

Palo
Alto

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to run airport itself**

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Upfront

Local news, information and analysis

Palo Alto plans to take over airport, despite snag

County violations freeze federal funding for Palo Alto Airport

by Gennady Sheyner

Just as Palo Alto is planning an ambitious takeover of Palo Alto Airport operations from Santa Clara County, the facility is in danger of losing out on much-needed grant funding after the Federal Aviation Administration determined that the county has

violated several provisions in its federal grant agreement.

The violations, which the FAA's Office of Airport Compliance and Management Analysis uncovered in December, relate to the South County Airport in San Martin, which the county also operates.

The county recently decided to reject a permit request from a skydiving operation, Garlic City Skydivers, to use that airport. The rejection led Garlic City to sue, and the FAA found the county violated its grant agreement by turning down the skydiving request.

According to the FAA director's determination, the airport "can safely accommodate an on-airport drop zone" in South County Airport, and the county had "unreasonably de-

nied" the request from Jeff Bodin and Garlic City. The denial violated the "economic nondiscrimination" clause in the grant agreement, the FAA found.

The agency ordered the county to take "immediate steps" to grant the skydiving permit, an order that the county has appealed.

The ramifications of these violations could spread far beyond the small facility south of Morgan Hill. The FAA's determination means

that all of the airports operated by Santa Clara County, including the busy Palo Alto Airport, will not receive any funding until the matter is resolved.

Carl Honaker, the county's director of Santa Clara County Airports, referred inquiries about the violation to county attorneys. He told the Weekly that the FAA had postponed its decision on the appeal until the

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UTILITIES

Gas rates set to drop in Palo Alto

New gas-purchasing strategy to bring short-term savings, long-term uncertainty

by Gennady Sheyner

After seeing their utility bills grow in recent years, Palo Alto's gas customers will finally get a break this year — a rate adjustment that would bring the average residential bill down by more than 20 percent.

The proposed gas-rate adjustment from the Utilities Advisory Commission reflects the City Council's decision last month to get away from the city's traditional "laddering" policy, which locks in gas prices for long periods of time, to adjusting the gas rate every month based on market prices. The new strategy is set to take effect in July.

With market prices falling in recent months, the switch means short-term savings for local customers. But it also means uncertainty and potential volatility down the line. At its April 23 meeting, Councilmen Larry Klein and Pat Burt warned that the policy may look less attractive in the future, when the gas market heats up.

"This is going to work really well right until the prices go up, and then it doesn't work as well," Burt said at the April 23 meeting.

Burt advocated a strategy that balances price stability with the free market. He was the only dissenter in the council's decision to switch from the laddering strategy to market rates.

Klein said he welcomed the change but stressed the need to prepare ratepayers for possible gas-rate increases in the years ahead. The city, he said, needs to send

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Chris Kenrick

George Ting, with a photo of his daughter Esther who died of a drug-related injury, has made a commitment to improving drug education through "Esther's Pledge." Adolescent Counseling Services will be offering a series of free workshops to youngsters and their parents dealing with the warning signs of addiction.

YOUTH

Lessons from a tragedy

Father who lost child to addiction says others can follow different path

by Chris Kenrick

Looking back on his daughter's short life, George Ting sees many turning points where things might have been different.

A judge's interim custody decision. His own failure to grasp fully the gravity of his daughter's drug addiction. The choice of a treat-

ment program. The code of silence among friends.

Though he mulls the myriad factors over and over again in his head, the outcome that he cannot change is that Esther Ting died at Stanford University Hospital on April 13, 2009 — just short of her 19th birthday — from severe

brain injury triggered by cocaine in her blood.

From that horrific experience, the Los Altos physician wants the world to understand that things could have been different — and can be different in the future for other teen addicts, if parents and friends know what to do.

He aims to spread the word through Esther's Pledge, an expanded drug-education program established at the Palo Alto non-profit Adolescent Counseling Services.

Beginning this month, Esther's Pledge will offer free monthly workshops — one for young adults 15 to 21 and another for 10- to 14-year-old youths and their par-

ents — covering warning signs of addiction and how to get help.

Adolescent Counseling Services also has launched a confidential hotline, available Monday through Friday from 5 to 7 p.m., staffed by professional drug- and alcohol-abuse treatment counselors.

"Esther died in spite of the efforts of a significant group of people who loved her very much," said Elizabeth Schar, a friend of Ting and board member of ACS, who helped establish the program.

"The purpose of Esther's Pledge is our commitment from those who loved Esther to make sure the friends and adults in young peo-

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Upfront

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“

I should have been her jailer.

”

George Ting, father of Esther Ting, whose drug-related death drove him to establish Esther's Pledge, a drug-education program through Adolescent Counseling Services. See story on page 3.

Around Town

THE NEW DEAL ... Negotiations between Palo Alto and the city's biggest police union had hit a wall in March, when the city declared an impasse after five months of haggling. Now, things appear to be getting back on track. The City Council is tentatively scheduled to adopt at its May 14 meeting a new contract with the **Palo Alto Police Officers Association**, which represents 82 officers. **Marcie Scott**, assistant director of human resources, said the city and the union are still working toward an agreement and are now in the "final stages." The city gained major leverage in its negotiations with police officers when voters repealed a longstanding requirement that labor disputes between the city and its public-safety unions go to binding arbitration. While the repeal frees the city to unilaterally impose benefit on the union, Scott said the city is not looking to pursue that route. "We're working toward an agreement," Scott said.

AH, I REMEMBER IT WELL ... Or at least **Matt Bowling** does. His new book "Palo Alto Remembered: Stories from a City's Past" debuts on Sunday (May 6) at the Palo Alto Historical Association meeting. With chapters on Landmarks (El Palo Alto to the Bol Park donkeys), Long Ago (the '06 earthquake, the Palo Alto Drive-in), Changing Times (Woolworth's opens, Cubberley closes), Conflicts (saving trees, closing the yacht harbor), and Citizens (Anna Zschokke to Greg Brown), the book couples historical photos with vignettes about what makes Palo Alto what it is today. Perhaps Palo Alto historian **Steve Staiger** sums it up best when he calls the book "a collection of tasty treats rather than a full-course meal." At \$25, the book will be available at the 2 p.m. meeting at Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road, as well as at Books, Inc., Bell's Books and The Village Stationers in Palo Alto and at Kepler's in Menlo Park.

NOT-SO-NOISY NEIGHBORS ... College Terrace residents who have been holding their collective breath while awaiting word on what company would replace **Facebook** are breathing a sigh of relief. **Theranos**, a healthcare-systems company, will move into 1601 California Ave., one of two locations that Facebook had occupied before moving its head-

quarters to Menlo Park. Caravans of noisy buses and vans that shuttled Facebook employees up and down the terrace plagued residents. Theranos has another location in Stanford Research Park at 3200 Hillview Ave., and is expected to move around June 1, Stanford Real Estate told the **College Terrace Residents Association**. The lease would run through the end of 2013, the deadline for Stanford to submit building plans for housing on 1601 California and two adjacent sites. Stanford informed the association that the company is not very large and they do not believe "we will have any of the issues with traffic we had with the former tenant."

OF DOGS AND MEN ... Palo Alto's dog lovers have much to cheer — and jeer — about these days. On the one hand, the city is considering outsourcing its popular animal-services operation, a proposal that has galvanized intense community opposition. On the other hand, the City Council had recently approved a new dog park at **El Camino Park**. Though the new dog park would give northern Palo Alto an amenity that just about everyone acknowledges is sorely needed, not everyone is thrilled about the new location. **Barbara Millin**, an Emerson Street resident, wrote a letter to the City Council commending the council for its decision but suggested expanding the size of the proposed dog area from half an acre to an acre. **Ann Pianetta**, who lives on La Donna Avenue, was less sanguine. "I think your idea for a dog park is absolutely awful!" she wrote to the council. "We need a walking trail area not a social pen!"

AND THE WINNER IS ... Mayor **Yiaway Yeh's** inaugural "mayor's challenge" on March 25 proceeded swimmingly, with residents picking up their pingpong paddles and squaring off at gyms throughout the city. The winning neighborhoods (as determined by the number of participants from each neighborhood) were **Midtown, Barron Park** and **Old Palo Alto**. Yeh noted at Wednesday's Twitter Q&A. Now, the mayor is looking ahead to the next citywide competition, which will be held on June 3 between 2 and 5 p.m. The "Day in the Park" event will take place at **Mitchell** and **Rinconada** parks and will feature bocce, tennis for children and yoga, Yeh wrote.

Facing budget shortfall, city targets animal services, traffic enforcement

City manager's 2013 budget would freeze vacancies in Police Department, outsource animal services

by Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto would outsource its animal services, slash nine positions in the Fire Department and cut back on traffic enforcement to balance the books in 2013, according to a budget proposal City Manager James Keene unveiled Monday afternoon, April 30.

The public-safety cuts, which are included in the proposed budget, are intended to address the city's rising employee costs, particularly in pensions and health care. Citywide pension costs have spiked dramatically in the past decade, going from \$3.2 million in 2002 to \$23.9 million in 2012, Keene wrote in the budget's transmittal letter. At the same time, the city's health care costs have jumped from \$6.6 million in 2002 to \$14.9 million in 2012.

"Unfortunately, like cities across California, the benefits paid to our employees have risen over the past decade, dramatically in the past several years, and will continue to grow in the years ahead," Keene wrote.

The increasing employee costs are casting a shadow over what has been a relatively strong year for revenue growth in the city. After a three-year slump, sales taxes and hotel taxes have rebounded thanks to strong department-store sales and increased business activity. The budget for fiscal year 2013, which begins July 1, projects \$151 million in General Fund revenues, a \$4.5 million (or 3.1 percent) increase over 2012.

Expenditures, meanwhile, are slated to grow by \$5.6 million between 2012 and 2013. The new budget proposes \$152 million in General Fund expenditures, an increase of almost 4 percent from 2012. The main drivers, Keene said, are rising benefit costs, increased infrastructure spending and a lack of concessions from police officers.

"The chief structural issue that the City faces is this simple: Expenditures are growing faster than revenues," Keene wrote in the transmittal letter.

He acknowledged the recent good news on the revenue front but stressed the need to get further concessions from city workers. The city is in the process of negotiating a new contract with its largest police union, the Palo Alto Police Officers Association (PAPOA), and with the small union of police managers. In March, the city declared an impasse in its negotiations with PAPOA after five months of negotiations.

If the council were to adopt Keene's proposed budget, the Police Department would face the lion's share of the cuts in the coming fiscal year. Perhaps the most controversial cut in

the proposed budget is the elimination of the department's busy and popular animal-services operation. The budget proposes to shutter the Animal Services Center on East Bayshore Road, which has provided services to Palo Alto, Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills since 1993.

The proposed cut was prompted by Mountain View's decision last year to opt out of its partnership in the Palo Alto facility and to contract with the Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority. The withdrawal means Palo Alto would no longer receive \$450,000 in annual contributions from Mountain View, bringing the city's cost of running the facility from \$700,000 to \$1.1 million annually.

Though the council has yet to decide on the matter, the proposal has already galvanized intense community opposition, with dozens of residents sending letters to the council urging them to spare the animal shelter and 269 (as of Thursday morning) signing an online petition as part of a "Save our Shelter" drive.

According to Keene's proposed budget, contracting out animal services would eliminate 13 positions and potentially result in about \$500,000 in operating costs. The outsourcing proposal would also save the city from having to make major upgrades to the aged facility. The council is also

considering alternative uses for the land on which the Animal Services Center and the larger Municipal Service Center, adjacent to the animal shelter, sit. These include welcoming one or more auto dealerships to the site, which has valuable visibility from the highway.

"By contracting out this service, the City avoids the significant capital cost that will be needed to improve the animal-services center facility and provides the opportunity to explore site reuse that could have positive revenue implications for the City," Keene wrote in the budget.

Another area in the Police Department that would see a reduction in service is traffic enforcement. Keene's budget proposes keeping six positions in the department vacant and redeploying six officers from the traffic operation to field patrol, a move that the budget document states would lead to "an overall reduction in the level of proactive traffic and parking enforcement." Keene is also proposing keeping vacant a police captain position.

The Fire Department will also see cuts in the coming year, for reasons largely outside the city's control. The department has been providing on-site services to SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. Because of cuts

in the U.S. Department of Energy budget, the laboratory has recently decided to opt out of its agreement and to sign a contract with the Menlo Park Fire Protection District for off-site services. The decision means Palo Alto will have to close Station 7 at SLAC, reducing expenditures by \$1.4 million. Because some of the

cost is reimbursed by Stanford University as part of the city's broader agreement with Stanford (an agreement that staff is now renegotiating), the city has yet to determine the actual savings that will result from Station 7's closure.

Keene noted in the budget that public safety has been "largely insulated

from cuts over the prior three years" — a period that has seen the city outsource services such as its print-shop operation and park maintenance. He told the council that his budget proposal includes cuts "with generally minimal impact on service levels."

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John O'Farrell, left, Marc Andreessen and Ben Horowitz (as well as Jeff Jordan, Peter Levine and Scott Weiss, not pictured), partners of the Menlo Park venture-capital firm Andreessen Horowitz, pledged to donate half the income from their venture-capital careers to philanthropic causes.

COMMUNITY

Venture capitalists make lifetime philanthropy pledge

Six local nonprofits benefit from shares of 'immediate' \$1 million gift by six partners

by Chris Kenrick

The six partners of the Menlo Park venture-capital firm Andreessen Horowitz will give a \$1 million donation to six local nonprofits, the firm has announced.

The \$1 million gift is part of a longer-term pledge by the six to "donate at least half of all income from our venture capital careers to philanthropic causes during our lifetimes."

The six are Netscape co-founder Marc Andreessen and general partners Ben Horowitz, John O'Farrell, Jeff Jordan, Scott Weiss and Peter Levine.

Along with their spouses, they hope their giving "can, over time, make the world a better place," they said in an April 25 statement.

"We are fortunate to work with some of the best entrepreneurs and technologists in the world and in the process help create great and valuable companies," they said.

"That activity, done well over decades, can generate a lot of

money that can then be productively deployed philanthropically back into the society that makes it all possible."

The local nonprofits immediately benefiting from the Andreessen Horowitz gift are Santa Clara-based Via Services, serving children with special needs; the Ecumenical Hunger Program of East Palo Alto; Second Harvest Food Bank serving Santa Clara and San Mateo counties; Fresh Lifelines for Youth, a Milpitas-based nonprofit that works with at-risk teens; Canopy of Palo Alto, dedicated to planting and preserving trees in Palo Alto, East Palo Alto and surrounding communities; and The Shelter Network, an agency serving the homeless on the San Francisco Peninsula.

Canopy Executive Director Catherine Martineau said the approximately \$170,000 gift is the largest in the agency's history.

It was designated by Andreessen Horowitz partner Peter Levine

and his wife, Martha Blackwell, a former Canopy board member.

"Our family's passion for the environment and my specific interest in trees, along with our familiarity with the important work Canopy does in the community, guided our choice for this first round," Blackwell said.

Martineau said Canopy will use the gift to "pursue innovative education programs.

"Canopy is honored and grateful to receive this large gift and to be part of a group of leading organizations that do vital work in the community," she said.

Andreessen is the husband of local philanthropist Laura Arrillaga-Andreessen, author of the 2011 book "Giving 2.0: Transform Your Giving and Our World," which suggests ways to increase the effectiveness of charitable giving "of all forms and sizes." ■

Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can be emailed at ckenrick@paweekly.com.

TRANSPORTATION

Double carpool lanes planned on 101

Effectiveness of carpool lanes depends on where they're located

by Sue Dremann

Double carpool and new toll lanes are planned for 570 miles of freeways throughout the nine-county Bay Area by 2025, a move that Bay Area transportation authorities hope will help ease congestion as the region grows in population and jobs.

The \$3.6-billion regional plan includes changes that will cover all of U.S. Highway 101 in Santa Clara County, Interstate highways 80 and 880 in the East Bay, and Interstate highways 680 and 580 in Pleasanton, Dublin and Livermore, said John Goodwin, Metropolitan Transportation Commission spokesman.

On 101 in Palo Alto and Mountain View, a 2.6-mile stretch of double carpool lanes in each direction is expected to open in 2013. The expansion will start at state Highway

85 and stretch to Oregon Expressway.

But at least one University of California Berkeley study calls into question the benefit of carpool lanes, finding that carpool lanes are only negligibly efficient. The average travel-time savings was 1.7 minutes over 10 miles, with the median at 0.7 minutes, researchers Jaimyoung Kwon and Pravin Varaiya wrote in their 2007 study, "Effectiveness of California's High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) system."

Kwon was formerly at the Department of Statistics at California State University in Hayward and is now tech director at AOL, and Varaiya is a professor at the University of California Berkeley Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences.

After taking random 10-mile samples based on Caltrans traffic data, the researchers noted most carpool lanes failed Caltrans' goal of 5 to 10 minutes in saved time. Only 15 percent of these routes offered savings of 5 minutes, and only 7 percent offered 10-minute savings, they found.

Many carpool lanes accommodate fewer vehicles, going at slower speeds, than they would if they were kept as general-purpose lanes, the researchers asserted. That may seem counterintuitive, but it's because slow carpool drivers block the faster drivers behind them. Kwon and Varaiya found that carpool lanes carry only 1,600 vehicles per hour per lane at an average speed of 45 mph, compared with a capacity of 2,000 vehicles traveling at 60 mph

— a 20 percent capacity deficit, the study noted.

Carpool lanes do reduce overall congestion slightly, but only when the regular lanes are congested. And there is no evidence that carpool lanes encourage carpooling, which has been in decline, according to Kwon and Varaiya.

Goodwin said while he might not argue with the general premise of the research, he cautioned that one could draw those conclusions only broadly.

"In individual corridors, that's not true," he said. "The 34-mile stretch of Morgan Hill to the San Mateo County border on northbound Highway 101 is the most heavily used carpool lane in the Bay Area," he said, citing Caltrans 2010 raw data.

During the northbound morning commute, the carpools saved 17 minutes over non-carpoolers along the corridor. That savings is a 43 percent increase over 2009, when it was 12 minutes, Goodwin said.

Officials estimate that a highway lane should be able to carry about 2,000 vehicles an hour. The existing

carpool lane on 101 from Highway 85 to Oregon Expressway is currently at 86 percent of its capacity — or 1,730 vehicles — during the peak hour, he said. That's significantly above the average 1,400 for any Bay Area carpool lane during the peak hour, he said.

Still, not all carpool lanes are effective, said Dan Collen, deputy director of infrastructure development at the Santa Clara County Roads and Airports Department. Along county expressways, certain segments of the diamond lane have been removed when studies found the designation hampered traffic flow. Lawrence Expressway north of Highway 101 used to have a carpool lane, but county engineers decided to convert it back to general-purpose use, he said.

"We found it was used but was dominated by non-HOV violators, in part because of the need of users to get in the right lane to Highway 237," he said.

But at San Tomas Expressway,

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INFRASTRUCTURE

November tax measure unlikely in Palo Alto

City Council says there's too little time to generate support for measure to pay for infrastructure repairs

by Gennady Sheyner

Citing tight deadlines and insufficient outreach, Palo Alto officials are backing away from an earlier proposal to put a tax measure on the November ballot.

The City Council had been considering asking the voters to either approve a tax increase or pass a bond to help the city close its infrastructure backlog and pay for needed public-safety facilities. But at a retreat Monday, April 30, staff and council members acknowledged that they probably don't have enough time to determine exactly what the measure should include and to do the needed research. The council has until July to craft a measure for the November ballot.

The council discussed Monday a variety of options for a ballot measure, including increases to the sales-tax and document-transfer-tax rates, a parcel tax and a bond that would fund a new public-safety building. Though the council didn't take any votes and could still decide to place a measure on the ballot, staff and council members expressed little appetite for pursuing the option this year.

Deputy City Manager Steve Emslie told the council that staff doesn't believe it has enough time to "do the proper groundwork on any measure at this point."

"We don't think we have enough time to do the research and to see what the voters' sensitivities are," Emslie said. "We think that information is helpful in crafting the measure."

"Secondly, we don't think we have enough time to really engage our stakeholders."

In recent years, the council has had a mixed record with going out to the voters for funding. In 2008, residents

approved a \$76 million bond to renovate local libraries after extensive campaigning by community volunteers and council members. Two years later, however, voters rejected a city proposal for a business-license tax.

Emslie told the council that if the city were to come up with a measure that's a "fait accompli," it could work against the city.

"The downside of going in with a lack of preparation is that it can set us back significantly for an appro-

'We don't think we have enough time to really engage our stakeholders.'

—Steve Emslie,
deputy city manager,
City of Palo Alto

priate time when we would be able to do all that," he said.

The council's list of infrastructure priorities include a new public-safety building to replace the cramped and seismically unsafe City Hall facility the Police Department currently uses. The council is also looking at about \$41 million in "catch-up" costs that were identified by the 17-member Infrastructure Blue Ribbon Committee, a task force that released a comprehensive report on the city's infrastructure late last year. The list includes, among other things, \$14.5 million for park maintenance, \$4.5 million for building maintenance and \$8.8 million in improvements to city streets and sidewalks.

The task force also recommended the city increase its annual spending by \$2.2 million to keep up with in-

frastructure maintenance. The recommendation was incorporated into the 2013 fiscal year budget that City Manager James Keene presented to the council Monday.

Keene proposed looking at a time-frame of 18 months to two years for a ballot measure. He said the city needs to prioritize exactly what should be funded in a measure and hold focus groups to gauge stakeholder interests. Under this scenario, the city would spend much of 2013 adjusting the proposed measure as needed.

Council members also emphasized a need to demonstrate to the voters that the city is making tough choices, including budget cuts, to wrestle with the infrastructure problem. Keene's budget, for example, proposes to outsource animal services and to freeze seven vacancies in the Police Department.

"What we're trying to do as a city is not go to the voters and say, 'We need more,'" Mayor Yiaway Yeh said.

He also said that given all the unanswered questions, it would be "tough to do something on this November ballot."

Councilman Pat Burt said that while it's important that the city move aggressively on solving its infrastructure problem, it should not seek to do it in one swoop. The city should set a new public-safety building as its top priority, he said.

Staff plans to return to the council in June with information on how much the facility would cost.

"I think it's really important that we are looking aggressively at what is doable and we continue to make some major progress," Burt said. ■

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gsheyner@pawebly.com.

COMMUNITY

Nonprofits receive \$353K in Holiday Fund grants

Youth, health and other services benefit from generosity of community members

by Eric Van Susteren

The Palo Alto Weekly awarded \$353,000 in grants to 55 local nonprofit organizations Monday night, April 30, as a result of the 18th annual Holiday Fund Drive.

The donations from community members included an anonymous \$100,000 gift from a Palo Alto family foundation — the largest single amount ever received by the Holiday Fund.

“One of the most fabulous things that’s ever happened in the 19 years we’ve been doing this just landed on our doorstep right as the year was coming to a close,” Palo Alto Weekly Publisher Bill Johnson said at the reception.

The fund focuses on organizations that support children, youth

and families.

Recipients included the Palo Alto nonprofits Downtown Streets Team, an employment program for homeless adults that received \$15,000; grief-counseling organization Kara, which also received \$15,000; and MayView Community Health Center, which received \$10,000.

This year, about 90 organizations applied for grants.

“We easily could have funded twice as many, so these were not easy decisions,” Johnson said.

Amy Drolette, co-chair of \$20,000 grant recipient Project Safety Net, spoke at the reception. Project Safety Net aims to respond to teen suicides by developing a mental health plan for overall youth well-being.



Veronica Weber

Sarah Mummah, Founder of DreamCatchers, speaks about the program and receiving a grant from the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund during a reception on April 30.

“The greatest gift we can give to students is time,” she said. “It’s very vivid that we have a community that’s very dedicated to helping the children of Palo Alto.”

Drolette also introduced the project’s new program director, Cristina Llerena.

Other speakers included Jim

Santucci of Kara; Liz Schoben of CASSY, an elementary school mental health counseling service; and Sarah Mummah of DreamCatchers, an organization that provides tutoring for low-income middle and high school students.

All three organizations received grants of \$15,000. For Kara and

WATCH IT ONLINE
www.PaloAltoOnline.com

A video of the Holiday Fund reception has been posted at www.ustream.tv/recorded/22257251. See a list of the grant recipients on Palo Alto Online (search for “Holiday Fund \$353K”).

