

# Mountain View VOICE

JANUARY 16, 2015 VOLUME 22, NO. 51

www.MountainViewOnline.com

650.964.6300

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Tiny restaurant, huge flavors

WEEKEND | 15



MICHELLE LE

Meysi holds her four-year-old daughter at CSA. They have been homeless since Thanksgiving.

## Will the kids be all right?

MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOLS SEE INCREASING NUMBER OF HOMELESS STUDENTS

By Kevin Forestieri

Every morning, Meysi wakes up before 6:30 a.m. in the homeless shelter in San Jose. She makes the traffic-filled trek north, dropping off three of her five kids at schools all around Mountain View — the city she used to call home before she became homeless

just two months ago.

Meysi, who asked that only her first name be used to protect the privacy of her children, said she lost her job at the same time she lost her housing — Thanksgiving Day. She passes the hours waiting for the school day to end by taking her 4-year-old child and 11-month-old grandchild to the park and to

Safeway, and spending time in their truck. The truck has been vital in getting around, and despite having its problems, has been a real help, she told the *Voice*.

“It leaks water, it’s not very gas-efficient, but it gets us to the places we need to go,” Meysi

► See **HOMELESS**, page 10

## City acting on complaints of smelly tap water

By Daniel DeBolt

This week, city officials responded to complaints from residents who say their tap water smells awful.

“When you smell something bad in the water, you don’t want to use for cooking or bathing,” said one resident of the Oakwood apartment complex at 555 West Middlefield Road who described the smell as that of “rotten eggs or too much chlorine.”

To get rid of the smell, Moun-

tain View officials said they would begin flushing water mains on Wednesday morning, Jan. 14, in the area roughly bordered by Moffett Boulevard, Whisman Road, Middlefield Road and Fairchild Drive.

“We are definitely aware of what’s going on,” said Gregg Hosfeldt, the city’s assistant public works director. “We have had a number of calls about some odors in the water.”

“Generally (the poor smell) is the result of a reduced flushing

program in times of water shortages,” Hosfeldt explained. Sediment can settle in water mains during the winter when there’s little need to water landscaping. “Once we flush (the sediment) it tends to make (the smell) go away. We like to keep water fairly fresh in the system. In some ways, it’s like food.”

City staff said it had been a year and half since the mains in the area had been flushed, and that

► See **STINKY WATER**, page 11

## Parents upset over growing class sizes

PETITION CALLS ON THE DISTRICT TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN EACH CLASSROOM

By Kevin Forestieri

Growing enrollment ratcheted up class sizes at Mountain View schools this year, and parents at Huff Elementary say it’s high time the district does something to bring student-to-teacher ratios back down to a reasonable level.

At the Jan. 8 Mountain View Whisman School District board meeting, Jeremy Sokolove, a parent at Huff, said kindergarten classes at the school were up to 27 students per class this year — well above the state average, neighboring school districts, and other elementary schools within the district. Sokolove said the large classes are a “serious situation” that needs to be addressed.

Huff Elementary is one of the district’s most popular and high-performing schools, and has been at capacity for years. None of the 63 students on wait lists to get into the school this year has been allowed in; 19 of them are trying to get a spot in the already-stuffed kindergarten class.

But the issue isn’t unique to Huff. At Monta Loma Elementary, two of the fifth-grade classes ballooned to 34 students this year. Monta Loma parent Lorraine Kostka said she admires the Huff parents who took a stand on the issue, and that the district should consider setting a limit on how large classes can get.

“The district (could) just set the line where you’re going to hire a new teacher to try to make

classes smaller,” Kostka said.

Complaints to the district started months ago, when Sokolove and 67 other kindergarten parents at Huff signed a petition stating that, while the teaching staff is doing a great job, teachers are overwhelmed by how many kids are in each class.

Included in the petition was a statement by Linda Lopez, a kindergarten teacher at Huff who said these are the biggest classes she’s seen in her 18 years of working with the district. She said it’s “disconcerting” that while academic expectations continue to increase, classes are

getting larger and noisier and each student is getting less individual time with teachers.

“Our students deserve smaller class sizes,” Lopez said in the statement

To ease the difficulty of teaching more kids than ever before, parent

volunteers at Huff are picking up some of the slack. Sokolove said kindergarten parents put in a combined 40 hours of parent participation per classroom every week. Because of the added help, he said, Huff Principal Heidi Smith has told parents the class sizes are adequate.

But Sokolove said that’s not the case, and teachers are requesting more support from parents in the classroom despite the high parent participation.

“There’s only so much parents can give,” Sokolove said.

Board member Bill Lambert

► See **CLASS SIZE**, page 7

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Call your broker or Cindy for more information and offer details. 650-924-8365.

# Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

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

*If community college becomes tuition-free, what would the benefits be?*



“Education should be free because it keeps the masses from voting against their interests, as well as allows for ingenuity to flourish.”

**Colin Taslee**, Watsonville



“No one would have to worry about the cost and everyone would be able to get higher education.”

**Anna Chiang**, Milpitas



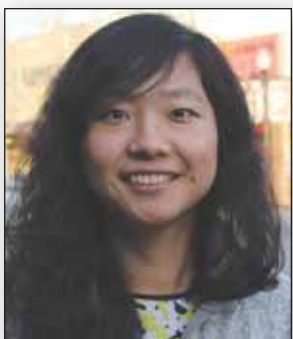
“Having gone to community college myself, I am in favor because this can open it up to a lot more people, and more education for more people is a good thing.”

**Kelsey Walker**, Mountain View



“I think that more people would go to school since it’s free, benefiting society in a lot of ways. Potentially, with more people in school ... our crime rates go down.”

**Ryan Quinley**, Santa Clara



“I think everybody would be able to get a free education and would be able to explore their interests more.”

**Emily Wu**, Boston

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**NOTICE OF BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE  
DRAFT EXISTING CONDITIONS AND  
PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS**

The City of Mountain View is currently updating its Bicycle Transportation Plan (Bike Plan). The community is invited to attend a Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee meeting to review and comment on the Draft Existing Conditions and Proposed Recommendations for the Bike Plan Update at the following time and location:

**Wednesday, January 28, 2015—6:30 p.m.  
Plaza Conference Room  
Second Floor, Mountain View City Hall  
500 Castro Street, Mountain View, California**

Comments received at this meeting will be considered in the development of the draft Bike Plan. If you have any questions, please contact Helen Kim, Transportation Planner, at [helen.kim@mountainview.gov](mailto:helen.kim@mountainview.gov), or (650) 903-6311.

The B/PAC agenda packet will be available on Friday, January 23, 2015, after 4 p.m. at [www.mountainview.gov](http://www.mountainview.gov), in the Public Works Department and City Clerk's Office at City Hall at 500 Castro Street, and at the Mountain View Public Library at 585 Franklin Street.

**AVISO DE REUNIÓN DEL COMITÉ ASESOR  
DEL CICLISTA/PEATÓN (PROGRAMA PARA  
CICLISTAS Y PEATONES) PARA ACTUALIZAR  
EL PLAN DE TRANSPORTE EN BICICLETA,  
REDACTAR LAS CONDICIONES EXISTENTES  
DEL PROYECTO Y LAS RECOMENDACIONES  
PROPUESTAS.**

La Ciudad de Mountain View está actualizando su Plan de Transporte en Bicicleta. Se invita a la comunidad a asistir a una reunión del Comité Asesor del Ciclista/Peatón para revisar y comentar sobre el bosquejo de las condiciones existentes del proyecto y de las recomendaciones propuestas para actualizar el Plan de Transporte en Bicicleta.

**La reunión se llevará a cabo  
en la siguiente hora y lugar:**

**Miércoles, 28 de enero, 2015 a las 6:30 p.m.  
Sala de Conferencias Plaza (Plaza Conference  
Room)  
Segundo piso del Ayuntamiento  
de la Ciudad de Mountain View  
500 Castro Street, Mountain View, California**

Los comentarios recibidos en esta reunión serán considerados para la elaboración del proyecto del Plan de Transporte en Bicicleta. Si usted tiene alguna pregunta, por favor póngase en contacto con la planificadora de transporte Helen Kim, [helen.kim@mountainview.gov](mailto:helen.kim@mountainview.gov), o llamando al (650) 903-6311.

La agenda de la reunión del Comité Asesor del Ciclista/Peatón estará disponible el viernes, 23 de enero, 2015, después de las 4 p.m. en [www.mountainview.gov](http://www.mountainview.gov), en la Oficina del Departamento de Obras Públicas, en la oficina del Secretario de la Ciudad en el Ayuntamiento, 500 Castro Street, y en la Biblioteca Pública de la Ciudad de Mountain View, ubicada en el 585 de la calle Franklin.

■ **CRIME BRIEFS**

**ARREST FOR MOLESTATION SUSPECT**

Police arrested a Mountain View man last week for allegedly molesting a 6-year-old child and possessing child pornography.

The victim's mother contacted police over what she believed to be inappropriate behavior between her daughter and the man, identified as 47-year-old Jorge Huerta-Alvarez, a three-year Mountain View resident, according to Sgt. Saul Jaeger of the Mountain View Police Department.

Jaeger said officers talked to Huerta-Alvarez, the victim and the victim's mother, and based on their statements arrested Huerta-Alvarez. In a subsequent investigation, police also allegedly found child pornography on his computer and cellphone.

Huerta-Alvarez was booked into San Jose Main Jail on charges of lewd and lascivious acts on a child as well as possession of child pornography.

Police are seeking any additional victims that may have been in contact with Huerta-Alvarez. Anyone with information is urged to contact detectives at 650-903-6395, and refer to case number 15-0035. Jaeger said nothing in the immediate investigation indicated there were other victims involved.

Police are also encouraging people to do a background check on potential roommates before moving in, particularly if there are children in the home, and advise parents to communicate with their children and keep tabs on day-to-day interactions.

**BIKE THEFT ARREST**

Police are looking for the owners of four sto-

len bikes after they arrested a man found with the bikes near Rengstorff Park in Mountain View.

Officers saw two men with the bikes at 3:30 a.m. on Wednesday during a patrol in the Rengstorff Park area. One of them fled, but police were able to identify the second man as 23-year-old Nicholas Mathas of San Jose. Police arrested Mathas on charges of receiving stolen property as well as a probation violation.

Police are seeking help identifying the owners of the bicycles, which they believe were stolen from the area of the arrest. Images of the bikes are on [mountainviewpoliceblog.com](http://mountainviewpoliceblog.com) and anyone who recognizes a bike is encouraged to call 650-903-6344 and reference case number 15-239.

*Kevin Forestieri*

**K9 TRACKS DOWN SUSPECT**

Odin, the youngest K9 police dog working for the Mountain View Police Department, tracked down a suspect found near fresh graffiti and who fled from an officer last week.

While driving down the 1800 block of Villa Street, the officer noticed two people standing close to a wall where recent graffiti was found. As soon as the two saw the officer, they fled the area, police said.

One of the suspects, a juvenile, was seen fleeing near the rear of a building on the 200 block of Higdon Avenue. Officer Dorene Hansen searched the area with Odin and discovered where one of the suspects was hiding. The suspect had a backpack that held a BB gun and spray paint, and was arrested.

*Rachel Lee*

■ **POLICE LOG**

**ARSON**

700 block Burgoyne St., 1/12

**AUTO BURGLARY**

600 block Walker Dr., 1/8  
Broderick Way & Terminal Blvd., 1/8  
2000 block Stierlin Ct., 1/9  
2600 block W. El Camino Real, 1/9  
500 block Walker Dr., 1/11  
1700 block Crane Av., 1/13

**BATTERY**

2500 block California St., 1/11  
500 block N. Shoreline Blvd. 1/12  
400 block San Antonio Rd., 1/12

**GRAND THEFT**

800 block California St., 1/10

**RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY**

400 block Mariposa Av., 1/7  
400 block Victory Av., 1/8

**ROBBERY**

2500 block California St., 1/9

**STOLEN VEHICLE**

500 block W. Middlefield Rd., 1/9  
1900 block Colony St., 1/9  
500 block Walker Dr., 1/11  
800 block Bay St., 1/13  
1 block E. El Camino Real, 1/13

**VANDALISM**

1800 block Villa St., 1/7  
800 block California St., 1/7  
200 block Fairchild Dr., 1/7  
200 block Escuela Av., 1/8  
1900 block California St., 1/8  
200 block S. Rengstorff Av., 1/8  
1900 block California St., 1/8  
1900 block Plymouth St., 1/8  
500 block Escuela Av., 1/8  
1000 block Space Park Way, 10/10  
800 block California St., 1/10  
300 block Easy St., 10/11  
400 block Moffett Blvd., 1/12

**Saint Simon  
Parish School**

**OPEN HOUSE**

Sunday, January 25, 2015  
10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

10:30 AM Preschool Presentation  
11:00 AM Kindergarten Presentation

Guided Tours 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

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MICHELLE LE

Grant Hendren, left, dances with Aarti Patel, and Ian Heitkamp dances with Sarah Chiu during physical education class at Mountain View High School on Jan. 13.

## Decision looms for freshman athletes seeking to skip P.E.

PARENTS AT ODDS WITH HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS, STAFF

By Kevin Forestieri

Is a school sport a suitable alternative to physical education class? Teachers, principals and staff at Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District don't seem to think so, despite a demand by a group of parents seeking to exempt ninth-grade student

athletes from P.E. classes.

The Jan. 12 district board meeting revisited the contentious request to allow student athletes to opt out of physical education during their freshman year. An exemption from P.E. class is available to older students.

