MARKET

► Continued from page 1

make accommodations to people and lease it at market rate.”

Instead of just getting some some bulb-outs, a street improvement that was the only unique community benefit included in an another El Camino Real apartment project, Kasperzak said Greystar offered benefits that are “quite significant.”

“I hope it’s a model other developers emulate,” he said.

Kasperzak suggested that other developers call Greystar and ask how they financed the community benefits, because when asked for such things, developers “always say, ‘You can’t get financing for that.’”

Similar praise came from the Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning, the Santa Clara County Housing Action Coalition and some residents, including a woman who owns a house next to the project.

“The developer has uniquely among other developers, listened hard to the community, the EPC (Environmental Planning Commission) and City Council,” said Lucas Ramirez, speaking for the Coalition for Sustainable Planning. Greystar has “gone to great expense to not only make significant changes, but also keep retail tenants. Most of them will be relocated nearby at the developer’s expense.”

The project includes a plaza that Deibel said would serve as a public gathering space, underground parking that exceeds the city’s parking requirements, solar water heating, bike storage, electric vehicle charging stations, the Zip Car car-sharing service, and transit passes for retail employees.



COURTESY OF THE CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

Plans for a new apartment development include accommodations for several small businesses, including the Rose Market and the Sufi Coffee Shop. Shown is Peet’s Coffee at Castro St. and El Camino Real.

A handful of homeowners who live nearby continued to express fears about increased noise, car traffic and the adequacy of parking in the project. Among the concession made to residents in the area were increased fourth-floor setbacks, the removal of balconies and the removal of an outdoor pool from the project.

John D’Ambrosio of Frankie, Johnnie and Luigi Too said the longtime Mountain View restaurant might not survive construction of the project because a parking lot the Italian restaurant relies on for much of its parking needs will be dug up during construction. Zoning administrator Gerry Beaudin likened the situation to that of the Milk Pail market, in that the restaurant doesn’t own enough land to meet its own parking needs, and reminded the council that it had sold the lot the restaurant relied on to the developer.

“We are concerned no accommodation has been made for us during the construction period,” D’Ambrosio said. “People are lit-

erally going to turn away from us when parking is inadequate. Our location in San Jose is not there anymore. We had to deal with this for two years and we never really recovered from that.”

Council members suggested the restaurant look more aggressively at other options, like valet parking.

To make the adjacent portion of Castro Street safer, the project reduces the number of driveways onto the street from five to two. Curtis and others expressed concerns about creating new cut-through traffic on Sonia Way from the removal of the right-turn lane from El Camino Real and a “road diet” for Castro Street that has been approved by the City Council. It will narrow that section Castro Street from four lanes to two in order to slow traffic and make room for bike lanes. After several Graham Middle Schools students were hit by cars there in 2012, their principal said drivers used the section of street in front of Graham “like a speedway.”



Four-story buildings will front much of the Castro Street side of the project, tapering to two stories at the rear.



Holiday Camps

6th, 7th, & 8th graders

Basketball

December 22, 23, 29, & 30

Baseball

January 3 & 4

More Info: <https://server1.sfhs.com/holidaycamps>

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

Mountain View Whisman School District

OPEN ENROLLMENT 2015-16
(Kindergarten - 8th grade)
January 26 - February 27

Kindergarten Information Night
Thursday, January 15

Castro Elementary School
505 Escuela Ave
Spanish: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
English: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

MVWSD offers Choice Programs:
Castro DI/Dual Immersion (English-Spanish)
Stevenson PACT/Parent, Child, Teacher (parent participation)

For more information and to schedule an appointment, please visit our website at www.mvwdsd.org

Para información en español, visite nuestra página web.



750 A San Pierre Way • Mountain View, CA 94043
650.526.3500 • www.mvwdsd.org

INNOVATIVE

A HEAD-TO-TOE APPROACH TO CUSTOMIZED CARE FOR MEN.

We offer comprehensive, coordinated care tailored to the unique needs of men. Our goal is to provide tools to help you stay well, along with world-class medical care when you need it. We offer exceptional expertise for disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and beyond. Because common urological issues are often related to other more serious conditions, we look at men's health holistically. Erectile dysfunction,

for example, can be a symptom of diabetes or heart disease. Should care be required for serious illness or injury, we offer innovative treatment options for cardiovascular disease and orthopedics, such as state-of-the-art imaging, less invasive spine surgery, and rehabilitation services to optimize your recovery. With our personalized care for men, you can count on El Camino Hospital to treat you well, in every sense of the word.



