

THE Spectrum

July 2009

Wood City's Monthly Magazine



Dean Johnson

Climbing the Mountain of Life and Law

Also in this issue:

Carcione wins, "E" loses, Foust influences and more in "As I Was Saying..."

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- 7/19 Shakespeare 1-3pm
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- 8/1 Kailash Kher 6-8pm
- 8/15 Los Pingos 6-8pm



For more free event listings visit: RedwoodCityEvents.com

The Spectrum.JULY.09

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Welcome to the July issue of The Spectrum Magazine! We are feeling patriotic this month.

Can you imagine being one of only 1,400 people who have ever made it to the top of Mount Everest? And also being a defense attorney, an assistant district attorney and a television legal analyst? Well, that is exactly what our cover subject this month, Dean Johnson, can boast of accomplishing. Writer Valerie Harris' feature will have you wondering what else he will do when he finds the time to try.

Publisher Steve Penna brings up the topics of the city's settlement with local attorney Joe Carcione, the honoring of Mayor Rosanne Foust at a recent ceremony in San Francisco and the lack of participation of administrators and teachers in the loss of the Measure E parcel tax campaign in his column, "As I Was Saying ..." Undoubtedly, his comments will provoke some conversation throughout our community.

We also bring you our regular features on community interests, senior activities, financial advice by David Amann, information from the Redwood City School District, parties around town, news briefs, community cultural events and the popular "A Minute With."

We encourage you to support our advertisers by using their services when you are out shopping, dining or enjoying yourself in our community with friends and family. Many of our advertisers have special offers for you — including discounts on services, food or beverages — so please take the time to look over their ads this month and use their coupons and discounts. That is what they are there for, and by using them you show you appreciate their offers.

As our community prepares to celebrate our country's independence, we thank you for your continued support and readership, and we look forward to providing community information that you can be proud of.

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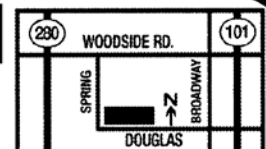
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Inside The Spectrum: Cover Story Photo Shoot



After interviewing our cover subject, Dean Johnson, writer Valerie Harris arranged for publisher Steve Penna to schedule (through Diane Rummel, marketing coordinator for the San Mateo County Historical Association) the cover photo shoot for 2 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9, at the San Mateo County History Museum on Broadway downtown.

Penna showed up first and was quickly joined by cover story photographer James Kaspar. The two proceeded to the old courtroom to set up for the initial shots. They had both worked in the building several times before and were familiar with the setup, but lighting is always a concern. So much of it is natural thanks to the stained-glass ceilings and windows.

It is easy to find locations to shoot within the museum because of its architectural design. The theme of this month's shoot (Johnson is an attorney) made it an appropriate setting as the museum was once home to the county's courtrooms.

The first shots were taken in the old courthouse, which was used in the filming of "Mrs. Doubtfire" in 1993. While Kaspar took pictures, the museum's event coordinator, Susan Smith, helped to make Johnson appear more animated by holding a conversation and asking him questions. It worked.

The group then moved into the rotunda area, where the cover shot was taken, and then into a meeting room that houses badges and historical items from San Mateo County's law enforcement past.

The entire shoot took just about an hour.

Johnson's accomplishments are plentiful, as is his lust for life. He serves as proof that one can achieve things never imagined if one tries and pushes boundaries and limits. When the opportunity strikes, you must either swing or watch the ball go by. The Spectrum salutes Johnson for the hits he has made both professionally and personally.



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RCSD Corner: News From the Redwood City School District

Grants Help Meet Specialized Needs in the Redwood City School District

Faced with \$6.4 million in budget cuts for the 2009–10 school year, the Redwood City School District has no choice but to eliminate many important programs. At the same time, the district has made very significant academic gains in recent years and wants to make sure students still have access to a rigorous education. Grants from local businesses and foundations are helping the school district to meet some part of the need created by California's worst budget crisis in decades. Private contributions cannot fill a multimillion-dollar budget gap, but local support is making a difference in our schools.

During the past year, a number of local organizations have made grants to the district that address a variety of specific needs within the local schools, including:

Redwood City Education Foundation (RCEF)

Last year, the RCEF paid for Music for Learning, the district's second-through fourth-grade music program, the fifth-grade Outdoor Education Program and, in partnership with Oracle and the Westly Foundation, provided SMART grants to classroom teachers that were used for math, science, technology and the arts.

Sobrato Foundation

Hoover School was one of three schools in the Bay Area to receive a Sobrato grant that will be used to strengthen the school's biliteracy program and for parent-education programs that give parents tools for working effectively with their students to develop study skills and improve academic performance.

Oracle Impact Grant

Thanks to an Oracle Impact Grant, fourth- and fifth-grade teachers in the Redwood City School District will be able to attend a three-day Summer Science Institute to deepen their understanding of science content and the hands-on FOSS science curriculum that was recently adopted by the district.

