

Weekly

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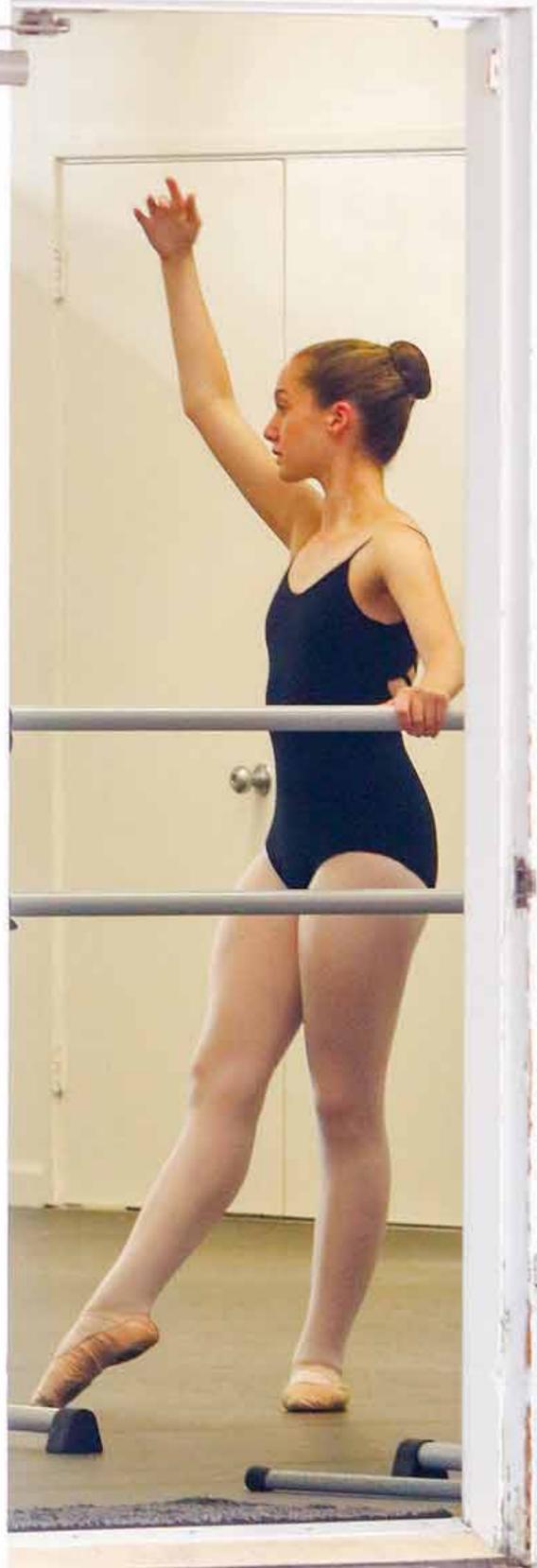
Janitors to cost city \$10 million

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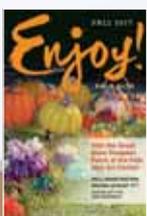
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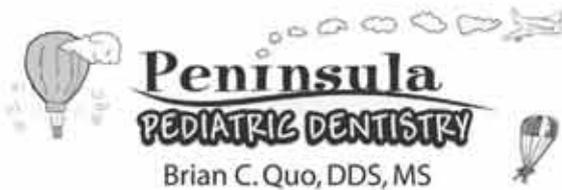
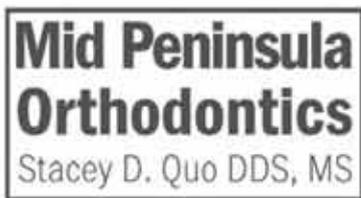
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Upfront

Local news, information and analysis

City eyes \$10.6M price tag for janitorial work

Higher wages would spur huge increase in Palo Alto's janitorial costs

by Gennady Sheyner

Palo Alto's commitment to fair wages will face its first real test Monday night, when the City Council considers a new janitorial contract that will more than double the cost of keeping City Hall and other public buildings clean.

The proposed five-year contract with the firm SWA Services Group would cost the city about \$1.9 million in the first year, which according to a Public Works Department report represents an increase of about \$1.2 million in 2018 alone over the

current provider. In subsequent years, the city would pay between \$1.96 million and \$2.15 million for the service.

If the council approves the contract, the firm would take over the city's janitorial operations on Sept. 1, immediately after the existing contract with the firm ABM expires on Aug. 31. ABM made clear that it is not willing to work beyond that date.

City staff chose SWA over

two other firms despite the fact that the price tag was 30 percent above staff's estimates and about \$2.2 million higher than the lowest bidder over the five-year term of the contract.

Wages appear to be the main factor driving the differences in the proposals — a subject of much discussion over the past two years as the council sought to set a higher minimum wage in Palo Alto. SWA proposes to pay the 33 contract

employees a minimum of \$15 per hour in the first year of the contract; the lowest bidder, Uniserve Facilities Services Corporation, was proposing an initial wage of \$12 per hour, with an increase to \$13.50 in January and \$15 by Jan. 2, 2019, when the rate becomes the city's minimum wage.

SWA's contract entitles its employees to health benefits,

(continued on page 8)



At the newly built College Terrace Centre, permanent signage for the First Republic Bank is plentiful while signs pointing to the College Terrace Market are limited to atop the ornamental obelisk and above the front door.

BUSINESS

For College Terrace Market, a shaky start

Mandated grocery store faces hurdles of competition, signage

by Sue Dremann

College Terrace Market, the longed-for grocery store at 2100 El Camino Real in Palo Alto, finally opened on June 14, but the hoped-for crowds of customers have been slow to materialize.

After a promising opening day, the market initially averaged only about 60 customers a day, said Ron Jensen, the

market's director of operations. In the last couple of weeks, that number has grown as employees have moved into the First Republic Bank offices in the center's upper floors.

But Miki Werness, one of the market's partners, estimated the market needs more than 200 customers per day to thrive. He said he did not anticipate

that a summer opening would be so slow, adding that he anticipates many more customers will come with the start of the school year.

The shaky start — and other factors potentially conspiring against the market — has customers and neighbors in College Terrace concerned. Under the planned community

(PC) ordinance by which the College Terrace Centre development must abide, a grocery store has to be located in the 8,000-square-foot space, whether it's financially thriving or not.

Many residents have said that no one knows the market is there, despite its location on busy El Camino between Oxford and College avenues.

"There's not a lot of pedestrian traffic here, and that's always concerning," said Paul Hansen, who works from his home in the nearby Evergreen Park neighborhood and only recently noticed the market had opened. He began frequenting the store just this last week, crossing El

(continued on page 9)

TRANSPORTATION

Redesign tests 'Palo Alto process'

Some commissioners fear new rail stakeholder group could slow city down in race for cash

by Gennady Sheyner

As Palo Alto moves ahead with plans to transform the rail corridor, city officials are struggling to reconcile two seemingly competing goals: catching up to other communities in a race for Santa Clara County funds and engaging in the type of prolonged deliberative process that has long been synonymous with City Hall culture.

The two objectives collided on Wednesday night, when the Planning and Transportation Commission considered the best way to engage the community in a new planning process for what many consider to be the city's most critical infrastructure priority: the separation of the railroad tracks from local streets at the city's four rail crossings. In discussing the new effort, known as Connecting Palo Alto, commissioners clashed over how far the city should go in engaging the community, with some arguing that the process should prominently feature a stakeholder group consisting of residents and experts and others saying that City Council and staff should be in the driver's seat.

After a vigorous debate, the commission supported a new stakeholder group by a 4-2 vote, with Chair Michael Alcheck and Commissioner Susan Monk dissenting and Eric Rosenblum

(continued on page 9)

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Upfront

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“

The public participation
proposed in this document
is broad and shallow.

”

—Arthur Keller, former planning commission vice
chair, on the city's push to redesign the rail corridor.
See story on page 5.

Around Town

CYCLING FORWARD ... After selecting new seats for its upcoming electric cars last month, **Caltrain** is now focused on what bike racks will be used on the new trains. The agency is holding community outreach events up and down the Peninsula, with one scheduled at the Palo Alto station on Tuesday, Aug. 15, 4:30-7 p.m. Commuters can choose from two options. The first one, labeled the “stacking” option, would allow up to 72 bikes per train car and increase capacity by 12.5 percent. It would be similar to current bike storage on the trains and have sufficient space for different types of bikes, but other bikes may have to be moved as cyclists board on and off. The second option, known as the “hybrid,” would only take up to 68 bikes at a time and increase capacity by 8.3 percent, but wouldn't shuffle bikes around during trips. Surveillance cameras will be installed at low- and mid-level heights on each bike car. Both choices have 32-inch-wide aisles, which is required under the **Americans with Disabilities Act**. Online voting ends at midnight on Sept. 1. For additional information, visit calmodtrains.com.

PET PEEVES ... Palo Alto's effort to preserve and improve its cramped but popular **Animal Shelter** will hit a milestone on Monday, Aug. 21, when the City Council considers a new partnership between the city and the nonprofit **Pets in Need**. According to a letter of intent between the two parties, which the city released this week, the nonprofit could take over operations at the existing shelter as early as March 2018, even as it moves along with a capital campaign to build a bigger, better shelter on city-owned land. “The city desires a modern and adequate Animal Shelter facility while stabilizing funding and achieving long-term financial sustainability for the shelter's programs and services,” the proposed letter of intent states. “PIN seeks to expand its mission to advance the no-kill movement, reduce pet homelessness and find every dog, cat and animal a loving home.” The new agreement aims to fulfill both goals — though some major details remain unresolved. The **Services Employees**

International Union Local 521, has expressed concerns about the change and what it would mean for the five city employees who would be impacted. The city is required to offer these employees priority hiring for any City vacancies for which they are qualified. The union, for its part, plans to propose severance options that management says are “above and beyond” what is currently outlined in the contract. The city's hopes resolve these issues early next year, according to staff.

EXPANDING JEWISH LIFE ... Stanford University alumnus **Tad Taube** is cementing his name on the sprawling campus at the new **Stanford Jewish Center**, which will be named the **Taube Chabad House**. The building will be constructed with help from a \$1.3 million contribution from his organization, **Taube Philanthropies**. “We enormously appreciate this latest manifestation of Taube Philanthropies' extraordinary commitment to Jewish life at Stanford,” **Rabbi Dov Greenberg**, executive director of **Stanford Chabad**, said in a press release. “Tad Taube has made a career of sowing seeds that will grow, flower and bring joy, learning and enlightenment to people for generations to come. He has done countless mitzvot — good deeds — not only at Stanford and in the Bay Area, but in Poland and Israel, where he also has made a tremendous impact.” Taube's more than \$100 million contributions to Stanford have been used to support construction of the football stadium, **Institute for Economic Policy Research** and other projects. His donations have also supported the **Taube Center for Jewish Studies**, **Taube Hillel House**, **Taube Family Tennis Stadium** and additional school services. “It is a privilege to share the good fortune I've had as a Jewish immigrant who came to the United States as a child from Poland,” Taube said in a press release. “It is most satisfying to be able to support organizations that bring people of common interest together. Stanford Chabad, in its new home, will continue to provide a venue for the spiritual and material needs of Stanford's Jewish community for generations to come.” ■

CITY BUDGET

Pension contract tackles city's growing problem

City's agreement with CalPERS would require employees to contribute part of city's share

by Gennady Sheyner

How do you solve a problem so vast that it's practically immeasurable?

That's the question the Palo Alto City Council continues to struggle with when it comes to the city's pension liabilities, a fluctuating burden that by most estimates ranges somewhere between \$300 million and \$800 million. During budget discussions in May, members of the City Council characterized it as the city's most massive budget issue, with Greg Tanaka saying the total owed to future retirees "dwarfs everything else by a lot."

The current city budget pegs the pension liability to be at about \$330.1 million, though many expect it to rise steeply in the coming years. The California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), the massive public fund that manages the city's pension and health benefits, has recently decreased the expected rate of return from its investment portfolio from 7.5 percent to 7 percent, a change that will be phased in over three years starting in fiscal year 2019 and that will further accelerate the city's already rising pension costs.

To brace for the looming pension storm, the council has been pursuing two strategies: having employees pick up a greater share of pension contributions and creating what's known as an IRS Section 115 Pension Trust Fund to offset major fluctuations

down the road.

On Monday, the council will address the former when it amends its contract with CalPERS. The new agreement calls for all bargaining units in the public-safety departments (which includes the Palo Alto Police Officers Association, the Palo Alto Police Managers Association, the International Association of Fire Fighters and the Palo Alto Fire Chiefs Association) to pick up 3 percent of the employer pension contribution as of fiscal year 2018.

For the roughly 600 workers represented by the Service Employees International Union, Local 521, the share of employer contribution they would have to pay would be 0.5 percent retroactive to Dec. 1, 2016, and would increase to 1 percent as of Dec. 1, 2017. The "management and professionals group" of about 200 employees is expected to adopt a similar arrangement after the SEIU deal is approved by CalPERS this fall.

The approach is a reversal from Palo Alto's traditional practice in which the city covered both its own and employees' CalPERS contributions. The burden began to slowly shift during the 2009 economic downturn, when a shrinking budget and growing expenses prompted the council to pursue new agreements with its labor groups so that employees would pay their own share of the costs and, ultimately, a small portion

of the city's. The contracts included tiered pension plans, with new and recently hired employees belonging to a tier with less generous benefits.

In June, the council approved a budget that calls increases to employee contributions "an important tool to help the City contain pension costs." But even so, no one expects the Monday action to change the underlying problem. Collectively, the higher employee contributions are expected to lower the city's annual pension costs by about \$1 million (from about \$24.6 million to \$23.6 million) — hardly a panacea for a problem that continues to grow thanks to CalPERS' revisions.

For the council, shrinking the pension liability is among the most pressing and challenging priorities. And for Councilman Eric Filseth, chair of the council's Finance Committee, it is a problem that is gradually becoming less abstract and more tangible, with real impact to residents.

Just before the council adopted its budget on June 27, Filseth observed that the city's public pension and health liabilities are both growing much faster than revenues. The budget included an additional contribution to the Section 115 fund, raising its balance to \$3.5 million.

"We've known for some time that eventually those liabilities would start to impact our regular operations, competing for dollars with aquatics, safety, tree trimming and all other things we spend time on," Filseth said. "That time has arrived. Just like with credit cards, as our overall liability grows, the minimal payment also grows."

In addition to creating the pension trust and reaching new agreements with labor, the city is also pre-paying the entire annual employer-contribution amount — a practice that the city expects to save \$813,000 in the current fiscal year (which began on July 1).

While these steps have had some impact, overall pension costs continue to rise. This year's budgeted \$23.6 million is an increase of 11.4 percent (or \$2.43 million) over 2017. This contributed to the broader trend of rising employee costs: In the General Fund, salary and benefit costs have gone up by 8.1 percent or \$9.4 million, between the 2017 budget and the newly adopted one.

Tanaka believes the city should go even further in addressing the

BY THE NUMBERS



\$330.1 million
City of Palo Alto's current pension liability



\$23.6 million
City's annual pension contribution to CalPERS*



\$2.43 million
Increase in City's FY2018 pension contribution over 2017, a rise of 11.4%



\$1 million
Annual amount City saves with workers paying part of City's CalPERS share



\$813,000
Annual amount City saves by paying its CalPERS contribution upfront



973
City of Palo Alto union members affected by new CalPERS contract



3%
Maximum % of City's pension contribution that workers in a union will pay

*California Public Employees' Retirement System
Source: City of Palo Alto

CityView

A round-up of Palo Alto government action this week

City Council

The council did not meet this week.

Board of Education (Aug. 8)

Goals: The board discussed draft goals for the 2017-18 school year. **Action:** None

Planning & Transportation Commission (Aug. 9)

Rail: The commission discussed the city's effort to plan for rail grade separation and voted to recommend that the process include a stakeholder committee including residents and experts. **Yes:** Gardias, Laing, Summa, Waldfoegel **No:** Alcheck, Monk **Absent:** Rosenblum

Historic Resources Board (Aug. 10)

Meeting: The board discussed potential topics for its upcoming joint meeting with the City Council. **Action:** None



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liability problem. As a member of the Finance Committee, he has repeatedly advocated for reducing employee costs and during the budget adoption, he voted against both the new public-information officer position (the only new position in the General Fund) and against a plan to retain a position in the Office of Sustainability. Both proposals sailed through despite his objections.

He also argued that the city should be more explicit in both articulating the pension problem in its budget documents and

coming up with solutions.

"We're chipping away at \$3.5 million a year, but it's such a small amount and such a big debt," Tanaka said at the June 27 meeting. "We are putting in such a relatively small, minimal payment that I don't think we're doing justice to our constituents or retirees."

"It's important that we realize that there is a part of our budget that's not accounted for — the unfunded liability." ■

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

News Digest

New office building planned for University Circle

University Circle, the commercial park that replaced the Whiskey Gulch neighborhood in East Palo Alto over two decades ago, may soon get a fresh injection of office space.

Columbia Property Trust, which owns the development, submitted a letter to the city this week proposing to add a fourth office building to a complex that currently includes three commercial developments and a Four Seasons hotel.

Under the proposal, a building with about 180,000 square feet of office space would be constructed on what is currently a parking lot.

Not everyone is pleased about the proposed development. Norman Beamer, president of the Crescent Park Neighborhood Association, told the Weekly that the last thing the badly congested area needs is another office building. Beamer's Palo Alto neighborhood sits just west of the East Palo Alto border.

He pointed to the history of University Circle, which was marked by litigation and a settlement that forced the developer to scale back its plans for the office park during the planning phase, over 25 years ago.

Beamer, said the same issues that were at the forefront back then — including traffic and visual impacts — still apply.

Columbia, for its part, cited the settlements in its letter but argued that nothing in it prohibits the city from “planning and processing” the proposed projects.

The developer wrote that connectivity between University Circle and most other East Palo Alto destinations was a major concern that was identified both during its outreach process and the city's General Plan update. ■

— Gennady Sheyner

Council prepares to revise Buena Vista lot lines

Having succeeded in preventing the closure of Buena Vista Mobile Home Park, the City Council is preparing to take the next step on Monday to ensure its operations.

The council is scheduled to approve a new parcel map for Buena Vista. The county agency is in the process of buying the mobile-home park, with escrow set to close on Sept. 1.

For the residents at Buena Vista, the county's purchase of Buena Vista is a long-awaited victory. The Jisser family has been trying to close the park since at least November 2012, and the process was mired by litigation and arguments over whether the relocation assistance being offered to the residents was adequate.

The new parcel map would reduce the number of parcels on the 6.19-acre site from five to three, with the Housing Authority controlling the largest parcel: 4.5 acres that includes most of the mobile homes. The Jisser family will own the 1-acre parcel that includes two commercial buildings and the 0.75 acre that includes a gas station and a few housing units.

Under the deal's terms, the Jissers will lease to the county the residential portion of the 0.75-acre site for three years, giving the agency time to relocate the residents to the main parcel.

The Planning and Transportation Commission reviewed and approved the parcel map on July 12. The council is expected to do the same on Aug. 14.

Once escrow closes, the county will proceed with the next step: bringing the park up to code. ■

— Gennady Sheyner

School board eyes range of district goals

Rolling out new curriculum, pursuing innovation, closing the achievement gap, reforming special education and supporting wellness are among the school district's potential goals for the 2017-18 school year, which the Board of Education discussed Tuesday night.

The goals fall under three categories — high-quality teaching and learning; equity and access; and wellness and safety.

The school board was supportive of the goals, five of which are new.

Under high quality teaching and learning, board members lauded staff work on the goal to create more consistency among teachers on homework and assessment practices. By the next school year, the district aims to have course guides with a common format. By 2019, similar classes should have “identical” learning targets and practices.