After a back-and-forth between physical education

instructors and parents, board members agreed to bring it to a vote in the coming weeks.

District officials could provide exemptions from P.E. for ninth-grade students who are taking a school-sponsored sport during the season, but chose not to, citing the impor-

► See **PE EXEMPTION**, page 12

## MV Whisman to redraw school boundaries

KEY DECISION ON OPENING NEW CAMPUS IS TIED TO ATTENDANCE BOUNDARIES, DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

By Kevin Forestieri

The Mountain View Whisman School District is taking the first steps toward changing attendance boundaries for its schools, as the city's demographics change and a group of parents pushes to open a new school in the northeastern corner of Mountain View.

Changing school attendance boundaries can be contentious and controversial, and will be a "big challenge" for the district, according to Interim Superintendent Kevin Skelly. He said

the changes will affect property values as well as the expectations of home-buyers, and it will be difficult for the district to please everyone.

"There's a joke in superintendent circles that this what superintendents do in the last year of the contract before they retire," Skelly said. "There will be no way to make everyone happy with new boundaries."

Growing enrollment at the newly-divided Castro Elementary School and possibly opening a new school in the Whisman and Slater neighborhood area are

cited as the primary reasons for the review of attendance boundaries. Residents in the northeast quadrant of Mountain View complain that they haven't had a neighborhood school since Slater Elementary closed in 2006. Current attendance boundaries have kids in the area split between Huff, Theuerkauf and Landels elementary schools.

On top of that, a 2014 demographic study shows projected student populations and newly-built residential housing could

► See **BOUNDARIES**, page 8

## City's new shuttles make 'car-free' life easier

By Daniel DeBolt

A crowd gathered at the downtown transit center last Friday to celebrate the launch of two new shuttle services that will be free to the public, one to serve residents and one aimed at commuters.

The effort "clearly communicates the message that there's a new day in Mountain View where people are really encouraged to live the life of a car-free existence, which we hope to get to," said Denise Pinkston of TMG Partners, the developer that pledged to create the MVgo commuter shuttle a year and half ago. The shuttle was a condition of the City Council's approval of a new Samsung campus at 625 Clyde Avenue.

The MVgo shuttle began serving commuters on Monday, Jan. 12. The city's new community shuttle began running on a loop around the city on Jan. 5.

Pinkston is now chair of the Mountain View Transit Management Association, a group of companies that collectively run the commuter shuttle and includes Intuit, Google, LinkedIn, and developers Sares Regis, the Sobrato Organization, Broadreach Capital and TMG Partners.

MVgo is the result of an extraordinary and unique collaboration of companies, employers and private landowners who came together "to do something that hasn't been done yet in the Bay Area — collectively run, on a non-profit board — shuttles that are there to give free rides to employees and residents of the city of Mountain View, so people can get to work," Pinkston said.

The new commuter shuttle runs between the downtown train station and corporate campuses in North Bayshore and the Whisman area. Consolidating shuttles that companies were operating separately will mean both reducing the number of shuttles on the road while increasing the number of pickup times for commuters.

"By doubling the shuttle frequency to these employment campuses we're really making riding the bus a more viable option," Pinkston said. "You don't come to Mountain View and find out you have to wait half an hour to take the bus after you've already been on Caltrain for 40 minutes."

City Manager Dan Rich joked that both the MVgo shuttle and the Mountain View Community

► See **SHUTTLES**, page 11



DANIEL DEBOLT

City Manager Dan Rich speaks to the gathering at the kick-off event for Mountain View's new free shuttle service.

# Sutter Health, Blue Shield in contract dispute

PALO ALTO MEDICAL FOUNDATION MEMBERS WILL BE AFFECTED

Hundreds of thousands of people have been told they will need to switch doctors soon due to a contract dispute between Sutter Health and Blue Shield of California.

Notices sent to customers warn that as of Jan. 1 the health insurer canceled coverage for all hospitals and medical providers affiliated with Sutter Health.

Palo Alto Medical Foundation is part of the Sutter Health network of providers and includes the Mountain View Center at 701 E. El Camino Real.

The cancellation affects 140,573 HMO members, who will get letters later this month warning that they will be assigned a new primary physician as of April 1, according to Blue Shield spokesman Steve Shivinsky.

In addition, letters have been sent to 4,413 PPO members who have used Sutter facilities in the past 12 months and another 139,338 PPO members living within 15 miles of a Sutter facility.

The letters inform patients that they can continue using

Sutter providers until June 30, with some possible increase in out-of-pocket costs. After June 30, if no new contract is reached, Sutter will become an out-of-network provider and out-of-pocket costs will increase substantially.

The contract termination affects Sutter facilities throughout northern California, including all Palo Alto Medical Foundation locations.

Blue Shield is asking for a cut in reimbursement rates, and Sutter officials have asserted that the two sides remain "very far apart" on the financial terms of the contract.

"It's significant enough that it would have a devastating impact on Sutter Health's ability to meet our patients' needs," said Bill Gleeson, a spokesman for Sutter Health.

"This is really about a very large and powerful health-insurance company trying to cut back on the money it spends on actual patient care," Gleeson said.

Blue Shield, however, argues that Sutter's costs are well above

those of other health care providers in the area and would remain so even if the company accepted the new reimbursement rates, in part due to the rapidly growing company's dominant market position in much of California. Also at issue in the talks is a stipulation by Sutter that all unresolved disputes go to mandatory arbitration.

While Sutter officials maintain the provision was present in previous contracts, Blue Shield says

the current stipulation would prevent both it and self-insured customers from suing in open court for anti-competitive business practices.

Sutter's business practices have previously been the subject of lawsuits and an investigation by the state attorney general's office.

"The new provision created by Sutter appears driven by their desire to avoid public scrutiny of business practices that have been frequently criticized by indus-

try participants and observers," Shivinsky said in a statement.

Shivinsky said Blue Shield gave its best and final offer in the first few days of January and was happy to continue talks, but "at this time it is up to Sutter to initiate the next meeting."

Gleeson said on Tuesday, Jan. 13, that the two sides are not currently in negotiations but that Sutter has received offers from Blue Shield in the recent days. However, Gleeson said that Blue Shield has not yet offered a deal that "represents significant financial movement."

—Bay City News Service. Sam Sciolla contributed to this report

## OBITUARY

### John Edward Williams

John Edward Williams, a resident of Los Altos, died Jan. 7 after battling cancer. He was 71.

Born in Havanna, Arkansas, he moved to California with his family as a young boy and was raised in Mountain View. He was a graduate of Mountain View High School and while still a student there, he joined Williams Bros. Construction,

the family construction business, building homes and businesses for many years. He also served in the United States Air Force for four years. His family said that his sense of humor and willingness to help others will be missed by every-



John Williams

one who knew him.

He is survived by his wife Joyce; children Jerry and Jill; grandchildren Keyona, Isabella and James; and great-granddaughter Audriana.

Burial will be at Alta Mesa Memorial Park in Palo Alto. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Arrangements were by Cusimano Colonial Mortuary in Mountain View.

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## CLASS SIZE

► Continued from page 1

said he was surprised by the large class sizes; numbers as high as 34 students in a classroom should have caught the board's attention when it reviewed enrollment and class-size projections at the beginning of the school year, he said.

"I think this board would have recognized a classroom size (that) large," Lambert said. "I don't remember seeing anything like that."

Board President Chris Chiang said he understands that parents want smaller class sizes, particularly when neighboring school districts such as the Palo Alto Unified School District don't have the same problem, but added that the district has to live within its means.

"While Mountain View as a whole is a very affluent city, I don't think the community as a whole understands how little money the district gets," Chiang said. "Palo Alto Unified gets \$6,000 more per pupil than we do, the high school district gets over \$6,000 more per pupil than we do. We don't have much money from state and local revenue."

Chiang said if community members recognize lower class

size as a priority, they can consider banding together for a parcel tax or increased donations to the Mountain View Education Foundation.

"To do this we need help, because we don't have much money," Chiang said.

Jonathan Pharazyn, president of the Mountain View Educators Association, is a fifth-grade teacher at Monta Loma and teaches one of the 34-student classes. He said having that many kids in his class can really limit what teachers can do, particularly with group projects, because the room gets so loud and there isn't much space.

Pharazyn said the district saves money by increasing class size rather than hiring new teachers, and that former Superintendent Craig Goldman was well aware of that.

If teachers have classes with enrollment that exceeds the contract limit, which is 30 students for fourth and fifth grade, they get paid \$5 extra per day for each student over the limit, according to Pharazyn.

"This is way less money, even using the lowest teacher salary," Pharazyn said.

A new standard for a maximum student-to-teacher ratio will kick in over the coming years for

California schools, which could help bring down class sizes. Paula DeRitis, a second-grade teacher at Landels with 26 students in her class, pointed out that the new state funding formula for schools, called the Local Control Funding Formula, will set a maximum average class size of 24 students per class for kindergarten through

*'I don't think the community as a whole understands how little money the district gets.'*

BOARD PRESIDENT CHRIS CHIANG

third grade. The program gives financial incentives for districts to reduce class sizes.

That wouldn't necessarily stop kindergarten classes from enrolling 27 students or more, but it would have to be counter-balanced by smaller classes. School districts are also given eight years to reach that student-to-teacher ratio, and DeRitis said it might not be necessary to take immediate action on class sizes.

"This does not have to occur tomorrow, or even the next year. You have a number of years to reach that goal," DeRitis said.

### How important are small classes?

Some board members said that class size doesn't matter so much when high-performing, experienced teachers are at the helm, and that having a quality teaching staff is more important than reducing class sizes.

Board member Greg Coladonato pointed out his kindergarten is in a 28-student class at Stevenson Elementary, but it isn't much of a problem because the teacher is experienced and can handle the larger class size. Interim Superintendent Kevin Skelly said parents are more willing to take a large class over a smaller one if they have more confidence in the teacher.

"The teacher, to me, is the absolute most important part that we need to get right," Skelly said.

Board member Steve Nelson agreed that teacher quality and experience is more important. The problem is, Nelson said, that the district has a high turnover rate and a lot of new teachers. Two of the kindergar-

ten teachers at Huff are in their first year of teaching at a public school, making it difficult to rely on experience to make up for bloated class sizes.

But does class size have an effect on academics? Most studies indicate that they do improve test scores, particularly among low-income and minority children, and some long-term studies have shown students in smaller classes go on to lead more successful lives.

A randomized study in 1990 called the Student Teacher Achievement Ratio looked at standardized test scores for students in classes with 13 to 17 students versus classes with 22 to 25, and found a striking difference in scores for both math and reading. The smaller classes also had an increased effect on performance by minorities and kids from low-income backgrounds, the study showed.

One study found that students in smaller classes go on to perform better in school even when reassigned to larger classrooms, are more likely to attend college and earn a degree, and are more likely to pursue a degree in STEM fields, according to a 2013 report in the Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. ▀

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## BOUNDARIES

► Continued from page 5

bump up enrollment beyond capacity at some schools. Huff Elementary, for example, has been at capacity for years, and accepted no students from its waiting list this year.

“Everybody agrees that the boundaries right now aren’t working particularly well,” Skelly said.

In order to get community input, the district created the Boundary Advisory Task Force, which aims to represent the community as a whole and make recommendations on how to adjust boundaries. The task force includes parents, principals, teachers, representatives from neighborhood associations and former City Council member Ronit Bryant representing the city of Mountain View. The task force is expected to come up with a recommendation by April, with

new boundaries implemented in the 2016-17 school year.

Besides Bryant, task force members include Castro Principal Terri Lambert, Graham principal Kim Thompson and board members Greg Coladonato and Bill Lambert.

Skelly said the task force and its communication with the public needs to be as open and transparent as possible to ease any controversy over the results.

