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JANUARY 6, 2017 VOLUME 24, NO. 50

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## Parents up in arms over digital math program

COMPUTER-BASED LESSONS USE ALGORITHMS TO TEACH MATH, BUT RESULTS ARE QUESTIONED

By Kevin Forestieri

It sounds like a perfect fit for a school district based in the heart of Silicon Valley: a “smart” math curriculum — administered almost entirely on computers — that uses algorithms to tailor lessons to individual students. But for the Mountain View Whisman School District, taking a deep dive into so-called blended learning for math this school year has become a hotly contested decision, with more than a hundred parents calling for dismantling the program as soon as possible.

The program, called Teach to One, is an all-encompassing digital math platform with lessons, exercises and assessments designed to adjust to a student’s performance. The company that created it, New Classrooms, touts the program as an “adapted personalized curriculum” that enables students who quickly master math concepts to go above and beyond without having to sit through remedial lessons, while struggling students have more time to catch up.

A 2014 study from Columbia University found some promising signs for the Teach to One model, noting that students performing well below the national average saw major improvements in the first two years of using the program, ultimately exceeding the national averages by roughly 47 percent by the end of the second year. After taking a field trip to Oakland schools to see the program in action last year,

district officials agreed to pilot the program in sixth grade at both Graham and Crittenden middle schools for the 2016-17 school year.

Since the program’s launch, however, parents at both schools have voiced major concerns that the curriculum is a haphazard mess, jumping between remedial math and overly challenging course content, and that the primary role of the math teacher has been relegated to managing the program rather than to providing direct instruction. Worse yet, some parents say their sixth-grade children have become frustrated and unhappy with math under Teach to One, and are turned off to the subject entirely because of the pilot program.

Under Teach to One, students use two of three teaching styles — teacher instruction, group activities and independent work — and end math class with what’s called an “exit ticket,” or daily quiz, to see how well they understood the day’s lessons. The quiz results determine what lessons each student will get the next day. But when parents started reviewing daily lessons to see what their kids were learning, many were troubled by what they called incoherent, poorly constructed content.

On Dec. 7, 180 parents of fifth- and sixth-grade children — most of them from Graham — signed a letter calling on Superintendent Ayinde Rudolph and Assistant Superintendent Cathy Baur to

► See **MATH**, page 7

## IMAGES OF 2016



MICHELLE LE

Campaign manager **Eitan Fenson** sets up at the Democratic Volunteer Center in Mountain View in October, as the presidential campaign was in full frenzy. For more of the best images of 2016, see page 12.

## Dismayed by Trump, political activists aim for local delegate seats

DEMOCRATIC DELEGATE RACE DRAWS RECORD CROWD

By Mark Noack

Plenty of people probably want nothing to do with politics after last November’s election, but for some it’s exactly why they want to be more involved.

As a result of the withering presidential contest, the local California Democratic Party chapter is seeing a dramatic surge in citizen participation. The

party’s 24th Assembly District, which stretches from Woodside down to Sunnyvale, is expecting an unprecedented crowd to gather this weekend as it holds elections to pick new delegates to help guide the party’s future platform.

This internal party pick normally doesn’t generate much attention, but this year seems to be different due to the recent political turmoil. This time

around, a total of 46 people are running for a delegate seat, making it by far the largest group of candidates ever, according to organizers.

“If every candidate just brought 10 friends, then we’d still have more than 400 people showing up,” said Steve Chessin, a long-time party activist who serves as the district chapter’s executive

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# Voices

AROUND TOWN

From the archives: Asked in downtown Mountain View in early January 2016, and published Jan. 8, 2016. Photos and interviews by Mark Noack

## What will be the big news story of 2016?



“There’s going to be more proxy wars in the Middle East, perhaps between Iran and Saudi Arabia.”

**Jim Kelly**, Mountain View



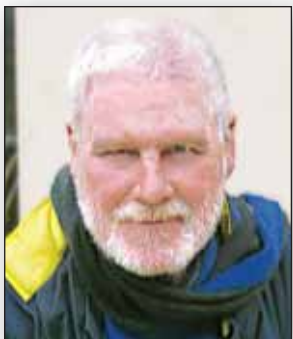
“The U.S could go back to the Middle East for a new war against terrorism. I’m not saying that’s actually going to happen.”

**Daniel Redmayne**, Mountain View



“Is El Niño going to fulfill everyone’s expectations? Is it going to turn into a huge deluge or leave us high and dry?”

**Kimberly Braun**, Mountain View



“I’m afraid to say it, but we might be calling Donald Trump president.”

**Jeffrey Froning**, Mountain View



“Hillary Clinton will be elected president of the United States.”

**Jeff Santay**, Mountain View

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



Dr. Phan

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— Chris G. from Palo Alto, Audi owner

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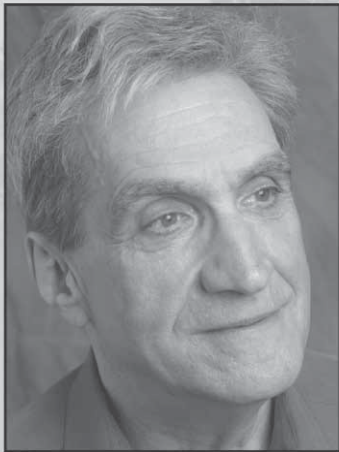
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### CRIME BRIEFS

#### WOMAN ARRESTED ON BURGLARY CHARGES

Police arrested a Grass Valley woman on New Year's Day after she allegedly burglarized a car and tried to enter a Mountain View home while pretending to conduct a survey.

Officers were alerted to a residential burglary in progress at the first block of Centre Street around 4:20 p.m. on Jan. 1. When officers arrived, the victim told police that the suspect, later identified as 39-year-old April Pineda, came to the door of the victim's home claiming she was conducting some type of survey. During the encounter, Pineda allegedly told the victim that she needed to enter the home, according to police spokeswoman Katie Nelson.

The victim told police that prior to approaching the home, Pineda had also rummaged through her car and taken her car keys, Nelson said.

Pineda left on a bike before officers arrived, but was located by officers a short time later. She was detained and subsequently arrested for burglary and violating her probation.

During the arrest, officers located belongings of the victim, which were later returned.

Pineda was booked in the Elmwood Correctional Facility without bail.

—Kevin Forestieri

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#### AUTO BURGLARY

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1100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 12/30  
1100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 12/30  
1000 block Crestview Dr., 1/2  
1000 block N. Rengstorff Av., 1/3

#### BATTERY

2600 block W. El Camino Real, 12/28  
3500 block Truman Av., 12/29  
2600 block W. El Camino Real, 12/30  
800 block Mountain View Av., 12/30  
California St. & Franklin St., 12/31  
200 block Castro St., 1/1

#### COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

1000 block Grant Rd., 12/29

#### GRAND THEFT

1000 block N. Rengstorff Av., 12/28  
1600 block Villa St., 1/2

#### RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

600 block Ehrhorn Av., 12/31  
1 block Centre St., 1/1  
1 block Showers Dr., 1/2  
600 block Yosemite Av., 1/2

#### VANDALISM

1700 block Rock St., 12/28  
100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 12/29

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### GRAHAM SCHOOL SECRETARY DIES

Jan Austin, the school secretary at Graham Middle School and longtime Mountain View Whisman School District employee, died on on Dec. 30, according to a statement by the district office.

Over the years, Austin served myriad roles at both Graham and Bubb Elementary, including clerical assistant, child care supervisor and coordinator for the California English Language Development Test. She was also a frequent volunteer at Bubb, Graham and the district in general, according to district spokeswoman Shelly Hausman.

Graham Principal Kim Thompson released a statement yesterday that Austin's passing "left a hole in many hearts in our school communities, to which she dedicated so much of her time, spirit and kindness."

Services will be held at noon on Friday, Jan. 6, at the Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary, located at 96 W. El Camino Real in Mountain View. Visitation will be held prior to service at 11 a.m.

—Kevin Forestieri



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PROVIDED BY LOS ALTOS HACKS

An interface application designed for the Oculus Rift virtual-reality system won the top prize for the 2016 Los Altos Hacks event.

## Local high-schooler hackathon wins an encore in February

LOS ALTOS HACKS AIMS TO BRING CODING MARATHON TO TEEN CROWD

By Mark Noack

Los Altos High School senior Aashia Mehta isn't quite at the point where she can script a killer new app on her own. However, she and her friends have designed perhaps the next best thing — they built their own training-grounds to teach high schoolers how to plan, code and execute their own software.

Their 10-person club, Los Altos Hacks, is now preparing next month to put on their

*'You learn a lot of skills at these events that you don't learn in programming class.'*

AASHIA MEHTA,  
LOS ALTOS HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR

second hackathon, a 24-hour spree of coding and caffeine that sometimes results in true inspiration. This kind of

marathon coding event is nothing new, Mehta admits, but not many of these events are geared for high schoolers.

"There's a lot of collegiate hackathons, but they mostly don't allow high schoolers to participate," she said. "You learn a lot of skills at these events that you don't learn in programming class because you're under pressure to complete something in 24 hours."

They took their idea for a

► See **HACKATHON**, page 6

## Number of auto burglaries remains high in 2016

HOTSPOTS INCLUDE DOWNTOWN, COSTCO AND IN-N-OUT PARKING LOTS

By Kevin Forestieri

Lock your doors and don't leave anything valuable inside — that's the message the Mountain View Police Department is sending out to city residents after receiving more than 300 reports of auto burglary in 2016. Most of the thefts are reported out of

some of the city's busiest and most bustling parking lots, and thieves frequently nab more than \$400 in personal belongings in the heist.

Police received 342 reports of auto burglary in Mountain View in 2016, which is down from the 475 reports last year but remains higher than the historic average going back to

2010, according to the department's crime statistics. Despite the overall decrease from 2015, some parking lots got hit unusually hard by thieves over the last year.