TO YOUR HEALTH! How's your heart? What's the state of your prostate? As your health resource, we are committed to helping you stay well. Download valuable tip sheets for ways to be at your best.

Download at <http://mens.elcaminohospital.org>



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

800-216-5556

www.elcaminohospital.org



Delightfully daft, wonderfully whimsical

PETER PAN PREQUEL TAKES FLIGHT IN THEATREWORKS SHOW

By Jeanie K. Smith

Peter and the Starcatcher[®] earned a record number of Tony nominations and five awards when it played Broadway in 2012, cementing it in the pantheon of popular new plays and proclaiming its appeal for both youth and adults. TheatreWorks now brings it to life on the Lucie Stern Theater stage with vigor and verve and a boatload of talent, creating a lively, laugh-filled and heartfelt gift for the holidays. American humorist Dave Barry and novelist Ridley Pearson teamed up a decade ago to imagine a prequel to J. M. Barrie's famous play, "Peter Pan," producing a bestseller; then "Peter and the Starcatcher" went through an extensive creative process to become a play, eventually scripted by Rick Elice, with musical interludes by Wayne Barker. In this zany flight of fancy set in Victorian times — but with 21st century humor and idioms — a young orphan (a dashing everyboy Tim Homsley) finds his name, his future and his flying capability through a series of adventures with a headstrong girl named Molly (a fabulous Adrienne Walters). It's definitely a comedy, but its gentle message is sure to touch the heart as well.

The Starcatcher, Molly, assists her father, Lord Aster (Darren Bridgett), on a dangerous mission to dispatch some dangerous and powerful Star Stuff before it can fall into criminal hands. This involves two ships, The Never-

Theater Review

■ INFORMATION

What: "Peter and the Starcatcher," by Rick Elice and Wayne Barker, presented by TheatreWorks

Where: Lucie Stern Theater, 1305 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto

When: Through Jan. 3, with 7:30 p.m. shows on Tuesday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.

Thursday to Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, and 2 p.m. matinees Saturday and Sunday

Cost: Tickets range from \$19 to \$73; special discounts for under-30, educators, seniors.

Info: Go to www.theatreworks.org or call 650-463-1960

land and The Wasp; a dastardly sea captain (Will Springhorn Jr.) with plans of his own for the Stuff; two more orphans (Jeremy Kahn and Cyril Jamal Cooper); assorted sailors; Molly's nanny (Ron Campbell); and more. Just when you think it can't get any more complicated, pirates arrive, including Smee (Suzanne Grodner in a delicious role for her), and Captain Hook when he's still known as The Black Stache (an amazing, show-stealing Patrick Kelly Jones) — they of course also want the Treasure.

All ultimately land on Mollusk Island where the evil King (Michael Gene Sullivan) threat-

ens to derail the entire undertaking — but, you know, Peter must live to become the boy who never grows up, and Molly must live to become ... well, 'nuff said.

Almost all the actors play more than one role, become parts of the ship or set itself, or take bits of the narration. The entire ensemble is suitably wacky and energetic. Bridgett, Campbell and Sullivan are up to their usual comic tricks. Springhorn makes a good villain, and the lost orphan boys have great character definition. Walters and Homsley are both terrific as the young leads. Jones as Stache commands the stage, oozing his way as the slimiest, harshest, and most effete pirate captain ever. His delivery of three little words brings the house down in gales of laughter. In short, they're all great at good campy fun, including fart jokes, puns and sight gags.

It's a high-theatrical style that would have been familiar even in Barrie's day — no rigs and wires, just clever staging and physicality and proper enlistment of the audience's imagination. Even if you're skeptical, it doesn't take long to find yourself completely immersed in the convoluted plot and a total believer in Star Stuff.

