

# Mountain View VOICE

FEBRUARY 14, 2020 VOLUME 28, NO. 3

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SAMMY DALLAL

**NASA aerospace engineer Nettie Roozeboom** describes how NASA's researchers are studying how rocket designs will fare in severe pressure conditions.

## Ames wind tunnels put NASA's new moonshot to the test

By Kevin Forestieri

America's latest bid to send astronauts into space has researchers at NASA Ames hard at work, trying to figure out how to safely get a hulking 320-foot

tower of metal stuffed with 733,000 gallons of fuel out of the atmosphere.

Standing inside a wind tunnel complex on the Mountain View campus, aerospace engineer Nettie Roozeboom described how rockets carrying precious

cargo — including crew members — have to withstand powerful forces while making the ascent into space. Low-frequency forces with a whole lot of energy are going to pound

► See **NASA**, page 8

## Mountain View to pay \$350K in settlement over forced sexual assault exam of 5-year-old

By Kevin Forestieri

A Mountain View family that sued the city after their young daughter was forced to undergo an invasive sexual assault exam last year has agreed to a \$600,000 settlement, according to recent court filings.

Under the agreement, filed with a federal court judge on Feb. 7, the city of Mountain View has agreed to pay the bulk of the costs — \$350,000 — while Santa

Clara County will pay \$200,000. A third defendant, private ambulance company American Medical Response (AMR), has also agreed to pay \$50,000 for its involvement in the incident.

The civil suit alleges that Mountain View Police Department officers had conducted an “unlawful and unfounded” sexual assault examination on a 5-year-old child in January last year. Three officers came to the family's house on Jan. 28, 2019, and demanded that the

girl be examined by a paramedic to see if she had been the victim of sexual abuse.

The child had injured her pubic area three days prior when she fell at a trampoline park, but had since healed, according to the civil complaint. Earlier that day, a staff member at Landels Elementary overheard the girl saying that her vagina had bled or was bleeding, and reported

► See **SETTLEMENT**, page 6

## Measure D: To reshape rent control, council asks for voters' trust

By Kevin Forestieri

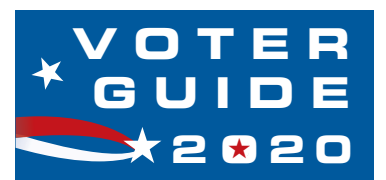
Rent control, one of Mountain View's most divisive issues, is back on the ballot March 3. For the first time since 2016, voters will have a chance to weigh in on the city's nascent renter protections and decide whether to accept a bevy of changes largely aimed at loosening rules imposed on landlords.

Proponents call Measure D a chance to “fix” rent control and find middle ground that tenant and landlord groups alike can learn to live with — a cease-fire that could reunite a deeply divided community. The measure's backers say they believe that the city's Community Stabilization and Fair Rent Act (CSFRA) is here to stay, but changes must be made to soften the law to ensure its survival amid attacks by landlords.

Unification may be the goal, but there's scant evidence that the council-backed measure has brought with it any reconciliation: In the lead-up to Election Day, landlord groups have reluctantly lined up behind the measure, while tenant advocacy groups are staunchly opposed to Measure D.

Opponents of the measure call it a bad-faith effort on the part of the Mountain View City Council to weaken hard-fought renter protections, rewriting the law to allow for higher rent increases and subverting CSFRA's framework for passing capital costs on to tenants. Some of the council members supporting the measure had openly opposed rent control when it was passed by voters in 2016, raising questions about the intent behind Measure D.

Though Measure D appears to have brought back the same



talking points over whether rent control fundamentally hurts or helps those at risk of displacement, city leaders say they've changed with the times. In a recent interview with the *Voice*, Mayor Margaret Abe-Koga insists that sentiments have shifted: Rent control is here to stay in Mountain View and across California, and the council is trying to fix CSFRA — not sabotage it.

“I'm just asking voters to believe us in our sincerity that we're trying to make it work to the best of our ability,” she said.

### Necessary changes?

The core argument among supporters of Measure D is that Mountain View has done a diligent job launching its rent control law, but that the last three years haven't been easy. Portions of CSFRA are ambiguous or have gaps that must be cleaned up, said Abe-Koga, and because the law is baked into the city's charter, any changes must come before voters — the council's hands are tied.

Many of the roughly three dozen edits proposed by Measure D are exactly that — minor modifications to CSFRA that have few practical effects and no vocal opposition. But the measure goes much further than that, making big changes to the way landlords can raise rent and pass costs on to tenants.

Under the current law, annual rent increases are capped at the local rate of inflation, or the Consumer Price Index (CPI),

► See **MEASURE D**, page 10

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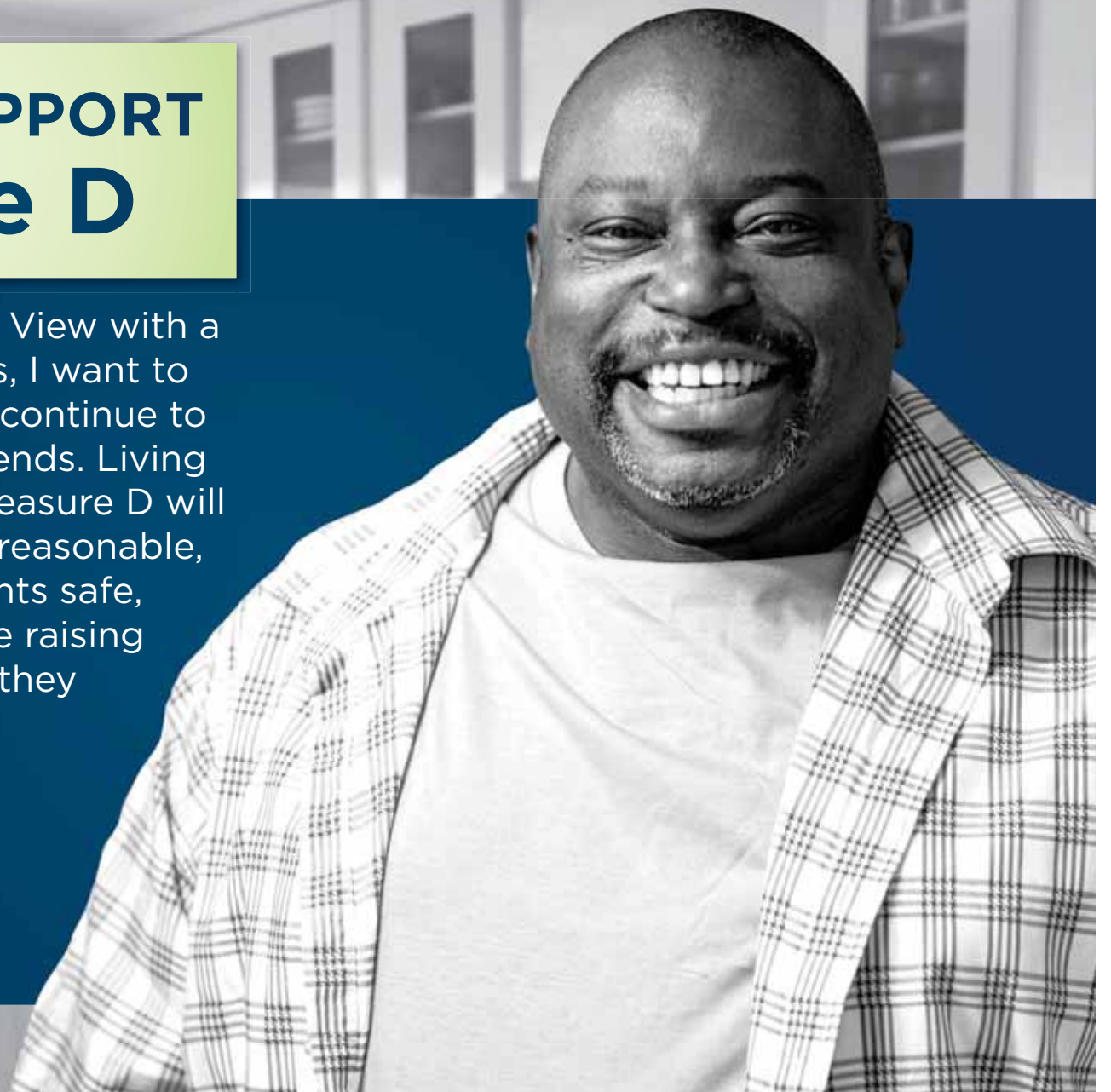
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# RENTERS SUPPORT Measure D

“As a renter in Mountain View with a child in our local schools, I want to make sure my child can continue to go to school with his friends. Living here is expensive and Measure D will make sure rents remain reasonable, landlords keep apartments safe, and renters can continue raising their families in the city they call home.

**I urge you to  
VOTE YES on D.”**

**- Cleave Frink**  
*Mountain View Renter*



## Join a broad coalition of community leaders supporting Measure D

- ✓ **Greg Cooper**, *President, Mountain View Professional Firefighters*
- ✓ **Margaret Abe-Koga**, *Mayor, City of Mountain View*
- ✓ **Chris Clark**, *Councilmember, City of Mountain View*
- ✓ **John McAlister**, *Councilmember, City of Mountain View*
- ✓ **Lisa Matichak**, *Councilmember, City of Mountain View*
- ✓ **José Gutiérrez, Jr.**, *School Board Trustee, Mountain View Whisman*
- ✓ **Fiona Walter**, *Board Member, Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District*
- ✓ **Chris Chiang**, *Former Trustee, Mountain View Whisman School District & Mobile Home Resident*
- ✓ **William Cranston**, *Environmental Planning Commissioner*

*Tuesday, March 3*  
**VOTE YES on  
MEASURE D**  
**RESPONSIBLE  
RENT CONTROL**

Ad paid for by Mountain View Residents for Renter, Homeowner, & Taxpayer Protections, Yes on D, sponsored by the California Apartment Association. FPPC ID 1405063. Committee Major Funding from:  
Prometheus Real Estate Group and affiliated entities  
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## 'OSLO'

Before former Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin shook hands with former Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) chairman Yassir Arafat on the South Lawn of the White House on Sept. 13, 1993, the day of the official signing of the Oslo I Accord, secret meetings between Israeli and PLO officials were orchestrated to negotiate the terms of agreements aimed to eventually end the decadeslong Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Ahmed Qurie, a PLO official, approached Israeli diplomat Uri Savir in one of the first meetings and, according to the New Yorker, candidly asked, "We are second-rate guerilla fighters. Why are we a threat to you?"

A stunned Savir replied, "Because you want to live in my house."

J.T. Rogers' play "Oslo," currently presented by Los Altos Stage Company, starts months before Savir and Qurie actually met in real life — the two don't interact until Act 2 — but it constantly depends on these types of deeply personal and heated dialogue to flesh out the abstractions of geopolitics and make them more tangible.

Instead of portraying a war between two foreign bodies and its countless players, "Oslo" strips the Israeli-Palestinian conflict down to a simple but effective stage of shifting chairs, desk and large white double doors that constantly loom behind the bitter infightings of a few powerful but vulnerable men.

And it captures the rationale Norwegian sociologist Terje Rod-Larsen, depicted by Robert Sean Campbell, used when he helped facilitate clandestine meetings between PLO and Israeli officials with Norway's foreign affairs minister and wife Mona Juul, played by Tanya Marie, who makes her company debut with "Oslo."

During the nearly three-hour dramatization of the true political saga, directed by Los Altos Stage Company's Executive Director Gary Landis, the couple deftly maneuvers through conflicting cultural beliefs and deeply rooted psychological trauma from years of political persecution in order to get officials from the PLO and Israel to sit in a room for a productive discussion of peace.

But whenever members of the two parties do enter the same



COURTESY OF RICHARD MAYER

**Los Altos Stage Company's**  
"Oslo" runs through Feb. 16.

space, civility feels as fragile as their masculinity and can only hold together for so long. When Qurie, played by Mohamed Ismail, and Savir, played by Josiah Frampton, begin to review a draft of the accords, it only takes a few lines before one of them starts to blame the other for the carnage that's been inflicted upon their people.

In the first act, Larsen makes a plea to a skeptical Yossi Beilin, Israeli's deputy foreign minister, played by Maya Greenberg in a gender-reversed role, inside a Tandoori restaurant. Larsen can only hope Beilin will agree to negotiate with the PLO as they talk and share a plate of pita bread with hummus.

But Beilin calls Larsen's request a farce — "It's bulls--t." He cites years of violent insurrection, hundreds of deaths of men, women and children, topped with U.S. media scrutiny, that has disillusioned the Israeli government toward any substantive action for peace. As he rants, Beilin starts to experience sharp pangs of indigestion.

Many moments like this in "Oslo" remind how the people who can change the course of millions of lives can be so utterly human.

Audiences can search those moments of "Oslo" and find something to be optimistic about, along with plenty of comic relief, as Rogers suggests that governing bodies are only made up of people susceptible to the same things and so, just like everyone else, can be agreeably dealt with.

But in those same moments, there's a creeping reminder that power can often lie with an undeserving few, all too dangerously flawed.

"Oslo" runs through Feb. 16 (Wednesdays-Saturdays at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 3 p.m.) at the Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Tickets are \$20-\$38. Go to [losaltosstage.org](http://losaltosstage.org).