Far and away, the biggest hotspots for auto burglaries are in parking lots near

► See **AUTO BURGLARIES**, page 8

## Compromise on VTA draft bus-routes plan

SOME MOUNTAIN VIEW AND PALO ALTO ROUTES TO BE KEPT, OTHERS COMBINED OR ELIMINATED

By Sue Dremann

Changes are ahead for North County bus lines, with the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) preparing to release a draft of a plan and begin community hearings.

The Draft Transit Service Plan, scheduled to be presented to the VTA Board of Directors on Jan. 5, would overhaul the entire VTA bus system to increase ridership and make the service more efficient, officials have said. The plan covers proposed changes to bus and light-rail routes throughout Santa Clara County. If approved, the plan would be released to the public for review and comment through a series of community meetings, including one at Palo Alto City Hall on Jan. 19 at 6 p.m.

VTA presented three alternatives to the public last year based on scenarios designed to increase ridership and potentially reduce coverage. The agency has said it must decrease coverage to increase ridership, and thus its revenues.

Under the draft plan, Palo Alto would lose its Line 89 bus route but it would keep service to Gunn High School on Line 88 in a compromise worked out with the VTA.

In Mountain View, one big change will add a light rail route directly from Alum Rock to the Mountain View Transit Center, saving riders from needing to switch lines at the Old Ironsides stop. The Alum Rock to Tasman light rail would arrive every 7.5 minutes. A rapid line would run from Alum Rock Transit Center to the Mountain View Transit Center every 15 minutes, he said.

Another line, 40, would be added to cover from Foothill College down Shoreline Boulevard to the Mountain View Transit Center, closing a previous gap in the system, Berger said.

Palo Alto's Midtown-serving Line 35 would merge with Mountain View's Line 32. Previously, the 35 covered the Palo Alto Transit Center to the San Antonio Transit Center. Riders would transfer in Mountain View to travel to the Santa Clara Caltrain Station. The merged line would

be renamed Line 21, and its riders would be able to travel directly to the Santa Clara station without transferring in Mountain View. The new line won't cut any stops and will arrive every 30 minutes, including during the middle of the day, he said.

But VTA is also proposing to discontinue Line 34, which has many deviations. Some of its stops would be taken up by the 21 line, which would replace it.

For Palo Alto, one scenario, with an 80 percent ridership/20 percent coverage goal, would substantially reduce the frequency of some bus lines, and another, called 90/10, would eliminate all bus routes serving Palo Alto save for two direct lines from Palo Alto to San Jose, whose frequency would increase. Express buses to the Stanford Research Park and the Palo Alto VA Hospital would not be affected.

But after weighing public input and seeking to retain service for its most needy riders, VTA transportation engineers devised a hybrid 85/15 plan. In Palo Alto, that would mean eliminating the 89 bus route, which connects the Palo Alto VA Healthcare System at Miranda Avenue with the California Avenue Caltrain station. "That service is redundant with the Marguerite shuttle, which is free. We can't compete. We have to charge \$2," said Adam Berger, VTA transportation planner.

But VTA would retain Line 88, the route serving Gunn High School, limiting service only around school bell times with buses arriving every 30 minutes.

"We really heard strong input from the community and the PTA," Berger said of keeping the line.

Two important north-south lines from Palo Alto Transit Center along El Camino Real to the Eastridge Mall in San Jose, the 22 and 522, now run every 12 minutes for the 22 and every 15 minutes for the 522; those lines would flip in frequency, with a bus added to the 522 and one removed from the 22.

Berger said that staff "really struggled with these decisions. While the focus is on

► See **BUS ROUTES**, page 9

## HACKATHON

► Continued from page 5

maiden voyage last year, organizing the first-ever Los Altos Hacks event for a crowd of about 200 teenagers. In total about 35 projects were designed, including a virtual-reality interface for scanning Google search and calendar tools. Another winning project was an iPhone application that suggests recipes from photos of items in your refrigerator.

Putting on the event wasn't easy — it required eight months of planning and about \$25,000, which thankfully was paid by sponsors. In particular, Microsoft provided crucial help by hosting the event at its La Avenida campus in Mountain View. Much of that cost came from providing free admission and three meals, both of which seemed like necessities for a high school crowd, Mehta said.

The bill for this year's event — Los Altos Hacks II — is expected to total only \$12,000, thanks mainly to the Mexican-food chain Chipotle agreeing to provide most of the meals.

As of now, Los Altos Hacks II has signed up 15 schools and about 300 students. Mehta said the group is still working to attract more women in hopes of



PROVIDED BY LOS ALTOS HACKS

**About 200 students** from across the Bay Area attended last year's Los Altos Hacks at the Microsoft campus in Mountain View. An even larger crowd is planned for the second event next month. Organizers for the Los Altos Hacks say they tailored their event for high-school age students.

reaching a 1:1 gender ratio. They are also hoping to recruit more mentors who can help coach the younger crowd for the day.

Los Altos Hacks II is scheduled to start at 10 a.m. on Feb. 4 at the Evernote headquarters at 305

Walnut St. in Redwood City. Anyone interested in getting more information or participating in the event can learn more at [www.losaltoshacks.com](http://www.losaltoshacks.com) ▼

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



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**January 17, 2017 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
Online webinar. Tune in at [youtube.com/SCVTA](http://youtube.com/SCVTA).

**January 18, 2017 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
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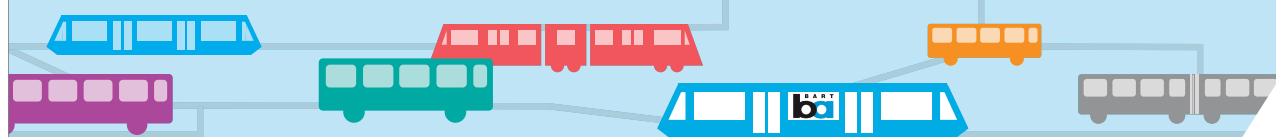
**January 19, 2017 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
Palo Alto City Hall  
250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94301

**January 24, 2017 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**  
Online webinar. Tune in at [youtube.com/SCVTA](http://youtube.com/SCVTA).

**January 26, 2017 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.**  
Online webinar. Tune in at [youtube.com/SCVTA](http://youtube.com/SCVTA).

Additional dates and locations can be found at [nextnetwork.vta.org/meetings](http://nextnetwork.vta.org/meetings).

1612-1007



## MATH

► Continued from page 1

discontinue Teach to One before spring, calling it a fundamentally flawed program that should not have been piloted on such a large scale in the first place. Among the criticisms, parents noted that the program's topics are taught in an incoherent order, and are riddled with mistakes and incorrect answers, illogical questions and link errors.

"This is further complicated by the fact that there is no textbook, so when a student struggles with concepts in the homework, they are left to looking for answers online," the letter states.

Graham parent Robin Linsenmayer Colman, one of the signatories, said she had heard a lot of individual one-off complaints from parents starting in the fall, which eventually culminated in the letter last month. She said fundamental math skills are no longer being taught, and many parents are now either relying on tutors or spending lots of time helping their children through math. Although teacher instruction is included as a learning "modality" in Teach to One, Colman said teachers hardly get to provide classroom instruction now, and play more of an administrative role.

"When they do teach, they are given a lesson right beforehand and it's spit out of the computer," she said. "And the computer says 'this is what you need to teach the kids today.'"

Graham parent Alan Wessel, who has a doctorate in mathematics and has taught classes at Santa Clara University, noticed troubling shortcomings in the program when he looked through his child's exit ticket following lessons on statistics and probability. When he reviewed the questions, he said, he realized that his daughter was getting complex math problems on probability, conditional probability and dependence that far exceed what a sixth-grader ought to know. His daughter, like many other students, had swiftly and inexplicably moved out of sixth-grade concepts and into eighth grade and beyond.

"If I gave that exit ticket to the statistics class I taught at Santa Clara University, about a sixth of the class would fail it," Wessel said.

Seeking some kind of justification, Wessel said, he contacted the district office and asked why some of the "crazy difficult" problems were being assigned. His email was forwarded to a New Classrooms staff member who claimed the problem was solvable based on seventh-grade

standards, but did not respond when Wessel challenged him to solve the problem using the cited seventh-grade standard.

Wessel also argued that the algorithm that determines what lessons students receive, and when, is "bizarre and deficient," jumping from one subject to another and choosing subjects seemingly at random, all while circumventing any logical order normally found in a traditional textbook.

"It's extraordinarily annoying, and it's very difficult to help your child," Wessel said. "It's very demotivating for a lot of kids to get an exit test that's impossible to take, or an exit test that doesn't even have a correct answer."

New Classrooms did not respond to the *Voice's* request for comment.

Around the time parents were circulating the letter opposing Teach to One, the district office conducted a survey asking students and parents to weigh in on the pilot program. Of the 187 parents participating in the survey, 67 percent of Graham parents and 48 percent of Crittenden parents said they do not believe the program matches the needs of their children. A similar number, 62 percent of Graham parents and 46 percent of Crittenden parents, believed Teach to One has not improved their child's ability in math.

Although some respondents voiced optimism, supporting the idea of students moving at their own pace and using online resources to supplement instruction, the survey opened the floodgates for a torrent of negative responses. Parents demanded that the district throw out Teach to One, and allow teachers to go back to actually teaching in the classroom. One comment simply reads: "Bring back the teacher."

At the Dec. 8 school board meeting, board members were set to vote on a contract with New Classrooms that would continue the pilot program through the rest of the school year, but Rudolph pulled it from the consent calendar. Among the terms of the contract, New Classrooms would provide the math platform, instructional content, program schedules and assessments, and the district would provide the teaching staff, the laptops and other required technology to run Teach to One. Add up the cost of licensing and service fees, and the contract was expected to cost the \$521,000, according to an interim budget report.

Shortly thereafter, the district office announced that it would make cutbacks to Teach to One, intended to strike a balance between the new pilot program

and traditional math instruction. Under the revision, only half of math time will be designated for Teach to One.

