

Mountain View VOICE

FEBRUARY 27, 2015 VOLUME 23, NO. 5

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MICHELLE LE

Google is expected to submit plans for a huge, car-free campus in North Bayshore on Friday.

LinkedIn and Google to submit big office plans

HIGH-PROFILE OFFICE PROJECTS LINED UP FOR NORTH BAYSHORE

By Daniel DeBolt

In what has been described as a “beauty contest” between the world’s hottest tech companies and real estate developers, Google, LinkedIn, and others are expected to submit major expansion plans for Mountain View’s North Bayshore by 5 p.m. this Friday, Feb. 27.

Google is expected to propose an extraordinarily environmentally friendly, car-free campus for 10,000 employees that would be built over at least two blocks, west of Shoreline Boulevard and on the north side of the Century movie theaters and Plymouth Street.

Several City Council members said they got a peek at Google’s

plans a month ago, meeting individually with company representatives. They described plans for amorphously shaped four- and five-story buildings, with a meandering running track under a glass dome. One council member described it as on par with the landmark architecture of

► See **OFFICE PLANS**, page 13

New school could close down Stevenson PACT

DISTRICT SCENARIOS FOR OPENING WHISMAN-SLATER SCHOOL INCLUDE MERGING PACT

By Kevin Forestieri

Drawing new lines for school attendance boundaries can be a tricky task that always leaves someone dissatisfied, and that proved true Tuesday night when the Mountain View Whisman School District laid out likely scenarios for new boundaries that could trigger the closure of the district’s parent-participation school.

District staff presented five scenarios to the Boundary Advisory Task Force on Feb. 24, detailing new attendance boundaries for students throughout the city, and how those boundaries would look if a new school is opened in the Whisman and Slater neighborhood. The northeast end of Mountain View has been without a neighborhood elementary school since the closure of Slater in 2006, and both school board and task force members say now is the time to bring the school back.

But when the district spelled out some of the likely scenarios for how to do that, four

of the five options involved closing Stevenson — home to the parent participation (PACT) program — and merging PACT with Theuerkauf or Landels. The move would be a reverse version of the Castro Elementary decision made late last year, when the district split Castro’s traditional program and Dual Immersion Spanish program into two separate schools sharing a campus.

Right now, the district has just the right number of schools to handle the number of elementary school-aged children in Mountain View, according to Terese McNamee, Mountain View Whisman’s chief business officer. McNamee said eight schools is the right number from a financial perspective, and adding another one would take bond money and operating money away from other schools. Closing Stevenson would essentially offset opening a school in the Whisman and Slater neighborhood area.

“These are the best rec-

► See **BOUNDARIES**, page 7

Pedestrian dies after crosswalk accident

LOS ALTOS RESIDENT ROBERT SCHWEHR WAS ENGINEER, AVID OUTDOORSMAN

By Andrea Gemmet

Robert Schwehr had dropped off his car at the Mountain View Costco’s tire center and was walking across the street when he was struck by a car at Charleston Road and Independence Avenue on Monday, Feb. 16. He died of his injuries at the hospital on

Wednesday.

Schwehr, 68, was probably walking from Costco to REI, his daughter Kiley Riffell told the Voice. An avid fisherman and outdoorsman, REI was his favorite store, and in his eagerness to pass along his love of the wilderness, he’d been looking for a fishing pole for her 2-year-

old daughter, Riffell said. He had also been teaching his little granddaughter to sail, she said.

The accident occurred shortly before 9:30 a.m. near Charleston Road and Independence Avenue, according to Mountain View police. The driver who struck

► See **PEDESTRIAN**, page 8



KILEY RIFFELL

Robert Schwehr, with his wife and granddaughter.

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- Extensively renovated with classic designer style in 2008
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- Beautifully landscaped with pool, spa, lawn area, majestic trees and lush plants and flowers
- Spacious cul-de-sac lot size with approximately 11,400* square feet
- Top-rated Los Altos schools: Oak Avenue Elementary, Blach Junior High, and Mountain View High (buyer to verify enrollment availability)
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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

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

Do you prefer to shop at chain supermarkets or local grocery stores?



"I prefer smaller shops since it's better to support the local area, but you can't find everything at those little speciality stores so if I need a quick fix then I'll go to a larger store since they have what I need."

Qui Kruithoff, Sunnyvale



"I usually prefer smaller stores like Lion's Market because it has a different feel than chain stores. Lion's Market has always been a childhood place that my family and I would go to. We feel more ingrained with our culture — it's a closer feeling to home than chain markets are."

Abdullah Deen, Santa Clara



"At smaller stores, there is more attention from the owner and they pay attention to your needs better compared to a large store."

Rishi Dhand, Mountain View



"I prefer farmers' markets to national chains like Whole Foods mainly because I have the impression that the food and vegetables are fresher and there is a little bit more variety."

Keith Kramer, Mountain View



"I would say that if there was a local grocery store that had everything I wanted, I would love to shop there. But sometimes it's just easier to go to a bigger place, like especially Trader Joe's, so I think I tend to shop there for convenience."

Joanna Cyprys, Mountain View

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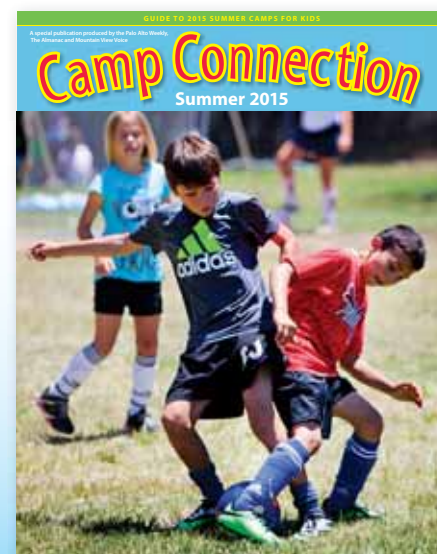
Attention Peninsula Parents
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Magazine is Coming Soon!

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your kids' summer
activities now**

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and The Almanac

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- Resident camps
- Tech camps
- Sports camps
- Music camps
- Specialty camps and more



Palo Alto Weekly

Mountain View VOICE

The Almanac



NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION BICYCLE TRANSPORTATION PLAN UPDATE DRAFT EXISTING CONDITIONS AND PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

The City of Mountain View is currently updating its Bicycle Transportation Plan (Bike Plan). The community is invited to attend a City Council Study Session to comment on the preliminary assessment of existing bicycling conditions in Mountain View and proposed infrastructure improvements in support of the Bike Plan Update at the following time and location:

Tuesday, March 3, 2015—5:30 p.m.
Council Chambers
Second Floor, Mountain View City Hall
500 Castro Street, Mountain View, California

City Council input received at this Study Session will guide the development of the draft Bike Plan Update. Additional information is also available on the project website at bikemountainview.com. If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at public.works@mountainview.com or (650) 903-6311.

The City Council agenda packet will be available on Friday, February 27, 2015, after 4:00 p.m. at 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 SESIÓN DE ESTUDIO DEL CONSEJO DE LA CIUDAD ACTUALIZACIÓN DEL PLAN DE TRANSPORTACIÓN PARA USO DE BICICLETAS REDACTAR LAS CONDICIONES ACTUALES Y PROPONER MEJORAS EN LA INFRAESTRUCTURA

La Ciudad de Mountain View está actualizando su Plan de Transportación para el Uso de Bicicletas. Se invita a la comunidad a participar en una sesión de estudio del Consejo de la Ciudad para comentar sobre las condiciones actuales del transporte en bicicleta en Mountain View y las mejoras a la infraestructura que se están proponiendo como parte de la Revisión del Plan de Transportación para el Uso de Bicicletas. La sesión de estudio se llevará a cabo en la siguiente fecha y lugar:

Martes, 3 de marzo del 2015 - 5:30 p.m.
Sala de Consejos, Segundo Piso
Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Mountain View
500 Castro Street, Mountain View, California

Las ideas y recomendaciones que se reciban durante esta sesión de estudio guiarán la Actualización del Plan de Transportación para el Uso de Bicicleta. Puede encontrar más información en la página Web del proyecto: www.bikemountainview.com. Si tiene alguna pregunta, por favor comuníquese con el Departamento de Obras Públicas (Public Works Department) public.works@mountainview.com o al (650) 903-6311.

La agenda con el paquete de información estará disponible el viernes, 27 de febrero, después de las 4:00 p.m. en www.mountainview.gov. También estará disponible en el Departamento de Obras Públicas y en la Oficina de la Secretaria de la Ciudad (City Clerks's Office) en el Ayuntamiento, 500 Castro Street, y en la Biblioteca Pública de Mountain View en 585 Franklin Street.

■ CRIME BRIEFS

BURGLARY SUSPECT NABBED

Menlo Park police arrested a man in connection with a string of commercial burglaries in Mountain View and other local cities, police said in a press release Tuesday.

Alfred Banks, a 60-year-old East Palo Alto resident, was arrested by police on Tuesday, Feb. 10, on an arrest warrant from the Mountain View Police Department. Banks had allegedly burglarized a number of restaurants in Mountain View from May to mid-December last year by smashing the front window or glass door with a heavy object, and then would either take cash out of the register inside or simply take the whole register, according to police.

Surveillance video and subsequent investigation by Mountain View detectives led police to identify Banks as a suspect in the burglaries, and the police department issued a warrant for his arrest last month. Banks is also the suspect in a number of burglaries throughout Palo Alto, Menlo Park and Redwood City, police said.

\$2K IN CANDY, SODA STOLEN

Two men were captured on video sweeping up candy and beverages into grocery carts at a Smart & Final in Mountain View and leaving without paying, according to police.

The suspects, who allegedly stole the merchandise on Friday, Feb. 20, at around 10 a.m., collected cases of soft drinks and candy, loaded them into two shopping carts, and exited the store without paying for the merchandise, which was valued at about \$2,000, according to Sgt. Saul Jaeger of the Mountain View Police Department.

The theft was discovered later after Smart & Final employees looked through video surveillance and saw the two suspects make off with the goods. One suspect is described as a white man in his 20s, 6 feet tall, with a medium build. The other is described as an African American man, also in his 20s and 6 feet tall, with a medium build.

—Kevin Forestieri

DISNEYLAND PASS SCAM

Police have arrested a man who allegedly took \$500 from a local family for what turned out to be worthless passes to Disneyland.

When the family of four went to Disneyland on Feb. 12, the passes, which appeared legitimate, turned out to be worthless, Mountain View police said. The passes, which had seemed to be a good deal when the family found them for sale on Craigslist, had not been activated by an official seller, much like a gift card has to be activated.

"Unfortunately, this family ended up having to pay for passes in addition to the ones they thought they already had," according to Mountain View police, who posted about the incident on the department's blog.