—Lloyd Lee

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## The CSFRA Ballot Initiative (Measure D) Explained (Open to All)



**What  
are the  
proposed  
changes to the  
CSFRA?**



**How  
would  
the changes  
affect  
me?**



**How does  
the ballot  
measure  
interact with  
AB 1482?**

*This informational workshop is intended to provide the technical differences between the current CSFRA and the proposed changes found in Measure D.*

**Thursday, February 20, 2020 | 6:30 p.m.**  
**Mountain View Community Center, Maple Room**  
**201 S Rengstorff Ave, Mountain View, CA 94040**  
**City of Mountain View | Rent Stabilization Program**

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■ CRIME BRIEFS

**COUNTY CLEARS RAPE KIT BACKLOG**

Santa Clara County has cleared its backlog of untested sexual assault and rape forensic evidence kits.

Terry Harman, an assistant district attorney who oversees the sexual assault unit that helps process the forensic evidence from sexual assault or rape cases known as a SART kit, briefed the county's Board of Supervisors on the issue during its regular Tuesday meeting in San Jose on Feb. 11.

In June 2018, the county's Board of Supervisors approved funding called for by Supervisor Cindy Chavez to process more than 200 rape kits backlogged at the county's crime lab, kits that have all now been tested and cleared.

Harman said the county used to process a kit within 94 days. And while state law calls for a 120-day turnaround for the kit, Harman said Santa Clara County, as of December, has been processing kits in 16 days.

"That's amazing," Chavez said Tuesday, which was followed by a short applause from those in the board chambers.

Harman told the board that in cases of rape or sexual assault that are "priority 1," which includes a rapist or sexual assaulter who is unknown to the victim, current policy calls for a test of that rape kit within seven days.

"For all other kits, our policy calls for them to be tested within 30 days," Harman said. "That policy has been very helpful at establishing very clear-cut guidelines for both law enforcement and (the) crime lab, and also letting the public know and letting victims of crime know what is going to happen with their SART kit."

**UTILITY POLE FIRE**

A transformer attached to a utility pole caught fire in Mountain View on Tuesday afternoon, causing several small grass fires as well as a power outage that left people stranded in elevators at two properties nearby, the city's fire department said.

Crews responded at 4:07 p.m. to a 911 call about a transformer explosion and multiple grass fires in the 600 block of North Whisman Road.

They arrived within minutes and found six small grass fires and a downed power line. Crews closed North Whisman Road in the area and extinguished the fires.

The Fire Department also received reports about people trapped in elevators at the two properties, and PG&E was able to restore power to those buildings and free the people inside, fire officials said.

No injuries were reported from the fires and the scene was turned over to PG&E to fully restore service to its customers in the area.

—Bay City News Service

■ POLICE LOG

**AUTO BURGLARY**

2500 block W. El Camino Real, 2/3  
800 block W. Evelyn Av., 2/3  
Castro St. & W. Dana St., 2/3  
2400 block Amphitheatre Pkwy., 2/4  
400 block Hope St., 2/4  
200 block Hope St., 2/6  
300 block Moffett Blvd., 2/8  
400 block N. Rengstorff Av., 2/8  
1800 block W. Middlefield Rd., 2/8  
600 block Rainbow Dr., 2/10  
Bryant St. & Mercy St., 2/10

**GRAND THEFT**

1 block Annie Laurie Av., 2/4  
2500 block W. El Camino Real, 2/4  
1000 block N. Rengstorff Av., 2/6

**RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY**

1600 block W. El Camino Real, 2/4  
1000 block Castro St., 2/7

**STOLEN VEHICLE**

1400 block W. El Camino Real, 2/6  
W. El Camino Real, 2/9

**BATTERY**

1600 block Villa St., 2/7  
700 block E. El Camino Real, 2/9

**VANDALISM**

700 block W. Evelyn Av., 2/4  
1000 block La Avenida St., 2/4  
100 block W. Dana St., 2/10

**COMMERCIAL BURGLARY**

800 block Leong Dr., 2/4

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SAMMY DALLAL

*Jose Antonio Vargas Elementary* opened with great fanfare last year, but it was only possible by going \$40 million into debt. The Mountain View Whisman School District is seeking to pay off the construction of the school with Measure T on the March 3 ballot.

## \$259M Measure T bond seeks to solve short-term school needs

MV WHISMAN WANTS FUNDS FOR TEACHER HOUSING, EXTRA CLASSROOM SPACE, SECURITY MEASURES

By Kevin Forestieri

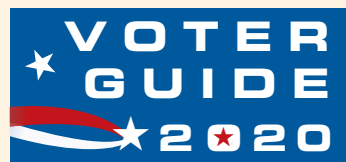
Voters in the Mountain View Whisman School District are being asked to pass a new bond measure that would tackle the short-term problems facing local schools today. It stops short, however, of tackling some of the more ominous troubles looming on the horizon.

The Measure T bond on the March 3 ballot would tax property owners to raise \$259 million in funding for a whole

host of practical problems that district officials say need to be fixed now. Some schools are short on space for incoming students, while almost all of the campuses have security flaws.

Past projects have piled up debt that's pulling cash out of the general fund, and the district's bid to lease a 144-unit apartment building for teacher and staff housing in Mountain View needs a source of funding in order to move forward.

The Measure T bond seeks to address all of these needs,



and proponents say it's sorely needed in order to handle short-term growth and finish up many of the priorities that did not get touched during the last bond program — the funds from which officially dried up in August last year.

► See **MEASURE T**, page 14

## Man killed in fiery Tesla crash reported problems with Autopilot system

By Kevin Forestieri

A Tesla driver who died after striking a highway median in Mountain View reportedly complained of problems with his Autopilot and navigation systems in the weeks leading up to the crash in 2018, according to a trove of newly released documents.

Federal investigators at the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released nearly

1,500 pages of information on the fatal accident, in which 38-year-old Walter Huang's Model X collided with the barrier between southbound Highway 101 and the Highway 85 carpool flyover. The investigation is looking into whether the highway conditions and the vehicle's Autopilot lane-keeping assistance played a role in the crash.

While the agency has yet to make a determination, an attorney representing Huang's family

asserted in a letter last year that the vehicle's Autopilot had been a problem, particularly at the location of the crash. Huang reportedly told his wife, Sevonne, and a friend that his vehicle's lane-keeping technology was problematic and had a tendency to steer toward the median, also known as the gore point.

"Walter told Sevonne the Autopilot would cause his Tesla to

► See **TESLA**, page 15

## Senate hopefuls debate how to pay for new programs for tots

By Kate Bradshaw

Taking the stage at Hillview Middle School in Menlo Park on Sunday, six candidates for the 13th Senate district weighed in on their plans for addressing the numerous early childhood education problems facing California.

Democrats Josh Becker, Mike Brownrigg, Sally Lieber and Shelly Masur, Republican Alex Glew and Libertarian John Webster took turns over the course of two hours debating how best to tackle a major shortage in teachers and facilities and how to fund improved outcomes for the state's 3 million children under 5 years old. Democratic candidate Annie Oliva was not present.

Most candidates acknowledged that there are significant problems with the current state of early childhood education in the region but had different ideas about how and what the government should fund to fix those problems.

One key problem in early childhood education, several candidates argued, is that early child care workers are so low-paid that in this high-cost area, there's a major shortage of providers and subsequently child care spots.

Only 1 in 9 children ages 0 to 3 who are qualified and eligible for subsidized care can currently get it today, said Becker, an entrepreneur and nonprofit fund leader from Menlo Park.

"These teachers are only paid half of what kindergarten teachers are paid," Becker said. "And preschool teachers are six times more likely to live in poverty than K-12 teachers — so we absolutely have to start with living wage."

When it comes to special education, he added, he'd push for a statewide systematic screening program to help schools identify students in need of additional services earlier.

And how to fund such new investments? Becker suggested California create an oil extraction tax and dedicate a large percent — or perhaps all — of its proceeds toward early childhood education.

Brownrigg, a Burlingame City Council member who is a former diplomat and venture capitalist, said he agreed about the oil extraction tax as a potential short-term source of capital, alongside Proposition 13 reform and exploring reductions to the prison budget to come up with the \$6 billion to \$9 billion he estimates that early childhood programs will cost.

He added that about 60% of early childhood educators are on public assistance, an indicator that they're not being paid enough. Increasing pay for teachers and care providers for young children would also entice more people to work in the field, he added.

Preschool facilities need to be built; teachers need better pay; families in poverty need ways to get to and from preschool — and investments need to be made in pre- and post-natal care, nutrition and education, he said.

"It's not complicated; it's just expensive," Brownrigg said.

"There's no doubt about the research," he said. "We have an achievement gap because we have a kindergarten gap. If we can fix the kindergarten gap — if we can help kids be ready to learn when they go through that door, we're going to have a dramatic impact on graduation rates and achievement."

The real question, he said: "Who's going to fight for (the) budget best? Who's going to get the dollars into the sector that we know we need?"

He talked about his track record with overcoming funding problems as a council member during the recession. And he pointed to the fact that Oklahoma has offered universal pre-kindergarten to 4-year-olds in that state since 1998.

"Why can't California have that?" he asked.

To make child care facilities more readily available, he added, new developments should be required to make allowances for child care centers, instead of retail, in new mixed-use buildings.

Masur, a City Council member

► See **SENATE RACE**, page 16



## SETTLEMENT

► Continued from page 1

the information to either Child Protective Services (CPS) or law enforcement.

The suit alleges that officers should have recognized the innocuous nature of the injury, but instead they presented the parents with an ultimatum: Have a paramedic come to the house to inspect the girl's genitals or drive her to Santa Clara Valley Medical Center for a formal examination.

The suit states that the parents — Danielle and Douglas Lothar — tried multiple times to offer

alternatives, including a trip to a physician to verify the injury was not serious and was healing. Danielle Lothar also offered to put officers in contact with witnesses who could corroborate the story that the girl injured herself at a trampoline park.

The parents were reportedly forced to hold down their daughter during the exam — the girl was kicking and screaming — while a female paramedic examined the child. After two minutes, the paramedic concluded there was nothing apparently wrong with the child's genitals.

A few weeks after the incident,

the family filed a claim stating that Mountain View officers, the Santa Clara County social worker and the paramedic all acted improperly, turning an innocent injury into a traumatic event. The claim sought \$1 million for severe emotional distress, past and future medical treatment and punitive damages.

The family's attorney, Robert Powell, later filed a federal lawsuit in September alleging that the city, the county and AMR had acted together to violate the family's privacy and due process rights as well as Fourth Amendment rights against unreasonable seizure. It also alleges the defendant's actions amounted to negligence, battery and false imprisonment.

Since demanding the lump sum settlement of \$1 million last year, Powell told the *Voice* that he left it up to the city, the county and AMR to fight among themselves over who had the most culpability. But he said it was pretty clear from the start that the police department was primarily responsible for the way the incident unfolded.

"No one thought for apparently a moment that, 'Hey, this is wrong. This is way overboard,'" he said.

When asked about the settlement amount, Powell said he

believes the family could have been awarded more money if it went to a jury trial, but that his clients did not want to go through the stress of reliving the incident in a prolonged court battle.

"It was really, really causing a lot of emotional turmoil for the family and so we settled it, I think, considerably lower than what might have been awarded by a jury," he said. "There's a value to resolution."

Representatives from Santa Clara County did not immediately respond to requests for comment. City spokeswoman Shonda Ranson said the City Council is scheduled for a closed session discussion of the case on Feb. 25, and could not comment further.

After deductions and fees, roughly \$438,000 of the settlement will be awarded to the parents, \$80,000 will be given to the girl who underwent the exam and \$40,000 will go to her sibling, who was interrogated during the incident. The money awarded to the children will be placed in separate secured accounts. Powell will receive \$40,000 of the total settlement, plus \$1,415 in counsel costs.

Powell, who has been handling CPS-related cases since the 1990s, said the incidents typically involve a child protective services agency and a law enforcement

agency. This case was somewhat of an anomaly in that an ambulance company was involved and shared in the settlement agreement, he said. Despite the sizable cost of the incident, Powell said he isn't optimistic it will change the practices of anyone involved going forward.

"I have been handling these kinds of cases for around 23 years and I am back suing the same counties for the second, third and fourth time. In the case of Los Angeles County, I'm back suing them for the fifth, sixth or seventh time," Powell said. "Case after case after case of alarming stupidity, alarming abuse of power." ▀

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



CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

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**Rengstorff Park Aquatic Center Replacement  
Project 18-38**

City Council Meeting  
**Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.**

Council Chambers  
Second Floor, Mountain View City Hall  
500 Castro Street, Mountain View

The City Council will consider three project scope options for the Rengstorff Park Aquatic Center Replacement project.

- **For Further Information** — Contact David Printy of the Public Works Department at (650) 903-6162 or email him at [david.printy@mountainview.gov](mailto:david.printy@mountainview.gov).
- **Please also visit the Project website at** [www.mountainview.gov/rengstorffpool](http://www.mountainview.gov/rengstorffpool)
- **Para más información**, por favor llame al (650) 903-6145
- **С вопросами звоните по телефону** (650) 903-6145

## ■ ELECTION INFO

Ballots were sent out last week for the March 3 presidential primary election. Santa Clara County citizens can find voting information online at [tinyurl.com/sccMarch2020](http://tinyurl.com/sccMarch2020). If you are registered as "no party preference" and would like to vote in the Democratic, American Independent or Libertarian party primary, you may file a request up to seven days before the election using a form on the county's website: <https://tinyurl.com/NoParty3-2020>.