Rudolph told the *Voice* that Teach to One, like all pilot programs, will be constantly assessed to see how well it meets the needs of the students. He said the survey indicated to the district office that students and parents value the program for giving students the opportunity to learn at their own pace, but also value face-to-face time with teachers — which ultimately led to the decision to split class time in half for both.

"It's one of those things we'll continue to work on and work with," Rudolph said.

It's possible, Rudolph added, that the concerns about course work being too difficult is a perception problem more than anything else. Before Teach to One, parents of high-performing students would complain that math classes were moving too slowly, he said. But now that the digital platform gives parents access to all the course material students learned that day, the same parents are fearful that the classes are moving too fast.

When asked about the contract that Teach to One has been working under until now, as well as the fate of the future contract that was pulled from the consent calendar at the Dec. 8 board meeting, Rudolph said he could not comment pending negotiations with New Classrooms.

***'It's very demotivating for a lot of kids to get an exit test that's impossible to take.'***

ALAN WESSEL, GRAHAM PARENT

Colman, in an email response to district administrators, said she doesn't see a reason why Teach to One should be kept at all, and that students stand to lose an enormous amount of instructional time under the proposed 50-50 split. She pointed to recent benchmark assessments showing that math performance among district sixth-graders had declined compared with last year, which she said bears out the parents' concerns about Teach to One.

"Given declining student performance and broadly shared negative experiences with TTO, I see no reason why the district would insist on continuing TTO during 2017 for all students," Colman said in the email.

Crittenden and Graham are two of only a few dozen

schools in the nation to adopt Teach to One, and there's a striking demographic difference between Mountain View's schools and the other early adopters. The Columbia University study that found major gains among students participating in Teach to One states that virtually all of the students surveyed in the study were eligible for free or reduced-price lunches, attended schools in high-poverty, high-needs communities and were predominantly black and Hispanic.

"We cannot state definitely that Teach to One caused the above-average achievement gains," the study states. "Adding to the ambiguity is the fact that the norms against which TTO students were compared were based on student samples that were on average academically and demographically far more advantaged."

A more comprehensive

study on Teach to One, funded through the U.S. Department of Education, is currently being conducted by the Consortium for Policy Research in Education, which will explore how Teach to One's individualized instruction affects math performance. The study won't be complete until May 2018.

Wessel said the Mountain View Whisman School District is well off compared with districts using the program and cited in the Columbia University study, and needs to take advantage of the strong teaching staff and existing, well-funded programs rather than abdicate the responsibility of developing math curriculum to Teach to One.

"If we had horrible teachers, maybe this would be a better option, but we have wonderful teachers," he said. ■

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

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### Lower Campus Grades K-2

9 am - 11 am  
Pinewood School  
477 Fremont Avenue  
Los Altos, CA 94024

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11:30 am - 1:30 pm  
Pinewood School  
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## Proposed bill would ban smoking pot while driving

A California state Senate bill introduced Dec. 29 would outlaw driving while under the influence of marijuana in response to what the bill's sponsors say is a loophole in a recently passed state proposition that legalized recreational marijuana.

Proposition 64, which was approved by California voters in November, legalized recreational use of marijuana but made it illegal to have an open container of marijuana in a vehicle.

According to the office of state Sen. Jerry Hill, D-San Mateo, the proposition does not specifically prohibit smoking or ingesting marijuana while driving, which leaves authorities limited options when a driver is spotted smoking or consuming marijuana products.

Senate Bill 65, which was introduced by Hill and Assemblyman Evan Low, D-Campbell, would explicitly outlaw marijuana consumption while

behind the wheel, Hill's office said.

"This legislation makes our laws for smoking while driving consistent with drinking while driving," Hill said in a statement. "With New Year's Eve approaching, it's important to remind Californians that impaired driving can be deadly."

"This law underscores that driving is a serious responsibility that should be undertaken without impairment," Low said in a statement.

Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen has also lent his support to the bill, according to Hill's office.

Under the current law, drivers in California can be arrested for driving while under the influence of alcohol, marijuana or other drugs. The offense would normally be charged as a misdemeanor.

Under Proposition 64, drivers can be cited for an infraction for having an open container

or package of marijuana in a vehicle, similar to current alcohol laws.

Currently, however, there is no standard for marijuana impairment similar to the 0.08 blood alcohol content threshold used for drunk drivers.

Technology for a roadside marijuana consumption test is still being developed. In the meantime, law enforcement agencies are working with trained drug recognition experts to determine if a driver is under the influence of marijuana, according to Hill's office.

Under the proposed legislation, a driver caught smoking or ingesting marijuana while driving a vehicle or piloting a vessel or aircraft would be cited for an infraction, similar to driving while drinking. The bill would give a judge the option to penalize the offense either as an infraction or a misdemeanor, Hill's office said.

— Bay City News Service

## AUTO BURGLARIES

► Continued from page 5

Highway 101 along the northern end of Rengstorff Avenue. The Charleston Plaza shopping center, combined with the Costco and In-N-Out Burger parking lots next to the freeway entrance, had 89 reported cases of auto burglary in 2016. Other locations rife with theft include the downtown parking lots (66 cases) the San Antonio Shopping Center (22 cases) and the Century Cinema 16 parking lots (20 cases).

Part of the problem is that people are leaving valuable belongings in their cars, or are leaving their cars unlocked, said police spokeswoman Katie Nelson. More often than not, auto burglaries are crimes of opportunity, meaning thieves will make the decision to grab something from a parked car in the spur of the moment, making it all the more important to leave anything expensive out of sight.

The potential for theft is

particularly high during the cold winter months, Nelson said, because residents might decide to wait for their car to heat up and leave it unattended with the keys in the ignition.

"People will turn on their cars and go back inside before they leave, and that's never a good idea," she said. "We haven't had any cars stolen because of that yet this season, but it's opening up access to the car."

Although reports of auto burglary are up, that doesn't necessarily mean each case involves the theft of personal belongings, Nelson said. It could be that the culprit entered the vehicle and quickly searched through the contents, or grabbed loose change. In other cases, it's the theft of an iPhone, laptop or other expensive digital device that was left inside. Historically, a little over half of reported auto burglaries in Mountain View include the theft of at least \$400 in belongings.

It's no surprise that the Costco and In-N-Out parking lots are big targets for auto burglary,

## CAR THEFTS: DEC. 1-DEC. 31

- In-N-Out Burger (1159 N. Rengstorff Ave.) - 12
- Costco (1000 N. Rengstorff Ave.) - 4
- Century Theaters (1500 N. Shoreline Blvd.) - 2
- Downtown parking lots - 3

Nelson said, because of the close proximity to Highway 101 and the fact that they are both bustling and constantly busy.

"Thieves are looking for easy access, and they're looking for a high likelihood of finding something. They think these parking lots are the places to go," she said.

Police are advising residents to remember to roll up windows and lock their cars when they park — even if it's in a driveway or garage — and park in well-lit areas whenever possible. Valuable belongings including wallets, cell phones, laptops and personal paperwork should be either stored in the trunk ahead of time or carried out with the driver, or at least kept out of sight when the car is unattended. ■

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

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MountainView  
VOICE

# Utility switch may cause odd taste, color and odor in tap water

SFPUC CHANGES WATER SOURCES FOR TEMPORARY REPAIRS

By Sue Dremann  
and Mark Noack

Mountain View residents may notice their tap water has a different color, taste or odor for the next few months, but city officials are giving assurances that the water remains safe to drink.

Starting Dec. 23, Mountain View homes have been receiving water from the Sunol Valley Treatment Plant rather than from the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, according to city officials. The city's water supplier, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), is making the change while it conducts inspections and repairs of the Mountain Tunnel pipeline, which delivers from the Hetch Hetchy aqueduct.

The shutdown of the tunnel is expected to last through the beginning of March. During this period, SFPUC will provide treated water from its other sources for its wholesale customers, including many Peninsula cities, counties and water districts.

Although the SFPUC began taking water from the Sunol Valley Treatment Plant two weeks ago, Mountain View officials first confirmed the water switch to the *Voice* on Jan. 4.

The changes in the water's taste, odor and color can come from the mixing process that can stir up sediment or algae in the water distribution system, according to the utilities department.

"The water is safe to drink and continues to meet all drinking

water standards," Jacqueline Solomon, assistant public works director, wrote in an email.

SFPUC reportedly told its municipal customers that it will do all it can to address taste and odor changes. The water is reportedly being tested daily to ensure that it meets quality standards.

Mountain View residents who live south of Cuesta Drive should not be affected because they receive water from the Santa Clara Valley Water District, which uses different water sources.

Anyone with questions or concerns about the water can contact the Mountain View Public Works Department at (650) 903-6329. ▀

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

## BUS ROUTES

► Continued from page 5

rider-coverage, we don't want (the message) to get lost that we really do care about neighborhoods with ridership needs and we really do work to retain those. It's a big balancing act overall," he said.

VTA intends to update its paratransit policy so that no current users in Santa Clara County are negatively affected, spokeswoman Stacey Hendler-Ross said.

"Note that this would discontinue VTA paratransit service in Fremont, where East Bay Paratransit also operates. Whether this means freezing the service area as it is today or grandfathering in current clients is yet to be determined," she said in an email.

If the board approves releasing the draft plan for public scrutiny, public meetings would take place from Jan. 6 to Feb. 20. VTA

officials stressed that the draft plan is a starting point for public discussion.

"We want to learn how we can make this project better. We don't know the nuances of each community," Berger said.

The last time the agency overhauled its system, in 2008, it made 50 changes from the draft plan release to the final plan, he added. "I'm really hoping we'll get that kind of feedback as well," he said.

VTA plans to launch a robust information campaign, including a website on Jan. 5, and will host webinars or make in-person appearances to discuss the draft plan, he said. Information is available at [nextnetwork.vta.org](http://nextnetwork.vta.org).