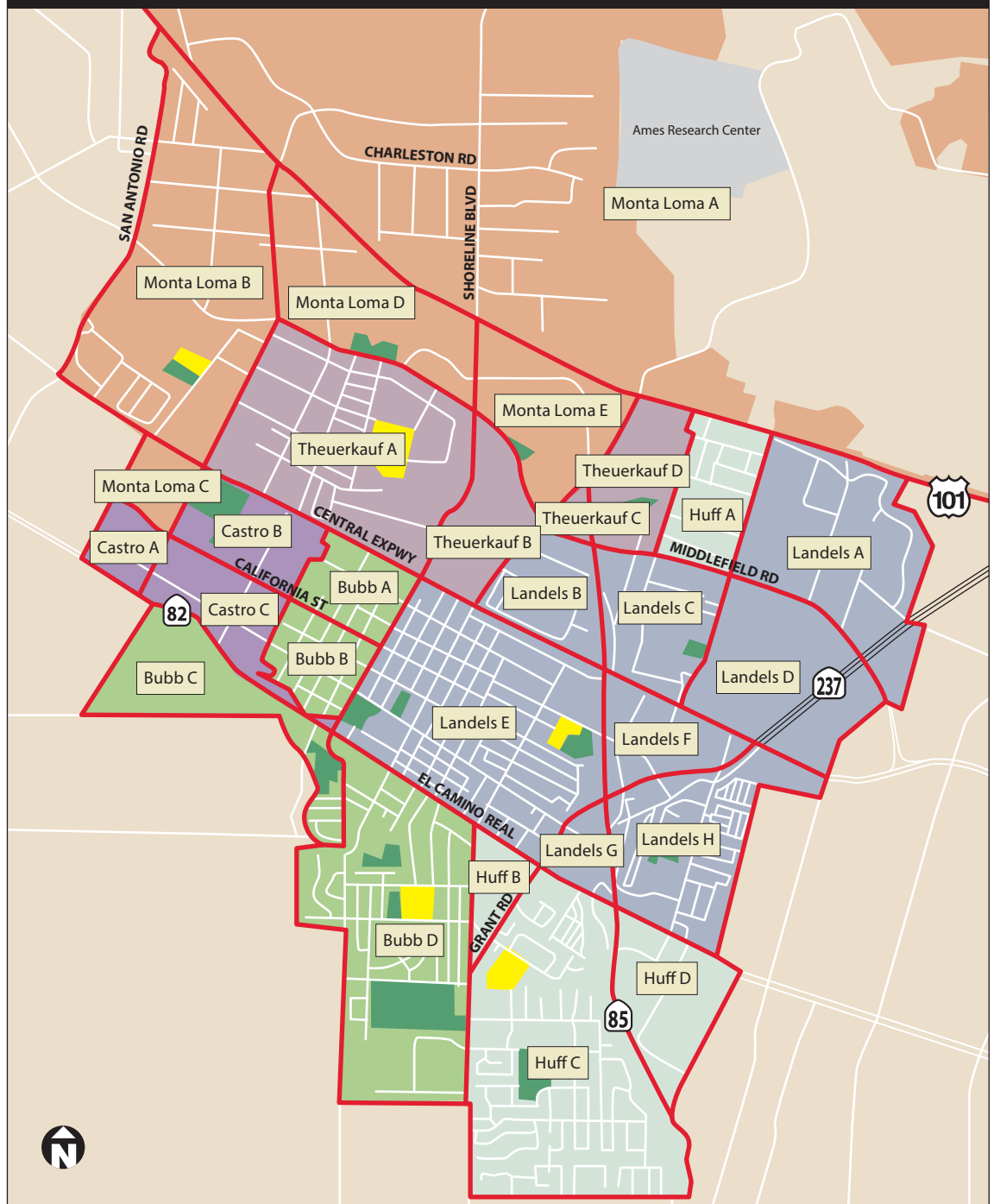
“Often times if people don’t like the result they criticize the process, so it has to be open with continual opportunities for feedback,” Skelly said.

### New school a district priority?

The plans for re-drawn boundaries could mean the district will have to make a final decision on whether to open a school in the Whisman and Slater neighborhoods, which would have a big influence on

## Planning Areas and Elementary School Boundaries

Mountain View Whisman School District



COURTESY MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Current attendance boundaries** need to be updated for future school site plans, including a possible new school, according to district officials.

the task force recommendations.

If a new school were opened, students in the area would no longer have to be redistributed to nearby elementary schools through a patchwork of attendance boundaries in the area where Highways 85, 101 and 237 meet.

Former Superintendent Craig Goldman and some board members have come out in favor of opening a new school in the district, saying it’s really more of a question of “when” to open the new school. But so far the board has not approved a plan to re-open either Whisman or Slater campuses, or construct an entirely new school. Whisman has been leased to the private German International School of Silicon Valley since 2000 and in 2006, the Slater campus was leased to Google for use as a day-care facility.

New attendance boundaries might not be the only thing hung up until the board makes a decision on a new school. The Boundary Advisory Task Force will be working concurrently with the new Construction Advisory Group, which will decide how to spend the remaining bond money from Measure G. Bond money is to be used to update and construct new facilities at the elementary schools, and could also be used to open a school in the Whisman and Slater neighborhood.

Bob Weaver, a resident of the Whisman and Slater area, said the board should formally announce they will open “some kind of walkable neighborhood school” right away. That way, he said, the Construction Advisory Group and the Boundary Advisory Task Force will be working with a “full deck” knowing

whether a school will exist in the northeast region of the city.

Weaver argued that the new school would redistribute students in a way that will solve the overcrowding at Huff Elementary, and would be considered a win-win.

When the issue was brought up in April last year, Goldman said Landels and Theuerkauf Elementary, the schools near the Whisman and Slater area, are not overcrowded, and that a new school could siphon off too many students and cause problems, possibly forcing a school closure.

Board member Ellen Wheeler agreed at the time that the district should be cautious moving forward, but during the school board election said opening a school is “the right thing to do at this time.”

Email Kevin Forestieri at [kforestieri@mv-voice.com](mailto:kforestieri@mv-voice.com)

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT APPLICATION FOR DISTRICT FACILITIES COMMITTEE

The Mountain View Whisman School District (District) is seeking qualified, interested individuals to serve on a committee of community leaders which will serve as the District Facilities Committee (DFC) to provide input and recommendations regarding the District facilities master plan for the elementary school campuses.

In June 2012, local voters passed a bond measure which provides funding for safe, efficient and modern facilities for the District. To date, the District has completed modernization projects at both middle schools and has completed designs for new construction projects at the middle schools. As the District begins planning for the elementary schools, key issues must be considered, including: 1) demographic trends, 2) the establishment of two schools at Castro Elementary School effective for 2015-16 school year, 3) consideration of opening an elementary school campus in the Whisman/Slater neighborhood, and 4) facilities needs. These issues impact enrollment, facilities, and budget for the entire District and necessitate a review and possible adjustment of the master facilities plan.

The DFC responsibilities include the following: (1) represent the community as a whole in the process of evaluating the Student Facilities Improvement Plan and updated elementary school needs assessments, (2) consider potential schedules and proposed budgets to make recommendations on standard project lists, (3) examine prioritized implementation schedule and initial budget allocation for each elementary school site, and (4) review the impact of programmatic changes at Castro and potentially reopening a school in the Whisman/Slater neighborhood and how that influences the facilities master plan. The DFC will make recommendations on specific facilities master plan related issues as requested by the Superintendent and inform the public about the recommendations.

To the extent possible, participants will include the following:

- Parents, including representatives from the following: an elementary school, a middle school, PTA, School Site Council, or English Learner Advisory Committee
- Community members residing in the Mountain View Whisman School District
- Principals
- Teachers
- Classified staff

Applications and additional information can be downloaded at <http://www.mvwsd.org/facilities> 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](mailto: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 28, 2015.

■ A & E BRIEFS



COURTESY PALO ALTO ART CENTER

Sculptures by Lauren DiCioccio and May Wilson will be on view at the Palo Alto Art Center Jan. 17 to April 12.

**'The Libation Bearers'**

For its 15th season opener, Redwood City's Dragon Theatre has chosen a Greek tragedy: a powerful tale of violence and revenge. Aeschylus's "The Libation Bearers" is the second book of the trilogy the "Oresteia," and the play takes as its subject the murder of Clytemnestra by her son Orestes, who is avenging his father's murder. First performed nearly 2,500 years ago, the "Oresteia" remains at the foundation of the Western theatrical tradition.

Dragon Theatre's production runs **now through Sunday, Feb. 1**, with shows Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 general admission, \$10 for limited-availability rush, and \$125 VIP. There's also an opening-night gala after the show tonight, Friday, Jan. 16, as well as a post-show panel discussion on Saturday, Jan. 31, when Stanford Classics professor Rush Rehm will join the show's director, Tunuviel Luv, to discuss the play and its relevance to contemporary audiences. The discussion will be followed by a reception with the artists; tickets to the Jan. 31 event are \$30. The Dragon Theatre is located in downtown Redwood City at 2120 Broadway St. For tickets or more information, go to dragonproductions.net or call 650-493-2006, ext. 2.

**Pallade Musica**

Early music lovers take note: Montreal's acclaimed Pallade Musica makes its West Coast debut **tonight, Friday, Jan. 16**, when it comes to Palo Alto's First Lutheran Church (600 Homer St.) at 8 p.m. courtesy of the San Francisco Early Music Society. The grand-prize winners of

the 2012 Early Music Baroque Performance Competition, the quartet will play a program of 17th-century European instrumental music, including works by Italian composers Dario Castello and Bellerofonte Castaldi, Austrian composer H. I. F. Biber and Danish-German organist Dietrich Buxtehude. Unlike a typical chamber-music quartet consisting of two violins, a viola and a cello, Pallade Musica draws together baroque violin, baroque cello, harpsichord and theorbo, a plucked string instrument from the lute family.

Tickets range from \$30-\$35; season subscriptions to the San Francisco Early Music Society are also available. Go to sfems.org or call 510-528-1725.

**'lift/HEFT'**

As part of its ongoing artists-in-residence program, the Palo Alto Art Center presents 'lift/HEFT,' new sculptures by fiber artists Lauren DiCioccio and May Wilson. The two have been busy for the past few months creating art out of fabric donated

by community members. Starting **Saturday, Jan. 17**, the results of their labors go on view to the public. The show runs **through April 12**, with an opening celebration on Friday, Jan. 23, from 7 to 10 p.m.

San Francisco-based Wilson tends to use heavier materials, including industrial felt, vinyl, nylon and concrete, to explore the themes of struggle and restraint, while DiCioccio often incorporates discarded items like newspapers, magazines and plastic bags in her intricate, embroidered works. In their first-ever collaboration, the artists have employed a range of techniques — stapling, sewing, stuffing and weaving — to create a series of whimsical, vaguely anthropomorphic fabric sculptures.

The Palo Alto Art Center is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Admission is free. To learn more, go to [tinyurl.com/lvxy6et](http://tinyurl.com/lvxy6et) or call 650-329-2366.

— Elizabeth Schwyzer



JAMES KASYAN

Tasi Alabastro, left, plays Orestes and Jessica Bettencourt plays his sister Electra in Dragon Theatre's production of "The Libation Bearers."

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## HOMELESS

► Continued from page 1

said. The truck has also served many nights as a place to sleep for the family of seven.

The family's situation has been particularly hard on her kids, she said, although they certainly aren't the only homeless students in local schools.

As the rate of homelessness continues to increase across Santa Clara County, there are more homeless students in Mountain View schools than people might expect, according to Superintendent Barry Groves of the Mountain View-Los Altos School District.

"We do have more homeless people than you would imagine," Groves said. "People who don't have a home, or move from place to place."

A recent count showed that about 24 students in the Mountain View Whisman School Dis-

trict are homeless as well, according to Assistant Superintendent Karen Robinson.

Meysi's family includes a 14-year-old, a 9-year-old and a 7-year-old, all of whom attend Mountain View schools. Her oldest daughter, Maria, 18, has a baby and participated in the district's Young Parent Program before its funding was cut.

**Hardest on the children**

The number of homeless families in the county was up by nearly 10 percent between 2011 and 2013, according to the Santa Clara County Homeless Census and Survey. These families were more likely to be Latino and include women, and tended to live in the county longer than single transients. The report also found that families reported higher rates of domestic violence as their "primary reason" for becoming homeless.

In the last six months, the

Community Services Agency in Mountain View provided services to 325 new homeless clients, according to Natalie Usack, program director at CSA. She said that of the new clients, 17 percent are homeless families headed by a single mother — up from 12 percent in the last fiscal year.

Meysi's family has been couch-surfing for some time. They lived with her sister for a while, then her mother, with a three-month stint in between that was spent sleeping in their truck. Recently, the family thought they finally were going to have a place to live.

Meysi said they saved up money for a deposit and sent it to a family friend who was "holding" an apartment for them. The family packed up all their things, told her mother to go ahead and rent out her spare room to someone else, and were ready to move out.

But about a week before Thanksgiving, the family friend stopped answering the phone. Meysi said she must have called him about 20 times a day asking when they are going to be allowed to move in.

On Thanksgiving day, he finally responded and said he was not going to give them the apartment. Meysi and Maria had given him about \$800, and had nowhere to go. To make matters worse, Meysi lost her job at Kohl's for not coming in and working on Thanksgiving — her day off.

"I hit the wall in frustration," Meysi said. "I was doing really bad emotionally."

The worst part, Meysi said, was the effect on her kids. Her 9-year-old son was hit particularly hard. Maria said her little brother was so excited he was telling his friends about his new home and setting up play-dates. Now, she said, when his friends ask him about it he avoids the subject.

**A helping hand**

Meysi and Maria were able to get help from the homeless services at CSA on Thanksgiving, and case workers with the nonprofit were able to secure the family a few nights at a hotel while they found a homeless shelter. When they arrived at the inn, the 9-year-old was heartbroken when he realized the plans had been scrapped to get their own home.

"We're adults, we can handle it. But how do you explain that to the kids?" Meysi said.

Times are tough for Meysi and her family, but they've been getting a helping hand. CSA has worked closely with the family to find new housing options, and volunteers with St. Joseph Church have helped pay for gas using prepaid gas cards.

Maria, 18, now goes to a high school in Fremont, despite being the family's sole breadwinner — she has a minimum-wage job



MICHELLE LE

**Maria, 18, plays with her 11-month-old daughter. She is the sole financial provider for her family, working part-time.**

working part time at a pizza parlor in Mountain View. She said she hopes to graduate soon.

"I want to get an education," Maria said.

Because the North County lacks a drop-in homeless shelter, Maria and the rest of her family have to travel back and forth from San Jose. Because Maria goes to school and works in the evening, she is out well past the curfew hours of many homeless shelters. With help from CSA, the family managed to locate a place at Family Supportive Housing in East San Jose.

Maria said the shelter gives her family their own room and bathroom, and even if the rules are a little strict — they can't bring any of their own food inside — she said the 9 p.m. curfew works out well for them.

It won't last long though. Maria said they can stay only until March 4 before they'll have to find another place.