DreamCatchers, this year represents the first year of a three-year grant.

“A lot of people don’t realize that there are low-income families in Palo Alto whose parents didn’t graduate from high school or middle school,” Mummah said. “This is a really impactful grant for us. ... It’s really going to do wonders for our ability to continue to scale and improve our work within the Palo Alto community.”

The Holiday Fund is a fund at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which serves as its fiscal agent, and receives support from the Packard, Hewlett, Arrillaga and Peery foundations in the form of matching grants. Proceeds from events such as the Palo Alto Weekly Moonlight Run, hosted in the fall, also support the Holiday Fund. ■

Editorial Assistant Eric Van Susteren can be emailed at evansusteren@paweekly.com.

Gas

(continued from page 3)

the message that “we’re going to follow the market, and that means we’re going to follow the market up as well as down.”

The proposed rate adjustment was endorsed on Wednesday afternoon by the city’s Utilities Advisory Commission, with Asher Waldfogel the only dissenter (Steve Eglash and Marilyn Keller were absent). The adjustment would decrease the average monthly residential gas bill by an amount somewhere in the neighborhood of \$15, though the exact impact is unknown because of the fluctuations in the gas market.

According to a report from Utilities resource planners Ipek Connolly and Eric Keniston, staff had projected a \$12.32 decrease in the average residential monthly bill based on market prices in November 2011, when staff was putting together the utilities budget. By March 2012, gas market prices have fallen further, bringing the average reduction in a residential bill to \$18.03, or about one third of the bill.

The rate adjustment would bring local gas bills much closer to those in neighboring cities, most of which are served by PG&E. According to the Utilities Department report, the median monthly gas bill in Palo Alto is currently \$30.22 in the summer and \$80.16 in the winter. In Menlo Park, Redwood City, Mountain View and Santa Clara (all of which get their gas from PG&E), the median summer and winter bills are \$17.25 and \$51.76, respectively.

If the City Council were to approve the Utilities Department’s proposed rate adjustments, Palo Alto’s median residential bills would drop to \$23.52 in the summer and \$50.80 in the winter.

The new rates also aim to address recent findings from the Utility De-

partment’s cost-of-service study, which aims to align the rates for each customer class with the cost of providing service for that class. While residential customers would benefit from the realignment, the city’s largest commercial customers would actually see their gas rates increase dramatically. The average monthly gas bill for the largest commercial customers would rise from \$31,606 to \$46,646 under the rate adjustment.

Overall, however, gas rates are projected to drop by about 10 percent.

The gas-rate adjustment is a rare bit of good news for local ratepayers, who will soon see their trash, water

How your residential gas bill could change

Season	Monthly usage	Palo Alto current	Palo Alto proposed	Menlo Park, Redwood City, Mountain View and Santa Clara (PG&E)	PG&E over/ (under) Palo Alto proposed
Summer	(Median) 18 therms	\$30.22	\$23.52	\$17.25	(26.6%)
Winter	(Median) 54 therms	\$80.16	\$50.80	\$51.76	1.9%

Source: City of Palo Alto Utilities

New residential gas rates for Palo Alto go into effect on July 1, 2012.

and wastewater rates go up (electric rates are expected to stay the same). The average residential customer will see an \$8.52 increase in his or her water bill and a new \$4.06 fee in the trash bill. The fee is intended

to cover the cost of street sweeping, annual cleanup days and household-hazardous-waste services.

According to City Manager James Keene’s proposed budget for fiscal year 2013 (which begins on July

1), the average household residential utility bill is set to rise by about \$8.94, or 3.8 percent. ■

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gsheyner@paweekly.com.

Peninsula Stroke Association presents

12th Annual Victory Over Stroke Conference

• May 10 Palo Alto •

Thursday May 10, 2012
8AM – 4PM

Taube Koret Campus – Palo Alto

Register today www.psastroke.org



Heather Holmes, KTVU 2
Mistress of Ceremonies

PSA This full-day conference is planned to share the most current information with clinicians and health care professionals who treat patients and care for families in all phases of stroke treatment, rehabilitation, and post-stroke care issues.

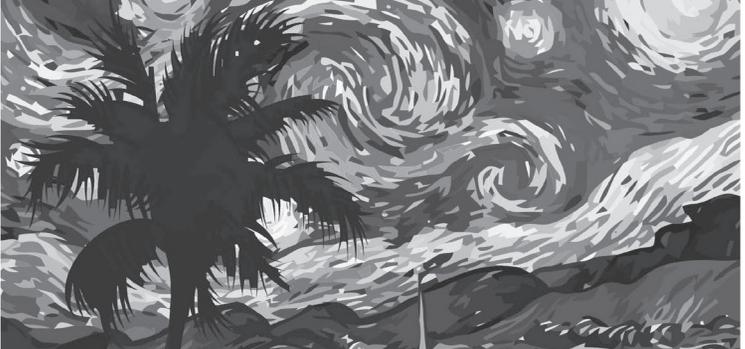
For complete information about the conference and to register, visit www.psastroke.org or email events@psastroke.org or call 650-565-8485.

Conference Sponsors



Boehringer-Ingelheim, Care Indeed, Home Care Assistance, HomeInstead, Matched Caregivers, Seton Medical Center, Stanford Hospital & Clinics.

This space donated as a community service by the Palo Alto Weekly.



STARRY NIGHT: AN ART AUCTION TO BENEFIT DEBORAH'S PALM

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2012
7:00 – 10:00 pm

All Saints Episcopal Church
555 Waverley Street, Palo Alto

TICKET INFORMATION:
www.deborahspalm.org
650 473-0664

(Ticket purchase enters you into a drawing for a Kindle Touch)

SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS:
Items include: Paintings, Drawings, Photography, Folk Art, Sculpture, Jewelry, and more from local and regional artists.

LIVE MUSIC by Farouche

REFRESHMENTS:
Wine Tasting, Hors d'oeuvres & Dessert

MAJOR DONORS:
JOYA **LA STRADA**
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DEBORAH'S PALM
A COMMUNITY FOR WOMEN

May Fête Parade to roll through Palo Alto Saturday

City introduces new 'May Fête Fair' as part of annual celebration

The 90th annual May Fête Parade will be celebrated in Palo Alto Saturday, May 5, with the frivolous theme of "Palo Alto at Play." The parade — featuring an array of group floats, musicians, martial-arts demonstrations and costumed characters — will begin at 10 a.m. at the corner of University Avenue and Emerson Street.

Paraders will march down University and end at Heritage Park, culminating with a new May Fête Fair that will include children's activities, music and dance performances, food and more. The fair, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., is being sponsored by Peninsula Pediatric Dentistry, Mid Peninsula Orthodontics and Jefunira Camp, and hosted by the Palo Alto Recreation Foundation and the Kiwanis Club of Palo Alto.

"For 90 years Palo Altans have been celebrating the children and youth of our community and the flower-scented season of spring at the annual May Fête Parade; we know how to play and have fun," city officials stated in a press release.

Parade participants include the Palo Alto High School Viking Pep Band, Sparkles the Clown, All Star Kung Fu, Palo Alto Children's Theatre and Grand Marshal Bob Klein, among many others.

Automobile enthusiasts can stop by the Museum of American Heritage (across the street from Heritage Park) from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for the museum's "Vintage Vehicle and Family Fun Day," which will include children's activities and a showcase of vintage vehicles.

A video of the parade will be posted at www.PaloAltoOnline.com. ■

— Tyler Hanley

What: The May Fête Parade and Fair, the Vintage Vehicles and Family Festival, and open house at the Museum of American Heritage

Where and when: Downtown Palo Alto. The parade starts at 10 a.m. at University Avenue and Emerson Street, then continues down University to end at Heritage Park, 300 Homer Ave. The fair is in the park from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the auto show is in the park from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The museum, at 351 Homer Ave., is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Cost: Admission to all events is free.

Info: Go to pamayfete.com or www.cityofpaloalto.org for May Fete details, and to moah.org for information about museum events.

Public hearing

Flood Control Benefit Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year 2012–2013



You are invited

Topic : Flood Control Benefit Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year 2012–2013

Who : Santa Clara Valley Water District

When : Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 9:00am

Where: Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters—Board Room
5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118

This public hearing will cover the "Flood Control Benefit Assessments Report, 2012-2013 through 2029-2030, dated "April 2012." The written report incorporates by reference a description of each parcel and the expected amount of assessment under the approved formula for each parcel within the flood control zones of the District. At the hearing, the Board of Directors will hear any and all protests. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Board may adopt or revise any assessment and will make its determination upon each assessment referred to in the report.

A copy of the report may be inspected at the Office of the Clerk of the Board at the above address at any time during business hours. Copies of the report have also been placed and may be inspected at the following locations:

Campbell City Hall
70 North First Street
Campbell, CA

Cupertino City Hall
10300 Torre Avenue
Cupertino, CA

Gilroy City Hall
7351 Rosanna Street
Gilroy, CA

Gilroy Branch Library
7652 Monterey Street
Gilroy, CA

Los Altos City Hall
1 North San Antonio Road
Los Altos, CA

Los Altos Hills Town Hall
26379 Fremont Road
Los Altos Hills, CA

Los Gatos Town Hall
110 East Main Street
Los Gatos, CA

Milpitas City Hall
455 East Calaveras Blvd
Milpitas, CA

Milpitas Library
160 North Main Street
Milpitas, CA

Morgan Hill City Hall
17555 Peak Avenue
Morgan Hill, CA

Monte Sereno City Hall
18041 Saratoga Los Gatos Road
Monte Sereno, CA

Mountain View City Hall
500 Castro Street
Mountain View, CA

Mountain View Public Library
585 Franklin Street
Mountain View, CA

Palo Alto City Hall
250 Hamilton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA

San Jose City Hall
200 East Santa Clara Street
San José, CA

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library
150 E. San Fernando Street
San José, CA

Hillview Branch Library
1600 Hopkins Drive
San José, CA

Pearl Avenue Library
4270 Pearl Avenue
San José, California

Santa Clara Central Park Library
2635 Homestead Road
Santa Clara, CA

Santa Clara City Hall
1500 Warburton Avenue
Santa Clara, CA

Saratoga City Hall
13777 Fruitvale Avenue
Saratoga, CA

Sunnyvale City Hall
650 W. Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA

To secure information on an individual parcel assessment, you must know your Assessor Parcel Number. If you do not know it, call the Assessor at (408) 299-5570 and ask for it, giving your name and street address. Using that parcel number, you can learn your proposed assessment by calling the Santa Clara Valley Water District Tax Assessment Hotline at (408) 265-2607, ext. 2810.

Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to attend this public hearing. For additional information on attending this hearing including requesting accommodations for disabilities or interpreter assistance, please contact the **Office of the Clerk of the Board** at (408) 265-2607, ext. 2277, at least three days prior to the hearing.

Se harán los esfuerzos razonables para ayudar a las personas con discapacidades que deseen atender a esta audiencia pública. Para información adicional sobre la asistencia a esta audiencia incluyendo una solicitud de apoyo para asistir a los asistentes con un intérprete por favor contacte a la Oficina del Secretario del Buró al (408) 265-2607, extensión 2277, cuando menos tres días antes de la audiencia.

Mọi nỗ lực sẽ được thực hiện hầu giúp những người bị khuyết tật có thể tham dự buổi điều trần. Muốn biết thêm chi tiết về các buổi điều trần này kể cả yêu cầu giúp đỡ người khuyết tật hay cần thông dịch viên, xin liên lạc Văn Phòng Thư Ký Ban Quản Trị ở số (408) 265-2607, bầm 2277 ít nhất 3 ngày trước ngày họp.

4/2012_GS



Veronica Weber

Catch this!

Yvette Fisher, left, looks to pass to a teammate while Megan Fusco blocks and Danica Fong waits for a pass during a quick game of Ultimate Frisbee at Stanford University's Angell Field on May 2. The women, who belong to different teams in the National Ultimate League of the Bay Area, are practicing for the upcoming season.

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EDUCATION

UC President: Non-resident admissions help pay the bills

State must re-invest in system that's the 'seed corn' for economic growth, Yudof says

by Chris Kenrick

Non-resident students squeezing out residents is not the University of California's biggest problem, the system's president said Thursday.

Rather it is lawmakers and taxpayers who are unwilling to expand the 220,000-student system to keep pace with the growth of California, UC President Mark Yudof told a Palo Alto audience May 3.

In a speech to a Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce breakfast gathering, Yudof passionately asserted that state cuts to UC — particularly severe over the past five years — threaten to undermine the education engine that represents the "seed corn" for future innovation and economic growth in the state.

Sacramento's contribution to the UC system's \$22.5 billion budget has dwindled to \$2.37 billion, Yudof said. The state covers 60 percent less per student than it did 20 years ago and, for the first time, UC students now pay more than taxpayers.

The bulk of UC revenues comes from other sources, mainly those for hospitals and physicians in the system's five medical centers.

In part to beef up the budget, UC's admission rate for non-resident students indeed has climbed, and now represents about 7 percent of undergraduate admission, Yudof said. There's a current system-wide cap of 10 percent on non-resident undergraduate admissions, and Yudof predicted such students will represent about 7.5 percent for the coming year.



Mark Yudof

"I don't think that's outrageous," he said.

"It provides another form of diversity, and we also charge them a ton of money. If we charge them \$30,000, I can take some of that and move it over to pay for the Californians the legislature isn't paying for."

He said UC has tried not to allow the growing non-resident enrollment to reduce the number of slots for California students.

"By and large, we've tried to increase the enrollment to take care of that," he said.

Yudof noted the 7 percent non-resident undergraduate admission rate is a system-wide average that could translate to 3 percent on one campus and 12 percent on another.

"Certainly Berkeley is more impacted," he said. "People around the



Michelle Le

Celebrating May Day: voices of the 99 percent

Roberto Munoz from Palo Alto cheers for speakers during the May Day march for immigrants' rights, which went from Mountain View's Rengstorff Park to Mountain View City Hall on Tuesday evening, May 1. In Palo Alto, about eight Occupy protestors, ranging from a Stanford University student to a man in his 80s, showed up in front of Palo Alto City Hall Tuesday morning, later taking their message to Lytton Plaza.

world are more likely to have heard of Berkeley.

"I'd be happy to reduce it — well, not happy, because they add to the environment — but we could reduce it if the state of California were willing to pay a fair share.

"If not, it's higher tuition, more non-residents and even worse alternatives — that we're not competitive for the best professors, not as a good a research university, it takes more time to graduate, the library is closed earlier.

"We face hard alternatives and, the fact is, nobody wants to pay. When you get to the question of taxation and tuition, people get off our train."

Yudof rejected a suggestion that UC de-emphasize state funding and refocus on beefing up other sources.

"Taxpayers built this place, and I'm reluctant to call it quits," he said. "We're a consummately California institution."

Moreover, the \$2 billion-plus from the state funds core liberal-arts programs in subjects like Spanish, English, fine arts and education that cannot be subsidized by other grants targeted to specific research or medical care, he said.

Yudof said he's making his way around California on a "UC myth-busting" speaking tour.

"The most prevalent myth is that tuition has gone up because the cost of producing a degree has gone up," he said.

"That sounds like common sense, but it's not true."

The cost of producing a credit-hour at UC actually has dropped

15 percent since the 1990s, "but the price to students has gone up geometrically because we have a partner who's turned out to be unreliable, the State of California."

Though the UC tuition "sticker price" is \$11,300, the average tuition paid is only \$4,400 because of needs-based financial aid, Yudof said.

"Another myth is that high tuition hurts the poor," he said, citing an array of grant and loan programs to help low-income students.

"The people who are hurt are the middle-class people," who do not qualify for need-based programs. "The higher tuition goes, the rougher it is for the middle class." ■

Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can be emailed at ckenrick@paweekly.com.



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Carpool lanes

(continued from page 6)

the carpool lanes do well. And on north-south routes, they fill a gap where freeways are absent, and traffic volume is high, he said.

In Santa Clara County, a region that could grow by nearly 513,000 residents and 427,000 jobs between 2010 and 2035, according to the Association of Bay Area Governments, transportation officials must squeeze the maximum capacity out of the existing highway system, Goodwin said.

“The era of freeway construction is behind us. It is going to be about expanding capacity. We’re not going to see another Interstate 280,” he said.

Adding to the capacity means additional carpool and FasTrak toll lanes for single-occupant vehicles, and other traffic-flow measures, such as metering lights, he said.

By 2020, the stretch of Highway 101 from Santa Clara County to Morgan Hill will have double car-

‘The era of freeway construction is behind us. It is going to be about expanding capacity.’

— **John Goodwin,**
spokesman, Metropolitan
Transportation Commission

pool lanes in both directions, and one of those lanes is expected to be converted to a toll lane, Goodwin said.

A high-occupancy toll lane, or HOT, gives people driving solo access to carpool lanes for a fee. Tolls are collected either by license plate readers or through a transponder that can clock the miles traveled in the lane. The tolls increase and decrease as traffic density and congestion within the tolled lanes changes — known as congestion pricing. Carpools and buses drive in the lane at no charge. Actual rates have not yet been determined, but could range from 14 cents to \$1 per mile. On Interstate 680, express lanes currently charge \$3 for 14 miles during peak travel time, according to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

Kwon and Varaiya recommended strategies such as double carpool lanes. Part of the traffic-flow problem with single carpool lanes is because of so-called “snails” — slower drivers who force faster carpoolers to dart back into the regular lanes during peak commute times to try to pass.

As volume in carpool lanes increases, there are more snails, leading to a drop in speed, they wrote. Double carpool lanes would allow carpoolers to get around slower drivers and still be in the fast lane.

A 4-mile section at state Highway 237 and Interstate 880 opened as a test toll lane on March 20. ■

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweekly.com.



CITY OF PALO ALTO NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That The Palo Alto City Council Will Hold A Public Hearing At The Regularly Scheduled Meeting On Monday, May 21, 2012 At 7:00 P.M. Or As Near Thereafter As Possible, In The Council Chambers, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, To Consider Adoption Of A Resolution Amending The Transportation Element Of The Comprehensive Plan Incorporating The Bicycle And Pedestrian Transportation Plan And Approval Of A Negative Declaration.

DONNA J. GRIDER, MMC
City Clerk



Palo Alto Unified School District

Notice of Public Hearing on Increase in School Facilities Fees as Authorized by Education Code Section 17620

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that immediately following a public hearing on the matter, a proposed resolution will be considered by the Board of Education of Palo Alto Unified School District at its regular meeting on May 8, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at 25 Churchill Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94306, which if adopted by the Board will increase developer fees established by the District against new residential construction to \$3.20 per square foot and against new commercial or industrial construction to \$0.51 per square foot, except for parking structures and self storage buildings which would be \$0.17 and \$0.50 per square foot respectively. The proposed fees are authorized by Education Code Section 17620 for the purpose of funding the construction or reconstruction of school facilities. Data pertaining to the cost of school facilities and the availability of revenue sources is available for inspection during regular business hours in the District’s Business Office.

Any interested party may make an oral or written presentation at the public meeting. The fee, if approved by the Board of Education, will become effective on July 9, 2012.



Palo Alto Unified School District

Notice is hereby Given that bids will be received by the Palo Alto Unified School District for bid package:

PAUSD Uninterruptible Power Supply Equipment Purchase

Contract No. 12-P-05-E

DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK: The work includes, but is not limited to: Supply Uninterruptible Power Supplies to augment current equipment. Bidding documents contain the full description of the work.

All requests must include the **Bid # 12-P-05-E, PAUSD Uninterruptible Power Supply Equipment Purchase.**

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference at **2:00 P.M. on May 15, 2012 at the Palo Alto Unified School District, 25 Churchill Ave, Palo Alto, California 94306.**

Bid Submission: Bids must be received at the District Purchasing Office, Attn: Denise Buschke by **3:00 p.m., PTD on Monday June 4, 2012.**

Bidders may request Bidding Documents Via email: dbuschke@pausd.org or, at the District Office, **Business Services Department, 25 Churchill Ave Palo Alto, CA 94306.** Please call Denise Buschke @ 650-329-3802 to schedule appointment.

All questions can be addressed to:

Palo Alto Unified School District
25 Churchill Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94306-1099
Attn: Denise Buschke
Phone: (650) 329-3802
Fax: (650) 329-3803



PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL CIVIC CENTER, 250 HAMILTON AVENUE BROADCAST LIVE ON KZSU, FM 90.1 CABLECAST LIVE ON GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL 26

THIS IS A SUMMARY OF COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS. THE AGENDA WITH COMPLETE TITLES INCLUDING LEGAL DOCUMENTATION CAN BE VIEWED AT THE BELOW WEBPAGE:

<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/knowzone/agendas/council.asp>

(TENTATIVE) AGENDA-SPECIAL MEETING COUNCIL CHAMBERS May 7, 2012 - 5:00 PM

CLOSED SESSION

1. HSR Litigation
2. Potential Litigation

STUDY SESSION

3. Long Range Facilities Plan for the PA Wastewater Treatment Plant (RWQCP)

SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

4. Presentation by Keith Bechtel on Tschuira Marathon Race

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. Approval of Contract with SAP Inc. for Software Maintenance Support Services to the City of Palo Alto
6. Request for Authorization to Increase the Existing Blanket Purchase Order with OldCastle Precast, Inc. by \$200,000 for Fiscal Year 2012 and to Approve a \$500,000 Blanket Purchase Order with Oldcastle Precast, Inc. for 2013 for the Purchase of Concrete Vaults and Pads
7. From Policy & Services Committee Approval of the City’s 2012 Federal and State Legislative Program
8. Second Reading: Adoption of an Ordinance Approving an Amendment to the 1997 Sand Hill Road Development Agreement to Extend Lease on El Camino Park and to Remove Approximately 10.25 Acres of Land (Searsville and Fremont Roads) in Santa Clara County from Special Condition Area B to be Used for Central Energy (Cogeneration) Facility. (1st Reading passed 4-16-12, 6-0 Espinosa absent, Klein, Yeh not participating)
9. Second Reading: Adoption of Ordinance to Amend the Contract Between the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees’ Retirement System (CalPERS) and the City of Palo Alto to Implement California Government Code Section 20475: Different Level of Benefits Provided for New Employees, Section 21363.1: 3.0% @ 55 Full Formula, Section 20037: Three Year Final Compensation, and Without Section 20692: Employer Paid Member Contributions for Safety Fire Employees (1st Reading passed 3-5-12, 8-0 Yeh absent)
10. Adoption of a Resolution of Intent to Establish Underground Utility District No. 47 (Middlefield Road/Addison Ave/Cowper Street/Homer Ave) by Amending Section 12.16.020 of the Palo Alto Municipal Code
11. Approval of Revisions to Regulations of the City of Palo Alto Regarding Prohibited Conduct at or in Community Centers Theaters, Interpretive Buildings and at the Art Center
12. Approval of Amendment No. 2 to Agreement Between the City of Palo Alto and the Midpeninsula Community Media Center, Inc. in the Amount of \$50,000

ACTION ITEMS

13. PUBLIC HEARING: to Hear Objections to the Levy of Proposed Assessments on the Palo Alto Downtown Business Improvement District and Adoption of a Resolution Confirming the Report of the Advisory Board and Levying Assessment for Fiscal Year 2013 on the Downtown Palo Alto Business Improvement District
14. From the Finance Committee: Acceptance of the Long Range Financial Forecast for Fiscal Years 2012 to 2022
15. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption of a Resolution Approving the Proposed Fiscal Year 2013 Community Development Block Grant Funding Allocations and the 2012/13 Draft Annual Action Plan
16. PUBLIC HEARING: Adoption Of A PC Ordinance For The Proposed Lytton Gateway Project to Amend The Zoning Map of the City Of Palo Alto to Change the Zone Designations From CDC-P And CDN-P to a Planned Community (PC) District To Allow A Mixed Office And Retail, Four-Story, 50 Foot Tall Building (And A 70 Foot Tall Corner Tower Feature) on the Former Shell Station Site, Located At 355 And 335 Alma Street. The Project Includes Exceptions to the Daylight Plane And 35-Foot Height Limit Within 150 Feet of Residential Property. *Quasi-Judicial

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Finance Committee meeting will be held on May 8, 2012 at 6:00 PM. regarding; 1) 2013 Budget Review Kickoff – CAO, Council, Library, and CSD.

The Policy and Services Committee will be held on May 8, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. regarding; 1) Referral from Council on Infrastructure Funding Options 2) and Auditor’s Office Quarterly Report as of March 31, 2012.