"Seagull Side Eye" by Debbie Cooper 2019 Best In Show

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**—MARGARET ABE-KOGA, Mountain View Mayor**

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Mountain View Mayor



**ELLEN KAMEI**  
Mountain View  
City Councilmember



**LUCAS RAMIREZ**  
Mountain View  
City Councilmember



**LAURA BLAKELY**  
Mountain View –  
Whisman School District  
School Board Member

**MIKE KASPERZAK**, Former Mountain View Mayor • **PAT SHOWALTER**, Former Mountain View Mayor

## TRANSPARENT & ACCOUNTABLE – YES on G&H

For full text of G & H and past oversight committee information visit: [fhda.edu/MeasuresGandH](http://fhda.edu/MeasuresGandH)

[www.YesonGandH.com](http://www.YesonGandH.com)



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Paid for by Friends of Foothill-De Anza CCD for Yes on Measures G & H – FPPC# 1424567. Committee major funding provided by the Foothill-De Anza Community Colleges Foundation and Hon. Franklin P. Johnson, Jr.



## NASA

► Continued from page 1

on the rocket, she said, and the design has to be able to weather the blows.

That's where wind tunnels come in. In designing a new rocket intended for missions bound for the moon, Mars and even one of Jupiter's moons, Ames researchers have spent recent years making true-to-life models of the new Space Launch System (SLS) and blasting them in a wind tunnel. By replicating the rocket's ascent off of earth and seeing where turbulence and shaking are most likely to cause problems, researchers can refine the design to ensure nothing is damaged.

Scientists can theorize what will happen once the rocket is hit with high-velocity winds, but it's critical to replicate those forces in a real-life environment to know for sure.

"If you have these low frequencies just banging on your vehicle at some unsteady frequency, that's where you don't know how to design your vehicle," Roozeboom said. "That's where you need to go and test. You can't do that in theory, you can't do that computationally, you need to go do that experimentally. And so that's what we do."

NASA Ames gave a public debut of its wind tunnel testing on Monday, Jan. 10, highlighting just one small piece of a sprawling multi-part space exploration endeavor called the Artemis program. It includes an orbiting "Lunar Gateway" around the moon, a rover designed to drill for resources and a plan to put astronauts on the moon by 2024. The latest budget proposal by the Trump administration, released this week, bumps NASA's budget to \$25.2 billion for 2021, a 12% increase over the last year.

It's a tight timeline, but the bigger budget proposal would certainly help keep the agency on track, said Ames director Eugene Tu. He said the Mountain View research center receives about \$750 million in federal funding each year, which goes to pay for a 3,000-employee workforce and operate one-of-a-kind facilities, including some of the most powerful supercomputers in the world.

Those supercomputers came in handy for wind tunnel experiments, in which researchers collected a staggering 150 terabytes of data over the course of five days and needed to make sense of it. In past years, that meant transferring data onto a dozen hard drives, shuttling it across campus and loading it into the

supercomputer over the course of three to six months. Now with a direct link to the supercomputer, it only took weeks to analyze the trove of data.

At the heart of any wind tunnel test, the question is always finding where significant or erratic pressure is being applied to any aerospace vehicle. In order to track precisely how the SLS will fare during lift-off and re-entry, a model is coated with specialized, pressure-sensitive paint. The paint, typically a bright bubble-gum pink, can be used to visualize pressure fluctuations up to 20,000 times per second, with the color changing based on how much pressure is applied to the surface.

The latest analytical tools means that a normally unwieldy haul of data, monitoring changes in the paint's appearance at 10,000 frames per second, can be quickly transformed into a detailed visualization for researchers. A slowed-down video of the of recent SLS model design, intended to send an orbiter to Jupiter's moon Europa, shows how the tip of the rocket and its accompanying boosters would take the brunt of the high-velocity wind pressure during ascent.

"That's where you get those really big highlights at high and



COURTESY OF NASA AMES

**Nettie Roozeboom** sits next to a model launch vehicle coated with pressure-sensitive paint, used to see how high-velocity pressure will affect aerospace vehicles.

low pressure, at the top where the air interacts with the nose cone and here on these attachments," Roozeboom said.

The bulk of the research is based on neither low-speed or high-speed aerospace travel, but transonic speeds slightly above or below the speed of sound. That's where any model is going to be exposed to the most danger.

The strength and frequency of these pressure changes are a big deal in order to avoid unsafe situations where the rocket becomes unstable. Roozeboom

said there are also scenarios where frequencies are so high they can deafen and even kill astronauts — something researchers like herself need to be mindful of when conducting these wind experiments.

Life and limb of the occupants aside, there's also a worry that cargo being transported aboard the rocket could get damaged or destroyed during launch.

"If you have this significant fancy avionics system and this fancy satellite, but you just bang it apart, that's not great either," Roozeboom said. ▀

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MEASURE D

► Continued from page 1

which has floated between 3.4% and 3.6% since the law passed in 2016. The law also has limits in volatile years — maximum rent increases can be at least 2% even when inflation is flat and can't exceed 5% when it skyrockets.

Measure D does away with this system entirely, instead allowing landlords to increase monthly rent on tenants by 4% each year regardless of CPI. Given the historic rate of inflation, the change would almost always amount to an increase over what CSFRA allows.

Councilman Chris Clark said the change amounts to a modest increase in the rent cap in exchange for the security of knowing that CSFRA will live on. That's because the council's campaign pitch hinges on the idea that rent control in Mountain View is perpetually under siege by landlords, backed by the powerful California Apartment Association (CAA), and could face complete elimination absent some kind of compromise this March.

A voter initiative launched by the CAA, slated to appear on the November ballot, would do just that. Despite proposing a number of smaller changes, an innocuous-sounding feature would basically kill rent control: In the event that the vacancy rate of rental units hits 3% or higher — in a city where the vacancy rate hasn't dipped below 3% in over 13 years — rent control protections become unenforceable.

Clark said if he was a renter, it would be worth stomaching a half-percent increase in rent knowing

that rent control was "sustainable" in the long term and wouldn't face annihilation every few years.

"If this passes, we're going to have a path forward where the CSFRA lives on in perpetuity and we don't have to keep tweaking it, and someone won't try to repeal it every election cycle," Clark said.

Jose Gutierrez, a Mountain View Whisman School District school board member and a renter, said he and others can reliably budget for a 0.5% difference in annual rent, but not knowing the fate of rent control adds a level of unpredictability that makes families nervous.

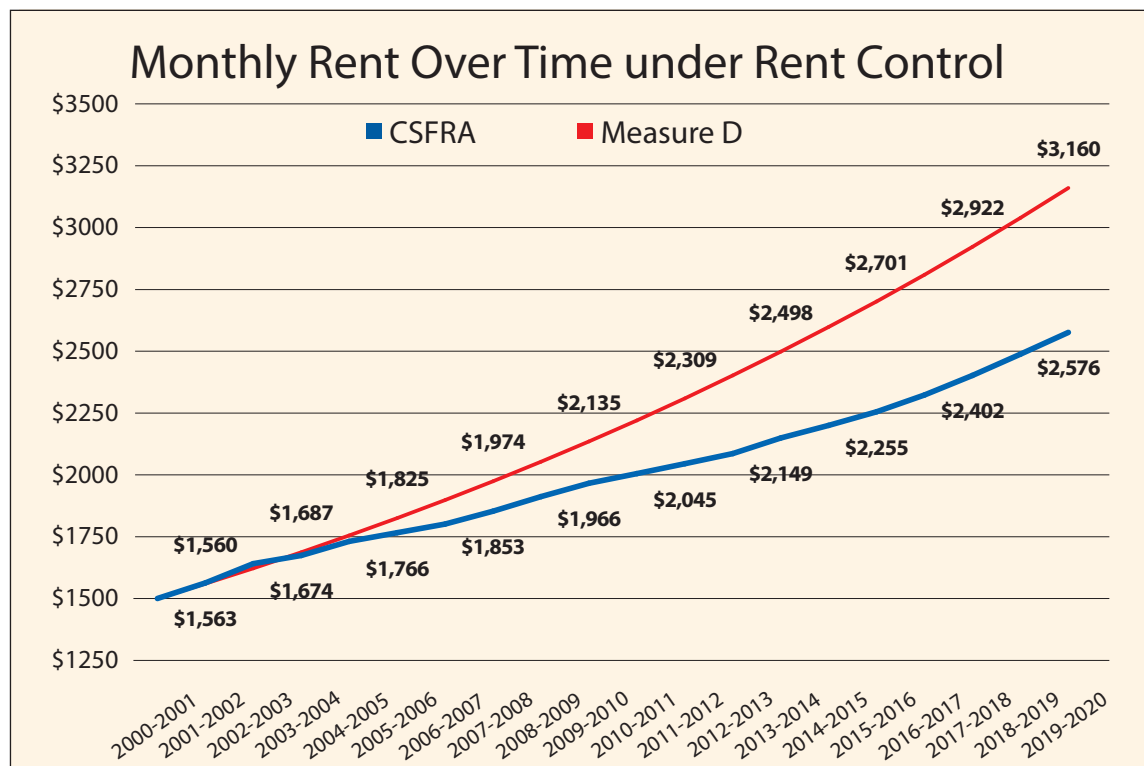
"When families come to me as a school board member, their main concern is, 'We don't know what's going to happen in the future,'" Gutierrez said. "This is a fixed rate. The city is doing their best to try and have this (law) stay in place."

The California Apartment Association announced last month that it would be willing to withdraw its support from its own November ballot initiative in the event that Measure D passes, though it remains unclear if council members did any behind-the-scenes coordination with the lobbying group. Clark said he sees this as a chance to end the divisive politics and charged rhetoric over rent control for good.

"I really genuinely wanted to find a way to not have to deal with this anymore. Let's take our learning from the CSFRA, let's not go through what is effectively a repeal effort by the CAA in November," he said. "Let's just put this whole thing to bed."

Passing costs to tenants

The biggest change proposed



The difference in a \$1,500 monthly rent is shown starting in 2001, the last time the local inflation rate, or CPI, hit 4%. Under CSFRA, the current rent control law, increases are tied to the local rate of inflation and must stay between 2-5%. Measure D changes the maximum rent increase allowed to a flat 4%. The total rent between 2001 and 2019 would be \$536,005 under Measure D and \$479,244 under CSFRA.

under Measure D lies in the way landlords can pass the cost of upgrading rental properties on to tenants above and beyond the 4% annual rent increase cap. It would compel the city's Rental Housing Committee — the body charged with implementing and overseeing rent control — to create a special list of capital improvements that landlords can quickly and easily pass through the associated costs to tenants as "temporary rent increases."

Eligible projects include upgrades to comply with local health and safety code regulations — including seismic upgrades — environmental sustainability

projects and anything that "significantly extends the useful life" of the property, which can be used to justify annual rent hikes of up to 10%.

CSFRA already allows for these so-called pass-through rent increases, but with the important caveat that landlords must prove the rent increase is required to ensure they get a fair rate of return on their property. No such rule exists for these special capital improvements under Measure D, making it easier to pass costs on to tenants without a compelling financial justification.

Joan MacDonald, a tenants' rights advocate opposed to the measure, said she feels the council has waged a dishonest campaign by pretending Measure D is required in order for property owners to catch up on seismic retrofit work. An estimated 488 buildings in the city have what's called a "soft story" design that is vulnerable to collapse in a major quake, but nothing is stopping landlords from making these upgrades and even passing costs on to tenants today — so long as they can provide financial documents proving it cut into their profit margins.

"Under Measure D, the fair rate of return is wiped out entirely," she said. "Naturally landlords want to be able to pass through all of their costs. That is not the way managing apartment complexes has been in the past, this is brand new and would effectively price out hundreds of families and individuals."

Alex Nunez, a member of the Mountain View Tenants Coalition, worries Measure D will make it far easier for landlords to undertake pricey upgrades with the end goal of pushing out

current residents. Many families can't survive multiple years of 10% rent increases without being priced out, he said, and once they're ousted, the rent jumps up on their now-vacant units to market rate.

Council members stood by the decision to include streamlined capital improvements. Clark said he would be reticent to require any capital projects, including seismic retrofits, if landlords had to get approval to recoup the costs. Abe-Koga said proving a fair rate of return is simply too onerous for property owners under CSFRA, particularly "mom and pop" owners who can't easily handle all of the paperwork required for showing a fair rate of return.

Mobile homes excluded

Perhaps the most contentious ambiguity in Mountain View's rent control law is whether mobile home owners, who rent space in one of Mountain View's six mobile home parks, should benefit from rent control.

Mobile homes are not explicitly mentioned in the city's rent control law, leaving it up to the Rental Housing Committee to decide whether they are covered. Despite being told by its own legal consultant that mobile home owners should benefit from the renter protections, the committee decided in 2018 to exclude mobile homes from CSFRA — a decision that was challenged in court and ultimately upheld.

The decision reverberated among families living in the roughly 1,100 mobile homes across the city, many of whom are facing displacement and say they're struggling to keep up with what they describe as

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MAGALI GAUTHIER

**Measure D**, the City Council's attempt at a compromise that makes Mountain View's rent control law less controversial, has gained the support of landlords and drawn opposition from tenant groups.

price-gouging rent increases. An estimated 85% of mobile home residents in the city are either seniors, disabled or veterans, according to the Mountain View Mobile Home Alliance, and many of them can't afford the rent hikes.

Though council members have expressed sympathy for the challenges facing mobile home residents, they opted in November to explicitly exclude them from the city's renter protections under Measure D. The measure would insert "Mobilehomes and spaces or lots for mobilehomes" among the list of properties expressly exempt from rent control.