In addition, three sixth- through eighth-grade teachers have been selected to attend a CPO Science Institute in June to strengthen their understanding of middle school scientific investigation in the areas of earth, physical and life sciences. The Oracle Impact Grant is also being used to support math curriculum in the district.

PG&E Foundation

Selby Lane School was selected as a PG&E Solar School and will receive a \$20,000 photovoltaic system and online monitoring tool that allows students to calculate and track solar energy production.


Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Although the district had to cancel most summer school programs because of the budget crisis, the Pre-Algebra Institute is funded by a grant from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, which will help up to 80 fifth- and sixth-graders spend four weeks strengthening math skills that will help them prepare for eighth-grade algebra. In addition, the Silicon Valley Community Foundation has funded literacy resource teachers at Hoover School.

TOSA Foundation

A grant from the TOSA Foundation will provide funding for reading tutoring groups at Hoover School.


"We have worked hard in Redwood City to increase the academic rigor of our programs and offer students a well-rounded education that includes art, music and science," said Superintendent Jan Christensen. "With the state of the budget in California, we rely more than ever before on local partners to provide resources that enable us to offer students services beyond the basics. We appreciate the RCEF, Sobrato, Oracle, Silicon Valley Community Foundation and the PG&E Foundation and all the other organizations who provide funding for our schools."



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As I Was Saying...

Publisher | Steve Penna

To the complete shock of the Redwood City School District community, the parcel tax that was to generate \$2.3 million in much-needed revenues for the district for five years, Measure E, failed. It received 63.6 percent of the vote, less than 1,000 votes short of the two-thirds majority needed to win. The district twice before tried to get parcel taxes approved — Measure A in 1993 and Measure V in 2005 — but couldn't muster the necessary two-thirds vote then either. Everyone is asking, "What went wrong?" Let's look at a few things.

In my opinion, this measure was flawed from the very beginning with the initial polling that assured the district they had 73 percent of our community's "likely" voters' support for passage and the spending of about \$140,000 on consultant fees before the measure was put on the ballot.

Having participated in various official and unofficial community polls, I felt cautious about the results as soon as they were announced. We now know those results were severely incorrect. With the amount of money that was paid to the political consultants, Tramutola and Associates, they should have been more accurate. The district should question the process the poll was conducted under and how the questions in the poll were asked. Some polls ask leading questions to make the outcome more likely to indicate that an election would result in a victory. I don't know if the district has questioned that process, but they should.

The consultants Tramutola and Associates have an impressive track record of parcel tax wins, but where they went wrong here was not knowing our community and the uniqueness of it — the cultural, economic and societal diversity we have — and how to address that and gain the support needed for passage. They just campaigned as they have in the past and applied all the old strategies without doing any homework besides conducting an expensive poll. Our children deserve more dedication than what was given.

One can only conclude that if the poll results were correct, then it was the campaign itself that was a complete failure and turned voters to say No. Either way, it is clear that Tramutola and Associates was not a good match for our community.

Look at the campaign itself. I don't know about you, but when I received the mailings from the campaign, they always included nice-looking pictures of teachers and students interacting in a clean and positive environment. That is not what was needed. What I would have expected was to see pictures that created urgency for the passage. Maybe a teacher in front of a classroom full of restless, uncontrolled children wasting time instead of being educated. Things just

looked too good, and the campaign literature did not "visually" give us any reason to support it. Why fix what seems to be working so well? The pictures attract the voter, not the text.

But the most important factor of the election was that only 40 percent of the registered voters who were parents voted. Why? Do they not support the schools their children attend? Did they not get the message to vote? By campaign estimates, if 70 percent of the registered voters who were parents had voted, and voted Yes, they could have won.

Another factor, in my opinion, was the lack of volunteer participation on behalf of the district administration and faculty during the campaign. A strong group of parents and community members was dedicated to the measure's passage. They led a remarkable effort and should be commended for their efforts on behalf of our children. But where were all the teachers who should have been phone-banking, walking door to door and doing all they could to help our schools and quite possibly their own jobs? Maybe they, like the opponents of the tax, felt that the district's threats of cuts were just that, threats, and that either way their jobs were secure. Now I know that you all out there who worked hard on the campaign are going to send letters saying my analogy is wrong on this point because *you* were campaigning strongly — and *you* were, but where were your fellow staffers? They were not there in the numbers needed and they failed this campaign. There should have been more "you" there.

One other important factor that those involved with the campaign are trying to point out was the effect of the May 19 state election, in which voters rejected a series of initiatives to "repair" the budget. I do not feel this had a significant effect at all, and it should be rejected as a reason.

Supporters of the parcel tax are still confident that a successful campaign is likely in their future — even as early as in the November election — and they are encouraging supporters to "talk to people about the need for a parcel tax in Redwood City School District and begin to gather names of people who you would ask to volunteer the next time."