Goals under equity and access focus on improving academic outcomes for minority and low-income students. Board members and a parent suggested that it should also include special-education students. Superintendent Max McGee agreed and said the next version of the goals will do so.

The district continues its work to support student and staff well-being through four goals: piloting a social-emotional learning program; creating a system to track homework loads, tests and project stacking; implementing recommendations from last year's wellness survey; and ensuring compliance to federal civil-rights law Title IX.

Collins urged staff to commit to a “compliance audit” that could help uncover other areas in the district in need of reform, and McGee agreed.

McGee plans to return with a revised list of goals by the board's first meeting in September. ■

— Elena Kadvany



Veronica Weber

Hector Sanchez, custodian for the City of Palo Alto, sweeps the hallways at Cubberley Community Center on Aug. 8. Sanchez, whose responsibility is to assist tenants, unlock the doors for classes and clean the facilities, says he often walks 10 to 11 miles per day.

Janitors

(continued from page 5)

vacations and holidays, while the Uniserve contract does not. Most janitors would start with a \$15-per-hour wage, with lead janitors earning \$18 per hour and utility worker employees making \$17 per hour. Every employee would get a 3 percent raise in each subsequent year.

SWA's proposed wages are comparable to what other public agencies pay to their contract janitors, said Mike Wong, facilities manager with the Public Works Department. The company generally pays its employees \$15 to \$16 per hour but chose the \$15 rate to keep its bid more competitive for the city, Wong said in an email.

Aside from Uniserve and SWA, the only other bidder was the firm Impect, which proposed a \$12.7 million deal — about \$2.5 million higher than SWA's — and would have paid employees \$12 per hour in the contract's first year.

For Palo Alto, the janitorial contract will represent a sweeping change in more ways than one. The city has been contracting out its janitorial services since 1994 and the price tag has always been the main criterion during the bidding process, according to the Public Works report.

The results, according to the report, have been less than stellar. Janitors have reportedly struggled to meet the city's performance standards, which in turn required staff to intensely manage contracts and take corrective actions. Issues included supply and material shortages, prohibited activities occurring on city property, cleaning not done and poor work performance, the report states.

“When striving for the lowest cost, the city saw gaps in sufficient staffing including adequate supervision, significantly low wage rates impacting recruitment (including the ability to pass Department of Justice background checks) and retention of staff,

and insufficient supplies and materials,” the report states. “All of these have led to cleaning issues throughout the city.”

The report also notes that other agencies have faced challenges of subpar performance similar to Palo Alto's when giving preference to cost.

‘When striving for the lowest cost, the city saw gaps in sufficient staffing including adequate supervision, significantly low wage rates impacting recruitment. ... All of these have led to cleaning issues throughout the city.’

— Public Works Department report

The biggest factor in the city's evaluation criteria this time around is a category called “quality, performance and effectiveness of services to be provided,” which comprises 40 percent of the score. Cost makes up 20 percent. Other factors, with less weight, relate to the contractor's experience, ability to provide future maintenance and financial stability.

Based on these criteria, staff unanimously selected SWA, which also provides services to the City of Mountain View.

The new janitorial contract is also notable for another reason: For the first time since the Palo Alto council launched its quest for a higher minimum wage in early 2015, the policy is taking a significant bite out of the city's bottom line.

When the council approved its current plan to phase in \$15 per hour citywide, the bulk of the debate swirled around the costs to businesses, whether the city should pursue exemptions for restaurants' tipped workers (the council opted not to) and whether the \$15 wage should debut in 2018 or 2019.

While the council ultimately settled on 2019, the city staff's recommendation makes a case for immediately walking the talk when it comes to janitorial services.

The move is likely to please

current and former council members who initiated the drive toward the higher minimum wage. Councilmen Tom DuBois and Cory Wolbach and former members Pat Burt and Marc Berman (who is now a state Assembly member) wrote in a February 2015 memo that low-paid work-

ers “perform valued services in Palo Alto and often have to work multiple jobs with long commutes to barely make ends meet.”

“A local minimum wage would be a modest step in supporting these workers who are vital to maintaining the services we value and that are essential to our local economy,” the memo stated.

After numerous committee hearings, the council voted unanimously last September to approving the higher wage. Wolbach and Berman argued that the city should move faster on the issue and proposed going to a \$15 wage by July 1, 2018. That proposal was rejected by the majority, who favored a schedule that is aligned with those of other cities in the region.

The proposed contract with SWA would cost the city \$10.65 million, which includes \$10.1 million for basic services and \$507,268 for additional services, which includes special events, emergencies and new services. It covers 43 municipal buildings, including City Hall, libraries, park restrooms and parking garages. Among other services, the work will include floor waxing and window washing. ■

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

Market

(continued from page 5)

Camino to get sushi there.

The market's lack of clear signage, residents and customer said, is an immediate threat to the grocery store's bottom line. But the City of Palo Alto also is allowing a competitor to open in the center: First Republic Bank, which is the primary tenant in the two buildings, is plunking down more than \$700,000 to build a cafeteria for its employees. The cafeteria will offer a deli, bread and salad stations, sundries, coffee, hot food and soup — just as College Terrace Market does.

Stanford University also plans to add a small convenience store to its new Escondido Village housing development a few blocks away.

The market does have three signs: Two logos — a red apple in the shape of a “C” with shopping-cart wheels and a green apple-leaf handle — with “Market” in black block letters below affixed near the top of a 40-plus-foot spire at the corner of Oxford. Above the store's corner entrance is a third logo sign with the words “College Terrace Market.”

But they lack visibility: Pedestrians said the spire signs are too high up; customers note that the entrance sign is in an alcove hidden behind the spire's base.

Along the front, the store's windows are tinted, making it difficult to tell what kind of business is inside and obscuring another sign posted on the inside of the front window.

By contrast, First Republic has aggressively branded itself with six large green signs — one that covers two sides of the building — three banners and two stately flag poles.

“The market does not stand out. The bank suffocates the store. There are too many signs,” College Terrace resident Ann Lafargue Balin said.

Diane Finkelstein, another resident, agreed.

“You have to know the market is there to even discover the current sign,” she wrote in an email. “The city should make the bank

take down the huge sign over the market, and it should be replaced with one for the market so it is visible from El Camino.”

Russ Reich, Palo Alto development-services planning manager, said the College Terrace Centre can have multiple signs, but the city has not received any such signage applications from the building owner or the market. Previous sign requests have been approved after about two months, according to city records.

Werness said the store's partners are planning to add a large sign to the building's El Camino facade. They've added a banner along the railing of the front dining patio to direct traffic to the center's underground parking garage, which has an entrance on El Camino.

In addition to the signage issue, also somewhat puzzling to the store's neighbors is the bank's planned cafeteria.

Hillary Gitelman, Palo Alto director of planning and community environment, said the city can veto things such as cafeterias and other competing uses when projects are in the planning stages. The city has discretion over employee cafeterias when they are offered to ensure workers don't drive during lunch, creating traffic, and to justify a reduction in required parking spaces.

“The city reviews new development projects that propose employee amenities such as cafeterias, and in recent years we have not supported cafeterias where there are retail uses and services nearby because we want office tenants to patronize nearby businesses. Where there are not retail and services nearby, we have supported employee cafeterias as a way to reduce vehicle trips, because it means employees don't have to get in their car and drive to lunch,” Gitelman stated.

“In this case, the cafeteria was proposed by the applicant as an amenity unrelated to any reduction in parking. Thus the city didn't see a justification for denying the request,” she stated.

But customers expressed dismay that the cafeteria will be opening.

“I'm kind of horrified to learn

they are allowing a cafeteria to go into the building,” said a neatly dressed, 40s-ish lawyer from Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati who declined to give his name. “It was hard to get someone in here in the first place. You'd like to see the planning process account for that and give the store the advantage to survive.”

He's walked from his Page Mill Road office to the market for lunch every third day since it opened, passing a no-man's land of office buildings, apartments and small storefronts. He could eat at fast-food joints along El Camino or head to a California Avenue restaurant. But instead he makes his way past the Jack in the Box drive-through and the cars weaving in and out of the Shell gas station.

First Republic has cafeterias in all of its large offices, according to bank spokesman Greg Berardi.

“It keeps all employees closer and in the neighborhood, and it brings them closer to the market. The bank is already actively working to support the market and will continue to do so,” he said.

The bank and the market are working on a number of initiatives together, he added. He declined to elaborate on the joint initiatives.

Residents at a College Terrace Residents Association meeting in early June also expressed concern over a proposed Escondido Village market on the Stanford campus. But Stanford spokeswoman Jean McCown said this week the 1,900-square-foot convenience store would be similar to one that exists in the Munger graduate student housing today.

“It is not sized to be a full-service grocery store, but what will be provided has not yet been determined and is a few years out,” she said.

Within College Terrace, the market has its supporters. Lafargue Balin's family has lived in College Terrace since 1926, and her grandmother and aunt went to now-shuttered JJ&F Market.

“We need this neighborhood spot to foster community in the neighborhood. Not to whine,

is a critical ingredient in the CSS and planning staff countering that it's not.

For those who opposed the formation of the group, time is the critical factor. County voters approved Measure B last fall, which allocates \$700 million for grade separations in north county, which includes Sunnyvale, Mountain View and Palo Alto. The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority plans to come up with an implementation plan next year to determine how the money would be doled out over the 30-year life of the tax measure.

So far, the VTA hasn't set any deadlines for the cities to propose their grade-separation plans, Palo Alto Chief

Transportation Official Joshua Mello said Wednesday. Even so, he acknowledged that the other cities are much further along in planning for future improvements.

“We're in jeopardy of falling behind our peer cities in the Peninsula,” Mello said.

To move the process along, Mello proposed using a technical committee consisting of transportation officials from the relevant agencies (including the VTA and Caltrain) and hosting a series of workshops in which residents will be invited to clarify the problem, lay out the city's objectives and identify the preferred alternatives. The process got off to an auspicious start in May, when about 130 people

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.

Caltrain fares to increase
 Caltrain fares are going up, with adult fares increasing 25 cents as of Oct. 1, the agency announced. Also, Caltrain's monthly parking prices will jump from \$55 to \$82.50 effective Oct. 1. In addition, the discounted eight-ride ticket is being eliminated, the agency said. (Posted Aug. 7, 2:35 p.m.)

Fallen branch injures three at picnic
 A large tree branch collapsed on a group of people during a company picnic at Menlo College on Saturday afternoon, injuring three and sending two to the hospital for treatment, according to the Menlo Park Fire Protection District. (Posted Aug. 6, 12:01 p.m.)

Transit center bus depot temporarily closed
 The Palo Alto Transit Center bus depot will be closed until Sept. 21 as the city's Public Works Department makes repairs to the pavement on and around University Circle. This marks the second time the bus depot has been closed this year. (Posted Aug. 6, 6:41 a.m.)

Symposium highlights Chronic Fatigue research
 A community symposium with world researchers of one of the world's most puzzling diseases will take place at Stanford University on Aug. 12. Scientists will meet with the public to discuss the latest findings on Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS). (Posted Aug. 5, 8:49 a.m.)

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but we have lost so much of the character of College Terrace with constant construction and crushing cut-through traffic that it is sweet to have a market in our neighborhood,” she said.

Husband Fred Balin said the new market is “a worthy successor to the beloved JJ&F,” but now that the market has opened, the community must come out to support it and help it succeed.

He called on the property owner to bring businesses into the vacant, adjacent 5,000-square-foot retail space that will draw customers to the center and on the store managers to effectively run the market itself.

College Terrace Market has the potential to be a great community gathering space, said the Wilson Sonsini attorney, who extolled its sandwiches as he sat at one of the patio picnic tables under a red-and-black umbrella.

“I think when the school year starts there will be kids wandering in for lunch. ... But as word gets out, there also will be longer lines.”

That's good for the market but not so good for him, he said.

“My concerns are entirely selfish. I want them to stick around.” ■

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

Rail

(continued from page 5)

absent. Its recommendation deviated from the approach favored by planning staff, which omits the stakeholder group and relies largely on community workshops and surveys to gather public feedback.

The commission generally agreed that the city should rely on the Context Sensitive Solution (CSS) process, which places a premium on continuous stakeholder involvement for major projects such as highways. Yet there was plenty of disagreement about what this process entails, with several residents arguing that a stakeholder group

attended the first such meeting, which focused on existing conditions along the city's 4-mile rail segment.

But that proposed approach has its detractors. Members of the advocacy group Californians Advocating Responsible Rail Design argued that by excluding a stakeholder group, the city is effectively renegeing on its commitment to pursue an inclusive CSS process. Nadia Naik, one of the group's co-founders, contrasted the CSS process with the approach used for high-speed rail, a project that voters supported in 2008 and that became deeply unpopular locally in 2009.

“It failed because the decision-makers ignored everything that

was going on,” Naik said. “There was no buy-in and the people who participated were not involved in many decisions.”

Planning Director Hillary Gitelman suggested that the outreach process can work even without a stakeholder committee. But Elizabeth Alexis, also a member of the rail advocacy group, said she is unaware of any CSS approach that does not include a “permanent, specific program team.”

“It's just an integral part of this that you have a set of people with different perspectives and different knowledge bases that go deep into something,” Alexis said.

(continued on next page)



Image Credit – Google Street View

Notice of Salvage Opportunity

In compliance with the Project Conditions for Approval, Notice is hereby posted indicating a Salvage Opportunity for building elements at 744 San Antonio Road. Qualified contractors may contact Randy Popp at randy@rp-arch.com for further information. The notice period ends 8/16/2017 and the opportunity for salvage of materials closes 9/6/2017

(continued from previous page)

Others who favored the new stakeholder group include former Mayor Pat Burt, who submitted a letter calling for the group's establishment, and former planning commission Vice Chair Arthur Keller, who attended the Wednesday meeting to lobby for the new group.

"The public participation proposed in this document is broad and shallow," Keller said, referring to the staff proposal. "The stakeholder group includes a process that is narrow and deep. I think that's critical. You need both."

Their arguments swayed the commission majority, with Commissioners Ed Lauing and Doria Summa both supporting the formation of a stakeholder group. The more that expert opinions are involved, the better the outcome is likely to be, Lauing reasoned.

"It's such a significant thing in Palo Alto and if we can keep from making mistakes because we have experts in a real stakeholder group, I think it's worth the investment," Lauing said.

But Alcheck and Monk both supported staff's approach. Monk said she was concerned about potentially losing Measure B funding. Alcheck argued that a project as technically complex as grade separation will necessarily require expert opinions.

"I think using a process that more heavily relies on experts, planning staff, PTC and council is more appropriate, especially because we have to deal with technical issues," Alcheck said.

Whether or not the council ultimately agrees to form the new group (it will consider the question on Aug. 28), everyone agreed that staff should move along with community meetings to keep the broader community involved. The next such meeting is set to take place on Sept. 16 at the Palo Alto Art Center auditorium.

Deliberations over the rail corridor are far from new. In 2013, a citizen task force debated potential improvements along the railroad tracks and released a report that recommended new east-west connections and that favored putting the rail line below ground level in a trench or tunnel.

Gitelman cited the earlier efforts on Wednesday but noted that the community conversation could evolve as more details emerge in the coming months.

"My expectation is that although there's been a lot of thought given to the corridor and a clear preference expressed in a number of forums about a below-grade solution, it will be more complicated than that when we start talking about cost and constraints and impacts on other grade crossings and other aspects around the train that bisects our community," Gitelman said. ■

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



Ben Hacker

Readying for kick off

Lauren Kerr, Palo Alto High School class of '15, details her fourth and final mural — a swimmer — in the brand new Paly gymnasium. Other murals depict the sports of football, basketball and volleyball.

Public Agenda

A preview of Palo Alto government meetings next week

CITY COUNCIL... The council plans to meet in a closed session to discuss the status of its labor negotiations with the Service Employees International Union, Local 521, and the Utilities Management and Professional Association of Palo Alto (UMPAPA). The council will then consider approving the city's new Transit Vision Plan; consider revising the parcel map at Buena Vista Mobile Home Park; consider approving a five-year contract with SWA Services Group for janitorial services; amend the city's contract with the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and designate a voting delegate and alternate for the League of California Cities Conference. The closed session will begin at 5 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 14. Regular meeting will follow immediately after in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ... The commission will hold a retreat at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 15, in the Mitchell Park Community Center, 3700 Middlefield Road.

COUNCIL RAIL COMMITTEE ... The committee plans to discuss the Connecting Palo Alto effort, including the problem statement, the objectives, the evaluation criteria and the process for facilitating the community discussion on grade separations. The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 16, in the Community Meeting Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

CITY COUNCIL ... The council will meet in a closed session to discuss evaluations of the four council-appointed officers: city manager, city attorney, city clerk and city auditor. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 16, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

CITY/SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE ... The committee will review recent council and school board meetings; discuss the Safe Routes to School program; and discuss the city's and the school district's construction updates. The meeting will begin at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 17, in the district office, 25 Churchill Ave.

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD ... The board plans to perform a site-and-design review for a proposed four-story mixed-use project at 3001 El Camino Real, which includes 50 residential units and 19,800 square feet of retail; hold a preliminary review for 4256 El Camino Real, a request by Mircea Voskerician for a new five-story hotel; and hold a preliminary review for 4190 El Camino Real, a request for a 5,340-square-foot addition and a solar canopy over an existing auto dealership. The meeting will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 17, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.

PUBLIC ART COMMISSION ... The committee plans to consider approving artwork by Mary Lucking for the Highway 101 overpass; initiate the evaluation process for de-accession of the "Digital DNA" and "Go Mama" sculptures; and approve three temporary artworks for King Plaza by Toby Fraley, Megan Geckler and Konstantin Dimopolus. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 17, in the Community Meeting Room at City Hall, 250 Hamilton Ave.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING of the City of Palo Alto Historic Resources Board [HRB]

8:30 A.M., Thursday August 24, 2017, Palo Alto Council Chambers, 1st Floor, Civic Center, 250 Hamilton Avenue. Contact Robin Ellner at 650-329-2603, for information during business hours.

Study Session

- 1. 375 Hamilton [17PLN-00224]:** Preliminary Architectural Review Application for a New Five-Story Parking Garage with One Basement Parking Level with 1,709 sf of Ground Floor Retail, Bike Storage and 330 Parking Spaces Located on a 29,164 s.f. Surface Parking Lot. Zone District: PF (Public Facilities). Environmental Assessment: An Initial Study has been Prepared in Accordance With the California Environmental Quality Act and a Scoping Session was Held. For More Information Contact Amy French, Chief Planning Official, at amy.french@cityofpaloalto.org
- 2. 526 Waverley Street:** Discussion Regarding Potential Reclassification of the Birge Clark Designed 1927 Building at 526 Waverley in Downtown Palo Alto, from Category 3 on the City's Historic Inventory to Category 2, Prior to Application for Preliminary Architectural Review for Historic Rehabilitation and Potential Upper Floor Addition for Residential Use. Zone District: CD-C(GF)(P). Environmental Assessment: Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act per Sections 15331 Historical Resource Rehabilitation. No application has been submitted.
- 3. 2601 E. Bayshore Road:** Discussion Regarding Former International Telephone and Telegraph (ITT) Property. No application has been submitted.

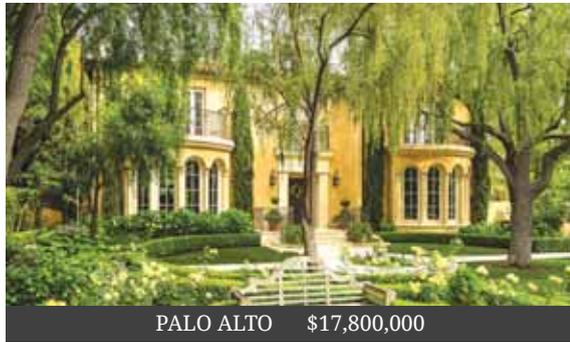
Amy French
Chief Planning Official

The City of Palo Alto does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. To request an accommodation for this meeting or an alternative format for any related printed materials, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 650.329.2550 (voice) or by e-mailing ada@cityofpaloalto.org.

