

Mountain View VOICE

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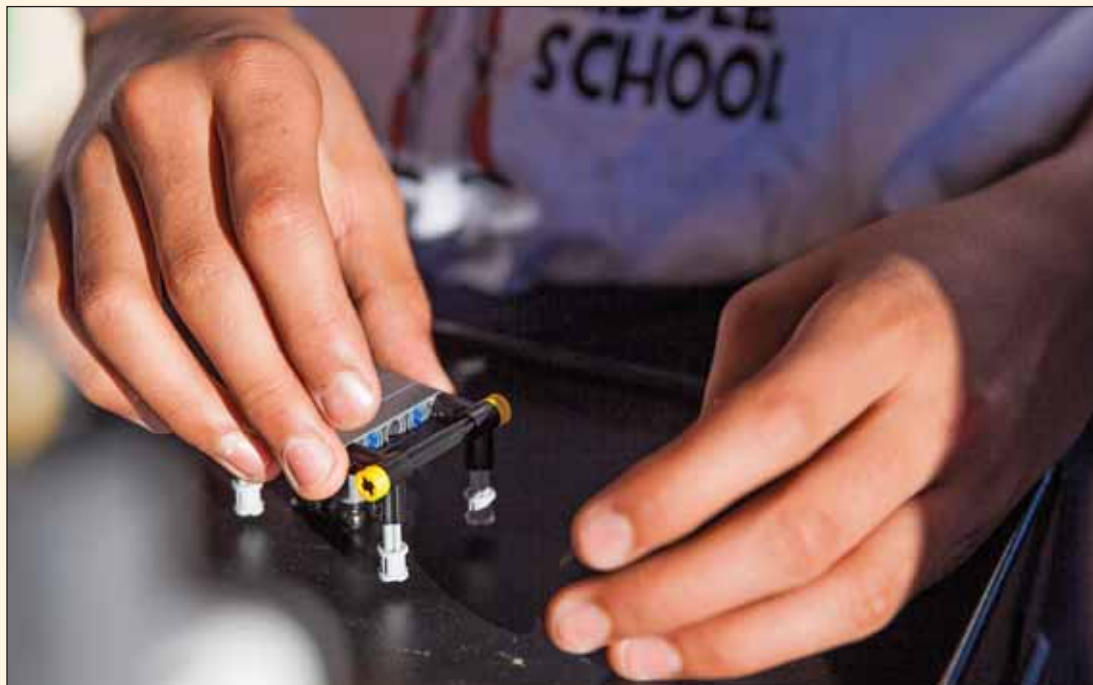
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**Fine dining,
with a few
quirks**

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MICHELLE LE

Anirudh, a student programmer on the Graham Middle School robotics team, shows a model of furniture that could be made from plastic beads collected from a trash-clearing robot.

Robotics season kicks into high gear

MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS SPEND MONTHS PERFECTING AUTOMATED ROBOTS

By Kevin Forestieri

Automated vehicles are all the rage in Silicon Valley, as Google and other prominent tech companies work on developing self-driving cars. And students at both of Mountain View's

middle schools have followed suit, albeit on a smaller scale.

For the last five months, Crittenden and Graham Middle School students have spent countless hours engineering, tinkering and troubleshooting to create a robot that can push, pull, demolish and carry

objects, all without the use of a remote control.

Both schools have a team participating in this year's First Lego League Challenge, where students are tasked with building a robot made up only of

► See **ROBOTICS**, page 7

Controversial board member will not seek re-election

STEVE NELSON SAYS HE WON'T RUN FOR SECOND TERM ON MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL BOARD

By Kevin Forestieri

Steve Nelson, a controversial member of the Mountain View Whisman School District board, told the *Voice* in an email Tuesday that he would not

be seeking re-election in November. He cited "poor" communication as a reason for stepping down at the end of his first term.

Nelson has often been an adversarial figure in the district. Elected in 2012, he has frequently

challenged fellow trustees and district staff in arguments during board meetings, and is often the lone "no" vote. Nelson said his actions on the board have steered

► See **BOARD MEMBER**, page 9

New take on creekside encampments

WATER DISTRICT TO EXPLORE HOUSING HOMELESS, RATHER THAN ROUSTING THEM

By Kevin Forestieri

Santa Clara Valley Water District board members agreed last week to sign onto a county-wide effort to reduce homelessness in Santa Clara County, which could include housing homeless people on district-owned land.

The regional water district may seem like an unlikely ally in the effort to shore up housing for the roughly 6,500 homeless people in the county. But encampments and trash pile-ups along several creeks and waterways have posed a chronic health and safety problem that drains the water district's resources, officials say.

Over the last four years, the water district has cranked up efforts to dismantle homeless camps along waterways through its cleanup program. In the 2015 fiscal year, water district staff collected 1,209 tons of trash from encampments, more than the last two years combined. Costs for cleanup over the last three years has totaled nearly \$2.7 million, which has been funded by the district's 2012 Measure B parcel tax.

The decision by board members to work with county officials and housing agencies like Destination: Home could mark a big change of pace for the district, which has been focused on tearing down creekside encampments rather than on providing homeless services.

This has resulted in an adversarial relationship between district staff and the homeless people living on water district property.

At the Jan. 26 board meeting, Liz Bettencourt, president of one of the district's three employee associations, said conditions along the creeks have "deteriorated at a crazy rampant rate," and the threat of violence employees face when cleaning out homeless encampments is a big concern. Bettencourt urged the board to consider added safety measures for district staff, including bullet-proof vests and assistance from

'There are many homeless who ... are still living within 200 yards of their original campsite.'

RICHARD MCMURTRY, SANTA CLARA COUNTY CREEK COALITION

the county sheriff's office, during cleanup operations.

Robert Aguirre, who is no longer homeless but who used to live in the infamous "Jungle" encampment in San Jose, said the water district has

largely done a bad job working with the creekside homeless population. When district staff come in to clean out encampments, Aguirre said there's no opportunity for the homeless to separate their belongings, and that one person had a backpack physically taken off by a district staff member and thrown into a trash compactor.

"If you continue harassing the people who are homeless, they are going to continue to harass you back," Aguirre said,

► See **ENCAMPMENTS**, page 8

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'FUR, FINS AND FEATHERS'

The works of students and faculty from the Community School of Music and Arts' Art4Schools Program will be on display at an annual art exhibit in the Mountain View City Hall Rotunda, 500 Castro St., through Feb. 26, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The free exhibition features over 500 pieces of artwork (based on the "fur, fins and feathers" theme) from more than 20 local elementary schools. Go to arts4all.org/study/cityshow.htm.

'WHITE POWER: A COMEDY'

Thao P. Nguyen's new solo show, "White Power: A Comedy," will be showing at Stanford University's Nitery Theater, Thursday through Saturday, Feb. 4-6 at 7 p.m. The free show, presented by Stanford Theater & Performance Studies Graduate Student Repertory, tackles the issue of "cultural appropriation" with storytelling and slapstick humor. Nguyen began a doctoral program in the Theater and Performance Studies at Stanford in the fall of 2014. Her performance will be showing in a double feature with "The House on Mango Street," a theatrical adaptation of Sandra Cisneros' novel. Go to thaosolo.com.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH GRIFFIN

Thao P. Nguyen's new solo show, "White Power: A Comedy," will be showing at Stanford University's Nitery Theater.

SCHOOL AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR FAIR

The winners of the Orion School's Author and Illustrator Contest (who are featured in a book available on Amazon) will present their works at the school's 14th annual Author & Illustrator Fair on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the school, 815 Allerton St., Redwood City. The fair is free but there will be food, coffee and books for purchase, with all sales benefiting the school's library. There will also be activities for kids. Go to rcsd.k12.ca.us/domain/626.

'WE ARE IN A PLAY'

Parents and local kids are likely familiar with the work of Mo Willems, the author/illustrator of critically acclaimed animated shows and beloved children's literature, including "Don't Let The Pigeon Drive the Bus." Willems' "Elephant & Piggie" series, which follows best friends Gerald and Piggie, is now playing at the Palo Alto Children's Theatre in the form of "Elephant & Piggie's 'We Are In A Play!'" The show runs through Feb. 14 at 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Tickets are \$12-\$14. Go to fopact.org.



PHOTO BY TINA CASE

Vicki Graff and Bill Olson as Piggie and Gerald the Elephant at Palo Alto Children's Theatre.

YANN MARTEL IN CONVERSATION WITH TAMIM ANSARY

The author of the bestselling novel, "Life of Pi," Yann Martel will be at Kepler's in Menlo Park on Wednesday, Feb. 10, to talk about his new novel. "The High Mountains of Portugal" takes readers on a mesmerizing journey through the last century. Martel will be interviewed by Afghan-American author Tamim Ansary. The discussion starts at 7:30 p.m. Kepler's is located at 1010 El Camino Real. Go to keplers.com/event/premier-event-yann-martel.

SEEING RED

To celebrate Valentine's Day, Los Altos's Gallery 9 is showcasing different artwork by 30 local artists, focusing on the symbolic meaning of the color red. The free exhibit, appropriately titled "Red," features a variety of media, including painting, photography, sculpture, printmaking, jewelry and ceramics, and will be on display for the entire month of February, Tuesday through Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, from noon to 4 p.m. Gallery 9 is located at 143 Main St. Go to gallery9losaltos.com.

—My Nguyen

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CRIME BRIEFS

ATTEMPTED FIGHT WITH OFFICER

A transient man was arrested in Mountain View after he allegedly ignored a police officer and then attempted to start a fight with him.

The officer spotted the man, 35-year-old Hans Wanlass, lurking around a business on the 800 block of Miramonte Avenue after 2 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 1. Wanlass allegedly ignored the officer's attempts to talk to him and tried to walk away, according to police spokeswoman Leslie Hardie.

When the officer confronted Wanlass and repeatedly asked him to stop, Wanlass allegedly yelled at him and attempted to get the officer to fight him, Hardie said.

The officer detained Wanlass, who continued to yell at the officer and broke away several times, Hardie said. Wanlass was eventually arrested on charges of prowling and resisting an officer. He was booked into Santa Clara County Main Jail.

PACKAGE THEFT ARREST

Mountain View police arrested a San Jose man last week after an officer allegedly found several stolen packages inside his car during a traffic stop.

The officer pulled over 29-year-old Brian Phillips on Jan. 26 at the intersection of Gretel Lane and Cuesta Drive because of an expired car registration tag, police said. During the stop, Phillips allegedly told the officer that he was making a delivery for a local company.

The officer searched the car and found several packages and shipping receipts that did not belong to Phillips, all of which were allegedly stolen property from people living in San Jose and Cupertino, police said.

Following the traffic stop, Mountain View police contacted the original recipients of the packages, who confirmed that their packages had gone missing.

Phillips was arrested on charges of possession of stolen property.

ATTEMPTED MURDER

Police are reporting that there was an attempted murder in Mountain View over the weekend, according to the police blotter.

The website CrimeReports shows there was an attempted murder reported at the intersection of Leong Drive and Moffett Boulevard on Saturday, Jan. 30, at around 8:40 p.m. The blotter shows there was no arrest.

Police declined to release any information on the incident, pending an investigation.

—Kevin Forestieri

POLICE LOG

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>AUTO BURGLARY
 800 block W. Middlefield Rd., 1/27
 200 block Franklin St., 1/27
 200 block Franklin St., 1/27
 200 block Franklin St., 1/27
 200 block Franklin St., 1/27
 Bryan St. & Mercy St., 1/27
 Bryan St. & Mercy St., 1/27
 200 block View St., 1/28
 200 block View St., 1/28
 200 block View St., 1/28
 1100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 1/28
 500 block W. Middlefield Rd., 1/28
 100 block Calderon Av., 1/29
 2500 block W. El Camino Real</p> <p>BATTERY
 500 block Escuela Av., 1/30</p> <p>BRANDISHING A WEAPON
 1200 block W. El Camino Real, 1/28</p> | <p>COMMERCIAL BURGLARY
 800 block W. El Camino Real, 1/29</p> <p>RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY
 200 block Cypress Point Dr., 1/28
 100 block Martens Av., 1/30</p> <p>STOLEN VEHICLE
 Central Expy. & Stevens Creek Trail, 2/1
 600 block Tyrella Av., 2/1</p> <p>THREATENING A POLICE OFFICER
 W. El Camino Real & S. Shoreline Blvd., 2/1</p> <p>VANDALISM
 600 block Rainbow Dr., 1/28
 300 block Ortega Av., 2/1
 1 block Gladys Av., 2/2
 1 block Pioneer Way, 2/2</p> |
|---|---|

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MICHELLE LE

A proposed **mini-park** was criticized as a step backward for local open space due to restrictions on bicycles.

A city park that bans bikes and trees?

SF UTILITY IMPOSES ODD RULES FOR PROPOSED MV PARK

By Mark Noack

A tangle of restrictions and costs led many at Tuesday's City Council meeting to denounce plans for a new mini-park near Fayette Drive.

The site for the future park is a vacant cracked asphalt stretch between El Camino Real and Fayette Drive, just west of the San Antonio CVS drugstore. City officials have long envisioned using the property as a passive-use park and trail, but the narrow corridor is currently fenced off to the public by its owner, the San Francisco

Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), due to underground water pipes from the Hetch Hetchy aqueduct. Mountain View receives 90 percent of its water from SFPUC.

Mountain View agreed to a number of concessions under a proposed deal with the utility, which took about three years to negotiate. The terms bar city workers from planting any trees at the park, and obligate the city to remove dozens more trees along SFPUC land in Mountain View. City officials would also agree to shoulder the water district's liabilities, maintenance costs

and property taxes for the new park, as well as for seven other utility-owned properties in the city. But what really infuriated the council and the public was an ironclad restriction barring any bicycles from the future park.