One thing that could help a future election is Sen. **Joe Simitian's** bill SCA 6, which would place a measure on the ballot to change the constitution so that local parcel taxes could be passed with 55 percent of the vote. Redwood City district Trustee **Shelly Masur** testified in the committee hearing and told Redwood City's story. The bill passed along party lines and will be making its way to the floor of the Senate for a vote of confirmation.

Playing backup quarterback after an election

is interesting. I happen to have voted Yes on Measure E. I am disappointed that it failed and hope the district and those who worked so hard for its passage try it again. Maybe during the discussion of a future campaign, the following topics can enter into the discussion: (1) Banning tenure in all possible forms. (2) Basing teacher salary on year-over-year intra-pupil performance improvement. (3) Introducing a voucher-based payment system applicable to any accredited (public or private) school. These are just a few ideas I heard that caught my attention and might show voters that we are not being asked to just throw our money at a system that is not willing to look for and make changes that will improve the overall performances of our district. What do you say?

• • • •

I guess it is time to pay up and move on now that it is clear that Redwood City's decision to legally defend its flawed downtown development plan will likely cost more than \$600,000 after a judge ordered the city (well, you and me) to pay about \$260,000 (down from the asking \$350,000) to local attorney and property owner **Joe Carcione**, who sued after the downtown precise plan was approved.

San Mateo County Superior Court Judge **Marie Weiner** ordered the City of Redwood City to pay Carcione and also ruled that the city did not adequately study the environmental impacts of the downtown plan, which lays out zoning, building standards and a vision for up to 2,500 new high-rise housing units in a pedestrian-friendly shopping district.

Carcione and his wife, Roberta, argued the city erred by not examining whether allowing buildings up to 12 stories high could cause shadowing on shorter downtown buildings — including Carcione's law offices at 601 Brewster Ave. Weiner agreed, ruling that the city council should not have approved the plan without a shadow study. She said Carcione had a personal interest in the shadowing issue, because his law offices could be affected, and deducted the time his attorneys spent arguing that issue.

Carcione has said that the city "unconscionably disregarded individual rights" (I am sure he is talking about his) and "disregarded the rights of the public, too," and that these actions led to his lawsuit, not the monetary gain. Your guess is as good as mine whether that is true. The city has paid an outside attorney, San Jose-based **Andrew Faber**, about \$107,000 over the past three years to defend the plan in court.

(continued on page 14)

Shear Determination: Councilman Bain and Others Shave Heads for Pediatric Cancer



Councilman Ian Bain and his son “bald” it off for a good cause.
Photo by: Joe Ercoli/Anvil Image

Call it shear determination, literally.

Nearly a dozen people struck back at pediatric cancer by offering up their hair in downtown Redwood City.

But while some of the shavees said the commitment gave them a momentary pause, their resolution pales compared to the willpower and drive of the children battling the disease and the ones who love them.

“As a parent, I can’t imagine anything worse than losing a child, and I think it is a lot harder dealing with cancer for a child than for an adult,” said Redwood City Councilman Ian Bain, who traded in his hair — albeit a short style — for a smooth scalp.

Bain and the others gathered in Courthouse Square near The Daily Boost to say goodbye to their locks and hello to money for the St. Baldrick’s Foundation. The event included crafts, a raffle, an auction and even a stop by the fire department. But the shaving was the mane, er, main attraction.

No women were ready to join in a full shearing, but a few were cutting their locks for donation to Locks of Love, an organization that makes wigs for cancer patients, said co-organizer Nadine Moreno.

Moreno, too, held onto her hair but her husband and two young sons were shavees. Her oldest son, now 3 and a half, provided some of Moreno’s impetus for organizing the event.

Little more than a year ago, he underwent a battery of tests for symptoms doctors worried could be leukemia. Thankfully, cancer was ruled out, but Moreno remembers how she felt — and how different the outcome could have been.

“I thought I have to do something for the moms

who got the news that I was dreading,” she said.

Moreno’s mom also passed away from cancer five years ago, although she had promised to volunteer if she beat the disease. The St. Baldrick’s shaving event was a way to honor both, Moreno said.

St. Baldrick is actually a fictional character, a combination of “bald” and “St. Patrick,” created in 2000 by two friends who turned their industry St. Patrick’s Day party into a pediatric cancer benefit. In the decade since, shaving events have sprung up in 48 states and overseas, with more than \$50 million raised for research.

Moreno hopes the combination of shaving, auction and raffle brings in between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

As with Moreno, much of the participants’ motivation came from personal connection. Bain, who last shaved his head 20 years ago for “fun and shock value,” remembered as a child knowing a girl whose sister passed away from cancer.

If those types of stories were not enough, the specific children honored by the event had their own.

Cynthia, 16, has a love of art projects, friends and movies. She also has a tumor that was diagnosed last September. She expects to finish her treatment this month and go home to Livermore, where she can hang out with her 9-year-old brother, Brian.

