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MOVIES | 18



Old-school  
butcher  
shop

WEEKEND | 15



MAGALI GAUTHIER

**Protesters** march past the corner of Shoreline Boulevard and El Camino Real on Dec. 22 decrying the landlord-backed lawsuit against Measure V, the voter-approved rent control law that was supposed to take effect Dec. 23. Its enforcement has been temporarily blocked by a judge, an action the Mountain View City Council declined to challenge.

## Court puts Measure V on hold

NEW RENT CONTROL LAW'S ROLL-OUT DELAYED BY LEGAL CHALLENGE

By Mark Noack

Two months ago, Measure V might have stood for “victory” — but now that might as well be “vendetta.” The long political

battle for rent control Mountain View appears to now be spiraling into what could be an even longer courtroom feud.

On the eve of its implementation last week, the

voter-approved charter amendment hit a brick wall after the California Apartment Association filed a lawsuit alleging the law is unconstitutional. With

► See **MEASURE V**, page 9

## Mountain View's motto: build, baby, build

HOUSING PROJECTS, RENT CONTROL AND OFFICE DEVELOPMENT IN 2016

By Mark Noack

Construction cranes seem to be everywhere, and plenty more will be joining the fray in the months to come. For better or worse, Mountain View's slogan for 2016 might as well be “build, baby, build.”

Throughout the past year, city

leaders have viewed the private-market rush to invest money in Mountain View with both trepidation and hope. On one hand, many of the city's large projects would bring traffic, displacement and disruption

for current inhabitants. But as a future vision, elected leaders see the seemingly bottomless desire to build in Mountain View as the best way to fuel a turnaround for Silicon Valley's deepening problems, particularly for housing and transportation.

In the long-term, City Council

► See **BUILDING**, page 8

## A busy year for El Camino Hospital

IN 2016, HOSPITAL EYES EXPANSION TO SAN JOSE, DUMPS CEO, SPARS WITH NURSES

By Kevin Forestieri

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW

El Camino Hospital spent a lot of time in the spotlight this year, presenting big plans to expand both in and out of Mountain View, ousting its executive leadership and butting heads with its nursing staff over contract negotiations. The dust will hardly settle at the close of 2016 either, as El Camino forges ahead on new construction and searches for a new CEO to guide the community hospital through the coming years.

In June, the Mountain View City Council agreed to allow El Camino Hospital to expand right up to the development limits set in the community hospital's master plan, paving the way for more parking, a new seven-story medical office building and a larger, 36-bed facility for the hospital's behavioral health services. The decision came despite warnings from nearby residents that the traffic along Grant Road — which is sluggish in both directions during commute hours — would get worse as the hospital expects to add 120 new employees.

Since then, the hospital has moved quickly on its roughly \$1.1 billion expansion plans, and has already broken ground on the new behavioral health building and the addition to the parking garage that abuts the St. Francis High School campus. Construction is expected to continue through 2018.

But that's not all. El Camino Hospital's board of directors surprised the public in January when they unanimously agreed to purchase nearly 16 acres of undeveloped land in South San Jose, 19 miles away from the Mountain View campus. The

hope, according to the board, is that the \$45 million land acquisition will help the hospital expand its services and become more financially solvent in a highly competitive health care environment. It's still undecided what kind of medical facilities will ultimately get built on the land.

The hospital's corporate board is made up of nine members, including all five voter-elected members of the El Camino Healthcare District board. The district is a public agency that collects taxes and, by extension, has a stake in operating the hospital itself. Some members of the public questioned whether buying land so far away from the health care district's boundaries — which encompasses Mountain View, Los Altos and much of Sunnyvale — was the best use of the hospital's resources.

Despite having five elected officials discussing the acquisition in closed session, hospital staff maintained that El Camino had no legal obligation to disclose or discuss the land purchase openly with the public, and that decisions on real estate can be conducted in closed session without advanced notice.

The board of directors delivered another big surprise to the public in August, when they agreed during a weekend closed-session meeting not to renew the contract of former hospital president and CEO Tomi Ryba, who officially stepped down at the end of October. Hospital board members have been

► See **EL CAMINO**, page 6

INSIDE

GOINGS ON 20 | MARKETPLACE 21 | REAL ESTATE 23

# Happy New Year!

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PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES WELCH

Organist **James Welch** will perform his all-Bach themed concert on New Year's Eve.

## New Year's Eve countdown

WHERE TO GO FOR MUSIC, FOOD, FESTIVITIES

### All-Bach organ concert

Santa Clara University organist and lecturer in music James Welch will perform his annual New Year's Eve organ concert — this time with an all-Bach theme — at 8 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto. The St. Mark's pipe organ, which boasts around 5,000 pipes, is one of the largest in the area, and Welch's program will feature numerous Bach favorites as well as a Vivaldi concerto arranged for the organ by Bach. Admission is \$10. Go to [welchorganist.com](http://welchorganist.com).

### Fab Four tribute

Always dreamed of spending the holidays with the Fab Four? Locals can pretend they're in old Liverpool with the Beatles tribute band The Sun Kings, who will ring in the New Year with a concert at Redwood City's Club Fox (2209 Broadway Street). Tickets are \$50-\$75 and the show starts at 9 p.m. Go to [clubfoxrwc.com](http://clubfoxrwc.com).

### Jazz and belly dancing

Morocco's Restaurant in Mountain View (873 Castro St.) will host a New Year's Eve dinner with live belly dancing and jazz music, with doors opening at 4 p.m. Dinner starts at \$40 per person, with a variety of menu options (including vegetarian) available. Go to [moroccosrestaurant.com](http://moroccosrestaurant.com).

### Five-course celebration

If you're looking to ring in the new year with some fine dining, you may want to head to The Sea by Alexander's Steakhouse (4269 El Camino Real, Palo Alto), which is offering a five-course New Year's Eve dinner, including a champagne toast and two-macaron gift box. The seafood-based meal is \$175 per person, plus \$65 optional wine pairings, and seatings will be available between 5:30 and 9:30 p.m.

### Free rides on Caltrain

If your New Year's Eve plans include imbibing alcohol, or if you just want to avoid the roads altogether, Caltrain is offering free rides after 8 p.m., and extra southbound trains departing from the San Francisco station at 12:45 a.m., 1:15 a.m., 1:45 a.m. and 2:15 a.m., making all local stops to the San Jose Diridon station.

While Caltrain officials want party-goers to make the commuter rail its designated driver, don't expect to continue the party while on board. Open containers of alcohol aren't allowed on trains after 9 p.m. and anyone getting disruptively rowdy will be escorted off of the train.

More information is at [caltrain.org](http://caltrain.org).

—Embarcadero Media staff

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NATALIA NAZAROVA

Elise Koo, left, and Lillian Liu, both age 7, are busy painting at the “toys and gifts galore” workshop on Dec. 22 at the Community School of Music and Arts. The nonprofit organization benefits from contributions to the Voice’s Holiday Fund.

## Nurturing future musicians and artists

CSMA GROWS ITS ROLE FOR TEACHING YOUNG TALENT

By Mark Noack

It sounds hard to believe, but a drab concrete building at Mountain View’s edge is home to what might be called the lifeline for the Bay Area’s youth arts and music scene.

This building is the campus of the Community School of Music & Arts, a nonprofit that singlehandedly handles art and music education for 16,000 students per year, ranging from finger-painting preschoolers to budding high-school Mozarts.



Since its founding almost 50 years ago, CSMA has worked to pick up arts education as school districts downsized these programs, usually at a lower cost. That trend hasn’t abated — and in fact, it seems to be going into overdrive as schools refocus to meet government-mandated testing standards.

Today, the music and arts

school offers weekly classes for 45 public schools from San Jose to Daly City. In addition, the school offers a wide range of other classes, including for corporate workers, special-needs students and pretty much anyone from age 1 to 100.

While these classes aren’t free, CSMA officials say they’re making their strongest effort to date to make these available to all, rich or poor. This year, the nonprofit expanded

► See **CSMA**, page 9

## MV schools take on big challenges in 2016

SOME GRAPPLE WITH CONTROVERSIES, OTHERS PURSUE BIG OPPORTUNITIES

By Kevin Forestieri

It’s been a busy year for all three of Mountain View’s local school districts. Whether it’s building new schools, closing the achievement gap or finding ways to pay teachers without breaking the bank, district officials have had to deal with touchy subjects all throughout 2016.

But based on how things panned out this year, each school

### 2016 YEAR IN REVIEW

district will be heading into 2017 on a different note. The Mountain View Whisman School District resolved major differences with its teachers union, put together a plan to finance a new school at Slater Elementary and developed a five-year strategic plan that lays the groundwork for

improving performance among the city’s lowest performing students.

Although the Los Altos School District scored a big victory by renewing its parcel tax this year, it’s still unknown whether the district will buy new land for another school campus — and if it does, where it will be located and at what cost to the taxpayers. On

► See **SCHOOLS**, page 7

## Food bank faces deep drop in donations

DEMAND FOR SECOND HARVEST SERVICES AT RECORD LEVELS, BUT DONATIONS ARE WAY DOWN

By Kevin Forestieri

Silicon Valley’s local food bank is sounding the alarm this holiday season after donations from residents in the South Bay and Peninsula fell short in November and the first half of December. If the trend continues, new pantry programs could fall by the wayside and dietary staples like chicken and eggs could vanish from the shelves.

The Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties faces a two-fold problem: demand is increasing for food pantry services in both counties, and the amount of money coming in is declining. A whopping 18,000 more people sought out Second Harvest’s food services last month compared to November 2015, adding up to nearly 300,000 clients served in that month alone.

The trend seems contradictory, given the glowing statistics about the local economy. Job growth continues to rise at a staggering rate, and unemployment sank last month to some of the lowest levels since 2001. Data from the state’s Employment Development Department put unemployment at 2.8 percent in San Mateo and 3.5 percent in Santa Clara counties. But amid the prosperity, hundreds of thousands of families — many of whom work service-sector jobs — are still barely scraping by and can’t afford their monthly grocery bills.

Kathy Jackson, the CEO of the local Second Harvest Food Bank, said it really speaks to the “wealth divide” in Silicon Valley that an estimated 30 percent of families rely on some degree of social services to make ends meet. It’s reached the point, she said, where the number of people picking up food from Second Harvest has far-eclipsed the number of people who sought help following the 2008 economic crash.

“We got to 253,000 (people) in one month during the worst of of the Great Recession,” Jackson said. “We’ve never seen a jump like this.”

The big challenge for Second Harvest is that, at a time when funding is needed the most, charitable donations to the food bank are down this holiday season. Donations in November fell short by \$1.5 million compared to last year, and the food bank was off by another \$200,000 in the first two weeks of December. The light funding during the winter months has major implications for Second Harvest’s year-round services.

“Food banks in particular heavily rely on that late-October and early-November time period,” Jackson said. “We raise half our money in a little over a quarter of the year.”