Meysi and Maria said they were worried about revealing their living situation to the high school district, and said they thought Meysi's 14-year-old would be pulled from the school.

When contacted by the *Voice*, Superintendent Groves said the family has nothing to fear. State law allows homeless people to stay in a school until they find a permanent place of residence. He said the district also helps children in homeless families connect to social welfare agencies like CSA, welfare housing assistance and county services through the district's staff liaisons.

The Mountain View Whisman School District has also been willing to help homeless families like Meysi's. Nubia Avina is the student services coordinator for the district, and acts as the liaison for homeless families. She said the district knows of 24 homeless students in the district, but that's only the families willing to admit that they don't have a home and need help.

"We feel that there's probably

more, just because they're either embarrassed or afraid," she said.

While the district has the resources to help out homeless families, they need to know who is homeless. Avina said they sometimes get clued in when teachers overhear that students slept in a car the night before. Other times, they ask for proof of residence, and the parents are forced to admit they don't have it and explain their situation.

Avina said school plays an important role for homeless students. While where they spend the night changes, possibly on a daily basis, she said it's important for students to have some level of consistency and go to the same school every day. She said the free and reduced-price lunches for low-income students ensures that the students are getting at least a few meals.

**Limited options**

Maria said the family is looking at their options for housing, but the large family size makes things difficult to stay in the Bay Area. She said they could try to rent a studio apartment by claiming they have only one or two people, rather than seven, but she said they don't want to lie or risk getting thrown out.

"I love Mountain View but it's so expensive," Maria said.

Rather than trying for market-rate housing, CSA has been connecting Meysi and her family to low-income housing options throughout the county, as far south as Gilroy. Meysi said she'll have to go to Gilroy and apply for housing at about 4 a.m. in order to have a shot at the limited availability.

Still, Meysi said she's prepared to take on the challenges ahead, and hasn't lost hope.

"You have to look up and keep walking," Meysi said. "When one door closes, a hundred new ones open. You have to keep your chin up."

—Michelle Le contributed to this report

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**SHUTTLES**

► Continued from page 5

shuttle were being celebrated on the same day because that is the efficient way the city goes about things.

“It’s about shopping here, dining here, running errands, enjoying our great parks, meeting new people,” Mayor John McAlister said of the community shuttle. He added that it is a pilot program, “a work in progress.”

McAlister called the community shuttle a tremendous collaboration. Valley Transit Authority allowed use of its bus stops, the California Energy Commission supported the development of the electric shuttle, Mountain View Public Works staff managed the project, residents gave input on how to design the route and schedule, San Jose-based Altrans is running the service and Google donated the electric shuttles and funds to run them.

The *Voice* learned that the powertrain technology on the electric community shuttle is unique for an American transit service (the MVgo shuttles aren’t electric). An engineer with the company that developed it, Foster City-based Motiv Power Systems, said the community shuttle runs on an unusual 580-volt sodium-nickel battery used on European transit vehicles. The 14,500-pound shuttles have a range of about 90 miles before they need to recharge.

“Electric vehicles are an integral part of (the state’s plan for)

reducing emissions,” said Jennifer Allen of the California Energy Commission, adding that the shuttles were part of Gov. Jerry Brown’s goal of 1.5 million electric vehicles on the road in California. Motiv approached the commission four and a half years ago seeking support for the project and the shuttle that the residents can now enjoy is “the fruits of that early work,” Allen said.

The 16-seat electric community shuttle, which is notably quiet, has a rack for two bikes, WiFi, a wheelchair lift and space

for two wheelchairs.

The MVgo shuttle will run during peak commute hours and the community shuttle will run every 30 minutes from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays and between noon and 8 p.m. every hour on weekends and holidays.

For schedules and route details, visit [mvcommunityshuttle.com](http://mvcommunityshuttle.com) or [mvgo.org](http://mvgo.org). The hashtag #mvride is being used on social media.

Email Daniel DeBolt at [ddebolt@mv-voice.com](mailto:ddebolt@mv-voice.com)

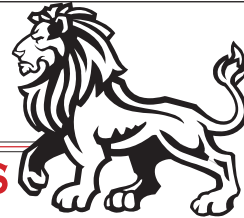


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**Computer Systems Associate**

Embarcadero Media is looking for an Information Technology professional to join our IT team to support and manage our Windows and Mac infrastructure.

We are looking for a person who can work as part of a support team, troubleshooting hardware and software, while providing Windows server administration and network management. You would provide computer support for both of our Bay Area locations (Palo Alto and Pleasanton) based in our main Palo Alto office.

This is an entry-level position, but an ideal candidate would have helpdesk and troubleshooting experience. We want that special someone who is technically savvy with excellent people skills. Windows server administration would be a huge plus.

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450 CAMBRIDGE AVENUE | PALO ALTO

**STINKY WATER**

► Continued from page 1

it is in a part of the system where water flow is relatively low. The city usually flushes water mains once a year, Hosfeldt said. Most cities are delaying their flushing schedules because of the drought, he said.

From Wednesday through Friday, workers were set to start draining fire hydrants into storm drains to take care of the problem.

Though the area is adjacent to the MEW groundwater plume of toxic trichloroethylene (TCE) left behind by early semiconductor manufacturing plants — contamination that has made its way into sewer lines — Hosfeldt said there is “absolutely no correlation” between the TCE plume and the smell coming from tap water in the area. Because the water system is under pressure, groundwater contamination can’t enter water mains, he said. “When a water main breaks, it’s pretty obvious,” as water tends to come gushing up from the street, he said. ▣

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## Mountain View Whisman School District



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## U.S. 101 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT

Notice of Availability of Draft Initial Study/  
Environmental Assessment (IS/EA).

Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration.

**WHAT'S BEING PLANNED:** The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in cooperation with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA), is proposing to convert the existing high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane to a high occupancy toll (HOT) lane (also referred to as an express lane) and widen the freeway to add a second express lane in both directions for the majority of the corridor. Use of the HOV Lanes is currently restricted to vehicles with two or more occupants, motorcycles, and certain alternative fuel vehicles. The proposed project will result in a dual express lane in both directions from south of the Cochran Road interchange in Morgan Hill to just south of the Oregon Expressway/Embarcadero Road interchange in Palo Alto in the northbound direction, and from just south of the Oregon Expressway/Embarcadero Road interchange to just south of the Burnett Avenue overcrossing in the southbound direction, with the exception of some locations near the State Route 85 interchange where a single express lane is proposed. Auxiliary lanes would be added in four segments of U.S. 101. The express lanes would allow HOVs to continue to use the lanes without paying a toll, and eligible single occupancy vehicles to pay a toll to use the lanes. The total project length is 37.65 miles. This project is considered a Project of Concern regarding particulate matter (PM10 and/or PM2.5 as appropriate) as defined in 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1) and the (2006 or 2010 as used) U.S. EPA Particulate Matter Hot Spot Analysis Guidance. A detailed (PM10 and/or PM2.5 as appropriate) hot spot analysis was completed, as required by 40 CFR 93.116 and 93.123, based on U.S. EPA Guidance.

**WHY THIS NOTICE:** Caltrans and VTA have studied the effects this project may have on the environment. The studies show it will not significantly affect the quality of the environment; the report that explains why is called a Draft Initial Study/Environmental Assessment with a proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/EA). This notice is to inform you of the report's availability for review, the comment period, and the upcoming public open house meetings. All meetings will provide the same information.

### Open Forum Hearings

January 22, 2015 - 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Mountain View City Council Chambers, 500 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA 94041  
This location is served by VTA Bus Lines 22, 34, 35, 51, 52, 522, and VTA Light Rail.

January 28, 2015 - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

VTA Downtown Customer Service Center, 55-A W. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA 95113  
This location is served by VTA Bus Lines, 22, 63, 66, 68, 72, 73, 81, 82, 522 and VTA Light Rail.

February 4, 2015 - 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Southside Community Center, 5585 Cottle Road, San Jose, CA 95123  
This location is served by VTA Bus Lines 27, 66 and 68.

**WHAT'S AVAILABLE:** The Draft IS/EA and technical studies, and air quality conformity information is available for public review online at: [www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/envdocs.htm](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist4/envdocs.htm).

Draft IS/EA is also available at the following locations during regular business hours:

- Caltrans District 4, 111 Grand Ave., Oakland, CA 94612
- VTA Administrative Offices, 3331 N. First St., Building B Lobby, San Jose, CA 95134
- VTA Customer Service Center, 55-A W. Santa Clara St., San Jose, CA 95113
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 150 E. San Fernando St., San Jose, CA 95112
- City of Morgan Hill Library, 660 W. Main Ave., Morgan Hill, CA 95037
- City of Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mtn. View, CA 94041
- Palo Alto Library, 1213 Newell Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94303
- Santa Clara Library, 2635 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara, CA 95051
- City of Sunnyvale Library, 665 West Olive Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086

**WHERE YOU COME IN:** Do you have comments or concerns regarding the environmental analysis of the project? Do you have information that should be included? Written comments on the environmental document may be submitted no later than February 26, 2015 via email to [sean.poirier@dot.ca.gov](mailto:sean.poirier@dot.ca.gov), via regular mail to: Sean Poirier, Office of Environmental Analysis, P.O. Box 23660, MS-8B, Oakland, CA 94623.

**CONTACT:** For more information about the Draft IS/EA, call Sean Poirier, Caltrans, at (510) 286-5701 or Roy Molseed, VTA, at (408) 321-5789.

Individuals who require language translation, American Sign Language, or other assistance are requested to contact VTA Community Outreach at (408) 321-7575, TTY (408) 321-2330, at least five (5) business days before the public information meeting. All meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities.

1501-9891



## PE EXEMPTION

► Continued from page 5

tance of the P.E. program.

Parents contend that students have busy schedules, barely get enough time to sleep and do homework, and could put that time to better use.

If the district allows a waiver for ninth-graders, students could conceivably go through all four years of high school without ever having to take a full year of physical education.

P.E. instructors were on the defensive at the board meeting Monday, handing out binders with their entire course curriculum to show that physical education is an extensive, well-rounded class with elements of health education, wellness and physical activity. They argued that students would miss out on a valuable high school experience if they are allowed a waiver during the only year they are required to take P.E.

Kiernan Raffo, physical education coordinator at Los Altos High School, said the school's P.E. curriculum is fantastic, but above all, it's the one place where students of "all walks of life" are brought together and pushed out of their comfort zones. She said it would be hard to foster that same level of camaraderie during the first year of high school if the

exemption is allowed.

Raffo is also an on-campus coach and was a four-sport athlete in high school; she said school sports and physical education are not comparable and have a completely different focus.

"(Sports) should not exempt a student from a P.E. class, just as being part of the school paper does not allow a student to opt out of English class," Raffo said.

Both Superintendent Barry Groves and Mountain View High School Principal Dave Grissom have supported keeping the P.E. requirement for ninth-grade students.

But parents argued that students are stressed trying to take challenging courses, school sports and electives, and need that time normally occupied by P.E. for other activities. Bill Bassett, a Los Altos High School parent, said his son is taking advanced placement (AP) classes and band, and is preparing to take the SAT, but is stuck fulfilling his P.E. requirement. He said his son's time is very limited and it's a stressful workload.

"We don't want our kids to crack," Bassett said.

Kevin Kramer, Doug Moore and Sanjay Dave — three parents who ran for the school board in November — also spoke in favor of the exemption. Kramer said

the district would be withholding a legal benefit it could be giving their kids. He said student athletes are spending hundreds of hours throughout the school year traveling up and down the Bay Area and representing their school in sports, and ought to be able to use the P.E. time to work on other classes.

"This is about giving them time to study on their academic courses, and give them back some more of the time they spend benefiting the school," Kramer said.

Moore said the district allowed the P.E. exemption for decades before getting rid of it in 2009 for unclear reasons. He said it's important to give parents and students more choices when the state education code allows it.

"Forcing every athlete, regardless of their circumstances, to take a class for which there is an exemption is hard to swallow," Moore said.

All five board members agreed to bring the matter back at a later board meeting for a vote, but they were anything but unanimous on the issue. Board member Joe Mitchner, who previously opposed the exemption, said that while physical education has a lot of important educational components, he sympathizes with students struggling to deal with packed schedules. Mitchner said he would be willing to accept a compromise where only students with seven classes and a school sport would be eligible for the waiver.

Board member Phil Faillace, on the other hand, said in May that he supported giving students more options and flexibility in their schedule to pursue whatever course load suited them best, and had not changed his stance at the Monday board meeting.

One of the sticking points about the waiver is that students aren't exempt from P.E. for the full year; the waiver applies only during sports seasons. This means students would be coming in and out of P.E. throughout the school year, missing months of the class. Barbara Kaufman, physical education department coordinator at Mountain View High School, said this causes a logistics nightmare.

Kaufman said having students rotate in and out of class is a twofold problem: Students miss out on curriculum that "builds" on itself, and students with a P.E. exemption will have to be graded differently and possibly have an entirely different final exam at the end of the year. She told the board she has no idea how she would adjust the standards and tests for students who join in and leave intermittently throughout the year.

"I just can't wrap my head around that," Kaufman said. ■



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# Viewpoint

- EDITORIAL
- YOUR LETTERS
- GUEST OPINIONS

Mountain View  
**VOICE**

Founding Editor, Kate Wakerly

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## ■ 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.

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■ EDITORIAL  
THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

## District shouldn't ignore class size issue

As any school district administrator or district trustee knows, deciding on how to divvy up the limited dollars available for our schools is an agonizing process. Which competing programs and projects will win funding and staffing resources in the next fiscal year? Which needs will go begging as a result?