The City Council Rail Committee meeting will be held on May 10, 2012 at 8:30 A.M. regarding; 1) Discussion of the Bay Area Blended System Memorandum of Understanding, 2) Report from the Professional Evaluation Group, Inc., 3) Reports on Meetings, 4) Discussion of Recent and Future Rail Letters

The Finance Committee meeting will be held on May 10, 2012 at 6:00 PM. regarding; 1) Budget Hearings, Planning, IT Dept., HR, ASD, Printing and Mailing Fund Budget Hearings, and Employee Benefits.

The Policy and Services Committee will be held on May 10, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. regarding; 1) Referral from Council on Animal Services.



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Upfront

Budget

(continued from page 5)

Public safety isn't the only area that would see cuts under Keene's proposal. The Planning and Community Environment Department would eliminate two positions and freeze another one, saving \$394,000. Keene is also proposing freezing five positions in the Library Department while Main Library is renovated — a proposal that would save \$336,000.

At the same time, Keene is proposing investment of an additional \$800,000 in the city's permitting operation, money that would be used to upgrade technology at the Development Center. Another

\$300,000 would go to the new "Airport Fund," which supports the city's takeover of airport operations from Santa Clara County.

The proposed budget also allocates an extra \$2.2 million for maintenance and upkeep of the city's infrastructure, as recommended by the Infrastructure Blue Ribbon Commission.

The council did not discuss Keene's proposed budget Monday night. The council's Finance Committee is scheduled to hold a series of meetings on the document in the coming month, starting May 8. The council plans to adopt a budget on June 18.

The proposed 2012-13 budget is available on the city's website, www.cityofpaloalto.org. ■



PUBLIC NOTICE FORMER NAVAL AIR STATION MOFFETT FIELD

Restoration Advisory Board Meeting



May 2012

The next regular meeting of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for former Naval Air Station (NAS) Moffett Field will be held on:

Thursday, May 10, 2012, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at:

Mountain View Senior Center Social Hall

266 Escuela Avenue

Mountain View, CA 94040-1813

The RAB reviews and comments on plans and activities about the ongoing environmental studies and restoration activities underway at Moffett Field. Regular RAB meetings are open to the public and the Navy encourages your involvement.

To review documents on Moffett Field environmental restoration projects, please visit the information repository located at the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View, CA 94041, (650) 903-6337.

For more information, contact Mr. Scott Anderson, Navy Base Realignment and Closure Environmental Coordinator at (619) 532-0938 or scott.d.anderson@navy.mil.

Visit the Navy's website: <http://www.bracpmo.navy.mil/basepage.aspx?baseid=52&state=California&name=moffett>

Online This Week

These and other news stories were posted on Palo Alto Online throughout the week. For longer versions, go to www.PaloAltoOnline.com/news or click on "News" in the left, green column.

New county ordinance to limit payday lenders

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance Tuesday night, May 1, that blocks payday lenders and check-cashing businesses from opening new branches in the unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County. (Posted May 3 at 8:53 a.m.)

Parking concerns central for Lytton Gateway

Downtown North residents voiced concerns about potential parking problems related to the proposed development of the Lytton Gateway building during a meeting with developers Tuesday, May 1. (Posted May 2 at 5:28 p.m.)

Summer Spare the Air season begins

More than just a prelude to summer, the beginning of May is also the start of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's summer Spare the Air season, which began Wednesday, May 2. (Posted May 2 at 8:47 a.m.)

Occupy protest in Palo Alto a study in quiet

While police in riot gear lobbed tear gas and flash-bang grenades at Occupy demonstrators in Oakland, in Palo Alto, the home of many of the 1 percenters that the protesters oppose, the turnout was a quiet contrast to big-city angst. (Posted May 1 at 9:19 a.m.)

Shots fired at dog walker in Menlo Park

An 18-year-old man walking his dog Monday night, April 30, escaped unscathed after someone shot at him from a car near Newbridge Street and Hollyburne Avenue in Menlo Park, police said. (Posted May 1 at 8:38 a.m.)

Actress returns to Menlo to discuss her career

Fortune favors the prepared, but luck and connections also have plenty to do with success in Hollywood, actress Ahna O'Reilly told students at Menlo School Monday, April 30. O'Reilly, best known for her role in last summer's Oscar-winning movie "The Help," returned to the school from which she graduated in 2003 to discuss her experiences. (Posted May 1 at 8:34 a.m.)

Supes race: Bounced checks disqualify candidate

Two bounced checks have done in the candidacy of David E. Woods, a City Council member from East Palo Alto who was one of eight candidates running for a seat on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors in the June 5 election. (Posted April 27 at 3:50 p.m.)

Ohlone highlights student volunteers

Gunn High School junior Karine McCulloch has spent the last two years saving money and is a few hundred dollars away from getting to her goal of \$5,000. (Posted April 27 at 2:43 p.m.)

Police: Gun-wielding man 'targeted' victims

Two Mountain View men received a frightening wake-up call early Thursday morning, April 26, when a man with a gun entered their bedroom and demanded cash, police said. No one was hurt in the incident. (Posted April 27 at 2:43 p.m.)

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The Reykjavik Forum: History and a New Vision for Our World's Future



In October 1986, Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev met in Reykjavik, Iceland to negotiate a limited nuclear arms reduction. Dramatically, they abandoned the proposed agenda and opened an unprecedented discussion exploring the elimination of all nuclear weapons.

What were Reagan and Gorbachev thinking for those brief hours at Reykjavik?

What was in their hearts and what were their dreams for a new world, a world without nuclear weapons?

Please join us for a performance of Reykjavik, a one-act play written by Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Richard Rhodes, based on actual transcripts of the dialogue between the two presidents. Directed by Rush Rehm, with Peter Ruocco (Mikhail Gorbachev) and Rush Rehm (Ronald Reagan).

The play will be followed on May 8 by a question-and-answer session with Richard Rhodes and Philip Taubman and on May 9 with Richard Rhodes and Sid Drell. Both sessions will be led by Charles Ferguson, President of the Federation of American Scientists.

Presented by the Federation of American Scientists, the Fund for Peace Initiatives, the Center for International Security and Cooperation, the Bowen H. McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society, and Stanford Continuing Studies.

May 8 and 9
7:00 pm
CEMEX Auditorium
Knight Management Center
Stanford University
Free and open to the public

For more info: continuingstudies.stanford.edu



News Digest

Juvenile nabbed for robbery in Palo Alto

A 15-year-old boy who Palo Alto police believe robbed two younger boys on Edgewood Drive in March was arrested Friday afternoon, April 27.

Police believe the boy, an East Palo Alto resident who wasn't identified because he is a juvenile, was one of three youths who stole a cell phone and an electronic music player from two 13-year-old boys on March 31. The older teenagers allegedly rode up behind the two victims. Two were on BMX-style bikes while the third was on a Razor-style scooter.

Police said one of the older boys asked the 13-year-old boys for the time. He then allegedly rode back to the other two teens before returning to the 13-year-old boys and demanding that they give him their stuff.

Police said the boy demanding the stuff had his hand in his sweatshirt pocket. The victims reported hearing a sound that they described as a "can of soda opening," which they thought may have been the sound of a gun cocking. The older boys then fled the scene and were last seen crossing the Newell Street Bridge into East Palo Alto.

After an investigation, police located the boy who they believe committed the robbery on El Camino Real, near Oxford Avenue at about 3 p.m. Friday. The boy was arrested for robbery and then released to a parent in accordance with department policy. ■

—Gennady Sheyner

No charges for teacher who hit girl with car in 2011

An East Palo Alto schoolteacher who accidentally struck and killed a 6-year-old girl in a crosswalk last year will not be charged with a crime, the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office announced Monday, April 30.

Fern White-Parker was on her way to teach at Costano Elementary School on Sept. 28 when she struck East Palo Alto girl Sioreli Torres shortly after 8 a.m. Torres, a Green Oaks Academy student, was crossing Bay Road at Gloria Way on her way to school when she was hit, according to police. Her mother and two younger sisters were a few feet behind her in the crosswalk.

District Attorney Steve Wagstaffe said his office worked with the East Palo Alto Police Department to complete a thorough and detailed investigation of the incident, which included interviews with dozens of witnesses. Wagstaffe called the incident a "tragic case," but said the evidence did not suggest that White-Parker had committed vehicular manslaughter or broken any other laws.

Torres' family has been informed of the district attorney's decision, Wagstaffe said. ■

—Bay City News Service

Man likely injured in botched burglary, police say

What initially appeared to be a grisly suicide attempt in Mountain View is more likely the result of a burglary gone terribly wrong, police said.

At 11:37 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, police came to the aid of a man bleeding from the wrist on Junction Avenue. Officers found the man lying on the ground, unresponsive and "bleeding profusely from a laceration on his wrist," according to Liz Wylie, public information officer for the Mountain View Police Department.

Medics took the man to a local hospital and placed him on a mental health hold, Wylie said. Meanwhile, officers discovered a trail of blood leading from the spot where the man was found to the nearby La Bamba restaurant, located at 580 N. Rengstorff Ave., about 100 yards to the east.

A window of the restaurant had been broken and blood was found inside, Wylie said. Officers also found a screwdriver lying next to a damaged cash register.

Wylie said police now believe that the bleeding man <0x2014> who was on probation for a prior burglary <0x2014> cut himself while breaking into La Bamba and attempted to pry open the cash register before giving up and fleeing the restaurant and collapsing, presumably from blood loss.

Police have yet to interview the man and cannot release his name until he has been arrested. "We notified the hospital to let us know when the man will be released, so that we can arrest him for burglary and probation violation," Wylie said. ■

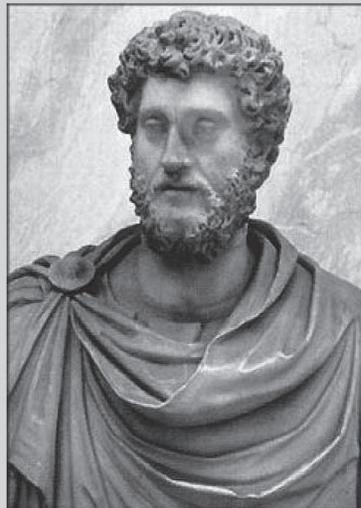
—Mountain View Voice staff

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Philosophy as the Art of Living: Lessons from Emperor Marcus Aurelius



Saturday, May 5
10:00 am – 4:00 pm
**History Corner (Bldg. 200),
Room 205**
Stanford University
Free and open to the public

Marcus Aurelius was one of the rarest and most urgently needed of men, what Plato idealized as a "Philosopher-King," an individual centrally engaged in the responsibilities of political power who also seeks the self-knowledge that enables a human being to act freely and justly within the demands of everyday life.

This one-day program will examine Marcus' great work, now entitled simply *Meditations*. It is a book to open when life is engulfing you in fear or anger, breaking your heart, or when you need a companion. This book can help you pause, reflect, and experience the liberating power of great philosophical ideas intimately expressed.

Join **Jacob Needleman**, *Professor of Philosophy*, San Francisco State, and the author of more than a dozen bestselling books, including *What is God?* and *The American Soul*. He is also editor of *The Essential Marcus Aurelius* (2008), the text that will be referenced in this program.

For more info: continuingstudies.stanford.edu



Life at the Frontier: Human Identity and the Conversational Nature of Reality



Thursday, May 10
7:30 pm
**CEMEX Auditorium,
Knight Management Center**
Stanford University
Free and open to the public

The truth is not the truth until it can be heard and recognized, no matter how well it is said, and one of the difficult truths is that human beings arrive at newness, revelation, and understanding through recognition of something already established within them. To tell the truth, therefore, is not to fire off the right ammunition at an established target, but rather to create a live frontier, a field of communion, between a deep internal core and something that, to begin with, looks like the otherness of the world. Living and breathing at this frontier is what most of our religious and contemplative traditions have called enlightenment.

Join poet and philosopher **David Whyte** for what is sure to be an enlightening experience of this frontier through poetry, the imagination at play, and storytelling. His most recent books include: *The Three Marriages*, *River Flow*, and *Crossing the Unknown Sea*.

For more info: continuingstudies.stanford.edu



Airport

(continued from page 3)

end of June.

Santa Clara County manages the Palo Alto Airport on Embarcadero Road under a 50-year lease that is set to expire in 2017. The Palo Alto City Council decided last year to seek an earlier takeover of airport operations, and staff is hoping to complete the switch in the second half of the year.

Currently, the city is looking to hire an airport manager and plans to submit to the FAA an updated "airport layout plan" — a document that details the airport's design and improvements.

But Rob Braulik, assistant director of the city's Administrative Services Department, wrote in a new report that the local airport is "subject to the consequences of the County's violation" and that the FAA "will not act upon any requests for financial assistance" for the Palo Alto Airport until the matter is resolved.

Palo Alto officials have been trying in recent months to soften the FAA's stance by pointing to its pending management of the airport's operations. So far, the FAA has indicated that even if the city were to take over the airport by July 1, the federal agency would not waive the county's non-compliance and consider any current grant application from the city, according to Braulik's report.

Braulik told the Weekly that the disagreement between the county and the FAA would not prevent the city from pursuing the takeover of airport operations later this year.

"This obviously has an impact on the county's ability to retain funds to make improvements to the airport," Braulik said. "But because this is an issue between the county and the FAA, we will just continue to do the work that is necessary to

take over the airport between July and September."

Palo Alto's decision to assume airport oversight from the county before the lease expires was driven by concerns from the airport community about the county's inadequate investment in and poor maintenance of the bustling facility. It was further bolstered by a 2010 report from the consultant Ralph E. Wiedemann & Associates. Wiedemann analyzed the airport's operations and existing contracts

'Day to day involvement by the City is key to the success of the future operation.'

—Klaasje Nairne, project manager, CommuniQuest

and found that the facility could potentially generate major profits for the city — possibly as high as \$16.2 million by 2037. These profits would, however, have to be reinvested in the airport.

The city's aggressive drive to take over the airport is also reflected in the proposed budget City Manager James Keene released earlier this week, which allocates \$300,000 into a new "airport fund" in the Public Works Department. According to the budget, the city plans to develop a business plan to "guide all aspects of the transition."

"This plan will address a wide spectrum of issues, including assurances that airport operations will be self-supporting and other key goals and objectives," the budget document states.

The Weidemann report had also identified various business models for the city's oversight of the airport, including hiring a third party to manage the airport and having the

city manage the airport on its own. Palo Alto had recently hired another consultant, CommuniQuest, to consider these models. The company recommended the city manage the airport itself, according to Braulik's report.

Third-party management is "quite possibly the lowest financial risk of the two management options," wrote Klaasje Nairne, CommuniQuest's project manager. But "day to day involvement by the City is key to the success of the future operation."

"There is current instability in the relationship with the County and City," Nairne wrote. "Tenants are displeased and have voiced that opinion to City management. Under third-party control and management, this tension is likely to repeat itself."

City management would be able to directly address the concerns of airport users and to recruit and supervise airport staff. Nairne also analyzed the financial data and found that the airport "can operate as a self-sustaining enterprise fund, even with a full complement of staff and some very healthy administrative overhead charges."

The airport manager would be an employee of the city's Public Works Department and would be responsible for "managing, promoting, coordinating and supervising the daily operations of the Palo Alto Airport," according to the job description. The person would serve as the liaison to the county and the FAA.

City staff plans to meet FAA officials next week to discuss the airport layout plan and other procedures that the city must complete before assuming control of the Baylands facility. ■

Staff Writer Gennady Sheyner can be emailed at gsheyner@paweekly.com.

CityView

A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

City Council (April 30)

Budget: The council received the city manager's proposed 2013 fiscal year budget. **Action:** None
Infrastructure: The council discussed the city's infrastructure backlog and possible funding options for infrastructure repairs. **Action:** None

Utilities Advisory Commission (May 3)

Gas rates: The commission approved an overall 10 percent reduction in the city's gas rates. **Yes:** Cook, Foster, Melton **No:** Waldfoegel **Absent:** Eglash, Keller

Architectural Review Board (May 4)

El Camino Park: The board discussed the preliminary design of the proposed improvements at El Camino Park. **Action:** None
180 Hamilton Ave.: The board discussed a proposal by Casa Olga and Joie de Vivre Hospitality for conversion of an existing eight-story building to an 86-room hotel with a ground-floor restaurant. **Action:** None



LET'S DISCUSS: Read the latest local news headlines and talk about the issues at Town Square at PaloAltoOnline.com

Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL ... The council plans to hold a closed session to discuss the city's lawsuit against the California High-Speed Rail Authority and claims against the city by Michael Siegel and David Morse. The council also plans to discuss the city's long-range financial forecast and 355 Alma St., a proposal by Lytton Gateway, LLC for a four-story mixed-use building that includes offices and retail. The closed session will begin at 5 p.m. on Monday, May 7. Regular meeting will follow in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss the 2013 budget, including the city manager's proposed budget for the Library and Community Services departments. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

COUNCIL POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss the funding options for repairing the city's infrastructure. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ... The commission will discuss the draft report on the Human Services Needs Allocation. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8, in the Downtown Library (270 Forest Ave.).

BOARD OF EDUCATION ... The board will discuss, but not vote on, possible changes to high school graduation requirements. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 8, in the board room of school district headquarters (25 Churchill Ave.).

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION ... The commission plans to discuss the city's capital improvement program for the fiscal years 2013-17 and continue its discussion of the Housing Element in the Comprehensive Plan. The meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 9, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

COUNCIL RAIL COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss the memorandum of understanding regarding the proposed blended system for high-speed rail and Caltrain on the Peninsula; and discuss potential litigation against the California High-Speed Rail Authority. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 10, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss the 2013 budget for the Planning, Administrative Services, Human Resources and Information Technology departments. The committee will also discuss employee benefits. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, in the Council Conference Room at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).

COUNCIL POLICY AND SERVICES COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss the future of the Animal Services Center. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, in the Council Chambers at City Hall (250 Hamilton Ave.).



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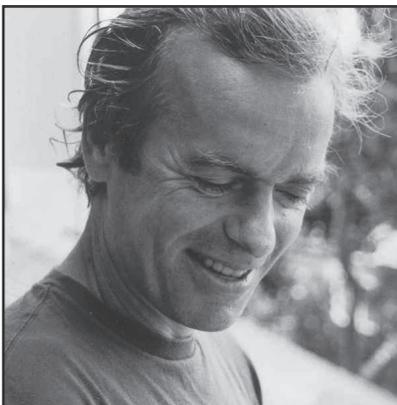


Photo by Isabel Fonseca

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Tragedy

(continued from page 3)

ple's lives recognize what a battle addiction is and know what to do."

Ting well understood that his daughter carried scars from prolonged court battles — including two trials — over her custody when she was a toddler, eventually resulting in full custody for Ting.

But she was a playful and spirited child, who loved to read, bake cookies and hike at Hidden Villa in Los Altos Hills. She attended Pinewood Elementary School, played on the swim and tennis teams at The Kings Academy middle school and high school, and later transferred to Mountain View High School, from which she graduated in 2008.

She learned to speak Japanese through annual family trips to Tokyo, where they visited her paternal grandmother.

Ting said he was unaware that his daughter was abusing drugs when she departed for her freshman year at Northeastern University in Boston.

She came home that fall for Thanksgiving and again for Christmas, before returning to school. In mid-January, he got a call from a university dorm adviser that Esther had been taken to a hospital emergency room.

He reached her at the hospital by phone.

"I thought she was smoking pot or something like that. She said no, she'd been busted for cocaine, that she'd been using it intravenously. I was just flabbergasted.

"That was inconceivable to me because ever since she was 8 or 9 we'd always talked about how bad drugs are, how once you're hooked you're hooked and don't follow that path."

Ting flew to Boston the next day and found his daughter in a locked psychiatric ward.

"I said, 'How did you ever cross the line into using anything intravenously

— how did you take that first step?' She didn't have a good answer."

So began a confusing, three-month journey back in the Bay Area, through drug rehabilitation programs.

Though first slated for a locked, residential treatment facility, Esther persuaded her father that living with nobody but hard-core addicts for a long period was not the best course. Instead, they chose a "sober living environment," in which residents are regularly subjected to drug testing.

In that period, Ting now believes, he failed to grasp fully the depth of his daughter's addiction.

"If your child becomes an addict, all the old rules are off," he says now.

"You can't think you're going to show them respect, or respect their

'If your child becomes an addict, all the old rules are off.'

—George Ting,
backer of Esther's Pledge,
Los Altos

privacy or their word — none of that applies any more. You have to assume they're lying through their teeth, because that's what an addict will do.

"It was a steep learning curve, and I was always one step behind, giving her the benefit of the doubt."

Ting said he participated in Esther's drug-counseling sessions and was seeing her several times a week either at home or in restaurants, where they would meet for lunch or dinner. He helped her settle into her first "sober living environment," but she left that one and told him she was moving to another, where she was seeing therapists and being monitored and drug-tested on a regular basis.

Father and daughter met for lunch at Ming's April 5, 2009. Three days

later he got a call from a Four Seasons Hotel security officer who told him Esther had been taken from the hotel to Stanford Hospital.

Ting found her on a ventilator, with irreversible brain damage, and eventually learned that she'd never moved to the new "sober living environment" but spent her final weeks in a hotel with a fellow addict.

"I made assumptions that were wrong," he said.

"I should have been her jailer. When your child is addicted they can't help themselves, and you have to keep them from harm because they can't do it."

As friends gathered at her bedside in the Intensive Care Unit, and later at her funeral, Ting also realized that many had known of Esther's drug abuse going back to high school but did not know how to act to save her.

"I learned a lot of things when she was in the hospital at Stanford," he said.

Schar and her husband were among the many who attended Esther's funeral. "We saw how greatly she had been loved, how helpless everyone felt that this beautiful child was now gone," she said.

"We felt we had to do something to address this."

Esther's Pledge workshops will be available for young adults 15 to 21 on the first Thursday of every month from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Workshops for youths 10 to 14, and their parents, are offered monthly on the third Thursday from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

The gatherings will be at the Adolescent Counseling Services offices, 1717 Embarcadero Road, Suite 4000, Palo Alto. Reserve by emailing info@acs-teens.org or by calling 650-424-0852 ext. 200.

The number for the Substance Abuse Information Line, available Monday through Friday from 5 to 7 p.m., is 650-384-3094. ■

Staff Writer Chris Kenrick can be emailed at ckenrick@paweekly.com.



The records for the City of Palo Alto show the following checks as outstanding for over three years to the listed payees. Under California Government Code Section 50050, unclaimed money will become the City's property three years after the check was issued. If you are one of the listed payees, please contact Sunee Gill at (650) 329-2224 at the City of Palo Alto by June 30, 2012 so arrangements can be made to reissue the check.

Payee	Reference	Amount
Akamine, Yotoro	2053483	50.00
Anderson-Burley, Dirk	2053329	50.00
Basso, Giancarlo	2056136	77.89
Berlia, Neha	2053417	55.65
Carlsson, Erik	2060247	117.42
Chu, Moo Lan	2060241	156.00
Circle, Jenny	2053962	50.00
Hama, Takaakt	2062027	50.00
Harik, Georges	2060234	50.00
Ho Oh, Young	2053484	50.00
Hu, Xuteng	2052090	50.00
Kasson, Peter	2060255	70.00
Legend Document Solutions	2057194	400.00
Mahgerfteh, Daniel	2054844	50.00
McDonald, Kimani	2050771	50.00
Moidie, Sameer	2060246	115.00
Monshouwer, Marius	2054906	100.00
Murakami, Kenji	2054885	61.74
Murakami, Kenji	2056086	50.00
Nahm, Jung Ju	2060254	297.50
Protection One	2051335	65.00
Taylor, Jeremy	2053205	50.00
Tiongson, Jesusa	2053369	100.00
Tsai, Pamela	2050452	70.00
Verjee, Amar	2050819	65.00
Wable, Akhil or Gupta, Anoop	2051338	190.00

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Preschool (2-5): 5/11, Fri. 5:00-6:00pm
1055 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Rd. Sunnyvale, 94087, (408)735-8333

Palo Alto (5-12): 5/11, Fri. 5:30-6:30pm
870 N. California Ave. Palo Alto, 94303, (650)85801880/ (650)353-0882

Mountain View (5-12): 5/11, Fri. 5:30-6:30pm
2094 Grant Rd. Mt. View, 94040, (650)353-0881

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**Palo
Alto
Weekly**

Transitions

Births, marriages and deaths

David Keller

David Keller, a Palo Alto resident since 1996, died May 1, a few days after his 66th wedding anniversary. He was 89.