Police allege that suspect David Kao, 25, of San Francisco, was about to sell more of the worthless Disneyland "park hopper" passes when he was arrested. He was charged with two counts of theft by false pretenses. Police say they also charged him with possession and transportation of marijuana for sale.

Police are asking people to pay attention to these tips for avoiding scams on Craigslist: craigslist.org/about/scams.

—Daniel DeBolt

■ POLICE LOG

AUTO BURGLARY

2200 block Latham St., 2/18
900 block Clark Av., 2/18
800 block E. El Camino Real, 2/23
300 block Easy St., 2/23
300 block Easy St., 2/24

BRANDISHING WEAPON

600 block Mariposa Av., 2/21

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

600 block Rainbow Dr., 2/23

GRAND THEFT

600 block Rainbow Dr., 2/19
600 block San Antonio Rd., 2/19

100 block E. El Camino Real, 2/22

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

700 block Leona Ln., 2/18
3300 block Tryna Dr., 2/18
1200 block Springer Rd., 2/22

STOLEN VEHICLE

300 block Escuela Av., 2/19
2600 block Bayshore Pkwy., 2/23

VANDALISM

100 block Granada Dr., 2/19
2200 block Latham St., 2/20
200 block Sierra Vista Av., 2/22
1500 block N. Shoreline Blvd., 2/23

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

VTA'S NEW INNOVATION CENTER

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority has opened an innovation center to develop, test and show off transportation innovations.

The center opened last Wednesday at VTA's River Oaks headquarters on North First Street in San Jose.

Officials with the agency are looking for ways to improve the experience of transit customers, improve transportation choices and optimize transit vehicles, roads and infrastructure.

"We need to put ourselves in the positions of customers" to understand the technology that could help make transit more appealing, VTA board member and San Jose Vice Mayor Rose Herrera said in a statement.

VTA general manager and CEO Nuria Fernandez said in a statement, "We need to figure out how we're going to maximize the use of our transportation network."

Fernandez said the innovation center will

► See **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**, page 12

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MICHELLE LE

Richard Torrez picks out produce at CSA in Mountain View. The drought could mean less produce from CSA's food provider, Second Harvest Food Bank.

Drought may slash food for hungry

CSA AMONG THE FOOD BANKS LIKELY TO SUFFER FROM STATE'S LOW RAINFALL

By Kevin Forestieri

The persistent drought is putting a strain on Bay Area food providers. Lack of rain and the puny snowpack this winter is leading to a fourth year of drought for California. The result could be fewer fruits and vegetables available for Mountain View's neediest residents.

No rainfall and warmer-than-average temperatures in January left the state with a "dismally meager snowpack," according to the California Department of Water Resources, and that has officials from Second Harvest Food Bank concerned. If the

drought persists, some produce will vanish from the shelves of local food pantries, and the food bank may have to stretch its own pocketbook to buy food from out of state.

Second Harvest Food Bank provides more than a million pounds of food each week to about 250,000 people in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. It provides food — mostly produce — to Community Services Agency, which helps to feed the thousands of people in Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills who struggle to make ends meet. About 1 in 30 people in the area rely on CSA's food pantry services, accord-

ing to the CSA website.

"Many of the families we work with are struggling," said Cindy McCown, vice president of programs and services at Second Harvest Food Bank.

Expenses could rise

The drought threatens to interrupt the supply chain of produce from areas like the Central Valley and Salinas in a number of ways, according to McCown. Second Harvest receives produce from food suppliers that considered unpalatable by retail stores — either because it's cosmetically

► See **SECOND HARVEST**, page 10

Man accused of torture, sex abuse to stand trial

HE CLAIMED HE WAS A DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OFFICIAL WITH OPERATIVES TO CONTROL HIS VICTIMS

By Sue Dremann

A Mountain View man who allegedly tortured and beat his girlfriend's teenage brother for months will stand trial on four felony charges, Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Kenneth Barnum ruled on Friday, Feb. 20.

A h m a d Moustafa, 29, is accused of torture, sexual penetration by force, threats to commit a crime resulting in death or great bodily injury and human trafficking for multiple incidents dating between Feb. 1, 2013 and Oct. 4, 2013.

The stomach-turning attacks included beatings and torture with a wrench and other tools, burning the teen with matches and holding his face over a hot stove burner. Moustafa also allegedly followed up these injuries by pouring bleach onto the wounds, according to testimony by the victim, referred to as "John Doe," during the Feb. 20 preliminary hearing. The victim's testimony was supported by his sister, "Jane Doe," during the proceedings.

The victim, then 16 years old, met Moustafa in October 2009 when his 20-year-old sister brought the defendant home to meet her family in Santa Maria,



Ahmad Moustafa

Calif. To the victim's family, who are from Pakistan, this signified Moustafa's intention to marry Jane Doe, according to a Mountain View Police Department report.

While the sister was away at college, the victim spent time with Moustafa and began looking up to him as an older brother, the victim said.

Moustafa told the teen that he was an Egyptian military official and specialized as an interrogator of terrorists. He claimed that he had killed hundreds of men during his combat experience in the Egyptian military. After arriving in the United States, he claimed to work for the U.S. Department of Defense. At one point, he claimed to be a pilot and showed the victim and his sister a U.S. Air Force uniform, the victim testified.

Moustafa said his jobs at hotels were a cover for his clandestine government work. He claimed that operatives under his control were hiding everywhere and would kill the siblings and their family if he commanded them to.

The victim, now 21, described a terrifying existence of deprivation and torture from which he and his sister felt helpless to escape. During the preliminary hearing, he did not look at Moustafa, only pointing in his direction when asked to identify him. Tall and with a slight build, the victim contrasted sharply

► See **MOUSTAFA**, page 14

Housing moves to top of council goals

By Daniel DeBolt

In an exercise that happens once every two years, City Council members on Tuesday drafted a list of new goals.

Three goals were drafted that will put new focus on the city's housing crisis and its transportation needs, and enhance the city's efforts towards environmental sustainability.

It seemed natural that the council's first goal would be about housing, after a momen-

tous election year that put the city's housing shortage and high cost of living in the spotlight. Council members drafted their first goal to "improve the quantity, diversity and affordability of housing" in Mountain View, and left it at that, with specific measures to be discussed later.

The two other goals were also broad themes without specific measures attached: "enhance environmental sustainability efforts" and "improve trans-

portation by enhancing mobility and connectivity."

City Manager Dan Rich said there would be less focus on the previous council goals: pedestrian and bike mobility, increasing the city's green space and tree canopy, and improving the city's information technology.

A large number of residents called for the city to pursue "community choice aggregation" — a measure already taken in Sonoma and Marin coun-

ties, and soon in San Mateo County, that allows residents to get their electricity from more environmentally sustainable sources. Mayor John McAlister said the city is in the early stages of working towards CCA in partnership with Sunnyvale and Cupertino.

Council member Lenny Siegel said that the transportation goal was too vague for residents to understand, after some council members indicated that it could include increasing

mobility for cars, too. Siegel had asked the council to make public transportation infrastructure a major goal, such as an extension of light rail to North Bayshore, something that could take many years to complete.

The council will discuss the goals again at a study session in April, and is set to adopt the goals, along with the city budget, in June. ■

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

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FROM STANFORD HEALTH CARE

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11:00am – 12:30pm

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9:00am – 10:30am

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*Presented by the Stanford South Asian Translational
Heart Initiative (SSATHI)*

11:00am – 12:30pm

Heart Disease Prevention: What You Need to Know

Presented by Stanford Preventive Cardiology

11:00am – 12:30pm

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This event is free and open to the public. Free parking is available.

BOUNDARIES

► Continued from page 1

ommendations we can make," McNamee said.

Stevenson parents showed up at the meeting to voice concerns over the plans. One woman, a Stevenson parent, said the district should keep in mind that Stevenson is not just another choice program, but has turned into its own school in the last six years.

"The school has really grown and planted its roots where it is, the education program has developed, the community has gotten stronger and more stable," she said.

Another parent, in an emotional response to the proposal to close Stevenson, said that there would be some problems in merging the PACT program with a neighborhood school. She said PACT parents are willing to commit to a "heck of a lot more work and a heck of a lot more expectations than you can imagine."

"The idea of PACT being merged with Theuerkauf and being a neighborhood preference will be a detriment PACT and its philosophy," she said. "The Theuerkauf teachers are excellent (but) it's the parents that make the difference, and that's

what makes PACT stand out compared to Theuerkauf."

Stevenson Principal Tyler Graff immediately followed the comments by emphasizing that all parents in the district care deeply about their children and their education — just as much as the parents at PACT who spend four to five hours a week volunteering in the classroom at Stevenson.

"Some parents need to work two jobs and it's really important that we respect that they also value their kids' education just as much," Graff said.

Some committee members also pointed out that one of the goals of the Boundary Advisory Task Force is to minimize impacts to students and families in the district, and that scenarios proposing to shut down the school that houses PACT and merge it elsewhere is very disruptive.

Greg Coladonato, a board member and a Stevenson parent, said a lot of people in the PACT community feel like they've already been moved around a lot in the past decade — from Slater to Castro to Stevenson — and now possibly from Stevenson to elsewhere.

"There's a bit of fatigue there," Coladonato said.

McNamee said it's important for the task force to acknowledge

concerns on issues raised about the effect of closing down Stevenson, and that it's important for each school site to make sure the concerns are heard. But at the same time, she said, the option that makes the most sense won't necessarily please everyone.

"That doesn't mean everyone is going to be happy or feel like it's meeting their needs, but in these conversations that never happens 100 percent. We can at least acknowledge and understand these are the best options, given the circumstances," McNamee said.

McNamee added that the district is not trying to set up a situation where Stevenson parents and residents of the Whisman and Slater neighborhoods have to compete with one another to keep their own school site.

"This isn't a banging of heads between Whisman-Slater and Stevenson," she said. "We're not setting anyone up to do that."

The school board decided last month not to make an official decision on whether to open a school in the Whisman and Slater neighborhood area in favor of letting the Boundary Advisory Task Force come to its own conclusion, coming back to the board with a recommendation on March 19. All of the scenarios discussed included opening a

school in the Whisman and Slater area, but no official consensus has been reached by the task force yet.

One option suggested moving the PACT program from Stevenson to the Whisman and Slater area rather than open a new traditional school — an idea that flopped in the past. Last year former superintendent Craig Goldman proposed moving the Dual Immersion choice program at Castro to Slater Elementary to appease the demand for a school in the northeast quadrant of Mountain View.

But the plan was criticized by residents in the area, like Whisman neighborhood resident Bob Weaver, who said the community was looking for a neighborhood school with a traditional program for the approximately 600 elementary school-aged kids in the area.

Whisman or Slater?

Both Whisman and Slater Elementary sites are currently closed and leased out, but it turns out Whisman might be the better option for the new school.