Parents of Huff Elementary School kindergartners recently sounded the alarm about a growing, financially driven trend that some argue threatens to undermine the quality of education in the Mountain View Whisman School District: the district's choice to allow class size to swell rather than hire more teachers so that classrooms will have more manageable numbers of kids. The four kindergarten classes at Huff each have 27 children, with no aides offering support to the single teacher of each class, according to a petition signed by 68 parents and presented to the district.

Parent Jeremy Sokolove spoke to the school board on Jan. 8 about the "serious situation," and along with others urged the board to put a lower cap on class size to avoid overwhelming teachers and affecting their ability to give children the individual attention they need.

The petition asks the district to cap kindergarten class size at 25 students for one teacher. Huff kindergarten teacher Linda Lopez submitted a statement with the petition, noting that she has taught in the district for more than 18 years, sometimes with classes of only 20 kids. "It's disconcerting that as our academic expectations for our youngest students continue to increase, we currently have the largest class sizes I have seen during my tenure to date ..."

Class size in the district has steadily grown, with two fifth-grade classes at Monta Loma Elementary registering a

stunning 34 students each, a fact that surprised at least one board member. Teacher Jonathan Pharazyn, who teaches one of those classes, and Lopez point out difficulties with trying to handle so many kids in a class, including noise and the inability to carry out projects and focus on their students individually.

But board President Chris Chiang cited the financial realities of lowering class size. Board members also argued that experienced, high-performing teachers are able to navigate larger classes, and so class size isn't as important as having a skilled teaching staff. But this is short-term thinking. As board member Steve Nelson pointed out, the district's teacher turnover rate is high, and there are many new teachers who, in some cases, are now facing classroom enrollment that exceeds state averages and that some studies suggest hampers student achievement. In fact, two of the four Huff kindergarten teachers are in their first year on the job.

The petitioners cited another factor that may be keeping the issue below the radar in terms of its urgency: Parent volunteers are increasingly being called upon to provide support to teachers trying to handle far too many kids under their charge. But as Sokolove said to the board: "There's only so much parents can give."

Yes, financial realities may make lowering class size a challenge, but the district needs to face equally compelling realities, such as the responsibility to provide opportunity for students to thrive in the classroom, and for teachers to provide their students the best instruction and most caring attention they're capable of giving. District leaders need to put class size high on the priority list, and begin an honest and broad-based discussion on a reality that is critical to high-quality education. ■

■ LETTERS  
VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

### BUS LANE WOULD CAUSE 'HORRENDOUS' TRAFFIC

I read with interest the two letters from Pat Marriott and Gary Wesley concerning the project to use only two lanes on El Camino Real for auto traffic and dedicate the third lane to a bus only lane. I fully agree with both these writers and would also like to add that this project does not emanate at the highest levels from the VTA but is a part of the ABAG (Association of Bay Area Governments) master plan to cut emissions of carbon dioxide in Northern California and get us out of our cars (supposedly to

take the bus instead).

All of the stack-and-pack business/residence three-story building projects near transportation hubs are also a part of this plan. ABAG is a group of highly paid non-elected officials who are locally in charge of this project in the Bay Area. I was one of a large group of concerned citizens from all over the Bay Area and from all sides of the political spectrum who attended the meeting in Oakland where they (ABAG) voted on this master plan. We were each given one minute to state our disagreements with

► See **LETTERS**, next page



## LETTERS

► Continued from previous page

the plan but we had no impact on them as they had already decided they would overwhelmingly approve the government-subsidized plan.

The two-lane plan on El Camino will run from South San Francisco to San Jose. Not only will businesses be negatively impacted but the traffic will be horrendous and people stuck in traffic will be emitting more fumes than ever before. The plan will choke off the main economic artery on the Peninsula. This is a plan that few, if any citizens want and it is up to us to object by attending board meetings, writing letters of protest and combining with other concerned citizens to stop the plan. Unelected officials (ABAG) should not be allowed to negatively control our lives in this manner.

*Nancy Deussen  
Sylvan Avenue*

## ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES MUST BE DONE

Despite constitutional guarantees the city of Mountain View refuses to acknowledge requests I have made at two City Council meetings to perform new CEQA and EIR reports (environmental impact investigations) on the major expansion developments of the North Bayshore area, including the Shoreline Regional Park community and the former Moffett airfield complex.

There are already homes in the area (former military housing and a mobile home park) that pre-existed Shoreline Park, but to add schools, mixed-use zoning, retail, etc., and other high-traffic uses (obviously in preparation for massive housing projects) without a CEQA or an EIR is just plain irresponsible. We residents absolutely need some responsible person to come forward with a

lawsuit to require responsibility on the part of the city.

*Donald Letcher  
Rengstorff Avenue*

## BUS LANE PROPOSAL IS A MISTAKE

Can the Valley Transportation Authority seriously be pushing to reassign two auto lanes on El Camino for bus lanes only? Elimination of two auto lanes would result in a nightmare, not only for those driving El Camino, but also anyone on side streets from Foothill to Central Expressway. The VTA understands — when these tens of thousands of daily commuters do not switch to taking the bus — that massive traffic would be rerouted to side streets to avoid the standstill on El Camino's reduced auto lanes. I doubt residents will appreciate the huge increase in traffic and the undeniable auto emission pollution and noise in their neighborhoods resulting from this boondoggle.

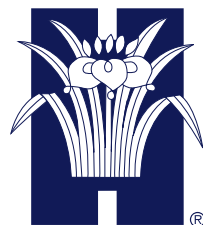
The VTA knows its ridership will never reduce auto traffic, but it pushes this issue (because) it wants to take advantage of federal funding and "empire build." Should the public suffer so the VTA can merely increase employees and infrastructure? The VTA is fully aware of the horrific consequences to the public, and admits that there "will be minimal transit improvements." The claim of "minimal transit improvements" is actually a vast exaggeration of the truth. Traffic jams all over Peninsula streets would be untenable, and the negative impacts from reducing auto lanes would be irreversible. Many autos now wait through one or two red lights before they can cross El Camino. The side streets — many of which are already at capacity — would become a nightmare.

Any rational person is fully aware that reducing auto lanes on this extremely busy and impacted thoroughfare would

lead to massive delays and resultant horrific auto emission pollution along El Camino and surrounding streets. The traffic forced onto side streets, as well as delays on El Camino, will lead to less business for the shops along this corridor. Who will want to take on these hassles to stop long enough to shop this area?

Reducing auto lanes along El Camino in Mountain View would be a mistake for many reasons: hideous traffic delays, increase in pollution, horrific side-street traffic increases, negative impacts for tenants along this thoroughfare having stagnant traffic sitting on the road preventing parking and deterring shopping, and danger to pedestrians and bicyclists when traffic is under such pressure. This would be an outrageously damaging decision on all levels.

*Shari Emling  
Sussex Square*



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## Tiny restaurant, huge flavors

Burritos and artful tacos are  
a revelation at Taqueria La Cazuela

### ■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

Review by Dale F. Bentson

Photos by Michelle Le

On the first day of preparation before each school year begins, Principal Tami Espinosa of Brentwood Academy in East Palo Alto brings 60 staff and faculty members to nearby Taqueria La Cazuela for lunch.

"The first year, I was overwhelmed," said La Cazuela owner Gabriel Sanchez. "We could only seat 30."

But Espinosa brought tables and chairs and set them up outside. It's become a tradition.

► Continued on next page



**Above:** The chicken sope at Taqueria La Cazuela is dusted with queso fresco. **Top:** The flautas are filled with chorizo sausage and potatoes.

► Continued from previous page

“I was hooked on their food the first time I ate there,” Espinosa said. “We use them for all our parent events. Last year we had a shower for a teacher and needed a table for 10. When we arrived, the table was decorated. They are such nice people, very accommodating.”

It’s hard to miss Taqueria La Cazuela. Not only is the location prominent — at the corner of Bay Road and Clarke Avenue — but the structure is also painted jalapeño green. It simply radiates “good Mexican food made here.”

It wasn’t always that way. Four years ago this month, Sanchez and his wife, Mayrra Rivera, took over the space, which had housed a similar restaurant.

“The clientele was not so good,” Sanchez said. “Not only did we have to clean up the restaurant, we had to chase away some of the characters who hung around. It was slow going, so one day, I just took platters of tacos out on the street and gave them away.”

It worked. Business has been solid ever since — and the clientele has improved.



The **chicken meatball soup** at La Cazuela has vegetables in a creamy golden broth.

But nothing comes easy. Sanchez worked two jobs for years in order to set aside enough to buy the space at 2390 Clark Ave. He spent the daylight hours working in building maintenance, then went straight to the graveyard shift as a hotel receptionist.

Once he opened the restaurant, Sanchez went from seeing little of his family to being surrounded by them. His mother makes the mole sauce twice weekly; his wife Mayrra makes the other sauces and specialties and handles the front of the house. One son and three daughters help out, school schedules permitting, but Sanchez does most of the cooking. His brother, who owns Taqueria La Veracruzana in Santa Clara, has also been a big help, Sanchez said.

Recipes come from family, friends and adaptations of traditional regional dishes.

“I am from Veracruz (the Caribbean side of Mexico) and my wife is from Michoacán (the Pacific side),” Sanchez said. “She makes enchiladas Michoacanas (\$10.50), which customers specifically come in for.”

The small but colorful interior is designed for eating, not

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Executive Chef Antonio Zomora





Mayrra Rivera, who owns La Cazuela with her husband Gabriel Sanchez, makes the restaurant's enchiladas Michoacanas.

lingering — although no one is rushed. In summer, tables and chairs are added outdoors for al fresco noshing. There's no alcohol, but there are several flavors of aguas frescas: refreshing beverages made with fruits and even flowers.

The food is impressive: fresh, without too many distractions. The chili peppers in the sauces don't overwhelm, but enhance the flavors. Everything on the menu is made to order.

The carnitas super burrito (\$6) was a revelation. Not only were the ingredients moist and juicy, but the tortilla was grilled, rather than steamed, which gave it a flaky crispness. The ingredients weren't all squished together either because it was just made, hot from the kitchen.

Special one day, the chicken meatball soup (\$7.99) was loaded with vegetables and the broth was golden and thick, almost creamy. The chicken meatball was large enough that I quartered it.

The delightful chicken sope (\$2) was made with the characteristic thick tortilla topped with refried beans, green chilies, tomato, chicken and a squiggle of sour cream, and sprinkled with queso fresco.

Enchiladas Michoacanas (\$10.50) is not an easy dish to make. It's a many-step process involving red chilies, onions, cabbage, potatoes, garlic, sauces, herbs and spices — and technique. The resulting dish is stacked with rich flavors, topped with avocado and queso fresco and served with fried chicken or steak on the side.

Tacos al pastor (\$1.35) came with tender barbecued pork, onions and cilantro dabbled with a slightly piquant red chili sauce. Other taco choices were carne asada (steak), carnitas (braised pork), chicken,

and lengua (beef tongue). Both the fish (cod) and shrimp tacos (\$2.50) were as artful as they were delectable.

La Cazuela also serves breakfast with eggs four ways (\$8 each) and a breakfast burrito (\$5.50). Throughout the day there are burritos, tacos, tortas, nachos (with meat), sopas, tostadas, combination plates and specialties such as chile rellenos, shrimp cocktail, flautas and a dozen others.

There are also daily specials such as tamales and soups. Menudo, the traditional Mexican soup made of tripe, red chilies, onions and herbs, is prepared on Fridays and Saturdays. One cool morning, there was champurrado (\$2.75), a thick maize-based chocolate drink with hints of cinnamon and vanilla. Just delicious.

That's what you get with dedicated on-site owners and a loving touch, not only in the food but in the ambiance, be it ever so humble.

**DINING NOTES**

**Taqueria La Cazuela**

2390 Clarke Ave.,  
East Palo Alto  
650-289-0727

Hours:  
Monday-Saturday  
8 a.m.-9 p.m.

- Reservations: ●
- Credit cards: ✓
- Children: ✓
- Alcohol: ●
- Takeout: ✓
- Outdoor dining: Seasonal
- Parking: Lot
- Noise level: Moderate
- Restroom cleanliness: Good

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<p><b>FLORIDA 48 SIZE GRAPEFRUITS</b> SWEET STAR RUBY <b>3 FOR \$1.98</b></p>	<p><b>ORGANIC LOCAL BROCCOLINI</b> ALL EDIBLE BABY BROCCOLI <b>2 BUNS FOR \$5.00</b></p>	<p><b>EGGPLANT</b> BAKE STUFF OR FRY <b>99¢ EACH</b></p>
<p><b>TANGELOS</b> CALIF. GROWN SEEDLESS SWEET &amp; JUICY <b>99¢ LB.</b></p>	<p><b>GREEN ROMANINE KALE LETTUCE</b> <b>2 BUNS FOR \$3.00 \$1.69 BUN.</b></p>	<p><b>RED BELL PEPPERS</b> SWEET FRESH CRISP <b>\$1.99 LB.</b></p>

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## MOVIE TIMES

**All About Eve (1950) (Not Rated)**

Century 16: Sun 2 p.m. Century 20: Sun 2 p.m.

