

# Mountain View VOICE



DECEMBER 14, 2018 VOLUME 26, NO. 47

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MAGALI GAUTHIER

**Dr. Karina Zhuravleva** smiles at an expectant mother as they listen to the fetal heartbeat at the Mountain View MayView clinic on Dec. 6. MayView is one of seven nonprofits that benefit from donations to the Voice's Holiday Fund.

## MayView stabilizes after a rocky year

By Kevin Forestieri

The start of 2018 looked pretty bleak for Mountain View's local community clinic.

MayView Community Health Center, which serves thousands of the city's low-income residents with affordable health care services, was facing dire



financial straits and struggling to retain medical staff and hire new employees in a surprisingly tight market for physicians and nurses. Competition from

hospital giants with bigger budgets on the Peninsula was largely to blame.

But after a change in leadership, some badly needed tech upgrades and an infusion of cash from public agencies, MayView's financial future is looking bright. Instead of slashing

► See **MAYVIEW**, page 7

## Google pitches sweeping plans for North Bayshore

FIRST 'MASTER PLAN' WITH HOUSING, OFFICES, SCHOOL SUBMITTED TO CITY

By Mark Noack

For years, Mountain View officials have spent countless hours on study sessions, precise plans, mobility models and community workshops, all fixated on the goal of building 9,850 homes in the heart of the city's North Bayshore tech hub.

The main force behind the

scenes has always been Google, the area's predominant landowner and employer. Over the years, the tech giant has supported the housing road map and discreetly signaled it would provide the resources to bring these plans to fruition.

That tacit bargain has underpinned the city's efforts, and now Google is following through on its end of the deal. After years

of planning, Google officials late last week unveiled their first formal proposals to transform the North Bayshore area around their corporate headquarters into a bustling new mixed-use residential neighborhood.

As expected, the plans call for a transformed landscape of live-work-play neighborhoods

► See **GOOGLE**, page 11

## City approves razing Rock Street apartments

PROJECT CAST AS SYMBOL OF CITYWIDE GENTRIFICATION

By Mark Noack

For some, it was a painful loss of affordable housing; for others, it was an example of the collateral damage caused by rent control. Yet pretty much everyone at the Tuesday, Dec. 11, City Council meeting was disappointed by the proposed development at 2005 Rock St. Here's the rundown:

- The project will displace about 70 low-income tenants, including 30 children, likely forcing most to leave Mountain View.

- It results in fewer homes in the city, replacing 20 apartments with 15 rowhouses.

- Those rowhouses will be priced around \$1.3 million, well out of reach for most people in need of housing.

It was a project that satisfied almost no one, yet the City Council couldn't find a way to say no to it. In a 4-3 vote, council members approved the project based primarily on the rights of the owner to replace the apartments and its general compliance with city rules. Mayor Lenny Siegel and council members Pat Showalter and Ken Rosenberg cast the opposing votes.

The Rock Street redevelopment was a relatively small project by the city's standards, yet it spiraled into the fiercest battle to date over gentrification and the lack of housing in Mountain View. Faith leaders, housing advocates and community organizers urged the council to reject the proposal, and they called for a moratorium on similar projects. The displacement of so many low-income workers was causing Mountain View to "lose its soul," said former state Assemblywoman Sally Lieber.

"It's a real horror show watching what's happening to our neighbors," she said. "Greed is overrunning our city and forcing out the

people we need."

For months, residents living at the apartments have been attending City Council meetings, pleading for action to prevent the planned demolition. Tenants are currently paying about \$1,940 a month in rent, and many pointed out they would be unable to find comparable housing anywhere nearby. The going rate for a similar apartment in Mountain View is about \$3,200 a month.

"If we move it's going to be so stressful — we'll have to find new schools, homes and jobs," said 13-year-old Ashley Morales, a Rock Street resident. "I have so many friends, and I want to keep making memories here."

The residents are being offered a relocation package that was generous by the city's criteria, including three months of comparable rent and other assistance. Some tenants would be eligible to receive more than \$25,000 to help relocate, said Josh Vrotsos, director of acquisitions for Dividend Homes, the developer behind the project. He said his firm would try to find new housing for the tenants, hinting that housing magnate Tod Spieker had offered to help.

"We're going to do everything we can to help these people relocate," Vrotsos said. "We're excited to help provide for-sale housing for the city of Mountain View."

The developer made no mention of Mountain View's rent control program, but pretty much everyone in the room expressed confidence that it had prompted the redevelopment. Under the city's rent restrictions passed by voters in 2016, older apartments like the ones at Rock Street are limited to increase rents only by the cost of inflation, except in special circumstances.

That price cap has long fueled

► See **ROCK STREET**, page 15

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**INTERO**  
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COURTESY OF RICHARD MAYER/LOS ALTOS STAGE COMPANY

**Cinderella (Allie Townsend) and her Prince (Steve Allhoff) share a moment in front of her family in "Into the Woods."**

**LOS ALTOS STAGE COMPANY GOES 'INTO THE WOODS'**

Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine's "Into the Woods" has become a beloved theater staple since its debut in the 1980s and it's understandable why. The show brings together a gaggle of archetypal fairytale characters and explores what comes after "happily ever after" in smart, funny and poignant ways, giving performers what must be an awfully fun challenge. Because it's so popular, we get productions of the show on what seems like a regular basis, including from TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, Hollywood and, in 2016, Palo Alto Players. It's Los Altos Stage Company's turn now, and the small-but-mighty company holds its own with a charming (no princely pun intended) version.

"The Woods" in this case serve, as woods often do, as a symbol of a journey; a struggle; a transformative experience. Everyone must at some point venture through the dark woods of life. At show's start we meet various folktale characters expressing their wishes: Cinderella (Allie Townsend) wants to go to the royal festival. Jack (Stephen Kanaski) wishes his cow, Milky White (Caitie Clancey), would give milk while his mother (Judith Miller) wants to sell the animal. The Baker and his wife (David Mister and Dana Cordelia Morgan) want a child. There's also bratty, bold Red Ridinghood (Brigitte Losey), who's been warned not to stray from the path; two vain princes (Steve Allhoff, who also plays the Wolf, and Anthony Stephens); Cinderella's wicked stepmother (Sasha Motalygo), stepsisters (Samantha Ricci and Kori Traina) and feckless father (Stephen Howes); Rapunzel, sheltered from the world in her tower (Jordan Kersten); the witch who cursed the Baker and trapped Rapunzel (Juliet Green); Red Ridinghood's Granny (Melissa Jones, who also plays the spirit of Cinderella's mother, helpful birds, a giant and another cow) and a Mysterious Man (Gary Landis,

also playing the Narrator). All of them will cross paths at some point during their time in the woods.

While the plot of the first act unspools humorously along standard fairy tale lines, ending with everyone seemingly making wishes come true, Act 2 shakes things up and goes much darker by showing that things aren't always as simple as they first appear. "Witches can be right. Giants can be good," as the song goes. The princes, for instance, find they love the challenge of rescuing maidens more than the maidens themselves (and Snow White and Sleeping Beauty arrive on the scene). More distressingly, a justifiably vengeful giant is killing villagers and the characters must work together to decide how to best deal with the situation for which they all deserve at least partial blame.

The Los Altos cast (directed by Allie Bailey) is likeable, including Clancey who just about steals the show in the silent, pantomime role of Milky White, speaking volumes with just body language and facial expressions (Jones, in fact, also steals the one scene she's in as the other cow). Allhoff and Stephens shine as the pompous princes, as do Losey and Kanaski as the children, Red Ridinghood and Jack. Morgan, who dazzled in Los Altos Stage Company's "Distracted" earlier this year, is excellent again as the Baker's Wife. That's only mentioning a few but all the performers are pretty good, other than sometimes struggling to stay in rhythm with the musical accompaniment (led by D. Asa Stern).

Is "Into the Woods" overrated? Possibly. Overproduced? Likely so. Nevertheless, the show earns its lasting place in the popular-theater canon, with Los Altos Stage Company putting its own winsome touch on the clever, fanciful epic. The show runs through Dec. 23 at the Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Tickets are \$20-\$38. Go to losaltosstage.org. (For full review, go to mv-voice.com/arts).

—Karla Kane

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CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

## 2018 Annual Water System Flushing

The City of Mountain View Public Services Division will begin its annual water system flushing program in October. Flushing will occur throughout the City and should be complete by approximately March 1, 2019.

Water main flushing is a process used to clear water lines of sand and sediment that may have accumulated during the last year and helps us provide high quality water. Signs and barricades will be posted in neighborhoods the day before flushing to alert residents. The flushing process accounts for approximately 0.1% of all water use in the City.

If you would like more information about the City's water main flushing program or have questions or concerns while City personnel are in your neighborhood, please contact the Public Services Division at 650-903-6329.

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### ■ CRIME BRIEF

#### FOUR ARRESTS AFTER NIGHTCLUB SCUFFLE

Four men were arrested in downtown Mountain View early Sunday morning after officers allegedly found them in possession of methamphetamine, what appeared to be ecstasy, and a handgun, according to police.

Officers stopped the four men in their vehicle, a Chevrolet truck, after reports that they were involved in an altercation outside the Monte Carlo nightclub on the 200 block of Castro Street. Security at the club told police that the group of men had threatened to harm them in front of the club and had pushed someone around 2:15 a.m., according to police spokeswoman Katie Nelson.

The suspects were spotted nearby in the vehicle in the parking garage on the 100 block of Bryant Street. Officers found the drugs and handgun in the truck, along with methamphetamine in the jacket of one suspect and the pants of another, Nelson said.

All four men were arrested on suspicion of possession of a controlled substance and possession of methamphetamine for sale.

—Kevin Forestieri

### ■ POLICE LOG

#### AUTO BURGLARY

100 block Bryant Av., 12/4  
1400 block Plymouth St., 12/4  
2400 block Charleston Rd., 12/4  
2400 block Charleston Rd., 12/4  
2100 block Leghorn St., 12/5  
1500 block N. Shoreline Blvd., 12/5  
100 block Hope St., 12/5  
500 block Castro St., 12/5  
500 block Castro St., 12/5  
1100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 12/5  
1300 block Pear Av., 12/5  
1100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 12/5  
1100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 12/5  
400 block Bryant St., 12/6  
1100 block N. Rengstorff Av., 12/6  
Bryant St. & California St., 12/6  
700 block Castro St., 12/6  
1900 block W. El Camino Real, 12/6  
2100 block Old Middlefield Way, 12/6  
2100 block Old Middlefield Way, 12/7  
800 block California St., 12/7  
800 block California St., 12/7  
1300 block Pear Av., 12/8

#### BATTERY

2500 block Solace Pl., 12/5  
200 block Castro St., 12/6

#### COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

1300 block Grant Rd., 12/8

#### GRAND THEFT

1 block Showers Dr., 12/4  
500 block Cypress Point Dr., 12/5  
300 block Showers Dr., 12/9

#### PEEPING TOM

100 block San Antonio Cir., 12/4

#### RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

500 block San Antonio Rd., 12/5

#### STOLEN VEHICLE

100 block E. El Camino Real, 12/4  
2200 block Reinert Rd., 12/5  
300 block E. Evelyn Av., 12/9

#### THREATENING AN OFFICER

700 block Leong Dr., 12/9

#### VANDALISM

900 block Independence Av., 12/6

### ■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### WAYMO MEETING IN MOUNTAIN VIEW

Waymo officials planned to host a community forum in Mountain View on Thursday, Dec. 13, to gather public input on plans to test fully driverless vehicles on city streets.