**‘We’ve never seen a jump (in demand) like this.’**

KATHY JACKSON,  
 SECOND HARVEST CEO

It’s hard to pinpoint exactly what happened. Jackson said it’s possible that the late election date coupled with an early Thanksgiving might have had a distracting presence during the month of November, and well as the intense interest in the election that lasted well after Nov. 8.

The first thing on the chopping block is new services that Second Harvest was scheduled to launch in 2017, which includes five “school pantries,” where local schools partner with the food bank to host pantry services on campus. An elementary school might designate one day out of the month, for example, to host a pop-up food pantry so families can stock up on the essentials.

Second Harvest also started a new “food pharmacy” program this year, where health clinics for low-income families provide free and healthy groceries tailored to the nutritional needs of patients dealing with chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension. Four new food pantries were scheduled to launch next year,

► See **FOOD BANK**, page 9

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## EL CAMINO

► Continued from page 1

tight-lipped on the reasons for dropping Ryba, who led the hospital since 2011, informing the public through a press release that both parties were “in agreement” when it came to parting ways.

Just one month later, that same board agreed to give Ryba a \$224,000 bonus for her performance as CEO, on top of her \$800,300 annual salary, despite the decision not to renew her contract.

Hospital officials are still searching for a permanent successor, and selected interim CEO Donald Sibery to lead the hospital over the next six months. Sibery, a long-time health care consultant from Michigan, scored a contract with El Camino Hospital that includes a \$650,000 salary over the life of the contract by way of \$50,000 payments every other week; round-trip airfare to Michigan every month; and a furnished apartment at a cost not to exceed \$5,000 per month.

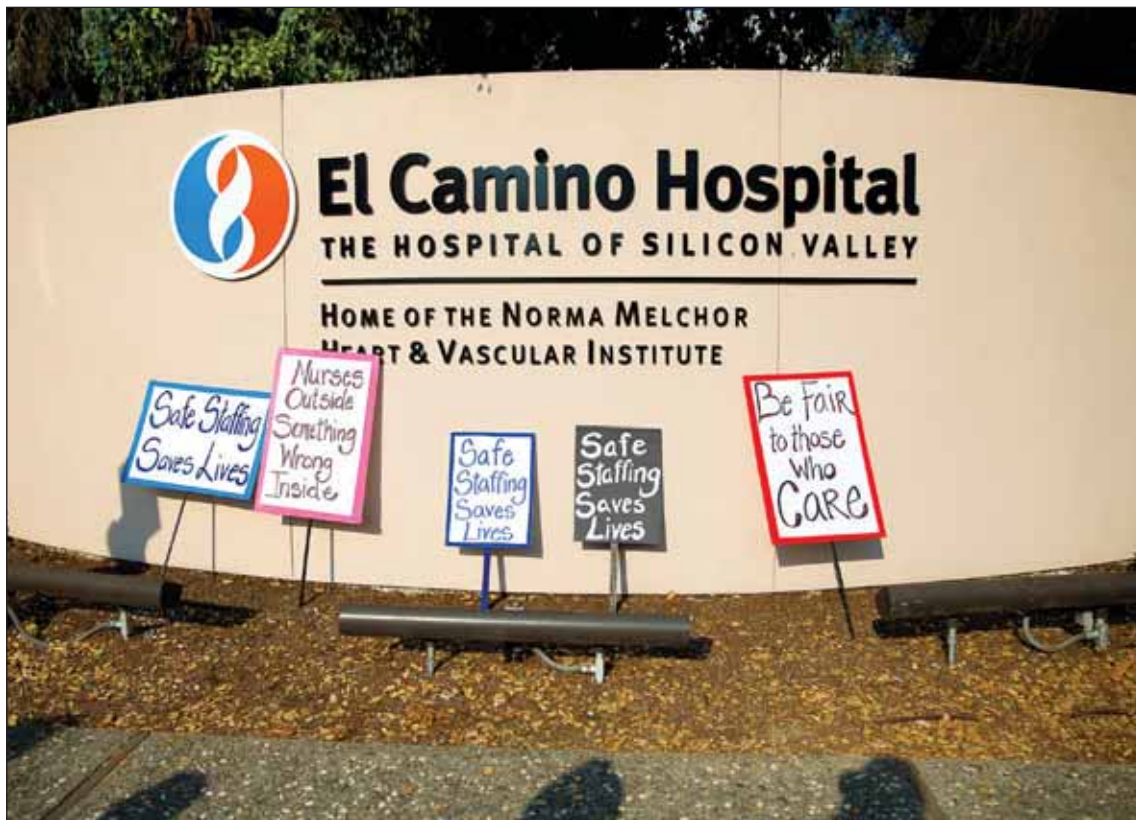
For much of 2016, El Camino Hospital grappled with tough negotiations with its nurses union, the Professional Resource for Nurses (PRN), over the terms of a new three-year contract. The nurses union argued that lower-than-satisfactory wage increases over the next three years, combined with cuts to health care benefits and decreased pay for night shifts and weekend work, amounted to an unacceptable deal. The deal was made even harder to



Tomi Ryba



Donald Sibery



Signs from El Camino Hospital nurses protesting their wages and working conditions rest against the El Camino Hospital sign on Sept. 9.

MICHELLE LE

strike amid handsome executive pay and perks for Ryba and the incoming interim CEO.

The bitter dispute over compensation for the hospital’s roughly 1,235 nurses from El Camino Hospital’s Mountain View and Los Gatos campuses came to a head in September, when more than 100 nurses picketed along Grant Road demanding a better deal. Contract disputes between the El Camino and PRN occasionally boil over into public view, but rarely reach the point of picketing, according to the union leadership.

After seven months of offers, counter-offers, mediation and rejected contracts, the nurses finally voted in late October to ratify a new contract that appears to have largely been a compromise. Health care benefits for dependents and “differential”

pay for evening and weekend nursing staff remained the same, but the pay increase — 10 percent over three years — fell short of the bargaining team’s original asking amount. Some nurses argued that the 2015-16 salary range of \$56.75 to \$95.41 per hour was hardly enough to keep up with the cost of living in the Bay Area.

The start of the year also marked the end of the Mountain View RotaCare Clinic, which operated out of a basement on the hospital’s campus and shut its doors for good in May. In its final years of operation, the free clinic saw fewer and fewer low-income and uninsured patients and dwindling demand for its services. Not only were more patients now covered through the expansion of the Affordable Care Act and Medi-Cal, but the high cost of living has pushed

many of the patients seeking free services from RotaCare out of the area.

Hospital staff claimed that money and staffing were never a core issue facing a clinic, but nevertheless said that the reduced patient numbers means they had two options: reduce the open hours of RotaCare or shut it down and transfer patients to the MayView Community Health Center. The El Camino Healthcare District’s board of directors voted for the latter, and committed \$2.4 million to MayView to help pay for the influx of new patients.

Since then, MayView has served close to 1,400 patients who transferred from RotaCare, and now sees more than double the number of uninsured patients. ■

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



Nurses protest outside of El Camino Hospital on Sept. 9 over a contract dispute with hospital officials over wages and benefits.

MICHELLE LE



El Camino Hospital’s protracted contract dispute with its nurses union was finally resolved in late October.

MICHELLE LE

## SCHOOLS

► Continued from page 5

top of that, district officials feared they may not have the financial wherewithal to give teachers a 3 percent raise this year.

### Mountain View Whisman looks to the future

The Mountain View Whisman School District kicked off 2016 on a somewhat unpleasant note, after mulling through the results of a scathing district-wide audit that had some choice words about the way the district teaches its most needy students. The firm that conducted the audit, Cambridge Education, found that the district had a series of systemic problems that are holding back students throughout the district, particularly English-language learners and students with disabilities. The report called the district's English Language Development program, for example, "ineffective, inconsistent, and, in many cases, counterproductive."

District staff, under the leadership of Superintendent Ayinde Rudolph, have since opted for a slow and methodical approach to solving these problems, starting with a months-long process to create a new strategic plan for the district. Among other things, the plan calls for increasing proficiency in language arts, math and science among the district's English-language learners, with a goal of reducing the achievement gap between traditionally under-performing students and their peers by 10 percent in the next five years.

Families in the Whisman and Slater area of Mountain View got to rejoice this year, after the school board agreed to commit an extra \$40 million to construct a new school at the site of the former Slater Elementary school, which closed down in 2006. Whether to build a new elementary school has been a testy debate going back several years, as district officials went back and forth on whether there was enough money in the construction budget — or enough students in the district — to spread amongst nine elementary school campuses. Families in the area will get to kick off 2017 with a meeting on what the new school at Slater should look like.

From January to June, the district sparred with the leadership of the teachers union and, up until the last minute, appeared to be at an impasse over salaries and other contract terms. The Mountain View Educators Association (MVEA) fought for an ambitious 10 percent salary increase for the 2016-17 school year, claiming that the district's teaching staff is getting a raw deal compared to



MICHELLE LE

*Police investigated multiple crimes allegedly committed by students at Mountain View High School throughout 2016.*

other school districts in the Bay Area.

Teacher union representatives clashed with district administrators during negotiations, claiming that the district's "Negotiations News" newsletter that it sent out to the school community was biased and indicated that all the teachers union cares about is money. A proposal to work together on a joint news release after each meeting was rejected by district staff in March. The contract, which was ratified in August, gave teachers an 8 percent raise.

Just like last year, 2016 was also marked by several heated arguments at board meetings involving former board member Steve Nelson, who finished his term as trustee this month, and the superintendent. Last month, Nelson demanded that Rudolph "sit down and be quiet" during an argument over public records requests. In September, both Nelson and Rudolph had a heated exchange after Nelson canvassed a Mountain View neighborhood regarding a possible teacher housing project at Cooper Park without first getting the approval of the district.

Nelson opted not to run for reelection this year, and the newly sworn in board members have vowed to create a more cordial and friendly dialogue with the district's leadership.

### Plenty still up in the air for Los Altos District

Throughout 2016, the Los Altos School District has been pushing to find a suitable location for a new school, as board members and district officials alike claim that the best way to solve overcrowding — both now and in the future — is buying land and building a new campus.

But the district will be ending the year with little progress after multiple deals with private

property owners and a possible agreement with Los Altos city officials went nowhere. The first setback came in January, when the district negotiations to buy land at 201 San Antonio Circle fizzled out. The decision came after the property owner made it clear the deal would be for a ground lease, and not a sale of the property.

As an alternative, school board members hoped to broker a deal with the city of Los Altos for city-owned land — likely somewhere on the civic center site. But the Los Altos City Council dumped the joint-committee between the two agencies, criticizing the board and district officials for failing to consider putting a school on the district's existing land.

The final land purchase attempt to kick the bucket was in November, when the district pursued a deal with Boston-based TA Realty to buy land at 5150 El Camino Real, the current site of an office complex just blocks away from the San Antonio Shopping Center. District residents, parents and representatives from Bullis Charter School voiced opposition, calling it an ill-conceived idea to build a school on a small 3.8-acre piece of land along such a busy thoroughfare.