Ten-year-old Ariel Rose of Pleasant Hill has rhabdomyosarcoma, but her biography is fuller than her diagnosis: a wicked and contagious laugh, and a love of Harry Potter and feisty Disney princesses that are “cool enough to carry a sword and fight for what they want.” She loves swimming, video games, drawing, reading and music.

In 2001, at age 5, Tino of Sacramento was

diagnosed with Stage IV neuroblastoma, or cancer of the nervous system. Aggressive therapy and surgery fought the tumors wrapped around his organs and infecting his bone marrow. Tino, 13, is now cancer-free seven years after his stem cell transplant and busy playing rugby, baseball and his electric guitar.

Harrison, of San Leandro, loved to laugh and play, and enjoyed dinosaurs, trains and race cars. During treatment for acute myelogenous leukemia, he would pull himself out of bed with an IV pole trailing behind while he played in the hallways. Harrison passed away.

Sofia, 9, also has AML and is being treated at Stanford. She’s had three years of chemotherapy and three straight weeks of radiation, but the leukemia has spread to her lymph nodes.

Brittney, a 19-year-old from Hayward, is in remission for ovarian cancer. But she doesn’t focus on that when describing herself — “I love to laugh and have fun. I love to play on my computer, dance, beads, scrapbooking, listening to music, making movies with friends and family, love to laugh and have fun!”

Madison, a 21-year-old from Burlingame, rounds out the group. She is currently cancer-free after battling neuroblastoma and attending Chapman University as a biology major. She is uncertain what her future holds but thinks it could involve cancer research.

Moreno picked these children either because of their proximity to Redwood City or their particular stories. All of them, she said, are reasons to care.

Moreno is relatively new to Redwood City but, using a self-proclaimed overachieving streak and word of mouth, signed up 10 shavees, including Bain. The entire council got the offer to participate, Bain said, but only he was ready to take the plunge.

While Bain was immediately touched by the stories on the St. Baldrick’s Web site, he admitted hesitating a bit about shaving his head. His loved ones were supportive, however, and the winter season is over, although the recent cooling trend didn’t go unnoticed.

“I wish it were a little bit warmer. I may be wearing a wool cap over the weekend,” Bain said.

St. Baldrick’s Foundation can be reached at 888-899-BALD (2253) or www.stbaldricks.org.

About St. Baldrick’s and pediatric cancer:

- Worldwide, 160,000 kids are diagnosed with cancer each year.
- Childhood cancer kills more U.S. children than any other disease — more than AIDS, asthma, diabetes, cystic fibrosis and congenital anomalies combined.
- Between 2000 and 2008, more than 73,000 people, including more than 5,200 women, have shaved their heads at a St. Baldrick’s event.
- The 2009 goal is to raise \$20 million with 35,000 shavees.

Editor’s note: This article appeared previously in the Daily Journal newspaper.

Cultural Events

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Top from left to right: Liz Noerdlinger, "Young Black Bird," 12" x 12", oil on panel, 2009. Nina Koepcke, "Calling Forth the Dawn," 11" x 8", monotype, 2009. Bottom from left to right: Arup Biswas, "Black Bird Goes Homeless," 12" x 16" (framed), photo montage, 2009. Belinda Chlouber, "All the Little People," 16" x 20", mixed media on door board, 2009.

The exhibition "Black Bird/Yellow Line" opens at The Main Gallery and runs from July 8 to Aug. 9. Through the visual elements of a black bird and a yellow line, the artists create a collaborative presentation in which the viewer can piece together a vignette or a series of narratives limited only by their imagination.

The idea for Black Bird/Yellow Line originated during the process of installing monthly shows at the gallery. During this process, there is almost always some sort of "ah-ha!" moment when two pieces seem somehow destined to go together — because of theme, color or composition.

In this show the artists push this unifying dialogue further, extending the concept through the gallery space. Each visitor will undoubtedly conjure different meanings from the artwork. Viewers are invited to record their impressions on a scroll running along the gallery wall, tying the creative process of the artists to the impressions of the viewer. In this way, the artist and observer collaborate in the creative process.

The contributing artists: Arup Biswas explores through digital photo-composites the pertinent environmental and social issues of the day. Belinda Chlouber draws inspiration from human interaction with the natural world and uses it to create mixed-media textile collages. Much of Rosemary DiNardo's work uses myth and fairy tale to create enchanting paintings. Nina Koepcke draws on Raven myth and legend in creating her ceramic sculpture and monotype prints. Erna Metzger's mixed-media collages use paper, silk threads and a variety of materials to create rich, multilayered pieces. Elizabeth Noerdlinger's oil paintings are of contemplative places rich in color and mood. Susan Wolf's ceramic sculptures are poetry that has found form.