The meeting is the latest in a series of meetings the company has been holding in cities across the North County, where it plans to take trials of self-driving cars to the next stage.

The community forum will include representatives from Waymo's policy and technical teams, who will reportedly be available to answer questions from the public. A Waymo vehicle will also be on display.

In late October, Waymo received permission from the Department of Motor Vehicles to begin testing its vehicles on public streets with no driver on board. The company is permitted to test up to 36 driverless vehicles in Mountain View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills.

The Waymo meeting is scheduled from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 13, at the Historic Adobe Building at 157 Moffett Blvd. in Mountain View.

—Mark Noack

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MAGALI GAUTHIER

## STUDENT SOLIDARITY

*Idalia Lopez-Martinez, a student at Los Altos High School, holds a candle in honor of those who have died in recent protests in Haiti. Local high school and community college students gathered at a demonstration at the intersection of San Antonio Road and El Camino Real in Mountain View on Monday evening, Dec. 10, carrying candles and photos of unarmed students killed by Haitian police.*

## Council agrees on new San Antonio school

PLAN INCLUDES PARK SPACE AND A SCHOOL THAT SERVES MOUNTAIN VIEW KIDS

By Kevin Forestieri

Mountain View City Council members agreed early Wednesday morning on a plan to help the Los Altos School District build a campus for San Antonio neighborhood residents, bringing what residents describe as badly needed park space and a public school to the area around the shopping center.

On a 6-0 vote shortly before 2 a.m. on Dec. 12, council members agreed to commit \$23 million in city funding to assist in the school district's land acquisition plans for a future school site in Mountain View, along with a joint-use agreement to operate open space and recreational facilities on the corner of California Street and Showers Drive. Council member John McAlister, who has a financial stake in a private preschool on property leased from LASD, recused himself to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

The district has sought for years to buy land in the area for a new school, and in recent months has negotiated with property owner Federal Realty to acquire 11.6 acres on the corner of the San Antonio shopping center. The cost remains unknown, as school district officials continue to negotiate price and terms of payment.

The Los Altos School District extends into Mountain View's city boundaries, encompassing residential neighborhoods in and around San Antonio, and those residents account for roughly one-fourth of all students enrolled in the district.

The city of Mountain View is playing a huge role in the district's acquisition plans. Along with the \$23 million in park fees, the city is permitting the school district to build a school and "sell" developers the unused building density allowed on the site. District officials plan to sell 610,000 square feet of density rights to developers across the city for a total of \$79.3 million.

Given that the San Antonio area has no nearby school — families are split between three schools to the south in Los Altos — City Council members agreed that they wanted the new school to serve Mountain View families.

But council members grappled with the question of whether that should be a condition of approval, with narrowly split votes in the past favoring flexibility for the school district.

While the district's board of trustees sent the city an ambiguous letter ahead of the meeting stating the future school would "serve" the neighborhood — something council member Lisa Matichak called "underwhelming" and not a clear decision — Los Altos school board president Jessica Speiser affirmed that local children would be able to attend whatever school is built there.

"We agree with the Mountain View City Council and want to commit to an elementary or junior high school open to neighborhood students, or a choice or charter school with a preference for neighborhood students on the new site," Speiser said at the meeting.

The last of those options, a preference for Mountain View kids at Bullis Charter School, would be difficult to guarantee. Bullis Charter School officials did not speak at the meeting and have never discussed the possibility of an enrollment preference for the region north of El Camino Real, and the district isn't involved in the renewal of Bullis' charter where enrollment policies are laid out. Speiser said that, in her eyes, Bullis being at the San Antonio school site would be precluded if it didn't come with an enrollment preference.

Bullis Charter School board president Joe Hurd told the *Voice* that the board has expressed zero interest in adding a neighborhood preference, and has sought an even-handed approach to serving students throughout the Los Altos School District.

"The Los Altos School District is planning to operate a school for neighborhood residents in the 10th (school) site," Hurd said.

Some residents remained skeptical, despite the promises made by district officials. Parent and Mountain View resident Jan Baer criticized the district for its use of vague language. She pointed out that most of the district's low-income families and English

► See **SAN ANTONIO**, page 8

## Multi-day internet outage affects city

SEVERED COMCAST LINE CUT OFF ACCESS TO 13K CUSTOMERS

By Mark Noack

If the internet is the lifeblood of Mountain View, then the city was in bad shape earlier this week.

Much of Mountain View faced a citywide internet outage affecting Comcast customers that stretched for two days, and in some cases, longer. The outage, which started on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 9, reportedly impacted more than 13,000 households and businesses throughout the city, and it

disrupted the full suite of Comcast services, including internet, cable TV, and some cellphone lines.

The outage was caused by a traffic accident on Sunday afternoon in Mountain View's Sylvan Park neighborhood. A vehicle crashed into a utility pole between Highway 85 and Moorpark Way, bringing it down along with several spans of wire.

The crash caused a power outage for about 50 households. For Comcast, the accident also

severed a critical fiber optic line mounted to the same utility pole. Under normal circumstances, Comcast officials say they would reroute their services through a redundant line, but this breakage seems to have hit a weak point in their network.

The internet outage may be the worst in recent memory for the city. The hardest-hit customers appear to have been those who bought bundle deals for Comcast

► See **INTERNET**, page 15

## Parents urge school board to deny or delay new charter school

By Kevin Forestieri

Anxiety and fears dominated the Mountain View Whisman School District board meeting last week, as a sharply divided crowd of parents, students and community members gave impassioned testimony about the creation of a new charter school in the district.

A majority of the rapid-fire comments — each person was given only one minute to speak — either called for an outright rejection of Bullis Charter School's

proposal to open a new 320-student school in Mountain View, or made a direct plea to charter school leaders to at least delay opening the school for another year.

Students, parents and employees of Bullis Charter School's flagship campus in Los Altos also showed up at the Dec. 6 meeting in full force, trumpeting what they described as a top-quality education with project-based learning, individualized instruction and "focused learning goals" that would be a boon for families

in Mountain View seeking an alternative to district schools.

In September, Bullis Charter School officially announced its first foray outside of the Los Altos School District after 14 years there. It established an offshoot, dubbed Bullis Mountain View (BMV), which submitted a request to open a charter school in Mountain View Whisman next fall.

The goal of the school, according to BMV leaders, is to attract

► See **CHARTER SCHOOL**, page 14

Mountain View Voice

# 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 170 Voice readers and the Wakerly, Packard and Hewlett foundations contributed a total of \$105,000. 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.

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**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 workers 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.

### **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 the services it offers are school-based counseling and programs to protect students from high-risk behaviors.

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## MAYVIEW

► Continued from page 1

hours, MayView officials are now seeking to expand services for needy North County patients. It's been a busy year of reorganization and rebuilding since January, said Interim CEO Ken Graham, and staving off red ink is still a work in progress.

"We have a ways to go to be more financially stable and provide a broad array of services," said Graham, who previously led El Camino Hospital as its president and CEO.

More than 6,000 patients rely on MayView's clinics, located in Sunnyvale, Mountain View and Palo Alto, for primary care, preventative medicine, women's health and pregnancy services. While the clinic's service area extends from Palo Alto south to parts of Santa Clara, the largest group of patients — about 37 percent — come from Mountain View.

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

Since opening its doors in 1972, the clinic has become an integral part of the safety net for North County residents with few alternatives. Santa Clara County doesn't have a clinic in the area, and Mountain View's RotaCare clinic shut down in 2016. An estimated 70 percent of MayView's patients are on some form of Medi-Cal, and 20 percent are either uninsured or under-insured. Fees are based on a sliding scale, and the clinic has a policy not to hassle those who are unable to pay the bill, Graham said.

The lack of other health care options for low-income residents — particularly anything nearby and trusted among immigrant communities — made MayView's previously faltering finances all the more grim. Santa Clara County supervisors in April agreed to pitch in \$375,000 in "emergency stabilization funding" to hire an additional physician and part-time nurse just to keep the doors open. At the time, MayView's employee count was dropping so fast it was expected to lose half its medical staff in five months, and there was a real fear that the Sunnyvale clinic would need to shutter.

Graham, who came out of retirement to lead MayView through troubled waters, said it's been a busy year to get the network of clinics back on track, starting with a spree of accreditations and license recertifications

along with reorganizing care in "medical teams," where staffers with different roles work together as a unit to help patients at individual clinics. Along with better pay, Graham said the organization has also sought some much-needed quality of life upgrades for both patients and staff.

One obvious improvement is upgrading MayView's medical records system, which is about five generations old and hasn't been popular for more than a decade, bogging down everyone from physicians to social workers and behavioral health staff. Another is the call system to make appointments, which Graham said fell well short of today's expectations.

"The phone system is very antique," he said. "It's a clunky call tree that's very difficult to manage and change, and in this day in age everyone wants something within 20 seconds."

One source of MayView's troubles is that it simply wasn't ready to take on the huge number of patients who used to go to the RotaCare clinic and were referred to MayView following its closure, said Mike Fischetti, a Mountain View resident serving on MayView's board of directors. The clinics continued to operate as they had in past years despite a stark increase in volume, lacking essential structures for human resources and quality assurance for MayView's patients and staff alike.

Major shifts within MayView's leadership, including Graham as CEO and a board roster now full of medical expertise, has helped regain the confidence of the staff and created the sense of a MayView "family" with a mission to help needy residents.

"Ken (Graham) recognized that the most valuable asset at MayView was his staff," Fischetti said. "There are lots of people who chose to work there for less money because they believed in the commitment, so he set out to improve the morale of the staff."

Some of the changes were small and easy fixes, but signaled to the MayView staff that they weren't on a sinking ship. Marilyn Winkleby, also on the board, said Graham sought to throw out old furniture and equipment in the hallways of the clinics, making more room to move around. The little things told employees, psychologically, that the clinic was poised for a rebound under Graham's leadership.

Coming over the next several months is MayView's launch of dental services, which are tough to find for Medi-Cal and uninsured patients. Similar to RotaCare when it was launched in Mountain View in the 1990s, Graham said dentistry often falls outside the scope of a community clinic due to its surgical

procedures and reliance on repeat visits. Dentistry will likely begin at the Palo Alto clinic, located in the same building as the Palo Alto Courthouse.

Amid the high-tech jobs, million-dollar homes and low unemployment rates in Santa Clara County, it's easy to forget how many people are struggling, Graham said, pointing to the huge discrepancy in wealth roughly split by El Camino Real up and down the Peninsula. He said that many of the low-income patients MayView serves are hardly indigent, and that many are working service jobs.

"My experience with them is there aren't a lot of malingerers," he said. "They're there for a reason, but they aren't there intentionally."

After leaving El Camino Hospital in 2011, Graham relocated and worked at hospitals on Oahu and the Big Island serving mostly native Hawaiian populations before returning to the area in 2016. He said there's an old joke that there is no competition for helping poor people, but the number of people in need of health services and struggling with the high cost of living in the Bay Area is really starting to stretch the definition of "poor."

"Waitresses, people who sweep the streets and paint the buildings — it's not all that obvious that these people, in this area particular, are subject to really high expenses," Graham said. "We've got some interest in exploring where is the edge of that, the core question of what is low-income in Silicon Valley anymore."