The enormously talented ensemble isn't alone of course — a handsome seafaring set by Joe Ragey uses every inch of the Stern proscenium and ingenious but simple devices for an angry sea storm, a drowning sequence, an intelligent jungle, and a ship's



KEVIN BERNE

Tim Homsley as Peter, Patrick Kelly Jones as Black Stache and Adrienne Walters as Molly in "Peter and the Starcatcher."

hold that feels much bigger on the inside. Atmospheric lighting by Pamela Z. Gray, inspired costuming by B. Modern, and amusing sound by Brendan Aanes work together beautifully. It's a gorgeous spectacle, a feast for the senses and a wonder. Don't leave at intermission or you'll miss one of the highlights of the show, a mermaid number with insane costuming and Dottie Lester-

White's understated but superbly silly choreography.

The downsides? Some lulls in a lengthy Act Two, too much choral shouting, and a script that has some difficulty finding its resolution. But the overall excellence surpasses the flaws. TheatreWorks delivers a marvelous entertainment for the holiday season, with a lot of laughs and a good measure of heart. ■

■ A & E BRIEFS

'The Latke Who Couldn't Stop Screaming'

Peninsula Youth Theater kicks off the holidays with the latest production from the "Stories on Stage" program with "The Latke Who Couldn't Stop Screaming." The performance is an adaptation of Lemony Snicket's cheeky spin on the classic gingerbreadman tale, and features a rambunctious latke who baffles the forest creatures he meets throughout his riotous journey.

PYT's teen actors perform children's fiction, fairy tales and poetry in professionally directed shows, and many, like "Latke," are adapted specially for their performances. The shows generally run about 40 minutes and the audience is given the opportunity to ask the cast questions at the end of the play.

Catch the performance at the Mountain View Center for Per-

forming Arts (500 Castro St.) Friday Dec. 12 at 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. or Saturday Dec. 13 at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Tickets are available online at mountainview.gov/mvcpa/mvcpa.html or by calling the box office at 650-903-6000. Admission is \$12.

Chorus and orchestra perform holiday favorites

Warm up for the holidays with enchanting Christmas classics and other favorites performed by celebrated vocal and string ensembles. Music director Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg and the New Century Chamber Orchestra and the San Francisco Girls Chorus usher in the holiday season at Palo Alto's First United Methodist Church Friday, Dec. 19.

The New Century Chamber Orchestra is one of very few

conductorless ensembles in the world. The 19-member string group is lead by world-renowned violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg from the concertmaster chair and will perform pieces by Bach, Handel and Corelli among other selections.

The orchestra will also perform collaborative pieces with the chorus, which is one of the world's most respected vocal ensembles and features voices of young women ages 5 through 18. The program will also feature stand-alone holiday pieces by the chorus, including Vaughan Williams' "Winter" from Folk-songs of the Four Seasons.

Tickets range from \$29 to \$61 and can be purchased at www.ncco.org, through City Box Office at cityboxoffice.com or by calling 415-392-4400. Discounted single tickets are available for patrons under 35

and open rehearsal tickets are available for \$8 through City Box Office.

Traditional German market

If you've had a hankering for bretzln (pretzels), stollen (fruit cake), gebrannte mandeln (toasted candied almonds) or other German delights, you won't want to miss the annual holiday market hosted by the German International School of Silicon Valley this Saturday, Dec. 13.

The Weihnachtsmarkt, or Christmas market, is the perfect place to learn about German culture and practice simple German phrases. Live orchestra and chorus performances will fill the air with holiday favorites to provide the look and feel of an authentic village market. The event features an ice rink, pet-

ting zoo, train, face painting and more activities for the kids, and adults can sample the German beers and mulled wine.

Unique gifts from both German and Bay Area artists will be on sale, including jewelry, clothing and toys. Participate in the raffle and silent auction for a chance to win tickets to Disneyland, an iPad Air or a limited edition San Francisco 49ers Navarro Bowman football. All proceeds from the event will benefit the nonprofit GISSV, which serves children from preschool through grade 12.

The market will be held from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at City Hall Plaza (500 Castro St.) in Mountain View Dec. 13 and is free to the public. Rain or shine, the market will be in full swing. For more information visit www.gissv.org

— Jennah Feeley

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 Connections

Mentor Tutor Connections 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.