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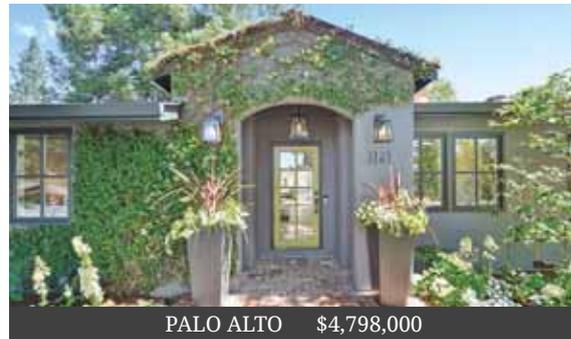


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Georgia Schwaar

Georgia Schwaar died on August 1, 2017 at her home in Channing House in Palo Alto. She was 84 and had lived in Palo Alto since 1971.

Georgia Davenport Steigerwald was born in Buffalo, NY, on Sept. 8, 1932, the daughter of dentist George Steigerwald and Alene Davenport Steigerwald. She graduated from Binghamton (N.Y.) Central High School and earned an A.B. from Barnard College in 1954.

She taught elementary grades in New Jersey and New York before marrying Robert Schwaar, whom she had met while living in Princeton, NJ. In 1956 the young couple moved to Berkeley, California, where Georgia taught primary grades in Berkeley and Lafayette, California.

She was active with the Berkeley Co-op, where she helped write a commemorative cookbook. For the League of Women Voters, she led the Voter Service group, researched issues related to Fair Housing, and campaigned for Eugene McCarthy.

She hosted foreign visitors for the International Hospitality Center and for the American Host Program.

Her husband, a chemical engineer, worked on several long-term European projects; she accompanied him in Germany and Spain.

Georgia was a dedicated genealogist, researching and preparing family trees for both sides of her and her husband's families, and visiting many newly found relatives in the US and in Europe.

Georgia's handicraft projects included knitting, furniture designing, woodworking, quilting and rugmaking.

Always scrupulously honest, she was especially proud of the "A" she earned in [Bishop] Jim Pike's ethics class at Barnard.

Since 1971 Georgia and Bob lived in Palo Alto, where they raised their daughter, Teresa. Georgia attended Law School at Golden Gate University, obtaining her J.D. in 1980. She worked in the public defender's office and for Legal Aid, mostly handling cases in family law and women's rights.

Georgia volunteered for 20+ years with the Friends of the Palo Alto Library, preparing donated books for their monthly book sales. She volunteered in elementary classrooms and special ed classes; She always enjoyed teaching young children.

Georgia liked foreign food, foreign travel, and foreign languages, and enjoyed plenty of each.

She was in charge of maintaining 80 large camellia bushes at the Gamble Garden in Palo Alto.

She was a longtime member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo Alto, where she served on the Board of Trustees and was a leader in action groups for many years.

In 2006 Georgia and Bob moved from Churchill Avenue to Channing House in Palo Alto, where they built a new circle of friends.

She always had a ready laugh, and never lost her sense of humor.

In addition to her husband of 60 years, survivors include daughter Teresa Schwaar Bell and grandchildren Luke and Erika Bell, all of Felton, CA, and nephew John Polk (Teresa) of Carnation, WA.

A celebration of Georgia's life will be held at Channing House, 850 Webster St., Palo Alto, at 2 pm. on Friday, September 8, 2017. No flowers, please. 650-324-7501.



PAID OBITUARY

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Richard Alan De Stefano

February 17, 1930 – July 25, 2017
Resident of Palo Alto

Richard "Dick" Alan De Stefano, 87, passed away on July 25, 2017 at the Palo Alto Veteran's Hospital. Dick was a lifelong resident of Palo Alto for 51 years. He was born on February 17, 1930 in San Francisco to Nicholas and Mary Anna De Stefano. On January 27, 1951, he married his sweetheart Josephine Maynard who preceded him in death on May 21, 1992.

Dick is survived by his three children, Dick (Kathy) De Stefano, Tom (Linda) De Stefano and Sally Pollard. He also has seven grandchildren, (T. J., Scotty, Joey, Kayla, Jenna, Ronnie & Brad). Dick was a loving father, husband, grandfather and friend to all who knew him.

He was a Korean War Veteran who proudly served in the United States Army in the 1950s. He worked as Vice President with Spectra Physics in Mountain View. Later, he became owner of NDS Technology, a company he was very proud of.

Dick enjoyed traveling the world which included many trips to Hawaii, Panama Canal and the Caribbean Islands. He loved deep sea fishing and boating. A great joy for Dick was spending time with his children and grandchildren. He loved watching all his grandchildren compete in their individual sports.

A special thank you to Cedar Creek in Los Gatos for their loving care and support of our father over the last 8 years. Also, thank you to the Palo Alto Veteran's Hospital for their exceptional medical care.

The family will hold a private burial at Alta Mesa in Palo Alto.

Family and friends are invited to attend a "Celebration of Life" on Saturday, August 19 at 12:30 pm at Caffè Riace Restaurant, 200 Sheridan Avenue, Palo Alto.

PAID OBITUARY

Pulse

A weekly compendium of vital statistics

POLICE CALLS

Palo Alto
August 2-8

Violence related

Battery 1
Domestic violence 1

Theft related

Commercial burglaries 2
Grand theft 1
Identity theft 3
Petty theft 6
Residential burglaries 1

Vehicle related

Abandoned auto 2
Auto theft 1
Bicycle theft 1
Driving with a suspended license 6
Hit and run 2
Parking/driving violation 4
Theft from aircraft 1
Theft from auto 17
Vehicle accident/minor injury 2
Vehicle accident/prop. damage 7
Vehicle tow 5

Alcohol or drug related

Drinking in public 3
Driving under the influence 2
Drunk in public 1
Possession of drugs 3
Possession of paraphernalia 1
Under influence of drugs 1

Miscellaneous

Fall 1
Found property 5
Lost property 3
Misc penal code violation 5
Missing person 1
Prowler 1
Psychiatric subject 4
Sex crime 1
Suspicious circumstances 2
Vandalism 3
Warrant/other agency 8

Menlo Park
August 2-8

Theft related

Commercial burglaries 1
Fraud 2
Petty theft 4

Vehicle related

Auto theft 1
Bicycle theft 1
Driving with suspended license 7
Hit and run 1
Parking/driving violation 3
Theft from auto 2
Vehicle accident/injury 3
Vehicle accident/no injury 3

Alcohol or drug related

Driving under influence 1
Drunk in public 2
Possession of drugs 4

Miscellaneous

Animal call 1
Brandishing a weapon 1
Coroner case 1
Disturbing/annoying calls 1
Fireworks possession 1
Found property 3
Juvenile case 1
Info case 4
Medical laid 1
Misc penal code violation 2
Missing person 1
Psychiatric subject 1
Vandalism 3
Warrant arrest 4

VIOLENT CRIMES

Palo Alto

Amarillo Avenue, 8/03 12:25 p.m.; simple battery.
Welch Road, 8/07 12:53 p.m.; domestic violence.

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*details at concert

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NEW LOCATION: Lytton Plaza
Thursday evenings. 6pm-8pm.

July 13th: Tinman <i>Rock & Roll</i>	August 3rd: Pasto Seco <i>Salsa/Latin</i>
July 20th: Groove Doctors <i>Dance</i>	August 10th: Long Train Runnin' <i>Doobie Brothers Tribute</i>
July 27: JC Smith Band <i>Blues</i>	August 17th: Pride & Joy <i>Motown</i>

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CITY OF PALO ALTO NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the City Council of the City of Palo Alto will conduct a Public Hearing at its Regular Meeting on Monday, August 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California, to consider **QUASI JUDICIAL: 3877 El Camino Real [14PLN-00464]:** Adoption of a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan and approval of a Site and Design Review for the demolition of the vacant 5,860 square-foot commercial building and construction of a new mixed-use project. The Project includes a 4,027 square foot commercial building and 17 dwelling units (flats and townhouses). Parking for the Project is provided in a basement. The Applicant also requests approval of a Design Enhancement Exception to allow the basement to encroach into the required rear yard setback below grade. Environmental Assessment: A Mitigated Negative Declaration was circulated between March 6, 2017 and April 7, 2017. Both the Planning & Transportation Commission (March 8, 2017) and Architectural Review Board (May 18, 2017) have recommended approval of the Project. Zoning Districts: CS and RM-30.

BETH D. MINOR
City Clerk



CITY OF PALO ALTO ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared by the Palo Alto Department of Planning and Community Environment for the project listed below. In accordance with CEQA Guideline Section 15073, this document will be available online for review during a 30-day circulation period beginning **August 4, 2017 through September 5, 2017** at <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/rinconadaplan>. If you need assistance, please visit the City's Development Center during the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. M-F at 285 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

Written comments on the Mitigated Negative Declaration will be accepted until **5:00 PM on September 5, 2017** in the Planning and Community Environment Department offices on the fifth floor of City Hall or comments may be e-mailed to Amy French at amy.french@cityofpaloalto.org.

This project is scheduled for consideration by the public at a community meeting on Thursday, August 10, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Junior Museum and Zoo located at 1451 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto, CA 94301 and a Parks and Recreation Commission public hearing on Tuesday, August 22, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the Palo Alto City Council Chambers on the first floor of the Civic Center, located at 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

The City of Palo Alto is proposing to replace the 9,000 sq.ft. Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo (JMZ) with a 15,033 sq.ft. JMZ zoo and educational building. The conceptual Rinconada Park Long Range Plan (RPLRP), intended to guide park renovations over a 25 year period, is also now subject to environmental review, since the RPLRP west end park improvements are associated with the JMZ project. The existing JMZ facility is a two-story structure; the replacement one-story JMZ building will be constructed during the first phase of the project; a second phase would add a small, 3,600 sq.ft., two-story building on the JMZ site near the park within five to ten years. The Phase 1 project includes a reconfigured parking lot for improved circulation and safety, new pedestrian and bike pathways, plaza entryway, lighting, landscaping, and playground re-siting on city-owned property zoned for public facilities.

Hillary Gitelman,
Director of Planning and Community Environment

Editorial

Buena Vista's finish line

After years of struggle, mobile home park will quietly become publicly owned

In less than a month, Palo Alto's most well-known and debated housing for low-income families will be officially saved from closure and redevelopment. It is a tribute to the extraordinary work over more than four years by many people and organizations, including funding approved by three public agencies, the indefatigable efforts of Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian, a determined residents' group that organized to save their modest homes and an owner who came to accept that this was the best outcome for all parties.

If all goes according to plan, the nearly 400 residents of the 90-year-old Buena Vista Mobile Home Park, located behind a small retail center on El Camino Real in the Barron Park neighborhood, will soon pay their rent checks to the Housing Authority of Santa Clara County instead of the Jisser family. And they will finally have the comfort of knowing their housing is secure and no longer subject to the threat of development that would drive them from Palo Alto, and possibly the Bay Area.

Escrow on the sale of the property by the Jissers to the Housing Authority is set to close on September 1 for \$40.4 million, an enormous sum for both the Jissers and the public agencies that are contributing funds to make the deal possible. No one need feel sorry for the Jissers, as they are ending up with more money than they could have ever reasonably expected and are spared the considerable expense of paying relocation benefits to the current residents and for probable litigation for years into the future.

In the end, the family accepted the fact that the Housing Authority was prepared to exercise its eminent domain powers to force a sale of the property and became willing to negotiate a sale price without the complications and expense of a court dispute over the adequacy of a fair-market-value determination.

Palo Alto committed \$14.5 million from its restricted affordable-housing funds to support the purchase, and Santa Clara County has agreed to provide the same amount. The Housing Authority, which receives most of its money from federal housing programs, will cover the remaining balance and will pay for needed improvements to the housing units and utility infrastructure. It will contract with a nonprofit experienced in operating mobile home parks to carry out repairs and ensure compliance with building codes.

A detailed assessment of what improvements are necessary will be done as soon as the Housing Authority takes ownership and meets with the individual residents.

A city staff report states that some units will likely need to be relocated within the park to meet setback and other requirements. It also revealed that there are currently "some" vacancies, which will make any required relocations or removal of units less disruptive.

One of the last remaining requirements for the sale of Buena Vista to the Housing Authority is approval by the City of Palo Alto, scheduled for Monday night's City Council meeting, of reconfigured property lines and easements to carry out the terms of the sales agreement. Five different parcels will be consolidated into three: a 4.5 acre parcel on which most of the existing mobile homes sit, a 1 acre commercial parcel along El Camino that contains the small retail center and parking lot, and a 0.7 acre parcel that contains a gas station and a small number of residential units.

Only the 4.5 acre parcel is being purchased by the Housing Authority. The Jisser family will retain ownership of the other two parcels and will temporarily lease the small parcel with housing units to the Housing Authority to allow sufficient time for the agency to relocate the current residents into units on the larger parcel.

The parcel boundary changes are technical and non-controversial but are necessary to align the property lines with the details of the deal struck between the Housing Authority and the Jissers. No changes to the existing zoning are proposed, but the parcel with the gas station is currently zoned for mixed use and could be redeveloped by the Jissers into housing in the future.

The imminent escrow closing of the sale of Buena Vista is a milestone in a journey that many thought would never conclude successfully. Some in the community harshly criticized the notion of using public funds — even those expressly paid by private developers to fund such housing — to preserve low-income housing. But far more people looked at Buena Vista as an opportunity to preserve a small neighborhood of families that brings valued diversity to a city that is rapidly losing it.

The residents of Buena Vista are valued employees in our restaurants, retail stores and schools and provide needed services to Palo Alto families. In a community that has lost so much of its diversity in the last 40 years, we should celebrate the collaboration that has resulted in saving this unique housing community and its residents. ■

Spectrum

Editorials, letters and opinions

Allow Mime Troupe to return

Editor,

I've attended performances by the San Francisco Mime Troupe for over 20 years and was thrilled when they started performing at Mitchell Park; I could walk to see them instead of driving to San Francisco. The performances are clever. People boo and hiss the cast villains and cheer on the heroes.

I discovered in a mention in the Weekly that they were no longer performing because the City of Palo Alto wouldn't permit them to ask for donations after the shows. Berkeley, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, San Jose, Ukiah, Petaluma and Davis permit the Mime Troupe to perform in their public parks. I can only assume the donation model is the same.

If you have attended a performance, you'll know that they bring a stage, costumes, props, musical instruments and speakers. Afterward, the cast walks around with metal cans, and people can put in there whatever they like. No one is pressured.

They depend on donations to help offset the costs. When the city suddenly decided this year that they couldn't collect the donations, the Mime Troupe couldn't justify coming here for free.

I learned of a suggestion by City staff that a GoFundMe site be set up to donate. People attending a live theater performance are caught up in the moment and moved by the actors' skills. I believe having people go to a GoFundMe site will be an absolute failure.

The Mime Troupe performed in Palo Alto for a number of years, occasionally twice in a summer. If all these other cities don't have a problem with this group getting donations after the show, what's different about Palo Alto?

A better solution than having people log onto the internet and donate would be to rewrite the code and permit this Emmy-award-winning group to come back to Palo Alto.

Sylvia Gartner
Moreno Avenue, Palo Alto

Promoting pollinators

Editor,

Neighbors tell me the City requires that a resident wanting to keep a beehive needs the permission of all the surrounding neighbors.

I would think Palo Alto would be promoting the cultivation of pollinators rather than discouraging it. U.S. crops and flowering plants are at risk due to the marked decline of bee populations. Palo Alto prides itself on a

commitment to the environment and ecology.

Beekkeeping should be encouraged; the policy should be reviewed.

Ceci Kettendorf
Grove Avenue, Palo Alto

Add a variance in the code

Editor,

I am a member of a congregation in a residential neighborhood, and it is active in the Hotel de Zink program, a homeless shelter that rotates among 12 churches yearly. I have also been an organizer of a shoestring nonprofit arts group that held forums. It was the beneficiary of free space at such facilities, which helped it get off the ground.

A lot of worthwhile programs could not exist without the existence of free- or low-cost space. About 35 years ago, city facilities began charging rent on its spaces — for instance at the Palo

Alto Cultural Center (as it then was called). Now, a lot of city-subsidized space will disappear at Cubberley Community Center.

If all the churches that offer space that are in residential neighborhoods were brave enough to list all the organizations that they allow to use their facilities, you would see what a benefit this is to the whole community and beyond. But, they don't want to be found in violation with stiff penalties.

I understand that what sparked this was a complaint. I believe that a variance in the code is warranted and that mediation between the parties and the church could solve a lot of the problem. Adjustments could be made (soundproofing, etc.).

The church may have been there before the offended party bought the home and should be grandfathered in.

Gertrude Reagan
Moreno Avenue, Palo Alto

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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



What changes to Palo Alto's rail crossings do you favor?

Submit letters to the editor of up to 300 words to letters@paweekly.com. Submit guest opinions of 1,000 words to editor@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. 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 Editorial Assistant Anna Medina at editor@paweekly.com or 650-326-8210.



MVLLER

Check out Town Square!

Hundreds of local topics are being discussed by local residents on Town Square, a reader forum sponsored by the Weekly at PaloAltoOnline.com/square. Post your own comments, ask questions or just stay up on what people are talking about around town!

Guest Opinion

A Palo Alto son asks: 'Would I raise a family here?'

by Aldis Petriceks

In June of this year, both my body and mind were in strange places. My body, in Thailand: racing through bustling Bangkok traffic, where the only apparent rule was that there were no rules. My childhood friend (let's call him Derek) and I were packed into the back of a rickety tuk-tuk; the air we breathed was a mix of street food and smog.



My mind was in an equally odd situation. In this small tuk-tuk, Derek and I had been asking big questions — about where we were, where we were going, and where we came from. We discussed blurred realities from our pasts and blurrier dreams for our futures. Amid all that blurriness — or maybe it was the car exhaust — Derek asked a clear question, which clouded everything: "Would you raise a family in Palo Alto?"

That simple question twisted my mind — more than a recent Thai massage had twisted my hip flexor. Years ago, my answer would have been a resounding "Yes!" But at that moment, the answer was not so simple.

Derek and I both grew up in Palo Alto. After graduating from Paly in 2013, we landed at respective liberal arts colleges: Derek at a prestigious New England school, and I at Kenyon College in Ohio.

Today, our post-graduate paths are ready to cross again: Derek works at Facebook as a software engineer, while I research anatomy and biochemistry at Stanford and SLAC. The two of us celebrated our impending adulthood by traveling through Southeast Asia in June. That was where I faced Derek's familiar, yet perplexing question.

"Umm..." was all I could muster. "I don't know."

I wasn't sure which confused me more: the question itself or the fact that I couldn't immediately answer in the positive. Like so many of my schoolmates, I grew up revering Palo Alto and Silicon Valley. We took pride in our top-ranked schools and global reputation. We gushed over local celebrities, from Steve Jobs to James Franco to Jeremy Lin. Even our problems fostered pride — unaffordable housing made it impressive that our parents could, indeed, afford homes. The city was too good to be true.

Too good to be true. Maybe that's why Derek's inquiry was so perplexing. Like the subtle incongruities of dystopian worlds, something just didn't feel right about settling down in Palo Alto — something I never felt as a child but do now.

A few weeks after the trip, I was into my postgraduate rhythm and beginning research at Stanford. Every morning, I went running through familiar neighborhoods. I would shower, eat, then drive past childhood schools on the way to work. But still, something felt off — something I couldn't figure out. Until last weekend.