Fischetti said that over the last five to 10 years, MayView's client base has largely shifted to the working poor — families who have been "left out of this economy" and make ends meet working two or three jobs without insurance coverage.

"It's not clear, if we were to fold, that the clientele that we see would necessarily fit in easily in the county clinics or any other kind of service," he said. "We feel a moral obligation to stay present in the community."

Another recent challenge facing MayView is that the immigrant patients, fearful and anxious over the rhetoric and policy changes from President Donald Trump's administration, are hesitant to sign up for any government-run health services. As many as 20 percent of the clinic's patients are in "some stage or another" of immigration, Graham said, some of them legal and some of them not, but all are affected by the "chill" and are less likely to sign up for anything that could amount to public charge.

"All the fear in the neighborhood about immigrants and identity, and I have a clinic right in the courthouse," he said. ▣

# Peninsula Christmas Services



**Christmas Service**  
Sun, Dec 23, 9 & 11 AM

**Christmas Eve Service**  
Mon, Dec 24, 5 PM

Peninsula Bible Church  
3505 Middlefield Rd.  
Palo Alto, CA 94306  
pbc.org/christmas



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AT 4:45 PM BY THE ALBANY CONSORT



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[www.LosAltosLutheran.org](http://www.LosAltosLutheran.org)

## Christmas Eve Services at Stanford Memorial Church

Monday, December 24

Free and open to the public.

### Christmas Family Service, 4:00 pm

Doors open at 3:00 pm and will close when church reaches capacity. Christian Interdenominational service. Children's sermon by the Rev. Dr. Libby Boatwright. The service also includes a Carol-sing and musical offerings by University Organist, Dr. Robert Huw Morgan. **Please bring new, unwrapped gifts of toys or clothing, which will be distributed to children in need.** Due to the popularity of this service, we ask that attendees arrive early and together with their group. Saving seats will not be allowed.

### Christmas Festival Communion, 8:00 pm

Doors open at 7:00 pm and will close when church reaches capacity. Christian Interdenominational service. Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Joanne Sanders, Associate Dean for Religious Life. An elegant Christmas Eve service glowing with candlelight and beautiful holiday music from The Choral Project, a community choir based in San Jose, and University Organist Dr. Robert Huw Morgan! Due to the popularity of this service, we ask that attendees arrive early and together with their group. Saving seats will not be allowed.

Both services will be broadcast live on KZSU 90.1 FM and online at [kzsuilve.stanford.edu](http://kzsuilve.stanford.edu).

Stanford Office for Religious Life

[religiousoffice.stanford.edu](http://religiousoffice.stanford.edu)

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SANCTUARY  
7:00 PM



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7:00 pm ~ Pre-service Christmas Jazz Concert  
7:30 pm ~ Children's Nativity and Candlelight Service  
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10:00 pm ~ Christmas Candlelight Service

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learner students reside in the area north of El Camino.

“By using language such as ‘neighborhood-serving schools’ instead of commuting to a neighborhood school, LASD still refuses to equally serve the growing Mountain View population,” she said. “LASD is still trying to maintain (its) status quo while neglecting the rights of minorities.”

In a series of last-minute changes, City Council members sought to strike a careful balance between making requests of the school district — formally in a memorandum of understanding, or MOU — while giving the public agency the latitude to make its own decisions for the site. The MOU language says students in the area north of El Camino Real will be able to attend the school, but stops short of dictating a specific set of boundaries. Rather than demand a specific enrollment cap at the school to keep it in line with other campuses south of the city border, council members opted for softer language stating that enrollment at the school should be “substantially similar” to the rest of the district’s schools.

A junior high school at the site would likely serve around 600 students, while a middle school would serve 900. Superintendent Jeff Baier said the district’s “target” for its largest elementary schools is to not exceed 550 to 600 students.

While Councilman Chris Clark said he wanted the “neighborhood” aspect of the school to be binding, he was uneasy with forcing the school district to keep enrollment low. He said his one criticism of the school district is that the existing campuses are under-utilized and serve too few students, and that the debate over “density and fairness” shouldn’t play out in the MOU.

“Us capping (student) density at San Antonio would send the wrong message,” he said.

The plan is for the school district to retain 9.6 acres for its school site and adjacent open space, a track and a gym, while the remaining 2 acres would be transferred to the city of Mountain View at the cost of \$10 million per acre. These costs would then be offset by the developer Greystar as mitigation for its housing development at the Old Mill and former Safeway site across the street, according to a city staff report. These 2 acres would serve as a city park separate from the joint-use agreement.

If all goes according to plan, the district will acquire the property through condemnation and relocate the existing businesses on the property by September 2020, and will begin construction on a school later that year. The school would open its doors to students in fall of 2023 at the earliest. ▣

## Express lanes will extend into North County starting next year

By Kevin Forestieri

Plans for a broad network of toll lanes on major highways in Santa Clara County will take a big step forward next month, when construction is set to begin on so-called express lanes on Highway 101 in Mountain View and Palo Alto.

The \$23.5 million contract for the project, which passed on the consent calendar at the Dec. 6 meeting of the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) board of directors, calls for replacing the existing carpool lanes with express lanes on Highway 101 from Highway 237 to the San Mateo County line. Express lanes still permit free carpool use, but will allow single-occupancy vehicles to pay to use the lanes.

VTA officials have been pursuing a comprehensive network of express lanes in Santa Clara County since 2008, calling it a quick and inexpensive way of mitigating traffic by leveraging “unused capacity” in carpool lanes. Referred to by various names over time — toll, express or managed lanes and “roadway

pricing” systems — the vision is to eventually construct these lanes along the entirety of Highway 85 and Highway 101 in Santa Clara County. The project is being broken out into several phases due to lack of available funding, according to a VTA staff report.

This latest contract marks the third phase of VTA’s express lane projects, with the first two creating express lanes along the entire length of Highway 237. Although most of the Phase 3 work will be on Highway 101 in Mountain View and Palo Alto, it does include express lane conversion on the northernmost segment of Highway 85 in Mountain View in order to connect existing carpool lanes on both highways at the interchange.

VTA spokeswoman Brandi Childress said traffic is particularly bad along the North County section of Highway 101 and is “ripe for a congestion management solution” like express lanes, which she said provide another option for commuters. This phase doesn’t involve any roadway widening — carpool lanes are simply getting converted within

the existing footprint of the highway — making the project both cheaper and faster to build. Construction is scheduled to begin in January and be completed in the summer of 2021.

**When traffic gets bad enough, the express lanes convert back into carpool lanes.**

The only express lanes currently operated by VTA, the eastern section of Highway 237, collected tolls on 106,700 single-occupancy vehicle trips between July 1 and Sept. 30 this year, totaling about \$324,400 in revenue and accounting for about 14 percent of the traffic using the lanes. Westbound morning commuters were more likely to pay the tolls compared to eastbound evening commuters, and single-occupancy drivers paid anywhere from 30 cents to \$8 to drive in the lanes. California Highway Patrol officers issued 294 citations during

the three-month period, down from 551 over the same time in 2017.

When traffic gets bad enough, the express lanes convert back into carpool lanes and single-occupancy drivers are prohibited from using the lanes. But the reality is that conditions rarely get that bad. From July through September this year, carpool-only restrictions were in effect for a total of seven hours — averaging about six minutes per day.

Similar to express lane construction on the western segment of Highway 237, the future work on Highway 101 will be done at night or behind temporary barriers, Childress said.

“There will be minimal or no impacts to traffic during the daytime and commute hours,” she said.

In previous versions of the Silicon Valley Express Lane program, VTA sought to convert the median along Highway 85 into additional toll lanes, which was a source of intense controversy among West Valley residents and elected officials. Critics argued that the median was intended for a public transit option ever since construction of the southern end of Highway 85 was completed in the 1990s, and that a toll lane would do little to provide

congestion relief on the clogged highway.

VTA’s Highway 85 Policy Advisory Board, chaired by Mountain View City Council member John McAlister, is currently exploring alternative options for the median, which could be used for a transit lane that would run from South County all the way up into Mountain View’s tech campuses. Though VTA had previously explored putting light rail in the median, McAlister said there’s a strong consensus among the board’s members that a fixed-rail system is too expensive and too slow to work.

“Rail has proven to be not the technology of the future, it’s the technology of the past,” McAlister said. “It’s a mode of transit that is no longer viable, either economically or (for) efficiency, in this area.”

Multiple projects, including the policy advisory board’s study for the future of Highway 85 transit, have been slowed to a halt due to a lawsuit against Measure B, VTA’s 2016 sales tax, but express lane projects are not among them. The projects are funded largely through state sources, including the gas tax signed by Gov. Jerry Brown last year. ▀

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



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## Budget cuts ahead for Mountain View Whisman district

By Kevin Forestieri

Mountain View Whisman School District officials are preparing to make significant budget cuts to prevent deep deficit spending over the next three years, seeking to rein in rising costs as tax revenue levels off.

A big decline in property tax growth starting in 2017, coupled with several years of sizable pay raises for district staff, are largely responsible for what's driving revenue down and costs up. But the latest concern, according to the district's financial team, is that the expected opening of a charter school in the district may trigger a \$1.7 million drop in the annual budget.

The looming budget cuts are a change of pace for Mountain View Whisman, which has benefited handsomely from the booming local economy and three straight years of double-digit property tax growth starting in 2014. This allowed the

district to boost teacher salaries, pay for new education programs and improve special education services. Salaries have gone up by a cumulative 23 percent since the 2015-16 school year, according to a staff report.

But starting last year, that growth slowed from 11.7 percent to 5.2 percent, resulting in an unexpected \$785,000 loss in revenue.

That drop may be the new normal. For the 2018-19 school year, property tax growth is coming in just under 5 percent, Chief Business Officer Robert Clark told trustees at the Dec. 6 school board meeting. The adjusted budget projections show deficit spending ranging from \$4.6 million to \$5.2 million annually through the 2020-21 school year.

Compounding the lower property tax growth, Clark said the district may be facing a new budgetary constraint as well — the addition of a charter school. In October, Bullis Charter School officials submitted a charter

petition to start a new campus in Mountain View, which would open in fall 2019 and serve 168 students in its first year. School board members are scheduled to vote to either approve or deny the petition on Dec. 20.

*'Any reduction of this magnitude can have a deleterious impact on student achievement and operations.'*

MOUNTAIN VIEW WHISMAN  
STAFF REPORT

The way state laws are written, education funding "follows" students, whether they attend a charter school or a district-run school, which means that students who enroll in the new

Bullis would cause a commensurate decrease in Mountain View Whisman's revenue. It's an open question whether the charter will receive approval, and whether that approval might come with special considerations, but both are going to have a big effect on the bottom line.

"Right now we're looking at \$1.7 million in revenue that we would lose based on the number of students coming out of our district — the 168 students that they've planned for," Clark said.

District administrators are proposing three approaches to bringing down costs, each with its own advantages and disadvantages. The discussion among board members was supposed to take place at the Dec. 6 board meeting, but has since been pushed to Dec. 20.

One option is to impose a flat percentage cut across all school sites and departments equally, regardless of size and importance, which could be approved by the board and implemented

unilaterally. This cuts out any political decisions but also takes a tone-deaf approach to community input and the value of individual programs.

Another option, according to the staff report, is to build a worksheet of every single program and initiative adopted by the district — as well as its associated cost — and have the board prioritize each based on importance. Programs on the lower end of the list that exceed the district's bottom line could then be cut.