The start of 2016 was also a tough time for teachers in the Los Altos School District, who faced losing a 3 percent salary increase this year. The school board agreed to re-open the three-year contract to reconsider the final salary increase amid worries that the district may blow through its reserves in the coming years, prompting layoffs and other drastic cuts. District officials eventually agreed to the raise.

Teachers seeking relief from the high cost of living in the Bay Area may have found help

from some unexpected places this year, after Los Altos School District board member Sangeeth Peruri spearheaded multiple efforts to help house teachers. Peruri launched a program that links teachers with district residents willing to rent out a room at below-market rate, and brokered a possible partnership between the district and a new startup aimed at helping teachers with a down payment on a new home.

### High schools face controversies

The Mountain View-Los Altos High School district is typically a quiet, well-oiled machine, with uncontroversial leadership at the helm and plenty of awards and recognition for both academic achievement and for pushing low-income and minority students to challenge themselves with tough classes.

This largely remained true in 2016, but it also came with a series of controversies and school-related police activity that occasionally put the school district in an uncomfortable spotlight. What's more, the district's state standardized test scores showed students performance went down by no small margin, leaving district officials at a loss to explain what happened.

One of the most recent controversies to hit the district was in the immediate aftermath of the presidential election, when Mountain View High School history teacher Frank Navarro was put on administrative leave for allegedly making politically charged comments in the classroom. Navarro, a noted Holocaust scholar, told the press that he was put on paid leave by school and district administrators for an unfounded complaint by a parent that he compared President-Elect Donald Trump with Adolph Hitler.

The decision prompted an

outcry from parents and students, as well as comments from around the country supporting both Navarro's right to free speech as well as his right to make connections between current and historic leaders. A Change.org petition asking Principal Dave Grissom to reverse the paid administrative leave picked up more than 42,000 signatures in few days. District officials changed course over the weekend and allowed Navarro to return to school after missing only an afternoon of class, and flatly denied that the administrative action had anything to do with Hitler comparisons.

Just one month later, it was revealed that the Mountain View Police Department had been quietly conducting a four-month long investigation of several Mountain View High School students, following reports that the teens shared naked photos over the file-sharing service Dropbox. The investigation, which was first revealed by the San Francisco Chronicle, remained under wraps until December after district officials said they were told by law enforcement not to mention the investigation to prevent suspects from destroying any evidence.

The online behavior of students has been an increasing problem among high school students in Mountain View. In October, three students attending Mountain View High School were arrested over alleged threats made over Snapchat.

Perhaps the biggest outstanding question going into 2017 for the high school district is what to make of this year's state standardized test results, which showed that the district's overall academic performance had declined. The number of students meeting state standards for English language arts dropped precipitously from 75 percent in 2015 to 69 percent in 2016. Performance in math was a little off the mark, dropping from 65 percent to 64 meeting state standards.

It was all shrugs and speculation at a special school board study session on the topic, where district officials conceded that the drop in test scores was both a surprise and an anomaly. Other metrics, including SAT test scores, ACT scores, participation in Advanced Placement (AP) classes and performance on the AP test, all showed that students were doing much better than the state and Santa Clara County as a whole. As spring approaches and junior-year students prepare to take the test, district officials suggested that putting more emphasis on its importance — which currently has little effect on a student's college prospects — may be a top priority. ■

## BUILDING

► Continued from page 1

members across the board have indicated Mountain View should be able to build its way out of its problems. But the public's demand for quicker relief proved a constant source of tension throughout 2016, best shown by voters' support for rent control in November.

For City Council members, this year has been a tricky balance of satisfying immediate needs and assuring the public that a better future is coming.

## Housing goes from bad to worse

From the start of the year, it was clear that housing would dominate local politics. Starting in the final months of 2015, scores of tenants began making regular appearances at City Council meetings, complaining that the low-end rental market was moving from expensive to absurd.

Week after week, council meetings stretched into six-hour marathons that showed a surprising disconnect between elected leaders and a struggling population of the city not normally credited with civic engagement.

City Council members — all of whom own their own homes — seemed initially skeptical of apartment tenants' accounts of 30-percent rent increases and working families being displaced. When it came to decision time, the council majority said they could support strengthening lease rules and giving out rental-assistance money. But they refused to have the city meddle directly in the rental market through rent control, as many tenants were requesting.

On a fundamental level, councilmen Ken Rosenberg, Mike Kasperzak, John McAlister, John Inks and Chris Clark said they disagreed with the concept of regulating housing prices. They

described it as short-sighted, clumsy and prone to generate more problems than it solved. For that reason, they voted down a proposal by city staff for a binding arbitration system, calling it "soft rent control".

That decision planted the seeds for Measure V when the political groundswell clamoring for rent-control was quickly redirected toward a citizens' ballot initiative.

City Council members tried to resuscitate the soft rent control program they had earlier rejected as competing ballot Measure W. Despite a well-funded opposition campaign and scant support among elected leaders, Measure V emerged victorious on election day, while W was defeated.

As 2016 comes to a close, landlord advocates have filed a lawsuit to challenging Measure V as unconstitutional. For the next few months at least, rent will be on hiatus as the legal issues are resolved.

## Some succeed, some fail

Mirroring the housing situation, local business this year also fell into two different camps. On one hand, Mountain View's tech giants were laying out ambitious visions to dramatically expand their presence in the city. But many smaller businesses showed

they were locked in a struggle to survive.

Perhaps no other business showed this divide as much as BookBuyers, the second-hand bookstore on Castro Street. Despite abundant public support and fundraising efforts, the 25-year-old bookshop closed its doors for good earlier this year, joining other small businesses such as Zareen's and Seascape pet store, whose owners say they were priced out of the area.

The challenges for small-business owners have frequently placed them on opposing sides of elected leaders. Many business leaders came out strongly against proposals they saw as harmful to their bottom line, including an effort to raise the minimum wage to \$15 by 2018 and a plan for closing Castro Street to car traffic at the train tracks.

Meanwhile, the city's tech firms seem to be operating in a different world. Self-driving cars on city streets are ubiquitous. Zume, a Mountain View pizza start-up, received international headlines for its robot-based kitchen and plans for self-driving delivery trucks that could bake pizzas en route to customers.

## Google's growing pains

The biggest Mountain View-based business of them all

— Google — revealed more of its plans for its long-term growth in the city. In a land-swap deal with LinkedIn, the companies traded various properties to consolidate their positions. The result was Google became the city's predominant development interest in North Bayshore while LinkedIn relocated its headquarters to the Sunnyvale border.

Perhaps more than any other private developer, Mountain View leaders have viewed Google as a partner in helping solve a variety of social woes. City officials continue to press forward on plans for the tech giant to build 10,000 housing units in the North Bayshore area, although the company has indicated recently that most new housing would need to be reserved for its own workforce.

A bevy of other large housing developments are following in Google's wake, to the consternation of some residents. In a sign of things to come, many residents have come out forcefully against early plans to redevelop and intensify the density of the city's older housing. As more of these projects come forward, city leaders will face political challenges in balancing the strain on the city's infrastructure. ■

## Mountain View Whisman School District

## OPEN ENROLLMENT 2017-18

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January 6 – February 3

MVWSD offers Choice Programs:

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## Google gives \$800,000 to boost downtown WiFi

By Mark Noack

Plans for a citywide fiber-optic network may be on hiatus, but Google is looking into other ways to grow internet access in Mountain View. The search-engine giant is cutting the city an \$800,000 check to expand free public WiFi through the downtown area.

The tech giant has a checkered history with attempting to expand internet access to

its hometown. Back in 2006, the company launched its own Google WiFi system, a network of about 560 light pole-mounted nodes providing free hookups to households throughout the city. Users initially found the service dazzling, but later disappointing. About five years in, complaints began mounting that the WiFi was unbearably slow and unpredictable, and prone to complete service blackouts.

In 2014, Google decided to

scuttle the system. The company gave Mountain View a \$500,000 technology grant to fund a third-party company to take over the wireless hubs downtown. At the time, the setup was portrayed as temporary since the company was beginning talks to bring its much-faster Google Fiber service to Mountain View.

Fast forward to 2016 and not much has changed. In May, Google officials signed an agreement with Mountain View and other South Bay cities to install the fiber-optic service, but there's been no action since then. In October, the company announced it was hitting the brakes on its plans to bring Google Fiber to most cities.

Mountain View officials say the new \$800,000 check from Google will be used to expand the existing downtown WiFi system. Roger Jensen, Mountain View's information-technology director, said the city will work with a contractor to add about 40 new wireless hubs downtown to provide exclusive bandwidth for the city. The new expanded service area will go along Castro Street, from El Camino Real to Evelyn Avenue.

Google officials did not return calls for this story, but a spokesman noted in an email that Mountain View is the only city receiving this grant money. ■

## Kenneth Vladimir Christie

September 3, 1933 – December 21, 2016

Kenneth Vladimir Christie: born September 3, 1933 in Bronx, NY, entered into rest on December 21, 2016 in Los Altos, California.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Arlene Christie and his three children: Diana Christie of Los Angeles, Calif, Jonathan Christie (Karen) of Venice, Calif, and Robin Schultz (Dave) of Mountain View, Calif. He is preceded in death by his parents, Christo and Ivanka Vlodeff.

Ken had a long career as an aerospace engineer, holding positions at McDonnell Douglas, Motorola and Litton. Upon retiring, he taught math, science and other subjects for a decade as a professor at San Jose State University. He earned his Bachelors of Science from MIT and his Masters from Georgia Tech.

Always the smartest man in the room, Ken loved history, playing and winning at bridge with the SIR organization, watching football, debating almost any topic, working out and enjoying a Manhattan on the rocks at the end of the day.

He was deeply loved by his family and friends and will be forever missed.

A graveside service to honor Ken will occur on Friday, December 30 at 11 am at Oak Hill Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Kens name to the American Heart Association.

PAID OBITUARY

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## CSA GEARS UP HOMELESS FOR THE WINTER

The Community Services Agency of Mountain View and Los Altos (CSA) is handing out supplies to help homeless residents stay clean and dry during the cold winter months.

The weather throughout December and into January includes both wet weather and cold snaps that have been brutal for people living outside, according to Tom Myers, the executive director of CSA. As it has in previous winters, Myers said CSA will be handing out a package of supplies similar to a medical kit, including clean underwear, shampoo, blankets and tarps. The goal is to keep the homeless both warm and safe through the worst of the inclement weather, Myers said.

The CSA headquarters, located at 204 Stierlin Road, will be closed from Friday, Dec. 30, through Monday, Jan. 2 for New Years Eve and New Years Day.

—Kevin Forestieri





NATALIA NAZAROVA

**Colorfully painted hands** made by CSMA students at the “toys and gifts galore” workshop on Dec. 22.

## CSMA

► Continued from page 5

its financial aid program by increasing its scholarship programs to cover up to 80 percent of class fees. There’s no limit on the number of people who can receive financial aid, said Sharon Kenney, CSMA’s marketing director. Last year, 250 students benefited from the financial aid program.