Thank you for donating to the Holiday Fund

As of Dec. 5, 2014, 40 donors have contributed \$6,730 to the Mountain View Voice Holiday Fund

Anonymous (1)	100
Bruce Karney	350
Mei Hong	150
Tats & Rose Tsunekawa	150
Ellen Wheeler	50
Norma Jean Bodey Galiher.... *	
Susanne Stewart	50
Elaine Roberts	100
Anne Johnston	*
Judith Manton	50
Jennifer Coogan	300
R D Roode	100
Laurie Bonilla & Ed Perry ..	200
Susan Endsley	100
Christopher & Mary Dateo ..	500
Ellis Berns	150
Kevin Chiapello	100
Jeffrey Segall	100
Donna Yobs	500
Boris Burtin	100
E. Denley Rafferty	100
Andrew Doerschuk	1000
Martin Pulvers	50
Marilyn Gildea	*
Kevin & Robin Duggan	*
Robert J. Rohrbacher	*
Lynn Gordon & David Simon... *	
Susan Perkins	*
Karen DeMello	50
Wesley & Molly Smith	*
Thomas Mucha	350
Helen Gibbons	*
Kathy Hall	
& Leslie Murdock	250

In Memory Of

Lois & Jean Duperrault	100
My beautiful angel, Megan Mathias	*
Susan Prior	50

In Honor Of

Evan C. Rauch	*
Dr. Herbert E. Rauch	*
Henry C. Hennings, Jr. *	
Selma & George Ridola	10

JAIL SENTENCE

► Continued from page 1

C. Randall Schneider. Deputy District Attorney Bret Wasley said the inside of the house was trashed, jewelry, a television and a bicycle were stolen, and Gomes would be responsible for restitution to pay for the lost property.

Gomes was one of 18 teens arrested last March in connection to a fire that broke out at a home in the 1700 block of Fordham Way. The teens had been involved in a series of parties involving drugs and alcohol while the residents of the house were away on vacation, according to the police investigation.

The party came to an abrupt end in the early hours of March 16 when the house caught fire.

Gomes pleaded no contest to charges of trespassing an inhabited dwelling, and was deemed largely responsible for starting the 10 days of partying that ensued, according to Wasley.

Schneider said it was Gomes who got into the house through a window and “opened” the house up to others, starting the chain of events that left it a total loss.

One of the victims said she felt the sentence was small compared to what she lost — her home, her belongings and her feeling of safety.

“You ate our food, drank our alcohol, and sprayed a fire extinguisher,” the victim said. “It’s unbelievable that a group of teens could be so arrogant to break into my home.”

She said she knew Gomes personally and had him over for dinner in the past, and even drove him home afterward because he only had a skateboard to get around.

“How could you break into our home?” she asked.

Gomes faced a maximum sen-

tence of six months in jail, but Schneider only sentenced him with one month. The assumption, Wasley said, is that the judge could hang additional jail time over Gomes’ head if he fails to comply with probation.

Following the sentence, he will be sent to comprehensive 13-month program for troubled teens in Monterey Bay called Teen Challenge, his lawyer said.

“(The sentence) lacks comparison with the loss, but we’re limited,” Schneider said. “He can’t be found criminally responsible for the fire.”

Brett Dispoto, the 16-year-old who was charged as an adult for felony arson in connection to the fire, was sentenced last month to one year in juvenile hall and three years of probation. He is also responsible for paying restitution for fire damage to the house, though the amount of money is still to be determined.

He pleaded guilty on Nov. 6 to causing the fire after an investigator’s report found that Dispoto

lit blouses on fire in the master bedroom closet. The blaze quickly got out of control and spread to the rafters, resulting in the two-alarm fire that destroyed the home.

Wasley said Dispoto was charged as an adult based on the seriousness of the crime and his juvenile record, as well as allegations that he had fled the scene and did not call for help after he started the fire.

All charges against Brandon Pak, the other 18-year-old arrested in connection to the arson fire, were dropped earlier this year, according to Wasley.

Dispoto will be released into a program that aims to get his life back on track, Wasley said. If Dispoto stays out of trouble, there are ways to get his felony expunged, he said.

“He has a chance to learn from this,” Wasley said. “We want to try to make sure he doesn’t do this again.”

Email Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com



Gilbert Gomes

GROVES

► Continued from page 5

on the job.