Whisman Elementary, currently leased to the German International School of Silicon Valley, was closed down back in 2000. Despite being closed long

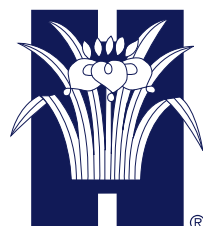
before Slater, the facilities are actually more intact and need less work, McNamee said, and the district would have to spend millions less to get the school up and running.

Projected costs by the district show that opening Slater would eat up about \$30 million in Measure G bond funds, compared to only \$12 million to open Whisman.

Then there's also a question of continuing to lease out the campus. If the district decides to share Whisman with the German school, it would continue to take in between \$850,000 and \$950,000 each year in rent. Continuing to lease out space at Whisman might be more reasonable than at Slater.

Former city council member Ronit Bryant also raised concerns over how many students the Slater campus could handle. She said her kid went to the PACT program when it was at Slater, and she said the acreage doesn't really allow for a new neighborhood school if it needs to share the campus. Right now the district leases the Slater campus to Google for its daycare program.

"Slater is a very small campus," Bryant said. "I can't physically think of how it would work." ■



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Sheriff wins OK of cell-phone tracker

SUPERVISOR CHALLENGES PURCHASE, CITING PUBLIC'S PRIVACY RIGHTS

The Santa Clara County sheriff and a member of the Board of Supervisors clashed Tuesday before the board approved the purchase of a controversial mobile phone tracking device.

The board voted 4 to 1 for a motion to draw on a state grant to buy the mobile phone triangulation system but it cannot become operational until two board committees hold hearings and develop a policy for how the Sheriff's Office may use it.

Sheriff Laurie Smith testified before the board in favor of the \$502,889 mobile phone triangulation system to assist deputies in pinpointing a cellular phone held by people such as wanted criminals, suspects or children and adults at risk.

In the case of criminals, the system, known as Hailstorm and manufactured by Florida-based Harris Corp., would be used to locate the phones of a person only after a warrant is issued by a judge and within three days in case it had to be used in an emergency, Smith said.

The sheriff's office discussed the system with the county's Anti-Terrorism Approval Authority, which approved its funding from a state grant in 2013 and had further sessions on it in July 2014, October 2014 and last January, Smith said.

The board itself on Jan. 14, 2014 approved the grant funding, from California's State Homeland Security Grant Program, to purchase it in full, she said.

But Supervisor Joe Simitian, who has been outspoken on privacy issues while on the board, complained that supervisors never had a full discus-

sion about a proposed mobile triangulation-tracking device employed by the county.

He repeatedly asked if the sheriff's office had expressly told the board that the system was the triangulation device and Smith conceded it had not.

"I don't want to sound like we are arguing," Smith said.

"We are arguing, sheriff," Simitian replied.

Under questioning from Simitian, Smith admitted her office only had a draft policy on how it intended to use the Harris device

30-minute public forum on it only last Friday, Simitian said.

"Are we mindful of the public's due process rights? The answer is, not by a long shot," he said.

Simitian offered a motion to send the proposed procurement of the system back to staff, but it was defeated for a lack of a second.

Smith said the sheriff's office needed the board's approval to proceed with the process of buying the Harris system by May 15 and accept delivery of it by May 30 or it would lose the state funding.

Supervisor Mike Wasserman, while acknowledging Simitian's reservations about it, spoke in favor of the system for ensuring public safety.

"It could be a valuable asset for children and at-risk people," Wasserman said.

Wasserman presented a motion to approve the procurement but not the implementation of the system until a policy is discussed and approved by two board committees, the finance and government operations committee and the public safety and government committee, before it is brought to the full board.

He said he wanted the policy to include the requirement that the triangulation device would not be used to monitor or eavesdrop on people.

Wasserman's motion passed 4 to 1 with Simitian opposed.

Smith said that the San Jose Police Department has an earlier version of the triangulation system but does not permit the sheriff's office to use it.

The \$42,150 annual cost to operate the Harris system once it is in operation would be covered by the sheriff's office, she said.

—Bay City News Service

**'Are we mindful
of the public's due
process rights? ...
not by a long shot.'**

SUPERVISOR JOE SIMITIAN

and that she did not really know how it worked.

Smith told Simitian that she felt as though he was questioning her as a lawyer would a witness.

Simitian said that from what he had read about the Harris triangulation system, it "mimics a cell tower" to locate individuals and he said he feared it potentially could compromise public privacy and the rights of citizens to due process of law, especially by those who act irresponsibly within law enforcement.

"There are always a few bad apples," he said.

The sheriff's office had not yet prepared a policy on the use of the Harris system, did not put it up to enough scrutiny with the board or the community and held a

PEDESTRIAN

► Continued from page 1

Schwehr remained at the scene and cooperated with investigators, police said.

A preliminary investigation determined the driver was leaving a shopping center parking lot and turned east onto Charleston Road, then struck Schwehr, who was walking in the crosswalk at Independence Avenue, police said.

Riffell said that as soon as she heard about the accident, she raced to Mountain View from Seattle to be with her father, but he never regained consciousness. Schwehr worked for Hewlett-

Packard as an electrical engineer and loved tinkering with all sorts of projects, Riffell said. He earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin and his master's degree at Stanford University.

A Los Altos resident since 1971, he was an assistant troop leader for Boy Scout Troop 37, part of the local amateur radio community, a member of the Peninsula Fly Fishers Club and Sirs. He also regularly played bridge at the senior center, she said.

He was especially passionate about the wilderness, and loved hiking at Rancho San Antonio and Hidden Villa, Riffell said. "You could often see him practic-

ing fly-casting at Los Altos High School," she said.

"We miss him so incredibly much," Riffell said. "An avid fisherman and a proud grandfather, he had so much more life to live."

Besides his daughter Kiley Riffell of Seattle, Schwehr is survived by his wife, Linda Schwehr of Los Altos; his son Kurt Schwehr of San Jose; and two grandchildren.

Mountain View police are asking anyone who witnessed the collision or has information about the case to call (650) 903-6395. ■

—Bay City News Service
contributed to this report.



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Mountain View Community Center Renovation Plans

The Parks and Recreation Commission and the City Council will consider two conceptual plans and their impact on the park for renovation and expansion of the Community Center.

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.
Mountain View Senior Center
266 Escuela Avenue, Mountain View

City Council Study Session Meeting
Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.
Plaza Conference Room
Second Floor, Mountain View City Hall
500 Castro Street, Mountain View

La Comisión de Parques y Recreación y el Ayuntamiento de la ciudad considerarán dos planes conceptuales y su impacto en el parque para la renovación y ampliación del Centro Comunitario.

Reunión de la Comisión de Parques y Recreación
Miércoles, 4 de marzo 2015 a las 7:00 p.m.
Mountain View Senior Center
266 Escuela Avenue, Mountain View

Junta de Estudio del Consejo de la Ciudad
Martes, 24 de marzo 2015 a las 5:30 P.M.
Sala de Conferencias Plaza
Segundo Piso del Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Mountain View
500 Castro Street, Mountain View

- **For further information**, contact the Public Works Department at (650) 903-6311 or public.works@mountainview.gov
- **Para más información**, por favor póngase en contacto con la Oficina del Departamento de Obras Públicas public.works@mountainview.gov o llamando al (650) 903-6145
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SECOND HARVEST

► Continued from page 5

flawed or is near the end of its shelf life — for free. All Second Harvest has to do is pay for the shipping.

“We receive the food for pennies on the pound, which is significant for us,” McCown said.

But as the drought looms, the amount of produce is expected to dwindle, and McCown said the worry is that retailers will start buying up the produce normally seen as unfit. Second Harvest will likely be forced to either pay more for California produce or buy from other states like Texas, Arizona or Oregon, McCown said, at an additional cost to Second Harvest of millions of dollars.

Some produce may not end up getting grown at all. Among the produce on the chopping block this year are row crops, including cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, watermelon, onions and tomatoes. Some Central Valley farmers say they won't be planting row crops this year because of the higher demand for water, according to a press release by Second Harvest Food Bank.

McCown said Second Harvest tries to have staple items like onions and tomatoes year-round,

and said it's important to make it available in the ethnically diverse communities it serves. Unfortunately, if the food supplies run thin, she said people will be more likely to go out and purchase less healthy food to save money.

“Two-thirds of our clients said they bought cheap, sometimes unhealthy, foods to stretch their dollars,” McCown said. “Families, many times, are working and can afford housing, but don't have a lot of money left over for things like food.”

While there's not much Second Harvest can do but wait and see what the crop yields look like later this year, McCown said people can help by either donating to Second Harvest financially, or contributing their own backyard produce. She said people can bring their produce to either the food bank or to one of their non-profit partners, like CSA.

Dry winter keeps the drought going

Though the Bay Area was hit with significant rainstorms in early February, it didn't do much to alleviate drought conditions, according to a report by the Santa Clara Valley Water District. Because the rainstorms were subtropical, most of the precipitation came down as rain, rather than

snowfall at higher elevations. This did little to bolster the snowpack in the Sierra Nevada and Cascades ranges, which has dwindled down to 20 percent of the average at this time of the year, according to Cindy Kao, Imported Water Unit Manager at the Santa Clara Valley Water District.

Prior to the storms earlier this month, San Jose precipitation gauges recorded no rain at all for the new year, despite January being historically the wettest month for the state, the report said.

McCown said Second Harvest officials have to wait and see how the drought conditions will affect the growers and crop yields this year. While the state is off to a bad start, particularly in the San Joaquin Valley, it's still possible for some rainfall to bring the state back up to speed, according to Vanessa De La Piedra, groundwater monitoring and analysis manager at Santa Clara Valley Water District.

“Obviously we had a very dry January and February (didn't) turn out quite as we hoped, however there's still a lot of big uncertainty on how the rest of the rainfall year will play out,” Piedra said at the Feb. 24 board meeting. “We're hoping for a miracle March and awesome April here.” ■

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1/1/14 to 12/31/14

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- #1 Overall - Our Cities¹
- #1 Palo Alto
- #1 Menlo Park
- #2 Atherton
- #2 Mountain View
- #3 Los Altos Hills
- #4 Los Altos
- #5 Portola Valley

¹ Includes Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Atherton, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Mountain View, and Portola Valley.

² These statistics, for the period January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014, come directly from Broker Metrics® an independent third-party that compiles data from the Multiple Listing Service ("MLS"). Please note that our sales volume is from one team of closely collaborating professionals, not an entire brokerage or office that is including the sales of many agents that are merely commission-based independent contractors—everyone that carries a DeLeon Realty business card is actually an employee of DeLeon Realty. Teamwork, integrity and specialization are key elements to our success. Please call us to hear how our unique business model and stellar people deliver exceptional results for our clients. DeLeon Realty...Reinventing Real Estate.



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450 CAMBRIDGE AVENUE | PALO ALTO

Meeting on Immigrant House, Stieper Park design

By Daniel DeBolt

Residents are being asked to weigh in on the design for an unusual new park with a demonstration garden and historic home at 771 North Rengstorff Ave.