Many pointed out this rule flew in the face of the united efforts by Bay Area agencies to encourage bike riding, and it ruined one of the city's main goals for the mini-park.

"This is a travesty," blasted local resident Greg Unangst at the Feb. 2 meeting. "We have a

► See **CITY PARK**, page 10

El Camino to close free RotaCare Clinic

PATIENTS TO TRANSFER TO MAYVIEW CLINIC BY THIS SUMMER UNDER HEALTHCARE DISTRICT'S PLAN

By Mark Noack

The Mountain View RotaCare is closing down. The board of El Camino Healthcare District signed a new deal to finance the MayView Community Health Center to serve as the region's main medical facility for the uninsured.

At the Jan. 19 meeting, district board members agreed to provide the MayView clinic with \$2.4 million over the next four years so that it can handle the low-income patients transferring from the RotaCare housed on El Camino Hospital's Mountain View campus. Under the plan, RotaCare would be phased out in May or June.

Hospital officials said the switch to MayView was ultimately in the patients' best interest. Speaking to the healthcare board, hospital vice president Cecile Currier said MayView could provide prenatal and chronic disease services, whereas RotaCare was never intended for ongoing care.

"We're doing our very best to make this as easy as possible for the patients and staff," she said. "We feel that pooling our resources with a well-established and effective clinic in the long

term is a solid move."

Since December, El Camino Hospital officials have sent mixed signals about their plans for the RotaCare clinic, which is largely staffed by volunteers. At the start of January, officials hinted at an imminent closure while informing more than 200 volunteers their services would no longer be needed. At the time, hospital officials said the closure was temporary due to a sudden shortage in mandatory paid staffing. The clinic reopened a couple weeks later with a skeleton crew.

While pledging to keep RotaCare open for an indefinite period, El Camino officials did make the case that closing it would be

a sensible move. The clinic was serving only a fraction of the patients it had in past years, since many low-income residents were leaving Silicon Valley or now had health insurance due to the Affordable Care Act.

Presented with the plan, some district board members showed some reluctance. Staff members gave assurances that they would implement an outreach and transition plan in the coming months to inform the community about the change.

► See **ROTACARE**, page 14

'I think this sends the wrong message to the community.'

BOARD MEMBER
DENNIS CHIU

Water district CEO departure prompts 'termination' payout

CONTRACT ALLOWS BOARD TO FIRE BEAU GOLDIE AND CALL IT A RESIGNATION

By Kevin Forestieri

Last month, Santa Clara Valley Water District board members announced that CEO Beau Goldie would be stepping down from the top position of the South Bay's regional water agency. But the so-called resignation came with the kind of hefty paycheck normally associated with an involuntary termination. Goldie received a payout that

included six months of his salary, or \$152,630, as well as \$84,093 for accumulated vacation time and \$35,222 for sick time. His total severance package added up to about \$278,100.

Although board president Barbara Keegan announced on Jan. 14 that Goldie was resigning and retiring, his contract states that he would be entitled to six months of pay only for termination without cause. In

other words, the board had to fire Goldie for him to be entitled to the payout.

It turns out that there's a clause included in Goldie's original CEO contract from 2009 that states that he can choose to resign after the board decides to fire him in closed session. Goldie would be able to retain the severance package by going this route, according to the contract.

Keegan said the board careful-

ly followed the requirements laid out in Goldie's original contract, and awarded him a severance package consistent with what they had to give him.

The board had a series of closed-session meetings over several months discussing the CEO's performance, following a number of controversies involving Goldie's leadership last year. Emails written by district staff and published by San Jose Inside

last year raised red flags that the water district may have been charged by a contractor for work that had not been performed.

The outside contractor in question, RMC Water and Environment, had billed the district for \$350,000 for work that was not performed on a project it was hired to do several years ago, according to the email. The con-

► See **PAYOUT**, page 9

Water district delays decision on \$5M contract with controversial firm

BOARD MEMBERS CALL FOR A NEW BIDDING PROCESS AFTER ONLY ONE COMPANY SUBMITS A PROPOSAL

By Kevin Forestieri

The Santa Clara Valley Water District has put off a decision on whether to work with a controversial firm to kick off work on a \$800 million recycled water program.

The firm, RMC Water and Environment, has been a lightning rod of controversy for the district. The firm was paid significantly more than its contracted fee when the cost of its work on the Lower Silver Creek Flood Protection Project ballooned from \$375,000 to \$1.7 million because of reportedly unforeseen costs. This shifted money from other needed creek projects to RMC's project, leaving district staff to complete the remaining work.

Concerns that there may have been water district book-keeping problems, and the possibility of fraudulent billing by RMC, prompted the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office to launch an investigation in September. The DA's office subsequently "found

nothing that warranted further investigation," Sean Webby, public communications office, said this week.

Adding to the concerns, one of the district's top staffers, Melanie Richardson, is married to RMC co-owner Tom Richardson, creating a potential conflict of interest.

Last week, when district staff asked the board to approve a \$4.9 million contract with RMC for preliminary engineering work on the district's recycled water program last week, some board members balked. RMC was the only company to submit a proposal, and did not have to compete with other firms for the contract, according to the staff report.

Board President Barbara Keegan said she was uncomfortable with the choice of RMC, and that district staff should have let the board know earlier that they received only RMC's proposal for the work. It's always a concern when there's no competition for contracts, she said, but in this case

'I'm not impugning (RMC), but we need to demonstrate that we are above reproach.'

BARBARA KEEGAN, SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER

it's even more troubling because of the ongoing questions with RMC's earlier work with the water district.

"I'm not impugning (RMC), but we need to demonstrate that we are above reproach," Keegan said.

Board member Gary Kremen also opposed approving the contract, calling it a "de facto sole-source" contract with RMC, and saying it would be particularly troubling for the board to approve the contract while also calling for an independent investigation into RMC's billing history with the water district, which the board did last fall.

"Given the sensitivity and how prudent we need to be around this project ... I would

like to get this re-bid," Kremen said.

In November, six firms attended a pre-proposal meeting for the engineering work, but only RMC followed through with a proposal. When water district staff asked the other firms why they opted out, one company's representative said officials of the firm believed RMC was "well-positioned" to get the job, and they wouldn't have much of a chance to win the contract, according to a staff report.

The fact that staff had the foresight to ask why other firms dropped out was enough for board member Linda LeZotte, who said she had confidence in staff's decision to hire RMC. She said the companies that

opted out did so because of business decisions that the board shouldn't be questioning when considering the contract.

Other board members, including Dick Santos and John Varela, were undecided on what to do. The recycled water program was to be an expedited project in response to the severe drought. But going through a new bidding process could take months if more companies submit proposals.

Board member Tony Estremera moved to delay the decision on what to do, saying the board needs to come to a consensus instead of allowing early work on the program to be shrouded in controversy.

"The thing that troubles me is you need the board's support for spending a couple billion dollars," he said. "If you don't have the board's support, it doesn't matter how we do it. It's not going to get done right (and) it's not going to get done (quickly)." ■

Email Kevin Forestieri at kforestieri@mv-voice.com

EL NIÑO is here.

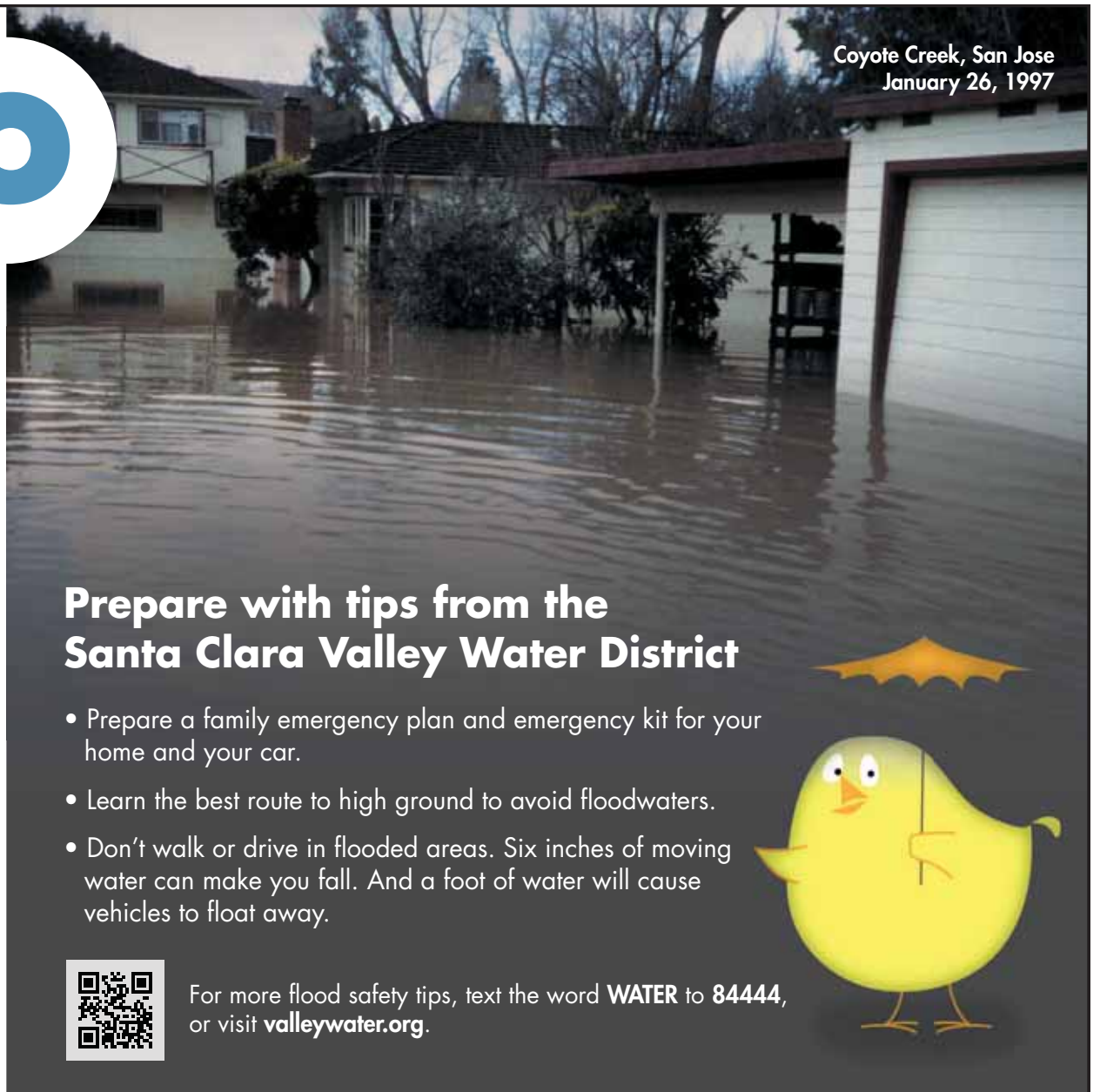
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Santa Clara Valley Water District 



Coyote Creek, San Jose
January 26, 1997

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For more flood safety tips, text the word **WATER** to **84444**, or visit valleywater.org.



MICHELLE LE

Lauren and Kseniia operate their robotic garbage truck during a practice run at Graham Middle School on Feb. 1.

ROBOTICS

► Continued from page 1

Lego pieces. Students program the robot with a basic coding language similar to Scratch in order to get it to turn and move in very precise ways on a 4-foot-by-8-foot game board to complete 12 “missions.”

David Richardson, a Crittenden student on the robotics team, said it’s been tough to program some of the harder missions, which require a ton of actions that all have to be done successfully. Any slip up along the way can cause the robot to slam into a wall, get lodged on an object or flip over, botching the mission entirely.

The challenge, David said, is that they can’t just tell the robot what to do in plain English — it all has to be done through coded commands based on measurable things like wheel rotations.

“It’s hard to do,” David said.

“It’s not like, ‘tell the robot what to do,’ it’s not like Siri.”

Charles Federmann, the robotics and engineering teacher at Crittenden, said students have been spending hours on Mondays, Wednesdays and even Saturdays, coming in and doing trials with the robot. He said students have to constantly troubleshoot and diagnose problems when things go wrong, and meticulously scan for any problems. If the wheels are off center, the pre-set commands students give their robot are going to send the robot reeling in the wrong direction.

The missions are all part of this year’s theme of environmental stewardship, and more specifically, how to clean up and manage waste. Giant game pieces representing methane, plastic bags and debris are all scattered along the game board, and it’s up to the students to find ways to clean it up.

Students are only given two-and-a-half minutes to complete as many tasks as possible, which drives the careful planning into a frantic race. Similar to a pit

‘I think the hardest thing isn’t the engineering or the coding. It’s the teamwork.’

CHARLES FEDERMANN,
CRITTENDEN TEACHER

stop at a race car event, students at Graham did a test run and quickly switched robot parts in and out between missions to cut down on time. The robot struggled to pull off a maneuver where it pushes a plastic dump truck along a straight path,

which the students chalked up to the battery’s low power.

Teams at both schools also had to come up with a side project that designed new technology that could be used to clean up trash. At Crittenden, one group of students proposed breaking down styrofoam, a non-biodegradable material, using acetone, and then re-purposing what’s left for new consumer products.

Students at Graham devised a water filtration system similar to the Inner Harbor Water Wheel in Baltimore, which cleans cigarettes, bottles and plastic bags out of the Jones Falls River. The robotics team tweaked the design to instead collect millions of the small, plastic microbeads that pollute the San Francisco Bay.

Students on Graham’s robotics team, who call themselves the Prograhamers, are in the final leg of the tournament, and are preparing for a regional event

against dozens of other South Bay teams. But Crittenden’s team, which participated in the Peninsula league against tough private schools like Castilleja School in Palo Alto, wrapped up over the weekend when it participated in the final tournament on Saturday. The judges awarded Crittenden’s team for its solid teamwork at the competition.