The third option put forth by the district is to give each school site a percentage budget cut — 15 percent, for example — and have teachers and leadership at each school come up with a strategic way to slash funding while retaining essential student services.

"While this approach does allow for the empowerment of staff, it is important to note any reduction of this magnitude can have a deleterious impact on student achievement and operations," according to the staff report. ▣

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

## Here come the Holidays

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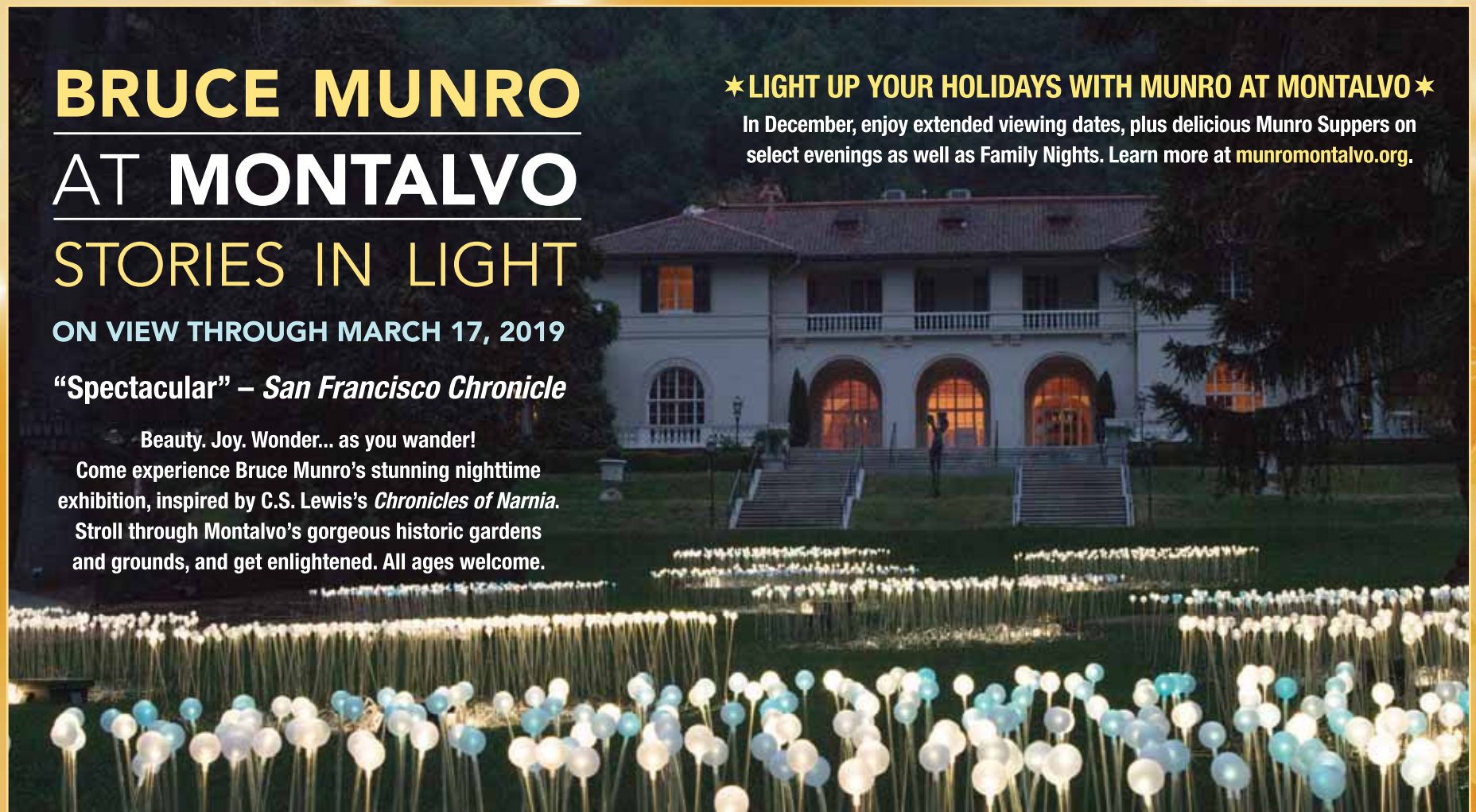
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## GOOGLE

► Continued from page 1

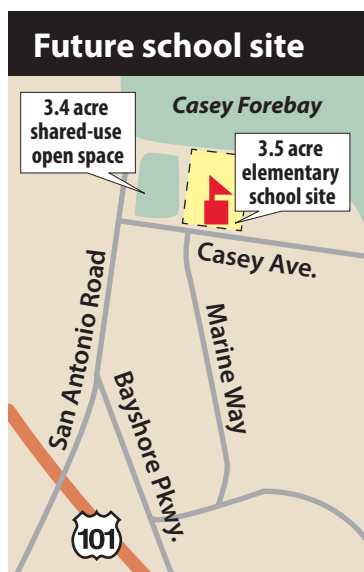
marked mostly by towering apartment and office buildings that would replace the area's parking lots and low-density buildings. Playing to city officials, the proposal's centerpiece is housing — Google is pledging its vision could eventually lead to 8,000 new homes spread between three new mini-neighborhoods.

Google officials portrayed their master plan as being in alignment with the city's goals to move from a car-centric office park toward a self-sufficient neighborhood.

"We also want to see the area transformed into what the city calls 'complete neighborhoods,' with a focus on increasing housing options and creating great public places that prioritize people over cars," said Michael Tymoff, Google development director. "We look forward to continuing to work with the community and the city to realize our shared vision."

The most detail by far is given to one area dubbed the Shorebird neighborhood. This area comprises about 66.3 acres, located just east of Shoreline Boulevard and north of Space Park Way. The company is proposing to build up to 2,600 homes there, an ambitious target but still short of the 2,950 homes outlined for this area in the city's precise plan.

Less clear from the plans is Google's commitment to building a new North Bayshore school to serve what could someday be hundreds of neighborhood children. The company said it had identified a 3.5-acre site for



a future school near San Antonio Road at Casey Avenue. The site is located about 2 miles away from where most of the North Bayshore residential growth is planned.

Mountain View Whisman School District officials confirmed they had been in talks with Google about the location, but they declined to share any comments on the proposal.

"We've just received the proposal and will be evaluating it," district spokeswoman Shelly Hausman said in an email. "The district will ask the City Council and Google to give (it) a chance to review the proposal before a decision is made."

Google's master plan indicates the company would aim for 20 percent of its North Bayshore housing to be affordable, dangling the promise of bringing up to 1,200 new subsidized apartments to Mountain View. This alone would double the affordable housing in the city,

the company notes. Along with the housing, Google's plans call for a total of 1.18 million new square feet of office space in the Shorebird area.

Housing demands have been a major sticking point for Google's plans to expand in cities beyond just Mountain View. Last week, the San Jose City Council held a grueling 11-hour meeting to consider a public land sale so Google could create a new downtown campus. The meeting was marked by fierce protests from housing advocates who warned the tech company's expansion would spur mass displacement.

It was an issue that gained national attention on Tuesday, when Google CEO Sundar Pichai was pressed on his company's commitment to new housing as he was testifying before the U.S. House Judiciary Committee.

"We deeply care about the community where we work," Pichai emphasized. "We have done wide outreach and are committed to making sure there's affordable housing."

Google's leadership has repeatedly echoed its commitment to housing growth, but the company still maintains that it needs to make financial sense. Mark Golan, Google's vice president of development, urged the city not to overburden his project with further fees and requirements.

"There is no room to take on additional costs without tipping the scales to infeasibility," Golan warned in a letter to the city. "We should act now before economic conditions worsen and inhibit the ability to deliver much needed housing."

Another area detailed by the plans is the Joaquin

neighborhood, located to the west of Shoreline Boulevard just north of Highway 101. This area includes the Shoreline Commons, a gateway property that includes the Century Cinema 16 theaters. The property was previously approved in 2015 for development into an office and retail corridor under a partnership spearheaded by LinkedIn and the development firm SyWest. LinkedIn later traded its development rights to Google in a 2016 land deal, but SyWest remained in control of about 16 acres of the land. Google and SyWest have reportedly tried to negotiate for nearly a year on partnering on a joint development package for the Joaquin area.

In a letter sent last month to the city, SyWest representatives indicated they preferred to go it alone rather than work with Google. According to SyWest, Google officials had insisted on transferring most of SyWest's

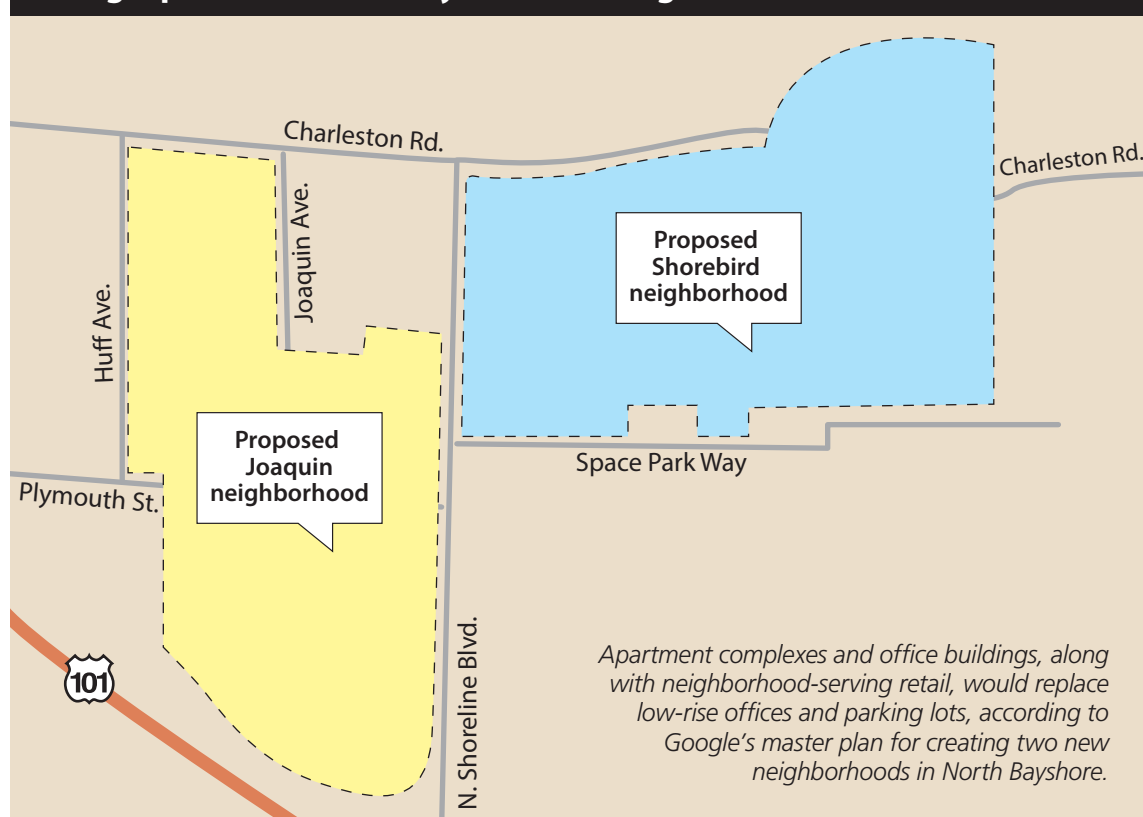
office development rights to its main campus in the heart of North Bayshore. By doing that, Google would have made the project "financially unfeasible," SyWest officials said.