Clark, in explaining his decision, said he sought the paradoxical approach of cutting mobile homes from CSFRA in order to give those residents rent control. By completely extricating it from Mountain View's rent control law, he said the council can now pursue its own, separate ordinance for mobile home rent stabilization. Mobile home ownership is different enough from apartment tenancy that it warrants its own ordinance, Clark said, governed by the City Council rather than the Rental Housing Committee.

He conceded it would have been simpler and more politically savvy to include mobile homes under CSFRA — the Mountain View Mobile Home Alliance is opposed to Measure D as it's currently written — but Clark said it would have been a bad idea in the long run. Mobile homes are an entirely different type of rental unit, governed by different state laws, and need special considerations.

"The deciding factor for me was really the interplay with state law and having the ability to craft something that was very specifically tailored to mobile homes and all of the nuances that state law has around that so it can withstand (legal) challenges," Clark said.

Chris Chiang, a former Mountain View Whisman school board member and Santiago Villa

mobile home resident, signed the ballot argument in support of Measure D but has since rescinded his endorsement. Chiang told the *Voice* that he initially believed Clark's rationale that Measure D was a stepping stone to providing renter protections for mobile home residents but that today the argument rings hollow.

CSFRA's coverage of "all rental units" not explicitly exempt from rent control should have included mobile homes from the start, Chiang said, pointing out that the city of Sacramento passed a similar law in 2019 that encompassed mobile homes without controversy. It's troubling to see something so simple in other cities turn into something so complicated in Mountain View, he said, and the City Council appears to be going out of its way to not protect a class of vulnerable residents.

"I believe the intentions of Measure D are good, but I can no longer be part of further complicating this issue," Chiang said. "If Measure D is so unclear on how it will protect mobile home residents, then I can no longer vouch for how it will actually protect any form of renter. I withdraw my support for Measure D."

### New rules for the Rental Housing Committee

One of the most prominent aspects of Measure D is that it would amend Mountain View's rent control law to prevent Rental Housing Committee members from paying themselves a salary. It's the first set of words in the ballot question itself, and is featured in a recent mailer sent to residents by a landlord political action committee: "Measure D permanently prevents the unelected Rental Housing Committee from paying themselves a salary."

The focus is unusual, however, given that the Rental Housing Committee members don't earn a salary and have never attempted to give themselves a salary. Members have never

formally discussed the possibility of paying themselves a salary as compensation for serving on the committee.

When asked, Abe-Koga said the council shares a "tricky" relationship with the Rental Housing Committee, which is in many ways part of the city while still maintaining autonomy from political influence by council members. She said the salary constraint is part of a larger effort by Measure D to ensure the committee doesn't sap city funds, and its aim is "good governance and being financially responsible."

MacDonald described the focus as a strawman and a non-issue, and said it's not clear whether its origin stems from the California Apartment Association or the City Council.

"None of the members of the Rental Housing Committee anticipated ever being paid, there was never a question either in writing or during the interviews that brought this up at all," MacDonald said.

Other changes under Measure D would expressly allow the City Council to remove committee members for misconduct and would permit the council, if it's dissatisfied with the applicants for a vacant seat, to allow landlords who do not live in Mountain View to serve on the committee. Council members say it's because the applicant pool for seats that may be represented by landlords — no more than two — has been thin, and it has been challenging recruiting people to serve on the committee.

### A question of trust

One of the hurdles that Measure D proponents have grappled to overcome in recent months is a question of credibility. Can council members who have previously opposed CSFRA or still fundamentally disagree with the law as it's written be trusted to faithfully amend the law?

► See **MEASURE D**, page 16

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## MEASURE T

► Continued from page 5

What proponents readily admit, however, is that this bond does not try to take on the monumental task of preparing for all of the long-term student growth expected to come from Mountain View's ambitious housing growth plans. Between new zoning and housing projects already in the pipeline, Mountain View's population is slated to grow by 75% in the coming decades, ushering in the city's most rapid residential expansion since the 1960s.

With those new homes come thousands of children who will need access to public schools that are, for the most part, already packed. Estimates show local school districts will need as much as \$1.22 billion to buy land and build facilities to support them all. School funding for growth of that magnitude is expected to come from

developers and a mix of other financial strategies, but it won't be coming from Measure T.

The bond measure requires 55% of the vote to pass, and would cost district property owners \$30 per \$100,000 of assessed value each year.

**Concrete plans, lessons learned**

District officials sought to come up with a specific plan for how to spend Measure T money prior to the election. Unlike the 2012 bond, Measure G, trustees hammered out and approved a list of priority projects that allocates nearly all of the \$259 million, well before the question goes before voters.

Doing so means avoiding delays, haggling and a lack of decisiveness that has colored past capital projects, said school board member Laura Blakely. And it means some of the wish list items that got put on the back burner under Measure G

will actually make it to the finish line this time. Solar panels, for example, got nixed from the previous project list.

The largest pot of money, just over \$102 million, will go toward a series of top-priority improvements at all of the school sites, ranging from efficiency upgrades — solar panels, new windows, and new heating and ventilation systems — to extra storage space for teachers. Blakely said teachers at Stevenson's new campus, for example, have practically no space to put supplies and classroom materials, some were given just a single shelf for storage.

Where Measure G brought in big tech upgrades to classrooms and delivered new campuses for Castro, Mistral and Vargas elementary schools, it fell short of replacing windows for classrooms that still have handblown glass, said Cleave Frink, a parent and campaign manager for the measure. Classrooms get uncomfortably hot in the summer and cold in the winter, he said, and are badly in need of an update.

The list of top priorities also includes new security measures at every school except Vargas, aimed at giving school staff a better handle on the perimeter of each campus and who has access during school hours. This will include better lighting and so-called "secondary perimeter" security that proponents say are needed at playgrounds, parking lots and park spaces adjacent to school facilities.

Another \$34.8 million of the bond funds are earmarked for what the district calls "short-term" growth, essentially preparing for the near-term housing spurt in Mountain View and setting aside the mammoth-sized task of preparing for future residential growth in the North Bayshore and East Whisman areas of the city.

Reports from November show that the school district needs to be ready to house an additional 889 students in the coming years,

a 17% jump over today's enrollment, but what that will look like on a practical level depends on the school. At Theuerkauf Elementary there is plenty of room to grow, and an expected spike in enrollment from 332 students today to 552 won't require any additional classroom space.

The same can't be said for Landels Elementary School, which is expected to grow by a smaller amount — from 446 students to 566 — taking it way past full capacity in the process. The remedy, according to district officials, is a new two-story building for classrooms and an administrative office.

Then there's Huff Elementary School, which isn't expected to grow at all and yet will still receive an additional portable classroom under the board's adopted plan for Measure T. Original projections showed that the district's new attendance boundaries and crackdown on intradistrict transfers would reduce Huff's enrollment to 518, but the school's head count hasn't dropped and is expected to remain closer to 550 students.

Measure G construction assumed Huff's capacity would be 450 students, and portable classrooms were placed on the site under the assumption they would eventually no longer be needed.

The growth forecast over the next 20 years is far more daunting, with district projections showing an influx of 2,500 additional students. Blakely said Measure T, while needed, has no chance of addressing that kind of growth, which would require land acquisition in areas where the cost per acre exceeds \$10 million. Measure T funds could very well be swallowed up trying to build just one school in North Bayshore.

"We're going to have to look for other sources of money," Blakely said.

**Funding needed for teacher housing**

Perhaps the most ambitious

project is Mountain View Whisman School District's foray into the housing business. The district struck a deal in 2018 with the city of Mountain View and the developer Fortbay to bring 144 affordable units to Mountain View that would be almost entirely devoted to teacher and staff housing.

As it stands, there's no source of funding to actually deliver on the plan. But school officials say that could change if Measure T passes next month.

The idea of teacher housing has been floating around since 2016, with district officials worried with the high cost of living in the Bay Area. Surveys showed many teachers and faculty were struggling to pay the bills and weathered long commutes to get to work, contributing to stress and an annual exodus of teachers quitting the district.

Under a deal with Fortbay approved by trustees in March last year, Mountain View Whisman will contribute \$56 million to help design and build a 716-unit apartment complex at 777 W. Middlefield Road. In return, the district gets full control of an entire 144-unit apartment building that it can then lease out as workforce housing.

Doing so piggybacks on a project that was already in the development pipeline and satisfies Fortbay's requirement for affordable housing, which the developer claims would have otherwise rendered the project financially infeasible. Although the apartments are almost entirely devoted to district employees, the agreement leaves open the option for the city to make a one-time payment toward construction of the 144-unit building in exchange for the "first right of refusal" on 20 of those units for city employees.

If constructed, it would be one of the largest teacher housing projects in the Bay Area.

The terms of the agreement require the district to pay \$1.8

► See **MEASURE T**, page 15



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## TESLA

► Continued from page 5

veer toward the barrier involved in his crash, prior to the crash,” according to Mark Fong, an attorney with Minami Tamaki.

Tesla representatives did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Vehicle maintenance records show that, two weeks prior to the crash, Huang brought his car to a Sunnyvale service center reporting problems with his GPS and navigation system that prevented his cruise control from functioning. A service advisor reportedly was unable to duplicate the problem during the visit, and had “no recollection whether the driver told him about problems encountered while driving vehicle in the vicinity of the gore area on US-101,” according to the documents.

An earlier report released by NTSB found that the Tesla’s Autopilot system, shorthand for

a suite of functions including adaptive cruise control and auto-steer lane-keeping assistance, was enabled at the time of the crash. Huang’s vehicle was in a lane traveling south on Highway 101 when it moved left and sped up from 62 mph to 70.8 mph. No “precrash braking or evasive steering” movement was detected.

The severe damage to the Tesla breached the battery, causing it to catch fire shortly after the crash. Though bystanders were able to pull Huang from the vehicle just before it was engulfed in flames, he later died of his injuries.

NTSB will be holding a board meeting on Feb. 25 to determine the probable cause of the fatal crash. In a previous report, the agency slammed Caltrans for “systemic problems” that prevented the swift repair of traffic safety equipment that could have lessened the severity of the crash. Caltrans is responsible for maintaining a crash attenuator at

the site of the collision, which is equipped with a hydraulic cylinder and cable assembly designed to “telescope” and absorb impact when a vehicle hits it at high speeds.

The attenuator located at the highway median had been smashed by a Prius in a solo-vehicle accident 11 days before the Tesla crash and was damaged to the point of being “nonoperational,” and had not yet been replaced.

Alongside the NTSB investigation, Huang’s family has also filed a wrongful death suit in Santa Clara County Superior Court. The suit alleges that Autopilot, while marketed as safe features designed to prevent crashes, should have prevented Huang’s Model X from accelerating into a fixed object on the road.

The full public docket released by NTSB can be reviewed online at [go.usa.gov/xd9u9](http://go.usa.gov/xd9u9). ▀

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

## MEASURE T

Continued from page 14

million each year for a ground lease, which will last for 55 years and is expected to be offset by below-market-rate rent charged by the district. But the district does not have a clear way to pay for the upfront construction costs absent the passage of Measure T. Of the bond funds, \$60 million have been earmarked for staff housing.

## Paying off debts

Some called it a rapidly changing scope of work while others called it steep cost overruns, but Mountain View Whisman’s Measure G bond fund was doomed to be depleted long before all of the big-ticket projects could be completed.

Drawing outside funds into the capital budget, district officials were able to stretch the original \$198 million bond into a much larger building program in excess of \$260 million, which staved off contingency plans that would’ve skimmed on new construction at Stevenson and Theuerkauf elementary schools. It was also crucial in the construction of Vargas Elementary, which opened in August and united disparate neighborhoods in the Whisman and Slater areas of the cities.

But it came at a price: The district sought what’s called a certificate of participation (COP) in order to finance the new construction, borrowing \$40 million against future revenue earned by leasing former school sites to private organizations. As it stands today, the district is siphoning off \$2.6 million normally bound for the general

fund to pay off those debts.

Under the district’s spending plan, \$40 million of Measure T funds will be reserved for paying off that outstanding debt. Proponents of the bond describe it as a way to free up \$2.6 million in cash that can go to classrooms, but also as a potential pathway to sever lease agreements and reclaim former school sites for future use.

The old Slater and Whisman elementary school campuses owned by the district are currently leased out to Google for its day care center, the German International School of Silicon Valley and Yew Chung International School. With so much enrollment growth on the horizon, Blakely said those campuses could present a way to handle a deluge of new students, but right now the district is wholly dependent on that lease money to pay off old debts.

Measure T’s campaign boasts a long list of endorsements from politicians ranging from U.S. Congresswoman Anna Eshoo to all current Mountain View City Council members. The Santa Clara County Democratic Party endorsed the measure — along with every other local school bond and parcel tax measure on the March ballot — as did the Los Altos-Mountain View League of Women Voters. As of Feb. 4, five of the district’s PTAs have signed on with endorsements: Huff, Landels and Mistral elementaries and both Graham and Crittenden middle schools.

No organized local campaign against Measure T has materialized to date, but the regional Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association penned the argument against the measure.

The organization’s president, Mark Hinkle, wrote that district residents will likely be saddled with paying more than \$500 million in total repayments when interest is factored into the cost of Measure T.

Hinkle criticized the district’s spending plan for including projects that were supposed to be addressed with Measure G funds — even though the district spent far more than the \$198 million authorized under the bond.

“Proponents properly have the burden of explaining to voters how the last \$262 million was spent and why another \$259 million is needed,” Hinkle wrote in the argument.

Another argument laid out by Hinkle and other critics of Measure T is that it amounts to a blank check: Despite fairly detailed plans for how to spend the money, the ballot language and the board’s resolution placing Measure T on the ballot is ambiguous and could be used to finance practically any school-related construction project.