The Jan. 5 VTA board meeting was scheduled for 5:50 p.m. in the county Board of Supervisors Chambers, 70 W. Hedding St. in San Jose. The agenda packet and map are available at [tinyurl.com/zz57xpu](http://tinyurl.com/zz57xpu). ▀

## Jimmy Neal Johnson

October 18, 1935 – December 21, 2016

Jim passed peacefully December 21 at age 81. Born in Cameron, OK, Jim grew up in Mountain View, CA, where he attended Whisman School and graduated from Mountain View High School. He served honorably in the U.S. Air Force, attended San Jose State University, and retired after a distinguished sales career with ITT and Fairchild Semiconductor.

He is survived by his loving children Melanie Johnson (John Hawker), Sheryl Johnson (Neely Crowley), Michael Johnson (Kim Blevins), Kathy Johnson Wesolowski (Jeff Wesolowski), and Matthew Johnson, granddaughters Emilee Amaro (Nick Amaro), Amanda DeNolf (Neil DeNolf), Elise Tarens, Erica Tarens, Janelle Wesolowski, Megan Wesolowski, great-grandsons Oliver and Landon Amaro, brother John B. Johnson, aunt Anna Bowden, cousins Ruth Goforth, Tom Goforth, first wife Shirley McCulloch Pisano (Vincent Pisano), sisters-in-law, brothers-in law, and their families.

Jim was predeceased by his parents Neva Jewell Goforth and John Leroy Johnson, wife Elaine Bella Johnson, and wife Susan Yamen Johnson. At Jim's request, there will be no services. Memorial donations can be made to the charity of your choice.



PAID OBITUARY

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### LET'S DISCUSS:

Read the latest local news headlines and talk about the issues at Town Square at **MountainViewOnline.com**

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[connect@mentortutorconnection.org](mailto:connect@mentortutorconnection.org).

**MentorTutorConnection.org**

# 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/  
mv-holiday-fund](http://www.siliconvalleycf.org/mv-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 29, 2016,  
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## City OKs study on innovative transit line

After kicking the tires for a few years, Mountain View city leaders are now laying down money for what some might call a moonshot project to solve the area's traffic troubles.

Last month, the City Council commissioned a \$250,000 study to look into building a new-fangled transit line linking the city's downtown transit center and the bustling North Bayshore tech hub.

The study is officially investigating what is known as automated-guideway transit (AGT), a broad term that covers various driverless systems that usually move along guideways above the roadways. By their nature, these systems avoid much of the difficult property acquisition that

hinders many transportation projects.

As part of the study, the San Francisco-based transportation firm Lea+Elliott will investigate potential routes for an initial AGT transit line as well as what kind of system would be most appropriate for the job.

The firm will also conduct a market study to find out whether passenger demand could eventually pay the costs of the transit line. The consultants are expected to deliver a final report to the city around fall of this year.

The City Council approved the AGT study in a 7-0 vote on the consent agenda at its Dec. 6 meeting. ▣

—Mark Noack

## ACTIVISTS

► Continued from page 1

board member. "You've got a lot of people who weren't involved before this election, and they want to continue with their momentum."

The level of interest in the delegate election surpassed anything Chessin has previously seen, he said. Most past elections would draw maybe two dozen people to run for a delegate seat, he said.

There are several reasons for so much more enthusiasm to get involved this time, he said, and topping the list is the lingering shock from Donald Trump's victory, especially among California Democrats. Many newcomers seem to share an interest in helping the state Democratic party shield California from the national turn toward reactionary politics, Chessin said.

In addition, many supporters of Sen. Bernie Sanders' unsuccessful primary bid are redirecting their energy toward local politics. Some of Mountain View's well-known political figures in this group have formed a "Grass Roots Slate" for the delegate race, including City Councilman Lenny Siegel, former council candidates Lucas Ramirez and Ken "Kacey" Carpenter, and former Assemblywoman Sally Lieber.

Other slates have also formed for city-specific delegates and candidates being endorsed by party leaders such as state Assemblyman Mark Berman and state Sen. Jerry Hill.

This enthusiasm isn't unique to the Midpeninsula. Officials

with the California Democratic Party are reporting the largest turnout they've ever seen across the state. Party officials reported that about 4,000 people statewide were seeking delegate seats, said Alyson Abramowitz, the lead organizer for the 24th District election.

"There's always a certain amount of enthusiasm that comes with the election, but the level is dramatically greater this time — people have perceived the stakes are much greater," she said. "People are saying they're concerned about not having a democracy anymore. I've never heard that concern before in my life, and I've been hearing it over and over again."

Once picked, delegates are tasked with picking the state Democratic party's leadership positions, shaping the party's platform and endorsing candidates. In total, the 24th Assembly District will elect 14 delegates, evenly split between men and women.

Along with Assembly-district elections, delegates are also chosen by county-specific committees and through appointment by elected officials.

The 24th Assembly District delegate election is scheduled to begin with candidate speeches at 10:30 a.m. at the Hillview Community Center at 97 Hillview Ave. in Los Altos. Candidate statements and more information about the event can be found at [www.cadem.org](http://www.cadem.org). ▣

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

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# IMAGES OF 2016

PHOTOS BY  
**MICHELLE LE AND  
BRENTEN BRANDENBURG**

**F**rom uncommon events such as a presidential visit and a renowned film star under the spotlight at an awards ceremony, to the more everyday happenings of community life, *Voice* photographers captured the spirit and substance of life in Mountain View during 2016. We've chosen some of our favorite pictures to republish here — a gallery of images reflecting life as experienced in our community in the year just ended.

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 14.



MICHELLE LE



BRENTEN BRANDENBURG



MICHELLE LE



MICHELLE LE



MICHELLE LE



MICHELLE LE



MICHELLE LE

Clockwise from top left: **The Bay Trail** north of Moffett Field now links the cities of Mountain View and Sunnyvale, following a 19-year effort to build a contiguous bayside path between the two cities. **Graduating senior Brian Flores Luna** delivers a speech to his fellow seniors at the Mountain View High School graduation ceremony. **Environmental Scientist Patrick Hogan** listens to various speakers during a meeting concerning TCE at NASA Ames Research Center on Oct. 19. **Children pose with Santa** alongside Santa's helpers, Nathalie Preciado, left, and Dorreen Edmonds, right, during Mountain View's annual Community Tree Lighting Celebration. **Students** in the Stretch to Kindergarten summer program line up for lunch at Theuerkauf Elementary, taking advantage of the school's free summer meals program. **President Barack Obama** gives a warm greeting to Susannah Beck and her daughter Gretchen upon his arrival at Moffett Field on June 23. The next day, the president delivered a message of hope and unity at the White House Global Entrepreneurship Summit held at Stanford University amid global tumult following the news that the United Kingdom will exit the European Union. **Scotty Whaley** has been living out of his Dodge van since losing his job as a property manager. He is one of dozens of people who have transformed the streets around Rengstorff Park into a neighborhood of car dwellers.

# IMAGES OF 2016

► Continued from previous page

Clockwise, from right: **Vehicles and pedestrians** cross Castro Street at Central Expressway near the Caltrain Castro Station on March 23. **Alma Garcia** reflects on the detainment of her husband by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents in January. **Actor Jeremy Irons** on the red carpet at the Breakthrough Prize gala on Dec. 4. **Mountain View Tenants Coalition members** hug following news on election night that a citywide rent-control measure to curb apartment rents passed. **Maria Ahmad**, the general manager of the Santiago Villa mobile home park, addresses a tense meeting for residents angry about the site's escalating rents.



MICHELLE LE



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# Viewpoint

- EDITORIAL
- YOUR LETTERS
- GUEST OPINIONS

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### ■ WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

All views must include a home address and contact phone number. Published letters will also appear on the web site, [www.MountainViewOnline.com](http://www.MountainViewOnline.com), and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

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## VIEW OF MOUNTAINS THREATENED BY PROJECT

It's no secret that the valley view of the Santa Cruz and Hamilton mountain ranges inspired our city's name in the 1850s. Standing in Mountain View's Cuesta Park Annex (the last majestic publicly accessible visual corridor to the Santa Cruz Mountains), visitors still appreciate why early Spanish explorers named these mountains "Las Montanas Azules" (the blue mountains).

This mountain vista, stretching from the Los Gatos foothills all the way to Black Mountain can be seen by Cuesta Park Annex visitors, as well as pedestrians and motorists commuting daily on Cuesta Drive between Montalto Drive and Begon Avenue. On rare occasions when a late spring snow dusts the Santa Cruz Mountains, viewers can experience a crystal clear view of the hillside oak trees contrasted with the bright pink blossoms and yellow mustard flowers of the front annex meadow.

Plein air painters, and nature, wedding and portrait photographers all use the Mountain View Cuesta Annex's rural splendor (in the spring and fall) as inspiration for their artistry.

This cultural asset is going to be compromised by a construction project on the El Camino Hospital property behind it (a five-story parking garage currently under construction). I hope the hospital's board of directors pays attention to the building project's impact on this historic vista, and halts construction before the building's height compromises the view of the mountains disappearing gracefully behind the Cuesta Annex's southern tree line.

Robert Schick  
Cuesta Drive

## BRAVO TO POLICE FOR QUICK ACTION

Bravo to Mountain View police department! After realizing my car was burglarized on New Year's Day while it was parked in my garage, I immediately called 911. The police showed up at my door in less than a few minutes and asked some questions; I was then taken to the location where the suspect was located. After I confirmed this was indeed the person who ransacked my car, I was brought back home. After

three hours, the officer brought back my missing items.

I would like to caution my neighbors in Mountain View: Although we live in a fairly safe environment, we need to be more cautious not to provide any opportunity to any uninvited guests. It is an awful feeling that my private space was invaded. Some items may not be valuable to others; however, it is important to the owners.