On Thursday, March 5, a meeting is set to discuss the recently purchased 1.2-acre parcel, formerly home to the Stieper family. It already has an impressive garden, with beehives and fruit trees, which some community members want to preserve, a change

from the typical, more manicured city park. The City Council has also voted to move the historic Immigrant House to the property, which Marina Marinovich and others saved from destruction by a downtown office development in 2012.

Those who have been working to save the Immigrant House, which was built in the late 1800s for migrant workers, want to see it preserved as part of a historic, period-correct display. So far, they have raised over

\$62,000 to restore it.

As for the park, there has been significant interest in maintaining and adding to the current garden to create a demonstration garden for public education and use. A group has organized to advocate for this idea, including residents Kavita Dave-Coombe and Karen D'souza.

The meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on March 5 at the Senior Center, located at 266 Escuela Ave. ■

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

► Continued from page 4

bring Silicon Valley-type ideas and apply them to VTA transit operations.

Among the projects being worked on at the center, which brings together VTA teams, companies, startups and students, is an open-source trip planner for any combination of transit, walking, biking, park-and-ride, bike share and driving options, according to the transit agency.

—Bay City News Service

NEW CEO FOR INNVISION

A Hewlett-Packard senior vice president with extensive management experience will be InnVision Shelter Network's new CEO as of March 30, the nonprofit organization has announced.

Bruce Ives, deputy general counsel at HP, will replace former CEO Karae Lisle, who was appointed to run Menlo Park-based Peninsula Volunteers, Inc. on Feb. 1, according to a press release from that organization. Karae headed InnVision Shelter Network (IVSN) for four years.

Ives worked in leadership roles at HP for 19 years. He is no stranger to nonprofit groups. He founded and led the HP legal team's pro bono program, which helps tenants, veterans and women facing domestic violence, and persons who can't afford legal services. Under Ives, the program has grown to more than 600 volunteers worldwide, according to

the InnVision statement.

"We conducted an extensive search for a CEO with a successful track record in leading teams, strong strategic capability and fund-raising skills, and who is a passionate advocate for people in need. Bruce's lifetime commitment to community service and extensive business leadership experience make him the ideal person to manage this vital community organization," Rod Ferguson, IVSN board chairman, said.

Ives earned a bachelor of arts degree from Harvard University and a law degree from the University of California, Berkeley. He began a commitment in public service after college, where his first job was at an inner-city school district. He joined the Los Angeles Public Defender's office after law school. He later became the district director for Congresswoman Anna Eshoo.

A Menlo Park resident, Ives serves on the board of directors of Public Advocates, a public-interest law firm that works on housing and education equity issues.

Asked what attracted him to head InnVision, Ives said the organization has a highly respected team with a proven track record for getting results.

"For decades, they have successfully provided the resources needed to help families and individuals break the cycle of homelessness. I am honored to

be chosen to lead an organization where I can put my community values and business skills to best use," he said in a statement.

Former CEO Karae Lisle, who is now CEO at Peninsula Volunteers, has more than 20 years of experience of leadership in the private and nonprofit sectors. She oversaw the complicated merger between Santa Clara County-based InnVision and San Mateo County-based Shelter Network to make the organization the largest provider of homeless shelter and services on the Peninsula.

—Sue Dremann

FUNDRAISER TO PREVENT DRUNKEN DRIVING

Morocco's downtown Mountain View restaurant and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), a nonprofit organization, are partnering on a fundraiser promoting awareness and prevention of drunken driving. From now until March 4, Morocco's will be donating 10 percent of all catering and gift card orders to MADD if MADD is mentioned. And from Monday, March 2, to Wednesday, March 4, Morocco's will donate 20 percent of all dining and take out proceeds to MADD.

Sham Essadki, one of the owners of Morocco's Restaurant, said that the fundraiser is designed to bring awareness to MADD while also helping fund some of the organization's expenses. Morocco's is working with the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce and Mountain View Police Department to help spread the word about the fundraiser, Essadki said.

Morocco's Restaurant is located at 873 Castro St. in Mountain View.

—Rachel Lee

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OFFICE PLANS

► Continued from page 1

Apple's "spaceship" campus in Cupertino and another said the company is doing "everything they can to get cars out of it."

If the project is approved, it could mean that there will be almost as many Google jobs in the city as there are homes in the city (about 34,000). It was recently revealed that Google has nearly 20,000 employees in Mountain View already.

Google and others will have to propose significant public benefits to build such large campuses. In a meeting expected to occur in late April, council members are expecting to be dazzled with presentations of office buildings designed by the world's foremost architects, and lists of public benefits that will be hard to turn down, such as park space, transit infrastructure and bike paths.

Randy Tsuda, Mountain View's planning director, said he expects proposals from Google and LinkedIn, and a few other property owners and developers.

As of the *Voice's* Wednesday press deadline, it was unclear what LinkedIn will propose by week's end, but last year the company proposed an eight-story building at the entrance to North Bayshore at 1400 North Shoreline Blvd., replacing several small buildings in front of the Century movie theaters. LinkedIn also proposed doubling the size of its campus on Stierlin Court. The projects were big enough to house 4,000 to 6,000 addi-

tional employees in total.

As for the other two North Bayshore tech company heavyweights, Microsoft recently submitted a proposal for a relatively small expansion on La Avenida — around 150,000 square feet. It meets normal density standards and won't require special consideration by the City Council. Intuit isn't expected to propose another project after having gained approval for a major headquarters expansion last year.

Developers may have to compete for a share of the limited capacity for new office space in North Bayshore if the coun-

Council member Lenny Siegel expressed concern that the 3.4 million-square-foot cap was never written into the North Bayshore precise plan last year, except for what would be allowed without a new environmental impact report.

While the new City Council has expressed an interest in zoning for housing in North Bayshore in an attempt to keep up with the new job growth, Google reportedly has been silent on the topic while presenting its office project to city officials, despite expressing interest in seeing a neighborhood of 5,000 new homes around its headquarters

There will be almost as many Google jobs in the city as there are homes.

cil sticks to its wish to limit the area's office development to reduce impacts on traffic and local housing stock. The maximum amount of new space that's been discussed for years is 3.4 million square feet. That's enough to accommodate about 15,000 to 20,000 employees more, though a few small projects have already taken a good chunk out of that, reducing the amount left to 2.5 million square feet. Another limit on the capacity for new offices is a new "trip cap" designed to force employers to encourage alternatives to solo car commuting, or face prohibitions on new development if rush-hour car trips exceed specified limits.

in North Bayshore.

"My impression right now is that they are focused on the office component because that's the only thing they are allowed to do right now," Tsuda said.

Council members noted that Google did not propose new offices in the core of North Bayshore along North Shoreline Boulevard. The council has discussed the possibility of zoning that area for new housing.

Council members said Google also presented plans to shift car traffic away from congested Shoreline Boulevard and onto Rengstorff Avenue, possibly with a parking garage near Rengstorff and Highway 101. ▀

Email Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com



Community Meeting Notice Rengstorff Avenue Park Design

Date: Thursday, March 5, 2015 – 6:30 p.m.
Location: Mountain View Senior Center,
266 Escuela Avenue

A new park is coming to your neighborhood!

The City of Mountain View invites your input on design features for the new park to be constructed at 771 North Rengstorff Avenue. The Immigrant House will be incorporated into the park design along with ideas from the community.

Join us at the meeting to share your thoughts for this exciting project.



For more information, contact Rey Rodriguez, Senior Project Manager at (650) 903-6311 or email rey.rodriguez@mountainview.gov

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Amy Simpson
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LocalNews

MOUSTAFA

► Continued from page 5

with the burly Moustafa, who towered over the sheriff's deputy who guarded him.

Moustafa allegedly began verbally abusing and slapping the victim in 2011, the victim said. When the victim went to college, Moustafa maintained the relationship, saying he wanted to serve as the teen's mentor.

In August 2012, Moustafa convinced the victim and his sister to move with him to Mountain View. The victim was not doing well as a biology major in college, and Moustafa told him to drop out, the victim said. The move caused a rift between the siblings and their parents, particularly because Moustafa and the sister were not married, the victim said.

"I depended on every life decision he made for me. From high school and the whole mentor thing, when you listen to somebody for a long time, then you come to rely on what they say," the victim testified.

In Mountain View, the siblings and Moustafa shared a two-bedroom apartment. Brother and sister initially shared a room with separate beds; Moustafa took the other room, which he also used as an office for his "classified" work.

Alienated from their parents, Moustafa allegedly tightened his grip on the siblings, they said. He dictated what the sister would wear; the siblings couldn't have friends. He decided on what they could eat, drove them to and from work, made them turn their wages over to him and threatened to have them killed by his operatives if they tried to leave, they said. When a car with tinted windows passed, Moustafa would claim that one of his men was in the vehicle, watching.

"If he was not paid, consequences would follow. There would be physical disciplinary action," the victim said.

Moustafa allegedly choked

Jane Doe at least five times to the point of unconsciousness when he became angry, she said.

Their parents and uncle questioned Moustafa about his background.

"I will put a bullet in your uncle's head," Moustafa allegedly said.

The beatings and torture started in February 2013, according to court testimony.

The victim had changed his shorts while his sister slept, and Moustafa opened the bedroom door. Seeing the victim out of the bed, Moustafa accused the victim of raping his sister. Moustafa allegedly began to beat the victim daily. He shredded the victim's Social Security card, driver's license, and his school awards. He kept the victim's passport. He forced the victim to "confess" the rape to his parents, and he instructed the victim to write a confession. That letter became one of many the victim was forced to write stating that he had committed crimes such as stealing from Moustafa, although he had not, he said.

'When you are in fear of your life, you cannot object.'

JOHN DOE

Moustafa allegedly beat and tortured the victim all over his body, including his genitals, with an assortment of tools: screwdrivers, wrenches, pliers, matches, a hammer, jumper cables and bleach. He instructed the victim that crying out or screaming would result in more suffering, the victim said. Loud music and raising the television volume drowned out the screams, Jane Doe testified. "I was freaking out," she said.

Her brother could not fight

back, she said.

"He couldn't do anything. He was already so weak. He was working two jobs — he was constantly working," she said.

Jane Doe said her power to intervene was limited and was influenced by fear.

"He said he would kill me if I ever tried to leave. His people knew where my family and extended family lived, and they would be gone," she said.

In September 2013, Moustafa allegedly held the victim's face near the kitchen stove's red-hot coils. It wasn't the first time, the victim and his sister said. The victim made excuses to coworkers when asked about his injuries, he said.

"The entire week I thought about suicide," the victim said. "But toward the end, I took a leap of faith."

He decided to escape on Oct. 4. Moustafa had made statements the victim interpreted to mean he would probably be killed that night.