In recent days, SyWest submitted its own master plan for their 16-acre property in the Shoreline Commons area. The plan calls for 885,000 square feet of offices, up to 740 residential units, and a new movie theater and retail space.

The city is scheduled to consider these plans sometime early next year. Achieving the full 9,850 housing units is still possible, but it would likely require some negotiation on the city's part, said Mayor Lenny Siegel.

"I'm concerned that if we don't think ahead, we won't get all the housing we're planning on," he said. "Google is saying that unless it's done their way, then it won't pencil out. Well, we'll have to see what we can get." ■

## Google plans for North Bayshore housing



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## CHARTER SCHOOL

► Continued from page 5

underserved families — low-income students and students who speak English as a second language — and extend what they describe as a tried-and-true education model. The goal is for a student body where 35 to 40 percent of the students qualify for free and reduced-price meals, which is a big divergence from the affluent families Bullis Charter School has served in Los Altos since 2004.

Founding BMV board member

Clara Roa said she has been working towards “replicating” Bullis Charter School since 2017, and that she believes students of all backgrounds deserve options for their public education. Wealthy families can opt for private school, but low-income families don’t get those same opportunities, she said.

“Parents are empowered when they know they have a choice for their kids’ education,” Roa said. “Choice options should not be available only to people with the financial or personal resources to access them.”

But for some parents, Bullis simply doesn’t have a track record to show it can support families of modest means, and it’s an open question whether it will even attract students from the demographics groups that charter school proponents claim it will serve.

Parent Julie Rapoport said she has little doubt that the school will offer a great education for the students it serves, but there’s no guarantee it will attract or retain the district’s most vulnerable kids. She said Bullis Charter School has opportunities to help students across the district by offering support at Mountain View Whisman schools and assisting with programs that already exist, rather than pulling resources away from existing schools.

“Work collaboratively with us,” she said. “This doesn’t feel like collaboration, this feels like hijacking the resources of a school district with 5,000 students to provide a specialized education for a small group, with no guarantee of serving anyone but students who already have significant resources.”

Throughout the meeting, parents lamented that BMV’s leadership wants to move so quickly. While expansion has been a goal of Bullis Charter School for several years, the official announcement about opening up in Mountain View came out in September, rapidly followed by a charter petition submitted to the school district in October. The final date to either approve or deny the petition is set for Dec. 20, and it’s up to BMV to decide whether to push the date back.

The goal is to open a charter school in Mountain View by fall 2019, with initial enrollment of 168 students in transitional kindergarten through second grade.

Fall 2019 also happens to be the same year Mountain View Whisman’s new attendance boundaries go into effect, and when a new school — Jose Antonio Vargas Elementary — opens its doors for the Whisman neighborhood. New intradistrict transfer policies are also set to take effect. How many students will be at each school next fall is undergoing a review by demographers hired by the district, but the worry is some schools may see a huge drop in enrollment.

Amy Rhoads, a parent of students at Bubb and Graham, said at the meeting that it doesn’t feel like anyone is prepared for a charter school to open in just 246 days, and that BMV can show it takes the spirit of collaboration seriously if it heeded the advice of parents and district administrators and delayed the opening of the school.

“I think that the Bullis Mountain View team has very good

intentions,” she said. “I think that we have great schools here, and we’re not ready to take on our very first charter. So I ask Bullis, please, please consider, at the very least, pushing your opening so that we can collaborate.”

One pervasive sticking point that left parents uneasy was whether Bullis had a genuine interest in serving low-income and Latino families in Mountain View, and if the charter petition was crafted with this target demographic in mind. Given the long runway the charter school had to create the 645-page proposal, some speakers felt the outreach to Latino families in recent months felt like a cynical effort to “sell” the school and collect signatures for the petition rather than a chance to solicit feedback and shape the future school.

“I’m really worried about the lack of communication with the Hispanic population before the petition was presented to the board,” said parent Tania O’Connell, who spoke in English and Spanish. “Bullis has been planning its expansion for years, but it only approached our community in the last few months, and only to present their program and ask for signatures of support, not to analyze our needs.”

These concerns were expressed in a letter signed by a group of PTA leaders from throughout the district earlier this week. The letter warned that BMV was poised to “siphon off” wealthy families and higher-performing students away from neighborhood schools, creating more segregation and reducing the wherewithal of the district and individual PTAs to provide support for needy students.

At the Dec. 6 meeting, Mistral PTA president Sara Kopit-Olson told BMV officials they could still “earn the trust” of the community by proving they are acting in good faith to help disadvantaged students, provided they slow down. The charter school could conduct a rigorous needs assessment involving teachers, PTA members and other district committees, she said, and avoid making it seem like a rush-job.

“Our community has been given a ridiculously short amount of time to evaluate this proposal and the potential ramifications to our schools,” Kopit-Olson said. “It’s like you’re riding into town on a steamroller, and it doesn’t look or feel good.”

### An inevitable outcome?

A big question facing the school board, and many of the public speakers, was whether support or opposition to the charter school really amounted to anything.

The prevailing legal opinion is that the cards are stacked in favor

of charter schools in California. Individual school districts have very little ability to deny a charter petition that is appropriately written, clearly lays out the school’s academic program and shows it can be financially solvent in the coming years. What’s more, Bullis Charter School in Los Altos has a sterling reputation as one of the highest-performing schools in the state, and much of that school’s philosophy would be adopted in BMV.

State law allows charter schools three chances to get approval. If the Mountain View Whisman School District denies the charter, it would almost assuredly be appealed to the Santa Clara County Board of Education, which would again have to consider the charter school on its merits with the same stacked standard for approval. If the county board opts to deny the petition — seen by many as a very unlikely possibility — it could be appealed a third time, to the state Board of Education.

Barring some type of major deficiency in the petition, the default option is to approve the charter petition, said Janelle Ruley, an attorney with the law firm Young, Minney & Corr representing BMV. Rooting out a disqualifying flaw would be difficult: As someone who has represented charter schools for more than a decade, she said Bullis is one of the strongest and most well-run charter schools that the district will ever encounter.

“At the end of the day, when we reconvene in just two short weeks to make a decision on this, we will be left with a straightforward mandate of the law,” Ruley said. “Which first reminds us that the intent of the legislature is that charters have become an integral part of our educational system and that their establishment shall be encouraged.”

Some parents, including Mountain View resident Serge Bonte, encouraged board members to approve the charter regardless of their personal feeling towards Bullis, saying that the fight needs to play out in Sacramento rather than a local school board meeting. Former Los Altos School District trustee Doug Smith didn’t mince his words, and said the district should approve “any viable charter” that comes before them. The district would benefit by retaining some oversight responsibilities over BMV if its own school board approves the charter. Denying it and allowing the county to approve the school amounts to giving up any semblance of control, he said.

“At that point you have zero oversight of that school, you have no ability to enforce any promises

► See **CHARTER SCHOOL**, page 15

## Changes are coming!

- New Fares
- Clipper Cards Now Available at Ticket Vending Machines
- Two-Hour Fares



### New Adult and Youth Fares

Youth fares will now be \$1.25 and Adult fares will be \$2.50 for a single-ride on local bus and light rail.

Effective January 1, 2019

Single-Ride / Two-Hour Fares	SENIOR/ DISABLED/ MEDICARE		
	ADULT	YOUTH	
Bus, Light Rail	\$2.50	\$1.25	\$1
Express Bus ★	\$5	\$1.25	\$1
Passes / Prepaid Fares			
Day Pass ◆	\$7.50	\$3.75	\$3
Express Day Pass	\$15	\$3.75	\$3
8-Hour Excursion Pass	\$5	\$2.50	\$2
Monthly Pass	\$90	\$35	\$30
Express Monthly Pass	\$180	—	—
Annual Pass Subscription	\$990	\$385	\$330
Express Annual Pass Sub.	\$1980	—	—

### Clipper Cards Available for Purchase in All Ticket Vending Machines

For your convenience, all Ticket Vending Machines will be able to dispense Adult Clipper cards by January 2019.

### Two-Hour Fares

Two-Hour fares are available to customers using a Clipper card or VTA’s mobile fare app, EZfare. For two hours after the first tag on Clipper, or upon activating a Single Ride fare on EZfare, customers can transfer for free across VTA bus and light rail service (except express bus\*).

\*Express bus fare required for any trips that include express service.



## CHARTER SCHOOL

► Continued from page 14

that were made or any representations that were made during the application process,” Smith said.

That wasn’t enough of an incentive to convince Monta Loma parent Isaac Taylor, who urged the board to “be brave” and reject the petition, even if it eventually gets overruled. He said the school has been, and will continue to be, an option to benefit the wealthy, and that rhetoric about “collaboration” falls flat when the charter school forces the school district to do something it doesn’t want.

“If Bullis says they’ve worked with the community to shape their plans or curriculum, they’re lying,” he said. “If someone takes our money and school property away from us, against our will, that’s not ‘educating a whole student,’ it’s stealing. Bullis is an Amway scam — it only benefits the already rich, and it’s a ripoff for anyone else.”

A group of parents from the North Bay saw the public hearing as a chance to air their grievances about a charter school in the Ross

Valley School District, and the division and problems they say it brought to the community. Parent Sara Tewksbury warned that accepting BMV would be a “road to ruin” and diminish the district’s resources, and said it’s a fallacy to think that the district would get any real local control from approving the charter.

Heather Bennett, also from Ross Valley, said her community has been divided by their charter school, and that it’s a microcosm of a much larger, national fight against the privatization of schools.

“Charter schools are built with the bricks and mortar of the public schools they tear apart,” she said. “Don’t just roll over and allow this charter into your district because you think it’s inevitable. Once they get a foothold, it will be much harder to get rid of them.”

Facing the real possibility that the school board’s hands may be tied, several parents at the meeting began addressing their comments directly to the Bullis Charter School supporters with pleas to drop or at least delay the

plans for a charter school next year.

“I’m talking to you because our hands are tied,” Rapoport said, turning from the school board. “We’re powerless, based on what Doug (Smith) said. If you are truly interested in serving the (socio-economically disadvantaged) population, then please work with us to support, strengthen and augment the programs we already have.”

Mountain View Whisman school board members steered clear of taking a stand for or against the charter school during the public hearing, instead taking the opportunity to grill BMV leaders on how, if the charter petition is approved, they would be held accountable for meeting its goals. The petition states English learners will be proficient in the language as “quickly as possible,” which is not very meaningful, said board member Ellen Wheeler.

The petition goes on to say that state-standardized test scores at BMV will “exceed” scores achieved by district schools with a similar demographic, which Wheeler said was also unclear.

“One rationale for BMV is to show higher academic success via test scores than our own school district, so I think it’s important for us to understand what you understand to be a meaningful success rate for your students compared to ours,” she said.

Board member Tamara Wilson questioned the charter school’s outreach efforts to date, and whether the school will reach the demographics it claims it will. She said her email correspondence to date shows that many of the people supporting the charter school are highly educated, high-tech employees, but she hasn’t heard from a single Spanish-speaking family. That doesn’t bode well, given that 80 percent of the district’s low-income students are Latino, she said.

Wilson also questioned why BMV appears to have dragged its feet in reaching out to the district’s PTAs, particularly after so many of them spoke out at the public hearing and in the letter earlier this week.