Doing so has become common practice, Blakely said in defending the decision. She said she is “confident” that the district will spend the money as it promised to do, but that it would be a mistake to bake it into the ballot language. Things change, she said, and the district would risk handicapping itself by passing an inflexible bond.

“It’s just really to preserve flexibility for the ‘what-ifs,’ but I don’t think there’s any intent to deviate from these priorities,” Blakely said. ▀

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## SENATE DEBATE

► Continued from page 5

in Redwood City, former school board member and education nonprofit leader, said she supports the unionization of child care workers and wants to see higher pay for early childhood teachers living in higher cost areas, in addition to K-12 teachers. If elected, she said, she'd convene a roundtable with health care providers and workforce experts to look into how to improve health care access for early childhood care providers and teachers.

"I've been a fighter for public education, first as a parent in a low-income school, then later serving 10 years on the Redwood City school board," Masur said.

While on the council, she added, she's been working on a task force that's prioritized expanding child care facilities throughout San Mateo County. The city has also created a child care locator map and has suggested developing a navigator program to help working families explore their child care options.

She also supports expanding state preschool to offer full-day programs to better accommodate working families.

To pay for it, some funding might come from a ballot

initiative in the works to close a corporate property tax loophole, estimated to generate about \$12 billion in additional property taxes statewide annually, she said.

Glew, an engineer and a Los Altos design review commissioner, expressed significant skepticism toward government-run day care programs.

"I wouldn't trust the government with my dog. I'm not sure I would with a 2-year-old," he said. "We need to be very careful about what we put in place." He suggested private co-op models instead.

Glew emphasized his belief that public funds be used wisely.

"The question isn't 'Is childhood education good?' The question is 'What childhood education is best, (and) what can we afford?' There are numerous studies throughout the literature, and we need to make good choices because every dollar we spend incorrectly on this is a dollar not spent on something else."

He suggested that the state could start by looking at improvements to Head Start, a federally funded early childhood school-readiness program, and making sure those dedicated federal funds reach the district.

"We pay a lot of taxes to the feds. They should give some

back," he said.

Lieber, a former state assemblywoman from Mountain View who has talked during her campaign about her efforts to provide political support to disenfranchised communities, said at the debate: "Children are the ultimate 'little guy' in the process. They don't vote. They don't have money to give to politicians. They don't have a voice in the process. And it's up to caring and determined adults to protect their life chances and their future."

One potential funding source, she said, could be a wealth tax on the unearned income of California's billionaires.

She added that she'd be interested in looking at the programs that support children and families at the federal poverty level, such as housing, food support, diaper support or parental education, alongside "dealing with the impact of racism on families in our communities." In addition, she added she'd like to see San Mateo County become a more competitive county for state demonstration projects.

She also talked about the need for more health care facilities for infants and toddlers as well as crisis nurseries, or facilities open 24/7 to offer child care to children ages 0 to 5 during family emergencies. There's only one in the Bay Area, located in Concord. Such facilities should be available to all who need

them, she said.

"For working families that are already on the ropes financially, a child's illness can really knock them out of being able to make it through the month," she said.

Webster, a software engineer from Mountain View, took an opposing view from the other candidates. He said he didn't think the government should be involved in education at all, except to ensure that teacher training programs offer an early childhood education component.

He added, "All education, including early childhood education, should be financed by tuition through loans and not through taxing the productive and the wealthy."

## The problems

The event was moderated by education experts and advocates Ted Lempert and Deborah Stipek.

"We rank 39th (among U.S. states) in quality preschool programs," Lempert said. "This is the issue of our time — ensuring that kids are well-educated."

He added that while there are a growing number of leaders in Sacramento who understand the problems related to early childhood education, "There's a difference between getting the issue and making it the priority."

According to Stipek, California's education gap compared

to other states' is significant and starts early.

"Already, by kindergarten entry, children from low-income homes are a year to a year and a half behind their middle class and more affluent peers," she told the audience. "So if we're going to address the achievement gap in California, we have to invest in opportunities for young children."

She added that in her work, she's identified many areas that need "a lot of work": improving access to affordable child care and learning programs that meet the needs of working parents, including those with nonstandard working hours; expanding the early childhood education teacher pipeline; addressing facility shortages; improving screening and support for kids with special needs; and improving the quality of early childhood programs overall, with a particular emphasis on special education.

"My concern is that if we expand access without increasing quality, we may end up disappointed by the results, and I don't want anybody saying eight years from now, 'Gee, we tried it out. We invested in young children and it didn't work, so let's do something else,'" Stipek said.

Research indicates that every dollar invested in high quality early care and education can save taxpayers \$13 in future costs. ▀

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## MEASURE D

► Continued from page 11

It's a question that both Abe-Koga and Clark conceded was a challenge, borne out of deep distrust and an "us versus them" mentality that has taken root since the local rent control debate began in 2016. Clark told the *Voice* that he would still vote against CSFRA if it came to a vote today — noting that it fails to offer a comprehensive solution to displacement — but he insists that he will respect the will of the voters.

"We see too often at the federal level people trying to undermine things that they don't agree with. It's our job to really make it work," Clark said. "(CSFRA) is the law, the voters spoke, our job isn't to try to run out and repeal it and impose our will. Our job is to bring the community together, or at least try, and decide what is in the long-term best interest of the community."

But tenant advocacy groups are unconvinced. Nunez of the Mountain View Tenants Coalition said CSFRA was the product of grassroots organizing by tenants, starting with informal meetings in the park among Latino residents sharing

stories of huge rent increases and the challenge of trying to stay in Mountain View. It snowballed into civic engagement that brought the problem to the City Council in 2015, and when the council opted not to take strong action, led to the creation of CSFRA.

Nunez slammed the efforts by the sitting council and the California Apartment Association to undermine those efforts through an entirely different process: Huge campaign donations from big landlords like Prometheus Real Estate Group and Tod Spieker, all with an eye toward "spreading misinformation" to wipe out what was achieved in 2016, Nunez said.

"What you're looking at is the City Council people who did not want rent control then and do not want rent control now are saying, 'We know better than you,'" he said.

A frequent complaint among opponents of Measure D, including local tenant groups and the the Santa Clara County Democratic Party, is that the changes feel disingenuous and unnecessary. CSFRA appears to be benefiting renters and staving off the eye-popping 40% to 80% rent increases that used to

surprise families in Mountain View, and the proposed changes by the council only serve to subvert those benefits.

Former Councilwoman Pat Showalter, who was against CSFRA when it came to voters in 2016, has come out against Measure D, arguing that rent control has been working, protecting vulnerable residents including those on Social Security or earning low wages. She said that while she understands the rationale behind the changes, she worries that the new standard for capital improvements is far too lenient, and that the 4% rent cap — while modest at first blush — will really add up over time.

"The changes that are made with Measure D — I just don't see them as adding value, quite the contrary. I think they reduce the protections," she said.

Information on the "Yes on D" campaign, including endorsements, can be found at [voteyesond.com](http://voteyesond.com). The campaign against the measure, spearheaded by the Mountain View Housing Justice Coalition, has information on Measure D at [mvhousingjustice.org](http://mvhousingjustice.org). ▀

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## EDITORIALS

THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

# Brownrigg for state Senate

There couldn't be a better example of why legislative term limits is a good thing than the quality of the candidates competing to replace termed-out state Sen. Jerry Hill in the 13th Senate District. When an incumbent isn't in a race, good people step up to run.

Five of the seven candidates, all Democrats, have the experience, understanding of the issues and support to represent the Peninsula (from South San Francisco to Sunnyvale) and make an immediate impact in the legislature, each in his or her own unique way.

In California's open primary system, these five plus the lone Republican and Libertarian will appear on every ballot. The top two vote getters, regardless of party, will face off in the November general election. We hope the top two will be Democrats, just as occurred four years ago when Marc Berman and Vicky Veenker faced off in the fall for the open Assembly seat after running against each other in the primary. This will allow for a competitive campaign rather than an election destined to go to the Democrat given the overwhelming Democratic voter registration advantage.

Among the five Democrats, we think the three strongest candidates are Mike Brownrigg, Josh Becker and Shelly Masur. But they only slightly edge out Sally Lieber and Annie Oliva. Every voter will

have to weigh what issues are important to them and the views, personal qualities and varying backgrounds each of these five bring.

We believe our district is best represented in the State Senate by an independent-minded person with bold ideas who will not be influenced by the donations of large contributors and special interests and who will resist the pressure to march in lock-step with Gov. Gavin Newsom and party leaders. The super-majority held by Democrats means the party, and organized labor in particular, can push through almost anything they want. That approach is not in our state's or district's best interest.

The big problems facing California, including housing supply and affordability, homelessness, climate change, income inequity, the costs of higher education and the education achievement gap require more innovation and bipartisanship and less political muscling and horse trading.

We think Mike Brownrigg, 58, comes the closest to meeting this criteria. On the Burlingame City Council for almost 10 years and eight years prior to that on the Planning Commission, Brownrigg has shown himself to be a strong, effective and collaborative leader. Unlike Becker and Masur, he has taken no large campaign contributions from organizations, labor groups or large donors

(with the exception of his mother, who without his knowledge set up an independent campaign committee and funded it with about \$460,000). He has largely self-funded his campaign and focused on meeting voters instead of fundraising.

Brownrigg was raised in Los Altos Hills and attended Gunn High School. He joined the U.S. Foreign Service after college and was posted to multiple embassies around the world. He later became a partner in ChinaVest, a venture capital firm that focuses on early-stage Chinese life science and information technology companies and was a founding partner in Total Impact Capital, a social impact fund that provides capital to projects seeking to "make the planet a better place." He has devoted his career on finding solutions to difficult problems.

Brownrigg doesn't hedge on controversial issues; he has been a clear-spoken promoter of creative solutions to problems facing the state. He strongly opposed SB 50, the local zoning pre-emption bill to force cities to develop high density housing around transportation hubs. Instead, he advocates financial incentives, including state subsidies and tax breaks, for the preservation and creation of affordable housing. For example, he has proposed the state subsidize the purchase, by nonprofits, of existing multi-family housing

units to prevent their sale to companies that would increase rents, and to reward the seller with capital gains tax reductions as an incentive. He's also proposed state funding for infrastructure when a city approves high-density zoning for housing. He wants to see California become carbon-free in 10 years, supports a carbon tax, more aggressive conversion to all-electric appliances, and the state purchase of PG&E.

Becker, a Menlo Park resident, and Brownrigg share a venture capital background and a commitment to social impact investing. They have similar priorities and views on the big issues, but we are concerned that the endorsements of Becker by Newsom and Hill, as well as a \$500,000 donation from LinkedIn founder Reid Hoffman to an independent committee supporting him, will lessen his independence.

Masur, a Redwood City councilwoman and former school board member, has made education a centerpiece of her campaign and drawn major financial support of the teachers' unions, as well as many other labor unions. She supported the latest iteration of SB 50, the only candidate in the race to do so.

In this impressive group of candidates, we give the nod to Brownrigg and look forward to a vigorous fall campaign between him and either Becker or Masur. ■

# No on Measure D, the City Council's rent control rewrite

The argument in favor of Measure D, the City Council's rewrite of Mountain View's rent control law, boils down to this: Trust us.

Trust us when we tell you we've found a compromise that brings tenants and landlords together to end divisiveness and rancor over rent control.

Trust us to cut a deal with the country's largest landlord lobbying group, the California Apartment Association, and end its attempts to overturn rent control in Mountain View. Trust us, even though local tenant groups are actively campaigning against Measure D and, by definition, it's not a compromise if only one side has signed on. Trust us, even

though there's no guarantee that CAA won't keep trying to kill rent control as soon as the political winds shift in its favor.

Trust us to take away much of the Rental Housing Committee's autonomy, which we're doing purely in the interest of good governance. Trust us, despite the fact that we're using CAA's patently misleading argument — prevent the RHC's members from paying themselves, something no one's ever proposed — to sell this point.

Trust us that opening up the RHC to landlords who don't even live in Mountain View is necessary to ensure we have an adequate pool of applicants, even though the commission will be

fine if we don't, since there is no minimum number of landlords required, only a maximum.

Trust us when we compare Measure D's flat 4% annual cap on rent increases with the Community Stabilization and Fair Rent Act's (CSFRA) maximum of 5%, omitting the fact that, since rent control is tied to the local annual rate of inflation (CPI), 4% represents an increase over the current 3.6%. In fact, the last time CPI exceeded 4% was back in 2001.

Trust us when we say that, by making it much easier for property owners to pass through costs to renters and boost annual rent increases up to 10%, the council is just doing what's necessary

to prevent redevelopment tear-downs and encourage seismic safety upgrades — things that the City Council could have accomplished through separate legislation, but hasn't.

Trust us when we say that by eliminating mobile home parks from the existing rent control law, we're doing it so we can pass our own law someday. Trust us, even though a recent council meeting left many mobile home residents disgruntled and discouraged, and prompted former school board member Chris Chiang to drop his endorsement of Measure D.

As the adage goes, trust has

► See **NO ON MEASURE D**, page 18



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## NO ON MEASURE D

► Continued from page 17

to be earned. So voters must ask themselves, on the prickly subject of rent control, has the City Council done enough to earn their trust? In our opinion, the answer is no.

Since Measure V passed in 2016 and enshrined rent control as a charter amendment, the City Council's track record on the subject leaves much to be desired. The majority of the City Council is opposed to rent control on general principle, and its last attempt, in 2016, to pass a watered-down version of renter protections was defeated by voters in favor of the much more robust Measure V.