At his job at Safeway that day, the victim reached a breaking point. He banged his head repeatedly on a refrigerator door. When a coworker saw his scarred face and his severe limp, he asked the victim what was wrong. Pleading with the coworker to drive him south that night, the story began tumbling out, according to the police report.

Still terrified of being caught by Moustafa's operatives, the victim met with his parents on a San Luis Obispo street. The next day he went to a hospital and police were notified.

Moustafa had meanwhile directed Jane Doe to call the police and report her brother missing. Following Moustafa's direction, she told police her brother had been acting strangely and might have been on drugs.

On the witness stand on Friday, she admitted under questioning that she had lied to police during her first statements. She did not object to the alleged abuses, defense attorney Sam Polverino pointed out.

But the victim seemed to understand her position.

"When you are in fear of your life, you cannot object," he said.

Jane Doe said that she and her brother live back home with their parents. But they don't discuss their ordeal. "It's a very sensitive topic," she said.

Steve Dal Porto, Santa Clara County deputy district attorney, called Moustafa's actions "sadistic and depraved."

It's hard to fathom when victims don't leave circumstances of violence, he said. But "they become convinced they have no options." ▀

Email Sue Dremann at sdremann@paweekly.com.



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

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EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

A superintendent's resignation. Honestly?

It has become the rule rather than the exception: City manager or executive director or superintendent of schools “resigns” following closed-door meetings with his or her elected bosses. “Moving on,” or “Time to bring in fresh blood,” or “Need to spend more time with my family” — we’ve heard all of that and more far too often, even when what we should have heard was, “We fired him.”

So what’s the real story with the departure of Craig Goldman, who “resigned” his position as superintendent of the Mountain View Whisman School District in December, midway through the school year? The official story is that there was growing discord between the superintendent and board members, and that Goldman proposed leaving the district. It was announced as a resignation, not a firing.

It was also announced, however, that Goldman would walk away with 12 months of pay — the amount the district would be legally required to pay him, according to terms of his contract, only if he was fired without cause. The severance package amounted to about \$231,500, and the unanimously approved agreement award-

ing him that fat purse included a waiving of Goldman’s legal right to sue the district and a non-disparagement agreement.

School board president Chris Chiang told the *Voice* that, despite the facts that Goldman resigned his position and his contract didn’t provide for a 12-month payout if he resigned, the severance pay was not a gift of public funds. Forgive us our tortured smile.

We can’t say whether Goldman’s severance pay was a gift of public funds. That’s because, unfortunately, we can’t be sure that the “resignation” was not in fact a firing, with the board engaging in an all-too-common strategy of deception designed to put a happy spin on a development the public is entitled to be informed of. And predictably, members of the school community are raising questions about the truth of Goldman’s departure, and the justness of his severance package.

Questions have also been raised, appropriately, over the propriety of carrying out the entire proceedings leading to Goldman’s departure behind closed doors. An attorney for the California Newspaper Publishers Association told the *Voice* that the only way to legally discuss severance compensation is

in open session, unless there is anticipated or potential litigation that might arise from the discussions. But if that were the case, the district would have been obliged to cite litigation concerns on the closed-session agenda. That didn’t happen.

Although the process used by the district to part ways with its superintendent is becoming increasingly employed by public agencies, elected officials need to reconsider their strategy. Handing over nearly a quarter-million dollars to a departing staff member when the official story of his leaving doesn’t align with the terms of his severance package — namely, the awarding of a sum he would be entitled to if fired — undermines the public’s trust. It’s understandable if the school community considers the payout a gift of public funds if the official story is resignation, not termination.

How can the school board do a better job in handling such situations in the future so that staff, parents and students are informed of the facts they’re entitled to and the public trust is protected? How about announcing something like this: The adults in the room agreed that we could no longer work well together, and we fired our superintendent. ▀

A neighborhood in need of a school

By Robert H. Weaver

Every day we send our children off to school, where they engage in learning and socialization with their classmates. After school they return home, where that socialization continues in their neighborhood.

By extension, parents attending school functions meet, share mutual concerns and inter-

ests and carry those relationships back into their neighborhood. Those neighborhood relationships often develop into personal friendships, neighborhood associations, child care co-ops, etc. Strong neighborhoods make strong communities, and strong communities make great cities.

If you believe that Mountain View can be a great city, then you must also believe that its greatness begins with a walkable school in every neighborhood.

Realizing that the current school attendance boundaries are in dire need of realignment, the district established a citizens’ Boundary Area Task Force (BATF) to review the current district attendance boundaries, and to suggest changes. When I attended the first BATF meeting, most if not all of the members identified with a school in their area. While there may be some members who live in the greater Whisman/Slater neighborhood, they don’t identify with it; they identify with the distant school to which they are currently assigned.

We have no PTA representative, no school site representative and no teachers to advo-

cate for us, as we have no school. No school equates to no seat at the table and no voice in the decision-making process.

Our two neighborhood schools have been leased out, and the district has become dependent on that income stream, all the while neighborhood residents of the former Whisman School area pay 20 percent higher school bond taxes than the rest of Mountain

View. For too long, our neighborhood has been overtaxed and under-served, and we are ready for change.

There are three established neighborhood associations in the Whisman/Slater neighborhood, and it is not a coincidence that each defines its borders by its school attendance boundaries.

To some, the discussion of school boundary unification for our neighborhood brings with it a fear that whatever school we may get will somehow be inferior to their current assigned school. The district expanded that fear by implying that opening a new school in our neighborhood would mean some other neighborhood’s school may need to be closed. It is hard to successfully advocate for our children while encountering so much irrational fear.

We are frustrated, we are tired, but we are hopeful. If you believe that Mountain View can be a great city, then you must also believe that its greatness begins with a walkable school in every neighborhood.

Robert H. Weaver is a resident of the Whisman/Slater neighborhood

LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

A GROCERY STORE, PLEASE

The existing Lucky grocery store site in Mountain View desperately needs a new major grocery, serving three mobile home parks and the large Americana apartment complex plus other apartments.

This neighborhood needs walk-to access for groceries for the 500-plus seniors living here and in the Sylvan neighborhood. Many seniors are unable to drive and must walk to grocery shop. The next closest supermarket is a Safeway on Bernardo Avenue in Sunnyvale and too far to walk for many people.

Rumors say you are considering a TJ Maxx, whose sister store (Marshalls) is down El Camino and Grant Road within the close neighborhood. We don’t need a clothing, home goods store here.

If you are considering another apartment complex, think that those people will need a grocery store. We had an Albertsons, which changed to Lucky. How about a SaveMart or Walmart grocery (only food)? Our neighborhood should be surveyed and be able to give input before a huge mistake is made, affecting thousands of neighbors. Please consider the needs of this neighborhood.

*Kay Boynton
Moorpark Way*

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■ FOOD FEATURE

Making it **COUNT**

**Drought inspires
creative ways
to keep stands
stocked at local
farmers markets**



STORY BY SAM SCIOLLA

PHOTOS BY MICHELLE LE



Though California is several years into its latest drought, a stroll through a local farmers market doesn't show it much. Chard, broccoli, kale, potatoes and apples fill tables and crates at dozens of vendors' stalls, as shoppers aplenty peruse the offerings, looking for choice ingredients for the week's meals. An onion is weighed, a bag filled, currency exchanged and then vendor and shopper part ways.

► Continued on next page



Above: Nicole Healy, center, shops for peppers at the farmers market in Palo Alto. **Top:** Tomatoes on the vine at Houweling Nurseries' stand at the famers market.

► Continued from previous page

But a longer conversation with vendors — many of whom work on the farm or are owners — yields a more complete picture of the state of California agriculture: a story of crossed fingers and adjustments big and small to get the most out of available water and keep satisfying local customers.

As one might expect, the experience of each farm differs, depending on how big their operation is and how they get their water. Tomatero Organic Farm, a regular produce vendor at the California Avenue Farmers' Market in Palo Alto, has only had to shift its practices slightly, mostly because of access to good soil and well water on its 60 acres in Watsonville.

Adriana Silva, one of the farm's owners, said that water issues certainly aren't new to California, and that her farm always tries to be efficient and avoid over-watering. She fears the water situation may become more difficult in the near future, but thus far the farm has been able to manage well enough.

"Some wells are pumping sand, for sure," she said. "(But) some people have had it so much worse."



Jeanette Avila, left, and Uriel Bahena sell produce from Avila Farms at the Mountain View farmers market.

One farm which has felt it more is Oya Organics, a Hollister-based produce farm which started offering its crops at the Mountain View Farmers' Market at the beginning of last year. Oya founder Marsha Habib said that the farm has had to reduce its producing acreage and to

let half of its land go fallow. Habib said that the shrinking — which didn't focus on any specific crops, just cutting back a bit everywhere — came as a result of a low water allocation from San Benito County, upon which Oya Organics relies.

"It's political. ... (County offi-

cials) decide how much they are going to sell to the farmers," Habib said.

Silvia Prevedelli, owner of Prevedelli Farms, a producer of organic apples, pears, blackberries and raspberries, as well green beans, squash and other vegetables, said that her operation

has also felt the squeeze, though the farm gets its water from wells. The Watsonville business, which has been around since 1945, has booths at both the California Avenue and Mountain View markets.

Prevedelli said that they elected not to grow zucchinis this year to save water for the apple trees and berries, which have been in place longer. Because of the lack of rain, she also said that they've had to start watering the trees (especially the young ones) in recent weeks. In the past, watering began in May.

A fixture at the Mountain View market for 10 years, Avila Farms of Hollister has likewise had to make some tough decisions, cutting back on tomato production. However, Jeannette Avila explained that they're mostly focusing on being smarter about crop selection, ensuring that there will be buyers for whatever they produce.

"We're really just trying to focus on what people really like," Avila said.

She also noted that she and her fellow farmers are researching ways they might make the most of the water they do have. One change she's considering is creating a system to recycle the water the farmers use to wash the

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Blood oranges tempt customers at the Super Sweets stand at the Mountain View farmers market on Sunday, Feb. 22.

produce — something a neighbor of the farm turned them on to.

While the drought hasn't drastically reduced their crops this year, Avila said using less water has changed the crops themselves, specifically the chili peppers. Giving the peppers less water has made them smaller but also spicier and more concentrated. Avila said they might even be selling a little better, though it really comes to down to the individual shopper and his or her taste buds.

Emily Leshner from Fifth Crow Farm in Pescadero, a California Avenue vendor, described a similar result with the tomatoes grown on her farm through a practice called "dry farming," a common strategy in drier climates used with tomatoes, apples, potatoes, grapes and olives, among others.

At Fifth Crow, a dry-farmed tomato plant is watered only a little and then grows on its own, taking moisture from the soil. Though fewer in number, the tomatoes that emerge from the process are more dense with nutrients — and thus more flavorful and sweet, Leshner said.