“This gives kids a way to express themselves in ways that regular academics don’t allow,” she said. “It activates different parts of the brain.”

CSA is one of seven non-profit organizations that benefit from the *Voice’s* annual Holiday Fund. Donations to the fund are divided equally among the nonprofits and are administered by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation at no cost, so 100 percent of contributions go to the recipients.

On a visit last week, Kenney broke away from her daughter’s art class to take the *Voice* on a tour of the CSMA’s campus, located just off San Antonio Road. Lining the walls of the foyer were paintings from a recent elementary-school class depicting whatever the students thought best represented “celebration.” Almost universally, the children chose to paint cupcakes, and the walls were covered in a rainbow panoply of tiny cakes.

Walking down the hallway, Kenney said that on almost any afternoon the corridors of the school are throbbing with the sound of dozens of students practicing in the



NATALIA NAZAROVA

**From left, Tiffany Matute, 11, her sister Melanie Matute, 10, Stella Tenta, 9, and Maggie Scott, 9, learn about different printmaking methods at “the prolific printmaker” workshop at CSMA on Dec. 22.**

school’s private music studios. She unlocked the entrance to the 200-seat Tateuchi Hall, the school’s main performance space for faculty and students alike. Having a professional auditorium was a big deal especially for up-and-coming talent, she said.

“It gives students that feeling of a real professional experience, that feeling of a real performance” Kenney said.

CSMA employs about 150 faculty members — both full- and part-time — and the non-profit’s administrators beam with pride as they describe the talent of their instructors. Musicians from the top conservatories in the world choose to teach at the school, Kenney said, and much of the faculty continue to independently produce their own work.

Among the biggest challenges

for CSMA is working with dozens of different clients — school districts, tech companies and individual families. Just schools alone present their own set of difficulties because pretty much every district lays out its own goals and schedules. “It’s a highly fragmented market,” with no one-size-fits-all template, said Vickie Scott Grove, CSMA executive director.

Even for those not interested in arts or music education, Grove is confident that CSMA has something to offer. The school puts on dozens of art exhibitions and music performances — just last year, CSMA hosted about 35 free events.

“For us, the problem often is getting the word out,” Grove said. ▣

Email Mark Noack at [mnoack@mv-voice.com](mailto:mnoack@mv-voice.com)

## FOOD BANK

► Continued from page 5

but are now in jeopardy because of the gap in funding.

If push comes to shove, the next place to cut would be food spending. Although much of Second Harvest’s food comes from donations, the organization still buys about 25 percent of its supply — mostly protein-rich foods like chicken, milk and eggs. A decrease in annual funding means the food bank might have to distribute a little less food overall, Jackson said, or make some trade-offs like going light on chicken and long on less-expensive legumes. Jackson said they aren’t at the point of making trade-offs yet, and that she’s optimistic donations will increase.

“We’ve still got a few more days left in the year and into January,” Jackson said.

A large portion of Second Harvest’s food reaches needy residents in Mountain View through the Community Services Agency (CSA) of Mountain View and Los

Altos, which receives about 25 percent of its total food supplies from the food bank, according to Tom Myers, executive director of CSA. That means anytime funding falls short for Second Harvest, CSA feels the effects. Turkeys and chickens were in short supply during the holiday season this year, Myers said, and it took some scrambling to fill the need.

“It is not an overstatement to say when you are supporting Second Harvest Food Bank, you are in a way also supporting CSA and the work we do,” Myers said.

While major donations and “massive, large checks” are always appreciated, Jackson said the real way to catch up on funding is through small \$50 and \$100 donations from regular people. Each dollar donated can provide two healthy meals, Jackson said, and can go a long way towards helping residents who are struggling to get by.

“These checks in the aggregate can make an enormous difference,” she said. ▣

## MEASURE V

► Continued from page 1

the suit, a Santa Clara County Superior Court judge granted a temporary restraining order, halting plans for a citywide rent freeze and rollback that would have brought most rents back to October 2015 rates.

A package of eviction protections approved by the City Council in November are still in effect, preventing landlords from ousting tenants arbitrarily.

It is unclear how long this hold on Measure V will remain in place. The temporary restraining order is set to expire by Feb. 3, but attorneys for the apartment association will likely file for a preliminary injunction to keep it from taking effect until the case is decided.

The situation has caused plenty of confusion for tenants and landlords in town. Throughout December, city officials and tenant advocates had been holding meetings and distributing informational fliers to prepare residents before Measure V was supposed to take effect on Dec. 23. Those groups now face a similar challenge in spreading the word that those plans are on hold.

“It’s really an unfortunate position for us; we were telling folks this rollback would be in effect,” said Evan Ortiz, an organizer with the Mountain View Tenants Coalition which drafted Measure V. “Now we have to double back to tell everyone that the city didn’t choose to challenge this.”

Last week, the Tenant Coalition organized a downtown

march to demonstrate support for Measure V and to nudge city leaders to protect it. Promotional materials for the rally made it clear the Tenants Coalition is blaming the Mountain View City Council for not acting to immediately defend Measure V.

City officials last week opted not to contest the temporary restraining order against Measure V. Instead, the city attorney only requested that the judge avoid removing the emergency eviction protections the council had approved following the election. In a city press release, officials said the delay in implementing rent control would “provide time for the city to fully analyze the complaint and ensure the immediate preservation of the city’s just-cause eviction urgency ordinance.”

The city’s decision not to defend Measure V was disappointing since the charter amendment should have a significant legal advantage, Ortiz said. Throughout California, rent-control provisions have been upheld in more than a dozen cities, he said.

“We were disappointed that the city didn’t defend Measure V more vigorously,” he said. “A lot of folks have the perception that the City Council didn’t come up to bat for Measure V.”

The city of Mountain View is not obligated to defend Measure V, and the City Council will eventually need to state its position. The council is expected to meet again in closed-session to discuss the case in the coming weeks. ▣

# Holiday Fund

## How to Give Your gift helps children and families in need

Contributions to the Holiday Fund will be matched dollar for dollar to the extent possible and will go directly to seven nonprofit agencies that serve Mountain View residents. Last year, more than 150 Voice readers and the Wakerly, Packard and Hewlett foundations contributed a total of \$98,000. We are indebted to the Silicon Valley Community Foundation which handles all donations, and deducts no administrative costs from your gifts, which are tax-deductible as permitted by law. All donations will be shared equally with the seven recipient agencies.

**Donate online at**  
[www.siliconvalleycf.org/  
mvv-holiday-fund](http://www.siliconvalleycf.org/mvv-holiday-fund)

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

#### Day Worker Center

The Day Worker Center of Mountain View provides a secure place for workers and employers to negotiate wages and work conditions. It serves an average of 70 workers a day with job placements, English lessons, job skills workshops and guidance.

#### Mentor Tutor Connection

Mentor Tutor Connection matches adult volunteers who serve either as mentors with under-served youth in high school or as tutors to students in elementary and middle schools in Mountain View and Los Altos school districts.

#### Community School of Music and Arts

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

#### MayView Community Health Center

The MayView Community Health Center in Mountain View offers primary care services to low-income and uninsured patients in northern Santa Clara County. No patient is turned away for inability to pay for services, which include prenatal and pediatric care, cancer screenings and chronic disease management.

#### YWCA Support Network for Domestic Violence

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

#### Community Services Agency

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

#### Community Health Awareness Council

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

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As of December 22, 2016,  
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#### In Honor of

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Emberns Consulting.....	250
Mountain View Firefighters	1,000

## Making a strong connection

MENTOR TUTOR CONNECTION LINKS TEENS WITH  
CARING ROLE MODELS, YOUNGER KIDS WITH TUTORS

By Andrea Gemmet

After Juakita Berkley and her family moved to Mountain View, she started searching for a mentorship program to join. Back in Dallas, she had started up a youth mentoring program and she said she wanted to continue volunteering in her new home. A bit of searching online led her to Mentor Tutor Connection, a nonprofit that has provided Mountain View and Los Altos youth with tutoring and mentoring programs since it was founded in 1995 by the Los Altos Rotary Club.

"It's a wonderful program, I've been impressed," Berkley said. "It's been a really rewarding experience."

An educator and former assistant principal who's currently a full-time mom raising three children, Berkley said she benefited greatly from the guidance of college-educated mentors as she was growing up, and she wanted to return to favor to the next generation. Through Mentor Tutor Connection she was paired with Hailey Wilson, a junior at Mountain View High School, in October.

Sitting outside a local Starbucks on a sunny December morning, Berkley and Wilson chatted about college applications, career goals and prom dresses. Wilson said that when she heard about the mentoring program, she decided it would be "a great opportunity" to have someone to talk to about college, other than her friends and her mom.

"It's easier with an adult who's been there," she said.

Being paired with 16-year-old Wilson has also helped Berkley feel more like a part of the community in her new hometown, she said. Wilson is a cheerleader, and Berkley and her family went to their first Mountain View High School football game to see her perform.

Wilson said that when she was younger she wanted to be a nurse, but now aims to become a doctor, and plans to study biology as an undergraduate. Although they've only been paired for a couple of months, Berkley has already connected Wilson with an obstetrician/gynecologist and arranged a tour of El Camino Hospital. Berkley is also encouraging her to apply for internships.

"It's all about exposure," said Berkley. "You don't know what



NATALIA NAZAROVA

Juakita Berkley is a volunteer mentor paired with Hailey Wilson, a Mountain View High School student, through Mentor Tutor Connection. The nonprofit runs tutoring and mentoring programs in Mountain View and Los Altos schools and is supported by the Voice's Holiday Fund.



all is out there until you can experience it."

Mentor Tutor Connection is one of seven local nonprofits that benefits from the Voice's annual Holiday Fund. Donations are divided equally among the organizations, and the fund is administered by the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, so 100 percent of donations go directly to the nonprofits.

Donations are particularly important for Mentor Tutor Connection, which oversees about 160 volunteers across schools in the Mountain View and Los Altos area, according to Linda Eckols, who chairs the organization's board of directors. The nonprofit is heavily involved at local elementary and middle schools, reaching nearly 500 students in the past year through an array of tutoring services.

"We functioned as an organization that was volunteer-based for 19 years — this is our 20th — and we felt we had grown enough to hire an executive director," Eckols said.

Executive Director Padma Gargeya, who was hired Nov. 1 for the half-time position, comes from another mentoring organization, East San Jose-based Bright Futures. That brings the total paid staff at Mentor Tutor Connection to five, all of whom work part-time, Eckols said. The group's annual budget of about \$160,000 comes from donations, support from family foundations and

the Voice's Holiday Fund.

The organization serves every school in the Mountain View Whisman and Los Altos school districts, and has program coordinators at the three Mountain View-Los Altos High School District campuses, Eckols said.

Lately, tutors who work with the elementary school children say their students are a little needier than in the past. "That reflects what's going on at home," Eckols said, especially when there's a single parent or two parents working long hours who don't have time to support their children's schoolwork. "That's what makes our program even more valuable, in terms of the support (we offer)."