My special thanks to our police department for its timely response. The officers I worked with were professional and helpful. This is an excellent example of their commitment to keep Mountain View safe. Thank you!

Rae Tso  
Centre Street

## FIGHT EFFORTS TO PIT ONE AGAINST THE OTHER

To those who wish to effectively counter the onslaught of right-wing reactionaries trying to demolish government: Remind people that our shared government is the only thing that can hold us all together as Americans.

The decision taken over 200 years ago to unite as a single nation has enabled us to attain to the highest standard of living in the world. Much of this was due to a strong central government supporting portions of the nation that would have languished otherwise (rural electrification, land grant colleges, federal water projects).

The coming administration will try to pit us against one another, but our shared history must be recalled, and any attempts to shatter our historic mutual bonds must be fought as fiercely as our forefathers fought for independence, or against the onslaught of fascism.

Ed Taub  
Devoto Street

## GOOGLE AND THE NORTH BAYSHORE VISION

A recent article in the Mountain View was *Voice* headlined: Google veers from city's vision for North Bayshore. Let's not panic. Let's continue to pursue the NBS vision vigorously and persistently.

Some points to remember:  
1. Google and Mountain View have shared long-term interests

for NBS. Recent comments by the Google project team may not reflect those longer-term interests and should not be allowed to interfere with the design and planning process. If needed, the mayor and City Council can open a fresh channel of communication and collaboration with senior Google management to accomplish our shared interests.

2. Mountain View has the authority to design and plan NBS and to implement the design and plan through adoption of a precise plan, and all development must comply with the precise plan. The city does not need approval by Google or anyone else of the precise plan.

3. It is normal for development to pay for its own infrastructure. If you live in a single-family home in Mountain View, the chances are the developer of your neighborhood installed and paid for the streets, utilities and other infrastructure that serve the neighborhood. It is not unreasonable to expect Google, or anyone else developing in NBS, to pay for the supporting infrastructure. That may be expensive, but the high land values and the high values of the companies that will be the future users of the land justify paying the cost. The developers and long-term users may seek public subsidies, but the public sector should be cautious about unnecessarily shouldering that financial burden.

4. High land values are an asset, not a problem. They reflect strong economic energy that, if managed wisely, will contribute to project success.

5. Mountain View deserves the

best. Google and NBS offer a great opportunity. Let's work together and make it a world-class success.

Bruce Liedstrand  
Former Mountain View  
city manager  
Bentley Square

## A HISTORICAL VIEW OF ELECTORAL COLLEGE

Before investing effort into converting from our Electoral College system for choosing presidents, consider a few examples in which the college provided benefits.

1860: Lincoln's almost 40 percent of the popular vote converted to an almost 60 percent majority (180 of 303).

1912: Wilson's 41.8 percent to Taft + Roosevelt's 50.6 percent came out with 435 electoral votes for Wilson and 96 for Taft and Roosevelt.

1960: JFK's 49.72 percent to Nixon's 49.55 percent converted to 303 beating 219. Obvious cheating in Chicago was not contested because the 27 electoral votes of Illinois were not enough to change the outcome.

1976: Jimmy Carter's 50.08 percent vs. Ford's 48.01 percent converted to 297 vs. 240 (55 to 45 percent).

1992: Clinton's 43 percent to Bush's 37 percent (almost 20 percent for Perot) converted to 370 to 168.

The Electoral College produced a clear majority on one side, making it hard to justify fighting (except in 1860) about it or litigating in court.

Raymond R. White  
Whitney Drive

### THE GHOST OF 2016





MICHELLE LE

**Poke Bar's** salmon and mango salad, served with crab meat and seaweed.

## THE YEAR IN DINING

A LOOK BACK AT THE MIDPENINSULA'S TOP FOOD NEWS OF 2016

By Elena Kadvany

In many ways, 2016 was a year of recognition, second acts and upscale dining for the Midpeninsula restaurant scene.

In Palo Alto, newcomer Bird Dog made headlines locally and beyond for bringing innovative dining south of San Francisco. Local, national and even international restaurateurs continued to look to Palo Alto to expand their businesses, from the second outpost of a popular San Francisco wine shop, Biondivino, to Wahlburgers, a burger chain owned by actor Mark Wahlberg and his family. Second acts from established restaurants, including California Avenue Italian favorite Terun and longtime brewery-restaurant Gordon Biersch, found their own success. Notable high-end restaurateurs, including Nobu

Matsuhisa and two French Laundry alums, announced plans to open in Palo Alto.

In Mountain View, 2016 saw the return of the popular Gochi Japanese Fusion Tapas, which had closed the previous summer due to an impending redevelopment. Several national and international chains also moved in, including Eureka!, Little Sheep Mongolian Hot Pot and Dong Lai Shun. Zagat highlighted Haochen Liu of Kumino, a new Asian-fusion restaurant, as one of its "Under-the-Radar Chefs to Know in the SF Bay Area."

This year, Los Altos regained Chinese standby Hunan Homes, which reopened, but lost community fixture Main Street Cafe. And Midpeninsulites quickly became hooked on the carefully crafted

bread and baked goods from Manresa Bread, the bakery spinoff from the Michelin-starred Los Gatos restaurant of the same name.

Read on for more of the highlights of this year in dining, from the most exciting opening of the year to the chef to watch in 2017.

**MOST EXCITING OPENING OF 2016:** After a liquor-license, suspension, a change in ownership and nearly three years of renovations, the British Bankers Club, or BBC, quietly reopened in Menlo Park just before the end of the year. The historic building at 1090 El Camino Real has been completely revamped, with a sleek new interior, black and white tiled floors, maroon tufted booths and a long bar, multiple floors and a rooftop for dining and drinking in the future — though the historic exterior brick architecture and signage

**In Mountain View, 2016 saw the return of the popular Gochi Japanese Fusion Tapas.**

remain. A soft opening menu includes dishes such as charcuterie, hamachi crudo, red and gold beet salad, pan-roasted scallops and hibiscus brined pork porterhouse. The restaurant, described on its website as a "contemporary tavern," is owned by Rob Fischer, who also owns Palo Alto Creamery, Gravity and Reposado in Palo Alto, and Scratch in Mountain View. Tylor Urias, formerly the chef for Spencer's for Steaks and

Chops at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in San Jose, is heading up the BBC's kitchen. For now, the restaurant is serving dinner only; lunch service is expected to start later in January.

**YEAR OF POKE:** 2016 was undoubtedly (and for some, tiredly) the year of poke. The traditional Hawaiian seafood staple, cubes of raw fish marinated and often mixed with sauces and other toppings, became the food-trend du jour throughout the Bay Area this year. The Midpeninsula was not immune, with four dedicated poke eateries opening in Palo Alto and Mountain View (following one that opened in 2015). There's pokeLOVE at Town & Country Village, Poki Bowl near California Avenue, Go Fish Poke Bar at Stanford Shopping Center and Pokeworks on



MICHELLE LE

**Our chef to watch in 2017:** John Shelsta, a Menlo Park native and former chef at Howie's Artisan Pizza in Redwood City whose pastries and baked goods found great success this year at regular pop-ups in Palo Alto.

Castro Street in Mountain View. Go Fish owner Jerome Ito also plans to open a second outpost in Redwood City in 2017.

**STRANGEST TAKEOVER:** Who could have predicted that Mark Wahlberg would buy a Palo Alto seafood restaurant this year? The owner of University Avenue seafood restaurant Sam's Chowder House announced unexpectedly in December that the restaurant had been sold to Wahlburgers, a Boston-based burger chain

owned by none other than Mark Wahlberg and his two brothers, Paul and Donnie. Wahlburgers, which now has locations in Massachusetts, Florida, Michigan, Nevada, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Canada, was started in 2011. The promised Palo Alto outpost is one piece of a larger expansion effort the Wahlbergs are pursuing.

**SHORTEST LIVED:** It took only five months for the owner of Mountain View Asian fusion

restaurant Izzo to call it quits. Frank Chang closed the 246 Castro St. restaurant, which was the second outpost after the original in San Jose, this fall. The concept — Taiwanese and Asian-fusion cuisine — was “not taking off fast enough,” he said in a previous interview. Izzo was the second fusion restaurant in a row to fail at that location, following Cijjo, a “global tapas” restaurant.

**FAREWELL TO AN INSTITUTION:** Palo Alto said sayonara this year to Homma's Brown Rice Sushi, which had served brown-rice nigiri, rolls and vegetarian sushi in a no-frills setting for 30 years. Owner-namesake Masakazu Homma, who got sick last year, finally caved to his family's requests for him to retire. Homma sold the 2363 Birch St. restaurant to a couple who plan to remodel the space and open a Japanese restaurant, according to Homma's son, Nao. A construction worker said in late December that the new restaurant should open within the first month or two of 2017.

**TOP PENINSULA FOODIST POST OF 2016:** The most-viewed story on the Peninsula Foodist blog this year was on the opening of Dan Gordon's, the reinvented version of longtime brewery-restaurant Gordon Biersch in Palo

Alto. It was followed closely by the opening of iTalico, the sleek new sister restaurant to California Avenue Italian favorite Terun.

**FOOD BOOM AT STANFORD:** 2016 was the year that Stanford Shopping Center became a dining as well as a shopping destination. Five new eateries opened, with more on their way in the new year. The new additions indicate a slant toward more healthful eating options (though McDonald's remains). Shoppers can now stop for a snack — or a full meal — at Tender Greens, True Food Kitchen, Go Fish Poke Bar, Pink Posy bakery or Terrain Cafe. Expected early in 2017 are 3potato4, which

serves vegan baked French fries, and Japanese dessert chain Minamoto Kitchan.