Which was no big surprise to Federmann. He said the team did a great job with the technology and engineering components that are key in a robotics class, but learning how to work together and solve problems was an integral part of the competition that really set them apart.

“I think they’ve come a long way in understanding robots, but I think the hardest thing isn’t the engineering or the coding. It’s the teamwork,” Federmann said. ▣

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Despite budget concerns, LASD teachers to get raises

TENTATIVE ACCORD FOR 3 PERCENT SALARY INCREASES TO GO BEFORE BOARD

By Kevin Forestieri

School officials at the Los Altos School District have agreed to give 3 percent raises to teachers and other employees this year, citing the high cost of living and steep competition with other school districts as key reasons to raise compensation.

The school district and the Los Altos Teachers Association negotiated a three-year contract during the 2013-14 school year that would bring teacher salaries up by 10 percent over a three-year period. But last August, the school board agreed to re-open the contract and reconsider giving the final 3 percent raise amid

worries that the district may blow through its reserves in the coming years, prompting layoffs and other drastic cuts.

The looming possibility that the district's \$193 parcel tax will expire without a renewal in the November election added to the concerns that the budget could be pretty tight in the coming years.

After six negotiation meetings, the district agreed to go ahead with the 3 percent raise after all. Laurel McNeil, president of the Los Altos Teachers Association, announced at the Jan. 25 board meeting that the teachers voted overwhelmingly in favor of ratifying the agreement, which will go to the school board for a final vote

later this month.

"We are thrilled to have reached a tentative agreement," Luther said. "So I'm very pleased to have that over with."

The deal brokered between the district and its teacher and classified employee unions maintain the raises in the existing contract, which will cost the district about \$1 million,

where it's harder to attract and retain quality teachers. Not just because of the high cost of living, he said, but because other school districts are using recent windfalls in state funding to pour more money into salaries. Los Altos has had to face "stiffer and stiffer competition," he said.

Board member Sangeeth Peruri admitted he was still worried about the district's future financial picture, but agreed that it was the right move to supplement teacher salaries since the cost of living continues to rapidly out-pace teacher salaries.

"Teachers, especially our beginning teachers, are having to feed their families and commute and pay the rent," Peruri said. "They're putting in a lot of hours for our kids, so I'm comfortable that we're making this move."

Board member Vladimir Ivanovic said he read through the teacher comments and said he didn't realize "the depth and breadth of some of the issues

teachers are having" in the district, and that he wanted to help alleviate some of the problems they experienced.

At the same time, he said he wanted teachers to understand that many of the problems they face are outside of the district's control, and long-standing limitations on school district budgets through legislation like Proposition 13 will continue to be the driving force behind salary issues.

The agreement may bring a sigh of relief for teachers in the district, but it won't last long. The district is scheduled to head right back into negotiations with the teacher's union in March to work out the details on a new three-year contract. And the high cost of living in the Bay Area will likely continue to be the central concern for teachers and district officials.

"It's not going to get easier to keep (teachers) here," Ivanovic said. "It's only going to get harder." ▀

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'It's not going to get easier to keep (teachers) here.'

BOARD MEMBER VLADIMIR IVANOVIC

according to Assistant Superintendent Randy Kenyon. The raises will take effect retroactively from Jan. 1.

Kenyon described the decision as re-prioritizing the district's spending goals, and said it's important to compensate staff in an environment

ENCAMPMENTS

► Continued from page 1

in response to Bettencourt's comments.

Despite the feelings of animosity, Aguirre said homeless people are willing to work with water district staff to keep the area clean, provided they're given the opportunity. The problem, he said, is that there's no trash pickup service when you live on the creeks, and naturally the garbage and refuse is going to build up.

"If people didn't pick up trash in your neighborhood, it would start to accumulate and it would start to become a health hazard as well," Aguirre said.

The encampment cleanup policies also have flaws that keep county waterways covered in trash. Richard McMurtry, a member of the Santa Clara County Creek Coalition, showed the board photo after photo of heaps of trash left by district staff immediately following an encampment cleanup. That's because the cleanup program is intended to dismantle encampments, and any trash more than 30 feet from tent sites is left on the ground, McMurtry wrote in a letter to the board.

And taking down encampments doesn't prevent homeless

people from taking up residence along the creeks either, McMurtry said. If anything, he said, homeless people are simply uprooted and pushed to a new location along the same creek.

"There are many homeless who, despite having their sites being dismantled 10 times in the past two years, are still living within 200 yards of their original campsite," McMurtry wrote to the board.

Moria Merriweather, a resident near Coyote Creek, said taking down encampments doesn't really work, and that the district should be focused on providing toilets, trash collection and other sanitary services. Taking these steps, she said, will help to avoid the bacterial outbreaks, disease and trash build-up that are all too predictable as people live along the creeks.

A housing solution

The board agreed last week to put together a committee and find out what the water district can do, working with county officials, to better provide homes and services for the homeless in Santa Clara County. The move comes after the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors approved a resolution last month calling on local agencies to do their part

and reduce homelessness in the county.

The water district does have authority to support housing initiatives, including the use of district-owned land for temporary or permanent housing for homeless people, according to board member Gary Kremen, who represents North County cities including Mountain View and Palo Alto. He said using the district's resources to build housing will be a much more cost-effective solution to homelessness along the county's waterways.

"We need to house these people. That's the best return on investment," Kremen said.

Board member Tony Estremera agreed that a committee could give water district officials a good idea of what options are on the table for helping to reduce homelessness, and that it's time for the water district to acknowledge that the high cost of living is forcing people to live along county creeks.

"I know in the past that our attitude has been, 'We don't want to attract folks (and) we don't want to make it easy to camp,'" Estremera said. "However, we don't have a choice about this economy, so we need to take a look at that." ▀

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BOARD MEMBER

► Continued from page 1

the school district away from the smooth communication needed for the district office to function.

“I find that I recently have been a large public problem in my own communications,” Nelson said via email. “I will therefore not be a candidate for (the) board this November.”

From the outset, Nelson said he wanted to shake things up on the board and break a trend where staff recommendations

consistently received unanimous approval from trustees. He said the district had no strategic plan for new facilities, and was grappling with a teacher job satisfaction survey that criticized the district office for a myriad of problems.

“Bringing those issues up, I really don’t see a way of doing it smoothly and having it get done,” Nelson told the *Voice* in a phone interview. “And that was a time when things needed to be changed.”

Nelson’s adversarial relationship with school district officials began before he joined the board. In 2012, he started a small legal battle with the district over the ballot language of the \$198 million Measure G bond, which he claimed was too vague and didn’t give district voters a clear idea of what the money would be used for.

After serving on the board for a year, in 2013 Nelson was formally censured by his fellow trustees for intimidating and disrespecting district staff, including one incident when he shouted profanities at former Superintendent Craig Goldman.

The drama and dysfunction on the school board reached a tipping point in June, when then-president Chris Chiang announced his resignation. Chiang cited Nelson’s repeated

insults and harassment directed towards district staff and members of the public as a key reason for leaving, and said he could not “in good conscience” associate himself with a board that didn’t do more to rebuke Nelson’s actions. Chiang initially said he’d work to recall Nelson, but later dropped the plan.

Following Chiang’s resignation, a number of parents and members of the community called on Nelson to resign from the board. At the June 30 board meeting, former board member Steve Olson said Nelson had “crippled” the board with his presence, and suggested that he was more effective in his role as a community activist rather than serving on the governing body.

Chiang told the *Voice* in an email that he has always respected Nelson’s good intentions, but that the election will allow the school board’s new membership to work with district staff, rather than against them.

Board president Ellen Wheeler said she looked forward to the upcoming election, and that she has heard plenty of highly qualified parents and community members are interested in running this November.

“I believe the results of this election will be good for our district moving forward,” Wheeler said.

Board member Greg Coladonato said he wishes Nelson “all the best” in his future endeavors, but declined to comment further.

Despite his contentious relationship with fellow board members and district staff, Nelson said he was optimistic for the future. He said the new superintendent, Ayinde Rudolph, is pushing the district in the right direction, and that the changes he would like to see in Mountain View schools are likely to happen even when he leaves the board at the end of the year.

“I have a lot of confidence in the new administration,” Nelson said. ▀

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Steve Nelson

PAYOUT

► Continued from page 5

cerns prompted an investigation by the Santa Clara County District Attorney’s office over fraud allegations last year.

Despite these concerns, Goldie continued to authorize contracts with RMC, including a \$1.3 million sole-source contract with the company last year.

Board member Gary Kremen said he was “deeply disturbed” that Goldie continued to work with RMC, and that he was happy the board stuck with a severance package that gave him only what he was guaranteed in his contract. But he said it was

a deceptive to the public that the contract allowed Goldie to “resign” even if he was ousted by the board.

“I think it’s ridiculous,” Kremen said. “If I was there in 2009, I wouldn’t have agreed to it.”

The board is in the process of hiring an interim CEO and, eventually, a new CEO to replace Goldie. Kremen, who represents Mountain View on the board, said he did not want the new contract to include the same language that allows the CEO to resign after termination, even if it has become commonplace. ▀

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COMMUNITY TALK

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Stanford
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Mountain View goes to Washington

ANNUAL TRIP GIVES CITY COUNCIL A CHANCE TO LOBBY

By Mark Noack

Seeking federal aid for an assortment of local issues, Mountain View City Council members last week brainstormed priorities as they prepared for a once-a-year trip to Washington D.C.

Each year, a delegation from Mountain View heads to the nation's capital as part of the National Leagues of Cities Congressional City Conference. The four-day trip in March provides a rare opportunity for local officials to meet with federal leaders and hopefully bring home some bacon for issues back home.

As reported by staff, Mountain View benefits quite a bit from federal largess — approximately \$4.4 million in U.S. grant fund-

ing last year went toward a variety of road projects, housing programs and other initiatives. In addition, federal dollars also come to town through NASA and the U.S. military services that maintain a large presence at Moffett Field.

This year, many of the city's needs haven't changed much, staff reported at the Jan. 26 meeting. For this upcoming visit to the capital, they suggested a continued focus on housing — noting that Mountain View has some of the highest housing costs in the nation and desperately needs U.S. Housing and Urban Development grants to pay for more affordable housing. Federal grant funding for housing has actually declined in recent years; in the case of one grant program,

funding is down 50 percent, staff explained.

Nevertheless, the city has other irons in the fire when it comes to housing. Mountain View officials are in talks to acquire and annex the U.S. Army's Shenandoah property and a reserve center site, which they believe could hold more than 1,100 new housing units.

The other big issue is transportation. In recent month, city officials have revived the idea of building an ambitious fixed-rail or personal-rapid transit project to connect downtown Mountain View to the North Bayshore jobs center. Council members inquired about inviting U.S. Transportation Department officials to come take a visit so they could see the local congestion problems first-hand.

Trying to lobby for local projects used to be a different game. In past years, individual legislators had some discretion to add spending requests known as

earmarks to unrelated bills. The system became notorious for creating bloated spending bills, and in 2012 lawmakers suspended the practice. Instead, Mountain View began advocating for competitive grant programs and policy issues.

Yet the ethics of lobbying for provincial issues doesn't sit well with one council member. Pointing out the federal debt service was running billions of dollars a year, Councilman John Inks said he didn't think Mountain View should be pressing for federal money.

"What's missing from this discussion is we're advocating spending priorities that don't square with fiscal realities in the federal government," he said. "Asking for more spending, I don't think it's prudent."

Other council members disagreed, saying it makes sense for Mountain View to push for local projects. If Mountain View held back from lobbying its local needs, other cities wouldn't hesitate.

"I see us advocating for a slice of the pie to meet our community's needs," said Councilman Lenny Siegel. "If we don't go back

and talk about infrastructure or housing, then people who have other priorities will get them."

The discussion wasn't all about money. Council members also discussed the confusion over federal marijuana enforcement as more states begin legalizing recreational use of the drug. California is widely expected to have one or more voter measures seeking to legalize recreational use on the November ballot. As more states go this route, the federal marijuana policy is like keeping its "head in the sand," said Councilman Mike Kasperzak.

"It might be appropriate getting this Schedule-1 narcotic issue resolved, so the states know what's going to happen with the federal government," said Councilman Mike Kasperzak. "There's this conflict and the (federal law enforcement) is on the wrong side of the trend."

In a 6-1 vote with Inks opposing, the City Council agreed to add marijuana policies to its list of priorities for the trip. Among the council members expected to attend are Mayor Pat Showalter, Ken Rosenberg, John McAlister, Kasperzak and Siegel. ■

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CITY PARK

► Continued from page 5

beautiful right-of-way through our city that we can't utilize. It makes no sense."

City leaders for the most part agreed with that assessment, and explanations from water district officials did little to clear up the matter. Speaking by teleconference, SFPUC attorney Rosanna Russell said the agency had previously encountered problems with developers building trails with poor connectivity. For now, the district is taking a "pause" on allowing smaller trails, but there was the possibly more public use could be allowed in the future, she said.

"We're not against bike trails," Russell assured. "We're not saying no forever; We're saying we'd prefer bike trails in a certain form."

Whatever the reasoning, council members pointed out that the bike restriction made zero sense. Calling the deal "repugnant," Mayor Pat Showalter, who works as a water utility engineer, said it was infeasible for bicycles to put enough load on a trail to jeopardize an underground water pipe.

"I was really appalled that the (public utility commission's) rights of way should be so closed off," she said. "We have an excellent track record of working with trail owners."

In response, Russell pointed out that many utilities completely forbid the public from using their

land. On the other hand, few utilities own as much land as the SFPUC, which controls 66,000 acres of watersheds and about 2,700 miles of pipeline right of ways.