Demand for the program is strong, with requests for mentors outstripping the number of available volunteers. Eckols said there's a chronic shortage of men to pair with male high school students, as most of Mentor Tutor Connection's volunteers are female.

"We're constantly recruiting, we're always looking for volunteers," she said. "I hate to have people make a request for assistance and then they have to wait."

Many of the people who volunteer are mothers whose children have grown and left home, she said. But that's not always the case. Berkley, for one, has young children.

"I'd recommend that more people join the program, even if they have children of their own. It's a whole different situation when you're not the parent," she said. ▣

Email Andrea Gemmet at [agemmet@mv-voice.com](mailto:agemmet@mv-voice.com)

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# Supporting Our Communities



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## Above and beyond realism

CANTOR ARTS CENTER ENDS 2016  
WITH A SURREALISTIC TWIST

By Sheryl Nonnenberg

The past 12 months have been a period of upheaval for the Cantor Arts Center, with the departure of Executive Director Connie Wolf and the reinstallation of the permanent collection galleries. It seems appropriate, therefore, for the museum to end 2016 on a surrealistic note — literally — with a major exhibition that explores the history and legacy of one of the 20th century's most influential movements, surrealism.

"The Conjured Life: The Legacy of Surrealism," on view through April 3, was organized by the Cantor but builds upon an exhibition that was seen earlier this year at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. It contains more than 60 objects, including paintings, sculptures, drawings and photographs drawn from both institutions and Stanford's Special Collections Libraries. Installed in thematic groupings (poetry, film, etc.), the exhibition follows the path of the movement from Andre Breton's groundbreaking manifesto in 1924 to the cinematic work of David Lynch.

The term "surrealism" is used now so often to refer to anything out of the norm that we might underestimate just how shocking the philosophy was in its early stages. The movement followed in the path of Dada, which was a response to the horror and destruction of World War I.

Breton and his followers sought "a new mode of pure expression" that explored the real process of thought, without constraints of reason, aesthetic or moral concerns. The world of the unconscious, which could be tapped via dream analysis, automatic writing and the random juxtaposition of disparate objects would lead the artist to the highest form of creativity. The movement flourished during the turbulent decades of the 1930s and '40s, and its influence can still be seen in the work of contemporary artists.

"I'm continually struck by not only the breadth of Surrealist subject matter — themes that artists continue to mine today — but also by the range of experimental art-making techniques

that find their roots in the movement," explained Jodi Roberts, Cantor's curator of modern art.

As might be expected from an exhibition devoted to ideas "beyond realism," there are some pretty trippy objects to behold.

The exhibition begins with one of the artists most associated with the movement, Rene Magritte. His work, realistic yet enigmatic, is wonderfully represented here with the 1953 painting, "The Wonders of Nature." Two life-sized half-fish, half-human figures sit contentedly on a rock at the seaside. It's fun, funky and wildly imaginative. In contrast, Dan Baum's 1965 "The Babies of Della Robbia," is a three-dimensional nightmare of plastic baby dolls, ghostly white with eyes closed or missing, contained within a wooden pediment. It's a clever, if creepy, tribute to the ceramic art of the Renaissance master.

Photography also is well represented. The exhibition includes the quietly evocative Paris street scenes of Eugene Atget, the haunting self-portraits of Francesca Woodman and Lee Friedlander's homage to Magritte, a picture of a television with a huge eye looking back out at us. Those who are squeamish might want to pass by the screen showing Luis Bunuel's "Un Chien Andalou." (Yes, it does include the scene with the woman getting her eye sliced open.)

Cindy Sherman's 1989 "Untitled #188," is a large-scale color photograph of a blow-up doll, nestled amid a background of cast off objects. Deflated, her face smeared with red lipstick, she is more contemporary than Bunuel's woman but equally unsettling.

San Francisco artist Jess offers up a fascinating accumulation of found objects in "Midday Forfit: Feigning Spell III." The collage consists of magazine pictures, puzzle pieces and bits of wood placed around a swatch from a Rococo-era tapestry that depicts a boy and girl on a swing. There are so many disparate images joined together here, from Indian deities to cars to mattresses to stained glass, that the eye is completely bombarded; the juxtapositions make no sense but they are nonetheless completely



PHOTO COURTESY OF NATHAN KEAY, MCA CHICAGO

Two life-sized half-fish, half-human figures sit contentedly on a rock at the seaside in Rene Magritte's 1953 "The Wonders of Nature" on exhibit at the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford.

riveting. As the wall label indicates, it is another example of "surrealist archeology."

The exhibition ends with Alexander Calder's 1957 "Chariot (Sixteen Black Leaves)." As part of the Cantor's permanent collection, it is usually installed elsewhere. When placed in this context, we can see just how the idea of chance plays into the surrealist method. The mobile moves almost imperceptibly with air currents, changing in ways the artist could not have predicted. In addition, the shadow it casts on the wall behind becomes a secondary point of interest and an object in and of itself.

"I think surrealism gave later generations permission to challenge the limits of traditional artistic categories, materials and modes of production," Roberts said.

### ■ INFORMATION

**What:** "The Conjured Life: The Legacy of Surrealism,"

**Where:** Pigott Family Gallery at the Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford

**When:** December - April 3

**Cost:** Free

**Info:** Go to [museum.stanford.edu](http://museum.stanford.edu).



PHOTO COURTESY OF NATHAN KEAY, MCA CHICAGO

Paul Sarkisian's "Night with Raping Wave" is on display at the Cantor Arts Center through April 3 as part of the exhibit, "The Conjured Life: The Legacy of Surrealism."

## OLD-SCHOOL BUTCHER SHOP

GAMBREL & CO. BRINGS AN ARTISAN SHOP TO DOWNTOWN REDWOOD CITY



FOOD FEATURE

By Anna Medina

Photos by Veronica Weber

“Stopping by the local butcher” seems like something from a bygone era, one with a milkman and black-and-white television. Certainly not one in which groceries can be instantly ordered via a smartphone app — no need to even interact with a real person.

► See **BUTCHER SHOP**, page 16

**Top:** Brad Bain (left) and Benjamin Robert, serve customers at the artisan butcher shop Gambrel & Co in downtown Redwood City. **Above:** Gambrel & Co.'s house-made Italian sausages.



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Most meats at Gambrel & Co. are broken down from the whole animal at the butcher shop.

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## BUTCHER SHOP

► Continued from page 15

Amidst a town bustling with startups and tech companies, Redwood City craft butcher shop Gambrel & Co. offers a different experience. It evokes the idyllic nostalgia of a European artisanal shop — one where the butcher knows everyone's name and can recommend something for an upcoming dinner. This personal experience is exactly Gambrel & Co. chef-owner Benjamin Robert's intention, one that is informed by his small-town upbringing in rural Vermont, years working in the food industry and time spent living and working with butchers in Italy and Spain.

"It's almost like we are your personal sous chef — we order your products, we tell you what to do with them and if you need other advice and inspiration other than that, we're willing to provide that, too," he said.

The majority of the products that Robert offers come from either California or directly from Italy. With the exception of the Wagyu beef, the meat comes from Marin Sun Farms in Point Reyes, where all of the animals are organically raised in pastures.

"Literally, there's three people who have manipulated your meat before you get it from this shop: the guy who slaughtered it, the delivery driver and myself or Brad (Bain)," Robert said, referring to his fellow butcher.

Robert pointed out that while many shops receive pallets of boxes of broken-down, vacuum-packed meat, at Gambrel & Co. they break down most of the animals themselves.

"The beauty of breaking down a whole animal is all the different byproducts you get from it," he said.

Gambrel & Co. makes its sausages in-house and makes pre-marinated meats like smoky chicken wings, dry-rubbed tri-tip and pork tenderloin.

Robert said he remembers visiting the local butcher with his parents. In his small hometown (population 800), the single butcher shop was where most people bought their meat. The supermarket,

a phenomenon Robert didn't experience until he went to college, was "very far away."

"The butcher's name was Cliff; he was always back behind the counter, and he would always give the kids little slices of bologna or ham or something like that, and he was just always really nice," Robert recalled.

Robert entered the food industry himself at the age of 14. He worked at a pizza joint and became the manager by the time he graduated from high school.

While earning his degree in botany at the University of Vermont, he worked as a sous chef at a "little white tablecloth restaurant" to pay for his degree. Because of his minor in sustainable agriculture, Robert visited a number of farms and brought this experience to his position as executive chef at the same restaurant when he graduated. This was when



Gambrel & Co. sells pasta, polenta, sauces and other goods at its Redwood City butcher shop.



the farm-to-table movement started taking off, he said.

After working as executive chef in Vermont, he moved to San Francisco, where he was a sous chef and then executive chef at now-shuttered restaurant Bar Bambino, where he learned about “whole animal butchering” as well as cheese through the restaurant’s extensive cheese program.

When the restaurant closed in 2012, he bought a one-way ticket to Italy and, within two weeks, he found a job at a butcher shop in the countryside of Le Marche, the province to the south of Umbria. He worked there for a year, living with an Italian family and immersing himself in the culture of “what it meant to be a butcher and kind of a steward of good meat-buying,” he said.

After more travel between the U.S. and Europe, he returned to California with plans to be an executive chef. An associate of his (now his partner) approached him about needing a butcher to run a shop that he’d built in Redwood City.

“Instantly when I walked through the door, I fell in love with the shop itself,” Robert said, adding that having never visited Redwood City before, he immediately started researching it.

He said that when he discovered that it was the second fastest growing city in the Bay Area, with a demographic of tech entrepreneurs and a budding food scene, he decided that “the timing was really perfect.” He opened Gambrel & Co. in February 2015.

Robert also puts his experience as chef to good use by making sauces to go with dishes like pasta, potatoes, polenta and risotto. On a recent afternoon, the shop served pork ragu. Robert



*Wagyu beef is one of the few meats offered at Gambrel & Co. that aren't raised locally.*

also makes dishes like Hungarian beef goulash, pork curry, beef bolognese sauce and chicken andouille gumbo. The shop also sells cheese, beans, rice and other kinds of sauces.

The small, craft butcher shop differs from a supermarket in several important ways, Robert noted. Because it’s a small business, it doesn’t mean that people can expect to find what they’re looking for at any given time. It does,

however, mean that everything is always cycling through the shop,

ensuring a level of freshness that is not guaranteed at larger markets.

You also get the owner’s expert advice. The day he was interviewed, Robert recommended taking a Langherino cheese, wrapping it in prosciutto and baking it on a low temperature until soft and squishy. When you slice into it with a knife, the molten cheese oozes out, making it an ideal dipping sauce for the crispy prosciutto.

Robert said he will be teaching butchering classes in January, which he intends to offer once a month. The 12-student class will go over how to butcher different animals, identifying the muscles and cutting techniques, and breaking down the animal into “primal” pieces (larger pieces, like a leg) and “subprimal” pieces (smaller pieces like the top round, bottom round, and shank). Students will get to take home meat when class is over.