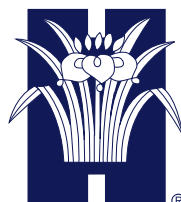
**CHEF TO WATCH IN 2017:** Those who waited in line at one of pastry chef John Shelsta's Palo Alto pop-ups this year can attest to the quality, care and love poured into his baked goods. The Menlo Park native started selling his buttery croissants, doughnuts, savory tarts and other pastries sporadically this year at pop-ups, often selling out quickly. Now that Shelsta's most recent employer, Howie's Artisan Pizza in Redwood City, has closed temporarily,

► See **DINING**, page 18



MICHELLE LE

The owner of Palo Alto seafood restaurant **Sam's Chowder House** announced unexpectedly in December that the restaurant had been sold to Wahlburgers, a Boston-based burger chain owned by none other than Mark Wahlberg and his two brothers, Paul and Donnie.



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VERONICA WEBER

2016 was the year sleepy Los Altos got a new outpost of **Manresa Bread**, the bakery spinoff from the Michelin-starred Los Gatos restaurant of the same name.

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**DINING**

► Continued from page 17

he could be headed toward opening his own bakery.

**MOST ANTICIPATED OPENINGS OF 2017:** Hands down, the most anticipated openings of the new year will be in Palo Alto: upscale Japanese restaurant Nobu and Protege, a new project from two French Laundry alums.

Rumors swirled for much of 2016 about whether Nobu was truly moving into The Epiphany Hotel, meaning the end of the hotel's current restaurant, Lure + Till. It wasn't until late November that the hotel put the rumor to rest. Lure + Till officially closed on Jan. 2 to make way for Nobu, which is opening in the summer. When it opens, keep a look out

for former Oracle CEO Larry Ellison, who bought The Epiphany last year and previously partnered with Nobu Matsuhisa to build a hotel on the Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu.

And if previously sleepy California Avenue's transformation hadn't already been obvious, it was confirmed this year by the news that a former head sommelier and sous chef from three-Michelin-starred The French Laundry in Yountville would open a restaurant there in 2017. Dennis Kelly, a master sommelier who worked at the renowned restaurant for a decade, and Anthony Secviar, who cooked there for six years, are opening Protege Restaurant at 260 California Ave. They're taking over the ground floor of a new building whose owner was eager to find a restaurant tenant

**Notable high-end restaurateurs, including Nobu Matsuhisa and two French Laundry alums, announced plans to open in Palo Alto.**

fitting of the "high-end, exciting, cutting edge" space. The restaurant's website says they're "pushing (as hard as we can) for an early 2017 opening." ■

Staff writer Elena Kadvarny can be reached at [ekadvarny@pawebly.com](mailto:ekadvarny@pawebly.com).

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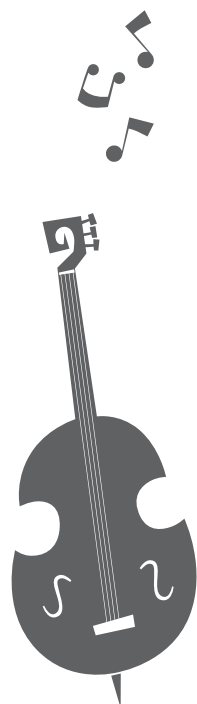
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MOVIE OPENINGS



COURTESY OF FOCUS FEATURES

A young boy (Lew MacDougall) seeks the help of a tree monster (Liam Neeson) to cope with his mother's terminal illness in "A Monster Calls."

## A boy and his tree

POWERFUL DRAMA TRANSCENDS CHILDREN'S NOVEL ROOTS

★★★1/2 (Century 20)

The phrase "family tree" takes on new meaning in "A Monster Calls," a fantasy drama with primal power for children and adults alike. Directed with the Élan of a young Steven Spielberg by J.A. Bayona ("The Impossible"), "A Monster Calls" finds Patrick Ness adapting for the screen his children's novel about a boy helped through his grieving process by a

gigantic tree creature.

In northwestern England, 12-year-old Conor O'Malley (Lewis MacDougall) internalizes his anger over his mother's cancer. As it becomes clearer that single mother Lizzie (Felicity Jones of "Rogue One") is losing her battle with cancer, Conor's bottled emotion begins to turn from sullenness to unexpected

rages, a situation unintentionally exacerbated by the arrival of Conor's grandmother (Sigourney Weaver) and a return visit by Conor's distant father (Toby Kebbell).

The wild card is the Monster (Liam Neeson), who appears to Conor like something out of his nightmares and promises, a la "A Christmas Carol," three visits. "I will tell you three stories," the Monster intones. "And when I have finished my stories, you will tell me a fourth." Resembling a yew tree in humanoid form, this wicker man derives from the English legend of The Green Man, and here he is both a fearsome and ultimately comforting figure, a projection of the wise paternal figure Conor lacks and longs for.

Like the original fairy tales, "A Monster Calls" navigates the shadows rather than driving them away with the comforts of sunshine and primary color. The ingenious production design (by Oscar winner Eugenio Caballero) is both dreadfully dreary and elegant (as is the superb score by Fernando Velzquez), and Bayona incorporates beautiful animated sequences by Spanish outfit Headless to illustrate the Monster's stories. This element also reflects the O'Malley family's



PHOTO BY HOPPER STONE COURTESY OF TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX FILM CORPORATION.

Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, and Janelle Monáe star in the true story "Hidden Figures."

## Making space

NEW FILM EXPLORES THE 'HIDDEN FIGURES' BEHIND THE SPACE RACE

★★1/2 (Century 16 & 20)

"Women's work," happily, is a term that has fallen out of fashion in America, and we're all at least vaguely aware of the historical and cultural steps along the way to more progressive workplaces, including the mobilization of a domestic female workforce during WWII. The new based-on-a-true-story drama "Hidden Figures" lives up to its name by promoting a lesser-known historical touchstone of women who made themselves utterly indispensable in a highly competitive workplace, through their keen intelligence and commitment to continuing education. That

workplace was Langley Research Center, working on behalf of NASA, circa 1961.

"Hidden Figures" focuses on an extraordinary trio of African-American women working in a tensely segregated workplace: Katherine Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer), and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe).

The women strive to be taken seriously in a racist and sexist environment dotted with obstacles both casual and hateful. Johnson must literally run across campus to use the "colored" ladies' room, and she's expected

to brew her own coffee rather than share that of her white colleagues. Elsewhere, Vaughan steals a "white" library book so she can learn FORTRAN on her own time, and Jackson must pursue a court date in order to win attendance at the white school that is her only path to becoming an aerospace engineer.

As raw material, the stuff of "Hidden Figures" could hardly be more historically, culturally significant, or inspirational, and as a PG-rated film, it's especially valuable as a STEM education boost for young girls. Unfortunately, in the hands of Melfi ("St. Vincent"), the story lacks nuance in the telling, and people speak in pronouncements ("Civil rights aren't always civil."). "Hidden Figures" almost never feels like real life, but rather like the second-grade reading level version of these women's stories, smoothed down by the rushing stream of popular-cinema narrative.

That said, we can all be grateful "Hidden Figures" exists. It helps to make famous three women who quietly changed the world, and at worst, it's a good children's movie that's a heckuva lot more edifying than, say, "Sing." "Hidden Figures" also heralds a bona fide trend in Hollywood dramas: the mathematician as hero.

Rated PG for thematic elements and some language. Two hours, 7 minutes.

— Peter Canavese

legacy of drawing, strong in Conor, and the importance of stories in teaching ourselves emotional intelligence.

There's a simple power to the clean lines of Ness' story, and it's greatly amplified by the work of the actors. Without ever spilling over into cliché, Jones embodies the perfect love and sweet attentive care of an ideal mother; as we watch Conor's mounting terror, we discover we can't bear to lose her, either. Weaver's English accent may be a bit wobbly, but she's spot

on in playing the concern and tentative command of a woman trying to keep a family together during a crisis, and MacDougall turns in a positively astonishing performance: There's no catching him acting.

This new psychodrama/fantasy, evocative of "E.T." crossed with "Pan's Labyrinth," is a truly impossible story that somehow feels entirely true.

Rated PG-13 for thematic content and some scary images. One hour, 48 minutes.

— Peter Canavese

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.

**A Monster Calls (PG-13) ★★★1/2 Century 20:** Fri. - Sun.

**Arrival (PG-13) ★★★**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.

**Assassin's Creed (PG-13) ★★**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.

**Bowden Dynasty, The - LIVE Premiere Event (Not Rated)**  
Century 20: Sunday

**Carousel (1956) (Not Rated) Century 20:** Sunday

**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.

**Hidden Figures (PG) ★★1/2**  
Century 16: 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.

**Met Opera: Nabucco (Not Rated) Century 16:** Saturday  
Century 20: Saturday **Palo Alto Square:** Saturday

**Moana (G) ★★★1/2 Century 16:** Fri.-Sun. **Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**Moonlight (R) Aquarius Theatre:** 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.

**Smite World Championship Viewing Party by Coke eSports**  
(Not Rated) Century 20: Sunday

**Underworld: Blood Wars (R)**  
Century 16: Fri.-Sun. Century 20: Fri.-Sun.

**Why Him? (R) ★★ Century 16:** Fri.-Sun. **Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**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

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



# Goings On

MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE

## HIGHLIGHT 'UNCANNY VALLEY'

The drama "Uncanny Valley" portrays a synthetic being during the slow process of becoming a human analogue. It explores the painful divide between creator and creation, the inherent unpredictability of consciousness and how we are redefining what it means to be human in the 21st century. Through Feb. 12; Thursdays-Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m. The Pear Theatre, 1110 La Avenida, Mountain View. thepear.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 those under 30. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. musicatmenlo.org

**Sarah Cahill, Stanford Live Artist Spotlight** Pianist Sarah Cahill will appear in

CSMA's Tateuchi Hall in a free Stanford Live Artist Spotlight. The evening will feature a conversation with, and brief performances by, this renowned musician. Jan. 14, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Tateuchi Hall, Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View, Mountain View. arts4all.org

## MUSIC

**Opera for Families: Viva Italia!** This event will take viewers on a journey into Italian culture and music through games, songs and

activities. The cast will perform pieces by Verdi, Rossini, Mozart and more. Two singers and a pianist will perform a selection of pieces from operas and musicals. Their performance will be enhanced with explanations, role-playing games and exercises that will help the young audience explore different aspects of opera. Jan. 7, 10:30 a.m. \$15-\$18. Albert and Janet Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. paloaltojcc.org/operaforfamilies

**Sean's Music Factory** Kids will sing, dance and play along during this event with Sean Mendelsohn of Sean's Music Factory. The event is for kids 2 and up. Jan. 7, 10:15-11 a.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

## TALKS & LECTURES

**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.

**Financial Planning Workshop Series** The American Association of Individual Investors, Silicon Valley Chapter presents a series of nine workshops with Fred Smith, registered investment adviser. Jan. 11, 7-9 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. sccl.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/TASC.shtml

## FAMILY

**Goodnight Mother Goose** This is a musical storytime for babies and toddlers through age 2 with books, play rhymes and puppetry. No registration is required. Jan. 5 and 9, 6:30-7 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

**Leslie Family Preschool Family Shabbat** The Leslie Family Preschool staff will host a Preschool Family Shabbat in the Schultz Hall. There will be food and kid-friendly musical entertainment. Jan. 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto.