The San Francisco utility has long been accused of dragging its heels when it comes to public recreation. Further up the Peninsula, for more than a century the water district has closed off 23,000 acres of open space surrounding the Crystal Springs Reservoir. Over the years, the public agency has come under increasing pressure to open more

an inconsistency in how they're handling this."

In their report, city staff members broke from the typical impartiality and noted they were "disappointed" with the deal, but they had little leverage to haggle. This was the best deal the city could hope for, said City Manager Dan Rich.

"I'll be honest that we've been frustrated with this process, but if we want to proceed with anything at Fayette, this is best deal we have," he said.

The council approved the deal in a 4-3 vote, with Siegel, Showalter and Councilman John Inks opposed. City staff said the council would be presented with plans for the future park at an upcoming meeting.

As part of the deal, the city agreed to sign new licenses, not just for the Fayette property but also for all other SFPUC parcels currently in use at Rengstorff Park, Klein Park, Rex Manor Park, the Senior Garden, Whisman Park and other sites. For all those sites, the city agreed to remove a total of 27 trees and perform regular maintenance, including mowing, weeding and cleaning garbage, at a cost of about \$117,500 per year. The city would also pay about \$34,000 in annual property taxes for them.

The deal would last initially for 10 years, but the water district stipulated that it could terminate it at any time without cause. ■

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■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**KHAN ACADEMY
MATH EVENT**

February marks the kick-off of Khan Academy's second annual LearnStorm event, a free online math challenge where schools and individual students can compete against one another and put students' math skills to the test.

Khan Academy hosted LearnStorm last year as a pilot program. About 73,000 students participated, including a high number of Mountain View students. Over 50 percent of eligible students at Crittenden Middle School participated in the event.

The challenge runs for nine weeks, and encourages stu-

dents to challenge themselves and show "grit" throughout problem-solving math lessons. LearnStorm is designed to get students to develop a growth mindset and understand that their ability to learn can improve if they push themselves, Khan Academy founder San Khan said in a press release.

Khan Academy hosted a kick-off event at Google's headquarters in Mountain View on Feb. 2 with representatives of Google, Khan Academy and the San Francisco 49ers, long with hundreds of Bay Area students, teachers and community leaders.

More information on LearnStorm can be found at www.learnstorm2016.org.

—Kevin Forestieri

**BIG SNOWPACK DOESN'T
END DROUGHT**

Although the amount of rain and snow in California this year has reached higher levels than last year, the state's drought is still not over, the California Department of Water Resources said today.

Rainfall and the Sierra Nevada snowpack's water content have significantly improved this water year, which began on Oct. 1.

Additionally, the state's major water reservoirs have also increased significantly since Jan. 1, according to DWR officials.

Rainfall in three regions DWR officials have been

tracking was found to be at 123 percent of the historical average between Oct. 1 and Jan 31.

Although rain has been heavier this water year than last year, DWR officials say the state's drought is far from over.

Most of the state's major reservoirs still hold much less than their historical averages for early February, so residents should continue to conserve water, DWR officials said.

Additionally, electronic readings from 102 DWR stations scattered throughout the Sierra Nevada indicate the statewide water content in the mountains is 20.4 inches, 114

percent of normal for today's date.

In normal years, the snowpack supplies about 30 percent of the state's water needs as it melts in the spring and early summer, according to DWR officials.

The greater the snowpack water content, the greater the chance that California's reservoirs will receive ample runoff as the snowpack melts to meet the state's water demand in the summer and fall.

Over four years of drought have left a water deficit throughout the state that may be difficult to overcome in just one winter season, DWR officials said.

—Bay City News Service

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State health officials issue Zika virus warning

The state's Department of Public Health is advising residents to take precautions against mosquito bites in light of the recent Zika virus infections that have occurred in other countries.

So far, there have been six confirmed cases of the virus in California, all of which were contracted while the patient was traveling outside of the country, health officials said Monday, Feb. 1.

The first case in California happened in 2013 then three cases were reported in 2014 followed by two cases in 2015.

Because of patient confidentiality, the location of the infected California patients has not been disclosed, according to health officials.

"Although no one has contracted the Zika virus in California, mosquito bites can still be harmful and the public should

take steps to protect themselves," the CDPH's Director and State Public Health Officer Dr. Karen Smith said in a statement.

In order to prevent mosquito bites, residents can remove standing water near their home and should apply insect repellent when necessary, health officials said.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has issued travel alerts for people traveling to countries and regions where the Zika virus is circulating. Those places include American Samoa, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curacao, El Salvador, French Guiana, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Martinique, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Suriname, Venezuela and Puerto Rico.

The CDC and CDPH is also warning pregnant women to

avoid traveling to those countries because of a concern that a pregnant woman can transfer the virus to her baby during pregnancy or delivery.

Preliminary reports suggest that the Zika virus may cause microcephaly, a condition where the fetal brain develops abnormally. This possibility, however, has not been confirmed and health officials are actively investigating the link, according to the CDPH.

Most people infected by the virus do not develop symptoms. If symptoms do develop, they are usually mild and include fever, rash and red eyes.

While there is no specific treatment yet for the virus, anyone with who has returned from an affected country and has symptoms should contact a doctor, health officials said.

—Bay City News Service

■ OBITUARIES

MICHAEL JACOB

Michael Jacob, a former Mountain View resident, died January 24 in Grover Beach, Calif. He was 61.

He was born in San Francisco on Dec. 28, 1954 and grew up in Mountain View. He graduated from Awalt High School in 1973. He married in 1982 and relocated to Fresno, and recently had moved to Grover Beach.

He had a love for nature and music but most of all, he had an immense love for his family and friends, his family members said. His profound faith carried him through many tribulations throughout his life, and he

would often be found laughing with his loved ones, according to his family.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Lucy; children Paul and Claire; his father George Jacob; and his sister Sharon Kollmann. He was preceded in death by his mother, Mary.

A rosary is set for Saturday, Feb. 13, at 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul the Apostle Church in Pismo Beach, followed by a funeral mass at 10 a.m. Burial will be at the Arroyo Grande Cemetery. There will be a reception after the services.

Memorial donations may be made to the Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation.

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Do self-driving cars need a licensed driver?

CAR MAKERS, DISABLED ADVOCATES AT ODDS WITH CONSUMER SAFETY GROUPS

By Mark Noack

If there's one priority for self-driving cars upon which everyone can agree, it's safety. Google and other manufacturers are quick to tout the autonomous vehicles as a way to prevent around 33,000 U.S. deaths and many more injuries from auto-related crashes each year. But for all the triumphs of autonomous cars, regulators and consumer advocates warn there are too many risks to give these vehicles free rein on public roads.

This debate over an emerging technology spilled onto the public stage last week as officials with the California Department of Motor Vehicles convened their first workshop on proposed rules for the everyday operation of autonomous vehicles.

As ordered by state lawmakers, DMV regulators in December released their long-awaited first draft of rules, which were widely seen as throwing a wet blanket on hot technology. The proposed rules emphasize caution, mandating that any self-driving cars must have a licensed driver behind the wheel ready to take control in case the car's autopilot fails.

To hear some explain it at the workshop in Sacramento on Jan. 28, that stipulation hobbles the technology's most compelling achievement. A large number of speakers who represent the disabled and elderly blasted the rules for holding back what a new means of independent transit for those who can't drive. Since it is impossible for many with disabilities to get a driver's license, the DMV's proposed rules are tantamount to excluding those riders, said Teresa Favuzzi, executive director of the California Foundation for Independent Living Centers.

"We look at the potential of a fully autonomous self-driving car as nothing short of revolutionary for the disability community," she said. "Hold manufacturers to safety requirements, but don't (keep) us out of this revolution."

Explaining their rationale, DMV officials noted that it was premature to allow computer-guided cars free rein on public streets, but the agency hinted that those rules could be loosened down the road. Officials also set standards for cybersecurity, making it mandatory for cars to alert drivers about software breaches and to inform

riders of any private data being culled from their vehicles. Any cars being rolled out for the consumer market will be required to undergo testing and certification from an independent testing organization.

By all accounts, getting a self-driving car to the consumer market is still years away, but the aspirations for the technology continue to mount. Along with accident rates dropping, enthusiasts believe the cars could solve some of the worst problems of auto culture. With the cars in control, the daily commute could provide time for riders to relax, catch some extra sleep or get started on the workday. In the long term, experts anticipate the technology will herald more automation and machine-to-machine communication in a wide variety of other consumer applications.

But the scope of this technology presents some major questions. John Simpson, an advocate with Consumer Watchdog, warned that cybersecurity, data collection and a host of other areas need regulation that manufacturers shouldn't be allowed to dictate. He urged the DMV officials to distinguish what safety data should be necessary to glean from cars, and put limits on with whom car makers share that information.

Unlike many of the other speakers, Simpson championed the DMV's requirement for licensed drivers. He pointed out that many self-driving cars currently being tested were routinely being "disengaged" to manual control, indicating self-driving cars still need the proverbial training wheels. For the first time in December, the DMV began requiring testing companies to disclose these disengagements. Over a period of 15 months, Google reported disengaging 341 times, of which 13 could have resulted in an autopilot accident, Simpson said.

"Despite what Google says about being deeply disappointed, you have the responsibility for safety for California drivers and other people, and you got it exactly right here," Simpson said. "I want to commend the DMV for putting safety first."

Speaking for Google's self-driving project, lead engineer Chris Urmson pointed out the company is rapidly improving the performance of its fleet — currently at 45 cars in Mountain

View. Some of the close-call incidents requiring manual override were little more than the car almost bumping a traffic cone, he said. Ongoing testing will bring the cars to the point they can reliably function as safe drivers.

"We recognize we have a lot of work to do, but the DMV has to act to allow this technology into the marketplace," he said. "We have to avoid the presumption that having a person behind the wheel will make this more safe."

Earlier this week, Google officials announced they would also continue testing their self-

'I want to commend the DMV for putting safety first.'

JOHN SIMPSON
OF CONSUMER WATCHDOG

driving cars in Kirkland, Wash. in addition to Mountain View and Austin, Texas.

As the discussion continued over five hours, DMV officials urged the stakeholders in atten-

dance to cite specific areas of ambiguity in their draft regulations. Brian Soublet, an attorney representing the DMV, thanked speakers in turn, but he declined to signal what, if any, changes his team would consider.

"The goal at the end of the day is to have regulations that can get approved, and we can get into business of having these cars on the streets," Soublet said.

DMV officials could not say a final set of regulations would be completed. ■

Email Mark Noack at mnoack@mv-voice.com



INVITATION TO BID

1. Notice is hereby given that the governing board ("Board") of the Mountain View Whisman School District ("District" or "Owner") will receive sealed bids for the following project:

Graham Middle School Window Covering Replacement Project

2. Sealed Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 17, 2016**, at the District Office, located at 750-A San Pierre Way, Mountain View, CA 94043, California, at or after which time the bids will be opened and publicly read aloud. Any claim by a bidder of error in its bid must be made in compliance with section 5100 et seq. of the Public Contract Code. Any bid that is submitted after this time shall be non-responsive and returned to the bidder.
3. All bids shall be on the form provided by the District. Each bid must conform and be responsive to all pertinent Contract Documents, including, but not limited to, the Instructions to Bidders.
4. To bid on this Project, the Bidder is required to possess one or more of the following State of California Contractor Licenses:

License required- C61/D52- Window Covering

The Bidder's license(s) must be active and in good standing at the time of the bid opening and must remain so throughout the term of the Contract.

5. As security for its Bid, each bidder shall provide with its Bid form
 - a bid bond issued by an admitted surety insurer on the form provided by the District,
 - cash, or
 - a cashier's check or a certified check, drawn to the order of the Mountain View Whisman School District, in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total bid price. This bid security shall be a guarantee that the Bidder shall, within seven (7) calendar days after the date of the Notice of Award, enter into a contract with the District for the performance of the services as stipulated in the bid.
6. The successful Bidder shall be required to furnish a 100 % Performance Bond and a 100% Payment Bond if it is awarded the contract for the Project.
7. The successful Bidder may substitute securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure performance under the Contract, in accordance with the provisions of section 22300 of the Public Contract Code.
8. The successful Bidder and its subcontractors shall pay all workers on the Project not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California, for the type of work performed and the locality in which the work is to be performed within the boundaries of the District, pursuant to sections 1770 et seq. of the California Labor Code. Prevailing wage rates are available from the District or on the Internet at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov>. Bidders and Bidders' subcontractors shall comply with the registration and qualification requirements pursuant to sections 1725.5 and 1771.1 of the California Labor Code.
9. A **mandatory** pre-bid conference and site visit will be held on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. at 1175 Castro St., Mountain View, CA 94040, California. All participants are required to sign in with the project manager hosting the visit. The Site Visit is expected to take approximately 1 hour. Failure to attend or tardiness will render bid ineligible.
10. Contract Documents are also available for purchase for two hundred dollars (\$200.00) at the District's Construction Managers Office, Greystone West Company. You can contact them by phone at (707) 933-0624 or by email at courtney@greystonewest.com. This fee is refundable if the Contract Documents are returned in clean condition to Greystone West Company no later than ten (10) calendar days after the date of the bid opening. A list of builders' exchanges who have the project documents is available at Greystone West Company.
11. The District's Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and/or waive any irregularity in any bid received. If the District awards the Contract, the security of unsuccessful bidder(s) shall be returned within sixty (60) days from the time the award is made. Unless otherwise required by law, no bidder may withdraw its bid for ninety (90) days after the date of the bid opening.

MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

By: Robert Clark, Ed. D., Associate Superintendent/Chief Business Officer

DATED:

Publication Dates: (1) January 29, 2016 (2) February 5, 2016

Don't bring a backpack to Super Bowl 50

STADIUM, TRANSIT AGENCIES WILL ONLY ALLOW CLEAR PLASTIC BAGS

By Sue Dremann

Anyone traveling to Levi's Stadium to watch Super Bowl 50 on Valley Transportation Authority's (VTA) light-rail trains had better not bring any bags on board other than clear plastic ones, Santa Clara County Transportation Authority officials said.

The ban on large opaque bags is a safety precaution the transit agency is taking, and anyone who does not comply won't be allowed on board, officials said. The restriction follows the NFL's policy, which requires that bags must be clear and plastic and no larger than 12 by 6 by 12 inches. A list of all prohibited items can be found online at levisstadium.com.

Although the bag regulations by the NFL are for entrance into the stadium (there will not be a "bag check" area or lockers available), VTA is also extending the restrictions on the light-rail lines to Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara on game day, Feb. 7.

Caltrain will also be taking precautions, beefing up its patrols and having regular security sweeps of high visibility locations, spokeswoman Tasha Bartholomew said. Caltrain will also increase its use of K-9s for inspections throughout the

transit system, and every train departing from San Francisco on Super Bowl Sunday will be inspected.

The agency has already rolled out customer-information ambassadors over more than 122 shifts who will help guide visitors, Bartholomew said. To reduce parking jams, anyone wanting to park at Caltrain stations will have to pay \$20 for parking on Feb. 7, she said.

SamTrans bus service into San Francisco during Super Bowl 50 week will be monitored, with additional service added if demand is needed, Bartholomew said. On Super Bowl Sunday, SamTrans will have a fleet of buses, drivers and supervisors staged in South San Francisco and in San Carlos to respond to any Caltrain service interruptions. VTA will be staging contingency bus fleets in the event of any interruptions to light-rail service, officials said.

Those who don't have a ticket to the Super Bowl should also expect to shift their transportation modes on Sunday, transportation officials said. VTA officials said they expect to handle up to 12,000 passengers on the light rail and an express bus. Only customers holding a special VTA light-rail ticket and their ticket to



Free parking is available in city-owned lots between Castro and Mercy streets, but a three-hour time limit will be enforced.

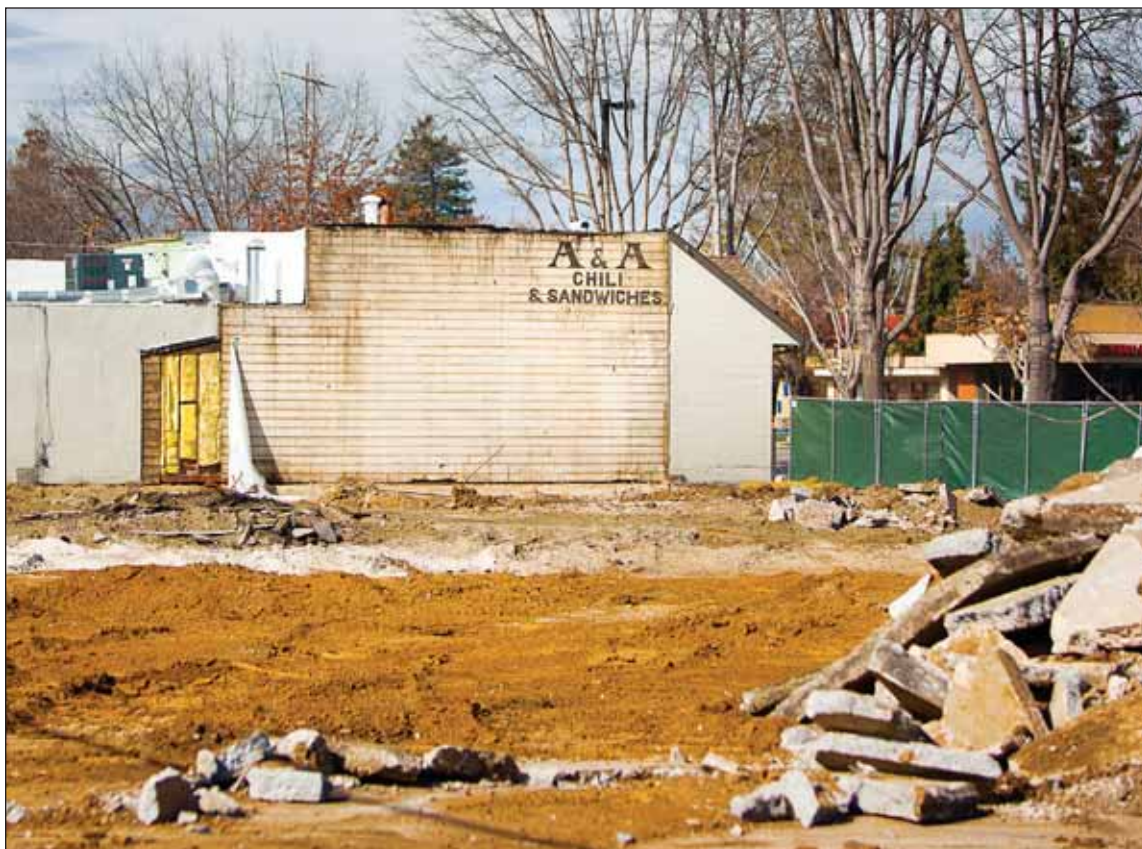
the Super Bowl will be allowed to board light-rail trains on the Mountain View to Winchester line. Alternate bus service will be available on game day. A joint \$40 Caltrain/VTA Super Bowl ticket may only be purchased using the VTA EventTIK app through their

smartphones, and there will be a cap on the number of tickets, VTA and Caltrain officials said.

For passengers who are not going to the Super Bowl, VTA will have modified service. Information about changes to service during Super Bowl week

and on game day can be found at www.vta.org/superbowl. Travel information for Caltrain service can be found at www.caltrain.com/SuperBowl150.

For a map of downtown Mountain View's road closures and parking lot restrictions, go to mv-voice.com. ▀



MICHELLE LE

THE CHILI HOUSE MYSTERY

A recent round of downtown demolition revealed a curious puzzle for Mountain View's history buffs. The newly uncovered face of a wall at 801 El Camino Real showed an old painted sign for a long-defunct restaurant "A&A Chili & Sandwiches." Local resident Max Hauser has been having a field day researching history archives, old typefaces and even the etymology of "chili" to try and figure out when this eatery would have been open for business.

Hauser is posting updates on his history sleuthing on the **Voice's** website at <http://tinyurl.com/zelpnjt>.

ROTACARE

► Continued from page 5

"I've already received feedback from the community, and there's concern in the community, and my concern is that we do this correctly," said board member Julia Miller. "I do believe staff has done their due diligence, but the devil's in the details."

Board member Dennis Chiu warned that a June closure may not provide enough time to fully transition hundreds of patients. He urged staff to consider shuttering the clinic no sooner than the end of the year.

"We have to be as close to 100 percent as possible to make sure these patients don't fall through the cracks," he said. "I think this sends the wrong message to the community."

The healthcare district board of directors approved the \$2.4 million for MayView in a 4-0 vote, with Chiu abstaining. ▀

Email Mark Noack at mnoack@mv-voice.com

Viewpoint

- EDITORIAL
- YOUR LETTERS
- GUEST OPINIONS

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■ EDITORIAL

THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Water district board's delay on contract wise, but what's the next step?

The Santa Clara Valley Water District board's Jan. 26 decision to delay action on a staff-recommended contract is an encouraging development at first glance, but ultimately a puzzling one.

As reported in this week's *Voice*, at least two board members raised concerns about hiring the firm RMC Water and Environment for preliminary engineering work on the district's planned recycled water program. The hesitation to award the \$4.9 million contract to that firm was understandable: RMC was the sole bidder for the project and, even more significant, its billing for work it performed earlier is being questioned by some staff and board members.

Possible financial discrepancies surfaced last year in emails from a staff manager, who flagged \$350,000 billed by RMC for work that it had not performed on a project it was hired to do several years ago, and called into question costs paid to the firm totaling \$512,000. RMC had been hired for work on the Lower Silver Creek Flood Protection Project, a contract with a \$375,000 price tag. But in the end that amount ballooned to \$1.7 million.

The possibility of fraudulent billing by RMC prompted the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office to investigate. This week, the DA's office said it didn't find anything that would call for further investigation, but the district board was rightly concerned over the questions raised; last fall it authorized an independent investigation into RMC's billing history with the district, although that audit has yet to be launched.

The staff recommendation to award the \$4.9 million contract to RMC touched off a board discussion at last week's meeting about, among other things, the wisdom of hiring a firm whose billing practices the board wants investigated.

"I'm not impugning (RMC), but we need to demonstrate that we are above reproach," board President Barbara Keegan said. And member Gary Kremen urged his colleagues to support putting the project out to bid again.

A second bidding process seems in order. RMC has a long history of working with the district, and other companies may have been under the impression that the district would favor that firm — an impression possibly strengthened by the fact that a top manager in the district is married to RMC's co-owner. In fact, a representative of one company that had initially been interested in the current project told staff the firm didn't bid for it because company officials believed that RMC was "well-positioned" to get the job. After the Jan. 26 board discussion, however, such perspectives might change, and competitive bidding on major projects might be possible.

But strangely, although it delayed the vote, the board didn't direct staff to come back with additional information — for example, possible interest by other companies if the district re-bids the project, or other factors that might support the staff's recommendation. That's what is puzzling. And a look at the Feb. 9 district board agenda reveals an action item to approve the same staff recommendation to sign the contract with RMC, with no updated staff report reflecting the board's concerns and additional information that might allay those concerns. The agenda estimates the item to take five minutes, suggesting a staff assumption that the contract with RMC is a done deal.

If this is the case, the board should explain why it is willing to go forward with this contract with no additional information — documented and accessible to the public — to justify its action, given the as-yet unclear billing history of RMC. ■

■ LETTERS

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

WE OWE VETERANS MORE THAN PLAQUES

For the first time in the four years since I moved here from my hometown of Pacific Grove, I wandered over to the Mountain View community pool (Eagle Park) and I discovered the Veterans Memorial bronze plaques inside the circular planter near the pool's entrance. The most recent of the plaques was installed on Nov. 15, 2015.

Then my eyes caught sight of the five insignias of our armed forces: Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, and Coast Guard. Below

those insignias are the names of veterans from this area who gave their lives for our country and the names of various organizations who support our veterans. In the geometric center of all of this flies Old Glory and the somber black-and-white MIA flag.

As I moved slowly past all those names my eyes teared and my throat got thick with emotion. You see, my 90-year-old father is a decorated WWII naval hero and one of my three sons is a decorated Iraq War combat hero. That son carries his grandfather's first and last name. Several of my childhood

buddies are on the Vietnam War wall in our nation's capitol, including the posthumous medal of honor recipient who was my sister's fiance before he went off to the jungles of Vietnam in 1967.

But along with the purity of my emotions on behalf of our fallen warriors was my anger that all the candidates from both parties continue to exploit the plight of our wounded veterans — physically and psychologically wounded — by claiming they support our veterans and intend to take care of our veterans. It's all complete BS! So many Americans pay lip service to supporting our troops and veterans but the sad truth is that it's all (untrue).

My Iraq War hero son came back from that nightmare completely messed up. He has suffered severe PTSD, traumatic brain injury (TBI), suicidal depression, and drug addiction — an all-too-common nightmare for thousands of our combat veterans. He presently sits in jail because an unfeeling, cold-hearted, hypocritical judicial system has failed him.

Supporting our veterans is not political slogans or plaques on walls. Supporting our veterans requires proactive dedication to making sure they get what we owe them, and we as a society owe them a great deal in every way we can to support them.

Jeffrey Van Middlebrook
Easy Street



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■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

■ MOVIE TIMES

■ BEST BETS FOR ENTERTAINMENT



Fine dining with a few quirks

Bird Dog's sophisticated menu
keeps the focus on fun

review by Trevor Felch photos by Veronica Weber

*The duck at Bird Dog incorporates the surprising
element of bananas in the sauce.*

RESTAURANT REVIEW

It didn't take long to realize that Bird Dog is not the kind of restaurant Palo Alto sees very often. The restaurant, which opened at 420 Ramona St. in November, offers big-city sophistication with a hefty dose of quirkiness.

Whether it's the lightly wilted spinach (\$11) bursting with the fragrant allure of vadouvan (a French version of an Indian spice blend), a stunning, abstract plating duo of eggplant and shishito peppers (\$13) or heirloom carrots (\$14) of myriad sizes in a robust sauce made from red curry, tamarind and oranges, chef/co-owner Robbie Wilson is clearly a vegetable whisperer.

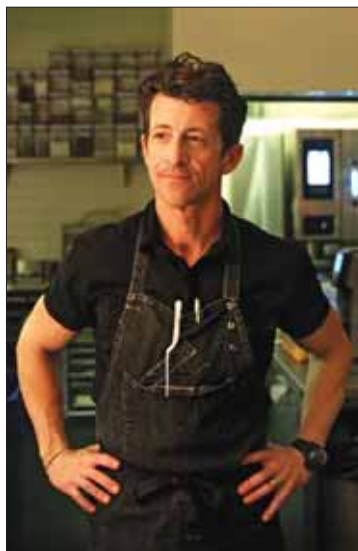
The only holdover from Wilson's menu at his previous restaurant, the acclaimed Mattei's Tavern in Santa Barbara wine country, is the simple yet downright special whole avocado (\$14) grilled over California red oak chips. The avocado is halved, the pit scooped out and an umami-packed ponzu sauce fills the hole with precise grill marks on the avocado. Some fresh wasabi and kombu seaweed complete what is a perfect

dish. Palo Alto better thank Wilson's wife for insisting that he bring the avocado starter with them to the Bay Area.