Silva and Habib said they also rely on dry farming as a way to conserve water. As part of the dry farming process for its tomatoes, Oya Organics applies a layer

of dust mulch, which helps to prevent moisture in the ground from evaporating. Fifth Crow Farm also uses dry farming to grow its potatoes.


Vendors mentioned other practices or technologies their farms have adopted to address the water shortage, including watering during cooler times of day and drip irrigation, a system of pipes and tubes that dispenses water directly to each plant. Despite the added expense and work, Fifth Crow has been implementing more drip irrigation as a less wasteful alternative to spraying water over everything. But ultimately, farmers can only work with what they have available.

"It kind of just depends on what's in the creek," Leshner said.

Prevedelli said that she is uncertain whether they'll have to cut out anything else from the farm's lineup, as she doesn't know how much more rain is coming. But that precarious waiting game — however hidden from customers at local farmers markets — is part and parcel of the business of being a California farmer.

"We depend all on Mother Nature," Prevedelli said. ■


Email Sam Sciolla at ssciolla@paweeekly.com.



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MOVIE TIMES

North by Northwest (1959) (Not Rated) Stanford Theatre: 7:30 p.m., Sat & Sun 3:25 p.m.
The 39 Steps (1935) (Not Rated) Stanford Theatre: 5:55 & 10:05 p.m.
A la Mala (Not Rated) Century 16: 11:20 a.m., 2, 4:35, 7:10 & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: 12:05, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50 & 10:20 p.m.
American Sniper (R) ★★ Century 16: 12:20 & 3:45 p.m., Fri & Sun 7 & 10:10 p.m. Century 20: 1:05, 4:30, 7:30 & 10:35 p.m.
Birdman (R) ★★★ Aquarius Theatre: 4:20 & 7:05 p.m. Century 20: 11:05 a.m., 1:55, 4:45, 7:35 & 10:25 p.m.
Black or White (PG-13) ★★1/2 Century 20: 11:40 a.m.
Charade (1963) (Not Rated) Century 16: Sun 2 p.m. Century 20: Sun 2 p.m.
The DUFF (PG-13) ★★1/2 Century 16: 10:50 a.m., 1:25, 4:15, 7:15 & 10 p.m. Century 20: 11:55 a.m., 2:30, 5:15, 7:55 & 10:30 p.m.
Fifty Shades of Grey (R) ★★ Century 16: 10:30 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 7:30 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 10:50 a.m., 12:15, 3:15, 4:45, 6:15, 7:45, 9:15 & 10:45. Sat & Sun 1:50 p.m.
Focus (R) Century 16: 10:35 a.m., 1:15, 2:35, 3:55, 5:15, 6:35, 7:55, 9:15 & 10:35 p.m. Century 20: 10:55 a.m., 1:45, 4:25, 7:05 & 9:45 p.m. In X-D at 12:10, 2:45, 5:25, 8:05 & 10:45 p.m.
Hot Tub Time Machine 2 (R) Century 16: 10:15 p.m., Fri & Sat 1:35 p.m. Century 20: 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10 & 10:40 p.m.
The Imitation Game (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: 10:35 a.m., Fri & Sat 4:20 & 7:20 p.m., Sun 4:45 & 7:30 p.m. Century 20: 11:10 a.m., 2, 4:55, 7:40 & 10:20 p.m.
Jupiter Ascending (PG-13) ★★ Century 16: 11:30 a.m. Century 20: 9:55 a.m.
Kingsman: The Secret Service (R) ★★1/2 Century 16: 10:45 a.m., 1:45, 4:45, 7:45 & 10:45 p.m. Century 20: 11:45 a.m., 1:15, 2:50, 4:20, 5:50, 7:25, 8:55 & 10:30 p.m.
The Lazarus Effect (PG-13) Century 16: 11 a.m., 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: 11:20 a.m., 1:30, 2:35, 3:40, 4:50, 5:55, 7:15, 8:15, 9:30 & 10:40 p.m.
McFarland, USA (PG) ★★ Century 16: 10:40 a.m., 1:40, 4:40, 7:40 & 10:40 p.m. Century 20: 12:30, 3:45, 7 & 10 p.m.
Paddington (PG) Century 20: 11:05 a.m., 1:30, 3:55, 6:50 & 9:25 p.m.
Selma (PG-13) ★★★ Century 20: 12:55, 4:10, 7:10 & 10:10 p.m.
Song of the Sea (PG) Palo Alto Square: 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15 p.m., Fri & Sat 9:35 p.m.
The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water (G) ★★ Century 16: 11:15 a.m., 1:50, 4:25, 7:05 & 9:35 p.m. Century 20: 11 a.m. & 1:40 p.m., Fri & Sun 4:05, 6:40 & 9:10 p.m. In 3-D at noon, 2:25, 5 & 7:35 p.m.
Still Alice (PG-13) ★★1/2 Aquarius Theatre: 2:15, 4:40, 7:30 & 9:55 p.m. Century 20: 11:15, 1:55, 4:35, 7:20 & 9:50 p.m.
Timbuktu (PG-13) Palo Alto Square: 2, 4:30 & 7 p.m., Fri & Sat 9:30 p.m.
UFC 184: Rousey vs. Zingano LIVE (Not Rated) Century 16: Sat 7 p.m. Century 20: Sat 7 p.m.
What We Do in the Shadows (Not Rated) ★★★1/2 Guild Theatre: 2:30, 4:40, 7:15 & 9:40 p.m.
Whiplash (R) ★★★1/2 Aquarius Theatre: 1:45 & 9:40 p.m.

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

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

MOVIE OPENINGS



UNISON FILMS

Vampire-themed mockumentary “What We Do in the Shadows” blends horror and comedy.

Bloody hilarious

‘WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS’
MAY BE THE FUNNIEST MOVIE YOU’LL SEE ALL YEAR

★★★ 1/2 (Guild)
Cross “Bram Stoker’s Dracula” with the Britcom “The Office,” and you get “What We Do in the Shadows,” a brilliantly funny new vampire-themed mockumentary out of New Zealand. Written and directed by old pals Taika Waititi (“Eagle vs Shark,” “Boy”) and Jemaine Clement (“Flight of the Conchords”), “Shadows” taps a fresh vein of humor, transfusing the horrific with the mundane.
Vampires Viago (Waititi), Vladislav (Clement), Deacon (Jonathan Brugh) and Petyr (Ben Fransham) share a flat in the suburbs. Like any roomies, they have their fights, especially over the chore wheel. Next to Petyr, an 8,000-year-old shut-in who hilariously resembles the iconic Count Orlok of “Nosferatu,” the others are spring chickens. 317-year-old Viago, 862-year-old Vladislav and 183-year-old Deacon like to go clubbing, though their idea of a one-night stand involves draining lifeblood and disposing of a corpse.
Deacon has a human servant, Jackie (Jackie van Beek), a hanger-on who desperately awaits being “turned,” and the guys consider taking on a new flatmate in the disturbingly blasé Nick (Cori Gonzales-Macuer), but mostly the show belongs to Waititi, Clement and

Brugh, each of whom develops a hilarious personality: Waititi’s wide-eyed Viago evinces a naiveté that’s at times fretful but ultimately optimistic, while Clement adopts a broody deadpan and Brugh an unbothered self-absorption.
Expanding on the concept of their 2006 short film, Waititi and Clement have a grand old time playing with all of the trappings of the Gothic genre, as well as the documentary form, allowing the vamps talking-head interviews and giving us access to centuries of their scrapbook snaps. Ingenious special effects keep the audience off guard when they crop up to remind us that these out-of-touch social misfits also have supernatural power in the extreme. For good measure, we

also get a pack of werewolves kept politely in line by their alpha Anton — (“We’re werewolves, not swear-wolves”) — played by Clement’s erstwhile “Flight of the Conchords” co-star Rhys Darby.
“Shadows” has all the makings of the next cult comedy. Like “Shaun of the Dead,” this won’t be to all tastes: the picture dabbles in light gore (mostly spurts of blood), and it’s irreverent in its casual disregard for human life. But as much as “Shadows” takes its power from visceral horror, it also benefits from Romantic depth of feeling: another comic contrast that keeps the film’s blood pumping.
Not MPAA rated. One hour, 26 minutes.
— Peter Canavese



UNISON FILMS

Jemaine Clement plays Vladislav, a moody 862-year-old vampire, in “What We Do in the Shadows.”

GoingsOn

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ HIGHLIGHT

New Generation of Young Flamencos

The Flamenco Society will present the New Generation of Young Flamencos, a group of rising flamenco musicians and dancers from Spain. They will be joined by Bay Area flamenco artists Roberto and Ernesto Granados. March 1, 8 p.m. \$32-\$53. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6000. www.mountainview.gov/mvcpa/mar15.html

ART GALLERIES

‘H2O — Water’ A Gallery 9 exhibit called “H2O — Water” of black and white photography by Bay Area artist Roy V. Harrington will include images capturing forms of water including clouds, lakes and streams, and ice. A reception will be held on March 6 from 5 to 8 p.m. March 2-29, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Free. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos. www.gallery9losaltos.com

BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

AAUW Palo Alto Author Luncheon The American Association of University Women Palo Alto will hold an author luncheon featuring Andrew Sean Greer, Heather Haven, Shelly King and Stuart Rojstaczer. The authors will share their work in a panel discussion moderated by author Tad Williams. The event will benefit scholarships to assist Palo Alto seventh-graders in attending Tech Trek, a science and math camp for girls. Feb. 28, noon-2 p.m. \$40. Michael’s at Shoreline, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. aauw-paloalto.org

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Fundamentals of Water-Wise Gardening This BAWSCA class will discuss basic water-saving gardening techniques including plant selection and placement, proper irrigation, soil preparation and design. It will also cover the benefits of drought-tolerant plants as an alternative to a lawn. Registration is required. March 4, 6-8:30 p.m. Free. BAWSCA Landscape Classes, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. www.bawscaclass.org/classes

Household Alchemy: Beauty Edition This workshop at the Mountain View Public Library will guide participants in making their own household products, including homemade body wash, deodorant, crayon lipstick and herbal hairspray. Participants must bring two clean 8-ounce jars, a clean 8-ounce spray bottle and a small pot or empty lip balm tube. Space is limited, and registration is required. March 3, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. goo.gl/00go7m

Needle felting workshop In this simple workshop at the Mountain View Public Library, participants will create a sheep and a four leaf clover using needle felting. Space is limited, and registration is required. March 2, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. goo.gl/ZuXiMQ

Reiki 1 class This course will teach the art of Reiki, which aims to reduce stress and enhance health and happiness through a gentle touch. March 7, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. \$200. Los Altos Reiki Center, 745 Distel Drive, #121, Los Altos. Call 650-862-2425. www.losaltosreiki.com