He was born in Turka, Poland, and attended Yeshiva in Oswiecim, Poland. He left when the Jews were chased out for the construction of the Auschwitz Concentration Camp. He was captured and sent to various concentration camps while he worked on building Reich's Autobahn, the roadways. He is the only member of his extended family to survive the Holocaust.

He met his wife, Luba, also the only Holocaust survivor from her family, at the displaced persons camp in Feldafing, Germany, and they immigrated to the United States in 1947, settling in New York. He worked at Ratner's Dairy Restaurant on the Lower East Side, where he worked himself up from busboy and counterman to waiter, night manager and shop steward. In 1969 he was elected as a labor chief of Local One of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees Bartenders International Union (now part of UNITE-HERE).

He retired in 1985 as a business agent and his territory included Windows on the World restaurant in the World Trade Center. He also served in various leadership roles at Seaview Jewish Center in Canarsie, Brooklyn, and received a certificate in labor relations management from Cornell University.

After moving to Palo Alto to be near family, he worked at Bob and Bob's Jewish Books and Gifts store in Palo Alto. He also volunteered serving meals at Avenidas La Comida lunch program. He was

a weekly fixture at the Shabbat morning service at Congregation Kol Emeth in Palo Alto. His participation at Kol Emeth diminished as health declined.

He is survived by his wife, Luba; sons, Marty (Barbara), Allyn (Jovanna) and Arthur; and grandchildren, Paul (Sasha), Will (Yael), Sophie, Reta, Jordan and Dania.

Marilyn Elizabeth Burnes

Marilyn Burnes, a longtime resident of Palo Alto, died April 25 due to complications from pneumonia. She was 90.

She was born Feb. 2, 1922, to Otis H. and Alice J. (Flinn) Godfrey of St. Paul, Minn. A graduate of Central High School in St. Paul, she attended Macalester College and graduated in 1943 from the University of Minnesota with a degree in art.

She met Robert "Bob" C. Burnes in 1940 at a mixer at Macalester. They dated a few times and then drifted apart. After college, she worked for a year at Northwest Airlines as a draftsman and then continued her education in occupational therapy at Columbia University in New York.

While she was in New York, she rekindled her relationship with Bob and they corresponded regularly while he was stationed at an Air Force base on the island of Tinian during World War II. After the war, they found themselves back in the Twin Cities and they were married

in the House of Hope Church in St. Paul on March 23, 1946.

They moved to Palo Alto shortly after their marriage and raised three daughters, Elisabeth (Betsy), Susan and Barbara. She spent 20 years working for the Stanford Graduate Foreign Student Admissions Office and was a devoted mother and volunteer.

She gave hundreds of hours to Friends Outside, a group dedicated to helping families of individuals who were incarcerated. She was an adult-literacy tutor, a Girl Scout leader and built homes with Habitat for Humanity. A dedicated church member, she was very active in Women's Fellowship, the Peace and Justice Committee, the church newsletter and taught Sunday school. She was a long-time supporter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, an organization working for peace, justice and non-violence.

She sang songs to her nearby grandchildren and made tapes for those far away. She loved the beach, the San Francisco Giants, the San Francisco 49ers, Stanford sports and politics. Her sense of adventure took her from Europe to China.

She is survived by her husband of 66 years, Robert; sister, Alice (William) Wimer; children, Betsy (Marc) Knoche, Susan (Jeff) Krow and Barbara Burnes; granddaughters, Alison Knoche (Nathan) Prosser and Lauren Knoche; grandsons, Daniel Krow, Ethan Krow, Ojay Eribo and Owen Eribo; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and her brothers, Otis Jr. and Allan.



Joseph Leon Oram

June 6, 1938 – April 23, 2012

Joseph Leon Oram, 73, a resident of Clermont since 2001 passed away Monday, April 23, 2012. Joe was born on June 6, 1938 in Wilkes-Barre, PA, the son of James and Mary Sobinski Oram. He served in the U.S. Army as an armor crewman. Joe was a gifted mechanic, building a race car from the ground up and racing NHRA gasser class for 8 years. He eventually moved to California where he and Gerry met, marrying on September 12, 1971. Joe became an independent insurance agent, starting his own agency which he ran for 15 years. While in California he received his private pilot's license in 1974 and started the Sundance Flying Club in Palo Alto, CA, which is still in operation. Joe retired in 1995 from business because of a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease.

Joe is survived by his loving wife of 40 years, Geraldine and brother, James Oram of Wilkes-Barre, PA.

If you would like to make memorials in Joe's name, the family suggests the National Parkinson Foundation, Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 5018, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5018 or a Mass can be said in his name.

Becker Funeral Home, 806 W. Minneola Ave., Clermont, FL, (352)394-7121, is serving the family.

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POLICE CALLS

Palo Alto

April 26 - May 1

Violence related

Assault and battery1
Assault w/a deadly weapon1
Child abuse1
Domestic violence2

Theft related

Checks forgery1
Identity theft5
Petty theft8

Vehicle related

Bicycle theft1
Driving w/suspended license3
Misc. traffic3
Theft from auto2
Vehicle accident/minor injury2
Vehicle accident/property damage6
Vehicle tow2

Alcohol or drug related

Drunk in public2
Drunken driving5
Possession of drugs1
Sale to minors1

Miscellaneous

Citizen assist.1
Found property2
Lost property1
Misc. penal code violation1
Psychiatric hold3
Sex crime1
Town ordinance violation1
Trespassing1
Warrant arrest1
Warrant/other agency2

Menlo Park

April 26 - May 1

Violence related

Battery1
Domestic violence1

Theft related

Fraud1

Petty theft3
Residential burglaries1

Vehicle related

Auto theft1
Driving w/suspended license5
Hit and run1
Vehicle accident/minor injury1
Vehicle accident/property damage4
Vehicle tow2

Alcohol or drug related

Drug activity2
Possession of drugs2

Miscellaneous

Disturbance1
Fire call1
Found property1
Found runaway1
Gang validations1
Info. case1
Lost property1
Medical aid1
Meet citizen1
Probation violation1
Psychiatric hold2
Registrant1
Vandalism1
Warrant arrest2

Atherton

April 26 - May 1

Theft related

Grand theft1
Identity theft1

Vehicle related

Hit and run1
Misc. traffic2
Parking/driving violation9
Suspicious vehicle7
Vehicle accident/property damage2
Vehicle code violation5

Miscellaneous

Animal call1
Citizen assist.1
Disturbance7
Hang-up1

Hazard2
Lost property1

Medical aid3
Meet citizen3
Outside assistance4
Suspicious circumstances1
Suspicious person2
Ticket sign-off2
Town ordinance violation4
Welfare check1

VIOLENT CRIMES

Palo Alto

200 block University Avenue, 4/28, 3:28 p.m.; assault with a deadly weapon.

Unlisted block Fife Avenue, 4/28, 10:38 p.m.; child abuse/physical.

Unlisted block Shauna Lane, 4/29, 12:58 p.m.; family violence.

300 block University Avenue, 4/29, 11:41 a.m.; battery.

Unlisted block Alma Street, 4/30, 5:57 p.m.; domestic violence.

Menlo Park

200 block Hedge Road, 4/27, 3:53 p.m.; battery.

1800 block Santa Cruz Avenue, 4/27, 5:57 p.m.; spousal abuse.

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Enterprise Branch | **Sunnyvale**
1080 Enterprise Way, Ste 150
Enterprise Way & 11th Ave

Editorial

Money as a 'public benefit'?

Alma-Lytton project offers cash to city in exchange for ability to build an over-sized and under-parked office building

Next Monday the City Council will consider approving the controversial "Lytton Gateway" office building at the corner of Lytton Avenue and Alma Street, a decision that once again points out the need for stronger criteria and follow-up for developments to qualify for Planned Community status, which is awarded to projects that exceed normal zoning but offer offsetting public benefits.

The project at 355 Alma, on the site of the former Shell service station, is being touted as an example of transit-oriented development where employees arrive by train and work in a building that serves as a "gateway" to downtown.

Its developers are seeking to far exceed height and density limits for the neighborhood, in return for contributing millions of dollars to the city, including \$2 million for affordable housing, a \$1.5 million in-lieu parking fee and numerous other benefits, especially for parking, adding up to more than \$1 million.

But in its latest four-story design, without the housing included in the original five-story version, the project's only true "public benefit" is that it will provide office space for workers who might arrive on Caltrain.

This project is just another office building, but three times the size allowed by the zoning. With the actual current zoning for the site, a two-story building totaling 17,000 square feet would be permitted. Instead, the proposed building would exceed 50,000 square feet.

Under the rules in Palo Alto, a developer can seek approval of a larger-than-permitted project by offering so-called public benefits that make the excess development seem worth it for the community.

These planned community (PC) projects have become a favored tool of developers but a challenge for policy-makers, since each project must be negotiated on a case-by-case basis and no standards exist.

Projects exceeding the zoning have been approved over the years in exchange for creation of public plazas, housing, grocery stores, child care, public art, additional parking and a host of other things. Rarely, if ever, has an economic analysis been done to determine the actual value of the public benefits compared to the profits received by the developer due to building a larger project than allowed by the zoning.

In this case, the developers initially proposed 14 units of housing on the fifth floor (including half at below-market rates) as the primary public benefit. The Council appropriately rejected it due to the excessive size and height and concern about parking.

What returns to the Council on Monday is the same building without the fifth floor and housing, and with a laundry list of new public benefits, mostly cash.

We see little justification for Council approving this project.

As revised, this is just another large office building that will add to the parking problems downtown, where residents are already heavily impacted by both daytime employee parking and evening visitors.

The developers have substituted a generous amount of money for the housing they originally proposed as public benefits, but accepting money as the primary public benefit would be unprecedented and would establish that with enough money any developer can obtain approval for a project that meets neither the city's zoning nor Comprehensive Plan policies.

A skeptical City Council asked good questions when it reviewed this project in March, including wanting to understand the value to the developers of gaining 32,000 square feet over what the zoning allowed. Staff responded it didn't have the expertise to do that analysis, but Council member Greg Scharff estimated the value at as much as \$15 million to \$20 million, far less than the proposed public benefits.

But in addition to determining how much the 32,000 extra square feet are worth to the developers, an equally important question for the council is whether it is good public policy to approve zoning exceptions in exchange for payment of money.

We can't imagine the city entertaining the idea of a homeowner paying the city in order to build a bigger house than the zoning allows. Why should office buildings be any different?

As we've repeatedly urged, a complete overhaul of the PC zone and the concept of public benefits is needed, and the City Council can start by rejecting this project as currently proposed.

Spectrum

Editorials, letters and opinions

Keep shelter open

Editor,

The closing of the Palo Alto Animal Services should not even be on the table. In any caring society an animal shelter is mandatory. Please, do not close the Palo Alto Animal Services.

Gale Henshel
Amaranta Avenue
Palo Alto

College app competition

Editor,

With all of the stress that living in a high-achieving, super-competitive school district has for Palo Alto's students, I was appalled to see the author of this article and the Weekly ("College-essay writing help needed," April 27, 2012) prominently quote an individual with a very skewed perspective, without providing an alternate point of view. Cheryl Fount claims that students must apply to 10 different schools, and write 50 different essays, on average, to be successful in the college application.

This is patently absurd, and just contributes to an already over-the-top level of hysteria about the college-admission process. My daughter graduates from Paly this year, and has just gone through the experience, applying to a mix of art schools, small liberal arts colleges and schools in the UC system. She did lots of research, applied to schools based on the fit between their programs and her interests, and is very satisfied with the outcome. No school required more than a single supplement to the common app, and those were, at most, a 500-word essay.

We should be showing our children that we value them intrinsically for who they are, not for what school they can get accepted to. I call on the community of parents, teachers and media to send a more supportive message to our students, and not push their levels of stress, or degree of competitiveness, any higher.

Lucinda Abbott
Lincoln Avenue
Palo Alto

Keep decile ranks

Editor,

Since Palo Alto Unified School District's decile ranges have been released publicly, and the grade distribution isn't likely to change much from year to year, colleges will still have a good idea of where future applicants rank. And, since the UC system guarantees admission to the top 9 percent of each high school's class, do we really want to prevent the UCs from delivering this benefit to our children (even if many choose to go elsewhere) by refusing to rank?

Brian Suckow
Southampton Drive
Palo Alto

Beyond tragic

Editor,

My dad and I did a few things at Town & Country the other day, and drove around the city, with its many apartments, hotels and motels, and the area where Palo Alto Bowl used to stand, soon to be invaded by a huge hotel, and it is so sad! Beyond tragic. Way beyond.

I can recall times when Palo Alto had a fair amount of stuff to do for

people under the age of 60.

What has happened to this city?

I don't know if anything can be done, but I am going to see if the demolition of Palo Alto Bowl warrants a lawsuit. This demolition has hurt so many disabled individuals. We are in a status quo that favors rich developers.

Daniel Mart
Awalt Drive
Mountain View

This week on Town Square

Town Square is an online discussion forum at www.PaloAltoOnline.com

Posted April 27 at 11:39 a.m. by resident, a member of the Nixon School community:

I would love to see a middle school at Escondido campus (re: "School board gets creative with enrollment options").

I can't imagine having my kids bike to Terman when the time comes — or Gunn — and I've never understood why the campus kids aren't all granted the option of Paly — it's the closest high school and also the safest bike ride.

I'm sure there's a history to all

of this that I don't understand (I've only lived here for three years) but, why, when PAUSD always talks about neighborhood schools, etc., the kids who can bike through the campus are instead assigned to bike on such dangerous roads? I hear there's a "back way," but it still seems like it's not a good option.

Maybe campus kids can go to Escondido for middle school and then Paly? That would be wonderful!

YOUR TURN

The Palo Alto Weekly encourages comments on our coverage or on issues of local interest.

What do you think? Do you think the Lytton Gateway project offers enough public benefits?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 250 words to letters@paweekly.com. Include your name, address and daytime phone number so we can reach you. We reserve the right to edit contributions for length, objectionable content, libel and factual errors known to us. Anonymous letters will generally not be accepted.

You can also participate in our popular interactive online forum, **Town Square**, at our community website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com. Read blogs, discuss issues, ask questions or express opinions with you neighbors any time, day or night.

Submitting a letter to the editor or guest opinion constitutes a granting of permission to the Palo Alto Weekly and Embarcadero Media to also publish it online, including in our online archives and as a post on Town Square.

For more information contact Editor Jocelyn Dong or Online Editor Tyler Hanley at editor@paweekly.com or 650-326-8210.



Saturday, May 5, 2012

10 a.m. University Ave. Downtown Palo Alto
Rain or Shine!

Calling All Kids!

It's not too late to join the parade!

Just show up at the information table close to the corner of University and Emerson by 9:30am and march with the Kids on Parade category. Kids can march in a costume, on their bikes, trikes or anything else with wheels (no motorized) or with your pet. Please make sure all pets are on leashes or appropriately housed.

2012 MAY FÊTE PARADE LINE UP

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Palo Alto Police Department | 32 Mariachi Mariachissimo |
| 2 Sparkles the Clown | 33 Palo Alto Family YMCA |
| 3 Theme Banner | 34 Our School |
| 4 Color Guard - carried by Boy Scout Troop 52 | 35 Ravioli the Clown |
| 5 Grand Marshal - Bob Klein | 36 Palo Alto Children's Theatre |
| 6 VIP - Special Guests | 37 El Carmelo Elementary School |
| 7 Palo Alto Children's Theatre | 38 San Jose Earthquakes Mascot |
| Teen Arts Council | 39 Girls Middle School |
| 8 Palo Alto Recreation Foundation | 40 Bowman International School Marching Band |
| 9 Palo Alto High School Viking Pep Band | 41 Bowman International School |
| 10 Friends Nursery School | 42 Palo Alto Community Child Care |
| 11 Nixon Elementary School | 43 Studio Kicks |
| 12 The Learning Center | 44 Fairmeadow Daisy Troop |
| 13 Triumph Spitfire | 45 Fairmeadow Elementary School |
| 14 Palo Verde Elementary School | 46 First School |
| 15 First Congregational Nursery School | 47 Buster's Fan Club |
| 16 Museum of American Heritage | 48 Free the Children |
| 17 Casa dei Bambini | 49 Geokids |
| 18 All Star Kung Fu | 50 Chevy Volt |
| 19 Terman Middle School Marching Band | 51 Parents Nursery School |
| 20 Juana Briones Elementary School | 52 Edgewood House School |
| 21 Young Fives & Preschool Family | 53 Green Party Party |
| 22 Grace Lutheran Preschool | 54 PI |
| 23 Dance Connection | 55 German American School |
| 24 International School of the Peninsula | 56 Jordan Middle School Marching Band |
| 25 Palo Alto Children's Library | 57 Nissan Leaf |
| 26 The Children's Pre-School Center | 58 Addison Elementary School |
| 27 Duveneck Elementary School | 59 Stanford University Marching Band |
| 28 All Electric Tesla Roadster | 60 Walter Hays Elementary |
| 29A Downtown Palo Alto Farmer's Market | 61 United Studios of Self Defense |
| 29B Palo Alto Humane Society | 62 Jordan Middle School Electric Cars |
| 30 JL Stanford Marching Band | 63 Fisker Karma |
| 31 Kids on Parade | 64 Camp Unalayee |
| | 65 Theatworks |
| | 66 Henry M. Gunn High School Band |
| | 67 Fire Engine |
| | 68 Sweeper |
| | 69 Green Machine |

Grand Marshal

Robert N. Klein II

Author and chair of the successful 2004 stem cell initiative and served as the head of the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine

May Fete Fair

Don't miss the fun at the May Fête Fair. The Fair is **NEW** this year and is being organized by the Palo Alto Recreation Foundation and the Kiwanis Club of Palo Alto at Heritage Park following the parade from 10am to 1pm.

In addition, The Museum of American Heritage, just across the street from the park, will be hosting their Annual Vintage Vehicle & Family Festival with lots of activities from 10am-2:30pm.

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Healing the wounds within

Innovative programs at the VA Palo Alto are helping veterans recover from PTSD

by Sue Dremann

U.S. Army veteran Robert Solis was raised in a small, troublesome town rife with substance abuse. He had issues with anger, anxiety, isolation, self-control and depression before he entered the military, he said.

Six years in the war zone of southeast Iraq only boosted his anger.

Returning home, he reacted the way he was trained to do in combat. He was hyper-vigilant, aggressive and on edge.

“In a combat zone, all you know how to be is aggressive,” he said.

Solis, now 31, often felt his anxiety levels rising at home and pushed his children away as a result, he said. It was only during a court-appointed program for substance abuse two years ago that he learned he had post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD.

Though PTSD is most often thought to be associated with military veterans, anyone can develop the disorder after experiencing a trauma in which the person has witnessed a horrible event, feared for his or her life, or felt extreme helplessness.

Everyday events suddenly unleash unpleasant and frightening feelings, as though the trauma is happening all over again.

Approximately 30 percent of Vietnam War veterans

have developed PTSD. Those numbers are expected to rise for Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans, given their multiple tours of duty and the incidence of traumatic brain injury that many now survive, said Joan Smith, a therapist with the VA Palo Alto’s PTSD outpatient clinic.

But veterans are finding relief and healing through innovative programs to treat PTSD through the VA system. To gain mastery over their debilitating symptoms, they are training dogs, participating on cycling teams and learning to manage their reactions while driving. Other new treatments include teleconferencing with psychiatrists and mobile-phone applications to help control symptoms. Those recovering from PTSD are also engaging in cognitive behavior therapy and practicing a technique called “prolonged exposure,” in which a person becomes

desensitized to the trauma by repeatedly remembering aspects of the event.

Solis has been participating in the PAWS for Purple Hearts service-dog training program, which teaches veterans patience and how to feel emotions again.

He and U.S. Air Force veteran Anthony Uzzi are training Ethan and Eldridge, two large and placid golden retrievers, at the VA Palo Alto Menlo Park campus’s

‘In a combat zone, all you know how to be is aggressive.’

—Robert Solis,
U.S. Army veteran



Veronica Weber

Archie Stone, a U.S. Air Force veteran who served in Vietnam, sits in his counselor's office at the San Jose Veterans Affairs PTSD clinic in early April.

41-bed Trauma Recovery facility.

Like Solis, Uzzi is dealing with self-control issues related to PTSD.

Last Thursday, Uzzi was in a VA lounge, trying to get Eldridge to flick on a light switch with his nose. The dog has learned to pick up objects from the floor and to pull open doors with a loop of rope on the handle. He can even open a refrigerator door.

But Eldridge was struggling with the light-switch idea. He got close to a training board with an attached switch — and licked it.

“Light! Light!” Uzzi encouraged the big dog, raising his voice in an excited, friendly manner. Eldridge continued to lick. Prompted by treats, Eldridge finally touched the switch with his nose.

“Good boy!” Uzzi said, giving the dog a treat and vigorously rubbing his neck and head.

Just 60 days ago, that type of disappointment might have frustrated Uzzi, 32, who said he has anger and violence problems. But working with Eldridge has taught him much about patience and the value of positive reinforcement, he said.

Working with Eldridge is improving Uzzi's relationship with his two children, ages 5 and 8. The dogs are good emotional barometers, he said.

“They let you know right away if you

are being too harsh on them. It's the way they look at you. Or they back off,” he said.

Solis, likewise, is learning to relate to his children because of the training work.

Working with Ethan, who isn't always willing to cooperate on command and makes progress incrementally, has taught him patience, Solis said.

He recalled a recent visit home for his 1-year-old's birthday party. During it, he used cognitive-therapy techniques and lessons learned from Ethan to handle the chaos.

“The kids were all jumping up on me. There was no breathing space. I felt like the anxiety was kicking in,” he said.

But he realized that Ethan does that too, jumping up when he's happy to see his trainer. Solis did some deep breathing, and it was all right, he said.

The dogs help the veterans to get away from black-and-white thinking, said Sandra Carson, who teaches the vets to train the dogs. If the dog doesn't do something the trainer wants it to do, the vet might think, “The dog doesn't like me,” she said. Instead, she gets the vets to think about what they can modify in themselves to get the dog to listen. It might be the sound of their voice or

(continued on next page)

What is PTSD?

Symptoms range from flashbacks to emotional numbness

Nearly 70 percent of Americans will be exposed to a traumatic event in their lifetime, and an estimated 20 percent of those will develop post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD, according to the PTSD Alliance.

Such traumas could include combat, sexual or physical abuse, a terrorist attack, a serious accident or a natural disaster, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs National Center for PTSD.

Developing PTSD depends on many factors, including the intensity and length of the trauma, if someone close was killed or injured, how near one was to the event, the intensity of the person's reaction, how much control the person had of events, and how much support the person received after the event.

Symptoms of PTSD — such as anxiety, feeling “on edge,” feeling numb or avoidance behaviors — disrupt life and make it hard to continue with daily activities, the National Center for PTSD reports.

The National Center identifies four types of PTSD symptoms:

- **Reliving the event.** Intense memories of the trauma return in the form of nightmares or flashbacks, triggering the original feelings of fear and horror.
- **Avoiding situations that are reminders of the event.** Some people actively avoid situations or people that trigger memories of the trauma. They stay very busy and do not seek help.
- **Feeling numb.** PTSD sufferers can have difficulty expressing feelings, cultivating relationships, enjoying activities previously liked, or even remembering the trauma itself.
- **Feeling keyed up.** People with PTSD may feel jittery or as though they are always on the lookout for danger. They may be angry or irritable or have trouble concentrating or sleeping.

More information is available at www.ptsd.va.gov. ■

Source: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs National Center for PTSD



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Veronica Weber

U.S. Army veteran Robert Solis, who served in Iraq, is training Ethan through the Paws for Purple Hearts program at the PTSD Residential Rehabilitation program at the VA Palo Alto's Menlo Park campus.

(continued from previous page)

the way they give a command. The same skill works when vets must handle their children, she said.

Melissa Puckett, recreational therapist and PTSD supervisor in the men's and women's trauma-recovery program, said many vets deal with emotional numbness as part of PTSD. The dogs help them to receive touch and spontaneous affection and to express love — "things they thought they would never have again," she said.

"When the dog does something, and it's not about the treats anymore, it's gratifying and confidence building," she said.