**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 parent a teen. A social worker will be present in the lobby of the library every second Tuesday of the month to provide information regarding the process of becoming a foster/resource family. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

## MUSEUMS & EXHIBITS

**Celebrations, A Student and Faculty Art Exhibition** This art exhibition will showcase the work of CSMA students and faculty, ages 5 to adult. Artists were asked to imagine, given one day to celebrate something meaningful to them, what and how they would celebrate. Through 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

## DANCE

**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

**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

## LESSONS & CLASSES

**3D3P: 3D Printed Part Project** In this 3-part workshop series, students will learn about 3D modeling and printing and basic electrical circuitry. They will design and create their own 3D part with battery-operated LEDs to take home. Registration is required. Wednesdays, Jan. 11-25, 7-8:45 p.m. Free. Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. goo.gl/UvXvBA

**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

**Healthy Happens Here: Fitness with the YMCA** This class helps to develop balance, flexibility, strength, posture, coordination and fall prevention. This class is appropriate for all levels and backgrounds. It's offered in partnership and led by instructors from the YMCA. Attendees are asked to bring their own yoga mat or towel and to plan ahead to bring a bottle of water if desired. Jan. 11, noon-1 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

**Integral Shri Vivek Yoga** Shri Vivek Yoga is an integral yoga to learn how to balance three dimensions of one's body and life. Important objectives of SVIY practice include learning how to live life fully; being true to oneself and being in harmony with others. No previous yoga experience is required, and attendees are asked to bring their own mat or towel. Registration is required. Jan. 10 and 17, noon-1 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

**Kids Read** Kids Read is a program for kindergarten, first- and second-graders who would like to practice their reading with a middle or high school buddy. The program is free, and no registration is required. Children will get to pick out a free book to keep every week. Jan 8 and 15, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

**Knit & Crochet Club** Those interested in knitting and crocheting can learn something new, get answers to questions or just bring a project and enjoy the company of other knitters and crocheters. Supplies are provided for beginners, and the event is open to all skill levels, ages 8 and up. Jan. 6, 3:30-5:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

**Know Before You Go - Avalanche Awareness** This course teaches vital and lifesaving recognition of avalanche risk. Participants will learn where and why they occur, how to manage the risk, where to find local

bulletins and weather reports, and they will acquire simple ways to avoid avalanche hazards. Jan. 10, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Mountain View REI, 2450 Charleston Road, Mountain View. rei.com

**Python for Tweens and Teens** This four-week class will teach how to code in Python, an object-oriented, popular and easy-to-learn programming language. Jan. 7, 3-5 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

**Eating Disorders and Body Image Support Group** This support group is designed 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. Tuesdays, ongoing, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. El Camino Hospital, 2500 Grant Road, Conference Room C, Mountain View. edrcsv.org

**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.

**Nobel Laureate Dr. Elizabeth Blackburn and Dr. Elissa Epel: The New Science of L** Dr. Elizabeth Blackburn, a Nobel laureate, and health psychologist Dr. Elissa Epel reveal the critical role that biological markers called telomerase and telomeres play in our health. Dr. Blackburn and Dr. Epel discuss how to increase not only one's lifespan but one's health-span (the number of years that one remains active and healthy). They say that to live healthier and younger, one needs to understand how sleep, exercise, stress and diet can affect one's telomeres. Jan. 11, 7 p.m. Free. Oshman Family JCC, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. paloaltochamber.com

## BUSINESS

**Business Mixer** Business Mixers offer two hours of power networking for Chamber members. Building relationships and making business connections at these networking events are key strategies to small business success. Jan. 11, 5-7 p.m. \$5, chamber member; \$10, at door; \$20 non-member. KMVT 15, 1400 Terra Bella Ave., Suite M, Mountain View. chambermv.org

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

**Cube Club** Cubing experts share the excitement of solving the Rubik's Cube, and friends help friends. The event is for third to 12th graders. Participants can bring their own cube or borrow one from the library. No registration is required. Jan. 12, 4-5 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View.

**MLK Day Event, Volunteer with NHH** This annual event will include speakers, local nonprofit agencies with information about service opportunities, a legacy walk, activities for youth, Martin Luther King Junior's papers, food and entertainment. Kids under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Neighbors Helping Neighbors will be one of the vendors with a tabletop at this event and is accepting volunteer sign ups. Jan. 16, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Free. Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. facebook.com/NeighborsHelpingNeighborsPaloAlto

**Palo Alto Caltrain Public Meeting** The Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board, which oversees Caltrain operations, will hold several public meetings to receive the community's input on proposed service changes that are expected to take place in spring/summer 2017. Jan. 9, 6-8 a.m. and Jan. 15, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Caltrain Station, 95 University Ave., Menlo Park. business.menloparkchamber.com

embarcadero media

# Join our team!

We're looking for talented, highly-motivated and dynamic people

Embarcadero Media is an independent multimedia news organization with over 35 years of providing award-winning local news, community information and entertainment to the Midpeninsula.

We are always looking for talented and creative people interested in joining our efforts to produce outstanding journalism and results for our advertisers through print and online.

We actively seek to recruit, develop and retain people with backgrounds and experience reflecting the diversity of the communities we cover. We offer a competitive compensation and benefits package including medical, dental, paid vacations and sick time, a 401(k) plan and a fun and supporting cast of characters.

We currently have the following positions open:

- Multimedia Advertising Sales Representative** Work directly with businesses to expand their brand identity and future success using print campaigns and various digital media.
- Digital Inside Sales Representative** Prospect and sell to local businesses to help brand and promote their products or events using our full-suite of digital solutions.
- Online Coordinator/Sales Support Admin** Management of all online advertising/email products. Excellent communication and attention to detail is a must. Will consider entry-level candidates.
- Graphic Designer** Creation/production of print and online ads, including editorial layout, in a fast-paced environment. Publishing experience and video editing a plus, highly-motivated entry-level considered.
- Receptionist** Greet visitors, manage phones and various other duties. Part-time, non-benefit, temporary position.

For more information about Embarcadero Media, details about these current job openings and how to apply, visit: <http://embarcaderomediagroup.com/employment>

Weekly The Almanac MountainView VOICE

Palo Alto online express

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PaloAltoOnline.com | TheAlmanacOnline.com | MountainViewOnline.com

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ads@fogster.com

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650.326.8216

Now you can log on to **fogster.com**, day or night and get your ad started immediately online. Most listings are free and include a one-line free print ad in our Peninsula newspapers with the option of photos and additional lines. Exempt are employment ads, which include a web listing charge. Home Services and Mind & Body Services require contact with a Customer Sales Representative.

So, the next time you have an item to sell, barter, give away or buy, get the perfect combination: print ads in your local newspapers, reaching more than 150,000 readers, and unlimited free web postings reaching hundreds of thousands additional people!!

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**fogster.com** is a unique website offering **FREE** postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in the Palo Alto Weekly, The Almanac and the Mountain View Voice.

## Bulletin Board

### 115 Announcements

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

#### FREE BOOK GIVEAWAY

Free Concert: Argentine Guitar

#### HUGE USED BOOK/CD/DVD SALE

Jazz & Poetry this Saturday - FREE

John Rothmann on "Also-Rans" - FREE

#### WRITE A CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK

Are you from a rural area? Can you capture the sounds and traditions in a story written in poetic prose?

### 130 Classes & Instruction

#### Learn to Square Dance!

BOWS and BEAUS SQUARE DANCE CLUB  
Great way to Socialize and Exercise  
Classes begin Monday, January 16, 2017 7:00 PM  
Loyola School,  
770 Berry Avenue, Los Altos  
January classes are FREE!  
Adult Singles/Couples/Solos  
http://www.bowsandbeaus.org/  
Information. Call: 650-390-9261 or 408-250-7934  
Bring your friends!