**American Sniper (R) ★★** Century 16: 10:55 a.m., 12:30, 2:10, 3:45, 5:25, 7, 8:40 & 10:15 p.m., Fri & Sat 12:10 a.m. Century 20: 11:30 a.m., 2:35, 5:40 & 8:50 p.m. In X-D at 10:20 a.m., 1:20, 4:25, 7:30 & 10:35 p.m.**Annie (PG)** Century 20: 5:30 p.m., Sat & Sun 11:50 a.m. & 2:40 p.m.**Big Eyes (PG-13) ★★★** Aquarius Theatre: 1:45, 4:30, 7:20 & 9:45 p.m. Century 20: 5 & 10:20 p.m., Sat & Sun 10:55 a.m.**Big Hero 6 (PG)** Century 16: 10:35 a.m., Fri & Sat 1:15 & 3:55 p.m. Century 20: 5:05 p.m., Sat & Sun 10:50 a.m. & 2:15 p.m.**Birdman (R) ★★★** Palo Alto Square: 4:15 & 7:15 p.m., Fri & Sun 1:15 p.m., Fri 10:05 p.m.**Blackhat (R)** Century 16: 10:30 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 7:35 & 10:40 p.m. Century 20: 10:40 a.m., 1:40, 4:45, 7:50 & 10:45 p.m.**Foxcatcher (R) ★★★1/2** Aquarius Theatre: 1:15, 4, 7:05 & 9:55 p.m.**The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies (PG-13) ★★1/2** Century 16: 12:20, 3:50, 7:05 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: 7:10 & 10:25 p.m., Sat & Sun 12:35 & 3:50 p.m.**The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1 (PG-13) ★★1/2** Century 16: 10 p.m., Sat & Sun 7 p.m. Century 20: 7:45 & 10:35 p.m.**I (Tamil) (Not Rated)** Century 16: 12:45 & 9:35 p.m. Century 20: Fri 8:30 p.m., Sat & Sun 11:40 a.m. & 8:15 p.m.**I (Telugu) (Not Rated)** Century 16: 5:10 p.m., Fri & Sat 11:45 p.m. Century 20: Fri 4:30 p.m., Sat & Sun 3:45 p.m.**The Imitation Game (PG-13) ★★★** Century 16: 11:25 a.m., 2:15, 5, 6:35, 7:50, 9:20 & 10:35 p.m. Century 20: 11:10 a.m., 2, 4:55, 7:55 & 10:40 p.m.**Inherent Vice (R) ★★1/2** Century 16: 12:05, 3:40, 7:20 & 10:45 p.m. Century 20: 7 & 10:15 p.m., 12:10 & 3:35 p.m.**Interstellar (PG-13) ★★1/2** Century 20: 6:30 p.m., Sun 11:15 a.m.**Into the Woods (PG) ★★★** Century 16: 10:25 a.m., 1:20, 4:15, 7:10 & 10:05 p.m. Century 20: 10:30 p.m., Fri 4:35 & 7:30 p.m., Sat & Sun 10:20 a.m., 1:25, 4:20 & 7:25 p.m.**Met Opera: The Merry Widow (Not Rated)** Century 16: Sat 9:55 a.m. Century 20: Sat 9:55 a.m. Palo Alto Square: Sat 9:55 a.m.**Mr. Turner (R) ★★★** Century 16: 3:30 & 10:25 p.m.**Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb (PG)** Century 16: 11 a.m., 1:35 & 4:10 p.m. Century 20: 7:05 & 9:40 p.m., Sat & Sun 11:25 a.m., 2 & 4:30 p.m.**Notorious (1946) (Not Rated)** Stanford Theatre: 5:35 & 9:30 p.m.**Paddington (PG)** Century 16: 11:15 a.m., 1:50, 4:20, 7:10 & 9:45 p.m. Century 20: 11 a.m., 1:35, 4:05, 6:55 & 9:25 p.m.**Selma (PG-13) ★★★** Century 16: 10:25 a.m., 1:25, 4:25, 7:30 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 4:40, 7:40 & 10:40 p.m., 10:25 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.**Spare Parts (PG-13)** Century 16: 10:50 a.m., 1:40, 4:50, 7:45 & 10:35 p.m. Century 20: 10:30 a.m., 1:15, 4:15, 7:15 & 10 p.m.**Taken 3 (PG-13)** Century 16: 10:45 a.m., 1:45, 4:45, 7:40 & 10:40 p.m. Century 20: 10:35 a.m., 5:15, 6:45, 8, 9:30 & 10:45 p.m., Fri & Sat 1:15 & 3:55 p.m., Sat & Sun 11:45 a.m. & 2:25 p.m.**The Theory of Everything (PG-13) ★★** Palo Alto Square: 1, 4 & 7 p.m., Fri & Sat 10 p.m.**To Catch a Thief (1955) (Not Rated)** Stanford Theatre: 7:30 p.m., Sat & Sun 3:35 p.m.**Unbroken (PG-13) ★★1/2** Century 16: 7:15 p.m., Fri & Sun noon Century 20: 7:20 & 10:25 p.m., Sat & Sun 12:50 & 4 p.m.**The Wedding Ringer (R)** Century 16: 11:10 a.m., 1:55, 4:40, 7:25 & 10:10 p.m., Fri & Sat 12:05 a.m. Century 20: 11:20 a.m., 1:55, 4:35, 7:10, 8:20, 9:45 & 10:50 p.m.**Wild (R) ★★★** Century 20: 7:35 p.m., Sat & Sun 1:50 p.m. Guild Theatre: 1:30, 4:15, 7:05 & 9:40 p.m.**The Woman in Black 2: Angel of Death (PG-13)** Century 20: 10:10 p.m., Sat & Sun 3:20 p.m.

AQUARIUS: 430 Emerson St., Palo Alto (266-9260)

CENTURY CINEMA 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View (800-326-3264)

CENTURY 20 DOWNTOWN: 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City (800-326-3264)

CINEARTS AT PALO ALTO SQUARE: 3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (493-3456)

STANFORD THEATRE: 221 University Ave., Palo Alto (324-3700)

For show times, plot synopses and more information about any films playing at the Aquarius, visit [www.LandmarkTheatres.com](http://www.LandmarkTheatres.com)

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

For show times, plot synopses, trailers and more movie info, visit [www.mv-voice.com](http://www.mv-voice.com) and click on movies.



## MOVIE OPENINGS



COURTESY WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Bradley Cooper in "American Sniper."

## Ready ... aim ... mire

'AMERICAN SNIPER' TAKES A HAZY LOOK THROUGH AN AMERICAN SNIPER'S SIGHTS

★★ (Century 16, Century 20)

For decades now, Clint Eastwood has cast his squinty eyes on violence, pondering when it is necessary and how it affects the individual. Iraq warrior biopic "American Sniper," about the late Navy SEAL sniper Chris Kyle, affords Eastwood another opportunity to wrestle with the way of the gun, yet the film gets mired in military hero worship.

Based on Kyle's autobiography (with Scott McEwen and Jim DeFelice), "American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military History," the film stars a bulked-up Bradley Cooper as the bronco-riding, beer-swilling, Texas-drawling good ol' boy who becomes "The Legend" ("a title you don't want," the screen Kyle avers) on his way to 160 confirmed kills behind the long barrel of an M40 rifle.

"Sniper" covers Kyle's four tours of duty in Iraq (between 1999 and 2009), his meeting and winning his wife Taya (Sienna Miller) and the domestic spaces between and after his time in-country. In principle, "Sniper" serves as an ode to conventionally understood manly skill, as evidenced by an early-childhood hunting-trip

flashback in which Kyle's father affirms, "You got a gift" and confirmed by SEAL training and tour-of-duty episodes. Early and often, Kyle gets depicted as a God-fearing alpha American male who's motivated by vengeance for America and his fallen brothers in arms, and whose only fault may be loving his country too much.

Along these lines, Eastwood and screenwriter Jason Hall insists upon the nobility of Kyle, showing how he takes no pleasure — and exhibits humility, not pride — in picking off his targets. Little evidence supports this view when it comes to the real Kyle, and some evidence points to the contrary ("I only wish I had killed more," the man wrote). Kyle was given to boastful self-mythologizing; "American Sniper" is content to mythologize, while warming over tortured beats from the Oscar-winning "The Hurt Locker." Above and beyond the script, a haggard, coiled, grunting Cooper does heroic service to Kyle's humanity, inhabiting his self-confidence and patriotic blinders, his post-traumatic stresses and creeping doubts.

In an effort to give Kyle's story dramatic shape, Hall trumps up Iraqi insurgent snip-

er Mustafa (Sammy Sheik) as a well-matched adversary to Kyle (though Mustafa only rates two sentences in Kyle's book, one of which is "I never saw him") and depicts Kyle as taking a personal interest and hands-on approach in the hunt for terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. These and all other Iraqis of "military age" get dubbed "savages" by Kyle (in the film's least varnished bit of dialogue), and indeed the Iraqi population gets represented entirely by bad guys trying to kill our Joes.

Back home, Kyle turns a corner into service for the V.A., but this and his strange subsequent fate get entirely short shrift, though they're at least as important to the meaning of Kyle's life as the military service that absorbs most of the film's running time. "Sniper" turns out to be perfunctory in exploring the human dimension of a complicated man and the thoughts and experiences so many American military families have struggled to come to terms with.

*Rated R for strong and disturbing war violence, and language throughout including some sexual references. Two hours, 12 minutes.*

— Peter Canavese



## MOVIE REVIEWS

## SELMA ★★★

Given that it premiered Nov. 11, just two weeks before a grand jury announced its decision not to indict the Ferguson police officer who shot and killed black teenager Michael Brown, "Selma" strikes a timely chord in the ongoing struggle for African-American civil rights. While not a biopic, "Selma" is the first feature film to put Martin Luther King Jr. front and center as protagonist, and it stands an excellent chance of educating a generation about

the hard work and imagination required for political change. The film sets out to tell the tale of how King was the calm center of the stormy three-month period in 1965 that built to three Selma-to-Montgomery protest marches and culminated in President Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act. Oyelowo commendably wears King's public face, though King feels more enshrined than full-blooded in "Selma"'s treatment. When the film is on the ground, cataloging the strategizing of (and tensions between) the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, it's at its most useful: John Lewis (Stephan James), James Bevel (Common) and Hosea Williams (Wendell Pierce) appear as key figures in a movement. Sometimes Ava DuVernay's film

plays like a talking textbook: the dialogue is speechy even when King isn't behind a podium, and the characters' frustrations feel less like functions of humanity than illustrations of a thesis. All in all, though, "Selma" is wet paint Americans (especially young ones) had probably best watch dry, as we remember the past and contemplate where the country goes from here. *Rated PG-13 for disturbing thematic material including violence, a suggestive moment, and brief strong language. Two hours, 7 minutes.* — P.C.

## MOVIE CRITICS

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

# GoingsOn

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

## ■ HIGHLIGHT THE TUTTLES WITH A.J. LEE

Palo Alto musicians The Tuttles will be joined by A.J. Lee, a 16-year-old phenom from Turlock, in this bluegrass concert hosted by Redwood Bluegrass Associates. A jam session will be held prior to the show at 5 p.m. Jan. 17, 7:30-10 p.m. \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door; half-price for teens, students; free for those under age 13, music students. First Presbyterian Church, 1667 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-793-0720. [www.rba.org](http://www.rba.org)

## ART GALLERIES

**'Here & There'** Gallery 9 Los Altos will have on display a solo exhibit called "Here & There" of watercolor paintings by Suej McCall, inspired by the local artist's travels. Jan. 2-Feb. 1, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Free. Gallery 9 Los Altos, 143 Main St., Los Altos. [www.gallery9losaltos.com](http://www.gallery9losaltos.com)

## BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

**The Beginner's School fundraiser** The Beginner's School, a free online art school founded by Phil Shemanski of Los Altos, is holding an online fundraising campaign with the goal of adding a sculpture course to its offerings. Visit the website for more info. Through Feb. 5. Donations requested. Los Altos. Call 650-941-9408. [www.indiegogo.com/projects/the-beginner-s-school](http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/the-beginner-s-school)

## CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

**Archaeology and anthropology in Ireland info sessions** These events will provide information on the Foothill College Ireland Field Study Program, a four-week project taking place this July at Ballintober Castle. See the website for more details. Jan 21, Feb. 18 and March 18, noon and 6 p.m. Free; \$3 parking. Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7197. [www.foothill.edu/anthropology/ireland.php](http://www.foothill.edu/anthropology/ireland.php)

**Becoming a Citizen workshop** U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will give a step-by-step description of the naturalization process, conduct a mock naturalization interview and be available to answer questions in English, Mandarin or Vietnamese. Participants will receive a free DVD. Jan. 28, 3:30-5 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. [www.mountainview.gov/library](http://www.mountainview.gov/library)

**Dental hygiene program application workshop** The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program will hold a free application workshop, providing info about the two-year program's selective admission process. The submission deadline is Feb. 12. Jan. 21, 5-6:30 p.m. Free; \$3 parking. Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7538. [www.foothill.edu/news/newsfmt.php?sr=2&rec\\_id=3564](http://www.foothill.edu/news/newsfmt.php?sr=2&rec_id=3564)

**Happy 2015 Danceation Party** This Danceation class and party led by European pop star and choreographer Heath Hunter aims to help community members start the year off right with fitness and dancing. Supervised and participating children are welcome. Admission price includes the class, bubbles and refreshments. Jan. 16, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$20 in advance; \$30 at the door. American Legion, 347 1st St., Los Altos. [www.eventbrite.com/e/happy-2015-danceation-party-tickets-15224221055](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/happy-2015-danceation-party-tickets-15224221055)

**Simple Sewing: Envelope clutch** This workshop will teach sewers of all levels how to make a button hole and line fabric while making a small cloth purse. Space is limited and registration required. Jan. 26, 7-8 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. [www.mountainview.gov/library](http://www.mountainview.gov/library)

**SOAR enrollment workshop** The Foothill College SOAR (Student Orientation Assessment & Registration) program will hold a workshop to inform incoming freshman students about this early registration process, which requires an orientation and math and English assessment tests. Jan. 27, 5:30-7 p.m. Free; \$3 parking. Foothill College, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7813. [www.foothill.edu/news/newsfmt.php?sr=2&rec\\_id=3577](http://www.foothill.edu/news/newsfmt.php?sr=2&rec_id=3577)

**The Dating Diamonds System workshop** In this workshop, dating coach Patricia Fuqua will help singles interested in relationships create an action plan for future dating success. The workshop is limited to 20 participants. In addition, on Jan. 25 Fuqua will offer one-on-one consultations. Jan. 24, 11:30-5 p.m. \$40 until Jan. 23; \$45 day of.