A reception for the show will be held Saturday, July 18, from 5 to 8 p.m. The gallery will also be open for Art Walk on Saturday, July 11, from 7 to 9 p.m.

www.SpectrumMagazine.net

San Mateo County History Museum

2200 Broadway St., Redwood City

650-299-0104

www.historysmc.org

Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

\$2-\$4; free for children 5 and under

The History Museum is housed inside the historic 1910 County Courthouse. Over 50,000 people visit the museum each year, and the number of local residents who hold memberships is growing. The History Museum teaches approximately 14,000 children each year through the on- and off-site programs. The museum houses the research library and archives that currently hold over 100,000 photographs, prints, books and documents collected by the San Mateo County Historical Association.

Ongoing Exhibits

The Great Rotunda. The stained-glass dome of the rotunda, thought to be the largest in a Pacific Coast public building, is the architectural highlight of the museum building.

Courtroom A. The oldest courtroom in San Mateo County has been restored to its appearance in 1910.

Nature's Bounty. This exhibit gallery explores how the earliest people of the Peninsula used the natural resources of the area and how those resources were used to help build San Francisco after the discovery of gold in 1849.

Journey to Work. This exhibit gallery shows how transportation transformed San Mateo County from a frontier to suburbs.

Carriage Display. An exhibit of the museum's 30 horse-drawn vehicles.

Charles Parsons Gallery. An exhibit of the 23 historical model ships created by Charles Parsons of San Carlos.

Politics, Crime and Law Enforcement. The Atkinson Meeting Room includes the Walter Moore Law Enforcement Collection of historic badges.

San Mateo County History Makers: Entrepreneurs Who Changed the World. The exhibit chronicles the entrepreneurs who made San Mateo County internationally known. Visitors are invited to review biographies of such innovators as A.P. Giannini (who created the Bank of America and lived in San Mateo) and other entrepreneurs whose innovations have left a substantial impact.

Land of Opportunity: The Immigrant Experience in San Mateo County.

The exhibit tells the stories of the diverse people who came to the area and explores how different groups faced hardships and discrimination. It highlights the experiences of the early immigrant groups — Chinese, Japanese, Irish, Italians and Portuguese — in the late 1800s.

Living the California Dream. The exhibit depicts the development of the suburban culture of San Mateo County.

The Celtic Tiger: The Irish Economic Miracle. The exhibit explores how the Bay Area has participated in Ireland's current economic boom.

Redwood City Presents Lunchtime on the Square

Bring your lunch or just relax with live music each Monday and Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Courthouse Square. Enjoy wonderful singers, songwriters and musicians of a wide variety of genres and styles.

Upcoming Shows

Monday, July 6: Garrick Davis | Wednesday, July 8: Chi McLean

Monday, July 13: Peter Lamson | Wednesday, July 15: Marty Atkinson

Monday, July 20: Laura Zucker | Wednesday, July 22: Greg Lamboy

Monday, July 27: Megan Slankard | Wednesday, July 29: Amy Meyers

Along with Lunchtime on the Square, other exciting free events include Movies on the Square on Thursdays, Dancing on the Square on Tuesdays, and Jazz on Main Street on Mondays. Other ongoing events in the coming months include special outdoor exhibits featuring Art on the Square, Sunday swing dancing with Lindy on the Square, as well as weekend Shakespeare performances, Sunday Target Family Days and cultural events. Full details at www.redwoodcityevents.com.

REDWOOD CITY ROADWORK ADVISORY

Middlefield Road



During Costco Construction



One lane in each direction of Middlefield Road, between Woodside Rd. and Flynn Ave., **will remain open** during the Costco improvement project. *Expect delays - thank you for your patience!*

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The Yes On E Campaign Committee extends a big *thank you* to the over 200 volunteers who gave over 3,000 hours to support our children and our schools. We also want to thank the PTAs, Parent Clubs, RCEF and many individuals & businesses who supported the campaign with contributions.

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P.S. The People Speak: Letters to the Editor

Saltworks plan delivers what our community wants

Dear Editor,

Now that the Saltworks team has submitted its 50/50 Balanced Plan to Redwood City, some people are trying to stop the city from reviewing it. Why? Because DMB listened and tried to incorporate what the residents asked for instead of listening to just one group.

The community asked for a sports park; it's in the plan.

We asked for trails; there are miles and miles in the plan.

We asked for affordable housing and schools; they are in the plan.

We asked for wetlands; they are in the plan — hundreds of acres of wetlands. And at no cost to taxpayers, which is especially important during these tough economic times.

Now it is time for the city and the community to review the plan and go through the environmental review process. This process works because it involves the whole community; we have seen it over and over during the last few years. It takes time and is thorough. I believe in this process; I believe in the intelligence of our community and our city to make the best decisions. I am relatively new to this country and yet I can be involved in this process. That is what makes this country and this city great.

I urge Redwood City to start reviewing the plan as soon as possible and I look forward to taking part in it.