At a local cafe, I met another high

school friend for breakfast. We talked about her artwork, my religious life and everything in between. As I put forth Derek's inquiry to this friend, a voice cried out: "No way!"

We turned in surprise to find an older woman staring back.

"Sorry to interrupt, but I overheard your conversation. I've lived in Palo Alto for 50 years and raised my kids here."

So why the interjection? She *did* live in Palo Alto and had for five decades. What could be her issue?

"It's a totally different place now; it wasn't always this way."

The woman explained herself: For many today, Palo Alto feels more cardboard than community; more ideal than reality. I believe this sentiment was the source of my original unease. For example: I'm a social person and care about my friends and family. But I don't even know my neighbors' names. How could that be?

A few days later, I explained my conflicted thoughts to Derek over dinner. On the one hand, I have deep bonds here — a Stanford Christian fellowship, my family and my friends like Derek, to name a few. On the other hand, I long for a community that functions as an organism: composed of different organs and limbs, yet co-dependent and integrated. I feel as though my organism is scattered about — its dismembered parts coalescing into smaller, isolated pockets. The heart and lungs have common goals but are uninterested in the foot's agenda. The brain respects the kidneys but considers them "work friends."

Oddly enough, I feel more attached to Knox County, Ohio (where Kenyon is located), than I do Palo Alto. Somehow, this man-bun-wearing biochemist feels more connected to a Central Ohio community — which heavily supported Donald Trump — than one that shaped his own political and cultural views. I've just uttered the Trump buzzword, so I might as well utilize that example.

The custodian in my Kenyon dormitory was a 60-year-old Trump supporter (I'll call him Jeff). We represented wildly different backgrounds and political views. Every day, Jeff informed me of the latest right-wing Hillary Clinton conspiracy, and I told him his sources were untrustworthy. I'd ask why he was so riled-up over guns, and he'd expound upon his cultural attachment to firearms. Rarely, if ever, did we see eye-to-eye.

My Facebook echo-chamber spewed rhetoric about the racism and ignorance of all Trump supporters — I had many reasons to ignore Jeff. Jeff had cleaned privileged students' vomit and trash for over 30 years — he had every reason to think me an entitled brat. But we existed within a community. That community gave reason to breathe, feel and think as part of a larger organism. There was argument, yes, but also unity. Therefore, our differences were not divisive; they were instructive. I came to know Jeff as a caring and humble man who wants to save women from sex-trafficking. He came to see me — a man-bun-wearing kid from California — as a good friend.

(continued on page 18)

Streetwise

What are your thoughts about Facebook's new development?

Asked at Rinconada Library in Palo Alto. Question, interviews and photographs by Elinor Aspegren.



Lin Jiang
User experience designer
Webster Street, Palo Alto

"I feel like it's good because they are hiring and their employees deserve amenities, but I'm hesitant about supporting too because of the influx of people and traffic."



Antony Awaida
Small business owner
Walter Hays Drive, Palo Alto

"Every city loves business, and it's good that Facebook is coming up with a campus that's not boring and well-integrated in the community."



Zoe Scarlett
Executive assistant
David Avenue, Palo Alto

"It doesn't sound too bad — it might be useful to the community."



Patricia Campbell
Graphic artist
Rosewood Drive, Palo Alto

"It's good because they do need more space, but traffic is so bad in the community already. As we are so desperate for housing, I think it's more important to build affordable housing for the community."



Toby Ward
Science representative
Cypress Avenue, San Jose

"Any advancement in housing is good for the community."



PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL

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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/gov/agendas/default.asp

AGENDA-SPECIAL MEETING-COUNCIL CHAMBERS
August 14, 2017, 5:00 PM

Closed Session

- 1. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS; Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6(a); Authority: Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

Consent Calendar

- 3. Selection of Applicants to Interview on August 24, 2017 for the Storm Water Management Oversight Committee
4. Approval of Amendment Number 2 to the Agreement Between the City of Palo Alto and Acterra to Extend the Term to 2022 and Funding for First Year of \$75,720
5. Approval and Authorization for the City Manager to Execute a Master License Agreement for use of City-controlled Space on Utility Poles and Streetlight Poles, and in Conduits With Mobilite, LLC, a Nevada Limited Liability Corporation
6. Approval of a Contract With Alaniz Construction, Inc. in the Amount of \$568,880 for the City Facility Parking Lot Maintenance Project, Capital Improvements Program Project PE-09003, and Authorization for the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute Related Change Orders Not-to-Exceed \$56,880 in Total Value
7. Approval of Contract Amendment Number 3 to Contract Number C15154454 With Integrated Design 360 for Green Building Program Management Services and Landscape Plan Review and Consulting Services for a Term Extension of one Year and Increasing Compensation for Ongoing and Approved Work With Development Services and Optional Tasks by \$376,744 for a Total Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$1,255,005
8. Approval of Amendment Number 3 to Contract Number S15156222 With Golder Associates to Increase Compensation by \$91,300, for a Total Not-To-Exceed Amount of \$311,622, to Perform an Evaluation of Selenium Concentrations and Leachate Levels at the Palo Alto Landfill, and to Extend the Current Three-year Term by Four Months
9. Authorize the City Manager to Execute an Amendment to Contract Number C12146667 Between the City and Van Scoyoc Associates Inc., for Federal Legislative Advocacy, to Reduce the Term by Seven Months and Reduce the Not-to-Exceed Amount by \$56,000
10. Approval of a Contract With Bauer Compressors in the Amount of \$697,519 for the Purchase of Fire Fighting Self-contained Breathing Apparatus, Face Masks, Air Cylinders, Maintenance and Support Equipment, and Authorize the City Manager to Negotiate and Execute Related Change Orders Not-to-Exceed \$102,481
11. Approval of Amendment Number 3 to the Agreement With the Peninsula Corridor Joint Powers Board for Rail Shuttle Bus Administration to Extend the Term of the Agreement for one Year and to Provide an Additional \$128,200 for Community Shuttle Service on the Existing Embarcadero Shuttle Route From July 2017 Until June 2018
12. Adoption of a Resolution of Local Support for Grant Funding as Required by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) for the One Bay Area Grant Program (OBAG) Cycle Two and Vehicle Emissions Reductions Based at Schools (VERBS) Funding Programs
13. 425 Portage Avenue: Approval of the Planning and Community Environment Director's Determination to Authorize a Waiver of the Retail Preservation Ordinance. Environmental Assessment: Exempt in Accordance With the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 15061(b)(3) Guidelines
14. Approval of a Side Letter of Agreement Between the City of Palo Alto and the Palo Alto Police Management Association (PMA)
15. Policy and Services Committee Recommendation to Accept the Continuous Monitoring Audit: Payments
16. Policy and Services Committee Recommendation to Accept the Audit of Green Purchasing Practices
17. Policy and Services Committee Recommendation to Accept the Utilities Department: Cross Bore Inspection Contract Audit

- 18. Adoption of a Resolution Establishing Fiscal Year 2017-18 Secured and Unsecured Property Tax Levy for the City of Palo Alto's General Obligation Bond Indebtedness (Measure N)
19. Policy and Services Committee Recommendation to Accept the Auditor's Office Quarterly Report as of March 31, 2017

Action Items

- 20. Approval of the Draft Palo Alto Transit Vision Plan and Direction to Staff to Pursue Funding for Local Shuttle Service Enhancements
21. PUBLIC HEARING/QUASI JUDICIAL 3972, 3980 and 3990 El Camino Real [17PLN-00197]: Request by the Housing Authority of Santa Clara County for a Tentative Map for a 6.19 Acre Site That Includes the Buena Vista Mobile Home Park Site (3980 El Camino Real) and two Adjacent Commercial Properties (3972 and 3990 El Camino Real), for lot Reconfiguration and lot Line Removals to Reduce Five Parcels to Three Parcels, and Provide Access and Utilities Easements. The Three new Parcels Will be: (1) Parcel 1, at 4.5 Acres, Zoned RM-15 for Multiple Family Residential Use (Buena Vista Mobile Home Park); (2) Parcel 2 at 1.0 Acre, Zoned CN for Neighborhood Commercial Use (Existing Retail Building; and (3) Parcel 3 at 0.7 Acres, Zoned CN (Existing Gas Station Site) and RM-15 (0.41 Acre Rear Portion Supporting More Than Eight Buena Vista Park Studios/Modular Units). The 0.41 Acre Residential Portion Would be Leased to the Housing Authority for up to Three Years, Allowing Tenants to Remain Until They can be Accommodated on Parcel 1. On July 12, 2017, the Planning & Transportation Commission Recommended Approval of the Tentative Map
22. Approval of a Five-year General Services Agreement With SWA Services Group in the Amount of \$10,652,615 for Janitorial Services and Approval of a Budget Amendment in the General Fund
23. Adoption of: (1) a Resolution of Intent; and (2) an 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 the Share of Employer Contribution in Accordance With Section 20516 of the California Government Code and the Memorandum of Agreement Between the City of Palo Alto and Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 521, International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), Local 1319, Palo Alto Fire Chief's Association (FCA), Palo Alto Peace Officers' Association (PAPOA) and Palo Alto Police Management Association (PAPMA)
24. Designation of Voting Delegate and Alternate for the League of California Cities Annual 2017 Conference, to be Held September 13-15, 2017 in Sacramento, CA

AGENDA-SPECIAL MEETING-COUNCIL CHAMBERS
August 16, 2017, 6:00 PM

Closed Session

- 1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION; City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney, City Auditor; Authority: Government Code Section 54957 (b)

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Special City Council Rail Committee Meeting will be held in the Community Meeting Room on Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at 8:00 AM to discuss: 1) Review and Recommend Rail Program CSS Alternatives Analysis Plan, Problem Statement, Goals and Performance Measures; and 2) Receive and Review Rail Program Briefing Paper from June-July 2017.

The Special City School Liaison Committee Meeting will be held at Palo Alto Unified School District on Thursday, August 17, 2017 at 8:00 AM to discuss: 3) Review of Recent City Council/PAUSD Board Meetings; 4) Discussion and Update on Safe Routes to School; 5) Discussion and Update on City and PAUSD Construction Updates; and 6) Review of Upcoming Agenda Items.

Guest Opinion

(continued from page 17)

I see fewer unexpected connections like that back home. Had Jeff and my differences arisen in Silicon Valley, we might have simply ignored each other. We might have checked our phones for the latest Tesla news. No longer would differences have become opportunities for deeper unity — at best, they'd foster mutual indifference.

I'm under no delusion that Palo Alto is made up of isolationist, unfeeling automata. I'm aware that this beautiful place holds compassionate, kind beings. Palo Alto is full of teachers, nurses and people who care about one another regardless of title.

That is exactly why I voice my troubling uncertainty — uncertainty regarding Silicon Valley's culture, which has placed blinders over our collective vision. That culture is fixated on status, not service; on power, not people. We might benefit by pulling those blinders back. We might come together in unexpected ways, by engaging our community as much as we do our work — or, God forbid, our phones. Assisting in a homeless shelter or understanding another's worldview might benefit not only the community but also ourselves.

Today, my answer to Derek is still: "I don't know." I don't know if Palo Alto is my ideal home. All I can say is that I — and many of my peers — feel something is twisted (other than my hip flexor). We see striking inequality across U.S. Highway 101 and crowded loneliness back home. I'm no longer in a tuk-tuk, blinded by car exhaust, but observations like that still make my mind uneasy. Now, I'm asking us to clear our vision, remove our blinders, and refocus on what matters most: community, people and love. ■

Aldis Petriceks is an anatomy scholar at the Stanford University School of Medicine, and an LCLS (Linac Coherent Light Source) research assistant at SLAC. He can be reached at aldisp@stanford.edu.

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Members of the Footnotes Jazz Band — from left, front row, John Worley, band leader Lori Stotko, Gary Sloane, Geoff Sharp, Geoff Cox; back row from left, Ray Hill, Pete Froeberg, John Burn and Mark Miller — rehearse with the 17-piece big band in room M-2 at Cubberley Community Center. The big band has been renting the space every Tuesday evening for over six years, originally performing at Foothill College as the Foothill Jazz Band Ensemble until they split off into the Footnotes. The band will be performing this Sunday at the San Jose Jazz Summerfest 2017.

Inside Cubberley

Why the community center attracts more than 600,000 visitors annually

Photos by Veronica Weber | Story by Elinor Aspegren



Students Matthew Blair, right, Novelty Joshi, center, Ananya Murali, left center, and others practice kumite — no-contact sparring — in a class led by Jon Keeling from Silicon Valley Shotokan Karate dojo school. The school teaches traditional Shotokan karate for children, teens and adults and also offers adult self-defense lessons.

When looking at photographs of Cubberley Community Center from the 1960s, when the facility served as a high school, it's hard to notice anything different from how the grounds look today. The gymnasium still houses myriad mosaic animals on its facade, the doors still have their bluish tint, and a sign with the words "Ellwood P. Cubberley High School" still stands at the front of the property.

What those vintage photographs don't show is the vibrant community that has evolved within Cubberley's walls since 1990, under the City of Palo Alto's lease of the campus from the Palo Alto School District.

The 35-acre center provides space to about 130 community groups and artists. On any given day, the campus is bustling with everything from after-school

programs and sports games to dance lessons and music classes.

Artist Servane Briand specializes in book art and printmaking in the space she leases with another artist, one of 24 art studios at Cubberley.

Most of her work has a natural twist to it: She uses beeswax as a coating and painting tool and works frequently in solar etching, in which she exposes a drawing to the sun on a polymer plate and then develops her etching using a traditional process.

Before moving to Cubberley three years ago, Briand worked in her bedroom.

"Cubberley has allowed me to work on bigger scale, to do projects that are more sophisticated," she said, "partly because of the space, because you can lift things around and manipulate more, partly because I can have

(continued on next page)

Cubberley

(continued from previous page)

equipment, which I couldn't have in my bedroom."

Sharing a space also has provided her the opportunity to collaborate with her studio partner, she added.

"We acquire and share equipment and then inspire and influence each other, so that's also been very good," Briand said.

For Palo Alto Vineyard Church, one of three churches operating at Cubberley, the need for more space is what initially prompted the organization to move from its home at Mitchell Park Community Center 30 years ago.

Lead Pastor Susan Van Riesen said the church has gained much more than just space since relocating to Cubberley.

"A number of years ago, when they still had a number of homeless folks living at Cubberley, a lot of those folks came to our services. Some of them are still a part of our community. It has enabled us to be a more diverse



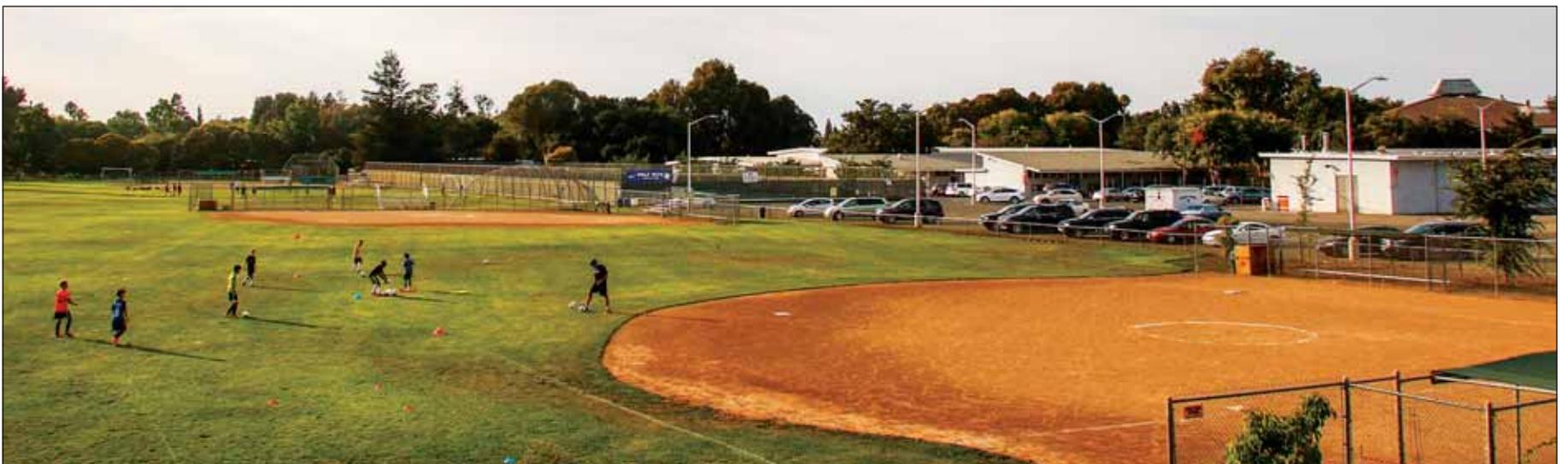
Artist Conrad Johnson works on paintings outside of the studio he has rented for more than two years. He is one of 28 artists renting space at the center as part of the CASP program to support local artists.



Teacher Helen Chan, far left, leads a knitting class at the Hua Kuang Reading Room at Cubberley Community Center as fellow knitters chat in the reading room. The Chinese-language library also offers classes in calligraphy, ESL, citizenship and tutoring.



Luis Silva, center, holds a treat while teaching his Akita puppy, Noah, how to "stay," as dog trainer Karen Shipe, far left, leads the "Puppy Training II" in room H-6 through SIRIUS, a dog-training business which offers classes in many cities throughout the Bay Area.



Players from the Palo Alto Soccer Club do drills at the soccer fields behind the main buildings at the Cubberley center, which has tennis courts, softball fields, soccer fields, a football field and running track.



Herb Schwarz, fourth from right, a physical educator with Heart Fit For Life, leads a series of stretches, squats and lunges in the 7:30 a.m. exercise class in Gym B before the group begins strength training. Heart Fit For Life, a cardiac rehabilitation program, has been providing fitness classes, nutrition and health counseling, and social support to individuals since 1970. Each exercise class is overseen by a team of nurses who help monitor blood pressure, heart rate and hydration.

congregation,” Van Riesen said.

Lori Rock, instructor and host for the weekly Senior Friendship Day program, which provides seniors the opportunity to socialize, have lunch and participate in language-learning classes, line-dancing and an exercise class operated by Stanford University, said her program also has benefited since moving from Lucie Stern Community Center to Cubberley in search of more space four years ago.

The program has gained more space, more parking spots and better access to public transportation — things that have attracted more program participants,

she said.

Ollia Yenikomshian, executive director of the oldest program at Cubberley — the nonprofit Children’s Pre-school Center — called Cubberley a “hub for nonprofits.” Since its founding three decades ago, the preschool has operated in the same location on campus thanks to a rental stipend from the City. Yenikomshian said that under a city provision, nonprofits qualify for reduced rent, which has helped organizations that otherwise would not likely be able to find an affordable space in the community to provide services.

The future of these programs, however, is uncertain as the Palo Alto Unified School District prepares for the possible reopening of the school grounds in the coming years. The City and school district have been working to approve a joint-use master plan by 2020 with the potential to accommodate community services as well as a new school. In June, the city’s Policy and Services Committee voted to support moving ahead with a request for proposal for a consultant, which will be voted on by the Palo Alto City Council in September.

Mike Cobb, former mayor and



Iris, a preschooler at the nonprofit Children’s Preschool Center, plays in one of three playgrounds at the school, which has provided services for babies through children age 5 in its 10-room center at Cubberley for more than 30 years.

head of the Cubberley Community Advisory Committee, said he is skeptical about whether the property can accommodate both civic and school uses.

The City, however, cannot afford to not have Cubberley, he added.

“It provides services that Lucie Stern (Community Center) can’t provide, that Mitchell Park doesn’t provide. It’s a really irreplaceable resource in terms of providing resources to the community.” ■

Videographer/Photographer Veronica Weber can be emailed at vweber@paweekly.com. Editorial Intern Elinor Aspegren

can be reached at easpegren@paweekly.com.