Groves credits the stability of the district, in part, to the strong cooperation with the school board. He said the superintendent and board members need to work together as a “governance team” to get things done, and their team has gotten along very well.

“There’s some back and forth, but we at the end we all come together to support the conclusion,” Groves said.

Board member Phil Faillace said the district has a good track record for hiring superintendents that stick with the district until they retire from public education, and Groves’ decision continued that trend. The only exception, he said, was former superintendent Don Phillips, who was offered a job at Palo Alto Unified School District. Faillace said Phillips was a Gunn High School graduate and it was his “boyhood dream” to lead the Palo Alto school district.

“We’ll miss you Barry, but you’ve earned your retirement,” Faillace said.

Board members said they would likely hire the same search firm that found Groves and former superintendent Rich Fischer, and planned to have them come with a presentation and a proposal at the next board meeting.

Test scores have improved every year since he joined the district, according to Groves.

“I’ve seen the academic rigor of our students increase dramatically,” he said. “As expectations increase students are rising to



MICHELLE LE

Superintendent Barry Groves who has led the Mountain View-Los Altos High School District since 2006, visited Los Altos High School on Dec. 9.

meet those expectations.”

To keep up with the demand, he district has added more challenging and Advanced Placement courses, including a new AP physics course and a multivariable calculus course this year.

The district has also made strides towards closing the achievement gap, Groves said. Earlier this year, the district put out a report that showed Latino students, on average, have improved their GPAs, have fewer F grades, and are taking more challenging courses. The number of Latino students signed up for AP courses has increased four-fold over the last decade.

Beyond grades, Groves said students have fostered a strong sense of social and environmental justice. Altruistic activities range from volunteering at local schools with low-income and disadvan-

tagged students to traveling to Haiti to provide relief for the region’s poorest country. Though they students might take on national issues, he said they always bring it back to a local level.

“Students might show their support for undocumented immigrants on a national level, then volunteer at the local Day Worker Center,” Groves said.

Before being selected as the superintendent of the district in 2006, Groves served as superintendent of the Cambrian School District in San Jose for 12 years. Though he was switching from an elementary and middle school district to a high school district, he said the transition wasn’t tough for him. He had taught as a high school teacher and served as an administrator of a school district prior to becoming superintendent, and said he was

familiar with the territory.

Groves said the last nine years he spent as superintendent of the Mountain View-Los Altos school district has been the best part of his career. He called the district a “positive place” with fortunate finances and strong support from the community. In 2010, 78 percent of district residents voted “yes” on Measure A, which Groves said showed the community overwhelmingly supported taxing themselves to improve their schools.

Thee MVLA Foundation also went from raising \$400,000 a year to \$1.5 million since Groves joined the district. Last year, that money went towards STEM programs, college preparation, class size reduction and academic infrastructure.

Email Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com



Clockwise from top left: Families walk past the community tree at the annual tree-lighting ceremony on Monday night; young listeners are enchanted by carolers; two girls get serious about their snowballs; and 9-month-old Jaden is not a Santa enthusiast, as he cries out to mother Angie Sanaee.



Santa Claus comes to town

Photos by Michelle Le

Jose, 11, throws a snowball at his friend **Gustavo, 13,** during the Mountain View Community Tree Lighting Celebration.



It was a jolly holiday scene in Civic Center Plaza Monday night, as the community gathered to soak up the sights and sounds of the season — even if it was unseasonably warm. While Monday broke records in some Bay Area cities as the warmest Dec. 8 on record, kids got to sled down a snowy hill in downtown Mountain View. Carolers sang, babies wailed when confronted with Santa’s lap and multi-colored lights brightened City Hall Plaza.

Peninsula Christmas Services



Celebrate with Music!
 Christmas at New Beginnings Community Church!

Sun, Dec 21 8 AM, 10 AM, 12 Noon, 3 PM, 5 PM

Special Christmas Celebration Children's Choir

Sights, sounds & smells of Christmas with carolers, festive treats, warm beverages and more!

NBCC
 New Beginnings Community Church

Please join us for our 45th annual

Santa Lucia Fest

December 13, 2014
 5:30 p.m. - International Smörgåsbord
 Served until 6:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m. - Traditional Pageant in Costume
 First Lutheran youth present the story of Santa Lucia in readings and song, with congregational singing.