Bird dishes are indeed highlights at Bird Dog. Wilson uses dry-aged duck (\$27) for a lovely and complicated preparation involving smoking, brining and then cooking the bird sous-vide; it's artistically laid out with bronzed skin on one of the two pieces. Then add to the equation finely minced cashews, like sand, and the curve-ball of a banana sauce-like pudding made from both whole old bananas and banana chips.

Even more thrilling is a delicately fried chicken thigh (\$18), served with smoked uni and an egg-yolk sauce that together become something like the seafood-tinged mayonnaise that drips down your hands while eating a lobster roll.

Wilson is clearly having fun at Bird Dog. He also is a disciplined, thoughtful chef. He learned in the kitchens of industry giants like Thomas Keller, Nobu Matsuhisa and Tom Colicchio, and he wants to "bird dog" the fun in fine dining. The term means to pursue with fierce determination, but mostly, it's just a fun phrase that reflects how Wilson wants to



Robbie Wilson is the executive chef at Bird Dog.

share the Silicon Valley mindset of achieving success and having a good time en route.

Rather than music in the restrooms, you'll hear a distinctive voice: Julia Child, talking about things like the various culinary uses for butter. This is both in homage to her influence on cooking and because the Santa Barbara native often would stay at Mattei's Tavern. Artistic birds hanging from the ceiling were made by a graffiti artist. The well-priced and well-chosen wine list tells



The big eye tuna is prepared with honeycrisp apples, soy and lime.

diners to "Enjoy The Hunt" with a picture of a dog leash, since we all know using a wine list can be detective work. The bread is an excellent grilled roti, liberally sprinkled with sea salt. Quirky, fun and it works.

Not everything was a rousing hit, but the faults were minor. The cured and cooked plancha salmon (\$24) had an ideal, medium-rare consistency but it needed another dimension. Wagyu ribeye (\$33) looked like it was going to be utter steak bliss and mysteriously didn't

boast as beefy a character or buttery texture as anticipated. A bowl of farro with a poached egg and miso (\$12) needed more miso and was watery rather than rich and thick. I adored the acidity, spice and crunch of lime, chiles, pecans, and sesame oil with the raw tai snapper (\$17), yet some bites of fish were stringy.

All of these are small quibbles. It's easy to look past them with what must be Palo Alto's most

► Continued on next page

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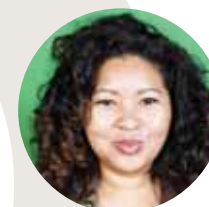
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The open kitchen at Bird Dog in Palo Alto is in full view of diners.

► Continued from previous page

creative cocktails, split between re-interpreted classics and new inventions. I recommend the “Otobai,” a yuzu-driven version of a Sidecar.

The 120-seat dining room is awash in black and whites as if Armani chose the color palette. An immaculate open kitchen anchors the rear of the space and a stone-topped bar sits by the front windows, with the dramatic dining room and bare-wood tables sandwiched between the two. Pay attention to the gorgeous hand-blown glass lamps above; none of them are quite alike.

Service is both attentive and laid back. One area for improvement: with sharing encouraged, servers need to stagger the courses with smart pacing so the table is never cluttered.

Desserts bring more sweet and savory crossover fun. A chocolate cremeux comes with Hitachino beer in the ice cream; a winning Meyer lemon tartlet was served with a dot of avocado mousse and a quenelle of coconut ice cream. The best of the three dessert options is the cookie jar (\$5). The rotating selection of “cookies,” from passion fruit mini-macarons to seaweed and cacao nib studded madeleines, are worthy of the sweets you would find at the end of a meal at a three-Michelin starred in Paris, for their quality and intriguing flavors.

They are the perfect way to end a night at a new Palo Alto cornerstone. Hopefully, this signals the beginning of more restaurants that are able to bird dog fun, creativity and quality. ▣

Freelance writer Trevor Felch can be emailed at trevorfelch@yahoo.com.

DINING NOTES

Bird Dog

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■ MOVIE OPENINGS



IMAGE COURTESY OF THE BUREAU FILM COMPANY LIMITED

Charlotte Rampling and Tom Courtenay star as a couple who receive shattering news on their wedding anniversary that changes their marriage.

A less perfect union

CHARLOTTE RAMPLING QUESTIONS HER MARRIAGE IN '45 YEARS'

★★★1/2 (Aquarius Theatre)

We all know what happens when a pebble kicks up on the highway and leaves a tiny crack on a windshield. The crack grows, slowly, inexorably, and the days of the windshield are numbered. So goes the tragic form: one bad choice, one unsettling piece of information, and the hero will never see the end of it. In Andrew Haigh's "45 Years," the crack forms in a marriage, and we watch its agonizingly spread.

Writer-director Haigh has a knack for burrowing under the skin of those who lead lives of ostensible creature comforts but creeping emotional discomfort. Best known for "gay-themed" projects (the lovely film "Weekend" and the nearly departed HBO series "Looking"), Haigh here adapts David Constantine's heterosexual-themed short story "In Another Country" to examine how a man and woman, poised to celebrate the titular anniversary, are forced by one bit of news to reexamine their entire history together, including the viability of their marriage.

Childless retirees Kate and Geoff Mercer (Charlotte Rampling and Tom Courtenay) enjoy

an upper-middle-class existence in the British countryside. News arrives, however improbably, of a body discovered in a Swiss glacier. The body, preserved since 1962, belongs to a girl named Katya, the girlfriend Geoff lost on a backpacking expedition when he was 25. When this news joins the couple at their breakfast table, the couple make an immediate tacit agreement that the gruesome revelation is unsettling, yes, but trivial.

And so the dishonesty begins or, to put it another way, continues, for both Geoff and Kate have their doubts, rediscovered along with Katya's body. Behavioral shifts signal the unspoken, the couple's domestic tranquility disturbed. A badly timed sexual mood marks the first bout of protesting too much, one that fizzles sadly. Geoff lets stubble grow out, and both he and Kate frequently find themselves lost in thought. From the dead, Katya shakes the couple's sense of purpose, as individuals and in their consecrated union.

If Geoff is tortured by what might have been, Kate suffers the possibility that she has always been, and always will be,

second best to the idealized girl frozen in that glacier. Haigh's typically sensitive direction abets performances of heartbreaking personal and relational frailty from the Oscar-nominated Rampling and the unjustly neglected Courtenay. The final twist of the knife comes with the anniversary party, held at the same site as the battle-capping Trafalgar Ball in 1805. But this won't end like the Shakespeare comedy that relievedly concludes, "And time it is when raging war is done/To smile at 'scapes and perils overblown."

"45 Years" locates its drama largely in micro-expressions and gestural nuances, the resistance to melodrama clarifying the film's haunting staying power. Not unlike the characters, you may well find yourself living with the story's revelations long after you wish you had forgotten their implications, about the long odds for romance, the deeper psychology of mating, and the devastating possibility that love isn't an absolute but a willful, occasionally mutual, delusion.

Rated R for language and brief sexuality. One hour, 35 minutes.

— Peter Canavese

■ MOVIE TIMES

13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi (R)

Century 16: 1:30 & 7:25 p.m.

Century 20: 7:05 & 10:35 p.m. Fri. & Sat. noon, 3:25 p.m.

45 Years (R) ★★★1/2 Aquarius Theatre: 1:45, 4, 7 & 9:15 p.m.

The 5th Wave (PG-13) Century 16: 10:20 a.m.

Century 20: 10:55 a.m., 1:40, 4:35, 7:20 & 10:15 p.m.

Anomalisa (R) ★★★1/2

Aquarius Theatre: 2:25, 4:35, 7:40 & 9:50 p.m.

The Big Short (R) ★★★1/2

Century 16: 10:25 a.m., 1:25, 4:35, 7:40 & 10:40 p.m.

Century 20: 10:45 a.m., 1:45, 4:45, 7:45 & 10:45 p.m.

The Boy (PG-13) Century 16: 10:40 a.m., 4:45 & 10:45 p.m.

Century 20: 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5:10, 7:55 & 10:45 p.m.

Brooklyn (PG-13) ★★★1/2 Century 20: 10:45 a.m., 4:25 & 10:15 p.m.

Palo Alto Square: 1:30, 4:15 & 7:15 p.m. Fri. & Sat. 9:55 p.m.

The Choice (PG-13) Century 16: 10:25 a.m., 1:15, 4:15, 7:15 & 10:15 p.m.

Century 20: 10:50 a.m., 1:30, 4:15, 7:05 & 10:10 p.m.

Daddy's Home (PG-13) Century 20: 7:35 & 10:15 p.m.

The Danish Girl (R) Century 20: 10:55 a.m., 1:50 & 4:45 p.m.

Dirty Grandpa (R) Century 16: 12:50 & 9:55 p.m.

Century 20: 2:15, 4:55, 7:30 & 10:10 p.m.

Fifty Shades of Black (R)

Century 20: 11:40 a.m., 2:50, 5:40, 8:10 & 10:40 p.m.

The Finest Hours (PG-13) ★★1/2

Century 16: 1:05 & 7:05 p.m. In 3-D at 10:15 a.m., 4 & 10:05 p.m.

Century 20: 10:50 a.m., 4:30 & 7:30 p.m. In 3-D at 1:35 & 10:20 p.m.

Hail, Caesar! (PG-13) Century 20: 10:55 a.m., 1:40, 4:25, 7:10 &

9:50 p.m. In X-D at 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10 & 10:45 p.m.

Palo Alto Square: 1:15, 4 & 7 p.m. Fri. & Sat. 9:45 p.m.

The Hateful Eight (R) ★★1/2

Century 16: 8:50 p.m. Century 20: 9:20 p.m.

Kung Fu Panda 3 (PG) Century 16: 10:55 a.m., 1:40, 2:35, 4:20,

5:20, 7:10, 8:05 & 9:35 p.m. Fri. & Sat. 12:10 a.m. In 3-D at 10 & 11:50

a.m., 12:45, 3:30, 6:15 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 10:45 & 11:10 a.m.,

12:30, 1:10, 1:45, 3:05, 4:15, 5:35, 6:15, 6:50, 8:05 & 10:40 p.m. In 3-D at

11:50 a.m., 2:25, 3:40, 5, 7:35, 8:45 & 10:10 p.m. In 3-D D-BOX at 3:40 &

8:45 p.m. In D-BOX at 10:45 a.m., 1:10 & 6:15 p.m.

The Lady in the Van (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: 11:10 a.m., 1:50, 4:25, 7 & 9:35 p.m.

Norm of the North (PG) Century 20: 11:25 a.m.

Notorious (1946) (Not Rated) Stanford Theatre: 5:35 & 9:35 p.m.

Oscar Nominated Short Films 2016: Animation (Not Rated)

Guild Theatre: 2:30 & 7:15 p.m.

Oscar Nominated Short Films 2016: Live Action (Not Rated)

Guild Theatre: 4:45 & 9:30 p.m.

The Philadelphia Story (1940) (Not Rated)

Stanford Theatre: 7:30 p.m. Sat. & Sun. 3:30 p.m.

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies (PG-13)

Century 16: 10:05 a.m., 1, 4:05, 7:20 & 10:10 p.m. Fri. & Sat. 12:01 a.m.

Century 20: 11:35 a.m., 2:20, 5, 7:40 & 10:30 p.m. In D-BOX at 11:35

a.m., 2:20, 5, 7:40 & 10:30 p.m.

The Revenant (R) ★★1/2

Century 16: 11:55 a.m., 3:30, 5:25, 7, 8:55 & 10:25 p.m. Fri. & Sat. 1:55 p.m.

Century 20: 11:55 a.m., 3:30, 7 & 10:25 p.m.

Ride Along 2 (PG-13) 1/2 Century 16: 11:45 a.m., 2:30, 5:15, 7:55 &

10:35 p.m. Century 20: 11:50 a.m., 2:40, 5:25, 8:05 & 10:40 p.m.

Room (R) Century 16: 10 a.m., 3:50 & 7:05 p.m.

Spotlight (R) ★★★1/2 Century 16: 10:10 a.m., 1:20, 4:30, 7:30 &

10:30 p.m. Century 20: 1:30 & 7:10 p.m.

Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: 10 a.m., 1:10, 2:50, 4:20, 7:35, 9:25 & 10:45 p.m. In 3-D at

11:35 a.m., 6:10 p.m. Century 20: 11:45 a.m., 3:50, 7:10 & 10:30 p.m.

To Catch a Thief (1955) (PG)

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

AQUARIUS: 430 Emerson St., Palo Alto (327-3241)

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

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

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

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

For show times, plot synopses and more information about any films playing at the Aquarius, visit www.LandmarkTheatres.com

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We're hiring

Assistant Editor

The Palo Alto Weekly/PaloAltoOnline.com is seeking a talented and experienced journalist to become our assistant editor. The position offers opportunities to manage entire publications and special sections, write about home and real estate topics, present and promote work digitally, assist with news editing and serve as a key member of an award-winning editorial team.

The ideal candidate possesses the creativity, organizational aptitude, focus on quality and adroitness in interpersonal communications to guide publications from start to finish. Two to four years of experience as a news editor is desired, as is the ability to juggle multiple projects. A strong interest in home, interior design and gardening topics, the position's main beat, is essential.

Knowledge of the Palo Alto community would be a plus. An enjoyment of teamwork and the ability to direct a variety of writers, including interns and freelancers, are key.

This is a benefited position, offering health insurance and a 401(k) savings plan, paid vacation, paid sick time and paid company holidays. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

To apply, please submit a cover letter detailing how your experience fits the needs of the position. Also attach your resume, three articles you've written and links to two publications or sections you've edited. Email the materials, with "Assistant Editor" in the subject line, to Editor Jocelyn Dong at jdong@paweekly.com. No phone calls, please.