—Lilia Ledezma, Redwood City

Paving the bay is not 'smart' growth

Dear Editor,

The Cargill and DMB proposal to pave over the Redwood City wetlands to build 12,000 new housing units is anything but the "smart growth" they claim (in the May/June 2009 edition of *The Spectrum*).

How is it "smart" to pave over restorable wetlands necessary to fight global warming? Wetlands reduce the risk of flooding and the size of levees needed to protect us from inevitable sea-level rise. "Smart" cities are restoring the bay wetlands: Novato, Fremont, Mountain View, Hayward, Vallejo and Napa.

How is it "smart" growth to build 12,000 more housing units, when for the past 10 years, Redwood City has exceeded its water allotment? My neighborhood park now has fake grass to reduce water usage, but we're supposed to approve 25,000 more residents?

How is it "smart" growth to promote urban sprawl onto the bay? "Smart" cities, like San Mateo, promote urban infill, building along transit corridors (Caltrain). Redwood City also designated many "infill" places for housing that will be much better for the environment and Highway 101 traffic congestion.

—Nancy Krop, Redwood City

Saltworks plan shows process works and is 'smart' growth

Dear Editor,

For the past three years, Redwood City has been engaged in an open process around the future of the Saltworks site. It's a process that citizens value. The proof came last year when we, an informed community, defeated Measure W because it would have thrown out our careful, established process for making planning and zoning decisions.

Now we're seeing the results of that election pay off.

The owners of the Saltworks are presenting plans to the city for the 50/50 Balanced Plan they promised to build. Half the site is for open space, parks and habitat, the other half for a new mixed-use community. Public amenities, a new school and flood protection, all paid for by revenue from the development, and not by taxpayers.

Most important, the developers and the city are working through the established long process, which is what voters wanted and demanded by their vote last year. The process has checks and balances, plenty of opportunity for public input, and includes a complete environmental review. The community was heard and will be well-served both by this process and by the balanced, smart-growth community that will result.

—Jack Castle, Redwood City

Putting bayfront at risk is 'lunacy'

Dear Editor,

I have read with grave concern a new study by the Pacific Institute, "The Impacts of Sea-Level Rise on the California Coast." It predicts that, driven by global warming, the ocean along California's coastline will rise nearly five feet over the next century. This is an even greater rise than formerly thought, as it takes into account recent changes in glaciers and ice sheets in Antarctica and Greenland.

Protection of existing infrastructure around our bay is a formidable challenge; this includes San Francisco International Airport, Highway 101 and many thousands of dwellings. San Mateo residents should know that we are the state's No. 1 threatened county. Over 100,000 of us are at risk, and fully \$24 billion of the state's \$100 billion at-risk infrastructure lies in the inundation zone. In the face of these dire warnings, will Redwood City approve Cargill's plan to place billions of dollars of new housing infrastructure out on the city's bayfront salt ponds? To do so would be sheer lunacy, a blatant disregard for scientific thought. My fervent wish is that attention to these serious findings will prevail. This ill-conceived project must be summarily struck down.

—Marianna Raymond, Redwood City

Redwood City council hides Cargill issue

Dear Editor,

The Redwood City general planning meeting this week felt more like a trip down the rabbit hole than grownups discussing the future of Redwood City for generations to come.

The big, fat elephant in the room, the Cargill property, was promptly removed from the general discussion. Apparently, the Planning Commission has been told by the City Council not to discuss Cargill at the general plan meetings. That's like planning a road trip and not discussing gas prices!

As we began discussions on public safety and natural resources — things like: is there enough water for Redwood City's future, sea-level rise and toxic materials in our soil (of which the Cargill site is replete) — the announcement was made that Cargill has been removed from discussions of the general plan. There was no explanation.

Excuse me? Has the deal already been struck to pave over paradise?

—Charlene Carpentier, Redwood City

General plan process makes me feel 'left out'

Dear Editor,

Vigilance truly is the price of freedom! In this case, I refer to the Redwood City general plan update. Earlier this year, the City Council removed the 1,433-acre Cargill salt ponds from the general plan update process, allowing no changes to the existing 1990 general plan regarding the Cargill properties — all of which are designated "open space" in the 1990 plan.

The city just released the draft 2009 natural resources element of the general plan update for review by the Planning Commission. And what does the map of the Cargill site show? The city staff has changed part of the Cargill site, removing it from open space! What part of "no changes to the 1990 general plan" doesn't the staff understand?

This general plan change to their salt pond site is exactly what Cargill wants — it paves the way for letting Cargill pave the bay. Without citizens carefully reviewing the 1990 general plan and comparing it to the new draft map, this unauthorized change in open space would not have come to light. Public vigilance is essential, especially with mega-money interests like Cargill and DMB hounding the city.

The city can't have it both ways. If they want changes to the Cargill property, then the site must be part of the general plan update with the rest of the city. Because the council ordered the site left out of the process, then no changes to the Cargill site from the existing 1990 plan are allowed.