Free will offering for Ecumenical Hunger Program

First Lutheran Church
 600 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto
 650-322-4669 www.flcpa.org

Join us to celebrate this Christmas season.

Christmas Eve Service
 Wed, Dec 24, 5:00pm

For details visit our website at pbc.org.

Peninsula Bible Church
 3505 Middlefield Rd
 Palo Alto, CA 94306
pbc.org

First Lutheran Church
 600 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto
 650-322-4669 | www.flcpa.org

Sundays in Advent:
 9:15 a.m. Christian Education for all ages
 8:30 & 10:30 a.m. Worship - Holy Communion

December 13: Santa Lucia Festival
 5:30 p.m. International Smörgåsbord
 7:00 p.m. Santa Lucia Program and Reception

December 24: Christmas Eve
 5:00 p.m. Family Service
 10:00 p.m. Choir and Orchestra Performance
 10:30 p.m. Candlelight Service

December 25: Christmas Day
 10:00 a.m. Lessons and Carols

Holiday Services at Stanford Memorial Church

Sunday, December 21, 2014
 10:00 am University Public Worship
 4:30 pm Catholic Mass

Wednesday, December 24, 2014
 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Family service (Doors open at 3:00 pm)
Please bring new, unwrapped toys which will be given to children in need.
 8:00 pm Christmas Eve Festival Communion service (Doors open at 7:00 pm)
Please note: Please arrive early for Christmas Eve services. Attendees must arrive together with their group. Saving seats will not be allowed.

Thursday, December 25, 2014
 12:00 am Catholic Christmas Eve Midnight Mass
 12:00 pm Catholic Christmas Day Mass

More info: religiouslife.stanford.edu/holiday-services

Stanford | Office for Religious Life
 Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford, CA 94305, (650)723-1762

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 PALO ALTO

CHRISTMAS EVE

- ❖ 4:00 pm Children's Christmas Pageant & Communion
- ❖ 10:00 pm Festive Choral Christmas Eve Holy Communion beginning with Carols

CHRISTMAS DAY

- ❖ 10:00 am Holy Communion with Carols

600 Colorado Ave, Palo Alto
 (650) 326-3800
www.saint-marks.com

Celebrate
CHRISTMAS EVE

DECEMBER 23
 5pm* | 6:30pm* | 8pm

DECEMBER 24
 5pm* | 6:30pm* | 8pm
 9:30pm* | 11pm

BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS AND JOIN US!

MENLO PARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 950 Santa Cruz Ave.
 Menlo Park | mppcc.org

*Childcare for 3 months to pre-k at the 5pm and 6:30pm services only

Los Altos Lutheran Church

CHRISTMAS EVE
 The Light Shines in the Darkness

5:00 PM
 Our traditional festival service
 Candle-lighting, Carols, Children's Message

CHRISTMAS DAY
 The Word Became Flesh and Dwelt Among Us

10:00 AM
 A sweet wonderful celebration of the day

GATHER AT 9:30 AM for hot cider and cookies

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

Deck the mantels



Festive doesn't have to mean expensive. This mantel is decorated with do-it-yourself pine trees crafted from plastic spoons, a garland of glittery paper stockings, rustic twig candle holders, reindeer-silhouette art, and a chalkboard made from an old picture frame.

From chalkboard to canvas art, set a festive mood with DIY decorating ideas

By My Nguyen

People often associate the fireplace and mantel with warmth, and during the holidays the fireplace is likely the focal point of the room that brings families together. So decking out the mantel for the holidays is just as important as dressing up the Christmas tree, but who has extra cash to splurge on holiday decor?

Fortunately, Christmas decorating doesn't have to break the bank. Here are some budget-friendly tips to crafting your own festive mantel decor.

Start with greens

Skip the garland, which is a traditional piece of holiday decor to use as filler to give the arrangement a full and festive feeling, and instead try these decorative trees made from plastic spoons. The faux pine trees will add a perfect backdrop to a Christmas-themed mantel.

a second layer, being sure to place the second layer so each spoon head slightly overlaps those in the first row. Continue gluing all the way to the top, till the cone is fully covered.