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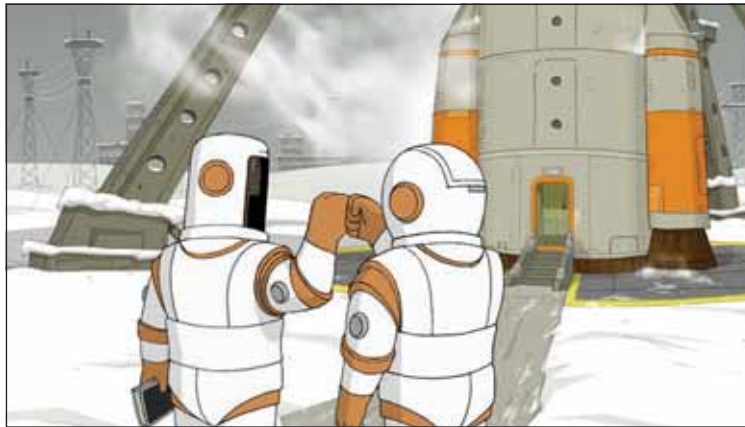
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MOVIE OPENINGS



COURTESY OF IMDB

"We Can't Live Without Cosmos" is an Oscar-nominated short from Russia.

The big shorts

PREP FOR THE OSCARS WITH NOMINATED SHORT FILMS

★★★ (The Guild Theatre)

Looking to win your home or office Oscar pool, impress your peers with your depth of knowledge about the nominees, or simply expand your artistic horizons with a dip into the pool of international short films? Well, do I have the tickets for you: "The Oscar Nominated Short Films 2016 — Live Action" and "The Oscar Nominated Short Films 2016 — Animated" programs have arrived at a theater near you.

Among the live-action shorts, the domestic entry, Henry Hughes' "Day One" (25 minutes), is the weakest of the bunch, playing at the overheated pitch of a vintage episode of "E.R." The film details the first day of an Afghan-American interpreter for the U.S. Army, which finds her in the uncomfortably urgent position of assisting in the labor of a bomb-making suspect's wife. A more affecting drama, "Shok," hails from Kosovo; this 21-minute coming-of-age tale by Jamie Donoughue, framed as a memory piece, recounts the friendship

of two young boys in a war zone (1998 Kosovo) and highlights the slender options available under Serbian occupation.

A couple of comedies lighten the mood: Benjamin Cleary and Serena Armitage's more-or-less-obvious U.K. romantic-comedy "Stutterer" (12 minutes) follows the titular sufferer as he fearfully embarks on a real-life meeting with his online crush, while Basil Khalil and Eric Dupont's Palestinian comedy "Ave Maria" (15 minutes) charms with its offbeat deadpan approach to the story of a family that literally crashes into a convent of nuns who try to help in spite of their vows of silence.

Best in show, though, goes to Patrick Vollrath's wrenching half-hour German drama "Everything Will Be Okay (Alles Wird Gut)," about a divorced father's unusual visitation day with his 8-year-old daughter, which turns into an emotionally trying, heartfelt but risky journey.

The animated selections have a mostly familiar feel, falling into certain formulas popular in

the short-form animated genre. For starters, perennial nominee Pixar returns to the category with Sanjay Patel and Nicole Grindle's "Sanjay's Super Team" (7 minutes), recently seen in front of the feature "The Good Dinosaur." It's a sweet-natured exploration of a first-generation Indian-American boy warming to his father's Hindu faith by imagining gods in the vein of the boy's beloved superheroes. Gabriel Osorio and Pato Escala's "Bear Story" (11 minutes), from Chile, also uses CGI but through a wholly silent aesthetic, in a melancholy but hopeful story of a bear turning his family tragedy into art.

With his enjoyably quirky, borderline-absurd 16-minute Russian entry "We Can't Live Without Cosmos," Konstantin Bronzit explores a deep bond of friendship between cosmonauts in training, but it's trumped for sheer loopy joy by Don Hertzfeldt's delirious, mind-bending "World of Tomorrow" (17 minutes), in which a little girl learns of her fate from her time-traveling future self.

The pithiest entry in either program, the 6-minute U.K. short "Prologue," is also the least kid-friendly, but it's been positioned at the end and preceded by a warning in case you'd like to make an early exit with your child. Richard Williams and Imogen Sutton's film strikingly depicts, in hand-drawn animation, two Spartan warriors clashing with two Athenians, exposing blood and genitals in the process. The 88th Academy Awards ceremony airs on Sunday, Feb. 28, 2016 ... now you have another way to get ready.

Both programs not MPAA rated. One hour, 26 minutes (Animated) and one hour, 47 minutes (Live Action).

— Peter Canavese



COURTESY OF PIXAR

"Sanjay's Super Team" from Pixar imagines Hindu deities as super heroes.

Goings On

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ HIGHLIGHT 'MIDDLETOWN'

Los Altos Stage Company's first production of the year will be "Middletown," a modern-day take on Thornton Wilder's classic "Our Town" that offers an offbeat exploration of life's beauty and difficulties. There will be no shows on Feb. 7 and 10. Jan. 28-Feb. 21, Wednesday-Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sunday, 3 p.m. \$30 adult; \$18 student (under age 18 or with ID). Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-941-0551. www.losaltosstage.org

ART GALLERIES

'Bugs and Blooms' Caffe Romanza, located on the second floor of Books Inc., will have on display the macro photographs of Heidi Baikie during the month of February. The fine art digital prints will feature insects and flowers. Feb. 1-29, Sunday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Free. Caffe Romanza, 301 Castro St., Mountain View. picturemesmiling.blogspot.com

'Red' Gallery 9 will present works in different media by member artists, focusing on the symbolic meaning of the color red (particularly love) to celebrate Valentine's Day. On Feb. 5, 5-8 p.m., there will be a reception with the artists. Feb. 2-28, Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Free. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos. Call 650-948-2961. gallery9losaltos.com

Oil paintings by Diana Jaye This Viewpoints Gallery exhibition will show off the virtuosic work of plein art artist Diana Jaye, including paintings of landscapes, cottages and clothed figures. On Feb. 6, 3-5 p.m., there will be a reception with the artist. Feb. 1-27, Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Free. Viewpoints Gallery, 315 State St., Los Altos. www.viewpointsgallery.com

AUDITIONS

El Camino Youth Symphony 2016-17 Auditions El Camino Youth Symphony is holding auditions for its 2016-2017 Season. The organization has six orchestras ranging from the entry-level orchestra Chamber Players to the prestigious Senior Symphony, as well as other chamber music opportunities. Applications are due by Feb. 28, and auditions will be held in March and April. Until Feb. 28. \$25 audition fee. Palo Alto. www.ecys.org

BENEFITS/FUNDRAISERS

2016 OFJCC Annual Benefit The Oshman Family JCC's annual benefit event will include a performance by Grammy-winning singer-songwriter Marc Cohn. The event supports the center's educational, cultural and social programs. Feb. 6, 6-10 p.m. \$275. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. www.paloaltojcc.org

Super Sole Sunday Before the Super Bowl game, the Los Altos Methodist Church will host an event where community members can transform jeans and plastic jugs into parts for shoes for children in Uganda who are at risk of developing debilitating diseases. Sole Hope will ship the parts to Africa, where local tailors and shoemakers will complete the shoes. Attendees should bring jeans, plastic jugs and scissors. Feb. 7, noon-1:30 p.m. Free. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos. laumc.org/super-sole-sunday/

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Cash for College Workshop At this Foothill College event, current and future college students (and parents) can receive line-by-line assistance in completing financial aid applications. Feb. 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Free; \$3 parking. Foothill College, Building 8100, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Call 650-949-7710. www.foothill.edu/aid/

Free federal and state income tax filing and help Community members who made \$31,000 or less or qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for 2015 can prepare their federal and state income taxes for free through Turbo Tax Freedom Edition, with assistance from on-site volunteers and tax experts at the Mountain View Public Library. Those interested should call (866-577-1231) to make an appointment. Feb. 16, 2-7 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6880. goo.gl/P9e3Pr

Hatha Yoga Thursday Evenings Led by Patricia Joy Becker, these classes focus on proper alignment to balance the body. Each

session offers a new sequence of poses that stretch and strengthen different body areas. Breathing practices and short meditations are often included. Thursdays, ongoing, 7:15-8:30 p.m. \$10 new student (see website for pricing). Yoga is Youthfulness, 590 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-285-1867. yourhealthandjoy.com

Health care programs orientation The Mountain View-Los Altos Adult School will hold a workshop for those interested in health care careers, providing information on the certified nursing assistant and medical assistant paths and the programs offered by the school. Online registration is requested. Feb. 12, 10 a.m.-noon. Free. Mountain View-Los Altos Adult School, 333 Moffett Blvd., Mountain View. Call 650-940-1333. www.mvlaae.net

LinkAges TimeBank orientation This event will introduce community members to linkAges TimeBank, a neighborhood service-exchange network that facilitates community involvement. Participants are matched with the skills, talents and needs of those who live nearby — allowing neighbors to help each other and share interests. Feb. 9, 1-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6882. timebank.linkages.org

Midpeninsula Media Center Orientation The Midpeninsula Media Center will offer orientation sessions, where community members can learn the basics about the public access TV channel and its available resources. Information will be shared about opportunities to produce programming, and there will be a studio tour and time for questions. First and third Thursdays of the month, Jan. 7-Feb. 18, 6-7 p.m. Free. Midpeninsula Media Center, 900 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-494-8686. www.midpenmedia.org

Rose Care and Pruning Master Gardener Kathleen Heckler will lead a free workshop on taking care of roses, in which she will review types of roses and identify tools and techniques for care and pruning. Feb. 13, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6877. mountainview.gov/librarycalendar

CONCERTS

CSMA piano students recital The Merit Scholar students of Ludmila Kurtova, a distinguished teacher at the Community School for Music and Arts, will perform music by various composers in this annual concert. Feb. 13, 5-6:30 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, Tateuchi Hall, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/attend/concerts.htm

Music@Menlo Winter Series concert A talented quartet from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center — Gilles Vonsattel, Arnaud Sussmann, Paul Neubauer and Paul Watkins — will thrill listeners with a program of string quartets and trios from Beethoven, Dvořák and Dohnányi. Feb. 11, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$52/\$47 general; \$25/\$20 under age 30. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Call 650-331-0202. musicatmenlo.org

Noa and Gil Dor in concert International recording artist Noa — known in Israel by her given name, Achinoam Nini — will perform with longtime collaborating musician Gil Dor. Feb. 10, 8-10 p.m. \$60 general; \$55 member, J-Pass holder. Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. www.paloaltojcc.org

San Jose International Piano Competition Recital This event will include performances by two talented young California pianists, Ryan Wang and Jessica, who have received numerous awards and honors. Attendees will also learn about the San Jose International Piano Competition, and there will be a Q&A session. Feb. 13, 2-3 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6882. mountainview.gov/librarycalendar

Schola Cantorum: Valentine's Day Sing Schola Cantorum will hold a Valentine's

Day Sing, welcoming couples, friends and singles to sing along with the group. Lyrics will be projected on a screen. Feb. 14, 3 p.m. \$15. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-254-1700. www.scholacantorum.org

DANCE

Carolina Lugo's & Carolé Acuña's Ballet Flamenco Carolina Lugo and her daughter Carolé Acuña will bring their company of Flamenco musicians and dancers to Morocco's Restaurant for a performance boasting footwork, song, castanets, syncopated clapping and guitar. Feb. 14, 2 p.m. \$69 show and five-course dinner; \$30 with minimum \$40 food/drink order. Morocco's Restaurant, 873 Castro St., Mountain View. www.carolinalugo.com/performances.php

EXHIBITS

'Beyond Space and Time' The Oshman Family JCC has on display an exhibit of work by Chagit Ofir, a Bay Area-based artist who is inspired by her daily experience, family and friends, and Israeli history. Born in Israel, Ofir mainly works in the medium of oil painting, but she has recently branched out into sculpture. Dec. 7-March 21, regular facility hours. Free. Goldman Sports & Wellness Complex and Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. paloaltojcc.org/Events/beyond-space-and-time-by-chagit-ofir

'Fur, Fins and Feathers' This annual art exhibit showcases the work of students and faculty from the Community School of Music and Arts' Art4Schools Program. Over 500 pieces of artwork from more than 20 local elementary schools is on display. Monday-Friday, Feb. 2-26, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Mountain View City Hall Rotunda, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/study/cityshow.htm

'Inside Each Moment' This Community School for Music and Arts (CSMA) exhibition will feature paintings by artist, musician and CSMA faculty member Claude Ferguson. On Feb. 26, 6-8:30 p.m., there will be a reception with a musical performance by the Parhelion Ensemble. Monday-Saturday, Feb. 5-March 20, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, Mohr Gallery, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/attend/mohrgallery.htm

FAMILY AND KIDS

'Here Comes Valentine Cat' Storytime At this Books Inc. Mountain View event, Auntie Dori will lead a special Saturday storytime to celebrate Deborah Underwood's new picture book "Here Comes Valentine Cat" — which features a cat who isn't a fan of Valentine's Day. Feb. 13, 4-6 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 415-643-3400. www.booksinc.net/event/here-comes-valentine-cat-storytime-books-inc-mountain-view

Intro to Mixed Media This Community School of Music and Arts introductory class for ages 8 to 13 will allow students to try out collage, sculpture and more over the course of six sessions. All materials will be provided. Saturdays, Feb. 13-March 19, 11:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m. \$120. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. register.asapconnected.com/default.aspx?org=3596