The training program started four years ago, and so far, 13 dogs have been trained. Five of the animals have been placed with disabled vets. Not all dogs graduate; some have too strong of a hunting instinct and are too apt to chase things, Carson said.

'My kids are hearing me sound happy and say, "I love you."

For the past five to six years, they haven't gotten that from me.'

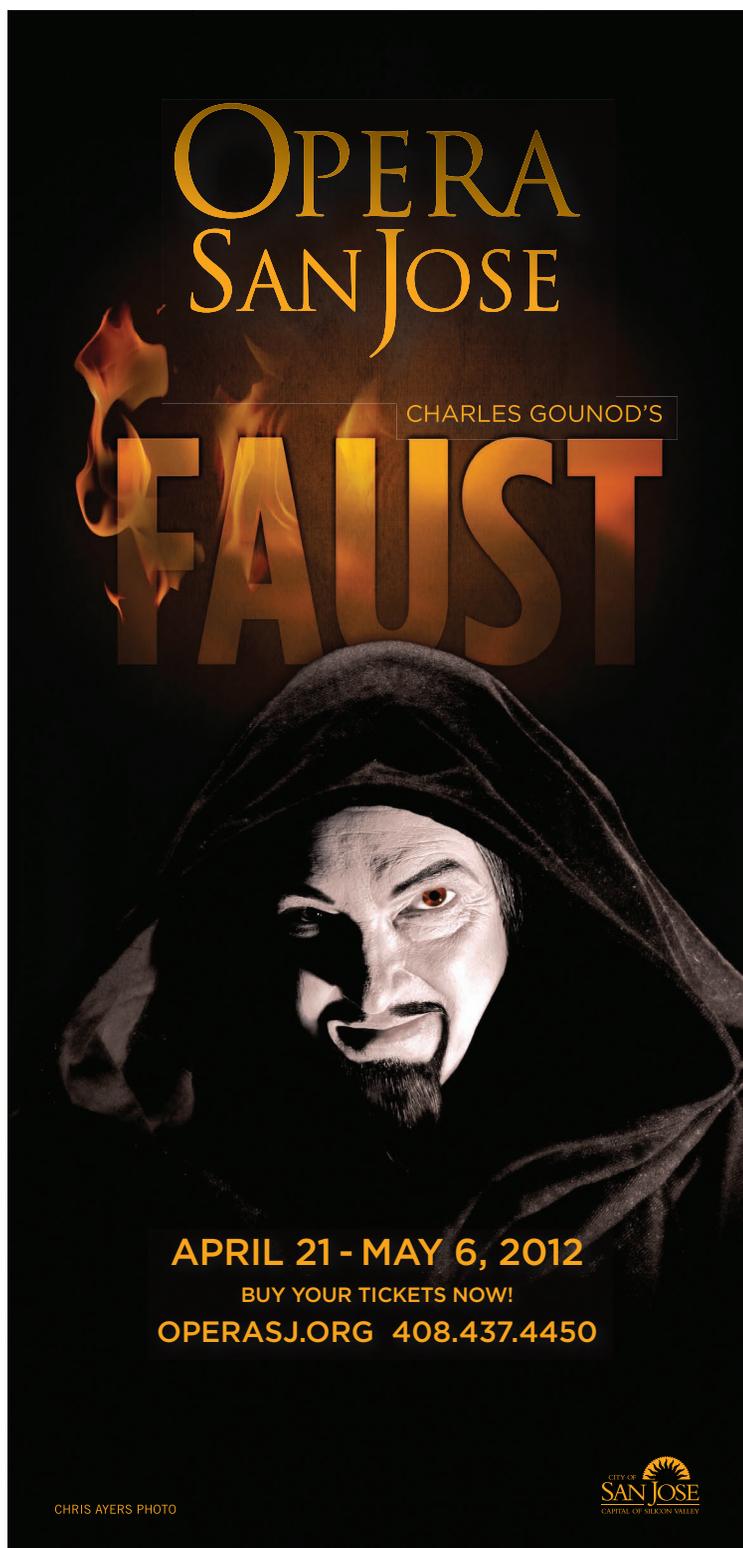
— Anthony Uzzi,
U.S. Air Force veteran

Three dogs, including Ethan and Eldridge, are currently in the program. The third dog, Elaine, will be placed in the women's trauma-recovery facility, she said.

Uzzi and Solis will only have the dogs for about 90 days, and then they will turn Ethan and Eldridge over to other vets to continue the training. That's also part of the therapy, Puckett and Carson said.

Loss is something that veterans know well. Many have lost buddies in combat and seen scores of people die.

"Giving up the dog helps process what it means to say goodbye," Puckett said.



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Uzzi plans to get involved in service-dog training when he returns home to Santa Cruz, he said. His goal is giving a dog to a disabled vet.

He also wants to improve his relationship with his children. Uzzi said he came back from a 2005 tour in Iraq an angry man, and it wrecked his home life. He was only diagnosed with PTSD in January.

"It's a lifestyle that we've lived, and we've brought it here. It was a way that we had to live. We were always angry. It's what kept us going," he said. "I got out of the service, and it really hit me."

But the dog-training is changing him.

"My kids are hearing me sound happy and say, 'I love you.' For the past five to six years, they haven't gotten that from me," he said.

For veterans whose job it was to drive vehicles through war zones, returning home is one thing; returning to the roads is another.

These are the vets Marc Samuels works with. Samuels, an occupational therapist and certified driver rehabilitation specialist at the VA Palo Alto, works to help PTSD sufferers get back in the driver's seat.

The VA Palo Alto is at the forefront of innovative driver-therapy and research programs.



Robert Solis, left, a U.S. Army veteran, and Anthony Uzzi, a U.S. Air Force veteran, are training dogs for the Paws for Purple Hearts program, as a way to deal with their PTSD. Working with the dogs helps veterans relearn how to receive touch and spontaneous affection.

(continued on next page)

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Veteran Angel Gomez receives training from occupational therapist Carol Hawthorn in an accessible car, as part of a program to help PTSD sufferers get back in the driver's seat.



Marc Samuels, occupation therapist and certified driving rehabilitation specialist at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System, uses a driving simulator (at left) to help vets overcome their anxieties while driving in a controlled environment.

(continued from previous page)

One of Samuels' patients was a diesel-truck driver traveling with a convoy to the front lines in Iraq. Every day he anticipated he would be killed by an improvised explosive device, or IED, Samuels' patient told him.

He carried that hyper-vigilance back home. Benign encounters triggered feelings that made driving frightening: A person would unexpectedly come out from behind a corner or a car would get too close.

A person with PTSD might run a stop sign to get away or suddenly pull over by the side of the freeway

to cope with the feelings of panic, Samuels said.

"It's all about avoidance. You revert back to combat-driving training. You do all of these things without thinking: You don't stop; you drive in the middle of the road," he said.

Samuels said there are many misconceptions about PTSD.

"People are concerned the veteran driver will go nuts and run somebody down," he said. But "these drivers tend to be significantly defensive drivers. The issue is them stopping in the road" — not threatening others.

Many are self-regulating on such a level that they are not driving anymore, he said.

When that happens, the veteran can't drive his or her kids to school, get to work or sometimes even attend therapy sessions, he said.

The first thing Samuels addresses with patients is how to identify their

most potent triggers; then he works with patients to acclimate and to find ways "to ground you in the here and now," he said.

"You experienced a significant life-threat trauma. Yes, it happened and it sucked, but you're not there now" is the message he said he tries to impart to patients.

The process can begin in a computer simulator designed to set off the patient's triggers. The patient can eventually graduate to getting behind the wheel.

Patients are given two types of treatment. Cognitive behavioral

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Bicycle riding is also part of the PTSD rehabilitation program. Here veterans Dado Mapano, U.S. Army, left, and David Morrison, U.S. Navy, get their bikes ready for a ride organized by a recreation therapist at the VA Palo Alto's Menlo Park campus.

therapy helps them to recognize their triggers, the emotions created and how to circumvent those feelings. Prolonged-exposure therapy repeatedly introduces veterans to their emotional triggers and helps them to work through feelings and to gain the perspective that they are no longer in danger.

In the VA Palo Alto's research program, two sets of monitors measure heart rates of veteran drivers with PTSD. As they drive a vehicle, cameras focused on their eyes record and measure the diameter of pupils, and monitors indicate if they are tapping on the brakes.

Often on the course, a driver will become overwhelmed with emotions, Samuels said. When the veteran exits the car, the psychologist works with him or her, offering in-

terventions or specific protocols to help the patient manage anxiety.

Incrementally, the veteran learns to control the knee-jerk response. PTSD isn't cured, but it is mastered, Samuels said.

Therapy has made a huge difference in Archie Stone's life.

For nearly 40 years the former Air Force Airman Second Class kept a secret. Stone, 58, was just 17 years old and only two weeks out of high school when he was raped in a boot-camp shower room on U.S. soil.

The assaults went on for a month, but he never told anyone, he said. To quell the emotional pain, he became addicted to alcohol.

Five years ago, a life-threatening liver transplant brought the trauma

back to the surface, heightened by the psychoactive drugs he took as transplant therapy, he said.

"It made me feel like I was 17 again. It brought me back to that time again. I was majorly paranoid," he said.

So Stone took part in a 12-week cognitive-therapy program that helped him identify triggers in everyday life that set off his anxiety. By analyzing how his feelings arise, he has been able to separate false belief—"I am in danger"—from reality. He has also learned how to interrupt the escalating feelings by using skills such as deep breathing and conjuring up a pleasant memory or place.

He also took part in group therapy for other military sexual trauma victims. Such programs did not exist when Stone first came to the VA in

the early 1980s. VA Palo Alto's program was innovative, he said.

"It helped me to realize that I wasn't alone in this experience, and I wasn't a freak of nature. It helped me to understand these are things that happen to people; these are things that happen in the course of life," he said.

Paula Weatherby, a licensed clinical social worker on the PTSD clinical team, works with Stone.

"These programs have opened the VA to areas that had been neglected," she said. Asking if a veteran was exposed to military sexual trauma is now a standard question, she said.

Stone is also benefiting from the VA's Telemental Health program, which allows veterans who live long distances away to receive consistent treatment via the Internet, using programs such as Skype, increasing the chances that the vet will stay in the program. Stone, who lives in the Santa Cruz Mountains, said he would not be able to make it to all of his visits if he couldn't meet remotely. The program has a high retention rate. Therapist Smith said none of her Telemental Health patients have dropped out.

Stone is now embarking on the most perilous part of his healing journey, prolonged-exposure therapy.

With the triggers that set off his anxiety identified, Weatherby is having him focus on aspects of his trauma, instead of becoming overwhelmed by the whole experience. Stone imagines himself in various situations where he is exposed to the things that trigger his feelings. Weatherby tapes the sessions.

Over and over, he might imagine himself walking into a public restroom or a gym locker room, bringing up the unpleasant feelings, which he can discuss with his therapist. He also goes directly into

situations that trigger his feelings. In between sessions, he listens to the tape multiple times.

Through prolonged exposure, the memories have begun to lose their power, he said.

"It makes something not quite as invasive. You know what the memory is. The more detail that comes out of your mind, little things — smells, lighting — suddenly jump out at you. Some were lost to you in the overall experience. You can get lost in the overall story," he said.

Facing the things he was ignoring, the therapy is helping Stone to return to places he previously avoided.

"I would never want to shower in a health club," he recalled. But "now I can go into public restrooms. I don't always have to sit with my back against the wall."

The treatments have moved him away from substance abuse and alcohol, which he used to take his memories and wipe them out of consciousness, he said.

Stone said the trauma "will never, ever, really go away," but he is thankful for the progress he's making.

"I'm blessed. I'm living on bonus time. (PTSD) is very disquieting and very disruptive. The therapy has inspired me to try to reach for something. It matters to my quality of life. I'll be able to function more in normal society. Without this, I would be a bit more of a hermit. I was viewing the world as a dangerous place," he said. ■

Staff Writer Sue Dremann can be emailed at sdremann@paweeekly.com.

About the cover: Anthony Uzzi, a U.S. Air Force veteran who served in Iraq, takes a moment with Eldridge, a dog he is training for the Paws for Purple Hearts program at the PTSD Residential Rehabilitation program at the VA Palo Alto's Menlo Park campus in April. Photo by Veronica Weber.

Mobile apps help PTSD sufferers

Therapies offered on smartphones can provide patients with instant treatment

Veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can now get help managing panic and depression from their phones.

Mobile applications, or apps, for smartphones and digital devices like tablets, are designed to help veterans between therapist appointments — any time they feel symptoms of PTSD coming on.

Developed by the VA Palo Alto Health Care System, the app first asks for information about the veteran's friends, loved ones and any health professionals who can help when the vet feels distressed. App users can add pictures they find comforting or funny as well as songs they find relaxing or put them in a good mood.

People using the app for the first time select from a menu of infor-

mation to determine if they have symptoms of PTSD.

Many veterans are not aware they have PTSD, a condition that can cause intense distress when something triggers memories of a combat trauma.

Educational questions such as "Are you very angry most of the time?" and "Have you been feeling anxious or had distressing thoughts almost all the time?" help people acknowledge they might have a problem, said Dr. Julia E. Hoffman, a VA clinical psychologist and mobile-apps lead at the Menlo Park campus.

If the user answers "yes" to having thoughts about suicide, hurting or killing someone else, he or she is directed to seek emergency help and is given the phone contact for the Veterans Crisis Line.

An assessment feature asks 17 questions related to symptoms. For example, "In the past month, how much have you been bothered by repeated disturbing dreams of the stressful experience?" and "In the past month, how much have you been bothered by suddenly acting or feeling as if the stressful experience were happening again?"

A touch of the screen allows the app user to check off the degree of their experience from "not at all" to "extremely."

After answering the questions, the application evaluates if the person is having difficulties that are mild and are not given to a PTSD diagnosis, or if he or she has PTSD. The person can schedule the assessments once per month and track his or her progress.

One of the app's main functions is to help veterans manage their symptoms as they are occurring. The vet can use the app to identify what he or she is experiencing, such as feeling disconnected from people, feeling sad or hopeless, disconnected from reality or angry. Touching "Reminded of the trauma," links to distress "thermometer" on which the veteran can

rate the level of his or her distress, from a zero to 10.

The application then leads to a series of exercises and suggestions to help relieve the anxiety, such as muscle-relaxation exercises or a suggestion to listen to music.

The relaxation exercise has audio: "Take a deep breath and feel clean air going into your belly, and then exhale with a sigh; and again, take a deep breath and feel clean air going down into your throat," the audio instructs.

A second exercise displays the image of a many-rooted tree in a forest: "Focus all of your attention in the smells in your environment," it notes.

If the user indicates a level 10 on the scale for distress, the application concludes that the person is in crisis and suggests talking to someone immediately. The person can connect to someone through 911 or the Veterans Crisis Line — or reject that option and choose a tool.

Hoffman said more than 50,000 people have downloaded the application, PTSD Coach, in 62 countries. It has received a series of awards.

Hoffman's team has also developed PE Coach, a companion for

prolonged-exposure therapy (PE), one of the most effective treatments for PTSD that is used widely throughout VA and Department of Defense.

PE Coach provides features and self-assessment that are regularly used in face-to-face prolonged-exposure therapy. It uses some of the same relaxation tools to alleviate stress.

Prolonged-exposure therapy exposes a PTSD sufferer to repeated situations that trigger the emotions associated with trauma. Over time and with counseling, the intense feelings caused by PTSD are reduced and become manageable.

Other pending applications include general mindfulness, disaster response, and cognitive behavioral therapy for insomnia, and a PTSD Coach for families. All will be available for free this year, Hoffman said.

But she noted the applications are not intended to replace psychotherapy.

"The most important pieces of therapy require experience and insight from the clinician, and would be very challenging to replicate," she said. ■

— Sue Dremann

Arts & Entertainment

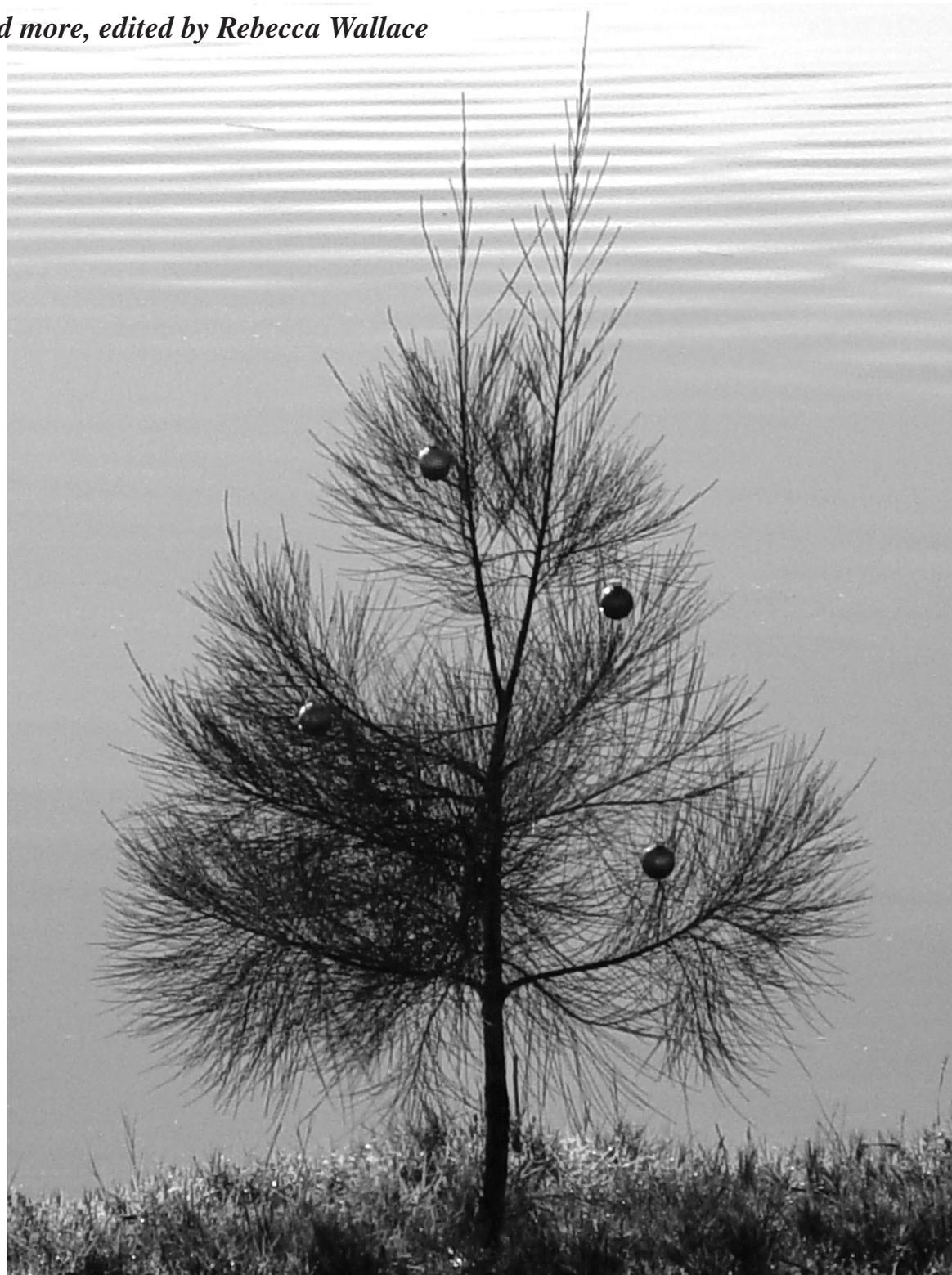
A weekly guide to music, theater, art, movies and more, edited by Rebecca Wallace



"My three kids, my three trees." -Mimi Lyons



"Tangled, secure, elegant; they awaken memories."
-Ana Sofia Amieva-Wang



"It is Charlie Brown's Christmas tree!" -Richard Bicknell

Tree tales

*Art center seeks public's
photos and mini-stories
about favorite Palo Alto trees*

by Rebecca Wallace

Through boom and bust, as Palo Alto photographer Angela Buenning Filo chronicles the scenes of Silicon Valley, she retains a special fondness for a small piece of land in San Jose. One of the last orchards in what used to be the Valley of Heart's Delight is barely hanging on, near an IBM building.

Over three winters, Filo photographed every tree. Her pictures, now on permanent display at San Jose City Hall, have proved more lasting than the walnuts and prunes. "It's not been watered or maintained

(continued on next page)



"Looking out my window, missing you."
-Angela Buenning Filo



"Ginkgo, yardstick. Seasons, kids. Changing, growing."
-Pearl Chow

"It's not a photo contest ... It's not about creating a precious photo so much as choosing a precious tree."
-Angela Buenning Filo



"The silent guardian of our house." -E.R.

(continued from previous page)

for many years," she said of the orchard. "It's just surviving of its own accord in a slow decline."

This experience may account for some of Filo's enthusiasm about her new project, Palo Alto Forest. Fortunately, Palo Alto's trees seem to have a more evergreen spirit.

Filo is spearheading the project, in which members of the public are invited to submit their photographs of trees they find meaningful. They're also sending in six-word stories about what the trees mean to them. The people don't have to live in Palo Alto, as long as their leafy subjects do.

In October, when the Palo Alto

Art Center on Newell Road is scheduled to reopen after more than a year of extensive renovations, the tree photos and stories will go up there as part of a new display.

"The exhibition will be called 'Community Creates' and will feature approximately eight Bay Area contemporary artists working with key community groups to create installations," center director Karen Kienzle said. So far, Palo Alto artist Mel Day has also signed on to do a new-media piece with Lytton Gardens.

Filo said she hasn't decided exactly what shape Palo Alto Forest will take. It could be a straightforward two-dimensional piece, with people's photos and stories, or per-

haps something three-dimensional, "with the sense of walking among the trees," she said.

Meanwhile, she's gathering and enjoying the pictures and stories as they come in. As of last week, she had received about 50 submissions.

"It's not a photo contest," Filo said. "Some people hesitate to participate because they don't see themselves as photographers, but we want anyone to take part. It's not about creating a precious photo so much as choosing a precious tree."

Photos taken on any kind of equipment, from phones to professional cameras, are welcome, with one entry per person.

As for the stories, entries may be

descriptive, or funny, or even enigmatic in the tradition of the famous six-word story attributed to Ernest Hemingway: "For sale: baby shoes, never worn."

One entry, submitted by a person who gave his or her name as simply "E.R.," depicts a towering redwood tree, with the story "The silent guardian of our house." Mimi Lyons wrote, "My three kids, my three trees," and Carolyn Held looked into a cluster of blossoms and penned, "Pink playfulness superimposed on azure calm." Susan P. Meade gave her photo's sky a fanciful background of pink, orange and yellow, writing, "A New Look At Gamble Garden,"

Filo herself contributed a con-

templative image of an oak gently stretching its branches over a fence into a neighboring yard. It was one of five oaks that once grew along the side of her house, but it went into decline. The tree had to be cut down right around the time that Filo, Kienzle and others at the art center were coming up with the idea for Palo Alto Forest.

"I wanted to have a little tribute to that tree," Filo said. Her story: "Looking out my window, missing you." ■

Info: Palo Alto Forest entries must be submitted to tree@paloaltoforest.org by June 15. For more information, go to paloaltoforest.org.



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An ever-charming orphan

The theater staple 'Annie' is still going strong at Palo Alto Players

by Karla Kane

THEATER REVIEW



Carley Gilbert plays Annie in the Palo Alto Players production.

If you're a musical-theater nerd — er, connoisseur? — like me, you're probably very familiar with "Annie."

In case you aren't: It's the musical based on the comic strip "Little Orphan Annie" and follows the adventures of the titular plucky orphan, her faithful mutt Sandy and her rich benefactor Oliver "Daddy" Warbucks in 1930s New York City.

The play is a community-theater staple and for good reasons. Its heartwarming story, catchy music and kid-friendly material (along with its plethora of roles for young actors) make it a perennially pleasant choice since the 1970s. Palo Alto Players' current production is no exception.

Set in the Big Apple during the Great Depression, "Annie" tells the tale of an 11-year-old optimist (Carley Gilbert), who refuses to give up on her dream of escaping the horrors of the orphanage run by the villainous Miss Hannigan (Raegen Raymond) and finding her real parents. Meanwhile, capitalist billionaire Oliver Warbucks (Russ Bohard) and his kindly secretary Grace (Jen Wheatonfox) decide to take Annie under their wealthy wings. This is in between their talks with U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt (Daniel Joseph), who's grappling with the grim state of the nation.