► See **DECK THE MANTELS**, page 18

What you'll need:

- 10.6-inch papier-mâché triangle cones (available at any crafts supply store)
 - Green plastic spoons
 - Wire cutter
 - Hot glue
- Approximate cost: \$10

Instructions:

- Using the wire cutter, cut the heads off the spoons just above the bend.
- Start from the bottom of the papier-mâché cone and begin hot gluing the heads of the spoons around the base of the cone, with the tip of the spoon pointing downward. Add



WHAT'S UNDER YOUR TREE?



ADVENTURE TOYS & TEACHERS' SUPPLIES

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

DECK THE MANTELS

► Continued from page 17

Choose a statement piece

The perfect mantel arrangement needs a focal point, whether it's a large mirror, piece of art or holiday wreath. But if you have an old picture frame lying around, you can give it new life by transforming it into a chalkboard on which you can scribble holiday cheer.

What you'll need:

- Picture frame with glass
- White primer
- Chalkboard paint
- Approximate cost: \$17

Instructions:

- Prime the frame and glass with white primer. You can use either spray primer or primer from a bottle or can. Let the frame and glass dry for 24 hours to ensure it is thoroughly dry.
- Apply the chalkboard paint to the glass.
- Let the glass dry for 24 hours.

Make it sparkle

Add some seasonal sparkle to the mantel with miniature lights, glittery balls or easy-to-make reindeer wall art. Best part? They can be re-used every Christmas.

What you'll need:

- 16-inch by 20-inch blank artist's canvas (available at any crafts supply store)
- Glitter
- Mod Podge or glue
- Scissors
- Pencil (for tracing)
- Q-tip or paintbrush
- Reindeer shape
- Approximate cost: \$9

Instructions:

- Print the shape on paper and cut it out.
- Trace the shape onto the canvas with a pencil.
- Using a Q-tip or paintbrush to fill in the shape with Mod Podge or glue.
- Cover the shape completely with glitter, and let it sit for a few minutes so the glitter can set.
- Shake of the excess glitter.
- Let it dry completely for a few hours and gently shake off any loose glitter.

Introduce natural elements

Bring the outdoors inside with these easy-to-make twig candle holders. The weathered, beat-up appearance of the twigs adds a rustic touch to the mantel.

What you'll need:

- Glass or candle holder
- Twigs
- Hot glue
- Candle



Above: All that's needed for this cozy candle holder are twigs and glue, plus a red ribbon for accent. Below: This tree is made of plastic spoons and a papier-mâché cone.

Approximate cost: \$2

Instructions:

- Find twigs and cut them in various lengths that are as close to the height of the glass as possible.
- Glue the sticks vertically to the glass until they cover the entire holder.
- Place the candle in the glass.

Don't forget the stockings

A Christmas mantel is not complete without stockings, but instead of the traditional felt stockings, try a garland of glittery paper stockings to bring some cheer and glam into your holiday season.

What you'll need:

- Red glitter paper
- Clothespins
- Twine
- Stocking shape
- Approximate cost: \$4

Instructions:

- Print the stocking shape onto paper and cut it out.
- Trace the shape onto the red glitter paper with a pencil.
- Cut out the paper stockings.
- Instead of punching holes and stringing the stockings, pin them to a piece of twine with clothespins.

Palo Alto Weekly Digital Editor My Nguyen can be reached at mnguyen@paweekly.com.

VERONICA WEBER

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



VERONICA WEBER

From candles to magic tricks, Catherine Debs offers ideas on practical and creative gifts for hosts

Catherine Debs, in her Palo Alto home, stands by a table full of holiday items, including flameless candles and nutcrackers — objects she says make for excellent gifts for holiday party hosts.

When the simple gift counts

By Sue Dremann

Palo Alto resident Catherine Debs knows a thing or two about finding the appropriate gift for a host. As San Francisco's former assistant chief of protocol under Mayor Willie Brown, she traveled the world with gifts for dignitaries: Tiffany crystal; cuff links; scarves woven with city landmarks; and polished redwood urns.

"You have better gifts than the White House," former President Bill Clinton once told her.