FILM

'Mega-Drought' and 'Earth Under Water' In honor of the 2016 Silicon Valley Reads theme "Chance of Rain: The Impact of Climate Change on Our Lives," the Mountain View Public Library will offer showings of two 45-minute films on drought and climate change: "Mega-Drought" and "Earth Under Water." There will be a 10-minute intermission between the films. Feb. 9, 6:30-8:45 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin

St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6882. mountainview.gov/librarycalendar

HEALTH

Pilates Cardiocamp in Los Altos Pilates Cardiocamp morning fitness classes aim to help students develop better posture, a stronger back and a firmer body while reducing body fat. Visit the website for specific class prices. Year-round, Monday-Friday, 6 a.m. (Christ Episcopal); Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. (Martí's). \$12-\$25 per class. Christ Episcopal Church, 1040 Border Road, and Martí's Dance Studio, 1140 Riverside Drive, Los Altos. Call 866-339-4438. pilatescardiocamp.com

FOOD AND DRINK

Disrupting Kosher: Pop-Up Kosher Restaurant In partnership with L'chaim Foods, the Oshman Family JCC will welcome celebrity chef Itta Werdiger Roth for a unique Kosher Pop-Up experience. Seating is limited. Feb. 14, 6-8 p.m. \$40 regular ticket; \$50 with babysitting; \$35 vegetarian only. Taube Koret Campus for Jewish Life, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. www.paloaltojcc.org

ON STAGE

'Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin' TheatreWorks Silicon Valley will kick off the New Year with the regional premiere of a new work by performer and playwright Hershey Felder, in which he inhabits the persona and story of "America's Composer," Irving Berlin. See the website for specific times, dates and pricing. Tuesday-Sunday, Jan. 13-Feb. 14. \$25-\$74. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. www.theatreworks.org

Comedians at Red Rock On Valentine's Day weekend, Bay Area comic Kevin Wong will host a special night of comedy that will include variety of performers who have appeared at the Punch Line, Cobbs, San Jose Improv, Tommy T's and the SF International Comedy Competition. Feb. 13, 8 p.m. Free. Red Rock Coffee, 201 Castro St., Mountain View. www.redrockcoffee.org

West Bay Opera: 'Eugene Onegin' For its next production, West Bay Opera will stage Tchaikovsky's "Eugene Onegin," Pushkin's timeless story of love unfulfilled, performed in Russian with English titles. Presented in collaboration with Mark Foehringer's Dance Project|SF, the opera will include sumptuous costumes, elaborate sets, and a chorus and orchestra. Feb. 19 and 27, 8 p.m.; Feb. 21 and 28, 2 p.m. \$45-\$83. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-424-9999. www.westbayopera.org

SENIORS

Learn to play Pickleball Held next to the tennis courts at Rengstorff Park, this event will teach seniors how to play pickleball, a growing sport in the U.S. that is easy on the joints. All equipment will be provided; participants should wear court shoes. Wednesdays, Dec. 9-March 30, 1-3 p.m. Free (donations accepted). Rengstorff Park, 201 S. Rengstorff Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-254-1041. www.usapa.org

Senior Companions info session This event will inform community members about the Senior Companions program, through which seniors can assist other seniors who want to continue living independently by helping with transportation to doctor appointments, grocery shopping and more. Feb. 11, 1-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. mountainview.gov/seniors

SVILC Housing Search This two-hour workshop will provide an overview of the services the Silicon Valley Independent Living Center (SVILC) provides to the cross-disability community in Santa Clara County. The program will focus on how the center can assist with finding and securing integrated, affordable and accessible housing. Feb.

11, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330. mountainview.gov/seniors

LECTURES & TALKS

'Voices of the Undocumented' discussion Authors Val Rosenfeld and Flor Fortunati will participate in a reading and discussion of their book "Voices of the Undocumented," which tells the stories of nine undocumented individuals and the challenges they face. Feb. 11, 6:30-8 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6337. mountainview.gov/librarycalendar

Ann Wein on modeling natural disasters Anne Wein, operations research analyst with the U.S. Geological Survey, will summarize the methodologies used in modeling natural disasters, describe findings from recently studied scenarios and note how these studies can be used to mitigate or plan for natural disasters. The event is part of the Technology and Society Committee Luncheon Forum series. Feb. 10, 11:45 a.m.-1 p.m. \$12 lunch. Hangen Szechuan Restaurant, 134 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 650-969-7215. tian.greens.org/TASC.shtml

Author Barry Lancet on 'Pacific Burn' Barry Lancet will share "Pacific Burn," the third installment in his critically-acclaimed series following antique dealer and private investigator Jim Brodie as a search for a legendary killer takes him from San Francisco to the U.S. capital, Tokyo, Kyoto and beyond. Feb. 11, 7-9 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View. Call 415-643-3400. www.booksinc.net/event/barry-lancet-books-inc-mountain-view

Author Jason Denzel on 'Mystic' Jason Denzel — founder of Dragonmont.com, an online community for fans of Robert Jordan's "The Wheel of Time" series — will discuss the first book in his own new epic fantasy series, "Mystic." Feb. 10, 7 p.m. Free. Books Inc., 301 Castro St., Mountain View. www.booksinc.net/event/jason-denzel-books-inc-mountain-view

Other Voices: 'Trans-Pacific Plutocracy' At this month's Other Voices forum, Robert Younger and Xiomara Castro will participate in a discussion about what is wrong with the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Attendees will also learn about grassroots strategies and how they can get involved in lobbying Congress to vote no on TPP. Feb. 10, 7-8 p.m. Free. Midpeninsula Media Center, 900 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-326-8837. www.peaceandjustice.org

TEEN ACTIVITIES

Intro to Ceramics Offered by the Community School of Music and Arts, this six-week mini session on ceramics for teens ages 13 to 18 will teach basic hand-building and glazing skills, as well as provide experience at using a pottery wheel. All materials will be provided. Tuesdays, Feb. 9-March 15, 4-5:30 p.m. \$120. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. register.asapconnected.com/default.aspx?org=3596

Intro to Drawing The Community School of Music and Arts will lead a six-week course for teens on beginning drawing techniques. Students will explore different materials, as well as learn composition and observation methods. All materials will be provided. Saturdays, Feb. 13-March 19, 3:30-5 p.m. \$120. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. register.asapconnected.com/default.aspx?org=3596

Intro to Painting This introductory six-week class for teens at the Community School of Music and Arts will give students room to explore various painting mediums, including watercolor, acrylic and oil. All materials will be provided. Tuesdays, Feb. 9-March 15, 4:30-6 p.m. \$120. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. register.asapconnected.com/default.aspx?org=3596

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Bulletin Board

115 Announcements

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130 Classes & Instruction

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135 Group Activities

SRI Organon Toastmasters

145 Non-Profits Needs

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210 Garage/Estate Sales

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Public Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

PAUL LIBENSON CONSULTING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 612772
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Paul Libenson Consulting, located at 672 Chiquita Ave., Apt. 1, Mountain View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
PAUL LIBENSON
672 Chiquita Ave., Apt. 1
Mountain View, CA 94041
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/02/2016.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on January 7, 2016.
(MVV Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 2016)


SONG PA KOREAN CUISINE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 613188
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Song Pa Korean Cuisine, located at 841 Villa St., Mountain View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
SUNG MI LEE
22 Terra Vista Ave. #G21
San Francisco, CA 94115
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 01/20/2016.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on January 21, 2016.
(MVV Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 2016)


DiscoverTown Tours
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: 613480
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
DiscoverTown Tours, located at 2005 California St. #23, Mountain View, CA, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
JOHN J. LAWLER
2005 California St. #23
Mountain View, CA 94040
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 1-29-16.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on January 29, 2016.
(MVV Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26, 2016)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RUTH MARIE WEVEIR
Case No.: 1-16-PR 178039
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of RUTH MARIE WEVEIR. A Petition for Probate has been filed by: MICHELLE READE and YVONNE PETERSEN in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. The Petition for Probate requests that: MICHELLE READE and YVONNE PETERSEN be appointed as personal 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 personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless

they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent 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 on March 14, 2016 at 9:00 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 petition, 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 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: Carol N. Shapiro 3880 S. Bascom Avenue, Suite 106 San Jose, CA 95124 (MVV Feb. 5, 12, 19, 2016)

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THE DEADLINE TO ADVERTISE IN THE VOICE PUBLIC NOTICES IS: 5 P.M. THE PREVIOUS FRIDAY
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Adam M. Touni
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Wendy Kandasamy
Luxury Property Specialist
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437 Lytton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301 | License #01880106, #01425837

AW
The AW Team





1537 Tiptoe Lane, Los Altos

This charming ranch is a true gem! Nestled in a quiet cul-de-sac on a large lot. It rests on over a quarter of an acre! Close to top-ranking schools. This area is highly coveted. The home features 4bd/3ba, 2,044+/-sf, a large 12,632+/-sf lot, a stunning, new remodeled kitchen, new bathrooms, plush new carpet, a gorgeous new travertine entryway, stylish new lighting and a new roof. *Your future home awaits you!*

Offered at \$2,495,000 | 1537TiptoeLane.com



5257 Manderston Drive

The St. Georges Collection at Silver Creek Valley Country Club

San Jose This warm and inviting home is in a private setting featuring a Heritage Oak tree in front and rear views across the actual Silver Creek and the 13th fairway. The dramatic two-story foyer and formal living areas are draped with sun light, neutral colors and designer finishes. Privacy, convenience, proximity to the city, the active lifestyle of the country club community and a home that you will enjoy with your family and friends for years to come. 3bd/2.5ba, den, 2,005+/-sf with a 2-car garage and private non-shared driveway.

Offered at \$1,245,000 | 5257ManderstonDrive.com

For more information or a private showing please contact Eric Parker at 408.202.9000



The Packard Team Amy & Von Packard

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Square footage, acreage, and other information herein, has been received from one or more of a variety of different sources. Such information has not been verified by Alain Pinel Realtors. If important to buyers, buyers should conduct their own investigation.

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Local Area Market Update as of February 1, 2016

City	Active Properties	Pending	Lowest	Highest
Santa Clara	18	47	\$599,999	\$1,545,000
Sunnyvale	19	52	\$699,888	\$1,998,888
Mountain View	10	18	\$1,198,000	\$3,495,000
Los Altos	2	8	\$1,879,000	\$4,295,000
Los Altos Hills	21	4	\$2,388,888	\$19,988,000
Palo Alto	21	9	\$1,195,000	\$14,288,000
Menlo Park	18	13	\$649,500	\$6,295,000

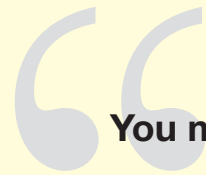
Call me for the advice you need to capitalize on the 2016 Real Estate Market!
Above information obtained on the MLS as of February 1, 2016 and reflects Single Family Homes

TORI ANN
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Tori Ann Atwell
Broker Associate
(650) 996-0123
BRE# 00927794
www.ToriSellsRealEstate.com

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What can I do
for you?



Nancy Adele Stuhr

Mountain View
Neighborhood Specialist

650.575.8300

email: nancy@nancystuhr.com
web: www.nancystuhr.com



Calif. BRE 00963170

512 Mansfield Drive, Mountain View



Spacious and well-maintained home in desirable Waverly Park! Top Mountain View Schools (Huff, Graham, Mountain View – Buyer to verify). Excellent single-level floor plan with separate living room, separate dining room, family room open to eat-in kitchen. Cozy fireplace in family room. New carpets and interior/exterior paint. Kitchen with updated cabinetry and pantry, dual-pane windows throughout. Interior/quiet street, easy access to El Camino Hospital, Cuesta and Cooper Parks, commute routes, retail and shopping.

Offered at \$1,948,000



- 4 bedrooms
- 2.5 bathrooms
- 2126 sq. ft. living space (approx.)
- 8000 sq. ft. lot (approx.)
- 2-car attached garage



Suzanne O'Brien
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CalBRE# 01467942

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LOS ALTOS HILLS \$4,200,000
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LOS ALTOS HILLS \$4,190,000
4 BR 4.5 BA Spectacular views of bay, city lights & wooded hillsides. MB w/bay window & more!
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SAN MATEO COUNTY \$3,777,000
By appt only: Rare 38 acres w/awesome knoll top views! Vineyards, corp. retreat, horses!
Jan Strohecker CalBRE #00620365 650.325.6161



MENLO PARK \$1,698,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Coming soon: Rare stunning Menlo Heights End Unit townhouse w/attached 2car garage!
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MOUNTAIN VIEW \$1,490,000
3 BR 2 BA Lovely St. Francis Acres Home with Los Altos schools!
Elizabeth Thompson CalBRE #01382997 650.941.7040



MOUNTAIN VIEW \$1,475,000
2 BR 1.5 BA A true Downtown Mountain View CHARMER on an idyllic st just 2 blocks from Castro St!
Kim Copher CalBRE #01423875 650.941.7040



CUPERTINO Sat 1:30 - 4:30 \$1,449,000
22475 Rancho Deep Cliff Dr 2 BR 2 BA Enjoy the privacy and convenience of living in this much sought-after gated community.
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MENLO PARK \$1,298,000
2 BR 2 BA Just blocks from downtown Menlo Park in a secured building with a doorman
Margot Goodman CalBRE #00929691 650.941.7040



SOUTH PALO ALTO \$1,136,000
3 BR 2 BA PA condo in excellent condition! Great Location. 2.9 Miles to Stanford University.
Smitha Aiyar CalBRE #01892410 650.325.6161



MOUNTAIN VIEW \$650,000
2 BR 1 BA Inviting spacious Corner Unit in small complex. Easy access to commute, near downtown.
Elena Talis CalBRE #01396001 650.325.6161



WOODSIDE \$599,000
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