*Editorial Assistant Anna Medina can be emailed at [amedina@paweekly.com](mailto:amedina@paweekly.com).*

***In 2012, Robert bought a one-way ticket to Italy and, within two weeks, he found a job at a butcher shop.***



*Brad Bain breaks down a whole lamb.*

**■ DINING NOTES**

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■ MOVIE OPENINGS

## Ain't got time to 'Creed'

VIDEO-GAME FLICK NOT AS BAD AS YOU'D THINK

★★ (Century 16 & 20)

What do you get when you take the director of a well-received Shakespeare film, and give him a cast that includes Michael Fassbender, Marion Cotillard, Jeremy Irons, Brendan Gleeson, and Charlotte Rampling to make an awards-season film? An action movie based on a video game, of course. "Assassin's Creed" may sit a cut above other films of its type, but director Justin Kurzel can't do more than dress up the weak source material.

Kurzel directed Fassbender and Cotillard as the leads of last year's "Macbeth," and they obviously admire and trust him enough (and trust in their paychecks) to follow him into this \$125 million-budgeted action sci-fi fantasy. The loony premise finds Fassbender playing death row prisoner Callum Lynch, who — upon being surreptitiously rescued from lethal injection — learns he is descended from a long line of assassins, who have been locked for centuries in mortal combat with the Knights Templar over the possession

and whereabouts of the Apple of Eden.

A classic MacGuffin (a plot-driving object that the audience doesn't much care about), the Apple of Eden holds sway over the free will of humanity. Scientist Dr. Sophia Rikkin (Cotillard) wants to obtain the apple for the Templar Order (rebranded in modern times as Abstergo Industries) in order to eliminate violence from human society. Some would, and do, argue that to do so would be the ultimate act of violence against humanity, in robbing people of free will. Sophia's father Alan (Irons) has his own, somewhat more aggressive agenda, based on pressure from Templar elders (represented by Rampling).

Finding the apple involves torturously extracting unconscious ancestral memories from Lynch by making him relive the adventures of 15th-Century Spanish assassin Aguilar de Nerha. The complicated but coherent plot tees up many action sequences, whether they be fights among



COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX

*Michael Fassbender plays Callum Lynch, a descendant of the secret Assassins society in "Assassin's Creed."*

the prisoners and staffers at the Abstergo compound, or the large-scale inquisition-themed action sequences involving Aguilar and others (even as we watch Lynch writhe in Sophia's virtual-reality machinery).

In many ways, "Assassin's Creed" is what it resembles, just another murky, dramatically anemic video-game adaptation. To see the trailers and posters for it is to dismiss it as such. And yet, there are those stars, carrying

you through it all. And finally, there is Kurzel, frequently lending arresting visuals (although, at times, proving he's not an ideal director of action) that make the dumb action movie feel poetic in choice moments along the way.

In this way, "Assassin's Creed" encapsulates the new Hollywood, with an over-abundance of talent wasting time on brain-rotting kids' stuff. Sometimes these stories entertain anyway through force of will, or even find ways

to weave in social commentary. But "Assassin's Creed," despite its style points, fails to resonate. It's the latest film for people that makes it easy for audiences to surf their smart phones and forget to wonder why they shelled out \$12 for the privilege.

*Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, thematic elements and brief strong language. One hour, 55 minutes.*

— Peter Canavese

## 'Why's' guys

FRANCO AND CRANSTON GO HEAD TO HEAD IN DOMESTIC COMEDY

★★ (Century 16&20)

Actors often fall prey to being cast primarily in roles presumed to be their "type," but it's a problem not exclusive to talent in front of the cameras. A screenwriter named John Hamburg co-wrote the hit Hollywood comedy "Meet the Parents," and went on to a career as a director (the comedies "Along Came Polly" and "I Love You, Man"). So it's no surprise to find that 20th Century Fox brought Hamburg on to direct and co-script "Why Him?" It's a movie that nakedly apes "Meet the Parents," only with a twist: This time the point of view doesn't belong to the son-in-law-to-be but rather the father, horrified by the fiancée chosen by his daughter.

As with "Meet the Parents," much of the appeal of the film rests with the leading players. Bryan Cranston, busting out the comedy chops honed on TV's "Malcolm in the Middle," plays Ned Fleming, CEO of a Michigan printing company on the decline in our paperless-trending world.

While the screws keep tightening on his business and threatening layoffs of beloved workers, Ned gets some other disconcerting news: his 22-year-old daughter Stephanie (Zoey Deutch) — a student at Stanford University — has been secretly dating 32-year-old tech magnate Laird Mayhew, played by Palo Alto's own James Franco.

And so the Christmas-get-together plot pits Ned against Laird, a sweet-natured guy who's nevertheless blithely douche-y — from his conspicuous consumption (a 2018-model computerized Japanese toilet/bidet) to his tattoos and hipster mustache. Most of the comedy relies on generation-gap gags or toilet humor as Ned flails on Laird's nouveau-riche turf, complete with oddball lawn-to-table menu and an artwork consisting of a moose suspended in its own urine ("It's meant to symbolize the way our culture has imprisoned our minds").

"Why Him?" is nothing if not formulaic, but it has its passing



COURTESY OF SCOTT GARFIELD/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

*James Franco (left) and Bryan Cranston are the real stars of "Why Him?"*

charms, like Megan Mullally's fully committed, fully amusing performance as Ned's wife Barb (plus Keegan-Michael Key as Laird's try-hard valet) and its essentially generous nature, trusting in Stephanie's promise that Laird's "heart is always in the right place." Occasionally, there's an interesting bit of satire, like the young people being

cheerily comfortable with total social transparency (a.k.a. a total lack of privacy).

Ultimately, the hackneyed plot (partly credited to Franco's buddy Jonah Hill) is too primal not to work, even if it is little more than the frame on which to hang stupid jokes, several of which you'll see coming a mile away (a silly cameo appearance, the fate

of the urine-filled moose tank). In the end, to the extent that the movie works, it works because of Cranston and Franco, who work hard and smart to make their characters always at least as believable as they are funny.

*Rated R for strong language and sexual material throughout. One hour, 51 minutes.*

— Peter Canavese



MOVIE REVIEWS

**JACKIE**★★★★

At one point in the new historical drama "Jackie," which defines Jacqueline Kennedy around the pivotal moment of her husband's assassination, Natalie Portman's Jackie snaps, "I'm his wife — whatever I am now." To some extent, the line frames the central question of the movie: What is Jackie to herself, to the American people of her time and to history? These are heady questions for ostensibly basic, biopic-style Oscar bait like "Jackie." The not-bad script by Noah Oppenheim ("The Maze Runner") underpins a meditation on image and perception that's often witty. In the hands of Chilean director Pablo Larraín (making his English-language debut), "Jackie" longs to be more than Portman's 100-minute Oscar clip, and it sometimes rises to those ambitions. One might also say that "Jackie" tries too hard. The dramatization of Jackie's four-day ordeal between J.F.K.'s assassination and his funeral unfolds within a framing story: a coolly controlled Jackie managing Theodore H. White (Billy Crudup) through the post-mortem interview she's granted him for "Life" magazine. At minimum, "Jackie" is what it was hoping it wouldn't be: the serviceable movie you make about this subject. But as a piece of media that's partly about the media and its role in creating truth, "Jackie" deserves credit for daring to invite its own criticism, to suggest that its subject may be unknowable. *Rated R for brief strong violence and some language. One hour, 40 minutes.* — P.C.

**FENCES**★★★★

Denzel Washington's film adaptation of playwright August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning play "Fences" is an American classic writ large. And "large" is the operative word, not only in the traditional sense of "opening up" a play's action but in the depiction of main character, Troy Maxon. As a husband and father, he's a nightmare of never-wrong authoritarianism. He's a study in pride and bluster, delusion and deception. He's an iconic American character to stand beside Stanley Kowalski and Willy Loman, casting shadows every bit as long in desperate striving and crushing defeat. And just about as juicy a role as Washington has seen on screen, which is saying something. Washington rises to the occasion, even as he more than respectably commands the director's chair. As for his wife, Rose, she's bound to the sacrificial homemaker role of her time in cooking, doing the laundry, and managing the household income — the last a source of tension as she referees between Troy and his elder son Lyons, played by Russell Hornsby. The story's walking wild card comes in the form of Troy's war-traumatized younger brother Gabriel (Mykelti Williamson), the play's trumpet-wielding, accidentally prophetic holy fool ("Better get ready for the judgement!"). In this uniformly excellent cast, Washington and Davis give the towering performances, but Williamson, Henderson, and Hornsby expertly modulate their stage performances for the screen. It's also fair to say that the film's defiant theatricality is a double-edged sword: it's hard to imagine a more faithful adaptation of Wilson's play, but many will reject like a bad organ the film's wall-to-wall talk and theatrical flourishes. *Rated PG-13 for*

MOVIE OPENINGS

thematic elements, language and some suggestive references. *Two hours, 19 minutes.* — P.C.

**PASSENGERS**★★★

"Passengers" tells a tale of science-fiction romance that might be characterized as "Gravity" meets "Titanic". The Starship Avalon, transporting 5,000 passengers to the world of Homestead II, hits a snag that results in one poor sap waking early from his suspended-animation slumber — 90 years, 3 weeks, and 1 day early to be precise. Jim Preston (Chris Pratt) faces a life lived out totally alone, except for the cold-comfort company of an android bartender named Arthur (Michael Sheen). The right thing to do, or so he thinks, is to suffer out an aimless existence alone, but he cannot shake the temptation to wake one of his fellow passengers,

particularly a cute sleeping beauty named Aurora (Jennifer Lawrence). In classic romantic-comedy fashion, this secret stays hidden for timed detonation as a clueless Aurora gradually accepts her nightmarish situation and learns to love the one she's with. The truth eventually comes out, threatening to drive apart the only two conscious souls on the Starship Avalon. What begins as an intriguing premise based on high-stakes "what ifs" shrinks in imagination as the pair begins to face crises akin to a "Star Trek: The Next Generation" episode. The movie-star charm of Lawrence and Pratt goes a long way, but by the film's end, you may feel you've gone much further than you'd care to with the "Passengers" in question. *Rated PG-13 for sexuality, nudity and action/peril. One hour, 56 minutes.* — P.C.

NOW SHOWING

**Dear readers:** We have heard you. We are again publishing a list of the movies that are playing in local theaters over the weekend. However, we are not restoring the specific movie times, given that theaters often change the times after our press deadline, resulting in errors. To find out when movies are playing, we ask instead that readers call the theaters, check the theaters' websites or look on movie sites such as Fandango.com.