A flock of winsome orphans, Warbucks' devoted servants, Hannigan's shady brother Rooster (Danny Martin), and everyday New Yorkers round out the cast.

The score, which successfully imitates period-appropriate jazzy tunes, is full of hits, including: the show stopper "Tomorrow" (surely the song that launched a thousand ill-fated audition routines), "Maybe," "Easy Street," "Hard Knock Life" (covered by rapper Jay-Z) and my favorite, the relentlessly upbeat "You're Never Fully Dressed Without a Smile." Though I've heard them many times, I still tapped my toes faithfully throughout, enjoying the lesser-known tunes just as much as the classics. In fact, it's the rare soundtrack in which every song is a winner.

The Players version is not without flaws musically. The generally good orchestra had a few brass-section issues, and star Gilbert, while charming, had some trouble hitting her high notes during my viewing. The group harmonies, too, were sometimes off — especially disappointing during the Boylan Sisters' song, which should soar with Andrews Sisters-style crooning.

On the other hand, adult leads Raymond, Bohard, Wheatonfox and Martin all were in marvelous voice and inhabited their parts with just the right comedic and heartfelt touches. I've heard better FDR impressions, but Joseph still earned plenty of chuckles in his good-natured presidential role.

I must admit I was particularly excited to find out what sort of dog would be playing Annie's canine companion, Sandy. In this case it's a burly, bear-like fellow called Spencer (the pet of actor Steve Thannisch, who plays a policeman) in a reduced part. He made up for his apparent stage fright with cuteness, wagging his tail enthusiastically

whenever Thannisch was on stage. Also adorable was Zoe Wheatonfox as Molly, the little orphan with a big attitude.

Sets by Patrick Klein, choreography by director Jeanne Batacan-Harper and costumes by Mary Cravens serve their purposes to fine effect. But in this production it's all about the sweet, schmaltzy-in-a-good-way story (by Thomas Meehan) and songs (by Charles Strouse, who also composed the music of "Bye Bye Birdie"), which is as it should be.

The play, with its clever references to 1930s American politics and history (today's Occupy Wall Street protestors can no doubt relate to the folks languishing in "Hooverville" shanty towns), along with its irrepressible optimism and heart, appeals to nostalgic adults as well as being a perfect pick for introducing kids to the world of Broadway.

It's been delighting audiences for more than 30 years. Judging by the many children in the audience, including several dressed in red "Annie" outfits, it will continue to be popular with generations today and, if you'll pardon the pun, tomorrow. ■

What: The musical "Annie," presented by Palo Alto Players

Where: Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto

When: Through May 13, with shows Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

Cost: Tickets are \$32.

Info: Go to paplayers.org or call 650-329-0891.

A&E DIGEST

LOUISVILLE-BOUND ... After three years with TheatreWorks, Meredith McDonough, director of the company's New Works Program, is headed for Kentucky. Once this summer's New Works Festival ends in August, she'll become associate artistic director with the Actors Theatre of Louisville, which is known for its work with new productions. McDonough is a veteran director and dramaturg who brought "The North Pool" and other premieres to TheatreWorks, along with directing several productions. She had worked at Actors Theatre of Louisville about a decade ago as associate director of its apprentice/intern program. TheatreWorks plans to launch a national search for her replacement, founding artistic director Robert Kelley said.



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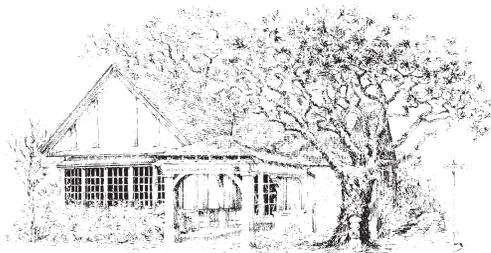
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Today's news,
sports & hot picks

Worth a Look

Art

Viruses as art

College students taking a class in the department of microbiology and immunology don't usually see their names in lights at a museum. But if they sign up for Robert Siegel's junior-senior "Humans and Viruses" class at Stanford University, they may get to fill a gallery.

Siegel, an associate professor who has taught this class for three decades, uses three-dimensional models to aid in the understanding of human viral infections. Students take a kinesthetic approach: They build their own models of rabies, smallpox and other sub-microscopic meanies.

There's something to be said, aesthetically, for viruses, which are typically symmetrical. And Siegel is a pro at finding art in science; he's also a published photographer and poet ("Open the Window and Influenza" is one of his titles).

Now through October, 13 models made by Siegel's students are on display at Stanford's Cantor Arts Center in an exhibition called "Adventures in the Human Virosphere: The Use of Three-Dimensional Models to Understand Human Viral Infections." Works include Carla Sanchez-Palacios' model of rotavirus, constructed from various kinds of pasta; and Sarah Kaewert's take on Norwalk (noro) virus, made of poster board and plastic cups.

A model of papillomavirus bristles with Q-Tips and syringes, but Angela Cesena has also incorporated lively color with yellow and green crepe paper.

The Cantor center is open Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursdays until 8 p.m., off Palm Drive at Museum Way. Admission is free. Go to museum.stanford.edu or call 650-723-4177.

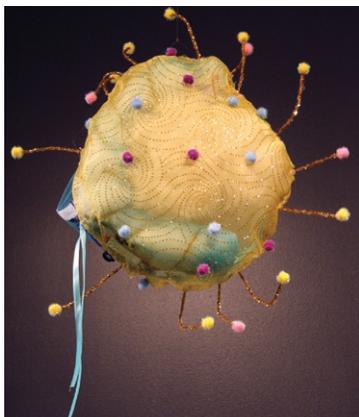
Music

'Ripple'

The Iraq War Logs and women's choral music: two things that don't usually go together, except if you're working with composer Ted Hearne. The young New Yorker's creations have included a song cycle on Hurricane Katrina and a chamber work about a man being told he is HIV-positive. Hearne doesn't shy away from tough current events.

This month, the Palo Alto-based Peninsula Women's Chorus will premiere a new treble-voice work commissioned from Hearne. "Ripple" incorporates one sentence from the U.S. Army field reports called the Iraq War Logs: "The marine that engaged from Post 7 was unable to determine the occupants of the vehicle due to the reflection of the sun coming off the windshield."

That sentence is heard in full and in parts throughout the choral piece: woven into spiritual and minimalistic sounds, and complex rhythms. In a



The SARS virus seems a bit less threatening when artistically reimagined in glitter, pillow fill and pipe cleaners. The model is by Stanford undergrad Elena Jordan.

press release, Hearne said, "'Ripple' seeks to portray the effect of a singular trauma on the memory of someone who was involved."

The piece is a response to chorus director Martin Benvenuto's request, in which he asked Hearne for a challenging piece that reflects modern times.

The chorus will perform "Ripple" at its spring concert at 4 p.m. May 12 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto. The program also includes music by Claude Le Jeune, Lojze Lebic and Gwyneth Walker. Tickets are \$25 general, \$30 "premium" and \$10 for students. Go to pwchorus.org or call 650-327-3095.

Dance

Stanford Powwow

Mother's Day always means something additional at Stanford University: the Stanford Powwow. Each year, the Mother's Day weekend also brings with it traditional dancing, songs, a drum contest, a fun run and a colorful, popular cultural gathering. Many participants also camp out at the event site, the Eucalyptus Grove at Embarcadero Road and El Camino Real.

Festivities begin Friday, May 11, with special performances starting at 5 p.m. The Indian Art Market opens for business, and the dancers make their grand entrances at the 7 p.m. Grand Entry, which also includes an invocation and welcome address. Social dances, intertribal events and a dance competition continue until the 11 p.m. closing song.

On Saturday, May 12, the Fun Run goes from 8 to 11:30 a.m., with the dancers' Grand Entry at 1 p.m. Exhibitions, dance and drum contests and songs follow, with a Stanford Native American alumni gathering at 4:30 p.m. After a dinner break at 5, dances resume from 7 to 11.

On Sunday, May 13, more songs, dances, drumming and contests runs from 11:30 a.m. until the closing songs and contest-winner announcements at 6 p.m. For more information about the weekend, go to stanfordpowwow.org.



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May 2012

Living Well with Osteoarthritis

Tuesday, May 8, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Palo Alto Center

795 El Camino Real, Palo Alto

Presented by Andrew Rozelle, M.D., Ph.D.

PAMF Rheumatology

650-853-4873

This talk will present an overview of the causes, natural history and treatment of this most common type of arthritis. There will be a particular focus on self management through exercise and use of non-prescription medications.



Saying Goodbye to Diapers

Tuesday, May 8, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Mountain View Center

701 E. El Camino Real, Mountain View

Presented by Melissa Braveman, M.D.

PAMF Pediatrics

650-934-7380

This class will explore ways we can help children teach themselves to use the toilet, help you set up an environment and an attitude that will guide and promote child's progress, and understand how consistency with a routine helps your child feel more in control and independent.

Healthy Senior Meals

Thursday, May 17, 1 – 2 p.m.

Mountain View Senior Center

266 Escuela Avenue, Mountain View

Presented by PAMF Educator

PAMF Nutrition Services

650-934-7373



This lecture for seniors will help you understand the benefits of creating a healthy diet for your age group. Topics include what you should be eating, how to prepare for one or two small appetites and the best nutrient sources for your age.

Heart Health – Recapping the Past Century

Monday, May 21, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

San Carlos Library

610 Elm Street, San Carlos

Presented by Lynette Lissin, M.D.

PAMF Cardiology

650-591-0341, ext. 237

Living a healthy lifestyle plays an important role in preventing coronary artery disease. Please join us for a review of coronary artery disease and to learn what you can do to keep your heart healthy. The use of medication will be discussed as well as what living a healthy lifestyle means.

Happy – Healthy Screenings Film

Friday, May 25, film starts at 7 p.m.

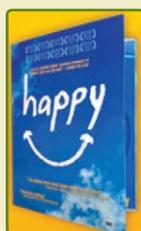
Mountain View Center

701 E. El Camino Real, Mountain View

Presented by Edward Yu, M.D.

PAMF Family Medicine

650-934-7373



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- Food Matters – Healthy Screenings (Mountain View)
- Memory and Aging (San Carlos)



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Eating Out

RESTAURANT REVIEW

Comfort by the bowlful

Stick to Pho Vi Hoa's signature dish for a savory and satisfying meal

by Ruth Schechter

When it comes to comfort food, you can keep your chicken pot pie and macaroni and cheese. Give me pho, and lots of it.

Pho — which rhymes with duh, not woe — is the national dish of Vietnam, the Asian version of grandma's noodle soup (but substitute chicken with beef in most cases). A steaming bowl of rice noodles swimming in delicious beef broth and topped with various cuts of meat, it's the ultimate comfort food: filling, warming, salty and savory and satisfying on multiple levels.

At Pho Vi Hoa in Los Altos, pho is the main attraction. The nine-year-old, family-run restaurant features more than 15 variations of the

traditional soup, made with flank steak, brisket, meatballs, tripe, eye round or tendon. Standard accompaniments include sliced serrano peppers, bean sprouts, Thai basil and lemon wedges, and you customize your dish with whatever condiment catches your fancy: soy sauce, hoisin, chili paste or sriracha (the Thai hot sauce with a rooster on the label).

True to its name, the restaurant dedicates a full third of its menu to pho, divided into lean, regular and meat combinations. You can also create your own mix. The pho comes in two sizes: large and small, although the "small" would easily placate all but the most demanding appetites. A small bowl of steaming pho noodles and meat is \$6.85;



Michelle Le

A steaming bowl of pho tai features rice noodles, eye round steak and green onions, with bean sprouts, Thai basil, serrano peppers and lime accompanying.



Before

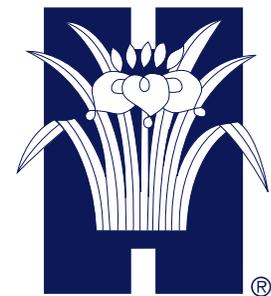


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Shop Talk

CROISSANTS, ANYONE? ... A San Francisco-based French patisserie and cafe chain that has been eyeing Palo Alto for months is opening a new **La Boulange** in mid-May. The cafe will be on one of the prime corners of downtown Palo Alto at 151 University Ave. at Emerson Street. Construction is now in full swing for the 2,600-square-foot eatery, which will seat 75 customers indoors and another 25 on the outdoor patio. "We love this location and we love the patio. And we're happy we can bring new jobs to the neighborhood," La Boulange CFO J.P. Lachance said, adding that he is planning to hire 30 employees. La Boulange has 20 cafes in the Bay Area, 12 in San Francisco. The company recently opened one in Burlingame and is planning to keep moving farther down the Peninsula, Lachance said. The company is not to be confused with fellow restaurant chain **Le Boulanger**, which also has bakery cafes dotted throughout northern California.

GORDON BIRSCH TO STAY IN P.A. ... Some observers were shocked last week when **Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant** announced plans to close its San Francisco restaurant this month after 20 years in business. But that will not affect Palo Alto's Gordon Biersch at 640 Emerson St., John Burgess, regional

manager, said. "No way in the world would we ever close Gordon Biersch in Palo Alto. That's where we were born. I love that store," he said. He added: "We are currently re-investing in that restaurant. We've already spent more than \$100,000 in the last three months putting in new equipment, new walls, new floors and a new staircase. And we're not finished," Burgess said. Future plans call for additional upgrades and a new patio in front.

SUSHI AT FACEBOOK ... Fuki Sushi at 4119 El Camino Real in Palo Alto, which was established in 1978, is among only a few local establishments opening satellite locations at the Facebook headquarters at 1601 Willow Road near the Dumbarton Bridge in Menlo Park. The restaurant is expected to start serving sushi, tempura and other dishes in July. Another Palo Alto fixture, Philz Coffee, which has two locations in this city, also has a branch at the new Facebook. These on-campus businesses are open only to Facebookers.

Heard a rumor about your favorite store or business moving out, or in, down the block or across town? Daryl Savage will check it out. Email shoptalk@paweekly.com.

add \$1 for the large version.

Though my companions and I ordered several different variations, there is little discernible difference in the overall flavor, whether you order P-4 (brisket), P-7 (eye round and flank steak) or P-14 (flank, brisket, tendon, tripe and meatballs). All are tasty, with a rich beefy aroma and amber-colored broth loaded with noodles. The bottom line: The fattier the cut of meat, the tastier the soup.

Pho Vi Hoa offers some variations on the theme, with seafood noodle soups and vegetarian versions. It also has a large selection of grilled meat, chicken, shrimp or beef mixed with vegetables and served over steamed rice. Larger versions are offered at dinner, though rice must be ordered separately.

The menu also features chow mein, fried rice and rice noodle bowls: thick noodles topped with shrimp, pork, chicken or beef atop a layer of diced cucumbers, sprouts and lettuce. The grilled pork and shrimp version included two medium shrimp and several thin-cut slices of dry meat. This is where all those condiments came in handy, since this meal would have been flavorless without some creative additions.

An appetizer of fried egg rolls (\$3.95 for two) was light and tasty, although the spring rolls (\$4.15 for two) were dry and accompanied by a thick sauce that tasted like mildly diluted peanut butter, with no nuance of any other flavors. The restaurant offers a small selection of beer and wine, along with some more unusual

beverages like plum soda, coconut milk and soybean drink. The taro with pearl (\$3.50) was undrinkable: sickly sweet, chalky and a frightening shade of lavender. Thai iced tea (\$3), served with no ice, also tasted chalky and unpleasant.

The restaurant is spacious, with booths lining the walls and long tables that can be shared during the lunch rush. Service tends to be prompt but perfunctory. The servers happily took our orders and food arrived quickly, but no one returned to fill our water glasses or explain that we needed to pay at the cash register.

The bottom line? Focus on what Pho Vi Hoa does best: The restaurant shines when it comes to pho. The soups are savory and satisfying, and deliver a filling meal loaded with flavor. ■

Pho Vi Hoa

4546 El Camino Real, Suite A12
Los Altos
650-947-1290
phovihoa.com

Hours: Daily 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

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Movies

OPENINGS

The Avengers

★★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) Adjectives used in some of Marvel Comics' iconic titles from the early 1960s through today — amazing, fantastic, incredible — also describe director Joss Whedon's superhero epic "The Avengers." Whedon ("Serenity") helms with a master craftsman's focus and a devoted fan's enthusiasm in adapting the popular Marvel series that made its print debut in 1963.

In the interest of full disclosure, I have been a comic-book collector and reader since the tender age of 8, when my father introduced me to the hobby (thanks, Dad). But don't

worry about taking this review with a grain of salt. "The Avengers" shines regardless of the reviewer's personal bias. The screenplay (also by Whedon) is witty and rife with whip-smart dialogue; visual effects and costume design are exceptional; character dynamics are deeply developed; and the ambitious action scenes are astonishing.

The result is the most impressive superhero film ever produced.

"Avengers" assembles a handful of costumed adventurers introduced in a collection of Marvel Studios films that launched with "Iron Man" in 2008 and continued with "The Incredible Hulk" (2008), "Iron Man 2" (2010), "Thor" (2011)



Thor (Chris Hemsworth, left) and Captain America (Chris Evans) team up to battle an invading alien army in "The Avengers."

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and "Captain America: The First Avenger" (2011). Super spy Nick Fury (Samuel L. Jackson), director of the secretive and well-financed government agency S.H.I.E.L.D., is forced to gather "Earth's mightiest heroes" when mischievous Norse god Loki (Tom Hiddleston) swipes a powerful object dubbed the Tesseract (or "Cosmic Cube"). Loki has made a pact with an alien army in hopes of dominating our humble planet — an ambition he seems likely to accomplish.

Fury tasks Natasha Romanoff (aka Black Widow, played by Scarlett Johansson) with recruiting genius scientist Dr. Bruce Banner (a brilliantly cast Mark Ruffalo), whose behemoth alter ego, The Hulk, could be either a massive asset or a disaster-in-waiting. Also

on board are: Tony Stark (aka Iron Man, again played with gusto by the incomparable Robert Downey Jr.), super soldier Captain America (Chris Evans), hammer-wielding warrior Thor (Chris Hemsworth) and archer extraordinaire Clint Barton (aka Hawkeye, played by Jeremy Renner). Together the group must navigate philosophical differences, quash Loki's devious schemes and cooperate to fend off an unparalleled attack on Earth.

Whedon's inspired screenplay is riddled with tension and humor. Downey Jr. is excellent again as Tony Stark, serving up much of the picture's clever (and often riotous) dialogue. Ruffalo threatens to steal the show with his spot-on performance as Banner, and the filmmakers' rendition of the Hulk is far

better than previous incarnations in "Hulk" (2003) and "The Incredible Hulk." Hiddleston notches up his portrayal of Loki with a wicked grin that suits the character perfectly, while Jackson, Evans, Johansson and Renner are all strong as well. And Marvel fans can expect a few fun surprises, too...

Whedon has created something of a masterpiece with "The Avengers." It is a tremendous viewing for action and science-fiction fans alike. But for comic book fans it is akin to cinematic euphoria: a thrilling, creative, crowd-pleasing triumph.

Rated PG-13 for intense sci-fi action/violence and a mild drug reference. Two hours, 23 minutes.

— Tyler Hanley

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

Internet address: For show times, plot synopses, trailers and more information about films playing, go to PaloAltoOnline.com/movies

The Five-Year Engagement ★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) Albert Brooks meets Hal Ashby meets Judd Apatow in "The Five-Year Engagement," a new romantic comedy whose pessimism, sweetness, raunch and loopy make for a pleasantly offbeat blend. Jason Segel and Emily Blunt star as Tom and Violet, a San Francisco couple ready to take their relationship to the next level ... or so they think. Planning follows proposal, but everything gets put on hold when Violet gets a chance at having it all. Director Nicholas Stoller — who co-wrote the script with Segel — is equally adept at crafting legitimate "aw shucks" sweetness that doesn't lose the film's "cool," so to speak. The inherently male point-of-view somewhat upsets the film's balance, but it also means a thorough exploration of the unfair-er sex's post-feminist defensiveness. Because this is an Apatow production, absurdity is welcome, the film can be too eager to shock, and the running time creeps past two hours. But the heroes remain likeable, thanks to Segel and Blunt. The film is full of funny performances and its emotional range distinguishes it, up to and including a climax that achieves true romance. Rated R for sexual content and language. Two hours, four minutes. — P.C. (April 27, 2012)

The Pirates! Band of Misfits ★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) "Wallace & Gromit." "Chicken Run." "Arthur Christmas." In its consistent excellence, England's Aardman Animations might well be called EuroPixar if its U.S. distributor weren't Sony, and if clay didn't trump pixels at Aardman. Aardman's streak continues with "The Pirates! Band of Misfits," 88 minutes of sublime silliness. Due to its often sophisticated humor, "The Pirates! Band of Misfits" should appeal in equal measure to adults and children. The madcap plot concerns the also-ran Pirate Captain, who covets the "Pirate of the Year" award but stands little chance of winning it for his bumbling plundering. All bets are off when The Pirate Captain and his crew haplessly board the Beagle. Though they discover Darwin has no booty, the naturalist recognizes the Pirate Captain's "parrot" Polly to be the last living dodo. And so our hero resets his sights on the Royal Society's "Scientist of the Year" award. The story doesn't skimp on the looting, cutlasses, plank-walking and funny hats, but everything gets a wittingly ironic spin. The picture offers visual delights in old-school Claymation style, with an assist from some CGI effects (plus, pie-throwing in 3D). The production design comes courtesy of three-time Oscar nominee Norman Garwood ("Brazil"), and the soundtrack includes the Pogues, the Clash and Flight of the Conchords. Though the film is full of Anglophile easter eggs for adults kids will appreciate the action, the goofy characters and sentiments like this one: "It's only impossible if you stop to think about it." Rated PG for mild action, rude humor and some language. One hour, 28 minutes. — P.C. (April 27, 2012)

Monsieur Lazhar ★★★

(Guild) "Monsieur Lazhar" is a sensitive and subtle work, with the deceptive simplicity of a well-honed short story. "Monsieur Lazhar" takes an interest in both its titular hero, an Algerian immigrant who comes to teach a sixth-grade class, and his troubled students. After students discover their teacher's body hanging in their classroom, Mr. Lazhar walks into the school and volunteers his services, explaining he taught in Algiers for 19 years. He turns out to be just what the students need, and perhaps the job is just what he needs. The director gently depicts the love-hate relationship between the suicide's witnesses: class clown Simon, given to aggressive acting out, and Alice, who quickly takes a shine to the school's sole male classroom instructor. The keen leading performances

never hit a false note, but Simon gets the showpiece with an emotional breakthrough about his late teacher. Rated PG-13 for thematic material, a disturbing image and language. One hour, 34 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed April 20, 2012)

Chimpanzee ★★

(Century 16, Century 20) This new G-rated Disney nature documentary may prove a "gateway drug" of sorts to get young kids interested in nature and science-themed documentaries, and so its stylistic crimes are probably excusable. Like most docs of its ilk, "Chimpanzee" allows information to take a back seat to manufactured drama, ruthlessly constructed to maximize short attention spans. The film captures impressive fly-on-the-tree footage of a baby chimp in his formative years. "Oscar" begins in the company of mother "Isha" but (spoiler alert) when a Disney-style parental tragedy separates the two, Oscar bonds with alpha male "Freddy." The narration, read by Tim Allen, would love to turn "Chimpanzee" into "The Lion King," and it's full of anthropomorphisms about "our boy Oscar." Sometimes the commentary is downright puzzling. Following a climactic battle, Allen intones, "Teamwork has beaten brute force" (what movie is he watching?). Decide for yourself if the narration is a necessary concession for kids. Rated G. One hour, 18 minutes — P.C. (Reviewed April 20, 2012)

The Cabin in the Woods ★★

(Century 16, Century 20) As written by Drew Goddard ("Cloverfield") and Joss Whedon ("The Avengers"), "Cabin" is a next-generation "Scream," a horror film that tongue-in-cheekily deconstructs its own genre. On that level, it's a hoot. If this film isn't quite as much fun or as scary as "Scream," it is more audacious, and that creative energy is the chief selling point. With the help of crack cinematographer Peter Deming of "Scream," Goddard directs this ambitious sci-fi/horror hybrid with authority, and the duo orchestrate some potent visual jokes as well. One involves a background slaying that's ignored by foreground characters (a trope we also saw in "Scream"); another hilariously spoofs J-horror (Japanese horror films like "The Ring"). Horror cinema has a tendency to indict the audience, and drawing attention to that is not a new idea, but "Cabin" presents a fresh narrative twist, and forces the audience to wonder if they should root for the slain or the slayers. Rated R for horror violence and gore, language, drug use and sexuality/nudity. One hour, 35 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed April 13, 2012)

Damsels in Distress ★★

(Palo Alto Square) Whit Stillman's "Damsels in Distress" plays like a Todd Solondz movie on Prozac. The characters are quirky outsiders, but they kind of like it that way, and they're determined to change the world, one dance at a time. This muddled fourth feature from writer-director Stillman ("The Last Days of Disco") tackles campus life at Seven Oaks, an East Coast college that's a hotbed of — well, nothing, really. Stillman follows a de facto "Youth Outreach" group, whose mission includes raising the campus' fashion consciousness (no "grunge"), eliminating distressing odors, and working at suicide prevention by offering donuts, coffee and supposedly depression-alleviating tap-dance lessons. The satire is about as cutting as a plastic knife through a porterhouse. Stillman establishes the main characters as naive, self-unaware characters, but the ways in which he reveals their vulnerabilities suggest we oughtn't rush to judge them. As humane as that sounds, the chilly tone of the script and the performances hold viewers at arm's length and leave them much more perplexed than enlightened about human behavior. Rated PG-13 for mature thematic content including sexual material. One hour, 39 minutes. — P.C. (Reviewed April 13, 2012)

The Hunger Games ★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) Even those unfamiliar with Suzanne Collins' book may find Gary Ross' film somewhat less than suspenseful. But if "The Hunger Games" on screen doesn't exactly catch fire, its savvy pop culture mash-up and the charge of teens in life-and-death peril remain intact. In a retro-futuristic dystopia, the 1-percenters long ago crushed the revolt of the 99-percenters. The rule of fear hinges largely on "the Hunger Games," an annual compulsory lottery that demands 12- to 18-year-old "tributes" to submit to a televised death match. Two weeks, 24 contestants, and only one victor allowed to walk away alive. Oddly, the early scenes laying this groundwork tend

MOVIE TIMES

21 Jump Street (R) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 11:40 a.m.; 2:25, 5, 7:40 & 10:15 p.m. **Century 20:** 3 p.m.; Fri., Sun.-Tue. & Thu. also at 10:35 p.m.