In the crucial early months of implementing CSFRA, the City Council passed over RHC applicants who had worked on Measure V and gave a key

appointment to former Councilman Tom Means, a Libertarian vocally opposed to rent control in all forms. While serving on the RHC, Means took a side job working for the landlord lobby on an anti-rent control campaign in Pacifica. That's the sort of thing that might make a voter question whether the City Council was truly acting in good faith.

It's possible that it was a major coup to get CAA to drop its support for the "sneaky repeal," a November ballot measure that purports to improve Mountain View's rent control law but would actually kill it with a poison pill provision tied to occupancy rates.

It's also entirely possible that CAA, looking at the results of a December push poll on rent control, decided the prospects of passing its own measure looked grim and found Measure D a palatable substitute. What is

impossible to discern is how anyone would look at CAA spokesman Josh Howard's statement on Measure D and think it amounts to anything more than a temporary cease-fire. CAA has a long history of fighting rent control initiatives up and down the state, and there's no guarantee that Mountain View will be granted perpetual immunity from divisive battles over renter protections should Measure D pass.

Mountain View's brief experiment with rent control has not been flawless, but Measure D is not the right way to improve it. We are in agreement with the local League of Women Voters, the Santa Clara County Democratic Party, the Mountain View Housing Justice Coalition and the Mountain View Mobile Home Alliance: Vote no on Measure D.

## LETTERS

VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

### OUTSIDE INTERESTS

Why are outside interests and big money creeping into Mountain View politics? According to public records, by Feb. 7, over \$143,500 in large donations (\$1,000+ each) had been made in support of Measure D, which seeks to change our rent stabilization policy. Mountain View Residents For Renter, Homeowner, & Taxpayer Protections, out of Marin County, is the filer of record, representing mostly out-of-town landlords, and only one from Mountain View, who donated anywhere from \$7,000 to \$82,600 each.

Mountain View historically valued local control and fiscally conservative elections. In 2016, the six candidates for the hotly contested City Council race raised around \$15,000 less (combined!) than the Yes on D proponents have raised so far on one initiative. If we agree to change our policies, let's collaborate together and elevate local voices.

IdaRose Sylvester  
Jefferson Drive

### YES ON G AND H

I was heartened by Bill James' carefully reasoned op-ed in the *Voice* ("Guest opinion: An investment in local higher education," Jan. 31) supporting measures G and H, which will provide much-needed funding for our local community colleges.

Community colleges remain vital to the well-being of democracy — to upward mobility, diversity, teamwork, the free exchange of ideas and the American dream. I agree with Mr. James' position that De Anza

and Foothill provide services "critical to the social, political and economic well-being of our community."

A "yes" vote on G and H on March 3 supports and celebrates many of our hardest working young people — future leaders and professionals. We are proud of Foothill and De Anza's longtime track record of fiscal transparency and accountability alongside their first-rate academic reputations.

As Bill James writes, our community colleges are both "a good investment and a good value." Measures G and H make a sound investment in us all — our citizens of all ages and social positions, our future workforce and the vitality of our region. These schools add such vibrancy to our communities.

Where Measure G invests in sorely needed upgrades in infrastructure — classrooms, facilities, technology — as well as job training, vocational programs, and meeting the demand for excellence in online learning as well as the arts, Measure H focuses more on recruitment and retention of the best teachers and the expansion of student transfer opportunities to four-year colleges/universities, while also helping with the very real problem of students facing food insecurity and homelessness.

As James writes, "the high cost of living has left many students without enough to eat or a place to sleep, and ... it is increasingly hard to recruit and retain faculty and staff."

And G and H, as they should and must, include specific language outlining accountability measures such as independent

financial audits and analysis from an independent citizen's oversight committee.

We live in one of the leading economic and cultural capitals of the world, and we can maintain a world-class educational system if we want to. Let's say yes to our great community colleges on March 3, and lift us all up.

Julie Sartwell  
Palo Alto Avenue

### I STAND FOR RISHI

In politics, as in life, we see the same powerful people go around, driven by the same old platitudes hoping their constituency will forget before the next election cycle.

I'm really excited about the candidacy of one Rishi Kumar (for California's 18th Congressional District, a seat currently held by Congresswoman Anna Eshoo), for a few reasons. He's seen burglaries in his community drop by 47% and had water rate increases (those implements of the politically unimaginative) outright rejected.

Since Rishi doesn't take funds from the pharma or health care cartels, we won't be hearing the same old canards about affordable medicine and treatment followed up by longtime incumbents, palms greased, who have no intention of delivering.

As a longtime techie, I, like Mr. Kumar, understand the need for an innovation-based economy, instead of a slapdash clump of laws that speak lip service to real constituents' needs.

I stand for Rishi and I encourage others to do the same.

John Hammink  
Hope Street



■ FOOD FEATURE



## The Midpeninsula's Swedish home baker

Pop-up bakery offers a taste of Sweden's traditional treats

Story by Lloyd Lee  
Photos by Magali Gauthier

In Emerald Hills, Denise Touhey, a proud Swedish American, churns out trays of pastries each week for her small, “one-woman show” bakery.

Aptly called Something Swede-ish, a homonym playing off the name of the recipes’ origin and the characteristic taste of the baked goods — “just the right amount of sweetness,” she said — Touhey’s pop-up is not only filling a specific niche on the Midpeninsula, but also a lifelong desire of Touhey, who’s baked since she was 10 years old.

“I’m literally going off of my heart here,” Touhey, 54, said. “My little dream has come true.”

Outside of her contemporary wood-sided house, a Välkommen sign (“welcome” in Swedish) and a boisterous Rottweiler greet visitors. Inside, a warm and sweet

aroma fills the entire space. It’s home base not just for her four kids and husband, but for Something Swede-ish’s headquarters, office and kitchen.

Touhey bakes under California’s cottage food law, which was passed in 2012 to allow people to run food businesses out of their homes and sell food to consumers either directly or indirectly through third parties, such as grocery stores. For Touhey, there’s no overhead cost of running a brick-and-mortar store, no need to hire employees and no commercial-grade equipment or rows of racks that one might see at a bakery.

Instead, Touhey’s main workhorses are a few KitchenAid mixers, an oven, her hands and occasionally her kids, who guide her through Google Drive or social media posts to promote the pop-up.

From Tuesdays to Sundays, Touhey will pack up her car and

drive anywhere from Woodside to San Carlos to set up her pop-up bakery and help Midpeninsulans experience their own “fika” — a simple but essential Swedish tradition of winding down with a cup of coffee and a small treat.

“It’s not just about taking coffee to go,” said Touhey, a first generation Swedish American. “It’s about just enjoying that cup of coffee and enjoying that pastry.”

The home baker’s mission statement is all about sharing Swedish culture. Growing up in Belmont with her grandmother — the “original Swedish home baker,” who hails from northern Sweden — and with English as her second language, Touhey was always reminded to keep in touch with her Swedish roots.

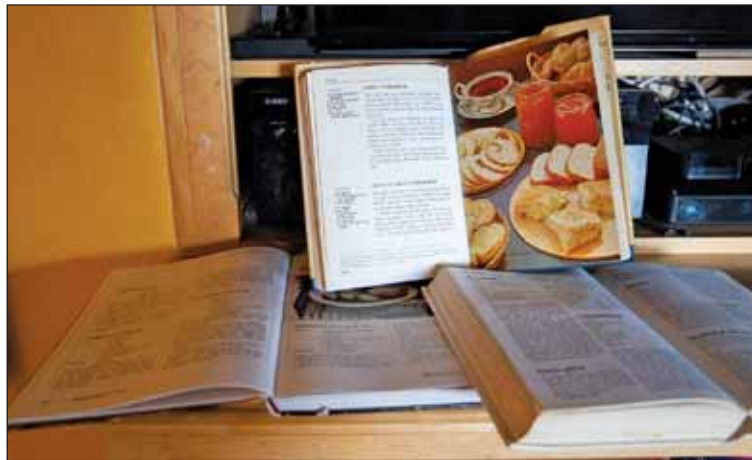
By baking the recipes she’s collected over the years through cookbooks and family traditions, sometimes tweaking them to

► See **SWEDISH BAKER**, page 20



**Top:** Lemon custard and Swedish almond tarts were among the variety of baked goods offered for sale recently by the Something Swede-ish pop-up at The Village Hub in Woodside. **Above:** Denise Touhey creates all of the baked goods for her pop-up bakery, Something Swede-ish, in her home kitchen.





*Swedish recipe books provide inspiration for Something Swede-ish's creations.*

## NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given for the purpose of pre-qualification; sealed Responsibility Questionnaires will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Mountain View Los Altos High School District up until the close of business on the date indicated below for:

### Project Description:

Mountain View Los Altos High School District, District Office  
Portables Relocation.

Pre-Qualification Packages Due Date and Time: Thursday February 27, 2020 at 3:00pm at RGM Kramer, attention: Omid Azizi, 4020 Moorpark Avenue, #220, San Jose, CA 95117.

### Pre-Qualification of Trade Contractors

To receive plans and bid, Trade Contractors must possess a current and active license to perform the work listed, submit and certify the required Responsibility Questionnaire information, and be pre-qualified by the District.

A. General Trades	B License Required
B. Earthwork and Paving Trades	A or C-12 License Required
C. Underground Utilities Trades	A or C-34 License Required
D. Electrical and Low Voltage Trades	C-7 or C-10 License Required
E. Site Concrete Trades	A or C-8 License Required

**Only Pre-Qualified Contractors will be permitted to bid.** Pre-Qualified Contractors will be required to attend a mandatory Pre-bid Conference **tentatively** scheduled for Tuesday March 3, 2020 at 12:30 PM at the Mountain View Los Altos High School District Office, 1299 Bryant Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94040. Opening of the sealed bids submitted by pre-qualified bidders is **tentatively** scheduled for Thursday March 19, 2020 at 2:00 PM at the Mountain View Los Altos High School District Office, 1299 Bryant Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94040. Pre-qualified contractors are advised to verify dates and times of the mandatory pre-bid conference and bid opening prior to the above listed dates. Responsibility Questionnaires and instructions for submission can be obtained by calling Omid Azizi at (669) 231-4260 or by email OmidA@RGMKramer.com. Contracts will require a 100% Performance Bond, a 100% Labor and Materials Bond and a Bid Security in the amount of 10% of the submitted bid. The project is subject to the State Labor Code. Labor Code 1720-1861 regarding DIR registration, the payment of prevailing wages and submission of certified payroll statements will be enforced. No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted on or after March 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)]. No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project (awarded on or after April 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5. This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. Contractors are allowed, according to PCC sec. 22300, to submit securities in lieu of retention. Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise, in accordance with Education Code Section 17076.11, the Mountain View Los Altos High School District has "a participation goal of at least 3% per year of the overall dollar amount expended each year by the school district for Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise". Thus, all contractors bidding on this project are required to make a good faith effort to achieve this 3% participation goal. Requirements for demonstrating that this good faith effort has been made are included in the Project Manual.

## SWEDISH BAKER

► Continued from page 19

satisfy her Swedish and non-Swedish customers, she finds that she can preserve the memories of her family's past generations and share them with her local community.

"There's a lot of Swedish out there and a lot of interest," she said.

Touhey is one of the only providers of Scandinavian baked goods on the Peninsula. (The other "competitor" is the Copenhagen Bakery & Cafe in Burlingame.) Staying small is the way Touhey prefers it, with a flexible schedule that allows her to cater a companywide event with 400 pastries or spend time with her family.

"I'm able to have this great little business that's doing really well, but at the same time keep my priorities of being a wife and mother, and daughter to my mom," she said. "Having a storefront would require employees and overhead — it would take everything from me."

The menu from each pop-up can vary day to day, ranging from cakes, cookies, tarts and date bars to classic Swedish pastries like the cardamom bun, known in Sweden as kardemum-mabullar, a not-too-sweet, knotted roll lightly sprinkled with sugar.

And, like a careful and nurturing mom, Touhey can cater to her customer's nutritional demands and make gluten-free or vegan variations of her products. Though some items, like the cardamom bun or the Swedish cinnamon bun, kanelbullar, she leaves be.

"I would never change that," she said. "That's full gluten, full tradition."

Other items blend Swedish and American culinary heritage.

Her lemon tarts are made with a lemon custard found in everyday American pies and cakes, but the crust comes straight from a Swedish cookbook.

On a recent cold Thursday afternoon at Woodside cafe The Village Hub, scones, almond tarts, Swedish dream cookies (which uses ammonium bicarbonate to achieve a delicate and light texture similar to a Mexican wedding cookie), date bars, gluten-free almond cakes and the cardamom and cinnamon buns were just some of eight dozen baked goods on that day's menu.

For Michelle, a retired teacher who visits the Woodside community center to do yoga with her friends, the pop-up bakery was a pleasant surprise to her as a Norwegian with few local options for Scandinavian pastries.

For others, like Santina Campi, a Redwood City resident who found Touhey's bakery through neighborhood website Nextdoor, coming to Something Swede-ish has become a morning routine — her own fika of sorts.

"I made it my little Thursday, go-to morning outing," Campi said. "I have my dog, we come over here, we buy pastries, get a good coffee, give some apples from my house to the horse across the street and then head home and get back to reality."

Now scheduled to be a regular Thursday fixture at the hub, Something Swede-ish donates 10% of the proceeds to Woodside Village Church. When she's not there, the pop-up can often be found at consignment store The Perfect Rose in San Carlos, which her mother owns.