### 133 Music Lessons

**Christina Conti Piano**  
Private lessons for all levels, all ages. Also Music Theory. In your home or mine. SJSU Bachelor of Music. 650/493-6950

#### Hope Street Music Studios

Now on Old Middlefield Way, MV.  
Most instruments, voice.  
All ages and levels 650-961-2192  
www.HopeStreetMusicStudios.com

#### Paul Price Music Lessons

In your home. Piano, violin, viola, theory, history. Customized. BA music, choral accompanist, arranger, early pop and jazz. 800/647-0305

### 145 Non-Profits Needs

DONATE BOOKS/HELP PA LIBRARY

WISH LIST FRIENDS PA LIBRARY

### 150 Volunteers

ASSIST IN FRIENDS BOOKSTORE

ASSIST SECTION MGRS FOR FOPAL

FRIENDS OF THE PALO ALTO LIBRARY

JOIN OUR ONLINE STOREFRONT TEAM

## For Sale

### 202 Vehicles Wanted

**DONATE YOUR CAR - 888-433-6199**

Fast Free Towing -24hr Response - Maximum Tax Deduction - UNITED BREAST CANCER FDN: Providing Breast Cancer Information and Support Programs (Cal-SCAN)

**FOGSTER.COM**

**DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK OR BOAT** to Heritage for the Blind. FREE 3 Day Vacation, Tax Deductible, Free Towing, All Paperwork Taken Care of. Call 800-731-5042 (Cal-SCAN)

#### GET CASH FOR CARS/TRUCKS!!!

!! Makes/Models 2000-2016! Top \$\$\$ Paid! Any Condition! Used or wrecked. Running or Not. Free Towing! Call For Offer: 1-888-417-9150. (Cal-SCAN)

#### Got an older car, boat or RV?

Do the humane thing. Donate it to the Humane Society. Call 1-800-743-1482 (Cal-SCAN)

#### Old Porsche 356/911/912

For restoration by hobbyist 1948-1973 Only. Any condition, top \$ paid 707 965-9546 (Cal-SCAN)

### 240 Furnishings/ Household items

**EXECUTIVE DESK**  
2 HANDSOME CHERRY FINISH DESKS & MATCHING SHELVES AND CHAIR. CAN BE SOLD SEPARATELY. ALSO BEAUTIFUL SOLID OAK DESK \$99 OBO

**Teak Entertainment Unit**  
Large Teak Entertainment Unit. Great Condition.

### 245 Miscellaneous

**DIRECTV. NFL Sunday Ticket** (FREE!) w/Choice All-Included Package. \$60/mo. for 24 months. No upfront costs or equipment to buy. Ask about next day installation! 1-800-385-9017 (Cal-SCAN)

**DISH TV - BEST DEAL EVER!** Only \$39.99/mo. Plus \$14.99/mo. Internet (where avail.) FREE Streaming. FREE Install (up to 6 rooms.) FREE HD-DVR. Call 1-800-357-0810 (Cal-SCAN)

**HOME BREAK-INS** take less than 60 SECONDS. Don't wait! Protect your family, your home, your assets NOW for as little as 70¢ a day! Call 855-404-7601 (Cal-SCAN)

**Protect your home** with fully customizable security and 24/7 monitoring right from your smartphone. Receive up to \$1500 in equipment, free (restrictions apply). Call 1-800-918-4119 (Cal-SCAN)

**SAWMILLS** from only \$4397.00- MAKE & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill- Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship! FREE Info/DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com 1-800-578-1363 Ext.300N (Cal-SCAN)

**Economy Pie & Baked Goods** Home-baker in Palo Alto, permitted and professionally trained. All cakes can be made gluten-free. EconomyPies.com.

## Mind & Body

### 425 Health Services

**ELIMINATE CELLULITE** and Inches in weeks! All natural. Odor free. Works for men or women. Free month supply on select packages. Order now! 844-703-9774. (Cal-SCAN)

**Got Knee Pain? Back Pain?** Shoulder Pain? Get a pain-relieving brace - little or NO cost to you. Medicare Patients Call Health Hotline Now! 1-800-796-5091 (Cal-SCAN)

**OXYGEN - Anytime. Anywhere.** No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 844-359-3976. (Cal-SCAN)

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

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

### 470 Psychics

**DID YOU KNOW** 7 IN 10 Americans or 158 million U.S. Adults read content from newspaper media each week? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

## Jobs

### 500 Help Wanted

**Sales Representative** California Trade Association located in Sacramento is seeking someone with strong knowledge for Advertising, print, digital and social media solutions, great with detail, an amazing attitude, and a passion for selling content and integrated partnerships. 3-5 years experience a plus. We offer a competitive base salary, commission and bonus plan, along with great benefit package. Email Resume and Salary History to jobs@cnpa.com. EOE (Cal-SCAN)

### 560 Employment Information

**Couriers: Northern CA** EXPLODING DEMAND! Adding more Northern California couriers! Same-day delivery companies seek you! POSTMATES low average \$25hr/tips, (800) 505-4337. UberEATS low average \$30hr, (800) 707-4065. UNLIMITED \$\$\$ (Cal-SCAN)

## Business Services

### 604 Adult Care Offered

**A PLACE FOR MOM** The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE/no obligation. CALL 1-800-550-4822. (Cal-SCAN)

**Adult Caregiver Available** 2pm to 9pm, Mon-Fri. Exp., prefer P/T. Call 408/585-8471

### 624 Financial

**Do You Owe Over \$10K** to the IRS or State in back taxes? Our firm works to reduce the tax bill or zero it out completely FAST. Call now 855-993-5796 (Cal-SCAN)

**SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY** benefits. Unable to work? Denied benefits? We Can Help! WIN or Pay Nothing! Contact Bill Gordon & Associates at 1-800-966-1904 to start your application today! (Cal-SCAN)

### 636 Insurance

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

**Fogster.com** is a unique website offering **FREE** postings from communities throughout the Bay Area and an opportunity for your ad to appear in The Almanac, the Palo Alto Weekly, and the Mountain View Voice.

### 640 Legal Services

**DID YOU KNOW** Information is power and content is King? Do you need timely access to public notices and remain relevant in today's hostile business climate? Gain the edge with California Newspaper Publishers Association new innovative website capublicnotice.com and check out the FREE One-Month Trial Smart Search Feature. For more information call Cecelia @ (916) 288-6011 or www.capublicnotice.com (Cal-SCAN)

**Xarelto users** have you had complications due to internal bleeding (after January 2012)? If so, you MAY be due financial compensation. If you don't have an attorney, CALL Injuryone today! 1-800-425-4701. (Cal-SCAN)

## Home Services

### 715 Cleaning Services

**Isabel and Elbi's Housecleaning** Apartments and homes. Excellent references. Great rates. 650/670-7287 or 650/771-8281

**Silvia's Cleaning** We don't cut corners, we clean them! Bonded, insured, 22 yrs. exp., service guaranteed, excel. refs., free est. 415/860-6988

### 745 Furniture Repair/Refinish

**DID YOU KNOW** 144 million U.S. Adults read a Newspaper print copy each week? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For a free brochure call 916-288-6011 or email cecelia@cnpa.com (Cal-SCAN)

### 748 Gardening/Landscaping

**J. Garcia Garden Maintenance Service** Free est. 25 years exp. 650/366-4301 or 650/346-6781

**LANDA'S GARDENING & LANDSCAPING** \*Yard Maint. \*New Lawns. \*Clean Ups \*Irrigation timer programming. 20 yrs exp. Ramon, 650/576-6242 landaramon@yahoo.com

### 751 General Contracting

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

### 754 Gutter Cleaning

**Roofs, Gutters, Downspouts** cleaning. Work guar. 30 years exp. Insured. Veteran Owned. Jim Thomas Maintenance, 408/595-2759.

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

### 757 Handyman/Repairs

**Alex Peralta Handyman** Kit. and bath remodel, int/ext. paint, tile, plumb, fence/deck repairs, foam roofs/repairs. Power wash. Alex, 650/465-1821

**Handyman Services** Lic. 249558. Plumb, electrical, masonry, carpentry, landscape. 40+ years exp. Pete Rumore, 650/823-0736; 650/851-3078.

### 759 Hauling

**J & G HAULING SERVICE** Misc. junk, office, gar., furn., green waste, more. Local, 20 yrs exp. Lic./ins. Free est. 650/743-8852

### 771 Painting/Wallpaper

**Glen Hodges Painting** Call me first! Senior discount. 45 yrs. #351738. 650/322-8325, phone calls ONLY.

**Learn How to Paint** your own home. What tools and materials to use to prep and paint. 40 years exp. 650/380-4335

**STYLE PAINTING** Full service interior/ext. Insured. Lic. 903303. 650/388-8577

### 775 Asphalt/Concrete

**Roe General Engineering** Asphalt, concrete, pavers, tiles, sealing, artificial turf. 36 yrs exp. No job too small. Lic #663703. 650/814-5572

## Real Estate

### 801 Apartments/Condos/Studios

**EVERY BUSINESS** has a story to tell! Get your message out with California's PRMedia Release - the only Press Release Service operated by the press to get press! For more info contact Cecelia @ 916-288-6011 or http://prmediarelease.com/california (Cal-SCAN)

Downtown Palo Alto, 2 BR/2 BA - 3700  
Palo Alto, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1550

### 805 Homes for Rent

Palo Alto, 2 BR/2 BA - 3700  
Redwood City (emerald Hills), 2 BR/2.5 BA - \$3650

### 815 Rentals Wanted

**S'vale: BR + Private BA.** In private home, Sunnyvale to MP. N/S, N/P \$1,000-\$1,200 mo. Call 408/585-8471

### 825 Homes/Condos for Sale

**Rancho Mirage: 3BR/3BA** "Come and Warm Up". The Springs Country Club, 25 Dartmouth. Completely furn. \$495,000.00 Call Pete Hammond 760-656-8920 or 650-906-3165 petehamz@gmail.com

No phone number in the ad?

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Cell (408) 888-7748  
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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)

HOPE ZUMBA  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 624875

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
Hope Zumba, located at 104 Denardi Lane, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: An Individual.

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

HOPE LIU  
104 Denardi Lane  
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 29, 2016. (MVV Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2017)

SILICON VALLEY CATERING  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: 624876

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
Silicon Valley Catering, located at 873 Castro Street, Mountain View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County.

This business is owned by: A Corporation.

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

MOROCCO'S INC.  
873 Castro Street  
Mountain View, CA 94041

Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s)

listed above on 12/01/2016. This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 29, 2016. (MVV Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2017)

**997 All Other Legals**  
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 creditors 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 publication 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 provided 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)

**Public Notices**

**995 Fictitious Name Statement**

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)

To assist you with your legal advertising needs  
Call Alicia Santillan  
(650) 223-6578  
or e-mail her at:  
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