Air Force (1943) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: Fri.-Sun. at 5:15 & 9:45 p.m.

Ball of Fire (1941) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: 5:25 & 9:15 p.m.

Barbary Coast (1935) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: Wed. & Thu. at 5:45 & 9 p.m.

The Cabin in the Woods (R) ★★★

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 11:15 a.m.; 2, 4:30, 7:35 & 10:05 p.m. **Century 20:** 12:30 & 2:55 p.m.; Fri.-Sun., Tue. & Wed. also at 5:25, 8:05 & 10:45 p.m.; Thu. also at 10:45 p.m.

Chimpanzee (G) ★★1/2

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 11:20 a.m.; 1:40, 3:55, 6:30 & 8:50 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:15 a.m.; 1:25, 3:35, 5:40, 7:50 & 10 p.m.

Damsels in Distress (PG-13) ★1/2

Palo Alto Square: 2 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. & Tue. also at 4:20 & 7:25 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 9:45 p.m.; Thu. also at 4:20 p.m.

Dark Shadows (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: Thu. at 12:01 a.m. **Century 20:** Thu. at 12:01 a.m.

Das Rheingold: Met Opera Ring Cycle (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Century 20: Wed. at 6:30 p.m. **Palo Alto Square:** Wed. at 6:30 p.m.

The Five-Year Engagement (R) ★★★

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 11:10 a.m.; 12:30, 2:10, 3:50, 5, 7:20, 8:20 & 10:25 p.m. **Century 20:** 11 a.m.; 12:30, 2, 3:20, 4:50, 6:15, 7:45, 9:05 & 10:35 p.m.

Girl in Progress (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: Thu. at 12:01 a.m. **Century 20:** Thu. at 12:01 a.m.

The Hunger Games (PG-13) ★★★

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 12:10, 3:20, 6:40 & 9:55 p.m. **Century 20:** 12:40, 3:50, 7 & 10:05 p.m.

Jiro Dreams of Sushi (PG) (Not Reviewed)

Aquarius Theatre: 4, 6:15 & 8:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 2 p.m.

The Lucky One (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 11:50 a.m.; 2:30 & 10:30 p.m.; Fri., Sun., Mon., Wed. & Thu. also at 5 & 8 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:30 a.m.; 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:35 p.m.

The Manzanar Fishing Club (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Aquarius Theatre: 3, 5, 7:15 & 9:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 1 p.m.

Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) ★★★★

Century 16: 11 a.m.; 2:30 & 6:10 p.m.; Fri., Sat. & Tue. also at 9:40 p.m.; Fri. also at 4:20 & 11:20 p.m.; Sat. also at 3, 9:40 & 10:20 p.m.; Sun., Mon., Wed. & Thu. also at 3, 9:30 & 10 p.m.; In 3D Fri.-Thu. at noon & 3:30 p.m.; In 3D Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. also at 11 a.m.; 2:30 & 6:10 p.m.; Fri., Sat. & Tue. also at 9:40 p.m.; Fri. also at 4:20 & 11:20 p.m.; Sat. also at 3, 9:40 & 10:20 p.m.; Sun., Mon., Wed. & Thu. also at 3, 9:30 & 10 p.m.; In 3D Fri.-Thu. at noon & 3:30 p.m.; In 3D Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. also at 11:30 a.m.; 1:30, 5, 6:40, 7:10, 8 & 8:40 p.m.; Fri. also at 10 a.m.; 12:50, 3, 10:20 & 10:50 p.m.; Sat. also at 10 a.m.; 4:20, 10:50 & 11:20 p.m.; Sun. also at 10 a.m.; 12:50, 4:20 & 10:30 p.m.; Mon., Wed. & Thu. also at 12:50, 4:20 & 10:30 p.m.; Tue. also at 10 a.m.; 7 & 10:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 11 a.m.; 1:05, 2:15, 4:20, 5:35, 7:40 & 8:55 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 10:50 p.m.; In 3D Fri.-Thu. at 11:30 a.m.; noon, 12:35, 1:40, 2:45, 3:15, 3:50, 4:55, 6, 6:35, 7:10, 8:15, 9:20, 9:55 & 10:30 p.m.; In 3D Fri.-Sun. also at 10:30 a.m.

Monsieur Lazhar (PG-13) ★★★

Guild Theatre: 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. also at 1 p.m.

Only Angels Have Wings (1939) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: Fri.-Sun. at 7:30 p.m.; Sun. also at 3 p.m.

The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) ★★

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 11 a.m. & 4:10 p.m.; In 3D Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 1:20, 7 & 9:20 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:15 a.m.; 1:35, 3:50, 6:10, 8:25 & 10:40 p.m.; In 3D at 12:20, 2:40, 5, 7:20 & 9:40 p.m.

The Raven (R) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 12:20 & 3:40 p.m.; Fri.-Mon. & Wed. also at 6:50 & 9:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 11:35 a.m.; 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 9 & 10:20 p.m.; Fri.-Wed. also at 12:55, 3:35 & 6:15 p.m.

Ring Kings Live: Mayweather vs. Cotto (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: Sat. at 6 p.m. **Century 20:** Sat. at 6 p.m.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (R) (Not Reviewed)

Guild Theatre: Sat. at midnight.

Safe (R) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 11:45 a.m.; 2:20, 4:50, 7:55 & 10:20 p.m. **Century 20:** 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8:10 & 10:35 p.m.

Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Palo Alto Square: 1:50, 4:30 & 7:15 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. also at 9:50 p.m.

Think Like a Man (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: Fri.-Mon., Wed. & Thu. at 11 a.m.; 1:50, 4:40, 7:30 & 10:30 p.m. **Century 20:** 11 a.m.; 1:50, 4:40, 7:30 & 10:20 p.m.

This American Life Live! Things You Can't Do on the Radio (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Century 16: Thu. at 8 p.m. **Century 20:** Thu. at 8 p.m. **Palo Alto Square:** Thu. at 8 p.m.

The Three Stooges (PG) (Not Reviewed)

Century 20: 11:25 a.m.; 1:50, 4:15, 6:50 & 9:15 p.m.

Tiger Shark (1932) (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Stanford Theatre: Wed. & Thu. at 7:30 p.m.

Titanic 3D (PG-13) (Not Reviewed)

Century 20: 11:05 a.m.; Fri., Sun.-Tue. & Thu. also at 5:35 p.m.

Wagner's Dream: Met Opera Ring Cycle (Not Rated) (Not Reviewed)

Century 20: Mon. at 6:30 p.m. **Palo Alto Square:** Mon. at 6:30 p.m.

Yellow Submarine (1968) (G) (Not Reviewed)

Century 20: Thu. at 2 & 7 p.m.

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

to be considerably more lively than the 74th Annual Games themselves, a sign of Ross' lack of experience as an action director and the film's squeamishness when it comes to depicting the story's gruesomely violent side. Straight-arrow-shooting Katniss makes a compelling feminist hero, and Lawrence's resonant performance delivers. The film's striking production design goes a long way, and the story could be a conversation-starter for families about the voyeurism and willing manipulation of the American viewing public. Rated PG-13 for intense violent thematic material and disturbing images, all involving teens. One hour, 23 minutes.— P.C. (Reviewed March 23, 2012)

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5/4-5/5	Damsels in Distress	- 2:00, 4:20, 7:25, 9:45
Sun & Tues	Salmon Fishing in the Yemen	-1:50, 4:30, 7:15
5/6 & 5/8	Damsels in Distress	- 2:00, 4:20, 7:25
Mon & Wed	Salmon Fishing in the Yemen	-1:50, 4:30, 7:15
5/7 & 5/9	Damsels in Distress	- 2:00
Thurs	Salmon Fishing in the Yemen	-1:50, 4:30, 7:15
5/3	Damsels in Distress	- 2:00, 4:20

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Sports Shorts

OF LOCAL NOTE . . . Gunn High sophomore **Cadence Lee** had herself a busy, and successful, weekend as she captured the 2012 Girls' State Freestyle Championships in both the Cadet (108 lb) and Junior (105 lb) divisions in Fresno on Saturday. Lee recorded three pins, one technical fall, and two decisions en route to a 6-0 record and the two titles. By placing in this state tournament, Lee earned the right to represent California at the Fargo Nationals in July. Lee, however, next will compete at the Body Bar Women's National Freestyle Championship in Florida in May . . . Two former local standouts competed for UCLA on Saturday in the Bruins' annual dual meets with rival USC. Palo Alto High grad **Philip MacQuitty** finished second in the men's 1,500 meters in 3:54.31 to help UCLA post a 93-70 victory. In the women's meet, Castilleja grad **Tori Anthony** cleared the same height as the winner (13-0 1/4) but took second on fewer misses for UCLA. The Bruins, however, fell to the Trojans, 89-74 . . . Castilleja grad **Evan Cranston** has been named the first-team goalie on the 2012 Collegiate Water Polo Association Southern Division team.

NFL DRAFT . . . To no one's surprise, **Andrew Luck** became the fourth Stanford quarterback selected as the overall No. 1 pick in the NFL draft when the Indianapolis Colts called his name last Thursday on the first day of the draft. Luck joins Stanford quarterback legends **John Elway**, **Jim Plunkett** and **Bobby Garrett** as the overall top pick. Elway was also drafted by the Colts when the team was in Baltimore but forced a trade to the Denver Broncos, where he grew into a Super Bowl winner. A number of other Stanford players were drafted or signed free-agent contracts. The Pittsburgh Steelers made Stanford offensive lineman **David DeCastro** their first pick, No. 24 overall. Stanford tight end **Coby Fleener** joined Luck in Indianapolis, as the Colts used their second-round pick for him. Stanford offensive lineman **Jonathan Martin** was taken by the Miami Dolphins in the second round. Defensive end **Matt Masifilo** and wide receiver **Chris Owusu** signed free-agent contracts with the 49ers while wide receiver **Griff Whalen** signed a free-agent contract with the Colts. Stanford safety **Delano Howell**, meanwhile, signed a free-agent contract with the Buffalo Bills.

ON THE AIR

Friday

College baseball: Stanford at Oregon State, 5:30 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

Saturday

College baseball: Stanford at Oregon State, 1 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

Sunday

College baseball: Stanford at Oregon State, 1 p.m.; KZSU (90.1 FM)

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Sports



Stanford senior Chris Derrick (541) set an American Collegiate Record in the 10,000 meters while becoming the third-fastest in the world this year while finishing third at the Payton Jordan Invitational last weekend.

Don Gosney

TRACK & FIELD

All he needs is a victory

Stanford's Derrick isn't lacking much after setting 10K mark

by Keith Peters

By now, Stanford senior Chris Derrick must be used to running great races and not winning. He was second at the NCAA Country Championships and second in both the men's 3,000 and 5,000 meters at the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships — all this school year.

Derrick was third in the Kim McDonald 10,000 at the annual Payton Jordan Invitational track and field meet on Sunday at Stanford's Cobb Track and Angell Field. However, Derrick accomplished quite a lot with that finish.

His personal-best time of 27:31.38 set an American Collegiate Record, broke the school mark and gave him the Olympic 'A' standard for the 2012 London Olympics. Now all Derrick needs is a top-three finish at the Olympic Trials in June to earn his first Olympic berth.

"I kind of knew I was going to get the 'A' standard," Derrick said. "I was keeping track of it during the race. I knew we were on pace. I was happy with how we ran."

Derrick, one of 28 athletes to earn the Olympic 'A' standard in the meet, ran a smart tactical race hang-

(continued on next page)

PREP SWIMMING

Gunn girls hope to end Paly's streak

Viking divers, however, give them an early big lead

by Keith Peters

The last time the Palo Alto girls' swim team lost a SCVAL De Anza Division championship meet title was 2002, the second straight season the Vikings had fallen to St. Francis.

The Lancers later exited the division and the Vikings have been unbeatable since then. In fact, the Palo Alto girls will be searching for their ninth straight league meet title on Friday at Lynbrook High in San Jose at 2 p.m.

The Vikings, who have lost only three times in the past 23 years and who have won 15 of the past 17 titles, will have their streak tested by rival Gunn in what should be a highly competitive meet.

The Titans have finished second the past two seasons but captured the dual-meet title this season with a 6-0 mark, beating Paly two weeks ago, 97-89, without two of their top swimmers — Casey Lincoln and Ju-



Palo Alto senior Jasmine Tosky hopes to lead her teammates to a ninth straight title in the SCVAL De Anza Division finals on Friday.

Keith Peters

lia Ama.

Both are back in the lineup and will provide coach Mark Hernandez with perhaps his deepest, most-talented lineup ever. But, that still may not be enough after Tuesday's diving finals at Palo Alto High.

"Out outlook got a little less bright yesterday," Hernandez said.

Palo Alto's Emma Miller, Serena Yee and Nadye Nee swept the top

three places. The Vikings added a ninth place to score 62 points. Gunn managed just eight.

"In all honesty, this may be too big a hole for us to climb out of," Hernandez said. "I have no doubt that our swimmers will score more points than theirs (Paly's), but I don't know if we can score 54 points

(continued on page 40)

STANFORD SPORTS

AD Bowlsby is headed to the Big 12

Ateary-eyed Bob Bowlsby walked out of a Stanford auditorium to a roaring ovation from coaches and staff members Thursday, leaving behind one of the nation's top athletics program for a conference in desperate need of a strong leader.

Bowlsby informed his staff and a room jam-packed with Cardinal coaches that he will become the Big 12 Conference commissioner, according to at least three people with direct knowledge of the 10-minute meeting. Bowlsby said he will remain with the Cardinal until June.

The people spoke on condition of anonymity because neither Stanford nor the Big 12 has discussed the hire, which could be announced later Thursday. Bowlsby, who is expected to be formally introduced by the Big 12 on Friday, declined comment when he walked out of the meeting.

After more than six years at Stanford, Bowlsby will take over a BCS

(continued on next page)

Cardinal teams set for NAAs

Men, women will open tournament once again at home next weekend

by Rick Eyrer

By the time the NCAA team tennis bracket works itself out toward the end of May, the fifth-ranked Stanford women's team hopes to have regained its footing among the top tier of programs.

The Cardinal (18-1) was ranked second entering last year's tournament and finished second overall. The previous season Stanford came in as the eighth-ranked team in the tournament and finished as the national champion.

This year the Cardinal, which opens the NCAA tournament at home against Stoney Brook at 2 p.m. Friday, May 11, is ranked fifth and seeded fourth.

The 10th-ranked Stanford men (17-8) look to surprise some people when it opens the NCAA tournament at home against Sacramento State at noon Saturday, May 12 as the No. 11 seed.

Stanford hosts the first two rounds of tournament at Taube Family Tennis Center, where the journey usually begins. The men are looking for their first national title since 2000, while the women are in search of NCAA title No. 17, and the first since 2010.

It was another interesting year for the seeding committee, which had to sort out all kinds of scenarios.

UCLA was awarded the overall No. 1 seed despite finishing third in the Pac-12 and losing two of its final three matches. Stanford and fifth-seeded USC shared the title.

The Women of Troy beat the Bruins in their most recent meeting, while UCLA handed the Cardinal its lone defeat of the season. Stanford beat the Bruins in a nonconference match in Los Angeles.

UCLA also beat USC twice this season, and has also lost to California. Stanford also beat second-



Stanford sophomore Nicole Gibbs will lead her team into the NCAA Tournament after winning the Pac-12 singles title last weekend.

seeded Florida and is 12-1 against the NCAA field.

Florida (21-1) also played a terrific schedule and is the defending national champion, winning the title against the Cardinal on Stanford's home court in dramatic fashion. The Gators are 15-1 against the NCAA field.

Duke is the third seed, while Georgia is seeded sixth, North Carolina is No. 7 and Alabama is No. 8. Florida beat all of them and played six of the top eight teams.

National rankings are nothing new for Stanford players. Pac-12 champion Nicole Gibbs is ranked third behind Florida's Allie Will and Duke's Beatrice Capra. UCLA's Robin Anderson is ranked fourth, followed by Stanford's Mallory Burdette.

St. Mary's (14-7) and Yale (19-3) play at 11 a.m. on May 11, with the winner meeting either Stanford or Stony Brook at 3 p.m. Saturday, May 12 for a berth in the Round of 16, which will be held the following weekend in Athens, Ga.

Stanford owns a 120-15 record since the NCAA Tournament went to its present format in 1982 and has yet to lose a first-round match.

The Cardinal men have not lost in the opening round either and should be heavily favored to get past Sacramento State. The Hornets (11-12) have played every match this year with either four or five freshmen in their regular lineup.

Stanford owns a 100-17 record since the NCAA Tournament went to its present format in 1977. During that time, Stanford has won 15 NCAA team titles. The Cardinal reached the NCAA quarterfinal round last year for the first time since 2006. Stanford last advanced to the semifinals in 2003.

Senior Ryan Thacher is Stanford's highest-ranked player at No. 27. Senior Bradley Klahn, who missed the first part of the season with an injury, is at No. 36.

Klahn and Thacher look to make one last successful run in the

NCAA men's singles and doubles tournament that begins May 23 in Athens, Ga.

Klahn and Thacher reached the national championship match in the doubles tournament last year. Klahn won the national singles title in 2010.

The Stanford women will be represented by three singles players and two doubles teams.

Gibbs, Burdette and Stacy Tan will play in the singles tournament, while Gibbs and Burdette look to defend their NCAA doubles title. Tan and Ellen Tsay will also compete in doubles.

Gibbs won the Pac-12 singles title last week and reached the national semifinals last year after beating teammate Hilary Barte.

Tan reached the singles title match, losing to California's Jana Juricova. Tan downed Juricova in last week's conference tournament. ■

Bowlsby

(continued from previous page)

conference that seems to have found some stability after losing four schools over the past two years. The league will head into this fall with 10 members, including new additions TCU and West Virginia.

The 60-year-old Bowlsby, who had passed up several chances to leave Stanford over the years, replaces the ousted Dan Beebe, who was replaced on an interim basis by Chuck Neinas.

Bowlsby is a nationally respected college administrator who was hired away from Iowa in 2006 after 15 years spent running the Hawkeyes' athletic department.

Of all the decisions he made at Stanford, fans will forever remember his hiring of Jim Harbaugh in 2006. Harbaugh built the football program into a national power, winning the Orange Bowl over Virginia Tech in 2011 and finishing fourth in the final AP poll.

It was the program's best ranking

Chris Derrick

(continued from previous page)

ing in the pack for the first 5K, before surging to the lead with six laps to go. He led for a few laps, before the elite field began to trade pace-setting duties as the tempo quickened. Cameron Levins of Southern Utah finished with a furious kick to win in 27:27.96, while collegiate recordholder Sam Chelanga was second in 27:29.82 and Derrick third.

"It's always less good when you lose —especially to someone in college, but I'm pretty stoked and it just shows you what attitude and expectations can do," Derrick said. "I saw that (Stephen) Sambu and (Leonard) Korir did it last year (got the "A" standard in the race) so I thought I can do it too."

Levins ran the fastest time in the world this year, but Derrick grabbed the ACR because Levins is Canadian. The top six finishers in the race now rank in that order on the 2012 world list.

Derrick's time, which ranks him No. 3 in the world in 2012, broke the record of Oregon's Galen Rupp by just over two seconds.

"It was great taking it from him (Rupp)," Derrick said of the American Collegiate Record. "It's great to be mentioned in the same breath as him . . . quite an honor. The record, ah, it's not all that big of deal. I got beat by another college guy. He just happens to be from 30 miles north of the border."

Derrick also took down the Stanford record for the 10K by a whopping 28 seconds. Previously, Ian Dobson had been the only Cardinal to break 28 minutes, running 27:59.72 in 2005.

Derrick and Levins were two of eight to earn the Olympic 'A' standard in the 10K. Derrick now has that valuable card in his deck along with one for the 5,000. He ran a school indoor record of 13:19.58 at the Millrose Games in February, just getting under the Olympic standard of 13:20.

The fact he already had the 5K qualifying mark for London allowed Derrick to chase the 10K standard in Sunday's meet.

"We kind of targeted this meet for

the 10K," Derrick confirmed. "Obviously the goal was to run under 27:45 to give me some options for the (Olympic) Trials and such so I'm pleased with that. I felt pretty good in the race."

Actually, Derrick has felt pretty good all season for the first time in his Stanford career. He has a right Achilles' injury during the indoor season of his sophomore year and a left IT band (upper leg) injury last year. This season, by comparison, has been a dream.

"I'm definitely in the best shape of my life," he said. "I haven't had major injury problems."

That has allowed Derrick to keep his mileage high and his training consistent.

"This year I was able to take the really good base of cross-country work and carry it right into track season, which I haven't been able to do in past years," he said. "So, I think just having that uninterrupted training block, having things going according to formula —as opposed to having interruptions —is what really helped me in get in good shape this time of year. I knew if I put in a really could solid block of training under me, I could do this."

Next up for the Cardinal will be the Pac-12 Championships. This weekend will be the heptathlon and decathlon competitions with the rest of the meet taking place in two weeks.

Derrick expects to run the 1,500 and 5,000 and probably the 5K and 10K at NAAs, which would give Stanford a shot at some hardware.

"We definitely could get a trophy," Derrick said of a top-four finish.

After that, it will be time to focus on the Olympic Trials, which will be held in Eugene, Ore.

While the 5,000 will be filled with a lot of runners with the potential to turn a slow race into a sprint at the end, "the 10K is more like a war of attrition," Derrick said. "I feel like the 10K suits me better. The 10 is first (at the Trials). I think it will depend on how I come off NAAs."

Since Derrick is in the best shape of his life and still looking for his first individual NCAA title, you can bet the national championships will be a healthy start for his Olympic aspirations. ■



Senior Bradley Klahn is set for his final NCAA tournament.

Bowlsby in the Midwest.

The Big 12 was hit hard two years ago and wound up losing Nebraska to the Big Ten, Colorado to the Pac-12 and, as of July 1, Texas A&M and Missouri to the Southeastern Conference. Beebe was fired in September as Oklahoma, Texas and others were flirting with the Pac-12 and the Big 12 seemed on the brink of falling apart.