“Why, just this week, have you reached out to our PTAs if the spirit of collaboration is the

cornerstone of the charter petition?” she asked.

Jennifer Anderson-Rosse, BMV’s head of school, said she had reached out to some PTA members in the past, but the recent groundswell of opposition led her team to reach out to every PTA in Mountain View Whisman as a way to hear their concerns.

The lines of communication, particularly with the Latino community, are bound to improve once the charter petition receives approval, Anderson-Rosse said. Once approved for its inaugural five-year charter, BMV will hire a recruiter whose sole job will be to increase enrollment applications among low-income and minority families. There won’t be much time between charter approval and open enrollment — only about 5 weeks — but Anderson-Rosse said she is hopeful that will be enough time for BMV to hit its goal.

The Mountain View Whisman School District expects to hold a special meeting on Dec. 20 to either approve or deny the charter petition. ▣

## ROCK STREET

► Continued from page 1

concerns that Mountain View landlords would seek to convert their rental units into ownership housing that could be sold at market rates.

The city has approved past conversion projects, but most of those involved demolishing unoccupied apartments. A small cadre of local landlords at the meeting warned city officials not to put the responsibility on them for solving the housing crisis.

Council members immediately fell into an impasse when discussing the project. Margaret Abe-Koga, Lisa Matichak and John McAlister said they couldn’t justify rejecting the project, seeing as how it was mostly compliant with city rules. If they rejected

the project, the residents would likely end up worse off because the developer could return with a project with even less housing aid for the displaced residents, they argued.

Abe-Koga expressed frustration that the city was being asked to do more when it already has some of the most generous tenant relocation packages in the Bay Area. Mountain View is building more affordable housing than any other nearby city, but it seems like it’s never enough to satisfy the need, she said. She believed that displaced residents would be able to land on their feet, pointing out she had found some local rentals for around \$2,400 a month.

“We’re a leader in housing programs and assistance, but we keep getting beat up to do more,” she said. “In Palo Alto, would

this even be an issue?”

On the other side of the debate were Siegel, Rosenberg and Showalter, three council members sitting in their last full meeting before leaving office. Siegel implored his colleagues to reject the project, saying the city had nothing to gain. It would result in a net loss of five homes, and it would only provide enough money through fees to build perhaps one affordable unit, he said.

“This project is wrong,” he said. “I don’t see any benefit to our community from this project. All I see is the damage.”

The tiebreaker was Councilman Chris Clark, who struggled to find some way to satisfy both sides. He supported the property owner’s right to demolish the apartments, but he wanted to find some way to cushion the

displacement of the tenants. He found little in the way of options.

City housing staff pointed out there is no space at any of the local affordable housing projects. In fact, a 116-unit affordable project on Evelyn Avenue that was recently completed has a waiting list of more than 1,000 people, according to officials.

Worse, the city couldn’t postpone the project. The city attorney pointed out that state law mandated that the city make a decision or cede its authority on the project to the state. The city had already deferred the project once before.

“It shouldn’t have to come down to a meeting like this where there’s so much uncertainty,” Clark said. “When you want to implement a moratorium, you don’t just say ‘I don’t like that project and we’re going to stop

everything that’s going on.”

Yet city officials had plenty of warning that this dilemma was coming. The residents at Rock Street have been rallying at meetings for months. City officials declined to take up past proposals to set restrictions on redeveloping rent-controlled apartments.

Clark pledged he would call for some kind of future restrictions on developments that caused a net loss of housing, but he declined to apply that standard to this project. After testing several ideas, he proposed approving the project but asking the developer to allow the tenants to occupy the apartments through the end of 2019. Hopefully, the city will have more affordable housing built by then, he said. ▣

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

## INTERNET

► Continued from page 5

TV, internet and phone service. All of those digital services were offline.

Among the affected customers were the Mountain View Whisman School District. On Monday morning, school district officials sent out a notice to parents warning that nearly all their communication methods were offline. District staffers were resorting to walkie-talkie radios to stay in touch across campuses. Similarly, internet and email were also kaput at the Mountain View City Hall, although the city’s phone lines remained operational, and

the Mountain View-Los Altos High School District was also affected.

A total of 12,716 residential customers and 1,246 businesses were impacted in the outage, according to Comcast. Despite the internet blackout, many of these customers still found a way to vent their frustrations online.

Resident Tom Anderson said he was particularly irritated that Comcast had initially portrayed the outage as a quick fix. Throughout Sunday, the company kept pushing back its estimates on when service would be restored: first it was 12:30 p.m., then 6:30 p.m. he said. By Monday, Comcast was no longer

giving any time estimates.

For Anderson, the internet outage was hitting his pocketbook, severely limiting his ability to manage his short-term rental property. He suspects scores of other businesses were also impacted.

“People have businesses and livelihoods that depend on this,” he said. “This is having a massive impact to the city.”

The restoration of internet access was spotty, with one resident telling the *Voice* that service was restored around 2:30 p.m. Monday, while others complained on social media that they were still offline as the afternoon wore on. ▣



Mountain View Whisman School District

**OPEN ENROLLMENT 2019-20**  
(Kindergarten – 8th grade)  
January 7 – February 3

Online registration opens on  
**January 7.**

For more information please visit  
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## Bullis should hit pause on Mountain View plan

If you bring up Bullis Charter School in Mountain View or Los Altos, you're likely to hear a range of reactions.

The charter school is looking to expand beyond its split campus at Blach and Egan junior high schools. Bullis officials recently submitted a facilities request under California's Proposition 39 to Los Altos School District that revealed plans to grow from its current enrollment of 915 students to 1,105 in the 2019-20 school year. And while LASD officials have said they won't contest Bullis' projected growth, it's clear that the relationship between the district and Bullis has grown more contentious.

Which brings us to Bullis Mountain View. In October the charter school submitted an application to open a new school in the Mountain View Whisman School District next fall. BMV

leaders aim to attract low-income students and students learning English, with a goal of having a student body where 35 to 40 percent of children qualify for free and reduced-price meals.

The Mountain View Whisman school board is expected to approve or deny Bullis' petition at a special meeting on Thursday, Dec. 20. It became clear at a school board meeting last week, however that any decision it makes will be controversial. A majority of comments from parents, students and community members at the Dec. 6 meeting called for the board to either reject the request altogether or delay opening the school for a year, while a group representing Bullis' Los Altos campus showed up to speak in favor of the proposal.

While Bullis Charter School has the ability to charge ahead and expand into Mountain View under state law that favors charter schools, we believe BMV staffers should hold off on their petition and take more time to work with Mountain View Whisman officials and families.

A number of concerns have been raised about Bullis' petition to open in Mountain View. In an open letter signed by PTA leadership members from every school in the district, parents said the proposal would "devastate

Mountain View's public schools." Opponents have argued that Bullis Mountain View would pull children away from existing schools, driving down enrollment and paving the way for the elimination of teaching positions or even a school closure. The district, which is already preparing for budget cuts, has indicated that the opening of a charter school could trigger a \$1.7 million drop in the annual budget.

Parents have also expressed skepticism about how Bullis Mountain View would attract and retain low-income and minority students. These families may not have the ability to send their children to school across town, parents argued in the letter to Bullis, and the school doesn't have much of a history educating underserved youth — the Los Altos campus serves mostly affluent families. Parents said in the letter that they believe Bullis Mountain View would "siphon off more affluent and likely higher-performing students" from district schools, creating more segregation and reducing volunteer hours and financial donations at schools that are already strapped for resources.

Moreover, questions have been raised about Bullis Mountain View's outreach efforts with Latino families. At the Mountain

View Whisman meeting Dec. 6, parent Tania O'Connell said that Bullis "only approached our community in the last few months, and only to present their program and ask for signatures of support, not to analyze our needs."

Mountain View Whisman is also already in the midst of a major upheaval, with the new Jose Antonio Vargas Elementary set to open next fall and new attendance boundaries being rolled out.

Adding to all the angst about the potential impacts of a charter school is the fast-tracked timeline for this proposal. The school district is required to move quickly, with state law mandating that the school board hold a public hearing within 30 days of receiving the petition (which it did Dec. 6). After that, the board has 30 days to decide whether to approve the charter application.

A lawyer for Mountain View Whisman informed board members that they have little recourse to deny the charter school's petition and if they do, the decision could be appealed to the Santa Clara County Board of Education and then to the state Board of Education. If either of those boards approve Bullis Mountain View, the school district wouldn't have any oversight. If the school board does approve the petition, the district would be able to

monitor Bullis Mountain View's finances and ability to meet its stated goals.

With the law on Bullis' side and the ability to have oversight over the charter school in mind, we believe that if the district board does have to decide on the petition now, it should approve it.

But it shouldn't have to make that decision now. Residents — and school districts, for that matter — are accustomed to a yearslong process when a new school is proposed, one that involves many discussions, reports and opportunities for public input. It's only been a few months since Bullis' proposal arrived, and officials are looking to open a Mountain View charter school in less than a year.

Bullis Charter School in Los Altos is one of the highest-performing schools in the state. It could have a positive impact in Mountain View, where some families are seeking an alternative to existing schools. But if they want to start off on the right foot and avoid a contentious relationship with Mountain View Whisman School District officials and residents — like the one they have with LASD officials — Bullis representatives should withdraw their petition for now and take the time to do this in a more thoughtful manner. ■

## Bullis Mountain View means more options for kids

By Heather Schoell

### Guest Opinion

The future of learning is in flux.

When I was a kid, the career you chose after school stuck with you until retirement. When my kids enter the workforce, some of the jobs that will be available to them haven't even been invented yet, and they and their peers will need the creative skills and ingenuity to adapt to the ever-evolving work environments.

When I heard that Bullis Charter School wanted to open a Mountain View site, I was excited to find that an innovative education was a realistic option for my kids. BCS represents a break from many of the traditional concepts I've seen, and as I think more about the future of learning and the future of work, it's clear to me that the education I want

for my kids is one that hones their creative thinking and teaches them how to apply fundamental concepts to the bigger picture.

Bullis Mountain View (BMV) will do just that. The school focuses on project-based learning as the foundation of education and teaches kids how to apply their thinking and skills beyond the basics. And it doesn't hurt that BMV has the flexibility to account for the different learning styles and personalities of each of my kids.

Ultimately, BMV is one more option in our community that sets kids up to be successful. I've been disheartened to see that the discourse around BMV in Mountain View and BCS in Los Altos has often been political and antagonistic. In learning more

about the school, I've talked to BCS parents who are thrilled, BCS administrators who are passionate and BCS students who are engaged and excited to go to school. It has the potential to be an integral part of our community that serves our kids first and foremost.

As my kids grow and I think about what education is best for each of them, I realize more and more that a one-size-fits-all education does not exist. What's best for our children and our schools is choice. Choice allows parents and students to find schools that fit individual personalities and needs instead of routing them through a predetermined funnel. Choice gives families the opportunity to think beyond "What is the closest school?" and opens the door for "What is the best school for my child?" Our society is built on choices and

options. Education shouldn't be any different.

BMV may not be right for all families, but all families deserve to have options available that will meet the needs of their children and not feel limited by what's available at the nearest school. I am excited to bring into our community a school that is focused on teaching our kids how to be part of a changing world while being inclusive, diverse, and thoughtful about the future. As we enter into the charter approval process, I urge Mountain View residents and administrators alike to consider the benefits of Bullis Mountain View — because good options give kids and families more opportunities to find what's right for them.