- Arrival (PG-13) ★★★★★**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.
- Assassin's Creed (PG-13)**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.
- Collateral Beauty (PG-13) Zero stars**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.
- Dangal (Not Rated) Century 16: Fri.-Sun.**
- The Eagle Huntress (G) ★★ Aquarius Theatre: Fri.-Sun.**
- Fantastic Beasts And Where To Find Them (PG-13) ★★1/2**  
Century 20: Fri.-Sun.
- Fences (PG-13) ★★★★★**  
Aquarius Theatre: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.
- Jackie (R) ★★★ Century 20: Fri.-Sun. Palo Alto Square: Fri.-Sun.**
- La La Land (PG-13) Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.**
- Lion (PG-13) Palo Alto Square: Fri.-Sun.**
- Manchester by the Sea (R) ★★1/2**  
Century 20: Fri.-Sun. Guild Theatre: Fri.-Sun.
- Moana (G) ★★1/2**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.
- Moonlight (R) Aquarius Theatre: Fri.-Sun.**
- Office Christmas Party (R) ★1/2**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.
- Passengers (PG-13) ★★**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.
- Rogue One: A Star Wars Story (PG-13) ★★1/2**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.
- Sing (PG) ★★1/2 Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.**
- Why Him? (R) Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.**
- Stanford Theatre** did not provide its schedule by the Voice's press deadline. Contact the theater for information.

**Aquarius:**  
430 Emerson St., Palo Alto  
(For recorded listings: 327-3241)  
[tinyurl.com/Aquariuspa](http://tinyurl.com/Aquariuspa)

**Century Cinema 16:**  
1500 N. Shoreline Blvd.,  
Mountain View  
[tinyurl.com/Century16](http://tinyurl.com/Century16)

**Century 20 Downtown:**  
825 Middlefield Rd, Redwood City  
[tinyurl.com/Century20](http://tinyurl.com/Century20)

**CineArts at Palo Alto Square:**  
3000 El Camino Real, Palo Alto  
(For information: 493-0128)  
[tinyurl.com/Pasquare](http://tinyurl.com/Pasquare)

**Guild:** 949 El Camino Real,  
Menlo Park (For recorded listings:  
266-9260) [tinyurl.com/Guildmp](http://tinyurl.com/Guildmp)

**Stanford Theatre:**  
221 University Ave., Palo Alto  
(For recorded listings: 324-3700)  
[Stanfordtheatre.org](http://Stanfordtheatre.org)

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

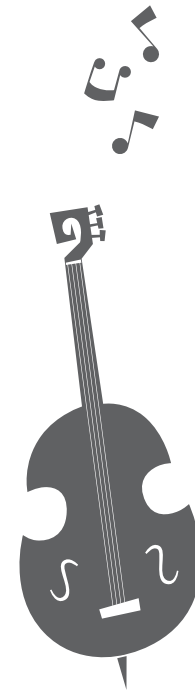
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MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

■ HIGHLIGHT

## MAIN STAGE CONCERT: MOZART IN THE CITY

Local musician Robert Schwartz performs a D minor piano concerto and bass Brad Walker teams up with principal double bassist Michel Taddei for a concert aria. The "Prague" Symphony opens the concert. Jan. 1, 3-5 p.m. Free, first-come/first-served. Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. thesfco.org

## CONCERTS

**Music@Menlo Winter Series: The Pacifica Quartet** The Pacifica Quartet presents a program of German, French and Russian masterworks featuring Beethoven, Ravel and Shostakovich. Jan. 11, 7:30 p.m. \$20-\$52; Discounts for under-30s. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. musicatmenlo.org

## MUSIC

**Bachata with Pantea** "Wednesday Hot Latin Nights with Pantea" feature Bachata lessons. Bachata is a form of music and dance that originated in the Dominican Republic. The character of the dance is achieved through hip and body movements. No partner is necessary, and all levels are welcome. Wednesdays, ongoing, 8 p.m., class; 9 p.m., social dancing. \$7, student; \$10, general; \$15, band nights. Alberto's Salsa Studio, 736 W. Dana St., Mountain View. albertos.com/calendar

**NYE 2017 at Morocco's** Morocco's will serve dinner on New Year's Eve starting at 4 p.m. The evening will feature belly dancing, 7:30-9 p.m. and live jazz, 10 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Reservations are highly recommended. Dec. 31, 4 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Menus start at \$40. Morocco's, 873 Castro St., Mountain View. moroccosrestaurant.com/

**Open Mic** Open Mic takes place every Monday on the 2nd floor of Red Rock Coffee in downtown Mountain View. It features free live music, comedy, poetry and a supportive atmosphere for experienced and new performers. Mondays, ongoing, 6:30 p.m., sign-ups; starts at 7 p.m. Free. Red Rock Coffee, 201 Castro St., Mountain View. redrockcoffee.org/calendar

**Sabados Latinoamericanos** Alberto's NightClub presents "Sabados Latinoamericanos" with a variety of Latin genres including Reggaeton, Hip Hop, Cumbia, Merengue, Salsa and Rock Pop in Spanish. This event features DJ Omar and the band Ruido Azul. Saturdays, ongoing, 8 p.m. \$7, student; \$10, general; \$15, band nights. Alberto's Salsa Studio, 736 W. Dana St., Mountain View. albertos.com/calendar

## TALKS & LECTURES

**Art lecture and demonstration** Artist John Burton's exhibit "A Testimony of Beauty" is currently on display at the Los Altos Hills Town Hall through March 2017. This nationally acclaimed artist will paint and talk about his artistic journey and the inspiration behind his paintings. Jan. 6, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills. losaltoshills.ca.gov

**Design-It-Yourself Native Garden** In this first class, participants will receive a crash course in design, learning how to transition to a native garden, how to choose plants, which existing plants to keep and how to plan for each plant's water requirements. Jan. 12, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

**Talk with Tony Live** Tony will hold informal conversations in the Chamber Boardroom on the 1st Thursday every month. Attendants will be able to have a conversation with Tony or ask him questions, and he'll do his best to answer. Space is limited, so attendants are encouraged to register. 1st Thursday of the month, ongoing, 8-9 a.m. Free. Chamber of Commerce Mountain View, 580 Castro St., Mountain View. chambermv.org

**Technology and Society Committee Luncheon Forum** Sarah McGrew, researcher, curriculum developer and teacher educator for the Stanford History Education Group (SHEG), presents results of a just-released SHEG report that details the inability of students to judge the credibility of online news, e.g. not being able to tell an ad from a news article. Jan. 10, noon-1 p.m. \$12, cash only; free for non-eaters. Hangen Szechuan Restaurant, 134 Castro St., Mountain View. tian.greens.org

## FAMILY

**Baby Storytime** This storytime is for infants ages birth to 2 years old. Tuesdays, ongoing. 10:30-11 a.m. Free. Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. cityofpaloalto.org

**Family Storytime** This storytime is for families and guardians with children of all ages. Saturdays, ongoing, 11-11:30 a.m. Free.

Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. cityofpaloalto.org

**Preschool Storytime** This storytime is for children ages three to five years. Fridays, ongoing, 11-11:30 a.m. Free. Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. cityofpaloalto.org

**Raggedy Ann and Andy at the Museum** The Los Altos History Museum welcomes Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy to the Smith Gallery. The exhibit tells the history of Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy, showcasing over 60 dolls. Thursdays-Sundays, ongoing, noon-4 p.m. Free. Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. losaltoshistory.org/

**Social Services Agency Outreach** The Department of Family and Children's Services is seeking motivated community members to open their hearts and homes to help a child, a sibling group or parenting a teen. A social worker will be present in the lobby of the library every 2nd Tuesday of the month to provide information regarding the process of becoming a foster/resource family. Jan. 10, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin Street, Mountain View.

**Toddler Storytime** This storytime for toddlers is for ages 18 months to three years. Fridays, ongoing, 10-10:30 a.m. Free. Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. cityofpaloalto.org

## MUSEUMS & EXHIBITS

**Art Exhibit** This fine art exhibit by award-winning artist John Burton, will feature oil paintings of iconic California landscapes and seascapes in the new tradition of the early California Impressionists, who are revered for capturing so much of the Golden State's untainted beauty, long before the imprint of dense population. Mondays-Fridays, ongoing, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills. losaltoshills.ca.gov

**Celebrations, A Student and Faculty Art Exhibition** This art exhibition will showcase the work of CSMA students and faculty, ages five to adult. Artists were asked to imagine, given one day to celebrate something meaningful to them, what and how they would celebrate. Dec. 9-Jan. 18, 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Free. Mohr Gallery, Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. arts4all.org

**EcoCenter Open Hours** Environmental Volunteers' EcoCenter is a nature center open to the public in the Palo Alto Baylands that offers public nature programs, hands-on activities, touchscreen science exhibits, a green building tour, art exhibits and more. Fridays, ongoing, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Free. EcoCenter, 2560 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. evols.org/ecoCenter

**The Evolution of Film exhibit** This exhibit features a wide variety of motion picture artifacts dating from the late 1800s to 1980s. Film newsreels and movie reels can be played in the gallery. These clips show the ever-changing landscape of film. Toy models will be available to be played with including the zoopraxiscope, zoetrope and praxinoscope. Notable inventions such as the rare Visionola, a Kerosene movie projector and a Scopitone will be on display. Fridays-Sundays, ongoing, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. moah.org

**Gallery House, "First Sight"** "First Sight" is an exhibit of recent paintings by local artists Joyce Barron Leopard and Robin Stearns; it celebrates the new year. Stearns creates dark and contemplative cityscapes and portraits in oil, while Leopard uses both watercolor and mixed media to create abstract and figurative pieces. Jan. 3-25, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Jan. 15, reception, 1-3 p.m. Free. Gallery House, 320 S. California Ave., Palo Alto. galleryhouse2.com

## 'Seaweed, Salmon, and Manzanita Cider: A California Indian Feast'

"Seaweed, Salmon, and Manzanita Cider: A California Indian Feast," is a traveling exhibit from the Grace Hudson Museum in Ukiah featuring foods important in the lives of Native Californians; its final showing is at the Los Altos History Museum. Jan 12-April 16, Thursday-Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Free. Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. losaltoshistory.org

**Visual Arts Exhibit** Works of local artists, selected by the City of Mountain View's Visual Arts Committee, are on display in MVCPA's lobby on a rotating basis. Dec. 2-30, noon-1 p.m. Free. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. mountainview.gov

**Word: Power and Protection in North Africa** This exhibition explores four key ways artists and their communities have engaged with Arabic script in North Africa and its neighboring regions during the 20th and early 21st centuries. Aug. 26-Jan. 7 2017, ongoing, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive at Museum Way, Stanford. museum.stanford.edu

## DANCE

**Argentine Tango** Alberto's NightClub presents Argentine Tango, modeled after a traditional milonga in the atmosphere of a Buenos Aires tango bar with bar snacks and a first-class wooden dance floor. Sundays, ongoing, 7 p.m. \$10. Alberto's Salsa Studio, 736 W. Dana St., Mountain View. albertos.com/calendar

**NYC-Style Salsa On2 with Victoria** Alberto's salsa studios hosts New York-style Salsa On2 with Victoria. All levels are welcome, and no partner is necessary. This event is for ages 21 and up. Mondays, ongoing, 7:30 p.m., doors open; 8 p.m., ladies' styling; 9 p.m., partnering; 10 p.m., social dancing. \$10, general; \$7, student; \$15, band nights. Alberto's Salsa Studio, 736 W. Dana St., Mountain View. albertos.com/calendar