About the cover: A ballet dancer at Dance Connection performs barre exercises in the J-3 studio. The dance school has been operating at Cubberley since 1989, offering classes in ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, and break-dance for students from preschoolers to adults. The company recently expanded to four new studios in the J-wing of the community center, previously occupied by Foothill College.



Lori Rock, center, leads line-dancing lessons during Senior Friendship Day — a free, weekly senior-focused program that offers classes as well as lectures and social activities like Mahjong or card games. Line dancing and lunch is provided by La Comida. The program has been offered at Cubberley for 23 years, serving about 150 seniors.

Arts & Entertainment

A weekly guide to music, theater, art, culture, books and more, edited by Karla Kane

From the top

Annual New Works Festival nurtures new talent, gives older works new life

by Karla Kane



Alexandra Gould

'My Mother's Lesbian Jewish Wiccan Wedding," by David Hein and Irene Sankoff, subverts the "new" part of the annual TheatreWorks Silicon Valley's New Works Festival just a bit.

The autobiographical musical, based on Hein's own mother's coming out, reclamation of her Jewish roots and subsequent marriage to a Wiccan partner, first came out, no pun intended, back in 2009. But since then, married Canadian couple Hein and Sankoff have become the toast of Broadway, thanks to their Tony and Drama Desk award-winning musical "Come from Away," about the hospitality of New Foundlanders to stranded travelers following 9/11. New Works Festival Director Giovanna Sardelli said that thanks to their recent success, interest in Hein and Sankoff's first musical was high, but that society has changed since it was first written and released. The piece, in its

Irene Sankoff and David Hein are revising their first musical, "My Mother's Lesbian Jewish Wiccan Wedding," based on their own story.

original form, was now dated. TheatreWorks decided that this year, the festival, which gives audiences a peek at works in progress, could offer the authors the chance to revise and resurrect their older work.

"That's not normally something we would do, but I realized the festival should at times give new life to a work, and that actually fits that mission," Sardelli said. Hein and Sankoff are pleased their first show is getting a second chance. "There's a lot we've always wanted to revisit. The world shifts and we shift as writers, so it's just a gift to be able to revisit a piece," Hein said.

The show was originally written against the backdrop of the same-sex marriage movement, at a time in which Canada had legalized gay marriage but the U.S. had not.

"Initially it was this Canadian story, then it became an American story, now it's more about the same-sex rights movement that's expanding globally," Hein said. "I feel like we've improved as writers. This gives us a chance to go back and question every song and question every word," he said.

"Above all, it's a love story and a dual coming-of-age story," Sankoff said. And though the sweet, pop-rock musical comedy is based on their own lives, "We learned from 'Come from Away' that we aren't necessarily doing a documentary. We are trying to make a good piece of theater, to give ourselves permission to change things around," she said.

They said they appreciate TheatreWorks' dedication to nurturing the creative process. "They're so open to ideas, and we're especially impressed by the audience there. The audience really understand that creating a work is as much of the show as the show itself," Hein said. "Getting feedback from the audience is valuable too, especially with a piece that we've had to put on the shelf for so long." Plus, "As Canadians, coming to California is always a delight," he joked.

Sankoff and Hein will be portraying themselves in the show, for the first time in a while. The creative couple, who now have a 3-year-old daughter, are used to working closely in all areas of life.

"It's a challenge raising a child at the time you're

raising new musicals. There's a lot about being married and being parents that prepares you for conflict resolution. We have a lot of tools under our belt," Hein said. "We don't talk about the show when we're hungry and tired and try not to in bed."

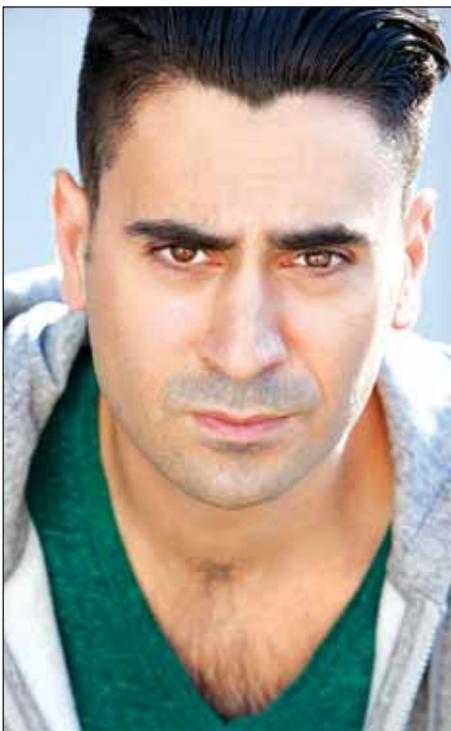
"I'm still trying to find that work life balance. There is no balance: We take it day by day and do the best we can," Sankoff added.

They're looking forward to giving their debut collaboration a new lease on life. As Sankoff put it, in regards to both "Come from Away" and "My Mother's Lesbian Jewish Wiccan Wedding," "There's never a bad time to tell a story about love and kindness."

Sardelli said that one of the other plays featured, Kevin Rolston's play "Deal with the Dragon," described as a dark comedy/grown-up fairytale, has also been previously produced and is being revisited. Of course, the festival is not short on brand-new works. "There's something special about every show," she said.

Ramiz Monsef, who's worked with Sardelli frequently as an actor, will present his comedy "3 Farids." The play deals with racial stereotyping set against the backdrop of Hollywood absurdity. Three men of Middle Eastern descent, all named Farid, audition to play the same character, also named Farid. "Hilarity, hopefully, ensues," Monsef said. "It's a clown show, in that it's a heightened reality that gets weirder and weirder as the show goes on, much like living in Hollywood. The more you understand it and love it, the longer you stay here, the weirder it gets," he said. It's based on his own experiences trying to make it as an actor. "I would go into these auditions here and it's ... harrowing? Soul crushing, maybe?" laughed the Bay Area-raised, current Los Angeles resident. "Hollywood loves to put you in a box. It's less about substance than looking the part. You have to play a lot of mind games with yourself and not let that get to you. I'm classically trained, I've done Shakespeare, I've got range for days but Hollywood doesn't give a (expletive). They want you to get in your box and stay there."

Monsef cited The Marx Brothers, The Three Stooges, Richard Pryor and Lenny Bruce among his comedy



Shiloh Strong

Ramiz Monsef's "3 Farids" uses comedy to chronicle racial stereotyping in Hollywood.

inspirations.

"You can laugh and still be learning; you can laugh and still be making a point," he said. "I think comedy is powerful, it's subversive, and I think it's harder to do," he said. "I think people need a laugh right now."

Sardelli called Monsef's piece "a bold and funny experiment. I trust him as a writer," she said, adding that his is not the only festival entry involving clowns. The keynote speaker will be Cirque du Soleil star and literal clown-college director Jeff Raz.

Also featured will be the internet-inspired sketch comedy "Blogologues," "Tiny Houses," (directed by Sardelli) about the 2014 shooting down of a Malaysian airliner in Ukraine, and the festival's second musical, "Past, Present, Future: The Shangri-Las," which chronicles the rise of the quintessential 1960s girl group (with such hits as "Leader of the Pack") and their mysterious disappearance from the limelight.

This year, the festival will also host an "open rehearsal" of Jeffrey Lo's play-in-progress, "Waiting for Next," at which the audience will get to watch the cast go through multiple versions of key scenes and offer feedback that will guide the team as they go forward with the piece.

That session sold out almost immediately, Sardelli said, to her delighted surprise. "It shows how curious people are about how a play gets made," she said. "They really do care." ■

Arts & Entertainment Editor Karla Kane can be emailed at kkane@paweekly.com.

What: New Works Festival 2017

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

When: Aug. 11-20 (see website for detailed schedule)

Cost: Festival pass is \$49-\$65. Single tickets are \$20.

Info: Go to theatreworks.org/new-works-festival-2017/



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Eating Out

Something new
(to eat) under the sun

Summer sees spate of new dining options
on the Midpeninsula

By Elena Kadvany

Summer is always a busy time on the restaurant beat, and 2017 has been no different. The Midpeninsula has seen a host of exciting openings, from the uber high-end (private dining concepts and \$37 toro tartar with caviar at the new Nobu in Palo Alto) to the low-brow (dumplings and fried chicken), and plenty in between. Here's our roundup of the summer's new eateries, plus updates on restaurants slated to open later this year.

PALO ALTO

Nobu: A restaurant that needs little introduction, Nobu opened its first Northern California outpost in July on Hamilton Avenue, joining locations in cities such as Malibu, Las Vegas, Milan and Ibiza. The high-end Japanese eatery is serving the general public as well as guests at The Epiphany Hotel. Starting Oct. 2, the hotel will also be managed by Nobu Hospitality. Nobu Palo Alto serves breakfast, lunch and dinner daily.

180 Hamilton Ave., Palo Alto;
noburestaurants.com/palo-alto

Maum: Is "private dining" becoming a thing on the Midpeninsula? An online job posting for Maum, which opened quietly on University Avenue this summer, describes it as an upscale, private Asian restaurant "serving an exclusive clientele searching for the highest quality of cuisine, drink and service." Owner Patrick

Tsui comes with experience as the general manager of the Michelin-starred Frances in San Francisco and a stint at Asian street food eatery Spice Kit.

322 University Ave., Palo Alto
(No contact information available)

Dumpling City: For those weary of the upscale openings, look no further than the \$5.95-for-12 handmade dumplings deal at the new Dumpling City, which opened on El Camino Real last month. Watch employees in the no-frills restaurant's open kitchen make a range of traditional dumplings with fillings such as pork, chicken, shrimp, lamb and vegetables as well as dim sum dishes such as five-spice marinated beef and tofu salad.

3487 El Camino Real, Palo Alto; 650-272-6715

Fast Tony's Chicken: An unusual addition was made to the tony Town & Country Village in June: Fast Tony's Chicken, serving up Southern-style fried chicken with traditional sides such as pickles, rolls and macaroni salad. There's also baked chicken, wings and a fried chicken sandwich featuring Duke's Mayonnaise, a 100-year-old cult-favorite mayo made in South Carolina. The takeout-only restaurant is the brainchild of Tony Nethery, a local chef with family roots in the South and the first participant in a new mentoring program launched by Asian Box.

855 El Camino Real, suite 162;
650-321-8669

Mark Sullivan, the executive chef at the new Village Bakery & Cafe in Woodside, sprinkles salt over heirloom tomatoes as chef de cuisine Anthony Ruth watches.

Kali Greek Kitchen: Kali Greek Kitchen has breathed new life into 451 California Ave., a space that sat vacant for three years following the closure of Uzumaki Sushi. At the fast-casual Greek eatery, diners order at a counter, get a number and their own utensils before their food is brought to their tables — an increasing popular restaurant model throughout the Bay Area. Caglar Vural, who owns neighboring French restaurant Cafe Briche, is behind Kali. The menu includes pita sandwiches, salads and rice bowls with rotisserie-roasted meats and locally sourced ingredients.

451 California Ave., Palo Alto;
650-272-6950

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Bonchon: Fans of Bonchon's Korean double-fried chicken have been eagerly awaiting the chain's opening on Castro Street, which came in July. At Bonchon, you can get Mary's Organic Chicken in the form of fried chicken wings, drumsticks or strips with your choice of soy-garlic sauce, spicy sauce or both. There are also Korean and Asian-fusion dishes such as kimchi pancakes, bulgogi, bibimbap and Korean tacos.

260 Castro St., Mountain View;
bonchon.com

Sweetgreen: For the health-conscious, popular fast-casual salad chain Sweetgreen opened on Castro Street in June. There, salads are made to order in front of customers — much like at a Chipotle or other fast-casual restaurants — with seasonal, locally sourced vegetables, fruits and whole grains from local small and mid-sized farms and companies that are delivered to the restaurants every morning, according to Sweetgreen.

440 Castro St., Mountain View;
sweetgreen.com/mountain-view

Mizu Sushi Bar & Grill: The Village at San Antonio Center has a new dining option: Mizu Sushi Bar & Grill, offering what its website describes as "a unique fusion of Japanese and Korean flavors." The large menu includes salads,



Michelle Le



Michelle Le

Nobu, part of a chain of high-end Japanese restaurants, opened in July in The Epiphany Hotel in Palo Alto.

appetizers such as yellowtail tartar and wagyu tataki, sushi rolls, nigiri, sashimi, udon and entrees such as miso black cod, beef bulgogi and teriyaki. This is the third location for the Asian fusion restaurant, joining outposts in San Jose and Tustin in Southern California.

2590 West El Camino Real, #13,
Mountain View; mizusbg.com/
mntview

WOODSIDE

Village Bakery & Cafe: Woodside residents got a new spot for food, drinks, baked goods and coffee on July 24. The Village Bakery & Cafe, which replaced the Woodside Bakery & Cafe, comes from Bacchus Management Group, which owns the nearby Village Pub, Mayfield Bakery & Cafe in Palo Alto and Spruce in San Francisco, among other restaurants. The restaurant is open for dinner nightly from 5-9:30 p.m. and the bakery, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

3052 Woodside Road, Woodside;
tvbwoodside.com

MENLO PARK

Octopus Japanese Restaurant: It's the summer of Japanese cuisine in sleepy Menlo Park, where not one but two new sushi restaurants (with a third on the way) have opened in the last two months. Octopus Japanese Restaurant opened under new ownership in June in the former Akasaka space on El Camino Real. The menu includes numerous classic and special sushi rolls as well as

nigiri, sashimi, udon soups, entrees and appetizers.

925 El Camino Real, Menlo Park;
octopusjapanese.com

Kyosho Sushi: Kyosho Sushi followed on Octopus' heels, with a soft opening in late July at a space just blocks away. The owner is Thomas Wu, who has run Bay Area food truck We Sushi since 2011. Kyosho Sushi is a "contemporary" Japanese restaurant, per an online description, serving both lunch and dinner. The menu includes traditional Japanese dishes as well as special sushi rolls and entrees such as duck breast and Wagyu beef tataki. Diners can also opt for omakase (chef's choice)—six courses for \$60 or eight for \$80.

605 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park;
kyoshosushi.com

COMING SOON

PALO ALTO

Protégé Restaurant: The two French Laundry alums behind Protégé Restaurant were able to finally start building out the space for their highly-anticipated restaurant after securing City Council approval earlier this summer. The metal bones of a restaurant — which the owners, former French Laundry master sommelier Dennis Kelly and chef Anthony Secviar, have described as "world-class" — are now emerging inside the California Avenue space. "It's been a long and bumpy road, but we are



Ana Sofia Aminea Wang

Inside Bonchon, a Korean franchise that recently opened a restaurant in Mountain View.

Eating Out

eager to put our delays behind us and focus on the future as we build our restaurant,” Kelly and Secviar wrote in an update to email subscribers last week. They’re aiming for a late 2017 opening.

260 California Ave., Palo Alto; protegepaloalto.com

Wahlburgers: Palo Altans will have to wait a little longer to nosh on burgers made at a restaurant owned by the famous Wahlberg family. A franchise of Boston-based burger chain Wahlburgers was supposed to open this spring on University Avenue but has been delayed. “They are nowhere near opening,” a company spokesperson said in late July. Wahlburgers was started in 2011 by the Wahlberg family, including celebrity actor-producer Mark Wahlberg and his brothers Paul and Donnie (also an actor).

185 University Avenue, Palo Alto; [facebook.com/WahlburgersPaloAlto](https://www.facebook.com/WahlburgersPaloAlto)

Joe & The Juice: Joe & The Juice, a Danish juice and coffee chain that immodestly bills itself as a “beacon for millennials and urban trendsetters,” will open an outpost in downtown Palo Alto this fall. Joe & The Juice serves fruit and vegetable juices, smoothies, sandwiches and coffee and is aiming for a mid-November opening, according to a company spokesperson, who said the company is in the “final stage” of finalizing a deal on a space.

University Avenue, Palo Alto; joejuice.com

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Icicles: Thai-style rolled ice cream took San Jose by storm earlier this year and it’s set to do the same in Mountain View this fall. Icicles, which serves fresh rolled ice cream at several locations throughout the Bay Area, is opening a new outpost on Castro Street. At Icicles, employees pour ice cream bases onto a flat, cold surface, mixing in desired add-ins, scraping and chopping it repeatedly and then rolling it into scroll-shaped servings for each customer.

282 Castro St., Mountain View; iciclescreamroll.com

QBB: The owner of Palo Alto Brewing Company and the former general manager of Scratch in Mountain View are teaming up to open a new venture: a Mountain View restaurant focused on bourbon and barbecue. Kasim Syed, who owns Palo Alto Brewing Company, The Rose & Crown and The Tap Room in Palo Alto, and Jon Andino of Scratch are behind Quality Bourbons & Barbecue (QBB for short) at 216 Castro St. They took over the space from Syed’s family, who ran Pakistani restaurant Shezan there. Expect “simple, classic, traditional barbecue” like pork ribs and collard greens along with an “expansive” bourbon list,” Andino said. With a final inspection scheduled for

the end of August, they’re hoping to be open “as soon as possible,” Andino said.

216 Castro St., Mountain View

MENLO PARK

Camper Restaurant: Greg Kuzia-Carmel, who has cooked in the kitchens of notable restaurants from Per Se in New York to Cotogna, Quince and Outerlands in San Francisco, is opening a restaurant in Menlo Park, he confirmed this week. Kuzia-Carmel is behind Camper Restaurant. He declined to state where he plans to open or to provide further details about the restaurant concept. Photos on Kuzia-Carmel’s Instagram that tag the restaurant or include the hashtag “camperrestaurant” hint at the kind of dishes Camper might serve, from a lemony cured Marin Coast halibut with Persian cucumber, kiwi and quinoa to roasted chicken with brown rice and spinach cooked in the schmaltz. “I promise it will be a worthwhile trip from all points of the Valley when we get it all finalized,” he said.

LOS ALTOS

ASA Restaurant: The owner of the forthcoming ASA Restaurant in Los Altos describes his cuisine as “American by default, with lots of Spanish and Italian influences.” Owner Andrew Welch will replicate philosophies in place at his longtime Saratoga restaurant, The Basin, including sourcing all meat and seafood and breaking them down in-house. Welch is aiming to open ASA Restaurant (named for his first son) in mid- to late August.

242 State St., Los Altos

State of Mind Public House: State of Mind Public House, a homage to California beer and food (with a focus on hand-tossed, thin-crust pizza), is set to open in Los Altos this fall. There will also be pub food and an arcade with games. Palo Alto native Lars Smith, former co-owner at The Tap Room in Palo Alto, is opening the restaurant with his brother, Andrew, also a former Tap Room co-owner, and Amy Betz, a former Tap Room manager. Smith said he hopes to open in October or November.

101 Plaza North, Los Altos; [facebook.com/stateofmindpub](https://www.facebook.com/stateofmindpub)

The Post: Expect “comfort food you can feel good about” at The Post, says owner Vickie Breslin, who hopes to be open this fall. She’s in the midst of a total remodel of the two Main Street spaces she took over after Estatements Luxury Consignment and First & Main Sports Lounge closed. Breslin wants The Post to be a family-friendly restaurant with a strong “community feel,” serving locally sourced, sustainable and approachable food — plus craft cocktails.

397 Main St., Los Altos; thepostlosaltos.com

Staff writer Elena Kadvanj can be reached at ekadvany@paweekly.com.



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Movies

Isn't she a doll?

'Annabelle: Creation' is an effective creepshow

★★★1/2 (Century 16 & 20)

Conventional wisdom in the movie industry says that young women make or break a horror film's audience. Young men can be relied upon to turn out for scary movies, but instead of hoping they'll drag dates along, studios have gotten more proactive in developing relatable characters for women rather than relegating them to the pure-victim status of "scream queens." This feminine outreach is quite apparent in "Annabelle: Creation."