Touhey has no plans to expand in the future. Her only goal at the moment is to get her website live so she can post her menu and let customers know how to reach her.

"For right now," she said, "this is perfect."

Updates on Something Swede-ish's pop-up locations can be found at [facebook.com/somethingswedeish/](https://facebook.com/somethingswedeish/) or [instagram.com/somethingswede-ish](https://instagram.com/somethingswede-ish). ■

Email Lloyd Lee at [llee@pawekly.com](mailto:llee@pawekly.com)



*Something Swede-ish serves up an array of baked goods, including a heart-shaped gingerbread cookie, and traditional "drömmar" (Swedish for "dream"), white cookies with a light, airy texture.*



*Benny Olsen buys cardamom buns from Denise Touhey at her Something Swede-ish pop-up at The Village Hub in Woodside.*



# MOVIE OPENINGS



COURTESY OF SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES

Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Will Ferrell star in the comedy "Downhill."

## A chilly marriage

JULIA LOUIS-DREYFUS, WILL FERRELL  
GO TOE TO TOE IN 'DOWNHILL'

★★1/2 (Century 20, Icon, Aquarius)

Right on time for Valentine's Day comes a comedy of marital manners, one that perversely — on a weekend made for date night — questions the limits of love, marriage and family. The name of the game is "Downhill," with Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Will Ferrell's married couple falling apart in front of their frightened children.

A remake of the 2014 film "Force Majeure" from Swedish writer-director Ruben Östlund, "Downhill" concerns an ill-fated family ski vacation, turned

upside down when a father (Ferrell) abandons his wife (Louis-Dreyfus) and two sons (Julian Grey and Ammon Jacob Ford) during an apparently life-threatening avalanche.

"Downhill" doesn't live up to its celebrated forebear, but it is not without its amusements, and it has a powerhouse in top-billed Louis-Dreyfus. While the original was a subtler, more ambitious and ambiguous black comedy, the remake mostly settles for toothless cringe humor.

Ferrell uses his quintessential man-child mojo to play Pete, who lost his father eight months

earlier, giving him an implicit excuse to fear death in the present tense (at every opportunity, Pete quotes his dad's borderline-inane insight "Today is all we have"). But there's no excuse for the way men — first the cowardly Pete and then the resort's customer-service rep, played by Kristofer Hivju — gaslight Louis-Dreyfus' Billie with rationalizations designed to invalidate her justifiable anger. These are the moments when the script (and Louis-Dreyfus' ferocious humanity) meet and elevate the film to incisive satire. Taking a page from the original, "Downhill" features a stomach-churning argument as its centerpiece, with Pete's work colleague Zach (Zach Woods) and Zach's girlfriend Rosie (Zoë Chao) the captive audience.

"Downhill" demonstrates its intelligent side whenever it focuses on family dynamics, such as clumsily troubleshooting one son's "phase" or playing out archetypal travel nightmares like a botched \$2,000 tourist adventure and the dreaded question, "Can we just have screen time back at the hotel?"

As long as the movie's writer-directors Nat Faxon and Jim Rash stay in this pitch-black pocket of uncomfortable truth-telling, "Downhill" retains its power. But since this is an American comedy, the tone must keep veering into broad comedy, with one-off scenes that

go nowhere.

Miranda Otto fares best as thickly accented, sex-positive concierge Charlotte, a character used to suggest that Billie has traded away a life of sexual abandon for the convention of motherhood. Charlotte's presence tees up the old standby scenes of a young-stud ski instructor (an Italian stallion played by Giulio Berruti) offering Billie the temptation of hot-and-ready extramarital nookie while a day-drunken Pete overestimates his attractiveness to younger women.

Once the last vacation day rolls around, with Pete goading his family to hit the highest slope and "tackle the beast," it's clear that "Downhill" will resolve by playing out a low-key cathartic climax. Ultimately, the movie's trajectory isn't an acute angle, but a slow-sliding zigzag approaching an interesting insight, then turning and heading toward a new one rather than ever going there as "Force Majeure" once committed to do.

*R for language and some sexual material. One hour, 26 minutes.*

— Peter Canavese

### NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given for the purpose of pre-qualification; sealed Responsibility Questionnaires will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Mountain View Los Altos High School District up until the close of business on the date indicated below for:

#### Project Description:

Mountain View High School Chemistry CR HVAC and Re-Roofing.

**Pre-Qualification Packages Due Date and Time:** Monday February 24, 2020 at 3:00pm at RGM Kramer, attention: Omid Azizi, 4020 Moorpark Avenue, #220, San Jose, CA 95117.

#### Pre-Qualification of Trade Contractors

To receive plans and bid, Trade Contractors must possess a current and active license to perform the work listed, submit and certify the required Responsibility Questionnaire information, and be pre-qualified by the District.

A. Roofing Trades	C-39 License Required
B. Electrical and Low Voltage Trades	C-7 or C-10 License Required
C. Plumbing Trades	C-36 License Required
D. HVAC Trades	C-20 License Required

#### Only Pre-Qualified Contractors will be permitted to bid.

Pre-Qualified Contractors will be required to attend a mandatory Pre-bid Conference tentatively scheduled for Wednesday February 26, 2020 at 12:30 PM at the Mountain View Los Altos High School District Office, 1299 Bryant Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94040. Opening of the sealed bids submitted by pre-qualified bidders is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday March 11, 2020 at 2:00 PM at the Mountain View Los Altos High School District Office, 1299 Bryant Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94040. Pre-qualified contractors are advised to verify dates and times of the mandatory pre-bid conference and bid opening prior to the above listed dates. Responsibility Questionnaires and instructions for submission can be obtained by calling Omid Azizi at (669) 231-4260 or by email OmidA@RGMKramer.com. Contracts will require a 100% Performance Bond, a 100% Labor and Materials Bond and a Bid Security in the amount of 10% of the submitted bid. The project is subject to the State Labor Code. Labor Code 1720-1861 regarding DIR registration, the payment of prevailing wages and submission of certified payroll statements will be enforced. No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted on or after March 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)]. No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project (awarded on or after April 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5. This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations. Contractors are allowed, according to PCC sec. 22300, to submit securities in lieu of retention. Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise, in accordance with Education Code Section 17076.11, the Mountain View Los Altos High School District has "a participation goal of at least 3% per year of the overall dollar amount expended each year by the school district for Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise". Thus, all contractors bidding on this project are required to make a good faith effort to achieve this 3% participation goal. Requirements for demonstrating that this good faith effort has been made are included in the Project Manual.

### NOW SHOWING

**1917 (R) ★★1/2** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun. ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

**Bad Boys for Life (R) ★★** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**Dolittle (PG)** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**Downhill (R)** Aquarius Theatre: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun. ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

**Drunken Angel (1948) (Not Rated)** Stanford Theatre: Fri. - Sun.

**Fantasy Island (PG-13)** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**Ford V Ferrari (PG-13)** Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**Frozen II (PG) ★★** Century 16: Fri. - Sun.

**The Gentlemen (R)** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun. ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

**Gretel & Hansel (PG-13)** Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**Harley Quinn: Birds of Prey (R) ★★** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun. ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

**Ikuru (1952) (Not Rated)** Stanford Theatre: Fri. - Sun.

**JoJo Rabbit (PG-13)** Century 20: Fri. - Sun. Palo Alto Square: Fri. - Sun.

**Jumanji: The Next Level (PG-13) ★★** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**Knives Out (Not Rated)** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun. ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

**Little Women (2019) (PG) ★★1/2** Century 20: Fri. - Sun. Palo Alto Square: Fri. - Sun. ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

**Love Aaj Kal (Not Rated)** Century 16: Fri. - Sun.

**Oscar Shorts 2020 (Not Rated)** Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**Parasite (R) ★★1/2** Aquarius Theatre: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun. ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

**The Photograph (PG-13)** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun. ShowPlace Icon: Fri. - Sun.

**Sonic the Hedgehog (PG)** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**Spies in Disguise (PG)** Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker (PG-13) ★★1/2** Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

**World Famous Lover ()** Century 16: 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)

**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)

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

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



HIGHLIGHT

BAY AREA GAMES DAY

Active since 1998, Bay Area Games Day invites everyone to try a new board game or play classics like Catan or Pandemic. Feb. 15, 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. [sccl.evanced.info](http://sccl.evanced.info)

THEATER

**‘Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland’** Peninsula Youth Theatre adapts Lewis Carroll’s classic tale of a young girl who falls through a rabbit hole and lands into a world of fantasy. Feb. 14-15; times vary. \$13. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [pytnet.org](http://pytnet.org)

**‘Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type’** Palo Alto Children’s Theatre presents “Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type,” a comedic musical based on Doreen Cronin’s beloved children’s book. Feb. 15-16; dates and times vary. \$14-\$16; discount for children. Palo Alto Children’s Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. [cityofpaloalto.org](http://cityofpaloalto.org)

**‘The Pianist of Willesden Lane’** TheatreWorks Silicon Valley presents “The Pianist of Willesden Lane,” a true story about a young Jewish pianist escaping Nazi-occupied Austria at the outset of World War II. Concert pianist Mona Golabek recounts her mother’s poignant saga of hope and resilience to illustrate the power of music. Feb. 14-16; times vary. \$25-\$55; discounts available. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [theatreworks.org](http://theatreworks.org)

**‘Princess Ida’** Acclaimed Bay Area-based Lamplighters Music Theatre reimagines Gilbert and Sullivan’s “Princess Ida” to reflect more modern views of feminism. Feb. 22-23, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. \$36-\$76. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [lamplighters.org](http://lamplighters.org)

**‘The Ugly Duckling’** Palo Alto Children’s Theatre tells Hans Christian Andersen’s story of the ugly duckling that blooms into a beautiful swan. Feb. 22-23, 10 a.m. and noon. \$12-\$14; discount for children. Palo Alto Children’s Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. [cityofpaloalto.org](http://cityofpaloalto.org)

CONCERTS

**Apollo5** British choral ensemble Apollo5 returns to California for a diverse performance, ranging from

Renaissance to pop music. Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m. \$35. All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto. [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)

**Brandon James Gwinn** Brandon James Gwinn brings a uniquely New York City piano bar experience to the Bing Studio. Feb. 15, 8 p.m. \$25. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. [live.stanford.edu](http://live.stanford.edu)

**CSMA Merit Scholar Honors Concert** A selection of Community School of Music and Arts’ top merit scholars present works by Beethoven, Brahms, Rachmaninoff, Heberle, Chopin, Joan Tower and Shchedrin in this annual concert. Feb. 22, 5 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. [arts4all.org](http://arts4all.org)

**Hanzhi Wang** Praised for her stage presence and performances, the groundbreaking young musician, Hanzhi Wang, is the only accordionist to win a place on the roster of the nonprofit, Young Concert Artists, in its 59-year history. Feb. 16, 7 p.m. \$25. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. [live.stanford.edu](http://live.stanford.edu)

**‘Love Stories’** Palo Alto Philharmonic hosts a program of Rossini, Mendelssohn and Prokofiev in “Love Stories” with violinist Elizabeth Pitcairn. Feb. 18, 8-10 p.m. \$10-\$22; discount for seniors and students. Cubberley Theatre, 4120 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. [paphil.org](http://paphil.org)

**‘Misa de los Inmigrantes’** The Unitarian Universalist Church puts on a concert featuring composer Henry Mollicone’s “Misa de los Inmigrantes” or “Mass of the Immigrants.” Feb. 22, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$27. Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, 505 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto. [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)

**The New Esterhazy Quartet** The Bay Area-based quartet performs works by Georges Onslow, Felix Mendelssohn, and his sister Fanny Hensel. Feb. 23, 4 p.m. \$10-\$30; discount for students and seniors. All Saints Episcopal Church, 555 Waverley St., Palo Alto. [newesterhazy.org](http://newesterhazy.org)

**Sammy Miller and the Congregation** The seven-piece band, Sammy Miller and the Congregation, returns to Palo Alto for a theatrical jazz performance. Feb. 22, 8-10 p.m. \$30-\$35; discount for members. Albert and Janet Schultz Cultural Arts Hall, 3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. [paloaltojcc.org](http://paloaltojcc.org)

**Stella Chen** Winner of the Queen Elisabeth International Violin Competition, violinist Stella Chen performs a program of Beethoven, Brahms, Stravinsky, Waxman and more. Feb. 23, 7 p.m. \$25-\$33; discounts available. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [tickets.mvcpa.com](http://tickets.mvcpa.com)

**We Shall Overcome** Musical director, producer and pianist Damien Sneed performs with a choir and soloists to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King Jr. Feb. 21, 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$17-\$60; discounts available. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. [live.stanford.edu](http://live.stanford.edu)

MUSIC

**‘Macbeth’** West Bay Opera puts on Giuseppe Verdi’s four-act opera, “Macbeth,” one of Shakespeare’s greatest plays about the human thirst for power. Feb. 14-23; dates and times vary. \$35-\$92; discount for students and seniors. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. [wbopera.org](http://wbopera.org)

**Open Mic** Performers sing in front of a supportive audience and meet fellow musicians and artists during Open Mic Mondays at Red Rock Coffee. Ongoing; Mondays, 7 p.m. Free. Red Rock Coffee, 201 Castro St., Mountain View. [redrockcoffee.org](http://redrockcoffee.org)

FESTIVALS & FAIRS

**Vote-A-Palooza** The League of Women Voters celebrates its 100th birthday with live music, a food truck, photo ops with suffragist actors and a talk with New York Times bestselling author Julie Lythcott-Haims. Feb. 22, 2-4 p.m. Free. Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. [lwvpaloalto.org](http://lwvpaloalto.org)