CLUBS/MEETINGS

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Adobefest Community Weekend In celebration of Adobe Photoshop turning 25, the Computer History Museum will hold a festival with live demonstrations of the program in action and a hands-on exploration of vintage photography. Attendees can also learn how to use the program through an interactive exhibit or a one-hour workshop. Feb. 28-March 1, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Regular admission. Computer History Museum, 1401 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. www.computerhistory.org/events/upcoming/#adobefest-community-weekend

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, 7-8 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. www.mountainview.gov/library

Summer Camp Fair This fair will provide information for families on the summer programs offered by Mountain View’s Recreation Division. Camp and aquatic staff will be on hand to answer questions. March 7, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Mountain View Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6331. www.mountainview.gov/register

CONCERTS

‘Chamber Music a la Mode’ The San Francisco Bay chapter of the National Association of Composers will present a concert of new music, with chamber works by Anne Baldwin, Greg Bartholomew, John Bilotta, Sondra Clark, Nancy Bloomer Deussen, Ben Hippen and Karl Schmidt. March 7, 8-9:30 p.m. \$17 general; \$12 student, senior. Foothills Congregational Church, 461 Orange Ave., Los Altos. Call 408-768-1941. www.nacusasf.org

‘Let Freedom Ring’ Conducted by Masetro Anthony Quartuccio, Nova Vista Symphony will present a program including Morton Gould’s “American Salute”; Howard Hanson’s Symphony No. 2, “Romantic”; Aaron Copland’s “Lincoln Portrait,” narrated by Hoyt Smith of KDFC; and Duke Ellington’s “Black, Brown, and Beige.” Feb. 28, 8-10 p.m. \$25 general; \$15 senior (age 65 plus), student; free for children under age 12. Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 408-624-1492. www.novavista.org

‘Musique de Joie’ At this family concert, pianists Klara Frei and Temirzhan Yezanov will perform George Bizet’s “Jeux d’enfants” (Children’s Games), as well as lively music by Shostakovich and Lutoslawski. March 8, 2-3 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/attend/concerts.htm

The Haydn Project In this concert, San Francisco Chamber Orchestra members Robin Sharp, Antoine van Dongen, Ben Simon and Hannah Addario-Berry — the Haydn Project — will explore the inventive music of Franz Josef Haydn. Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/attend/concerts.htm

DANCE

Sahanartana and ‘Dancing Together’ This performance presented by Guru Shradha will combine the Odissi Indian classical dance style with five other Indian dance styles — Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Kuchipudi, Manipuri and Mohiniatta. Feb. 28, 4-6:30 p.m. \$30 patron; \$20 general; \$15 student, senior. Cubberley Theatre, 4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-394-6022. www.facebook.com/events/757763130973021/

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 that capture Cuba, its people and their struggles in the post-revolution era. 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

‘Watercolors’ by Maria Klawe The Community School for Music and the Arts will host an exhibit of watercolor paintings by Maria Klawe — a mathematician, computer scientist and president of Harvey Mudd College. Feb. 6-March 29, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Community School

of Music and Arts, Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/attend/mohrgallery.htm

FAMILY AND KIDS

African Folk Tale and Poetry Slam Elementary school teacher Ellen Clark will lead an event with African folk tales and poetry to raise awareness for the 16th annual Run for Zimbabwe Orphans and Fair on March 22. March 7, 1-2 p.m. Free. Linden Tree Books, 265 State St., Los Altos. Call 650-949-3390. www.lindentreebooks.com

FILM

Girls Innovate! movie night: ‘Big Dream’ Girls Innovate! invites girls from the community to attend a screening of “Big Dream,” a 90-minute documentary about seven young women’s journeys in following their passion for science, math, computing and engineering. A girl-led discussion will follow. Pizza will be on hand. March 7, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 617-755-3848. www.girlsinnovate.org/event/bigdream/

ON STAGE

‘Les Miserables’ For its latest production, Peninsula Youth Theatre will take on the musical adaptation of Victor Hugo’s classic “Les Miserables,” a tale of love, valor and compassion set in 19th-century Paris. See website for specific dates and times. March 7-15. \$22 adult; \$18 senior, child (age 12 and under); \$10 school-time performance. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. www.mountainview.gov/mvcpa/mar15.html

‘The Lake Effect’ TheatreWorks will put on a production of “The Lake Effect,” a new drama written by Rajiv Joseph and directed by Giovanna Sardelli in which the grown-up children of an Indian restaurant owner consider the legacy of the now-closed family business. See website for specific times and dates. March 4-29. \$19-\$74. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-463-1960. www.theatreworks.org

RELIGION/SPIRITUALITY

Insight Meditation South Bay Shaila Catherine and guest teachers will lead

weekly Insight Meditation sittings, which are accompanied 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

SENIORS

Alzheimer’s screenings Each month the Mountain View Senior Center will host free 45-minute behavioral screenings of community members for Alzheimer’s disease. Those interested should contact the center’s front desk. Fourth Monday of the month, Feb. 25-Oct. 28, 12:30-3:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. www.mountainview.gov/seniors

Library e-books introduction The Mountain View Public Library will visit the city’s senior center to show community members how to download free e-books. The event will share the different collections offered and allow attendees to try out a Nexus 7 tablet. March 3, 1-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. www.mountainview.gov/seniors

linkAges Advocates technology help linkAges Advocates will visit the Mountain View Senior Center to assist community members in enrolling in the linkAges TimeBanking system. They will provide technology help and work with attendees to develop personalized linkAges plans. Mondays, March 2-16, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. www.mountainview.gov/seniors

Oral Health 101 At this talk, Foothill College instructor Patti Chan and her students will give tips for seniors on keeping up their dental hygiene. Topics covered will include common periodontal diseases and some available products. Space is limited, and registration is required. Feb. 27, 10-11 a.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. www.mountainview.gov/seniors

LECTURES & TALKS

‘Frida and Diego: Mexican Originals’ SFMOMA docent David Grady will give a talk

about the artistic contributions of this talented couple. March 2, 7-8 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. www.scdl.org

‘Raúl Cañibano: Storyteller’ gallery talk Foothill College photography instructor Ron Herman will discuss the photographs in the exhibit “Raúl Cañibano: Storyteller,” which Herman curated. The solo exhibit is the first in the western U.S. by the acclaimed Cuban photographer. March 4, noon-1 p.m. Free; \$3 parking. Foothill College, KCI Gallery, Bldg. 4000, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7082. raulcanibano.wordpress.com

‘The Lure of the Swiss Alps’ RenÉ Welti, a professional guide and Mountain View High School alum (’66), will give a talk about the attractions and vistas of Switzerland. Feb. 28, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-7020. goo.gl/cPeFBP

Astronaut Ed Lu on ‘Sentinel Mission’ As part of the 15th annual Silicon Valley Astronomy Lecture Series, former NASA astronaut Ed Lu will give a free, nontechnical talk entitled “Sentinel Mission: Finding the Asteroid Headed for Earth.” The lecture will discuss the Sentinel Mission, a proposed space telescope for tracking asteroids. March 4, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Foothill College, Smithwick Theatre, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. www.foothill.edu/ast

Author Garth Stein on ‘A Sudden Light’ An author, playwright and co-founder of Seattle7Writers, Garth Stein will visit Books Inc. to discuss his new novel “A Sudden Light,” which portrays multiple generations of life in the Pacific Northwest. March 5, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-428-1234. www.booksinc.net/event/garth-stein-books-inc-mountain-view

Author Julia Reynolds on ‘Blood in the Fields’ Journalist Julia Reynolds will discuss her book “Blood in the Fields: Ten Years Inside California’s Nuestra Familia Gang,” a detailed examination of one of the U.S.’s most violent gangs. March 4, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-428-1234. www.booksinc.net/event/julia-reynolds-books-inc-mountain-view



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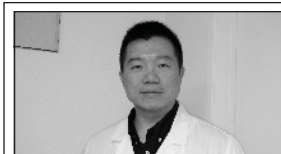
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This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara
County on January 28, 2015.

(MVV Feb. 20, 27, Mar. 6, 13, 2015)

MCLOUGHLIN CONSTRUCTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 601009

The following person (persons) is (are)
doing business as:
McLoughlin Construction, located at
1131 Judson Drive, 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):

DAVID MCLOUGHLIN

1131 Judson Drive

Mountain View, CA 94040

Registrant/Owner began transacting
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on N/A.

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara
County on February 4, 2015.

(MVV Feb. 27, Mar. 6, 13, 20, 2015)

AQUA BLUE SWIMMING POOLS

CONSTRUCTION

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 601541

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

Aqua Blue Swimming Pools

Construction, located at 905 N. 8th.
Street, San Jose, CA 95112, Santa Clara
County.

This business is owned by: A
Corporation.

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

AQUA BLUE SWIMMING POOLS

CONSTRUCTION INC.

905 North 8th. St.

San Jose, CA 95112

Registrant/Owner began transacting
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on 5/2007.

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara
County on February 18, 2015.

(MVV Feb. 27, Mar. 6, 13, 20, 2015)

EASY FOODS COMPANY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 601237

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

Easy Foods Company, located at 299
Castro St., Mountain View, CA 94041,
Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: Married
Couple.

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

SIU NIN WONG

160 Holly Ct.

Mountain View, CA 94043

WEI LAN WONG

160 Holly Ct.

Mountain View, CA 94043

Registrant/Owner began transacting
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on 04/24/2000.

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara
County on February 10, 2015.

(MVV Feb. 27, Mar. 6, 13, 20, 2015)

MISH MOSH MEDLEY

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 601538

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

Mish Mosh Medley, located at 1208
Phillips Ct., Santa Clara, CA 95051, Santa
Clara County.

This business is owned by: A Limited
Liability Company.

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

KHINE-HEARTED, LLC

1208 Phillips Ct.

Santa Clara, CA 95051

Registrant/Owner began transacting
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on N/A.

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara
County on February 18, 2015.

(MVV Feb. 27, Mar. 6, 13, 20, 2015)

AUTHENTIC MOVEMENT COACHING

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 601585

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

Authentic Movement Coaching, located
at 2044 Old Middlefield Way, Mountain
View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: An
Individual.

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

ROSE CALUCCIA

752 Nobel Drive, Unit A

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Registrant/Owner began transacting
business under the fictitious business
name(s) listed above on 12/1/14.

This statement was filed with the
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara
County on February 19, 2015.

(MVV Feb. 27, Mar. 6, 13, 20, 2015)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER
ESTATE OF:

JUNE J. WELSH

Case No.: 115PR175712

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors,
contingent creditors, and persons who may
otherwise be interested in the will or
estate, or both, of JUNE J. WELSH.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by:
KIM HAJAISTRON in the Superior Court
of California, County of SANTA CLARA.

The Petition for Probate requests that:
KIM HAJAISTRON be appointed as per-
sonal representative to administer the
estate of the decedent.