*Heather Schoell is a resident of Alvin Street in Mountain View and mother of two children, ages 4 and 5.*

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## Get schooled for the holidays

LOCAL CHEFS LET YOU RING IN THE SEASON WITH FESTIVE COOKING CLASSES

FOOD FEATURE

by Cameron Rebosio

Karl Rauch and Liza Piroaska love to cook, but don't like following recipes, so the two friends decided to try out a cooking class where they could follow along with a pro. Now, classes are part of their annual holiday tradition.

The duo said taking culinary classes gives them time to hang out together and have fun while prepping for the holidays.

"We like to entertain and have dinner parties ... it totally impresses people," said Rauch, who lives in San Mateo.

In a recent class at Draeger's Cooking School in San Mateo, Rauch and Piroaska sat in the back of the class sipping wine and enjoying salad and bread while learning how to make an array of chocolate desserts.

During the 90-minute demonstration, chocolatier Alice Medrich showed them step by step how to make tiramisu, chocolate crepes, chocolate ice cream and chocolate sauce.

"It's inspiring," said Piroaska, who lives in Palo Alto. "If you see it demonstrated, you learn so many techniques."

Rauch and Piroaska aren't alone in turning to pros.

Kitchen retailer Sur La Table, which operates 80 in-store cooking schools

nationwide — including one at Town & Country Shopping Center in Palo Alto — has seen enrollment in its cooking classes jump to 600,000 students annually, CEO Billy May told the National Retail Federation in October.

The holiday season is particularly popular. The chefs interviewed for this story said their classes tend to sell out quickly during this time of year with people interested in learning how to cook everything from their first turkey dinner to holiday breads, family meals, make-ahead holiday brunch and gluten-free baked goods. Sur La Table even offers a kids holiday cooking series.

In addition to learning how to cook from in-house instructors and local celebrity chefs at professional cooking schools, students can opt to attend an intimate class at a chef's home or host a private cooking party at their own home. Prices typically range from \$60 to \$125 per person and include all supplies.

Medrich, founder of the Cocolat chain of chocolate stores and a James Beard award-winning cookbook author, said some come to improve their culinary skills, others come to enjoy time together with family and friends. It's an experience you can't get from online cooking videos, she said.

Demonstration classes at Draeger's, like



COURTESY OF LINDSAY PENROSE/ANNE MARIE BONNEAU

Mountain View chef Anne-Marie Bonneau demonstrates how to make a sourdough starter during a private cooking class.

the one she teaches as a guest chef, are designed for socializing, she said. Students can sit back, sample the menu, enjoy wine and learn some new cooking tricks in a relaxing and fun setting.

"Teaching in person, it's a wonderful exchange," Medrich said.

Maria Capdevielle, a consulting pastry chef at V. Sattui restaurant in Santa Helena, is teaching a hands-on South American

holiday baking class as a guest chef at Draeger's this season. She said learning to cook perfectly is not necessarily what people are looking for when they take a class.

"The objective is that people enjoy their time, and they learn something that they can recreate at home," said Capdevielle, who planned to teach students how to

► See **CLASSES**, page 18

## Holiday Cooking Classes

### HANDS-ON & DEMONSTRATION

#### SUR LA TABLE

Town & Country Village, Suite 57, 855 El Camino Real, Palo Alto

Hands-on group sessions for up to 16 students. Participants are broken into groups of four to prepare dishes that are shared at the end of the 2-2.5-hour classes | \$75 (for most holiday classes)

**More information:** [surlatable.com](http://surlatable.com)

#### DRAEGER'S COOKING SCHOOL

1010 University Drive, Menlo Park/222 E. Fourth Ave., San Mateo

Demonstration classes and hands-on classes taught by guest chefs, staff instructors ranging from industry insiders, cookbook authors and globe-traveling experts | classes range from 1.5-3 hours

and include snacks, beverages and menu tastings | \$60-\$125, includes all materials

**More information:**

[draegerscookingschool.com](http://draegerscookingschool.com)

#### QUATTRO, FOUR SEASONS HOTEL

2050 University Ave., East Palo Alto

Four Seasons Hotel offers private mixology classes for groups of 8-20 at its Quattro restaurant. During the two-hour class, a bartender will teach participants how to pour, muddle and mix seasonal craft cocktails at highboy tables set up with shakers, mixers and all the needed ingredients | hors d'oeuvres are included | \$100 per person

**More information:** [bit.ly/holidaycocktails4seasons](http://bit.ly/holidaycocktails4seasons)

### PRIVATE CLASSES & HOME PARTIES

#### COZYMEAL

Personalized private hands-on cooking classes in your home (or other selected location) arranged through the company's website, which pairs local residents to professional chefs | \$100, includes all materials

**More information:** [cozymeal.com](http://cozymeal.com)

#### THE ZERO-WASTE CHEF

Mountain View chef Anne-Marie Bonneau offers classes and private workshops/parties at the location of your choice. She shows students ways to reduce their environmental footprint in the kitchen while teaching them healthy-cooking skills like how to ferment food. Vegan snacks

are included. | \$20-\$90, includes materials

**More information:**

[zerowastechef.com](http://zerowastechef.com)

#### LA TOQUE DE CINDY CALIFORNIA CULINARY EXPERIENCES

Palo Alto chef Cindy Roberts hosts private cooking-party events for kids of all ages. Her experiences are geared to instill a love for cooking and eating. She holds contests and trivia quizzes, cooking games and raffle tickets to spice up her cooking sessions. During the holidays, she teaches with guest instructors. Classes limited to 12. | \$60

**More information:**

[cindytoquecooking.com](http://cindytoquecooking.com)



COURTESY OF LINDSAY PENROSE/ANNE MARIE BONNEAU

CAMERON REBOSIO

**Left:** Anne-Marie Bonneau adds ingredients to sourdough starter. **Above:** Alice Medrich shows students how to make tiramisu and chocolate crepes during a holiday cooking class at Draeger's Cooking School in Menlo Park.

# Public Notices

## 995 Fictitious Name Statement

LINO FINO STORE  
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File No.: FBN648893  
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:  
Lino Fino Store, located at 56 Paul Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County.  
This business is owned by: Married Couple.  
The name and residence address of the

registrant(s) is(are):  
VIRGINIA ELIZABETH MACWILLIAMS  
56 Paul Avenue  
Mountain View, CA 94041  
CESAR JARAMILLO  
56 Paul Avenue  
Mountain View, CA 94041  
Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above.  
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on November 29, 2018.  
(MVV Dec. 14, 21, 28, 2018; Jan. 4, 2019)

**Call Alicia Santillan at 650-223-6578 or email [asantillan@paweekly.com](mailto:asantillan@paweekly.com) for assistance with your legal advertising needs.**

## CLASSES

► Continued from page 17

make Argentinian caramel sandwich cookies, Brazilian fudge candies, Brazilian cheese bread and Venezuelan stuffed bread with olives, jam and raisins.

In her interactive three-hour class, students break into groups that each prepare a portion of the menu. At the end, everyone gets to sample each group's dishes together.

"Nowadays people are a little bit disconnected. I feel that cooking is a wonderful way to connect," she said. "Cooking together, everyone

has a responsibility: You cut the onions, you do different tasks, everyone feels important and then everyone enjoys."

Mountain View chef Anne-Marie Bonneau, who teaches at various cooking schools and holds classes at residents' homes, believes cooking is a fun way to get together with one's friends.

"My classes are like little parties ... I teach them, and they eat food, and they chat," she said.

Known as "The Zero-waste Chef," Bonneau shows students ways to reduce their environmental footprint in the kitchen while teaching them healthy-cooking

skills like how to ferment foods such kimchi, sauerkraut and kombucha. Her holiday courses focus on how to reduce food waste by learning how to determine how much food is needed for parties and family meals and what to do with leftovers. During her classes, Bonneau provides the ingredients, as well as food for students to sample and take home. At the end of the lesson, students get to take home whatever they make.

"I don't think cooking is so difficult that you have to be too serious about it ... anyone can do it. It's fun!" Bonneau said. ▣

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COURTESY OF ROADSIDE ATTRACTIONS AND LD ENTERTAINMENT  
Julia Roberts and Lucas Hedges star in "Ben is Back."

MOVIE OPENINGS

# Hugs and drugs

JULIA ROBERTS MOTHERS A TEEN ADDICT IN 'BEN IS BACK'

★★★1/2 (The Guild)

The "twilight zone" of living with a family member in the grip of addiction serves as the existential setting of "Ben is Back." Sure, the literal setting is a rather quaint suburban New York town, made deceptively more charming by its choir-graced church and Christmas-goosed families. But the film's titular return of a teenager to his blended family on Christmas Eve spells 24 hours of secrets and lies.

Written and directed by Peter Hedges ("Dan in Real Life"), "Ben is Back" simultaneously introduces us to Holly Burns (Oscar-winner Julia Roberts) and her prodigal son Ben (Peter's Oscar-nominated son Lucas Hedges).

Ben's sister Ivy (Kathryn Newton) immediately goes on alert

upon his return, and so does Holly, but for Mom, unconditional love and desperate hope cloud her judgement. "This time will be different," she reassures Ivy and herself. "You'll see. It will."

Holly reveals herself to be a power mom who takes as much control as she can: Was she always this person, or did Ben make her this way? In any case, her story is one of neurotic parenting pushed to the brink. Although Ben has taken unscheduled leave of his rehab program, the practiced manipulator has accurately predicted that his mother will not — cannot — turn him away on Christmas Eve. Ben's stepdad glowers on the sidelines, hoping his voice of reason will be heard ("There's too many triggers for

you here," he tells Ben). Ground rules are established and tested as Ben and Holly make a treacherous trip to the mall, and the family dutifully reports to church (where Ivy's rendition of "O Holy Night" moves Ben to tears).

But all is not well on the family's return home, and the crises that begin to pile up send Ben and Holly into the night, ostensibly on a shared mission, but still at odds. During this mission, they encounter the mother of a forever-lost opioid addict who tells Holly, "You can't save them, but you'll hate yourself if you don't try." That was more or less the message of "Beautiful Boy" earlier this season, and much as that film struggled to offer more insight than addiction is the worst thing that can happen, "Ben is Back" feels thin, propped up by its performances and its late-breaking intrigues.

Still, the story never loses its rooting interests, and those performances are strong. Hedges adds to his body of work another effectively understated performance (he can be found across the multiplex, starring in "Boy Erased"), and Roberts' role as an intense mama bear cleverly corrupts her famous smile to an "everything's okay" mask. Ultimately, "Ben is Back" is about the lies addicts tell their loved ones, and those that their loved ones tell themselves. And once in the grip of addiction, families find there's no guarantee that the truth will set them free.

*Rated R for language throughout and some drug use. One hour, 43 minutes.*

— Peter Canavese

Sprint is proposing to modify existing wireless telecommunications antennas on an existing building located at 2488 Wyandotte Street, Mountain View, Santa Clara County, CA 94043. The modification will consist of replacing three existing panel antennas with 6 new panel antennas at approximately 49-feet above ground level on the 49-foot tall building. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to: Project 6118006766 - MKB EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or via telephone at (717) 472-3070.

# Marketplace

The Mountain View Voice offers advertising for Home Services, Business Services and Employment.

If you wish to learn more about these advertising options, please call 650.223.6582 or email [digitalads@pawekly.com](mailto:digitalads@pawekly.com).