**Salsa Fridays** "Hot Salsa Fridays with Pantea" feature salsa lessons for all levels. This event features DJ Say No More and is for ages 21 and up. No partner is necessary. Fridays, ongoing, 8:30 p.m., beginner; 9:30 p.m., intermediate; 10:15 p.m., social dancing. \$7, student; \$10, general; \$15, band nights. Alberto's Salsa Studio, 736 W. Dana St., Mountain View. albertos.com/calendar

**Salsa with Pantea** Alberto's salsa studio hosts salsa classes and dancing. All levels are welcome, and no partner is necessary. The event is for ages 21 and up and also features DJ Say No More. Tuesdays, ongoing, 7:30 p.m., beginner; 8:30 p.m., intermediate; 10 p.m., social dancing. \$10, general; \$7, student; \$15, band nights. Alberto's Salsa Studio, 736 W. Dana St., Mountain View. albertos.com/calendar

**Saturdays Belly Dancing Night at Morocco's Restaurant** On Saturday nights, Morocco's Restaurant, which is vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free friendly, features belly dancing. Saturdays, ongoing, 8 p.m., belly dancing starts. Cost of food. Morocco's, 873 Castro St., Mountain View. moroccosrestaurant.com/

## LESSONS & CLASSES

**Adult School Winter/Spring Classes Registration** Registration for Mountain View-Los Altos Adult School Winter and Spring classes begins on Friday, November 18. Winter session runs Jan. 4-March 18. Spring session runs March 21-June 3. Visit mvlcae.net or call 650-940-1333 for more information. Fridays, Nov. 18-Jan. 6, 8 a.m. Class registration fees vary. Mountain View Los Altos Adult School, 333 Moffett Blvd., Mountain View. mvlcae.net/

**Eitanim Middle School** IAC Eitanim is a leadership and entrepreneurship project-based program for middle school students that allows

them to connect, explore and experience Israel while preparing for college and developing professional skills. Jan. 4, 18, Feb. 1, 15, March 1, 15, 29, April 12, 26 and May 3. \$140. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto.

**Feng Shui Your Way to Prosperity and Perfection in 2017** Master Woody Chan, who has studied and practiced Feng Shui for over 20 years, will introduce and explain Feng Shui techniques (Flying Stars, 5 element analysis and the Chinese Zodiac). Jan. 8, 1-4 p.m. \$35. East West Book Store, 324 Castro St., Mountain View. eastwest.com/events\_2017\_January

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

**Conscious Creating** This class provides a set of practical tools and experiences for building an Intentional Life. Students will focus on how their karma is their dharma and how to bring their lives purpose and their talents to fruition. Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. \$195. Samyama Yoga Center, 2995 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. samyamayogacenter.com

**Dr. Elizabeth Blackburn and Dr. Elissa Epel: 'The New Science of Living Younger'** Nobel laureate Dr. Elizabeth Blackburn and health psychologist Dr. Elissa Epel reveal the critical role that biological markers called telomerase and telomeres play in people's health. Syndicated talk show host Angie Coiro moderates this discussion. Jan. 11, 7 p.m. \$11. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto.

**Forgiveness, Gratitude, Compassion and the Way to Enlightenment** This workshop is an opportunity for an exploration of happiness and spiritual awakening. Through lecture, discussion and experiential exercises students will explore the practical application of Yoga's teachings for working with thoughts, emotions, attitudes and behaviors to free people from self-defeating approaches and put them on the path towards self-realization. Jan. 5, 7-9 p.m. \$25. East West Book Store, 324 Castro St., Mountain View. eastwest.com/events\_2017\_January

**Body Image and Eating Disorder Support Group** This group is for those struggling with eating disorders and body image dissatisfaction. The group is open to all ages, genders and types of eating issues. It is not a structured group; rather it is open for sharing, asking questions, offering and receiving support or just listening. Jan. 3, 7 p.m. Free. El Camino Hospital, 2500 Grant Rd., Conference Room C, Mountain View. edrcsv.org

**Gentle Stretching for Adults** Personal trainer Laura Voss leads students through gentle stretches for health and wellness. This class is designed for people who are fitness beginners, seniors or anyone looking for a gentle stretch class. Attendants are asked to bring their own yoga mat or bath towel to use. Free; RSVP required. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

**Introduction to Taiji and Qigong** This 75-minute class will be an introduction to the taiji / qigong practice of Chan Si Gong (Silk-Reeling Exercises) and Wuji Qigong (Standing Meditation). These exercises work to energetically lubricate and coordinate the root, waist, spine and upper torso and integrate all parts with the body's physical and energetic center. Jan 7, 1-2:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

**Graphic Novel Book Club** This monthly book discussion focuses on a graphic novel selected by the group. This program is for readers ages 16 and up. Titles can be borrowed from the Library or through Link+. Reserve copies are left on display for attendees to read in the Library. Jan. 12, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Mitchell Park Library, 3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. cityofpaloalto.org

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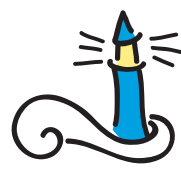
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## Public Notices

### 995 Fictitious Name Statement

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The name and residence address of the  
registrant(s) is(are):  
JULIANA NICULITCHEFF  
927 Barbara Ave.  
Mountain View, CA 94040  
Registrant began transacting business  
under the fictitious business name(s)  
listed above on 11/01/2016.  
This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara  
County on November 16, 2016.  
(MVV Dec. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2016)

I NOTARIZE 4U  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 624050

The following person (persons) is (are)  
doing business as:  
I Notarize 4U, located at 750 Fairmont  
Avenue #2, 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):  
PATRICIA ANN TAKATA  
750 Fairmont Avenue #2  
Mountain View, CA 94041  
Registrant began transacting business  
under the fictitious business name(s)  
listed above on N/A.  
This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara  
County on December 6, 2016.  
(MVV Dec. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2016)

CRYOGEAR USA  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 624343

The following person (persons) is (are)  
doing business as:  
Cryogear USA, located at 922 San  
Leandro Ave. Ste. B, Mountain View, CA  
94043, Santa Clara County.  
This business is owned by: A  
Corporation.

The name and residence address of the  
registrant(s) is(are):  
HI-TECH LAMPS, INC.  
922 San Leandro Ave. Ste. B  
Mountain View, CA 94043  
Registrant began transacting business  
under the fictitious business name(s)  
listed above on N/A.  
This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara  
County on December 14, 2016.  
(MVV Dec. 23, 30, 2016; Jan. 6, 13, 2017)

PRATIMA RAO GLUCKMAN GROUP  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 624751  
The following person (persons) is (are)  
doing business as:  
Pratima Rao Gluckman Group, located at  
800 East Charleston Road, Unit 14, Palo  
Alto, CA 94303, Santa Clara County.  
This business is owned by: A Limited

Liability Company.  
The name and residence address of the  
registrant(s) is(are):  
INNOVATION FOR YOUTH, LLC  
800 East Charleston Road, Unit 14  
Palo Alto, CA 94303  
Registrant began transacting business  
under the fictitious business name(s)  
listed above on 02/15/2016.  
This statement was filed with the  
County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara  
County on December 23, 2016.  
(MVV Dec. 30, 2016; Jan. 6, 13, 20, 2017)

### 997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER  
ESTATE OF:  
ELIZABETH JOHNSON aka M. ELIZABETH  
JOHNSON, MARGARET ELIZABETH  
JOHNSON  
Case No.: 16PR180013  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors,  
contingent creditors, and persons who  
may otherwise be interested in the  
will or estate, or both, of ELIZABETH  
JOHNSON aka M. ELIZABETH JOHNSON,  
MARGARET ELIZABETH JOHNSON.  
A Petition for Probate has been filed by:  
RANDOLPH A. JOHNSON in the Superior  
Court of California, County of SANTA  
CLARA.

The Petition for Probate requests that:  
RANDOLPH A. JOHNSON be appointed  
as personal representative to administer  
the estate of the decedent.  
The petition requests author-  
ity to administer the estate under the  
Independent Administration of Estates  
Act. (This authority will allow the person-  
al 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 author-  
ity 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 February 15, 2017 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 peti-  
tion, you should appear at the hearing  
and state your objections or file written  
objections with the court before the  
hearing. Your appearance may be in per-  
son or by your attorney.  
If you are a creditor or a contingent  
creditor of the decedent, you must file  
your claim with the court and mail a  
copy to the personal representative  
appointed by the court within the later  
of either (1) four months from the date  
of first issuance of letters to a general  
personal representative, as defined in  
section 58 (b) of the California Probate  
Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of  
mailing or personal delivery to you  
of a notice under section 9052 of the  
California Probate Code. Other California  
statutes and legal authority may affect  
your rights as a creditor. You may want  
to consult with an attorney knowledge-  
able in California law.

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

Attorney for Petitioner:  
Leslie Yarnes Sugai  
200 S. Santa Cruz Ave.,  
Suite 100

Los Gatos, CA 95030  
(408)354-0200  
(MVV Dec. 16, 23, 30, 2016)

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA,  
SANTA CLARA COUNTY

MICHAEL MATTHEWS  
ANNE VAN CULIN, Co-Trustees

In Re the Estate of  
FLORENCE DEVERILL  
REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST  
FLORENCE DEVERILL,  
Deceased, October 21, 2016

No.: 16PR180052

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF FLORENCE  
DEVERILL

Notice is hereby given to the credi-  
tors and contingent creditors of the  
above-named decedent, that all persons  
having claims against the decedent are  
required to file them with the Superior  
Court, at 191 North First Street, San Jose,  
California 95113, and mail or deliver a  
copy to MICHAEL MATTHEWS and  
ANNE VAN CULIN, as Co-Trustees of  
the FLORENCE DEVERILL REVOCABLE  
LIVING TRUST, dated August 20, 2014  
wherein the decedent was the Settlor,  
at 800 West El Camino Real, Suite 180,  
Mountain View, California 94040, within  
the later of four months after December  
23, 2016 (the date of the first publica-  
tion of notice to creditors) or, if notice is  
mailed or personally delivered to you, 30  
days after the date this notice is mailed  
or personally delivered to you, or you  
must petition to file a late claim as pro-  
vided in Section 19103 of the Probate  
Code. A claim form may be obtained  
from the Superior Court Clerk. For your  
protection, you are encouraged to file  
your claim by certified mail, with return  
receipt requested.

Dated: December 6, 2016

/s/  
Marian Malovos Konevich,  
Malovos & Konevich,  
Attorney for the Co-Trustees  
800 West El Camino Real,  
Suite 180,  
Mountain View, California 94040  
(MVV Dec. 23, 30, 2016; Jan. 6, 2017)

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— E. Briggs

She **expertly** guided me  
— S. Hansen

Nancy **delivered** results  
— Pasmooji Family

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Satisfaction Rating  
Customer Surveys

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