Despite a world of experience in international gift-giving, Debs keeps it simple at home. She hunts for interesting things at stores as diverse as downtown Palo Alto's Letter Perfect and Menlo Park's Ace Hardware. She has even made some great finds at Walgreens and Kmart, she said.

"I believe in giving something special that says who you are," she said during a recent visit at her Old Palo Alto home, noting that the redwood urns given to Japan represented the iconic California tree.

Debs opened a gargantuan woven bag filled with potential gifts to bring to parties: tea towels printed with Palo Alto maps; corn-cob holders for barbecues;

a scented, electronic candle; a ceramic, bronze-colored pine cone candle holder.

"Don't you want to get something that's kind of fun? Then you have a conversation piece," she said, displaying a box of magic tricks and whimsical paper place mats with the plate and silverware printed on.

When it comes to bringing a gift, Debs recommends simplicity and practicality. Even the most mundane gift can be brought to life with creative packaging.

"If someone has a dog, you can bring dog biscuits," she said. "A container can do it all."

Coming up with stunning packaging was one of Debs's biggest jobs in the Office of Protocol, and she often looked to young urban artisans for the best box design, she said.

Presentation was so important that there was a philosophy around how gifts would be presented and unfolded, she said. Most dignitaries — and party hosts — don't have the time to untie knots and paw through packing material, she said.

"Tiffany's was the worst," she said of going through layers of tissue paper to get to the crystal ornament inside. "You want the box to open — to just pull a ribbon —

and, 'Ta-DA!'"

On the international stage, giving many gifts is an important part of diplomacy, according to Debs. "That's how you make many friends," she said.

A bit of cultural sensitivity was needed, and Debs had to do her homework. There were things that one didn't do, she said.

"You don't give certain colors or things with numbers on them; you only give lucky numbers. You don't want to offend," she said. "You want to go with the colors that are theirs."

In mainland China, for example, she used so much red that she still has a collection of red ribbons, she said.

Personalized gifts were also important. Affixed on each redwood urn she brought to Japan was a gold-plate plaque with the recipient's name. Similarly, one can bring personalized gifts to dinner-party hosts, such as stationery, she said.

"That person will think, 'You went to all of that trouble for me,'" she said.

Fun-loving Debs is often on the fence about bringing something that is amusing or something that's practical, so she often finds gifts that are both. One host raved about a pair of rubber gloves with big flowers years later, she said.

Debs recommends choosing gifts that won't distract the host, who is usually focused on cooking or entertaining, she said.

"If somebody brings cut flowers, it's not a good idea," she said. But one friend brings orchid plants, which come in a nice basket and are meaningful, she said.

Over the years, Debs herself has received several stand-out hostess gifts. A voodoo doll and a magnetized soap dish are among her favorites, she said.

She isn't particularly fond of picture frames. They force her to hunt for a suitable photo to put inside, she said. But after her mother died, a friend of her brother's brought a framed picture of her mother.

"I was deeply moved that he went to all

of that trouble," she said.

On the subject of food and wine, a gift doesn't have to be fancy, but it does pay to know the host's tastes, food restrictions and allergies. Food isn't always the best choice for older people, she said, but "if you're young, you gotta bring food."

Once again, packaging can go a long way to turn the usual into something special. Debs displayed a colorful, insulated reusable wine jacket she found at Ace that she will use to spruce up a bottle of wine or champagne.

In most cases, finding a gift that will be at least somewhat appreciated is likely a no-brainer.

"Let's face it. You're probably not going to go to dinner at the house of somebody you don't like. You're probably on the same wavelength," she said.

But when in doubt, it doesn't hurt to do a little online research about a host's interests and tastes, including social media sites.

Of all of the gifts she's given and parties she helped throw internationally, Debs had only one glitch, she recalled. During a trip to San Francisco's sister city, Shanghai, she and Chief of Protocol Charlotte Schultz brought books to celebrate the opening of a new library. Arranged on gathered, red table cloths illuminated by red, glowing lights from beneath to look like lanterns, the stunning presentation was nearly derailed by customs inspectors who initially wouldn't let the tablecloths into the country.

"They weren't made in China," she said. But officials eventually relented after the American delegation explained that Debs had purchased the tablecloths in San Francisco's Chinatown.

"They were made by Chinese in California," she said.

Palo Alto Weekly staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.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