The conference is reportedly working toward a new television deal with ESPN, and Neinas was pushing members to agree to a long-term grant of media rights to the league that would make it all but impossible for schools to bolt.

After reaching a 12-year contract worth about \$3 billion last year with Fox and ESPN, the Pac-12 announced plans to launch a new conference-owned network to supplement coverage and create more exposure for Pac-12 athletes.

Bowlsby had a role in the venture, which will launch this fall with the national cable network, six regional networks and a digital network. ■

— The Associated Press

Swim finals

(continued from page 38)

more. The real trouble is that the rest of the league isn't good enough to give us much help.

"In the dual meet, we had sole responsibility for keeping the Palo Alto swimmers from scoring well, and that formula worked well. But now, (Paly) swimmers who scored no points in the dual meet are going to score at least a few points. We just hope not too many."

Gunn won only three individual races last year — 50 free, 100 free and 100 breast — and lost all three relays to the Vikings. The Titans have the ability for a much different finish this time.

Gunn won all three relays in the dual-meet win over Paly and probably need to duplicate that to end the Vikings' streak of league crowns.

Lincoln, Ama and fellow seniors Rachael Acker, Christine Prior and Maggie McKenna lead a veteran group for Gunn. Sophomores Fiona Hon and Gabrielle Bethke plus freshmen Nia Gardner and Jenna Campbell help make the Titans tough to beat.

Palo Alto, of course, has All-American Jasmine Tosky. She has never lost an individual race in the league finals and, in the past, made the Vikings nearly untouchable in the relays.

The loss to Gunn, which included Tosky's first-ever individual defeat in her high school career — to Acker in the 100 free — has opened the door for the Titans. In last year's league meet, Tosky took away points from Gunn by beating Acker in the 200 free and Lincoln in the 500 free.

In previous years, whatever Tosky swam she won. Acker's win two weeks ago now throws doubt on that scenario. Tosky is the national public school recordholder in the 100 fly and has been unbeatable in the 200 free, so those seem obvious events for her. The crucial races, however, will be the relays.

"We all know Jasmine should win her events," Hernandez said. "But, we should place higher in every other event she's not swimming. There's not much we can do to keep their better swimmers out of the top



Tom Kremer will lead SHP in the WBAL finals.

eight — the championship finals — but we need to fight to get as many as we can in the top four and keep them down in spots 5-8."

Paly will need seniors Margaret Wenzlau and Laura Cui, junior Molly Zebker, sophomore Jayna Wittenbrink, a strong diving group and a host of others to step it up in order to keep the streak alive.

The Paly divers, of course, may already have done that.

"I think the girls have a chance," said Paly coach Danny Dye. "I was very happy with the diving. We'll see, but I'm optimistic."

In the boys' meet, Palo Alto looks to defend. The Vikings also got a big boost from their divers as Cole Plambeck won the individual title on Tuesday with 476.65 points. Paly scored 59 diving points for a nice head start.

As for swimming, the Vikings are fairly deep and very talented with seniors Byron Sanborn, Corso Rosati and Rollin Lau, juniors Eren Kiris and Alex Francis, and sophomores Andrew Liang and William Lee.

Sanborn is the defending league champ in the 200 IM and 100 breast and a key relay member. Lee won the 100 back last season and Liang could win whatever events he competes in. His range is from the 50 free to the 500 free. In a recent dual meet, Liang went 50.77 in the 100 fly, the No. 2 time in school history.

Lee, meanwhile, ranks No. 2 in school history in the 100 back (52.23) off his winning time in the league meet last year.

During Wednesday's trials, Sanborn won the 100 breast in 57.03 to break the league record of 57.10 by Brian Job of Santa Clara in 1969. Liang, meanwhile, broke his own school record (21.47) in the 50 free with a 21.46 clocking.

Gunn, meanwhile, will be looking to move up from last season's fifth-place finish. Senior Will Thorson, junior Tommy Tai, sophomore Jarrod Mock all made finals last season and will carry much of the load on Friday.

While the Paly boys and girls are trying to defend their titles, the Sacred Heart Prep boys and girls will be doing the same at the West Bay Athletic League Championships in the Gators' pool.

"I guess we are the favorites to repeat, especially on the boys' side since we won every dual meet on the boys' side by over 40 points," said SHP coach Kevin Morris. "And, I guess we are a bit deeper than the other schools."

The SHP boys, for instance, have the top three times in the 200 free, the top four times in the 500 free plus the best all-around swimmer in the league in senior Tom Kremer. The Gators won seven of 11 events last year while scoring 559 points. Kremer won the 200 IM and 100 fly with meet records and could do that again no matter what he swims — likely the 200 IM and 100 back on Friday.

Kremer also swims on two relays. The Gators swept all three last season.

Harrison Enright, Kyle Koenig, Chris Hinrichs, Bret Hinrichs, Scott Jollymour, Alex Swart and Sloane Sturzenegger are among the many standouts the Gators can count



Gunn senior Rachael Acker will defend her league title in the 100 free on Friday at the SCVAL De Anza Division finals.



Paly senior Byron Sanborn broke a 43-year-old league mark in the 100 breast with a 57.03 in the trials on Wednesday.

upon.

"The girls' meet should be quite a bit closer," said Morris, "since King's Academy has a pretty strong team, with quite a few solid, fast swimmers — many of whom are freshmen. They are a real threat at CCS to crack into the top five, I think."

SHP will be led by sophomore Ally Howe, the defending league champ in the 200 IM and 100 fly. She has the league's top times in those events this season, 2:07.27 in the IM and 56.11 in the fly. She owns the school records in those events, as well.

Senior Erin Sheridan leads the league in the 50 free (24.87) and 100 free (53.83) and is the defending champ in both races.

Also hoping to make waves for the Gators will be junior Erica Myers, Selby Sturzenegger, Pippa Temple, Lauren Glasby and Teresa Tiso.

The Menlo boys finished second last season and once again won't have the depth to match up with SHP. Nick Hale and Johnny Wilson lead the Knights.

Pinewood senior Ted Lim looks to have the 100 fly to himself with Kremer entered elsewhere. His season best is 56.11.

In the girls' meet, Priory freshman Megan O'Neill has the top time in the 500 free (5:31.58) while Castilleja's Josie Furburshaw will help carry her team's hopes in the 50 free and 100 back.

The Peninsula Athletic League Bay Division finals will be held Saturday at Burlingame High starting at 1 p.m.

The Menlo-Atherton boys and Burlingame girls are the defending champs.

The Bears will battle it out with the Burlingame boys. Those teams tied in the season-ending dual meet. The M-A sprinters will score big but the Panthers' specialists will do so, as well.

In the girls' meet, Burlingame is the big favorite after swamping M-A in their dual meet. Both teams were undefeated before their showdown last week. The Panthers will flourish because there's not enough help from the rest of the league in keeping Burlingame's non-stars from scoring.

Nicole Zanolli, Maddie Pont, Kinde Van Linge and Danielle Flanagan hope to lead the M-A girls while Max Wilder, Alex Gow, Emory Welton and Jake Bassin should help the M-A boys score well. ■

PREP ROUNDUP

Paly girls look to be a lock

Four straight lacrosse wins have Vikings in position for postseason playoffs

by Keith Peters

While the season seemed lost when the Palo Alto girls' lacrosse team had to forfeit six matches due to an ineligible player, the Vikings never gave up despite falling from a tie for first place.

Knowing they needed to win every remaining SCVAL De Anza Division match to make the playoffs, the Vikings have done just that.

The Vikings won their fourth straight match, a 15-6 victory over host Leland on Wednesday, to improve to 6-7 in the SCVAL De Anza Division (8-9 overall) and keep their hopes for a .500 finish — thus earning a berth in next week's playoffs.

St. Francis leads the division at 12-1 while Gunn is second at 10-3 following a 15-12 win over third-place Los Gatos on Wednesday.

Palo Alto, meanwhile, apparently has vaulted itself into fourth place and should secure that final playoff position with a victory over winless Sequoia on Friday night on the Vikings' field. Senior Night will bring a special meaning to this year's team.

In another SCVAL De Anza Division match, Gunn possibly helped Paly by holding off Los Gatos to lock up a division playoff berth. The Titans' Katie-rose Skelly and Madison Sabbag each scored four goals while Lauren King added three. Sabbag finished with seven points as she added three assists.

In the WBAL Foothill Division, Castilleja shocked Sacred Heart Prep for the second time this season with an 18-16 decision on the Gators' field.

Castilleja (4-5, 9-5) moved into a tie with SHP (4-5, 8-8) as goals from Katherine Hobbs and Martha Harding in the final minute made the difference after Sacred Heart Prep had tied the match with a minute to play.

Hobbs scored her ninth goal from a free-position shot and Harding finished off a five-goal effort at the buzzer. Lou Biffar added two goals while Charlotte Jones and Julia Brug also scored for Castilleja.

In another WBAL Foothill match, Menlo-Atherton dropped an 11-8 decision to host Burlingame and fell into a three-way tie for third place with Castilleja and Sacred Heart Prep. The Bears (4-5, 6-7) got three goals from Becca Higgitt and two from Emily Carlson while Burlingame moved to 6-3 and solidified second place.

M-A, Castilleja and SHP will all play for two remaining playoff spots on Friday. SHP has the easiest

(continued on page 42)

Stanford women's water polo No. 1 for NCAA field

by Rick Eyrer

The top-ranked Stanford women's water polo team was named the top seed for the NCAA championships on Monday and the Cardinal will begin defense of its national title beginning May 11 at Aztec Aquaplex in San Diego.

The Cardinal (23-2) got the No. 1 seed despite losing to UCLA in overtime of the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation tournament, 8-7, on Sunday. The Bruins (21-3) also beat Stanford, 5-4, earlier in the season and were named the second seed.

Stanford has beaten UCLA twice, 9-5 and 8-1, this year. USC (21-5) is the third seed followed by UC Irvine, Loyola Marymount, Princeton, Iona and Pomona-Pitzer.

The Sagehens (21-16) are the top-ranked team in Division III and will meet Stanford, the only team to have qualified for each of the 13 NCAA sponsored national championships,

in the opening round.

Pomona-Pitzer features a group of 12 freshmen and sophomores, including Gunn High grad Alex Lincoln, Sacred Heart Prep grad Sarah Westcott and Castilleja grad Sallie Walecka.

The Sagehens earned the automatic bid to the eight-team championship with a dramatic 12-11 triple-overtime win over Redlands in the SCIAAC Championship game on Sunday, and will bring an 11-game winning streak into the NCAA tournament.

Pomona-Pitzer is 0-3 against the field, losing to LMU, UC Irvine and Iona.

Stanford is 6-2 against the field, with two wins each over the Bruins and USC and one win each over UC Irvine and LMU, one of which will be Stanford's second-round opponent, win or lose.

Stanford heads into the tournament led by the MPSF's top-ranked offense (12.28 goals per game)

and defense (4.72 goals allowed a game).

The Lions (20-9) and Anteaters (24-6) will be meeting for the third time this season. UC Irvine earned a 12-9 win at the Burns Aquatic Center on Feb. 18, and then a week later the Lions earned a 9-6 win at UCI on Feb. 25.

Menlo School grad Elise Ponce, a senior goalie for the Lions, was named the WWPA tournament MVP.

The Anteaters, featuring Menlo-Atherton grad MJ O'Neill, who scored six goals as a freshman, won their fourth straight Big West title to earn their second straight NCAA Tournament berth and set a program record with their 24th win of the season with a 10-5 win over UC Davis on Sunday.

The Gaels (24-11) clinched the MAAC's automatic berth with a 10-9 overtime victory over Wagner in the championship game, overcoming an early 5-1 deficit. They

will meet UCLA, with M-A grad Becca Dorst and Sacred Heart Prep grad KK Clark.

Princeton (28-4) won the CWPA Eastern Championship for the second time in program history and first since 2000. This is the first time in program history that the Tigers will participate in the NCAA Championships.

Castilleja grad Laura Martinez scored seven goals and appeared in 29 games for the Tigers. She'll run into Priory grad Constance Hiller and the Women of Troy in the first round.

Baseball

Austin Wilson hit a pair of home runs and drove in three and Jake Stewart added a two-run home run in Stanford's 8-5 loss to host San Jose State in a nonconference game Tuesday.

The 10th-ranked Cardinal (28-12) visits Corvallis for an important Pac-12 series with Oregon State that

gets underway Friday at 5:30 p.m.

Golf

Stanford's Andrew Yun played consistently well through four rounds of play to capture the individual title of the Pac-12 men's golf championships, which ended Sunday at the Trysting Tree Golf Club in Corvallis, Ore.

Yun shot a final round of 68 to finish 13-under 275 for the 72-hole tournament, winning by two strokes over Oregon's Daniel Miernicki.

Freshman Patrick Rodgers finished eighth on the leaderboard as Stanford finished sixth as a team.

Yun becomes the first Stanford golfer to claim conference medalist honors since Jim Seki did it in 2002, also in Corvallis.

The Stanford women, meanwhile, have been selected to join the 22-team field at the NCAA West Regional, to be held at the Colorado National Golf Club in Erie, May 10-12. ■



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Prep roundup

(continued from page 40)

task, hosting winless Sacred Heart Cathedral, while Castilleja visits Menlo-Atherton at 4 p.m.

On Tuesday, Brooke Bullington scored four goals with three assists and Michaela Michael added four goals and two assists to pace first-place Menlo School to a 26-3 romp over host Sacred Heart Cathedral. The Knights (9-0, 13-4) held a 17-3 halftime lead on their way to a 10th-straight victory.

Michael, meanwhile, was named ESPN's HS girls' lacrosse player of the week for the West Region for her play last week in victories over St. Ignatius, Castilleja and Sacred Heart Prep. She currently had 115 goals and 29 assists on the season to rank No. 1 in the state in goals and total points (144).

Baseball

Jake Batchelder and Will King led Menlo School to within one victory of clinching at least a tie for the West Bay Athletic League title as the Knights downed host Harker, 11-2, on Wednesday. The Knights (7-0, 16-7) have a two-game lead with three to play. Menlo can clinch a title tie by beating host Sacred Heart Prep on Friday at 4 p.m.

Batchelder once again was outstanding on the mound as he threw six innings of no earned-run ball while striking nine and walking only three. He also slammed a two-run homer in the sixth.

Another big blow came in the third when sophomore Will King hit a three-run homer to give Menlo a 6-0 lead. Senior shortstop Chris Zeisler added three RBI, as well, as the Knights closed in on making the CCS playoffs for the 24th time in the past 25 years.

In Atherton, host Sacred Heart Prep remained within striking distance of Menlo for at least one more day following a 4-0 victory over Crystal Springs.

The Gators (5-2, 14-9-1) got a sterling one-hit effort from Tyler Vau Dell and a pair of RBI from Joey Papangellin on a double.

In the PAL Bay Division, Menlo-Atherton suffered a setback in its quest for a title following a 10-5 loss to host Burlingame on Wednesday. The Panthers (9-2, 16-6) pounded out 14 hits against the Bears (8-3, 18-6), who hurt themselves by committing six errors.

M-A senior Nick Lange suffered his first loss after seven straight wins. Dylan Cook had two hits and two RBI for the Bears.

The teams will meet again on Friday at M-A (3:15 p.m.), with the Bears needing a win to move back into a tie for first place.

In the SCVAL El Camino Division, host Gunn beat Milpitas, 7-6, on Tuesday and clinched at least a tie for the division title.

Gunn improved to 10-2 in league (18-6 overall) and holds a three-game lead over second-place Fremont (7-5) heading into their match-up on Thursday.

Milpitas held a 3-1 lead in the fifth before Gunn battled back. A three-run homer by Graham Fisher gave the Titans a 6-3 lead.

Milpitas scored two runs in the

top of the sixth and one in the seventh to tie the game. In the bottom of the seventh with one out, Fisher hit a sharp single to left for his third hit of the game. Freshman Matthew Sandor singled pinch-runner Scott Ziebelman to second, and junior Chris Rea ripped a ground-rule double to deep left to score Ziebelman for the win.

In the SCVAL De Anza Division playoffs, defending champ Palo Alto suffered a 4-2 loss to visiting Wilcox on Tuesday. The Vikings (22-4) and Chargers met again Thursday at Wilcox, with Paly needing a win to force a final game Friday at Paly at 3:30 p.m.

Diving

The Palo Alto boys' and girls' swim teams will have a head start when the SCVAL De Anza Division swimming championships get under way Friday at Lynbrook High in San Jose.

The Paly boys scored 59 points and the Paly girls totaled 62 to lead the way during competition Tuesday at Palo Alto.

Palo Alto's Cole Plambeck won the boys' individual title with 476.65 points on 11 dives. Miko Mallari of Gunn was second with 298.90. Paly's Jonathan Kosaka was fourth (274.80), Gunn's Blaze Lee was fifth (259.70) and Paly's Alex Hammer was sixth (245.15).

The Gunn boys will take 23 points into Friday's swimming.

In the girls' competition, Paly swept the top three spots with Emma Miller taking the title with 390.05 points. Serena Yee was second (381.65) and Nadye Nee third (340.40) as the Vikings outscored rival Gunn, 62-8, heading into the swimming portion of the meet.

Golf

Menlo School junior Andrew Buchanan tied for individual honors and Sacred Heart Prep earned the league's second berth for the Central Coast Section playoffs during the West Bay Athletic League Tournament on Wednesday at San Juan Oaks Golf Course in Hollister.

Buchanan, who led the Knights to the WBAL dual-match team title and the league's automatic CCS berth last week, shot 75 on Wednesday to share individual honors with Harker's Maverick McNealy, who joined with Colton Bares of Pinewood and Shrish Dwivedi of Harker as the league's three individuals into a CCS regional next week at Rancho Canada West in Carmel Valley. Bares shot 81.

In the battle for the second team berth, Sacred Heart Prep shot 412 to qualify for CCS. Menlo was second at 413 while Harker (439), Pinewood (447) and King's Academy (493) rounded out the competition.

At the PAL Tournament, Menlo-Atherton's Travis Anderson shot 76 at Crystal Springs on Wednesday and finished the two-day event in second place at 152 to earn an individual berth into the CCS regionals next week. Anderson and his teammates already had qualified as a team by virtue of winning the regular-season title.

At the SCVAL Championships on Monday, also at San Juan Oaks,

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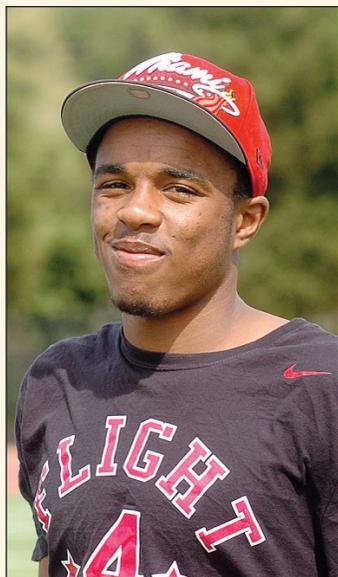
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ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Michaela Michael
Menlo School

The junior scored 14 goals and added four assists in three lacrosse victories, tallying four goals and two assists in a 14-12 win over St. Ignatius -- the Knights first over the Wildcats in more than a decade.



E.J. Floreal
Palo Alto High

The junior won the 100 in a state-leading 10.52, breaking a 31-year-old school record; took the 200 in a personal-best 21.65 and anchored the 400 relay to victory as the Vikings won the De Anza dual-meet title

Honorable mention

Rachael Acker*

Gunn swimming

Charlotte Biffar

Palo Alto lacrosse

Brooke Bullington

Menlo lacrosse

Ally Howe

Sacred Heart Prep swimming

Ali Kim

Menlo lacrosse

Sarah Robinson*

Gunn track & field

Z. Brown-M. Giordano*

Menlo-Atherton tennis

W. Boyd-M. Hoffman

Menlo tennis

Frankie Hattler*

Sacred Heart Prep lacrosse

Victor Pham

Menlo tennis

Byron Sanborn

Palo Alto swimming

Ben Snider

Palo Alto baseball

* previous winner

To see video interviews of the Athletes of the Week, go to www.PASportsOnline.com

(continued from previous page)

Gunn won its first league title in 10 years.

Gunn shot 404 to easily defeat second-place Saratoga (428) while Palo Alto finished fourth at 435. Only the top two (of six) teams qualified for one of two CCS regionals next Wednesday at Rancho Canada West in Carmel Valley.

Gunn had three players break 80 on the par-72 course, which puts a premium on driving, especially on the back nine. Junior Avinash Sharma led the way with a 74, freshman Jack Jaffe shot 77 and freshman Anna Zhou finished with a 78 on a day where only six players in the field of 52 broke 80.

Other Gunn scores included an 85 by Anson Cheng and 90s by Jayshree Sarathy and Curran Sinha. All six Gunn players qualified for the CCS team competition.

The SCVAL individual tournament was held Tuesday with Sharma qualifying with a 153, one shot behind individual champion David Pellerin of Mountain View. Palo Alto's Grant Raffel (159) and Sam Neithammer (160) also qualified.

Boys' lacrosse

Palo Alto celebrated Senior Day

and its final regular-season home game with a resounding 15-8 win against Los Gatos on Thursday. The win improves the Vikings' record to 7-4 in the SCVAL De Anza Division (11-6 overall), with one regular-season game remaining at Los Gatos (2-9, 7-9) on Friday night.

On Tuesday, Menlo School reeled in its third consecutive victory, topping visiting Los Gatos by 6-5 in an SCVAL De Anza Division match. The defending champion Knights improved to 7-4 in the division (10-9 overall) and held on to third place.

In nonleague action, host Sacred Heart Prep scored three goals in the final period to pull out an 11-10 victory over Redwood on Tuesday. Andrew Eifert and Brian White each tallied three times for the Gators (13-3) while Frankie Hattler added two goals and two assists. Goalie Austin Appleton finished with 11 saves.

SHP won the SCVAL De Anza Division title on Saturday by beating Burlingame.

Boys' tennis

Menlo School (21-0) will open defense of its CCS title when the top-seeded Knights host Mountain View on Friday at 2:30 p.m. ■

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50+ creative camps for Gr. K-8! Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, Sculpture, Musical Theater, American Idol Workshop, more! Two-week sessions; full and half-day enrollment. Extended care available. Financial aid offered.

www.arts4all.org

650-917-6800 ext. 0

India Community Center Palo Alto/ Sunnyvale/ Summer Camps

Join ICC's Cultural Camps which give campers a quick tour of India and its vibrant culture. These camps include arts, crafts, folk dance, bollywood dance, music, yoga, Indian history and geography. Over 10 different camps all through the summer for Grades K-12. To register or for more details visit:

www.indiacc.org/camps

408-934-1130 ext. 225

Pacific Art League

Art camps are fun, and stimulate visual perception and cognitive thinking. Week-long camps are available for kids and teens 5 - 18, from June 18 to August 19, including Glass Fusing, Cartooning, Printmaking and Claymation.

www.pacificartleague.org

650.321.3891

Palo Alto Community**Child Care (PACCC)**

PACCC summer camps offer campers, grades kindergarten to 6th, a wide array of fun opportunities! K-1 Fun for the youngest campers, Nothing But Fun for themed-based weekly sessions, Neighborhood Adventure Fun and Ultimate Adventure Fun for the more active and on-the-go campers! Swimming twice per week, periodic field trips, special visitors and many engaging camp activities, songs and skits round out the fun offerings of PACCC Summer Camps! Registration is online. Open to campers from all communities! Come join the fun in Palo Alto!

www.paccc.com

650-493-2361

TechKnowHow Computer**& LEGO Camps**

Fun and enriching technology classes for students, ages 5-14 Courses include LEGO and K'NEX Projects with Motors, Electronics, NXT Robotics, 3D Modeling, and Game Design. Many locations, including Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Sunnyvale. Half and all day options. Early-bird and multi-session discounts available.

www.techknowhowkids.com

650-638-0500

Theatreworks Summer Camps

In these skill-building workshops for grades K-5, students engage in language-based activities, movement, music, and improvisation theatre games. Students present their own original pieces at the end of each two-week camp.

www.theatreworks.org/educationcommunity 650-463-7146



To the nurses of Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

You Bring Comfort. You Give Support. You Restore Vitality.
You are leaders in defining and demonstrating the very best care, making a difference at the bedside and beyond. We appreciate your commitment, expertise and vital contribution to our community and the patients you tirelessly serve each day. **Thank You!**