—Lynne Trulio, Redwood City

Interested in voicing your opinion? If you want to comment on anything in our community, send your correspondence to The Spectrum Magazine, Letter to the Editor, P.O. Box 862, Redwood City, CA 94064, or e-mail writers@spectrummagazine.net.

Community Interests

Family Connections Graduates 15 Children



Family Connections, a free, parent-participation preschool serving low-income families, is helping a record number of children and parents become lifelong learners by teaching more than 100 families and sending 15 kids to local kindergartens.

Family Connections celebrated the graduation of its oldest pupils to kindergarten with a moving celebration on Saturday, June 6, at Belle Haven School.

With the opening of its new location this year in Redwood City, Family Connections now serves more than 100 families at its three classrooms. Family Connections has held classes in East Palo Alto for 16 years and in Menlo Park for 13 years.

Family Connections creates new success stories each year, and this year is no different. Take Jose. His mother, Paola, said he was not having a good time at preschool: Other kids teased him, he got angry, and he got into fights. He eventually got kicked out of his preschool program. After he was diagnosed and treated for ADHD, his mother found out about Family Connections. Now, his mom says, Jose loves going to preschool with her, and she gets to witness the results firsthand in the classroom, as well as at home.

"As soon as I say it's time to go, he gets dressed so fast, brushes his teeth," she says. She's not sure yet which Redwood City School District school he'll be going to, but she is confident that the skills and love of school he developed in the Family Connections classroom will serve him well.

Other Family Connections graduates will attend school in Palo Alto (Escondido, El Carmelo and Adison), Menlo Park (Beechwood and Belle Haven) and Redwood City (Hawes, Orion, Roosevelt and Adelante).

Family Connections, founded in 1993, is a free, parent-participation preschool and parent-education program aimed at improving school readiness and strengthening parenting skills among low-income families in San Mateo County. For more information, visit www.familyconnections.org.

Mayor Foust Launches Climate-Change Programs

With the support of Mayor Rosanne Foust, Redwood City will launch the award-winning Cool the Earth climate-change program into three Redwood City schools this fall — Sandpiper, Newcomer Academy and Orion Elementary — as well as eight after-school programs.

What can kids do to fight global warming? They can influence their parents, as shown by the program.

The Cool the Earth program uses a child-driven model to inspire families to conserve. It is a parent/volunteer-run program operating during lunch and

recess time. Geared toward children in kindergarten through eighth-grade, the program is launched with a lively performance starring the school's teachers in the roles of "Mr. Carbon" and "Koda" the polar bear.

Students are then given action coupon books outlining 20 no- or low-cost ways their families can reduce their carbon emissions. The total actions families take at home are displayed on a school banner, providing tangible and inspiring results and showing the collective impact of the school.

LaBerge/Dale Grants Awarded for Redwood City Child Care

Thirteen child care programs received grants from the LaBerge/Dale Child Care Fund for 2009. The purpose of the grants is to enhance and broaden child care services in Redwood City. The awards this year focused on activities that foster active play and discoveries in nature.

Since 1993 the grants have been awarded annually by husband and wife Georgi LaBerge and Warren Dale with financial support from family and friends.

"Recently we've become concerned about preschoolers who are overweight and the impact that has on their health, energy and ability to learn," said Dale, "We agree with child care experts who say that lack of active play and connection to the natural world are partly the cause. Thus, our grants support providers who encourage outdoor learning opportunities."

Child care center grant recipients are Kiddie Garden Preschool, Family Service Agency Childcare Center, Noah's Ark Preschool, Open Gate Nursery School, Peninsula Covenant School and St. Matthias Preschool. Seven family child care providers received grants. They are Bonnie Maffei, Diane Sands, Gloria Avila, Judy Davenport, Marina Barajas, Michelle Ortiz and Pam Guardado. The awards range from \$200 to \$400.

A number of the grants provided the supplies and tools needed for children to plant and care for gardens on the grounds of their facilities. Other child care providers received funds for active play equipment such as wagons, sand and water tables, balancing and jumping equipment, and playground balls.

LaBerge and Dale established the fund when they married in 1992. The couple requested that guests donate to the fund in lieu of wedding gifts. Since that time, they have raised funds through personal donations and contributions from friends and family. Since the fund's inception, nearly \$29,000 has been awarded to 79 child care facilities in Redwood City.

Cargill Donates to New Salvation Army Kitchen



Cargill Salt has pledged \$50,000 to help build the new Salvation Army community center on Veteran's Boulevard.

As a large agricultural company, one of Cargill's slogans is "Nourishing people, nourishing possibilities." Jill Singleton of Cargill presented two checks totaling \$35,000 to members of the Salvation Army board of directors. The remaining \$15,000 will be paid within two years. Half of the \$25,000 came from Cargill's corporate office to match their local office's pledge.