OPENINGS

Demon-possessed doll Annabelle first appeared in the 2013 horror film "The Conjuring," then got her own titular spinoff film a year later. To "flesh out" an origin story — one blessedly free of "this really happened, we swear!" nonsense — the prequel "Annabelle: Creation" backs up a dozen years to the mid-1950s (and a dozen years before that for its prologue). Having "nowhere else to go," six orphan girls accompany Sister Charlotte (Stephanie Sigman of



A demon-possessed doll gets a backstory in "Annabelle: Creation."

"Narcos") to a remote, rambling farmhouse. Their hosts: retired dollmaker Samuel Mullins (Anthony LaPaglia) and his invalid wife, Esther (Miranda Otto), who lost their daughter in a tragic accident and have been haunted, figuratively or literally, ever since.

When leg-braced Little Orphan Janice (Talitha Bateman) discovers big ol' creepy doll Annabelle, the human girl unleashes a supernatural horror the Mullins have attempted to bless away and board up. Screenwriter Gary Dauberman ("Annabelle") seems afraid to commit to the Mullins being a few sandwiches short of a picnic, lest the grieving parents come off as unsympathetic. This

choice makes the premise absurdly contrived: We're never convinced that it makes any sense to have kept the Annabelle doll intact on their property, much less that they would take on a gaggle of orphan girls while showing little if any parental pull toward them.

Impractical psychology aside, Dauberman gives talented Swedish-born horror director David F. Sandberg ("Lights Out") a highly practical playground for chills and spills: the tinkling bell of largely unseen Esther; malfunctioning household equipment like a dumbwaiter and a chair lift; a vinyl record of "You Are My Sunshine;" a conspicuously large well; a barn with a scarecrow; and more deep,

dark shadows than you can shake a failing flashlight at. The farmhouse proves to be Sandberg's wheelhouse, and he's skilled enough to make something intermittently gripping of the haunted-house boilerplate.

Unsettlingly lively dolls have been a horror staple dating back at least as far as "Twilight Zone" episodes like "The After Hours," "The Dummy" and "Living Doll." Indeed, "Annabelle: Creation" gets good mileage from its throwback feel: the period setting and an emphasis on girls' games, from hide-and-seek to the slumber-party standard of ghost stories by flashlight under a sheet. In and of themselves, the trappings of "The Conjuring" series (joint-crunching contortions, say, evil-spirit peek-a-boo, and an unobtrusive cross motif) have gotten awfully old, and even after a patient buildup, they wear out their welcome ahead of schedule. On paper, "Annabelle: Creation" lays out lazy character development and logic, but on screen, it gets the job done more often than not as an unpretentious talk-back-to-the-screen audience picture.

Rated R for horror violence and terror. One hour, 49 minutes.

— Peter Canavese

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MOVIES NOW SHOWING

- The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938) (Not Rated) Stanford Theatre: Sat. & Sun.
- An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power (PG) Century 20: Fri. - Sun. Palo Alto Square: Fri. - Sun.
- Annabelle Creation (R) ★★★1/2 Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- Atomic Blonde (R) ★★★1/2 Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- Baby Driver (R) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- The Big Sick (R) ★★★ Century 20: Fri. - Sun. Palo Alto Square: Fri. - Sun.
- Bonnie and Clyde 50th Anniversary (Not Rated) Century 20: Sunday
- Brigsby Bear (PG-13) Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- The Dark Tower (PG-13) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- Despicable Me 3 (PG) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- Detroit (R) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- Dunkirk (PG-13) ★★★1/2 Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- The Emoji Movie (PG) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- The Flame and the Arrow (Not Rated) Stanford Theatre: Saturday
- Girls Trip (R) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- The Glass Castle (PG-13) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- Jab Harry Met Sejal (Not Rated) Century 16: Fri. - Sun.
- Kidnap (R) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- Landline (R) ★★★ Guild Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
- The Little Hours (R) Guild Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
- The Midwife (Not Rated) Aquarius Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
- Mune: Guardian of the Moon (PG) Century 16: Saturday
- The Nut Job 2: Nutty by Nature (PG) Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- The Sea Hawk (1940) (Not Rated) Stanford Theatre: Friday
- The Sea Wolfe (Not Rated) Stanford Theatre: Friday
- Spider-Man: Homecoming (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- Step (PG) Aquarius Theatre: Fri. - Sun.
- Toilet: Ek Prem Katha (Not Rated) Century 16: Sat. & Sun.
- Valerian and the City of a Thousand Planets (PG-13) Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- War for the Planet of the Apes (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.
- Wonder Woman (PG-13) ★★★ Century 16: Fri. - Sun. Century 20: Fri. - Sun.

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

Century Cinema 16: 1500 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View tinyurl.com/Century16

Century 20 Downtown: 825 Middlefield Road, Redwood City tinyurl.com/Century20

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

Guild: 949 El Camino Real, Menlo Park (For recorded listings: 566-8367) tinyurl.com/Guildmp

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



Find trailers, star ratings and reviews on the web at PaloAltoOnline.com/movies

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

FALL CLASS GUIDE

The Class Guide is published quarterly by the Palo Alto Weekly, the Almanac and the Mountain View Voice.

Fall, with its promise of cooler climes, is soon to be in the air and, with it, comes a new school year, new course offerings and a chance to turn 2017 around and expand your horizons. There's plenty from which to choose, from Brazilian dance, to Taijiquan, to piano lessons — you can't go wrong. Maybe you're a student and you need a break from the school-day grind with some meditation or maybe you'd like to shake up your work-week with a little cardio kickboxing — either way, there's something here for everyone.

Business & Tech

CareerGenerations

2225 E. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto. 650-320-1639 / info@careergenerations.com / careergenerations.com.

CareerGenerations offers group workshops and programs to meet the career needs of a variety of individuals, including college students looking for internships, graduates looking for employment and those re-entering the market.

ReBoot Accelerator for Women

655 Oak Grove Ave., P.O. Box 445 Menlo Park. 650-427-9433 / reboot@rebootaccel.com / rebootaccel.com.

ReBoot Accelerator for Women keeps local women current, connected and confident about re-entering the workforce through workshops taught by instructors from LinkedIn, Google, Apple and Enjoy and social media experts. Registration for workshops in the fall is now open.

Dance

Brazivedas

53 Shorebreeze Court, East Palo Alto. 650-644-7343 / brazivedas.com.

Brazivedas offers classes in Brazilian dance, music and martial arts for all ages and experience levels. Classes are held at several venues, including Lucie Stern Community Center, Stanford University campus and a home studio in East Palo Alto.

Dance Connection

4000 Middlefield Road, L-5, Palo Alto. 650-322-7032 / info@danceconnectionpaloalto.com / danceconnectionpaloalto.com.

Dance Connection offers a preschool combination class for preschool-age children (beginning at age 3), graded classes for youth and adults and other programs to meet dancers' needs. Ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, lyrical, Pilates and other instruction is available for students at various levels of ability.

Zohar School of Dance & Company

L-4, 4000 Middlefield Road, L-4, Palo Alto. 650-494-8221 / zohardance@gmail.com / zohardancecompany.org.

With roots going back to 1979, Zohar School of Dance holds a range of adult dance classes in jazz, contemporary, modern, ballet, musical theater

and tap. Though mainly an adult studio, Zohar also welcomes younger students.

Sports & Outdoors

Advantage Aviation

1903 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. 650-494-7248 / info@advantage-aviation.com / advantage-aviation.com.

With many instructors, Advantage Aviation has a selection of flying classes that train new pilots, as well as help more experienced ones acquire needed licenses.

Brad Lozares Golf Shop

1875 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. 650-856-0881 / bradlozaresgolfshop.com.

Group and private lessons — teaching golf skills, rules and etiquette — are available for juniors and adults at any level of experience.

Kim Grant Tennis Academy

3005 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. 650-752-8061 / admin@kimgranttennis.com / kimgranttennis.com.

The Kim Grant Tennis Academy organizes an array of tennis classes and programs for adults and children, including those with special needs. Camps are also held over summer break.

REI

2450 Charleston Road, Mountain View. 650-969-1938 / rei.com/stores/mountain-view.html.

REI regularly offers classes on topics such as cycling, bike maintenance, camping and snow skills, outdoor navigation and more.

United States Youth Volleyball League

Mitchell Park, 600 E. Meadow Drive, Palo Alto. 310-212-7008 / info@usyv.org / usyv.org/locations/paloalto.

Run by the league and volunteers, the youth volleyball program allows boys and girls of all skill levels from ages 7 to 15 to play and learn the sport in a fun, supportive and co-ed environment. Registration is open for the Sept. 12 to Nov. 4 season.

Health & Fitness

Equinox

440 Portage Ave., Palo Alto. 650-319-1700 / equinox.com/clubs/northern-california/paloalto.

Equinox's Palo Alto location offers a variety of fitness and wellness activities including Firestarter, a day's worth

of cardio in 30 minutes; The Pursuit by Equinox, a cycling experience; and a Barre and band class.

SoulCycle

600 Stanford Shopping Center, Palo Alto. 650-784-7510 / soulpaloalto@soul-cycle.com / studios/palo/28.

SoulCycle combines inspirational coaching, high-energy music, indoor cycling, choreography and more to create an enjoyable, full-body workout. Riders of all fitness levels and as young as age 12 can participate in a variety of classes.

Studio Kicks

796A San Antonio Road, Palo Alto. 650-855-9868 / info@studiokickspaloalto.com / studiokickspaloalto.com.

Studio Kicks is a family fitness center offering cardio kickboxing classes and training in martial arts for children and adults.

Taijiquan Tutelage of Palo Alto

4000 Middlefield Road, M-4, Palo Alto. 650-327-9350 / mjchan@ttopa.com / ttopa.com.

At Taijiquan Tutelage of Palo Alto, established in 1973, students learn the classical Yang Style Taijiquan Slow Form style of tai chi. Beginning classes start monthly.

Taoist Tai Chi Society of the USA

3391 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto / 600 Colorado Ave., Palo Alto / 600 E. Meadow Drive, Palo Alto. 650-396-9244 / taoist.org/usa/locations/palo-alto.

The Taoist Tai Chi Society of the USA, a charitable organization with nationally accredited volunteers, holds classes designed to improve balance, strength, flexibility, relaxation and health. Beginner classes are held a few days each week.

Uforia Studios

819 Ramona St., Palo Alto. 650-329-8794 / uforiastudios.com.

Uforia Studios offers exercise classes incorporating dance (Pop and Hip Hop), cycle classes (Revolutions and Revolutions: Road) and strength and cardio (Grit).

YogaWorks Palo Alto

440 Kipling St., Palo Alto. 650-468-2929 / yogaworks.com/location/palo-alto.

With locations across the nation, YogaWorks studio holds classes on yin and

yang, Vinyasa flow, Iyengar, power and restorative yoga, as well as TRX, a circuit workout and circuit training.

For Seniors

Avenidas

450 Bryant St., Palo Alto / 4000 Middlefield Road, 2nd floor, Building 1, Palo Alto. 650-289-5400 / avenidas.org.

Avenidas offers a plethora of classes, as well as lectures and workshops, for seniors focusing on topics such as general health, physical fitness, languages, humanities, computing, music and writing. There will be no classes the week of Aug. 29-31; it will reopen in its new, temporary location at Cubberley for the fall session on Sept. 5 and will remain there for the duration of the Bryant Street Expansion Project, approximately 18 months.

Languages

Berlitz Learning Center

159 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. 650-617-0720 / berlitz.us/paloalto.

Berlitz provides adult and youth language instruction in Spanish, English as a second language, French, Italian and other languages. Private lessons, tutoring, testing services and cultural agility training for businesses are also available.

German-American School of Palo Alto

Alto School Campus, 475 Pope St., Menlo Park. 650-520-3646 / contact@gaspa-ca.org / gaspa-ca.org.

The German-American School of Palo Alto (GASPA), a Saturday school, teaches immersive German language classes, which also cover culture and traditions, to students of all ages. No prior knowledge of German is required.

Mind & Spirit

Bay Area Friendship Circle

3921 Fabian Way, Suite A023, Palo Alto. 650-858-6990 / bayareafc.org / info@BayAreaFC.org.

The Bay Area Friendship Circle offers programs for kids and teens with special needs ages 2 to 22 year round as well as winter and summer camps. Trained teen volunteers provide one-on-one friendship and support. To register for programs or camp visit their website.

(continued on next page)



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Fall Class Guide

(continued from previous page)

Ananda Church of Self-Realization

2171 El Camino Real, Palo Alto. 650-323-3363 / inform@anandapaloalto.org / anandapaloalto.org
Ananda Palo Alto classes and events

cover various topics including yoga, meditation and spirituality.

Integrated Healing Arts

4153-4161 El Camino Way, Palo Alto. 650-493-7030 / iha@integratedhealing.org / integratedhealing.org
Integrated Healing Arts instructors teach ongoing classes on meditation,

self-development, self-realization, tai chi, qigong and spiritual health.

Music, Arts & Crafts

Art with Emily

402 El Verano Ave., Palo Alto. 650-856-9571 / emilyjeanyoung@gmail.com / artwithemily.com

Emily Young teaches mixed-media and multicultural art classes in small groups for children and adults at her studio in Palo Alto, as well as individual lessons.

Art & Soul

2326 Webster St., Palo Alto. 650-269-0423 / artandsoul.paloalto@gmail.com / artandsoulpa.com

Art & Soul runs after-school art clubs throughout the week at Walter Hays, Barron Park, Hoover and Ohlone elementary schools, as well as Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School. Programs allow children to explore drawing, painting and sculpture techniques, as well as develop their observational skills. It also offers Art and Wine events.

Common Ground Garden

687 Arastradero Road, Palo Alto. education@commongroundgarden.org / commongroundgarden.org

A teaching space and a demonstration garden for sustainable farming, Common Ground Garden organizes adult education classes like fall fruit tree pruning, bare-root fruit tree planting, how to grow and use medicinal herbs and other topics. Youth education programs are also offered.

Deborah's Palm

555 Lytton Ave., Palo Alto. 650-473-0664 / info@deborahspalm.com / deborahspalm.com

Deborah's Palm is a nonprofit community organization that aims to provide a warm and supportive environment for all women. Its offerings range from workshops on career transitions, counseling and support and classes that build connection and community.

The Midpen Media Center

900 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto. 650-494-8686 / info@midpenmedia.org / midpenmedia.org

The center offers workshops for a range of media arts, including video production, photo enhancement, studio work and more. The center suggests starting with one of its free hour-long orientation sessions.

Opus1 Music Studio

4131 El Camino Real, #200, Palo Alto. 650-384-6848 / musicopus1.com

Opus1 Music Studio offers piano, violin, guitar and voice lessons led by professional teachers. Private lessons and group classes are both offered for all ages and all levels, from newborns to adults.

Pacific Art League

668 Ramona St., Palo Alto. 650-321-3891 / info@pacificartleague.org / pacificartleague.org

PAL offers a mix of recreational ongoing classes and serious foundations courses for the avid art lover and the newest beginner, all taught by local professional artists.

Palo Alto Art Center

1313 Newell Road, Palo Alto. 650-329-2366 / artcenter@cityofpaloalto.org / cityofpaloalto.org/artcenter

Palo Alto Art Center classes and workshops — teaching children, teens and adults of all levels — cover such areas as ceramics, painting, drawing, jewelry, fiber arts, book arts and more.

Silicon Valley Boychoir

600 Homer Ave., Palo Alto. svboychoir.org / info@svboychoir.org

Silicon Valley Boychoir (SVB) offers rehearsals, musicianship classes and performance opportunities to boys ages 7 to 17, August to May.

Sur La Table Cooking School

855 El Camino Real, #57, Palo Alto. 650-289-0438 / cooking073@surlatable.com / Search.surlatable.com for more info.

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* Registration for Open Houses and Campus Visitor Days opens on September 1st at www.prioryca.org!

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Fall Class Guide

regional cuisines; themed meals' or special foods like bread, croissants and baked goods. Classes for kids, teens and adults are available.

Parent Education

Children's Health Council

650 Clark Way, Palo Alto. 650-326-5530 / info@chconline.org / chconline.org.

Children's Health Council holds a variety of parent education classes on issues like dyslexia, anxiety and depression, and that explore topics like social-emotional learning, teen stress and gender identity.

Parents Place

200 Channing Ave., Palo Alto. 650-688-3040 / parentsplace.jfcs.org.

A resource center for parents, Parents Place on the Peninsula offers workshops on subjects ranging from sibling rivalry to building a child's self-esteem and confidence. Parent and child activity groups are also organized.

School Days

Amigos de Palo Alto

1611 Stanford Ave., Palo Alto. 650-493-4300 / info@amigosdepaloalto.com / amigosdepaloalto.com.

Amigos de Palo Alto is a Spanish-immersion preschool for children 2 1/2 years and older. Students are mix of native and new Spanish speakers, and the program combines reading, writing, art and play to develop a love of learning. Amigos also offers Spanish immersion after-school programs for kindergartners with some Spanish experience.

Emerson School

2800 W. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto. 650-424-1267 / emersonschool@headsip.org / headsip.org/emerson-school.

Emerson School provides a full-day, year-round program for grades one to eight, teaching a personalized, Montessori curriculum. Lessons draw from classical subjects and other areas, including art, music, foreign language, physical education, communication, life skills and more.

German International School of Silicon Valley

310 Easy St., Mountain View. 650-254-0748 / office@gissv.org / gissv.org/gissv-home-english.

The German International School of Silicon Valley is a private school providing preschool to high school students with a bilingual education. The school also offers German language courses for all ages on Saturdays, as well as adult and corporate courses on weekdays.

Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School

450 San Antonio Road, Palo Alto. 650-494-8200 / admissions@hausner.com / hausner.com.

Instructing children in kindergarten through eighth grade, Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School provides strong academics, instruction in Jewish studies and

the Hebrew language, enrichment opportunities and after-school programs.

HeadsUp! Child Development Center

2800 W. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto. 650-424-1221 / pacdc@headsip.org / headsip.org/headsip.

HeadsUp! Child Development Center serves infants, toddlers and preschoolers (to age 6) with a full-day program, year-round. A half-day kindergarten program and a bilingual Chinese-English preschool classroom are also available. The Montessori curriculum focuses on building thinking skills and personal values.

Hwa Shin Bilingual Chinese School

750 N. California Ave., Palo Alto. 408-807-1088 / hwashinschool@yahoo.com / hwashinschool.org.

This nonprofit, bilingual Chinese school (for students who do not speak Mandarin at home) offers classes for students ages 5 to 18. Chinese language and culture (dance, kung fu and Chinese painting) are taught. Classes are also at Fairmeadow Elementary School, Oak Knoll (Menlo Park) and Laurel School (Menlo Park). Most students continue their Mandarin at local high schools at a level 3.

International School of the Peninsula

Cohn Campus, 151 Laura Lane, Palo Alto. 650-251-8500 / istp@istp.org / istp.org.

International School of the Peninsula is an independent bilingual immersion day school with two nursery-to-fifth-grade programs in French and Mandarin Chinese, as well as an international middle school program. Some of the programs offered include media and technology, music, gastronomy and athletics.

Kehillah Jewish High School

3900 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. 650-213-9600 / kehillah.org.

This college-preparatory high school (grades nine through 12) features modern science and computer labs, art and music studios, a drama program, a full range of academic courses with small class sizes, sports teams and more.

Living Wisdom High School of Palo Alto

4000 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. 650-646-1066 / kabir@livingwisdomhighschool.org / livingwisdomhighschool.org.

Living Wisdom High School serves ninth through 12th grade, and offers a strong emphasis on personalized learning as well as project-based, experiential, in-depth study rooted in creativity, inner development, compassion, critical thinking and problem-solving. The school will open in the fall of 2017.