TALKS & LECTURES

**Kevin Fedarko and Peter McBride Wallace** Author Kevin Fedarko and photographer/filmmaker Peter McBride talk about their adventure through an 800-mile hike of the Grand Canyon. Feb. 18, 8 p.m. \$23-\$43. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [tickets.mvcpa.com](http://tickets.mvcpa.com)

**Pros & Cons of March 3rd Ballot Measures** League of Women Voters of the Los Altos and Mountain View Area hosts a nonpartisan program on the advantages and disadvantages of the measures that will be on the March 3 ballot. Feb. 20, 7-8 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. [mountainview.libcal.com](http://mountainview.libcal.com)

FAMILY

**A Day at the Farm** Visitors can reserve a day at the Hidden Villa farm and tailor the reservation to include private farm tours for up to 30 people and one of three picnic areas. Dates vary through May 23; times vary. \$180-\$275; prices vary between packages. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. [hiddenvilla.org](http://hiddenvilla.org)

**The Wonders of Wool** Hidden Villa hosts a class on the history of wool, with a chance to get up close to sheep and take some wool home. Feb. 23, 1:30-3 p.m. \$25. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. [hiddenvilla.org](http://hiddenvilla.org)

MUSEUMS & EXHIBITS

**‘Cointraptions’** “Cointraptions: Classic Coin-Operated Machines” explores what life was like before the era of credit cards with classic coin-operated machines, including gambling devices, a mutoscope, vending machines and more. Feb. 14-16, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Free. The Museum of American Heritage, 351 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. [moah.org](http://moah.org)

**‘Surf Sequence’** “Surf Sequence” explores Ansel Adams’ relationship with water in different forms with a series of spontaneously captured surf images. Through May 18; times vary. Free. Cantor Arts Center, 328 Lomita Drive, Stanford. [events.stanford.edu](http://events.stanford.edu)

**CSMA Art Faculty Exhibition** This exhibition includes artworks by Community School of Music and Arts faculty, featuring ceramics, paintings, jewelry and more. Through March 22, 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Free. Community School of Music and Arts, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. [arts4all.org](http://arts4all.org)

**‘Photography of J. Gilbert Smith’** J. Gilbert Smith’s photographs of the natural world and Los Altos in days gone by are the subject of the new exhibit, “The Photography of J. Gilbert Smith.” Through May 24; Thursday-Sunday, noon-4

p.m. Free. Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. [losaltoshistory.org](http://losaltoshistory.org)

COMEDY

**Omar Qureshi** Stanford Concert Network presents Omar Qureshi, a Stanford alum and comic who recently performed at the Sundance Film Festival. Local San Francisco comedians also open up the show. Feb. 14, 8:30 p.m. \$10. Bing Concert Hall, 327 Lasuen St., Stanford. [live.stanford.edu](http://live.stanford.edu)

**Roast of Silicon Valley** Socially inept, a group of software engineers turned comedians, roasts Silicon Valley and the crowds of tech people in it. Feb. 21, 8 p.m. \$28. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [tickets.mvcpa.com](http://tickets.mvcpa.com)

**Tim Lee** The scientist-turned-comedian Tim Lee blends humor and science for his live stand-up show. Feb. 22, 7:30-9 p.m. \$21-\$31; discounts available. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. [tickets.mvcpa.com](http://tickets.mvcpa.com)

FOOD & DRINK

**Cheesemaking** Hidden Villa partners with local farm experts to reveal the great mysteries of crafting cheese and provides an opportunity to sample other dairy farm creations from neighboring Bay Area farmers. There is also a chance a craft cheese by hand in Hidden Villa’s Duveneck House. Feb. 15, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. \$70. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. [hiddenvilla.org](http://hiddenvilla.org)

HOME & GARDENING

**Garden Myths and Garden Science** Master gardener volunteer Candace Simpson debunks some of the myths behind gardening and provides more effective tips. Feb. 20, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley St., Palo Alto. [gamblegarden.org](http://gamblegarden.org)

**Gardening In Containers** Master gardener Martha Carpenter demonstrates how to grow a wide variety of plants on a patio or balcony with soil, water, pest control, fertilizers and various containers. Feb. 15, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Mountain View Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. [mountainview.libcal.com/](http://mountainview.libcal.com/)

HEALTH & WELLNESS

**Eating Disorders Family and Friends Support Group** The Eating Disorders Resource Center of Silicon Valley invites guest speaker Camellia Hayat to share her personal story of battling bulimia nervosa and body dysmorphia. Feb. 22, 9:30-11 a.m. Free. El Camino Hospital, 2500 Grant Road, Mountain View. [elcaminohealth.org](http://elcaminohealth.org)

**Seven Factors of Awakening** Kim Allen leads one of seven talks for Insight Meditation South Bay that are aimed at teaching mindfulness and meditation. Feb. 18, 7:30-9 p.m. Free; donations accepted. St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. [imsb.org](http://imsb.org)

OUTDOOR RECREATION

**Walk and Meditate with Mother Nature** Hidden Villa organizes an intimate day of meditation and silence with quiet walks through nature and guided meditation with Sachin Deshmukh. Feb. 23, 2-6 p.m. \$10. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. [hiddenvilla.org](http://hiddenvilla.org)

**Silicon Valley Basketball** Silicon Valley Basketball organizes weekly, year-round, pickup basketball games, welcoming all skills, ages, genders, etc. Ongoing; Sundays, 9:30 a.m. \$150 monthly fee. Graham Middle School, 1175 Castro St., Mountain View. [facebook.com](http://facebook.com)

COMMUNITY GROUPS

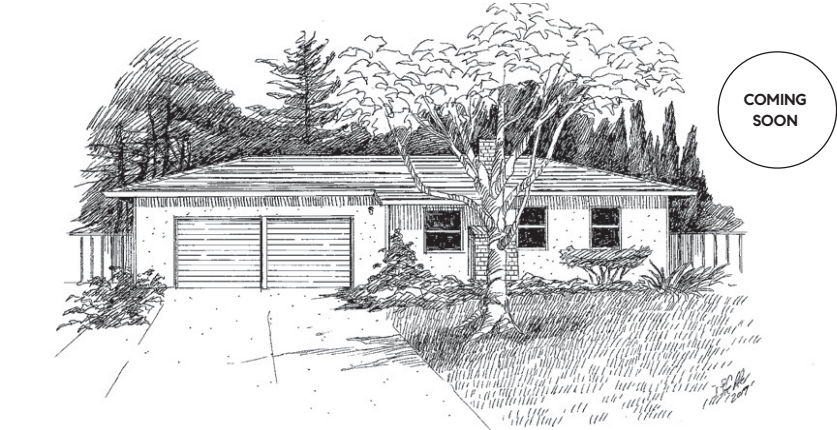
**Great Books Discussion** Explore the classic works of literature with the aptly named group, Great Books Discussion. Feb. 18, 7-9 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. [sccl.evanced.info](http://sccl.evanced.info)

**Adult/Teen Library Craft** The Los Altos Library hosts a craft session every month in the Orchard Room. This month, participants can create their own bird feeders. Feb. 19, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. [sccl.d.org](http://sccl.d.org)

AUTHOR EVENTS

**Conor Dougherty** Oakland-based New York Times journalist and author Conor Dougherty explores the state of the Bay Area’s housing crisis in his new book “Golden Gates: Fighting for Housing in America.” Feb. 19, 7:30-9 p.m. \$7-\$33. Kepler’s Books, 1010 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. [keplers.org](http://keplers.org)

A charming property loaded with potential!



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\$1,968,000

Los Altos

An excellent opportunity to enter the Los Altos market and enjoy the benefits of Los Altos Schools and a super convenient location where you can walk to shopping and dining!

2 bedrooms, plus a 3rd room that is perfect for a home office that has glass doors to the back yard, 1.5 baths, gleaming hardwood floors, new interior and exterior paint, formal dining room adjacent to a nice size kitchen with pantry, 2 car attached garage and an awesome yard with mature trees and lush greenery!

Move in as it is or build your dream home! A must-see opportunity! Cute home + large lot = Opportunity!



Tori Ann Atwell

650.996.0123  
toriatwell@compass.com  
DRE 00927794

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## Old world charm meets modern living in this beautifully expanded Downtown Mountain View home

Mountain View

**575 Bush Street**

Asking: \$2,938,000

A truly special home on one of Downtown most coveted locations: The 500 Block of Bush, which is lined by elegant homes and mature trees. This home was expanded and remodeled in 2007 with 2,404 square feet living space featuring a seamless balance of original charming touches and modern living which include a spacious front living room boasting arched windows and a focal point fireplace, formal dining room, great-room style kitchen and family room combination complete with casual dining area stylish touches, 4 bedrooms (including one downstairs), 3 elegantly appointed bathrooms, partial basement, 2 car attached garage and much more!

Excellent location close to the many attractions of downtown Castro Street, local Parks, the library, the train and light rail. Perfect for folks wanting an impressive home to entertain in or the family!



Listed by Tori.

**Tori Ann Atwell**

650.996.0123  
tori.atwell@compass.com

Compass.com  
DRE 00927794

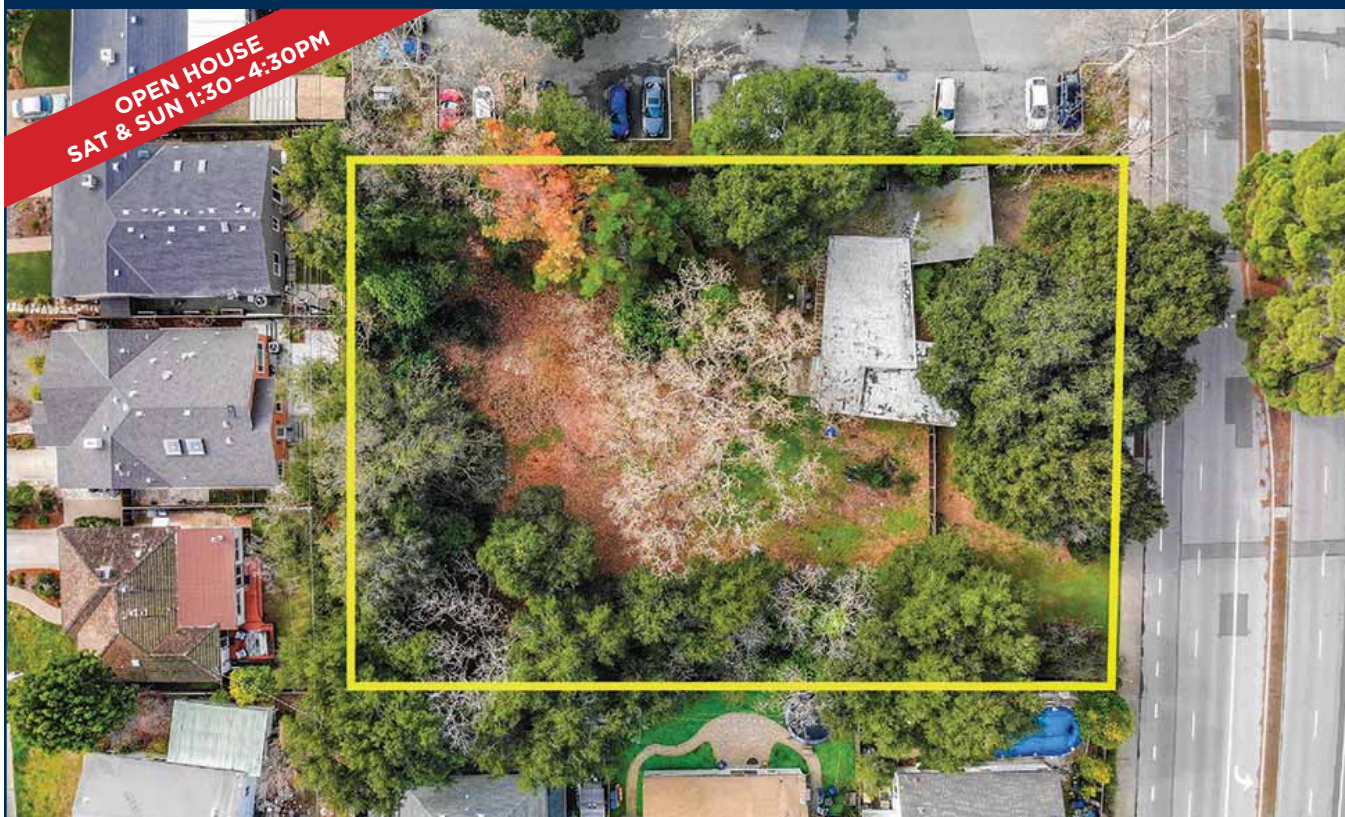
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## RARE OPPORTUNITY IN CUESTA PARK



**773 Cuesta Drive,  
Mountain View  
2 bed, 1 bath**

Don't miss this one! First time on market in over 70 years. Approximately 31,000 square foot lot located in prime Mountain View location near Cuesta Park. Property presents multiple development options. Great for private estate/compound. Subdividable per conversations with City of Mountain View. Buyers to confirm with City of Mountain View Planning. Close to Cuesta Park & Tennis Center, El Camino YMCA, El Camino hospital, downtown Mountain View, local schools, parks and shopping. Nearby access to Stevens Creek Trail and main commute routes to Silicon Valley employers.

**Offered at: \$4,500,000**



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**EXTENDED HOURS:** FRIDAY, 9:30AM – 5:00PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 1:30 – 5:00PM

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