The petition requests authority to
administer the estate under the
Independent Administration of
Estates Act. (This authority will allow
the personal representative to take
many actions without obtaining court
approval. Before taking certain very
important actions, however, the per-
sonal representative will be required to
give notice to interested persons unless
they have waived notice or consented
to the proposed action.) The indepen-
dent administration authority will be
granted unless an interested person files
an objection to the petition and shows
good cause why the court should not
grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held
in this court as follows: March 16, 2015
at 9:30 a.m. in Dept.: 10 of the Superior
Court of California, County of Santa
Clara, located at 191 N. First St., San
Jose, CA, 95113.

If you object to the granting of the peti-
tion, you should appear at the hearing
and state your objections or file written
objections with the court before the
hearing. Your appearance may be in
person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent
creditor of the decedent, you must file
your claim with the court and mail a
copy to the personal representative
appointed by the court within the later
of either (1) four months from the date
of first issuance of letters to a general
personal representative, as defined in
section 58 (b) of the California Probate
Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of
mailing or personal delivery to you of
a notice under section 9052 of the
California Probate Code. Other California
statutes and legal authority may affect
your rights as a creditor. You may want
to consult with an attorney knowledge-
able in California law.

You may examine the file kept by the
court. If you are a person interested in
the estate, you may file with the court
a Request for Special Notice (form
DE-154) of the filing of an inventory
and appraisal of estate assets or of
any petition or account as provided in
Probate Code section 1250. A Request
for Special Notice form is available from
the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:

Sean R. Kenney

Myers Urbatsch P.C.

625 Market Street, 4th Floor

San Francisco, CA 94105

(415)896-1500

(MVV Feb. 27, Mar. 6, 13, 2015)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER

ESTATE OF: ROBERT LEE FOSS aka

ROBERT L. FOSS

Case No.: 1-15-PR 176052

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, con-
tingent creditors, and persons who may
otherwise be interested in the will or
estate, or both, of ROBERT LEE FOSS aka
ROBERT L. FOSS.

A Petition for Probate has been filed by:
BERTHA BERNICE FOSS in the Superior
Court of California, County of SANTA
CLARA.

The Petition for Probate requests that:
BERTHA BERNICE FOSS be appointed as
personal representative to administer
the estate of the decedent.

The petition requests the decedent's
will and codicils, if any, be admitted to
probate. The will and any codicils are
available for examination in the file kept
by the court. Ancillary Administration
A HEARING on the petition will be held
in this court as follows: April 20, 2015
at 9:30 a.m. in Dept.: 10 of the Superior
Court of California, County of Santa
Clara, located at 191 N. First St., San
Jose, CA, 95113.

If you object to the granting of the peti-
tion, you should appear at the hearing
and state your objections or file written
objections with the court before the
hearing. Your appearance may be in
person or by your attorney.

If you are a creditor or a contingent
creditor of the decedent, you must file

your claim with the court and mail a
copy to the personal representative
appointed by the court within the later
of either (1) four months from the date
of first issuance of letters to a general
personal representative, as defined in
section 58 (b) of the California Probate
Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of
mailing or personal delivery to you
of a notice under section 9052 of the
California Probate Code. Other California
statutes and legal authority may affect
your rights as a creditor.

You may want to consult with an attor-
ney knowledgeable in California law.
You may examine the file kept by the
court. If you are a person interested in
the estate, you may file with the court
a Request for Special Notice (form
DE-154) of the filing of an inventory
and appraisal of estate assets or of
any petition or account as provided in
Probate Code section 1250. A Request
for Special Notice form is available from
the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner:

Neil A. Holding

P.O. Box 1190

Hanford, CA 93232

(559)584-6601

(MVV Feb. 27, Mar. 6, 13, 2015)



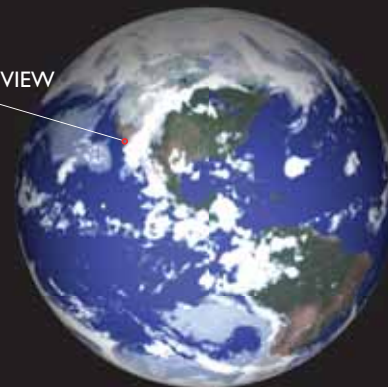
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■ REAL ESTATE MATTERS

Mountain View real estate: the year in review

By Hadar Guibara

Two of the clearest trends in the Mountain View homes market during 2014 were the speed at which homes sold and the consistent increase in initial asking prices. We'll look at these two statistics and some others to learn how the market fared during the last calendar year.



Average days on the market

Looking back at homes that sold each month in Mountain View, we see them spending an amazingly short time on the market. Excluding an average days on the market (DOM) of 65 in January, in no month throughout the year did sold homes last more than three weeks. January's number was an oddity, more than doubling the next-longest average DOM across the last two years — 31 in December 2013.

For the 11 months of 2014 minus January, homes lasted an average of 15.2 days on the market, quite a short stay, even by Silicon Valley standards. March's 10 days was the briefest DOM for the year.

List prices end on a high note

Throughout the year, 232 properties were sold with monthly median list prices ranging from \$1,343,500 in January to \$1,516,500 in December. While not an exact indicator, median for-sale price over a span of time points to the pricing trend in the market overall.

The list price of homes in December was the highest of any month throughout the year. The lowest was \$1,195,000 in April. Interestingly, April was also the month with the most properties sold, at 29.

Sold prices hold steady

The prices buyers paid for homes in 2014 stayed fairly consistent. Median sold prices ranged from a low of \$1,170,000 in January to a high in March of \$1,625,000. The year ended with \$1,414,500 in December. Here are the median sold prices for each quarter of 2014:

Q4 \$1,514,296
Q3 \$1,502,850
Q2 \$1,351,833
Q1 \$1,466,000

More Mountain View stats

- The total number of properties sold (232) was 48 fewer than the 280 sold in 2013.
- In December, 18 homes were listed on the Multiple Listing Service
- The month-to-month average number of homes for sale in 2014 was 39.8.
- The month with the fewest homes sold was January (10) followed by December (11).
- The widest gap between list price and sold price came in March: median list \$1,280; median sold \$1,625,000.

As 2015 gets rolling, we can expect Mountain View homes to continue to be bought at a rapid pace and initial asking prices to continue their gradual upward trend. Also, don't be surprised to see a shrinking number of available homes across all price ranges.

Hadar Guibara is a Realtor with Sereno Group of Palo Alto. She can be reached at hadar@serenogroup.com.



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112 Flynn Avenue #A Mountain View

2 bed | 1 ba | 858 sq ft
Custom designed single level townhome end unit with open living room, separate dining area & large private patio

Offered at \$599,000

OPEN SAT & SUN
1:30 - 4:30PM



1983 San Luis Avenue #34 Mountain View

2 bed | 2.5 ba | 1,171 sq ft
Beautifully renovated townhome end unit with dual master suites, patio, fireplace, inside laundry & attached 1 car garage

Offered at \$749,000

COMING SOON



Horizon Avenue Mountain View

2 bed | 1.5 ba | 1,274 sq ft
Desirable townhome with lofty ceilings, fireplace & patios
Conveniently located near Downtown Mountain View

List Price TBD

COMING SOON



Blackwood Terrace Sunnyvale

3 bed | 3 ba | 1,898 sq ft
Bright and spacious townhome with high ceilings, separate family room, large master suite, patio & attached 2 car garage

List Price TBD

PENDING SALE
Received multiple offers!



1942 Silverwood Avenue Mountain View

2 bed | 1.5 ba | 968 sq ft
Chalet style townhome with no shared walls, bedrooms with vaulted ceiling, inside laundry & large private patio

List Price \$599,000

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Jan Strohecker CalBRE #00620365 650.325.6161



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Jan Strohecker CalBRE #00620365 650.325.6161



LOS ALTOS **Sat/Sun 11 - 6** **\$3,198,000**
779 Sunshine Dr 4 BR 5.5 BA Fantastic expansion & remodel in 2009. Guest/pool house. Open 19,500 sf private level lot
Deniece Watkins Smith CalBRE #01295757 650.941.7040



LOS ALTOS **Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30** **\$2,228,800**
1716 Morton Ave 3 BR 2 BA A traditional ranch styl hm is adjoined by a sep parcel of creekside property.
Kathryn Tomaino CalBRE #00948257 650.941.7040



PALO ALTO **\$2,200,000**
672 Melville 2 BR 1.5 BA w/eat in kit, freshly painted interior; hardwood floors thru-out living area
Alan & Nicki Loveless CalBRE #00444835 & 00924021 650.325.6161



MENLO PARK **PENDING!** **\$1,988,000**
1315 Trinity Exquisite 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome in prime Sharon Heights location in Menlo Park.
Fereshteh Khodadad CalBRE #00851932 650.325.6161



LOS ALTOS **Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30** **\$1,189,000**
5100 El Camino Real #103 3 BR 2 BA Stylish contemporary condo in Los Altos with excellent schools and Location – A Must See!
Monica Aggarwal CalBRE #01881083 650.941.7040



MOUNTAIN VIEW **Sat/Sun 1 - 4** **\$1,599,000**
733 Enrhorn Ave 3 BR 2 BA Enjoy the good life w/this move-in ready home. Lrg LR & DR spaces w/fireplace; updated kit
Terri Couture CalBRE #01090940 650.941.7040



MOUNTAIN VIEW **Remodeled Modern Eichler** **\$1,250,000**
2461 Thaddeus Dr 3 BR 2 BA Sleek, modern upgraded Eichler w/ remod kitchen/baths, very nice yard, convenient local
Nancy Adele Stuhr CalBRE #00963170 650.941.7040



SUNNYVALE **Sat/Sun 12 - 4** **\$1,249,000**
909 Mango Ave 3 BR 2 BA Desirable expanded & remodeled home in Cherry Chase neighborhood. Vaulted ceil, hdwd flrs
Diyar Essaid CalBRE #01335648 650.941.7040



EAST PALO ALTO **Open Sat&Sun** **\$985,000**
2881 Drew Ct 3 BR 1 BA This unique lot meets the City's requirements for a detached 2nd dwelling unit.
Jane Jones CalBRE #01847801 650.325.6161



SUNNYVALE **Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30** **\$828,000**
875 Brookline Dr #C 3 BR 2 BA Stunning Single Story End Unit. Living/dining area w/vaulted ceilings. Updated Kit & bath.
Karen Scheel/Cindy Mattison CalBRE #00819887, 01052018 650.941.7040



SAN JOSE **Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30** **\$728,000**
4774 Raspberry Pl 2 BR 1.5 BA Cupertino Schools, desirable & spacious TH, gorgeous brand new kitchen appliances & baths.
Michelle Chang CalBRE #01412547 650.325.6161



SAN JOSE **Sat/Sun 1:30 - 4:30** **\$450,000**
422 Avenida Arboles 4 BR 2.5 BA Freshly painted & new carpet. 2 car carport right behind the unit.
Wendy Wu CalBRE #00922266 650.941.7040

Los Altos | Palo Alto

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