Lydian Academy

815 El Camino Real, Menlo Park. 650-321-0550 / lydianacademy.com.

Lydian Academy is a private middle and high school offering individualized instruction to prepare students for college.

Lessons include a mix of one-on-one teaching and group sessions. Lydian also provides tutoring, after-school and summer school programs.

Meira Academy

3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. 650-485-3589 / office@meiraacademy.org / meiraacademy.org.

Meira Academy is a traditional, all-girls Jewish high school devoted to academic excellence in general and Jewish studies, preparing its students for college as well as seminaries in Israel.

Milestones Preschool

3864 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.

650-494-0550 / preschool@abilitiesunited.org / abilitiesunited.org.

Milestones Preschool offers a year-round, project-based program that fosters the social, emotional, cognitive and physical development of children ages 2 to 5.

Mustard Seed Learning Center

2585 E. Bayshore Road, Palo Alto. 650-494-7389 / info@mustardseedlearningcenter.org / mustardseedlearningcenter.org.

The Mustard Seed Learning Center is an after-school tutoring and care program that teaches local youth to speak Mandarin Chinese, in addition to emphasizing social development and excellence in mathematics, science, arts and music. It also has a preschool program.

OFJCC Leslie Family Preschool

3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. 650-223-8788 / earlychildhood@paloaltojcc.org / paloaltojcc.org/OFJCC-Preschool.

The Oshman Family JCC's preschool program provides one- to five-days-per-week options for children 18 months to 5 years old (ages 2 to 4 at Congregation Beth Am), with an emphasis placed on experiential learning, family involvement and play.

(continued on next page)



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- Palo Alto Friends Nursery • Palo Alto Preparatory
- Mid Peninsula High School • Reboot Accelerator for Women
- Ventana School, Los Altos • Woodside Priory

(continued from previous page)

Sand Hill School

650 Clark Way, Palo Alto. 650-688-3605 / info@sandhillschool.org / sandhillschool.org.

Located at the Children's Health Council, Sand Hill School teaches children in first through eighth grade with language-based learning differences, and assists with the attention and social difficulties that go along with them.

Sora International Preschool of Palo Alto

701 E. Meadow Drive, Palo Alto. 650-493-7672 / info@sorapreschool.com / sorapreschool.com.

Sora International Preschool is an English-Japanese bilingual preschool for children 3 to 6 years old. The school combines an early-childhood play experience, instruction in Japanese and English and exposure to both cultures through traditional events.

Wizbots Robotics Design Labs

wizbots.com / info@wizbots.com / 1-800-625-2155.

Wizbots Robotics Design Labs is an engaging and social after-school program that combines LEGO, robotics and Java programming in a vast array of projects to engage and challenge students in robotics design, coding, team games and open-ended creativity. Classes are offered all across the Bay Area, changing based on which schools offer them a presence.

Waldorf School of the Peninsula

180 N. Rengstorff Ave., Mountain View / 650-417-7600 / moffice@waldorfpenninsula.org. 11311 Mora Drive, Los Altos / 650-209-9400 / laoffice@waldorfpenninsula.org. waldorfpenninsula.org.

Waldorf School of the Peninsula serves children from nursery through high school. Areas of focus include fostering self-discipline, critical thinking, independence and cooperation, creative expression and a love of learning.

For Everyone

Palo Alto Adult School

50 Embarcadero Road, Tower Building, Palo Alto. 650-329-3752 / adultschool@pausd.org / paadultschool.org.

Computer, language, cooking, writing, art, outdoor and finance classes — and many other offerings — are available through the Palo Alto Adult School. Registration for the fall session begins on Aug. 11.

Stanford Continuing Studies

365 Lasuen St., Stanford. 650-725-2650 / continuingstudies@stanford.edu / continuingstudies.stanford.edu.

Stanford Continuing Studies organizes classes in liberal arts and sciences, creative writing and professional and personal development. Courses are usually held in the evenings Monday through Friday. Fall catalogues will be available the first week of August; registration opens on Aug. 21.

The Class Guide is published quarterly in the Palo Alto Weekly. Descriptions of classes offered in Palo Alto are given priority, and listings are free and subject to editing.

To inquire about submitting a listing for the next Class Guide, email Editorial Assistant Anna Medina at amedina@pawebly.com or call 650-223-6515. To place a paid advertisement in the Class Guide, call the display advertising department at 650-326-8210.

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A weekly guide to home, garden and real estate news, edited by Elizabeth Lorenz

Home Front

MOUNTAIN VIEW, 94043

... According to **BuildZoom.com**, a website that connects customers with contractors, **Mountain View's** 94043 zip code is the third "toughest" place to build in the San Francisco Bay Area, and **Menlo Park**, at 94025, ranks 10th. According to BuildZoom's Issi Romem, these cities are not necessarily tough because it's difficult to get permits. "The toughest places to build tend to see few, if any, proposals for new construction" because developers tend to look for places that are less built out. A better way to gauge the toughest places to build, Romem said, is to ask, "Where does an increasing willingness to pay for housing fail to result in more housing being built?" If people are willing to pay increasing amounts of money for housing, then a shortage of new homes indicates that construction is obstructed somehow, making it a "tough-to-build" area.

GAIN IN LUXE HOME

SALES ... Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage reports that the Silicon Valley luxury home market saw a gain in total sales in June year-over-year. A total of 870 residential properties priced \$1 million and higher were sold last month in Santa Clara County, a 29 percent increase from 673 sales in June 2016 and up from 785 sales in May. The median price for luxury properties sold in June dipped to \$1,438,844 from \$1,455,000 in June 2016, a 1 percent slip. The data is based on sales transactions recorded in Santa Clara County by the Multiple Listing Service. Of the luxury home sales in June, 78 were priced \$3 million and higher, compared to 51 sales in the prior year and 67 properties in May. The most expensive home sale in Silicon Valley in June was a 5,330-square-foot home in Palo Alto with five bedrooms and five baths that sold for \$15,100,000.

Send notices of news and events related to real estate, interior design, home improvement and gardening to Home Front, Palo Alto Weekly, P.O. Box 1610, Palo Alto, CA 94302, or email elorenz@pawebly.com. Deadline is one week before publication.

READ MORE ONLINE
PaloAltoOnline.com

There are more real estate features online. Go to PaloAltoOnline.com/real_estate.

NEIGHBORHOOD SNAPSHOT



The neighborhood style can mostly be attributed to the work of Birge Clark, a celebrated 20th-century architect. His Spanish colonial style similar to this home is a unifying theme throughout the neighborhood.

Eleanor Pardee Park is one of the largest neighborhood parks in Palo Alto, with a picnic area, playgrounds and even a community garden.

Elegant entrance

Crescent Park has stately Spanish-style homes and leafy feel

by Sophie Pollock | photos by Ben Hacker



Lush tree branches reach over the wide streets of Crescent Park, giving the Palo Alto neighborhood a small-town feel even though it's just blocks away from downtown's bustling University Avenue.

Located between San Francisquito Creek, Newell Road, Channing Avenue and Middlefield Road, Crescent Park often gives visitors and new Stanford students their first impression of Palo Alto as they exit U.S. Highway 101 heading down University Avenue toward El Camino Real.

Most passersby likely will notice the neighborhood's Spanish Colonial streetscapes, which can mostly be attributed to the work of celebrated 20th-century architect Birge Clark.

In addition to the mature trees and notable architecture, the neighborhood is home to Eleanor Pardee Park, one of the largest neighborhood parks in Palo Alto, with a picnic area, playgrounds and even a community garden with plots for residents to grow fruits, flowers and vegetables.

"The beauty, the architecture and the trees

are what attracted us to the neighborhood as well as kept us here for 30 years," said Bob Wenzlau, who moved to the neighborhood in 1989 and has watched his children stay connected with their childhood friends through the years.

Wenzlau said he enjoys the multicultural aspect of the neighborhood, which has allowed him to meet people from many different countries. While the neighborhood is diverse in many ways, most of its residents are professionals, such as doctors, lawyers, professors and those in the tech industry, including Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg.

One issue that has shaped the neighborhood in more ways than one is flooding. Connie Linton, a 30-year Crescent Park resident, said that flooding has been a real issue in the neighborhood over the years. Flooding also has prevented "McMansions" from cropping up because speculative developers cannot build large homes with a basement in a flood zone, Linton said.

"However, there are many spots in Crescent Park that are not in the flood zone," she added.

It's in these areas where Crescent Park has begun to see small changes to its generally classic "Palo Alto style."

Linton said despite the changing architectural styles, the neighborly vibe has not changed.

"If you go out and walk your dog, you will meet everybody," she said. "It is a very friendly place."

The Crescent Park Neighborhood Association (CPNA) has been a way to engage

with community and citywide concerns, like traffic and parking — two items neighbors say are big issues in Crescent Park. The association runs a monitored online chat room that allows members to post questions and suggestions. Linton said she even adopted her dog through the chat room after a neighbor posted a notice about trying to find a new home for the pooch. ■

Sophie Pollock is a former intern at the Palo Alto Weekly.

FACTS

FIRE STATION: No. 3, 799 Embarcadero Road

LIBRARY: Rinconada Library, 1213 Newell Road

LOCATION: bounded by San Francisquito Creek, Newell Road, Channing Avenue and Middlefield Road

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION: Norman Beamer, president, 650-327-7071

PARKS: Eleanor Pardee Park, 851 Center Drive; Hopkins Creekside Park along Palo Alto Avenue

POST OFFICES: Hamilton, 380 Hamilton Ave.; Main, 2085 E. Bayshore Road

PRIVATE SCHOOLS: St. Elizabeth Seton School, 1095 Channing Ave.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS: Duveneck Elementary School, Jordan Middle School, Palo Alto High School

SHOPPING (nearby): The Willows Market, 60 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park; University Avenue in downtown Palo Alto; Edgewood Plaza Shopping Center



Connie Linton

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—Connie Linton, resident

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SALES AT A GLANCE

Atherton

Total sales reported: **2**
 Lowest sales price: **\$2,925,000**
 Highest sales price: **\$6,800,000**
 Average sales price: **\$4,862,500**

East Palo Alto

Total sales reported: **7**
 Lowest sales price: **\$760,000**
 Highest sales price: **\$1,202,000**
 Average sales price: **\$803,857**

Los Altos

Total sales reported: **20**
 Lowest sales price: **\$1,450,000**
 Highest sales price: **\$5,550,000**
 Average sales price: **\$4,255,125**

Los Altos Hills

Total sales reported: **5**
 Lowest sales price: **\$2,500,000**
 Highest sales price: **\$6,100,000**
 Average sales price: **\$3,771,800**

Menlo Park

Total sales reported: **17**
 Lowest sales price: **\$755,000**
 Highest sales price: **\$5,700,000**
 Average sales price: **\$2,541,647**

Mountain View

Total sales reported: **21**
 Lowest sales price: **\$471,000**
 Highest sales price: **\$2,530,000**
 Average sales price: **\$1,466,976**

Palo Alto

Total sales reported: **16**
 Lowest sales price: **\$1,500,000**
 Highest sales price: **\$4,788,000**
 Average sales price: **\$2,847,750**

Source: California REsource



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- PiE (Palo Alto Partners in Education)
- Gunn High School
- JLS Middle School
- Palo Alto High School
- East Palo Alto schools
- East Menlo Park schools
- Menlo Park Atherton Education Foundation
- Mountain View Los Altos Education Foundation
- Ohlone Elementary School PTA
- Hoover Elementary School PTA
- Palo Verde Elementary School
- Palo Alto Chinese School
- Terman Middle School PTA
- Walter Hays Elementary School

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Elem School District: Palo Alto Unified
High School District: Palo Alto Unified



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6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

PANEL DISCUSSION

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Speaker: Michael Repka

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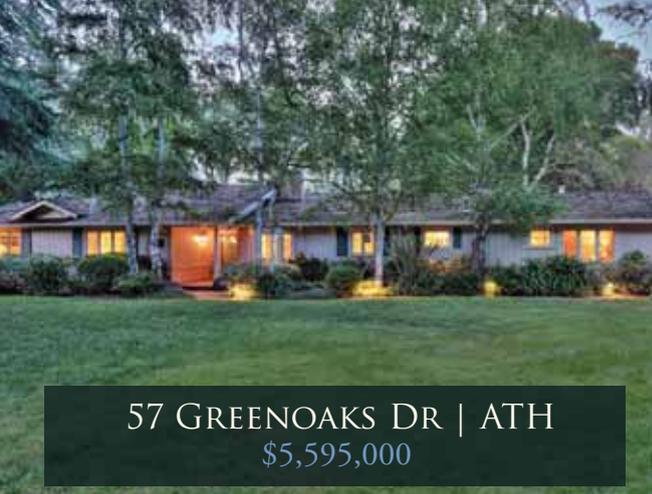
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Sat/Sun Coldwell Banker 324-4456

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Sun 2-4 Golden Gate
Sotheby's International Realty 847-1141

6 Bedrooms

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CUPERTINO

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22430 Cupertino Rd \$3,888,000
Sat/Sun Keller Williams - Palo Alto 454-8500

LOS ALTOS

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74 Bay Tree Ln \$2,289,000
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2 Bedrooms - Condominium

477 Lassen Dr #7 Call for price
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4 Bedrooms

1504 Redwood Dr \$2,698,000
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28495 Big Basin Way \$3,750,000
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1871 Camino A Los Cerros \$4,788,000
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PALO ALTO

3 Bedrooms

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1176 Palo Alto Ave \$4,195,000
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5 Sunhill St \$4,100,000
Sun Kerwin & Associates 473-1500

136 Pecora Way \$1,995,000
Sun Coldwell Banker 324-4456

11 Coalmine Vw \$2,895,000
Sat/Sun Coldwell Banker 851-1961

REDWOOD CITY

2 Bedrooms

112 Westgate St \$1,000,000
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4 Bedrooms

350 Alameda De Las Pulgas \$3,498,000
Sun Alain Pinel Realtors 462-1111

5 Bedrooms

9 Colton Ct \$3,595,000
Sun 1-5 Coldwell Banker 851-2666

SAN BRUNO

3 Bedrooms

3411 Longview Dr \$799,000
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SAN CARLOS

3 Bedrooms

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Sat/Sun Alain Pinel Realtors 462-1111

40 Amber Ct \$1,750,000
Sun Alain Pinel Realtors 462-1111

4 Bedrooms

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Sat/Sun Golden Gate
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STANFORD

4 Bedrooms

813 Allardice Way \$2,850,000
Sun Alain Pinel Realtors 323-1111

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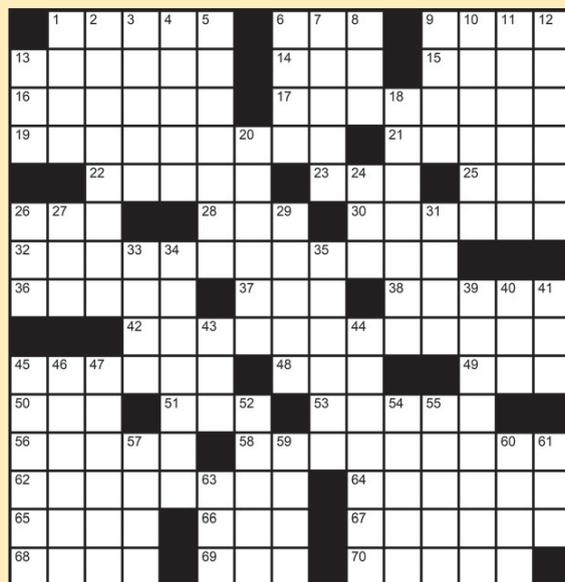
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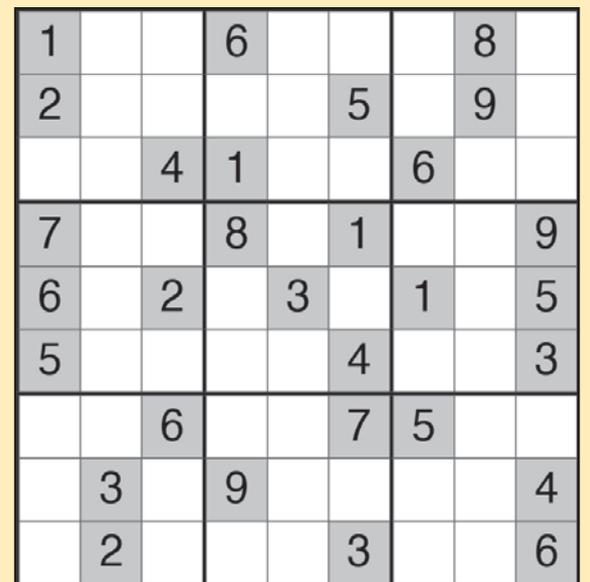


Answers on page 45.

- Across**
- 1 Indian drum
 - 6 Toward the back of an airplane
 - 9 Poison dart frog in "Rio 2" played by Kristin Chenoweth
 - 13 "Please continue"
 - 14 OMG or LOL
 - 15 ___ rock (genre for Emerson, Lake & Palmer)
 - 16 "Ditto!"
 - 17 Activist org. that can't decide?
 - 19 Soccer team whose players are scarecrows?
 - 21 Smartphone bill info
 - 22 Basketball announcer's phrase
 - 23 D&D or FFXV, e.g.
 - 25 ___ Plaines, Illinois
 - 26 Chemistry suffix
 - 28 Pokémon protagonist Ketchum
 - 30 "A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius" author Dave
 - 32 Fail to ever mention God in France?
 - 36 Green with the clean version "Forget You"
 - 37 Outdoor sporting gear chain

- 38 Orangey-brown, like some port
- 42 Food list with amortized appetizers and beveraged buyouts?
- 45 Classic 1981 Galaxian follow-up with tractor beams
- 48 Devoured
- 49 President pro ___
- 50 Summer in the citÉ?
- 51 Tool before down or cakes
- 53 Highlight reel segment
- 56 Dragging feeling
- 58 Spaghetti sauce brand you can only get in one place?
- 62 Megastore for all your ballet accessory needs?
- 64 Skin softener ("or else it gets the hose again")
- 65 Compound with a hydroxyl group
- 66 Too close ___ comfort
- 67 Moves around in a Newton's cradle
- 68 Contradict
- 69 Clip-___ (some pinchy earrings)
- 70 ___ a customer

This week's SUDOKU



Answers on page 45.