East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-988-9800. [www.eastwest.com/events\\_2015\\_january#23](http://www.eastwest.com/events_2015_january#23)

**Zen & the Art of Mushroom Hunting** Debbie Viess, an amateur mycologist and co-founder of the Bay Area Mycological Society, will share her love of fungi and knowledge about how to find them and why they are scientifically important. Jan. 24, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. [www.mountainview.gov/library](http://www.mountainview.gov/library)

## CLUBS/MEETINGS

**CNPS Member's Night and General Meeting** During this special California Native Plant Society meeting, members will be encouraged to share interesting or beautiful pictures of native plant species taken during 2014. Jan. 30, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 650-260-3450. [www.cnps-scv.org](http://www.cnps-scv.org)

**ESL Conversation Club** This weekly club at the Mountain View Public Library provides a place to practice English conversation skills with friendly company. All levels are welcome; no registration is required. Wednesdays, year-round, 5-6 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. [www.mountainview.gov/library](http://www.mountainview.gov/library)

**How to Care for Maples** The De Anza Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will host Arnie Cornez of Hakone Japanese Gardens in Saratoga at its next meeting to talk about how to maintain and care for the larger Japanese Maple, including remediation and grafting. Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m. Free. Hillview Community Center, Room 12, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. [www.deanza-ars.com/index.html](http://www.deanza-ars.com/index.html)

**Lunch with the League** At this month's League of Women Voters lunch, Barbara Keegan, director of the Santa Clara Valley Water District, will give a talk about the drought and the state of the local water supply. Membership is not required for attendance. Jan. 16, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. \$27. Ristorante Bella Vita, 376 First St., Los Altos. Call 650-559-1828. [www.lwlamv.org](http://www.lwlamv.org)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**CSA Homeless Outreach** Twice monthly a Community Services Agency social worker will come to the Mountain View Public Library to offer assistance to low-income and/or homeless individuals, providing information and referrals to community resources. Second and fourth Tuesday of the month, year-round, 9-11 a.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. [www.mountainview.gov/library](http://www.mountainview.gov/library)

**Language Swap** This weekly Mountain View Public Library event will allow community members to both practice speaking a different language and teach a language to others. All levels and drop-ins are welcome. Thursdays, year-round, beginning Jan. 22, 7-8 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. [www.mountainview.gov/library](http://www.mountainview.gov/library)

**Lego Day** During Lego Day at the Mountain View Public Library, adults can enjoy lunch while playing with Legos from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.; afterward, from 1:30 to 3 p.m., all ages can participate. No registration is required. Thursdays, Jan. 15-April 16, 12:30-3 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. [www.mountainview.gov/library](http://www.mountainview.gov/library)

**Sew Sew Saturday** The Mountain View Public Library invites community members to drop by on Saturday mornings to use its four Baby Lock (Grace model) sewing machines and one serger. Appointments are required. Saturdays, year-round, 10:15 a.m.-noon. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. [goo.gl/TnrYXS](http://goo.gl/TnrYXS)

**Step Out for Pro-Choice** Two local branches of the American Association of University Women will come together to commemorate the 42nd anniversary of Roe vs. Wade with a program featuring two Stanford professors speaking on women's health and safety. The event will be followed by a walk around downtown to demonstrate support for abortion rights. Jan. 22, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. \$2 (to defray expense). Los Altos Youth Center, 1 N. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 650-968-8476.

## CONCERTS

**'Beethoven and Surprises'** A talented trio featuring Julian Milkis on clarinet, Eugene Lifschitz on cello and Era Lufschitz on piano will perform a concert called "Beethoven and Surprises." Jan. 29, 7:30-9 p.m. \$30 member; \$35 general; \$40 at the door. Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Call 650-223-8664. [paloaltojcc.org/Cultural-Arts/Music](http://paloaltojcc.org/Cultural-Arts/Music)

**Chapman University Singers** The Chapman University Singers, a choral ensemble from Chapman University in Southern California, will give a concert of pieces ranging from medieval and Renaissance-era selections to international folk songs and contemporary sacred music. Jan. 21, 7 p.m. Free. Mountain View High School Spartan Theatre, 3535 Truman Ave., Mountain View. Call 714-997-6871. [www.chapman.edu/choir-tour](http://www.chapman.edu/choir-tour)

**Composer and cellist Philip Sheppard** The Computer History Museum will host an evening of creativity with composer Philip Sheppard and his cello. Registration is requested. Jan. 29, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. [www.computerhistory.org/events](http://www.computerhistory.org/events)

**Filipino Gong Music and Dance** Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo and Nancy Wang of Eth-Noh-Tec will offer a music and dance performance in the Kulintang tradition from the Southern Philippines island of Mindanao. Jan. 18, 2-3 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. [www.arts4all.org/attend/concerts.htm](http://www.arts4all.org/attend/concerts.htm)

**World Harmony Chorus concert** The World Harmony Chorus from the Community School of Music and Arts will share its repertoire of music from Africa, Latin America, Eastern Europe and more. The concert will include an opportunity for the audience to learn a song. Jan. 26, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. [www.arts4all.org/attend/concerts.htm](http://www.arts4all.org/attend/concerts.htm)

## DANCE

**Wonderful Winter Workshop** The Wonderful Winter Workshop will offer eight master classes on a number of dance styles — including Dunham, Salsa, contemporary and line dancing — as well as Pilates. Classes are suited to a variety of experience levels; no partner is needed. Class prices reduce with each additional class participants take. Jan. 18, 12:30-5:30 p.m.; Jan. 20, 6-9 p.m. \$25-\$77 general. Mountain View Masonic Center, 890 Church St., Mountain View. Call 650-969-4110. [www.livelyfoundation.org/wordpress/?=cat2](http://www.livelyfoundation.org/wordpress/?=cat2)

## ENVIRONMENT

**Mountain View Trees planting** To mark Mountain View Trees' ninth anniversary, volunteers will plant a dozen new trees in Rengstorff Park. Trees, tools, instruction and refreshments will be provided. Attendees should wear gardening clothes and shoes. The event will be canceled in the event of constant, heavy rain. Jan. 17, 10 a.m.-noon. Free, though donations are accepted. Rengstorff Park Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave., Mountain View. Call 415-412-1127. [www.mountainviewtrees.org](http://www.mountainviewtrees.org)

## EXHIBITS

**'Raúl Cañibano: Storyteller'** The Krause Center for Innovation at Foothill College will host an exhibit called "Raúl Cañibano: Storyteller," which shares images by the Havana-based photographer which capture Cuba, its people and their struggles in the post-revolution era. On Jan. 21, there will be an opening reception from 7 to 9 p.m. Jan. 21-March 11, center hours. Free. Krause Center for Innovation, KCI Gallery, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7082. [raulcanibano.wordpress.com](http://raulcanibano.wordpress.com)

## FAMILY AND KIDS

**MVPNS preschool open house** Mountain View Parents Nursery School, which offers early childhood education with an accredited parent participation program, will invite families to attend a tour of its programs for 2015-16. Classes for parents and children are available for toddlers and 2-year-olds. The co-op preschool is open to 2, 3 and 4-year-olds. Jan. 17, 10 a.m.-noon. Free. Mountain View Parent Nursery School, 1299 Bryant Ave., Mountain View. [www.mvpns.org](http://www.mvpns.org)

## FILM

**'A Path Appears' film screening (Part 2)** The Oshman Family JCC will host screenings of the PBS trilogy, "A Path Appears," based on the popular book by Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn. The second episode will visit West Virginia, Haiti and Colombia and tell stories of children and women who have broken out of cycles of poverty and abuse. Jan. 28, 7 p.m. Free. Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Call 650-223-8664. [www.paloaltojcc.org/apathappears](http://www.paloaltojcc.org/apathappears)

## HEALTH

**Jacki's Aerobic Dancing** Jacki's Aerobic Dancing classes, held three times per week, lead participants in abdominal work, strength training and aerobic routines. Complimentary child care is available. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, year-round, 9-10 a.m. \$36/month; \$5/class. Mountain View Masonic Lodge, 890 Church St., Mountain View. Call 650-941-1002. [www.jackis.com](http://www.jackis.com)

## ON STAGE

**'2 Pianos 4 Hands'** TheatreWorks will put on a production of "2 Pianos 4 Hands," a comic coming-of-age story about two piano students who fall just short of stardom. Featured music ranges from Bach and Beethoven to Scott Joplin and Jerry Lee Lewis. See website for specific times, dates and pricing. Jan. 14-Feb. 8. \$19-\$74; discounts available for educators, seniors, those age 30 and under. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-463-1960. [www.theatreworks.org](http://www.theatreworks.org)

**'Eurydice'** The Palo Alto Players will put on a production directed by Jeffrey Lo of the play "Eurydice," a contemporary re-imagining of the Greek myth of Eurydice and Orpheus that explores themes of memory, love and loss. The play is recommended for viewers ages 12 and older. Jan. 16-Feb. 1, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. \$31-\$45. Lucie Stern Theater, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-329-0891. [www.paplayers.org](http://www.paplayers.org)

**'Why Mosquitoes Buzz in Everybody's Ear'** Peninsula Youth Theatre will perform one of its Stories on Stage productions called "Why Mosquitoes Buzz in Everybody's Ear," a story by Verna Aardema about how a mosquito sets off a chain reaction. Jan. 16, 9:30 and 11 a.m.; Jan. 17, 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. \$8 Friday; \$10 Saturday. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [www.mountainview.gov/mvcpa/jan15.html](http://www.mountainview.gov/mvcpa/jan15.html)

## RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

**Insight Meditation South Bay** Shaila Catherine and guest teachers will lead weekly

Insight Meditation sittings, which will be followed by talks on Buddhist teachings. Tuesdays, Jan. 6-March 17, 7:30-9 p.m. Donations accepted. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Edwards Hall, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-857-0904. [www.imsb.org](http://www.imsb.org)

## SENIORS

**Senior center literary journal reception** At this Mountain View Senior Center event, attendees can listen to contributors to the center's first literary journal read their work. Refreshments and free copies of the journal will be available. Jan. 27, 1 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. [www.mountainview.gov/senior](http://www.mountainview.gov/senior)

## LECTURES & TALKS

**'Photographer or Artist?'** The Town of Los Altos Hills will host Susanne Karlak to give a slide lecture called "Photographer or Artist?" in which she will discuss her own work and what makes a photograph artistic. Refreshments will be served. An exhibit of Karlak's work called "Painterly Photographs" will be on display at the town hall through March 1. Jan. 22, 10 a.m.-noon. Free. Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-941-8073. [www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/city-government/community-calendar](http://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/city-government/community-calendar)

**'Pluto on the Horizon'** As part of the Silicon Valley Astronomy Lecture Series, Dr. Mark Showalter will give a talk called "Pluto on the Horizon: Anticipating Our First Encounter with the Double Planet," in which he will preview the upcoming arrival of the New Horizons spacecraft at Pluto in July. Jan. 28, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Foothill College, Smithwick Theatre, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. [www.foothill.edu/ast](http://www.foothill.edu/ast)

**'The Recipe for a Great Relationship'** Dating coach Patricia Fuqua will give a talk designed for singles interested in relationships, offering tips to make dating enjoyable and for choosing a compatible partner. Those interested should call to register. Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m. Free. East West Bookstore, 324 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-988-9800. [www.eastwest.com/events\\_2015\\_january#23](http://www.eastwest.com/events_2015_january#23)

**Artist lecture with Raúl Cañibano** Acclaimed Cuban photographer Raúl Cañibano will give a lecture discussing his work in the exhibit "Raúl Cañibano: Storyteller." His images seek to share the stories of everyday Cubans in both urban and rural areas. Jan. 21, 6-7 p.m. Free. Foothill College, Room 1501, Appreciation Hall, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7082. [raulcanibano.wordpress.com](http://raulcanibano.wordpress.com)

**Author Seth Grahame-Smith on 'The Last American Vampire'** Seth Grahame-Smith will share his new book "The Last American Vampire" — the sequel to his bestselling book "Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter" — which takes up the story with vampire Henry Sturges after the death of his friend Abraham Lincoln. Jan. 21, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View. [www.booksinc.net/event/seth-grahame-smith-books-inc-mountain-view](http://www.booksinc.net/event/seth-grahame-smith-books-inc-mountain-view)