# Employment

## ENGINEERING

Synopsys has openings in Mountain View, CA: Applications Engineer, II: Provide tech & engg expertise to support & improve usability, applicability & adoption of company EDA, DFM &/or IP prdcts, pltfms & solutions to meet customer busn needs. Req. BS in CE/EE/CS or rel. + 2 yrs exp. in modern multi-core comp architectures (Alt. MS + 0). Some work to be performed at local customer sites. REQ# 20221BR. Web Developer, II: Responsible for back-end web dev. to create & maintain new web app. prgm interface (API) to ensure BMC Remedy OnDemand is connected to Synopsys' existing in-house IT infrastructure monitoring systems & new in-house IT asset mgmt. syst. Req. MS in CS, CE, or rel. REQ#20294BR. To apply, send resume with REQ# to: [printads@synopsys.com](mailto:printads@synopsys.com). EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled.

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Synopsys has the following openings in Mountain View, CA: Applications Engineer, Sr. II: Perform FPGA prototyping & emulation, working w/ customers to ID & evaluate new features. Req. MS in CE, EE, CS or rel + 2 yrs exp in prototyping/emulation of ASIC design & product validation of prototyping/emulation tools. (Alt BS+5 yrs) Req#20093BR. R&D Engineer, II: Design, develop, test or debug EDA and/or DFM SW apps/technologies. Req. BS in CS, CE, E/E or rel + 2 yrs exp in EDA/DFM engrg/research. (Alt. MS+0 yrs) Req# 19607BR. R&D Engr-Electronics, II: Perform design, char & verif of SRAM embedded memory compiler IP. Req. MS in CS, CE, EE or rel + 6 mos in design & develop of SRAM emb mem compilers. Req# 20125BR. Multiple Openings. To apply, send resume with REQ# to: [printads@synopsys.com](mailto:printads@synopsys.com). EEO Employer/Vet/Disabled.

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## NOW SHOWING

**2.0 (Not Rated) Century 16:** Fri.-Sun.

**A Star is Born (R) ★★1/2**

**Century 16:** Fri.-Sun. **Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**Ben is Back (R) ★★1/2 Guild Theatre:** Fri.-Sun.

**Bohemian Rhapsody (PG-13)**

**Century 20:** Fri.-Sun. **ShowPlace Icon:** Fri.-Sun.

**Can You Ever Forgive Me (R) ★★★1/2**

**ShowPlace Icon:** Fri.-Sun.

**Creed II (PG-13)**

**Century 16:** Fri.-Sun. **Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**Deadpool 2 (R) ShowPlace Icon:** Fri.-Sun.

**Dr. Seuss' The Grinch (2018) (PG)**

**Century 16:** Fri.-Sun. **Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald (PG-13) Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**ShowPlace Icon:** Fri.-Sun.

**The Favourite (R)**

**Century 20:** Fri.-Sun. **Palo Alto Square:** Fri.-Sun.

**Green Book (PG-13) ★★1/2**

**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: 566-8367) [tinyurl.com/Guildmp](http://tinyurl.com/Guildmp)

**ShowPlace Icon:** 2575 California St. #601, Mountain View [tinyurl.com/iconMountainView](http://tinyurl.com/iconMountainView)

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

**Instant Family (PG-13) ★**

**Century 16:** Fri.-Sun. **Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**Mary Queen of Scots (R)**

**Aquarius Theatre:** Fri.-Sun.

**Mortal Engines (PG-13) Century 16:** Fri.-Sun.

**Century 20:** Fri.-Sun. **ShowPlace Icon:** Fri.-Sun.

**The Mule (R) Century 16:** Fri.-Sun.

**Century 20:** Fri.-Sun. **ShowPlace Icon:** Fri.-Sun.

**The Nutcracker and the Four Realms (PG)**

**Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**Ralph Breaks the Internet (PG) ★★★**

**Century 16:** Fri.-Sun. **Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**ShowPlace Icon:** Fri.-Sun.

**Robin Hood (2018) (PG-13)**

**Century 16:** Fri.-Sun. **Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**Spider-man: Into the Spider-Verse (PG)**

**Century 16:** Fri.-Sun. **Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

**ShowPlace Icon:** Fri.-Sun.

**Widows (R) Century 20:** Fri.-Sun.

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

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### THEATER

**'Into the Woods'** Los Altos Stage Company presents "Into the Woods," a musical that combines the stories of several fairy-tale characters to show what happened after their "happily ever after" storybook tales ended. Through Dec. 23, times vary. \$20-\$41. Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. losaltosstage.org/into-the-woods

**TheatreWorks Silicon Valley Presents 'The Santaland Diaries'** TheatreWorks Silicon Valley presents the holiday themed "The Santaland Diaries," returning to the 180-seat Lohman Theatre. Written by David Sedaris, directed by Jeffrey Lo and starring Max Tachis, this show will have a limited three-week run in Los Altos Hills. Through Dec. 23, times vary. \$45, discounts available for students and subscribers. Lohman Theatre, 12345 S. El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. theatreworks.org

**TheatreWorks Silicon Valley Presents 'Tuck Everlasting'** TheatreWorks Silicon Valley presents a showing of "Tuck Everlasting." The play tells the story of a young girl who meets a family who has found immortality and must decide between returning to her life or choosing immortality as well. Through Dec. 30, times vary. \$40-\$100. Lucie Stern Center, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. theatreworks.org

**'A Conversation with Edith Head'** Award-winning actress Susan Claassen stars in the Bay Area premiere of "A Conversation With Edith Head." The show features behind-the-scenes stories about Hollywood stars that provide an intimate portrait of Hollywood's legendary costume designer. Through Dec. 16, times vary. \$15-\$35. The Pear Theatre, 1110 La Avenida St., Mountain View. thepear.org

### CONCERTS

**Annual Messiah Sing / Play Along** The annual "sing and play it yourself" celebration of Handel's masterwork, conducted by Stephen Sano, is a campus tradition. Orchestral parts will be provided, and singers may purchase scores at the door or bring their own. Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m. \$13-\$23. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Search events.stanford.edu for more info.

**Schola Cantorum Hosts 'Messiah Sing'** In the choir's "Messiah Sing," music director Gregory Wait will conduct participants and chamber orchestra Sinfonia Schola Cantorum in Handel's oratorio, which includes the "Hallelujah" chorus. Participants may bring their own score, or use one provided. Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. \$18-\$30. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. tickets.mvcpa.com

**Sonos Handbell Ensemble with Frederica Von Stade** The Sonos Handbell Ensemble, along with mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade and the Young Musicians Choral Orchestra, will perform in celebration of the holidays. Dec. 16, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Free. Bing

Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. Search events.stanford.edu for more info.

**'Christmas with the New Choir'** The Christmas with the New Choir event will feature holiday carols, and songs that will be played at Jeju Island in Korea in 2019. Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 16, 5 p.m. \$18-\$25. All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto. Search brownpapertickets.com/event for more info.

**Holiday Organ Recital: Robert Huw Morgan** Dr. Robert Huw Morgan, university organist, presents his annual holiday recital. Dr. Morgan is an active recitalist whose repertoire runs from the earliest sources to contemporary music. In 2005 he performed the complete works of Dieterich Buxtehude to celebrate the Fisk organ's 20th anniversary. Dec. 16, 1:30 p.m. Free, suggested \$10 donation. Memorial Church, 450 Serra Mall, Stanford. Search events.stanford.edu for more info.

**'Jamie Builds!'** 'Jamie Builds!' is a benefit concert for Habitat for Humanity. The concert features Jamie Davis, who has been featured with the Count Basie Orchestra, George Benson, Tony Bennett, Patty Austin and countless others. All net proceeds will go to Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley. Dec. 15, 6 and 8 p.m. \$20-\$30, students get \$10 off with code "student." Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1715 Grant Road, Los Altos. jaimebuilds.eventbrite.com

**'Voices of Music: Virtuoso Baroque Concertos'** San Francisco's Voices of Music ensemble will be performing at the Community School of Music and Arts. The ensemble has performed in cathedrals across the Bay Area, with interpretations of virtuoso baroque concertos and arrangements for violins, cellos, the organ and other instruments. Dec. 20, 8 p.m. \$5-\$47. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View.

### ARTS & CRAFTS

**Winter Paper-Crafting** Los Altos Library will host a winter arts and crafts session. Participants can make cards and paper snowflakes. Supplies will be provided. Dec. 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Search facebook.com/events for more info.

### FUNDRAISERS

**Palo Alto Fiery Arts Winter Glass Sale** The sale will feature handmade glass snow-people, reindeer, ornaments, cups, bowls, candy canes and more. Made by Paly instructors, alumni and students. Proceeds benefit the school sculpture class. Dec. 14, 3-6 p.m. Free. Palo Alto High School inside the Tower/ Administration Building, 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto.

### MUSEUMS & EXHIBITS

**Public Tour: Contact Warhol: Photography Without End** The exhibition

brings to life Warhol's many interactions with the social and celebrity elite of his time with portraits of stars such as Michael Jackson, Liza Minnelli and Dolly Parton; younger sensations in the art world such as Keith Haring and Jean-Michel Basquiat; and political stars, including Nancy Reagan, Maria Shriver and Arnold Schwarzenegger. Select days through Jan. 6, 2:30 p.m. Free. 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. Search events.stanford.edu for more info.

**BayLUG's 15th Annual Holiday Show** BayLUG's 15th Annual Holiday Show will be showcasing holiday scenes in a miniature LEGO city. This event is family friendly. Dec. 7-Jan. 13, Fridays-Sundays, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. \$3. Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto.

**Christmas Gifts from Yesteryear on Display in Historic Home** The Los Altos History Museum opens a holiday-themed exhibit, "Presents from the Past: A Look Back at Christmas Gift-Giving," featuring a collection of vintage toys, shaving mugs, children's books and other items. On display in the historic J. Gilbert Smith House, trimmed in 1930s holiday decor. Through Jan. 6, Thursdays-Sundays, noon-4 p.m. Free. Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. losaltoshistory.org/events/presents-from-the-past

**Gallery 9 Holiday Show** An extended all-gallery show will feature unique and affordable fine art paintings, jewelry, photography, woodwork, mixed media, sculptures and ceramics. Through Dec. 23, times vary. Free. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos. gallery9losaltos.com

### DANCE

**'It's a Wonderful Nutcracker'** Menlowe Ballet presents "It's a Wonderful Nutcracker." Set in the 1940s, this ballet combines "The Nutcracker" and "It's a Wonderful Life" into one show. Dec. 14-16 and 21-23, times vary. \$29-\$62. Menlo-Atherton Performing Arts Center, 555 Middlefield Road, Atherton. menloweballet.org

### FILM

**UNAFF in Libraries: 'Happy'** In "Happy," director Roko Belic takes viewers from the bayous of Louisiana to the deserts of Namibia to explore the idea of happiness. Dec. 20, 7-9 p.m. Free. Rinconada Library, 1213 Newell Road, Palo Alto. paloalto.bibliocommons.com

### HOME & GARDEN

**'The Beauty of the Holidays with Arrangements'** This class will teach participants how to create colorful, lush, seasonal centerpieces for the holidays. Instructor Katherine Glazer will cover how to combine seasonal foliage, flowers and other accents into your designs. Dec. 15, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$99-\$129. Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley St., Palo Alto. gamblegarden.org/event/holiday\_arrangements



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