- Down**
- 1 Perfectly
 - 2 Make upset
 - 3 Fake Kazakh
 - 4 Luxury hotel chain
 - 5 Weak conditions
 - 6 Letters on an envelope addressed to a company
 - 7 Bakery sackful
 - 8 ___ and feather
 - 9 Report cards' stats
 - 10 "Everything Now" group ___ Fire
 - 11 "The Wizard of Oz" scarecrow portrayer
 - 12 "Uh...possibly..."
 - 13 Rag on
 - 18 Team Carmelo Anthony was drafted into in 2003
 - 20 Aziz of "Parks and Recreation"
 - 24 Louvre Pyramid architect
 - 26 "Monsters, ___"
 - 27 Ruby of "Do the Right Thing"
 - 29 Shenzi in "The Lion King," e.g.
 - 31 Island "where America's day begins"
 - 33 Actor Idris of 2017's "The Dark Tower"
 - 34 Camp out in the elements

- 35 Low-cal Cadbury-Schweppes drink
- 39 "Don't touch this wall!" sign
- 40 First compass point clockwise from N (on a 16-point compass)
- 41 Taco Bell's parent company ___! Brands, Inc.
- 43 ___ Paulo (Brazil's most populous state)
- 44 Dictionary cross-reference phrase
- 45 Doted on Doctor Who or Dothraki, maybe, with "out"
- 46 When some kids' bedtimes are set
- 47 "Imagine" songwriter
- 52 He sang about Bennie and Daniel
- 54 Pennywise, for one
- 55 Bandleader Shaw
- 57 Reprehensible
- 59 It's never mine alone
- 60 L.A. rock club Whisky a ___
- 61 Young ___ (kids)
- 63 Eerie sighting

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Legal Notices

995 Fictitious Name Statement

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File No.: FBN631684
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Global Ladies of Real Estate located at 405-A Curtner Ave., Palo Alto, CA 94306, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
GOLDEN MILLENNIUM ADVISORY LLC
405-A Curtner Ave.
Palo Alto, CA 94306
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on N/A.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on July 07, 2017.
(PAW July 28, Aug 4, 11, 18, 2017)

INSPANISH US
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: FBN632135
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
InSpanish US located at 777 San Antonio Road Apt 27, Palo Alto, CA 94303, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: An Individual.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
SILVIA ALCIRA CABAL
777 San Antonio Rd #27
Palo Alto, CA 94303
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 05/09/2017.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on July 19, 2017. (PAW July 28; Aug 4, 11, 18, 2017)

R.A.C. SERVICES LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: FBN632103
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
R.A.C. SERVICES LLC, located at 1551 Sunrise Dr., Gilroy, CA 95020, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Limited Liability Company.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
R.A.C. SERVICES LLC
1551 Sunrise Dr.
Gilroy, CA 95020
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 11/01/2016.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on July 18, 2017.
(PAW July 28, Aug. 4, 11, 18, 2017)

ICO RALLY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: FBN632496
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
Ico Rally, 2575 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
INSULATION SOURCES, INC.
2575 East Bayshore Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 07/10/1997.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on August 1, 2017.
(PAW Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25, 2017)

THE MARKET AT EDGEWOOD INC.
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No.: FBN632530
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as:
The Market at Edgewood Inc., located at 2170 W. Bayshore Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94303, Santa Clara County.
This business is owned by: A Corporation.
The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is(are):
THE MARKET AT EDGEWOOD INC.
2170 W. Bayshore Rd.
Palo Alto, CA 94303
Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on 06/21/2017.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on Aug. 2, 2017.
(PAW Aug. 11, 18, 25; Sept. 1, 2017)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(U.C.C. §6104, 6105)
ESCROW #: 0126010712
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to creditors of the within named seller that a bulk sale is about to be made of the assets described below.
The names and business address of the Seller(s) is/are: Clear Air Associates II, LLC 2235 Old Middlefield Way, suite G, Mountain View, CA 94043
The location in California of the Chief Executive Office of the seller is: same as above
As listed by the seller, all other business names and addresses used by the seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the buyer are: none
The names and business address of the Buyer(s) is/are: Ravindra Patel 2235 Old Middlefield Way, suite G, Mountain View, CA 94043
The assets to be sold are described in general as
All stock in trade, furniture, fixtures, equipment and other property
And are located at: 2235 Old Middlefield Way, suite G, Mountain View, CA 94043
The business name used by the Seller(s) at those locations is: Quik Smog
The anticipated date of the bulk sale is August 29, 2017
At the office of Old Republic Title Company @ 1000 Burnett Avenue, Suite 400, Concord, CA 94520.
The bulk sale IS subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2.
If so subject, the name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is as follows:
Old Republic Title Company @ 1000 Burnett Avenue, Suite 400, Concord, CA 94520.
The last day for filing claims shall be

August 28, 2017
which is the business day before the sale date specified herein.
Dated: 08/03/17
/S/ Ravindra Patel
8/11/17
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Answers to this week's puzzles, which can be found on page 44.

T	A	B	L	A	A	F	T	G	A	B	I		
D	O	G	O	O	N	T	L	A	P	R	O	G	
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3	7	4	1	9	8	6	5	2
7	4	3	8	5	1	2	6	9
6	8	2	7	3	9	1	4	5
5	9	1	2	6	4	8	7	3
9	1	6	4	2	7	5	3	8
8	3	5	9	1	6	7	2	4
4	2	7	5	8	3	9	1	6

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C R O S S W O R D S


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Sports Shorts

SOCCER STUFF . . . The second-ranked Stanford women's soccer has been picked to finish first in the Pac-12, as voted on by the conference coaches. The Cardinal received 119 points, including 10 of the 12 first-place votes, to finish ahead of UCLA (110) and defending national champion USC (101), who each received one first place vote. California (86), Utah (81) and Colorado (74) completed the top six. Stanford posted an 18-2-1 record last year en route to its 11th Pac-12 championship and a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament. The Cardinal returns 17 of 21 letterwinners, including midfielders **Andi Sullivan** and Sacred Heart Prep grad **Tierna Davidson**, who were each named to the Hermann Trophy watch list. Since the arrival of head coach **Paul Ratcliffe** in 2003, the Cardinal owns a 107-20-11 record in Pac-12 play, while Stanford's 44-match conference winning streak from 2008-13 is the third-longest in NCAA Division I history. . . .The two-time defending national champions Stanford men's soccer team also has two players on the Hermann Trophy list in retiring All-Americans **Tomas Hilliard-Arce** and **Foster Langsdorf**, giving Stanford the distinction of being the lone institution in the country with multiple players on the list for men's soccer highest individual award.

OLYMPIC OFFERINGS . . . Standout performances during July earned the U.S. women's national water polo team and Stanford sophomore **Katie Ledecy**, 'Best of July' honors for the Team USA Awards presented by Dow, the United States Olympic Committee announced. The U.S. women's national team, with eight Stanford affiliated athletes, won its second straight FINA World Championship title, and fifth overall, in Budapest, Hungary, winning six games.

WATER WAYS . . . Stanford men's water polo coach **John Vargas** announced the addition of Olympian and former National Player of the Year Brett Ormsby to his staff as an assistant coach. Ormsby joins Vargas, assistant coach **Jonathan Barnea** and volunteer assistant coach **Lee Maurer** on the Cardinal coaching staff.

ON THE AIR

Friday

Track and field: World Championships, 2 a.m., NBCSN

Diving: National Championships, 6 p.m., NBCSN

Saturday

Track and field: World Championships, 2 a.m., NBCSN

Track and field: World Championships, noon, NBC

Sunday

Track and field: World Championships, 11:30 a.m., NBC

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Madison Keys defeated CoCo Vandeweghe to earn the Bank of the West Classic title, her first WTA in nearly a year and third overall.

BANK OF THE WEST

More than just one winner

Keys, Vandeweghe, Bellis all walk away happy at Bank of the West

by Glenn Reeves

Madison Keys walked away with the stuffed bears, the singles championship trophy and the top cash prize of the Bank of the West Classic last weekend but both CoCo Vandeweghe and Atherton resident CiCi Bellis called it a successful week as well.

Vandeweghe turned in a

spectacular effort as the tournament's runner-up, dropping a 7-6 (4), 6-4 decision to Keys. She wasn't finished though, as she returned to the court with Abigail Spears to capture the doubles title. And Bellis?

She rewarded her followers with a fabulous week of tennis that ended in her second WTA Tour semifinal appearance. She played

well, proving once again she belongs. Her effort at Stanford put her at a career-high ranking of 36.

Bellis won her first two matches at the Rogers Cup in Toronto before losing to France's Caroline Garcia, 6-4, 6-2, in the Round of 16 on Thursday morning. She'd won five of her last six matches

(continued on next page)



Valarie Allman will throw the discus at the IAAF World Championships in London on Friday.

SWIMMING

Futures look bright

Gunn High swimmers successful in Santa Clara

by Rick Eyrer

Gunn juniors Sarah Snyder and Grace Tramack each completed a successful meet with a top 10 finish on the final day of the USA Futures Championships in Santa Clara.

Snyder went 57.81 to place third in the 100-meter free, just over a half-second out of first. Tramack placed 10th in the 1,500 free in 17:44.25. Paly sophomore Amy Wu and 12-year-old Audrey Cheng joined Snyder and Stahmer to help Palo Alto Stanford Aquatics finish fourth in the 400 medley relay, swimming a time of 4:26.08.

Earlier in the meet, Tramack went 4:24.80 in the 400-meter free to place third while Snyder needed only 50 meters to place seventh in the free with a time of 26.84.

Gunn's Ashley Stahmer added a 10th-place finish in the 50 free, going 26.89.

PASA's Cyrus Morrison, who will be attending California in the fall, won the men's 100-meter free in 51.67.

Morrison was in third at the halfway mark and then put together a 26.62 split over the final 50 meters to pull past the field.

At the U.S. Open Championships at Nassau County Aquatic Center in East Meadow, N.Y., Stanford senior Liam Egan raced to a fourth-place finish in the men's 200-meter free.

Egan, who won the 'B' final of the 400-meter free earlier in the week, recorded the sixth-fastest qualifying mark and then improved upon that to finish in 1:49.71, .03 seconds behind third-place finisher Matt Hutchins and .03 seconds ahead of fifth-place finisher Isaac Jones.

The Stanford 4x100 medley relay team of Patrick Conaton, Matt Anderson, Andrew Liang and Jack Walsh finished fifth with a time of 3:42.94. ■

IAAF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Stanford senior Allman steps onto the world stage

Cardinal grad Stefanidi wins world championship in pole vault

by David Kiefer

Exactly a year before Valarie Allman boarded a plane to London for her first IAAF World Track and Field Championships, Zeb Sion was announced as Stanford's throws coach.

At that time, Allman was content to complete her career as one of the top collegiate discus throwers in the nation. She would graduate, gather her trophies and move on with her life. But not long into their partnership, Allman felt differently and chose to redshirt her

senior season to extend her Stanford career and continue the progress she sensed she was making with Sion.

With the decision, Allman needed something tangible to shoot for this season and established a goal of wearing a U.S. singlet at worlds in August.

On Friday, she will reach that goal, competing in her first senior global competition. By her previous timetable, she would have thrown her last discus months ago. Instead, her appearance at

Tennis

(continued from previous page)

and reached the third round of each of her last two tournaments.

Wednesday's 6-4, 7-5 victory over eighth-ranked Svetlana Kuznetsova was her second Top 10 win of the season. She's the youngest player with a Top 10 win this year and only the second 18-or-under player with multiple Top 10 wins in a season over the past seven years.

Bellis has a 13-4 record against the Top 50, a .765 winning percentage.

The championship singles match featured a pair of sluggers with similar styles. The 2,389 fans on hand were treated to power tennis.

Keys and Vandeweghe, good friends off the court, went back and forth, exchanging powerful serves and rocket groundstrokes. From early on it appeared likely that the first one to blink and have their serve broken was going to end up on the short end of this matchup.

That's just what happened.

The first time either serve was



Hannah Sunmell

Atherton resident CiCi Bellis reached the semifinals at the Bank of the West Classic, earning her a career-best No. 36 singles ranking.

broken came late in the second set when a Vandeweghe double fault put her in too deep a hole and Keys grabbed the opportunity, pouncing with high energy and motivation and slammed home four consecutive winners to take the game, set and match.

Winning the Bank of the West

Classic is quite an accomplishment for Keys, who missed the first two months of the season with a wrist injury. She upset No. 1 seed Garbine Muguruza in the semifinal and then captured her first title on American soil while bringing her record on the season above the break-even mark at 9-7.

"It definitely feels really really good," said Keys, who is coached by former Bank of the West champion Lindsay Davenport. "Now I feel like I'm on the right track."

Vandeweghe was also going for her first WTA championship in her home country.

"I think it was a high-quality match," Vandeweghe said. "It was fun to play. It was fun to play a friend in an all-American final. It was enjoyable."

Vandeweghe said she became friends with Keys at the Fed Cup in Australia.

"The whole team bonded," Vandeweghe said.

Both displayed powerful serves Sunday. And while Vandeweghe was not averse to charging the net to try to put away a point, Keys stayed back and let her groundstrokes do the talking.

"When you play CoCo you have to step up and be aggressive," Keys said. "If you give her an easy ball she's going to hit a winner."

And as for playing someone with such similar attributes -- the big serve, the power-laden groundstrokes -- Keys was asked, is that a good matchup for her?

"It can be," Keys said. "But you need to serve well and match her. If she gets a break the match can go the other way."

Bellis reached the semifinal by beating former world No. 2 and two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova, 6-2, 6-0, herself recovering from wrist surgery.

"This is definitely one of the biggest wins of my career," Bellis said. "I'm just really happy with how I played, and really excited I was able to get through it."

Behind the support of a large crowd, Bellis played aggressively and took it to Kvitova from the first game of the first set. Kvitova recorded 26 unforced errors to Bellis' nine.

"I don't think Kvitova played her best tennis," Bellis said. "On my side I feel I played a real, unbelievable match."

Bellis established herself as the present and future star of the Bank of the West Classic with her effort.

"This was definitely a great week for me," Bellis said. "One of the best weeks of my career so far. This whole summer's been great for me. I just want to keep building on this." ■

Track

(continued from previous page)

the Olympic Stadium in London seems only the beginning to a promising career.

"Sometimes, I wake up and think, 'Wait, am I really going to London?'" she said, while training at Stanford before her trip. "There's no way this is actually happening. I feel so thankful."

Stanford grad Katerina Stefanidi followed her 2016 Olympic pole vault victory with the best performance of her life to win the IAAF World Outdoor Track and Field Championships, nearly five years to the day of her 2012 Olympic appearance in the same stadium.

Stefanidi jumped a personal and Greek record of 4.91 meters (16 feet, 1 1/4 inches), the highest jump in the world this year, to capture her second consecutive world crown in dominant fashion. The victory signals the official confirmation of the Stefanidi Era, as the world's preeminent female pole vaulter.

Kori Carter became the second Stanford athlete to win a world title, winning the 400-meter hurdles Thursday in 53.07 and edging fellow American Dalilah Muhammad by .43 seconds.

Stanford grad Steven Solomon finished seventh in his heat of the 400 meters at the IAAF World Track and Field Championships. Solomon, competing for Australia, finished in 46.27.

A winner of two NCAA and three Pac-12 titles while at Stanford, Stefanidi moves into a tie for No. 4 among the highest vaulters in history. She also remains undefeated through eight competitions this outdoor season and now holds every major outdoor title she can win: world, Olympic, and European.

Allman, 22, has the seventh-best throw in the world this year. Her distance of 212 feet, 3 inches



Richard C. Eshed

Stanford grad Katerina Stefanidi cleared the bar at 16-1 1/4 feet, winning a world title and setting a Greece record.

(64.69 meters) at Stanford's Cardinal Classic on April 22 made her the 12th-best female in American history and was a 10-foot improvement over her lifetime best entering the season. It signaled her emergence among the world's elite.

Having reached the IAAF World Championship standard already, Allman needed to place among the top three at the U.S. Championships in Sacramento on June 22 to earn a world berth. The task meant navigating a field that included 2008 Olympic champion Stephanie Trafton, U.S. record holder Gia Lewis-Smallwood, and two other Olympians. Allman skillfully did so, taking third to cap a hectic week that began with her graduation with a degree in product design.

With this much success, and greater possibilities on the horizon, the message was clear: Why stop now? In 2018, she will become the first Stanford track and field athlete in 12 years to compete for the Cardinal after

representing the U.S. in a world or Olympic competition, as she begins graduate studies while completing her fifth and final year of eligibility. Could the 2020 Tokyo Olympics be next?

"When I first started throwing discus, I would think of it as choreography," Allman said. "Put left arm here, my right leg here. The type of movement from dance really helped in throwing the discus. There's a certain level of coordination and balance and placement of things."

Allman definitely is goofy -- impromptu rap dance parties with roommate Elise Cranny are a staple. Allman also has long had a maturity and thoughtful side to her, donating her hair to an organization that makes hairpieces to disadvantaged children, and distributing used shoes to those in undeveloped countries.

In her first three years at Stanford under Michelle Eisenreich, Allman won two Pac-12 titles, steadily improved, and placed third at NCAA's as a junior in



Karen Ambrose Hickey

Stanford product Kori Carter won the 400-meter hurdles title Thursday, racing 53.07, edging American Dalilah Muhammad by .43 seconds.

2016. When Eisenreich left to become the director of the women's track and field and cross country programs at Princeton, Allman was wary of taking a step backward under a new coach in her final season.

It helped that she knew Sion, who had recruited Allman at his previous stop of Wake Forest. Sion felt he knew her well enough where he didn't have to win her over. But trust isn't something to be handed out without being earned.

At a weight room dedication of the team weight room, Allman expressed her concerns. She didn't want to make drastic changes in her throwing mechanics.

"I kind of fibbed a little bit," Sion said. "I told her we're not going to change a lot. And now, nine months later, we have changed a lot. I told her I wouldn't change anything too drastically and I changed everything. It's not totally true, but we can joke about it. It makes it more dramatic. At the end of the day, we changed

what was appropriate in the time we had this season. It worked out pretty well."

For five years, Allman had competed at the U.S. senior nationals and each time a light grew brighter and brighter in her own mind. It took getting hammered by the best to realize what it takes to become one -- to understand the difference between a thrower and an athlete. With Sion's help, Allman has joined that elite club.

At worlds, two qualification groups total 32 competitors from which 12 advance to Friday's final. The top eight after three throws earn three more and a champion will be crowned. Allman is too competitive to take the happy-to-be-there tact, and is too talented not to believe she can place highly.

"I feel like a little girl at heart," Allman said. And that's her secret.

The discus can be powerful, yet graceful. That's where Allman shines. On a stage of growls and guttural screams, she remains the dancer. ■



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Ginny Kavanaugh
CalBRE#00884747 650.851.1961



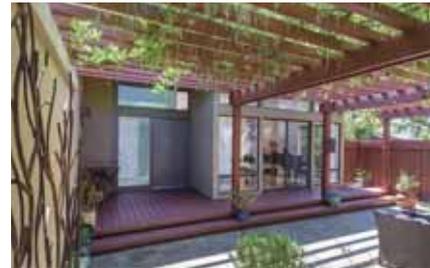
WOODSIDE HEIGHTS SAT/SUN 1-5 \$4,295,000
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166 Seminary Drive Rare custom Vintage Oaks Cape Cod/0.35 Acre/sep in-law qtrs/downstairs master. 5 BR 3.5 BA
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REDWOOD CITY SUN 1-5 \$3,595,000
9 Colton Ct Private gated villa on 1/2 acre resort lot w/ pool. Open floor plan & in-law ste. 5 BR 4.5 BA
Sam Anagnostou
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PORTOLA VALLEY SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$2,895,000
11 Coalmine Vw Contemporary single-level home with quality amenities and stunning views - 11Coalmine.com 4 BR 2.5 BA
Ginny Kavanaugh
CalBRE#00884747 650.851.1961



WOODSIDE \$2,598,000
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Sean Foley
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WOODSIDE SAT 1 - 5 \$2,295,000
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Veronica Kogler
CalBRE#01788047 650.324.4456



PORTOLA VALLEY SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$1,995,000
136 Pecora Way Mid-century modern with spectacular views in prime Ladera location. 4 BR 2.5 BA
Karen Fryling/Rebecca Johnson
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WOODSIDE SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$1,895,000
885 Espinosa Rd Serene country living on over 3 acs. Spectacular views of the bay & East Bay hills. 3 BR 3 BA
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Valerie Trenter
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Deniece Smith
CalBRE#01295757 650.325.6161



MENLO PARK SAT/SUN 2:30 - 5:00 \$775,000
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CalBRE#00620365 650.325.6161

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Coldwell Banker - Woodside is sponsoring a pet adoption event with CompanionsInWaiting.org because everyone deserves a home.

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday & Sunday August 26 & 27

Location: Coldwell Banker Woodside Office
2969 Woodside Road, Woodside

For More Information Call →

Steve Gray BRE 01498634 650.743.7702 or **Curtis Grisham** BRE 02017290 650.728.7300