**Esther Wojcicki on 'Moonshots in Education'** Esther Wojcicki, a Palo Alto teacher and journalist, will discuss her new book "Moonshots in Education: Launching Blended Learning in the Classroom." Jan. 24, 7:30-9 p.m. \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door. Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Call 650-223-8664. [paloaltojcc.org/Adults/Lectures-Dialogues](http://paloaltojcc.org/Adults/Lectures-Dialogues)

**Raj Patel on Generation Food Project** Raj Patel — a writer, activist and academic — will speak about his newest project, Generation Food Project, as well as the global food movement. He will also show a clip from his film and answer questions. Jan. 24, 4-6 p.m. Free. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. [www.hiddenvilla.org/programs/calendar-of-events/day#2015-01-24](http://www.hiddenvilla.org/programs/calendar-of-events/day#2015-01-24)

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**Bulletin Board**

**115 Announcements**

**Pregnant?** Considering adoption? Call us first. Living expenses, housing, medical, and continued support afterwards. Choose adoptive family of your choice. Call 24/7. 1-877-879-4709 (CalSCAN)

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

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**FREE BOOK GIVEAWAY**

**HUGE USED BOOK SALE**

Stanford music tutoring

SV Health Monthly Meetup

**USED BOOKSHOP AT MITCHELL PARK**

**130 Classes & Instruction**

**Aviation Grads** work with JetBlue, Boeing, NASA and others- start here with hands on training for FAA certification. Financial aid if qualified. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 800-725-1563 (AAN CAN)

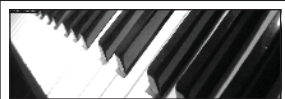
**Train at Home** to process medical billing and insurance claims. No experience required. Become a Medical Office Assistant now with our online training program! HS Diploma/ GED and Computer/ Internet required to participate. 1-877-649-3155. (Cal-SCAN) German Language Classes

**Instruction for Hebrew** Bar and Bat Mitzvah. For Affiliated and Unaffiliated. George Rubin, M.A. in Hebrew/Jewish Education 650/424-1940

**133 Music Lessons**

**Christina Conti Private Piano Instruction** (650) 493-6950

**Hope Street Music Studios** In downtown Mtn.View. Most Instruments voice. All ages & levels 650-961-2192 www.HopeStreetMusicStudios.com



**Piano lessons in Menlo Park** For children and adults. Convenient location. Easy Parking. Contact Alita (650)838-9772

**135 Group Activities**

**Learn how to Square Dance** Come try something new this year!! New class begins Monday Jan. 19, & 26th 2015, 7:30 P.M. Loyola School, 770 Berry Avenue, Los Altos

For solo, singles and couples January classes are FREE www.bowsandbeaus.org or 650/390-9261

Thanks St. Jude  
 Writing for healing

**140 Lost & Found**

Found: Nintendo 3DS XL  
**RING FOUND** Thin woman's ring found in downtown Palo Alto parking lot.

To place a Classified ad in The Mountain View Voice call 326-8216 or visit us at fogster.com

**Woman's ring found**  
 Woman's Ring: Found in parking lot near Il Forno. Contact to describe.

**145 Non-Profits Needs**

DONATE BOOKS/HELP PA LIBRARIES



**Paid Study for Youth** Stanford University is recruiting adolescents 14-18 who have bipolar disorder to participate in a paid research study on sleep and mood. Compensation of up to \$215. Email dailyrest@stanford.edu or call at (650)736-2689 for more information.

WISH LIST FRIENDS PA LIBRARY

**150 Volunteers**

Become a Nature Volunteer!

Fosterers Needed for Moffet Cats

FRIENDS BOOKSTORE MITCHELL PARK

FRIENDS OF THE PALO ALTO LIBRARY

JOIN OUR ONLINE STOREFRONT TEAM

Mentor a Youth

Paid Study for Youth

Research at Stanford Needs You!

**152 Research Study Volunteers**

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

**For Sale**

**202 Vehicles Wanted**

**Cash for Cars** Any Car/Truck. Running or Not! Top Dollar Paid. We Come To You! Call For Instant Offer: 1-888-420-3808 www.cash4car.com (AAN CAN)

**Donate Your Car, Truck, Boat** to HERITAGE FOR THE BLIND. FREE 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care of. 800-731-5042 (Cal-SCAN)

**210 Garage/Estate Sales**

Los Altos, 1383 Country Club Drive, Jan. 17 & 18 - 9am-4pm Estate Sale - furniture, pictures, clothes, kitchen, and other household items.

**RWC: 1228 Douglas Ave. Fri. 1/16, 11am-2pm; Sat. 1/17, 9am-1pm BIG RUMMAGE SALE** benefits Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Stanford. (Just south of Woodside Rd., bet. Broadway and Bayshore Fwy.) **CASH ONLY.** (650)497-8332 or during sale (650)568-9840

**215 Collectibles & Antiques**

Antique Chinese Pictograph/ Sign - \$1495.00

Bonsai Collection

Star 80 VHS Tape - \$12.95

**235 Wanted to Buy**

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

**240 Furnishings/ Household items**

Pottery Barn Dining Room - \$500/600

**245 Miscellaneous**

**Dish Network** Save! Starting \$19.99/month (for 12 months.) Premium Channel Offers Available. FREE Equipment, Installation and Activation. Call, compare local deals! 1-800-691-6715. (Cal-SCAN)

**DISH TV Retailer** Starting at \$19.99/month (for 12 mos.) and High Speed Internet starting at \$14.95/month (where available.) Save! Ask About SAME DAY Installation! CALL Now! 1-800-357-0810. (Cal-SCAN)

**Get The Big Deal!** from DirecTV! Act Now- \$19.99/ mo. Free 3-Months of HBO, starz, SHOWTIME & CINEMAX. FREE GENIE HD/DVR Upgrade! 2014 NFL Sunday Ticket. Included with Select Packages. New Customers Only. IV Support Holdings LLC- An authorized DirecTV Dealer. Some exclusions apply - Call for details 1-800-385-9017 (Cal-SCAN)

**Sawmills** from only \$4397.00- make and safe money with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N (Cal-SCAN)

**250 Musical Instruments**

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**340 Child Care Wanted**

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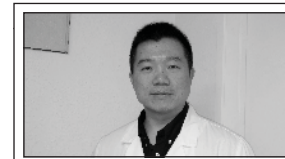
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Online Writing Tutor

**Mind & Body**

**403 Acupuncture**

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**Safe Step Walk-in Tub** Alert for Seniors. Bathroom falls can be fatal. Approved by Arthritis Foundation. Therapeutic Jets. Less Than 4 Inch Step-In. Wide Door. Anti-Slip Floors. American Made. Installation Included. Call 800-799-4811 for \$750 Off. (Cal-SCAN)

**Struggling with Drugs** or ALCOHOL? Addicted to PILLS? Talk to someone who cares. Call The Addiction Hope and Help Line for a free assessment. 800-978-6674

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**Jobs**

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**Immediate Openings** Routes available to deliver the Palo Alto Weekly, an award-winning community newspaper, to homes in Palo Alto on Fridays. From approx. 440 to 1,140 papers, 8.25 cents per paper (plus bonus for extra-large editions). Additional bonus following successful 13 week introductory period. Must be at least 18 y/o. Valid CDL, reliable vehicle and current auto insurance req'd. Please email your experience and qualifications to jon3silver@yahoo.com. Or (best) call Jon Silver, 650-868-4310

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**560 Employment Information**

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**624 Financial**

**Big Trouble with IRS?** Are you in BIG trouble with the IRS? Stop wage & bank levies, liens & audits, unfiled tax returns, payroll issues, and resolve tax debt FAST. Seen on CNN. A BBB. Call 1-800-761-5395. (Cal-SCAN)

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**Health and Dental Insurance** Lowest Prices on Health and Dental Insurance. We have the best rates from top companies! Call Now! 888-989-4807. (CalSCAN)

**648 Horses- Boarding/Training**

**Private Stable** across from Spring Down. 11 acres pasture. 24/7 care, feed. \$850. 650/851-1796

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# Home Services

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## 748 Gardening/Landscaping

**J. Garcia Garden Maintenance Service**  
Free est. 21 years exp.  
650/366-4301 or 650/346-6781

## LANDA'S GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

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Owner operated, 40 years exp. All phases of gardening/landscaping. Ref. Call Eric, 408/356-1350

## 751 General Contracting

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It is illegal for an unlicensed person to perform contracting work on any project valued at \$500.00 or more in labor and materials. State law also requires that contractors include their license numbers on all advertising. Check your contractor's status at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov) or 800-321-CSLB (2752). Unlicensed persons taking jobs that total less than \$500.00 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

## 759 Hauling

**J & G HAULING SERVICE**  
Misc. junk, office, gar., furn., mattresses, green waste, more.  
Lic./ins. Free est. 650/743-8852  
(see my Yelp reviews)

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Quality work  
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Residential Organizing by Debra Robinson  
(650)390-0125

# Real Estate

## 801 Apartments/Condos/Studios

Palo Alto 408-691-2179, 2 BR/2.5 BA - \$3500

## 803 Duplex

**MV: 2BR/1.5BA**  
Walk to Springer School, Cuesta Park. \$2,750 mo. 650/964-8998

Redwood City, 2 BR/1.5 BA - \$1995/mont

## 805 Homes for Rent

Los Altos Hills, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$4,950.00

Menlo Park Las Lomitas, 3 BR/2 BA - \$4300/mo

Mountain View, 2 BR/1 BA - \$3200.00

Palo Alto Home, 4 BR/2 BA - \$4500.mont

## 809 Shared Housing/Rooms

**All Areas: Roommates.com**  
Lonely? Bored? Broke? Find the perfect roommate to complement your personality and lifestyle at Roommates.com! (AAN CAN)

## 815 Rentals Wanted

### WANTED - 1BR COTTAGE, 500 SQ FT

Do you have a place in Los Altos/Portola Valley/Palo Alto/Woodside/Belmont Hills that you would like to rent to the right person? I could help with taking care of the property/pets (incl horses)/house-sitting. I am moving after living for 12 years in Los Altos Hills because the house is being sold. I am a 51 year old responsible, dependable, trustworthy, considerate woman with excellent references and credit. I have a non-destructive cat. Reply to [commandoandromeo@gmail.com](mailto:commandoandromeo@gmail.com)

To place a Classified ad in The Almanac, The Palo Alto Weekly or The Mountain View Voice call 326-8216 or visit us at [fogster.com](http://fogster.com)

## 825 Homes/Condos for Sale

Menlo Park, 3 BR/2 BA - \$899000

## 850 Acreage/Lots/Storage

**Palo Alto**  
Rare Flat Vacant 1.03 Acre Low Density Residential or SFR \$11,888,000

### PA: Secured Storage

New secured storage and car storage facility located in Palo Alto bordering Los Altos. Storage units vary in size ranging from 100 - 250 sq ft. Prices start at \$145/mo. Car storage is \$159/mo. For more information call 650-209-9711

### woodside in 30 min

38 knoll top acres cleared w/utilities \$3,588,000

# Public Notices

## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

THE PAWFIT  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 599869

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

The Pawfit, located at 255 S. Rengstorff Ave., Apt. 126, Mountain View, CA 94040, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: An Individual.

The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):

DIANA OLIVARES

255 S. Rengstorff Ave., Apt. 126

Mountain View, CA 94040

Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on Jan. 5- 2015.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on January 5, 2015.

(MVV Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2015)

SHAWN BRANNON PHOTOGRAPHY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 599603

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:

Shawn Brannon Photography, located at 316 Church St., Mountain View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: An Individual.

The name and residence address of the owner(s)/registrant(s) is(are):

SHAWN BRANNON

316 Church St.

Mtn. View, CA 94041 Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/27/2014.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 26, 2014.

(MVV Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 2015)

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316 Church St.

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The Mountain View Voice publishes every Friday.

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Information deemed reliable, but not guaranteed.



CalBRE# 01234450

650-440-5076  
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Enis Hall CalBRE #00560902 650.941.7040



**SAN JOSE** **Great Neighborhood!** **\$888,000**  
3708 Springbrook 4 BR 2 BA Outstanding 1 M hm w/open flr plan! Remod w/permit, LR w/oversized window & vaulted ceil  
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**SAN JOSE** **Pending** **\$825,000**  
4030 Altadena Lane 4 BR 2.5 BA Sprawling estate, soaring ceilings, gorgeous kitchen, spacious master, park like grounds.  
Gordon Ferguson CalBRE #01038260 650.325.6161



**SAN MATEO** **\$579,000**  
1543 Day Ave #B 3 BR 1 BA Well maintained home with 3 bedrooms and 1 bath in the desirable Marina Gardens area.  
Enmanuel Tepeu CalBRE #01801231 650.325.6161



**SOUTH SAN JOSE** **Beautiful 3-level townhome!** **\$575,000**  
478 White Chapel Ave 3 BR 2.5 BA Spacious master ste on the top flr; 2 beds ground flr; hi ceilings, spacious yard, much more!  
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**EAST PALO ALTO** **Pending** **\$525,000**  
367 Azalia Dr 3 BR 1 BA Located in the Gardens near schools. 3 bedroom home with an open floor plan.  
Jane Jones CalBRE #01847801 650.325.6161



**CENTRAL SAN JOSE** **Willow Glen Grand Townhs** **\$525,000**  
1026 Liebelt Ct 2 BR 1.5 BA Willow Glen Grand SFR-Like 2 Story, End-Unit Townhouse w/ LARGE BACKYARD.  
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19940 Royal Av 4 BR 2.5 BA Lovely 2154 sq ft Ranch home featuring 4BD, 2 1/2 BA. Bay window in living room.  
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