Cargill agreed to help fund this project as part of its goal to alleviate hunger.

News Briefs

'Gilligan Robber' Who Killed Wife Sentenced to 12 Years Prison

The North Fair Oaks man whose string of Peninsula bank robberies in a floppy fisherman's cap earned him the nickname "Gilligan" was sentenced to 12 years in prison for those crimes and the 2007 brutal stabbing of his unfaithful wife for whom he stole the money.

Robert Lomas, 53, sat quietly during the sentencing hearing in which his attorney argued the victim, Linda Jackson Lomas, 50, provoked the attack with a string of lovers leading up to May 21, 2007. On that morning, the defense said, uncontrolled rage was unleashed in a series of 12 stab wounds that left her dead in their home while he headed to a train station to contemplate suicide. The prosecution countered Robert Lomas knew of his wife's infidelity for approximately six years and was not unexpectedly pushed to homicide in a fit of anger.

Defense attorney Richard Keyes pointed out Lomas' clean jail record the past two years and completion of an anger management course. Prosecutor Ivan Nightengale told the court Lomas' ongoing temper is what brought him to this point.

Judge Cliff Cretan considered the mitigating and aggravated factors a wash, sentencing Lomas to the middle term of six years for voluntary manslaughter with another year for using a knife. Lomas also received five more years for a series of bank robberies. He receives credit for 862 days against the term and was also ordered to pay standard fees and fines and submit to genetic marker testing.

Jurors deliberated a little less than week in April before dismissing the prosecution's push for second-degree murder and convicting Lomas of the lesser charge. Unlike murder, voluntary manslaughter implies the jury believed the killing was committed without malice and possibly in the heat of passion.

Lomas was nicknamed "Gilligan" by police investigating a string of Peninsula bank robberies that went unsolved until he was arrested for killing his wife with a nine-inch kitchen knife. His arrest unraveled a series of crimes, including violence against his wife before her death.

On March 31, 2007, Lomas was arrested for domestic violence against his wife and ultimately sentenced to 15 days in jail and court-ordered anger management classes. Lomas lost his job at Auto Zone in East Palo Alto because of the arrest and Keyes told jurors his wife gave most of the money he stole from banks to the other men. On May 21, 2007, Lomas was unable to enroll in the anger management class because he couldn't pay the \$75 fee. Instead, he went home to 2830 B Huntington Ave. and, believing his wife was on the phone with one of those men, brutally beat and stabbed her several times.

"He made her suffer, your honor," Nightengale said.

After brutally beating and stabbing Jackson Lomas, Nightengale said, Lomas called 911 and told dispatchers to send the coroner rather than medical attention.

Lomas cleaned up the scene, locked the door and walked to a store to buy cigarettes before

calling his sister to say, "I killed Linda." Lomas was arrested later that night near train tracks. Nearby, authorities found Lomas' wallet with the couple's name carved into the leather.

In teary interviews with detectives played by the defense, Lomas detailed doing everything for his wife while knowing she was calling other men and referred to her as "his star" and "his life."

Keyes said the attack came after months of Lomas, wracked by worries of his wife's flagrant adultery, not sleeping and desperately giving her the stolen money only to see her pass it along to other men.

Lomas "lost it," Keyes said.

Lomas, Cretan said during sentencing, has "a somewhat delusional view of what this relationship was like." Even after killing her, he testified in court and to the pre-sentencing probation officer about "what a wonderful time they used to have," Cretan said.

Lomas' misguided mindset also extended to the bank robberies that he committed to keep his wife happy financially.

"Clearly, a totally inappropriate way to handle a marital situation," Cretan said.

July Trial for Dad Accused of Leaving Son to Drink

The 22-year-old father who prosecutors say left his children alone to go drinking for several hours will stand trial next month on charges of felony child endangerment.

Abidan Eliel Garcia Vasquez pleaded not guilty to three counts of child endangerment and returns to court June 29 for a pretrial conference followed by a July 13 trial. Vasquez, who has no prior convictions in San Mateo County, faces approximately eight and a half years in prison if convicted of all charges.

Sheriff's deputies arrested Vasquez, of unincorporated Redwood City, March 28 after responding to a call of a 3-year-old boy wandering alone, shivering and wearing only shorts and a T-shirt. The child was tracked back to a nearby residence occupied by two families, including Vasquez, two other adults and three children besides his own. The deputies reported the house being filled with cockroaches, rotting food, an open beer bottle on the floor and other debris.

A 1-year-old girl was also discovered at the house with severe rashes and abscesses, according to the district attorney's office. Vasquez allegedly had left the children unsupervised at 9 p.m. after they went to bed but did not ask anyone to keep an eye on them. The location of the children's mother remains unknown.

He remains in custody in lieu of \$125,000 bail.

Six Arrested for Carjacking, Robbery

Six people were arrested in Redwood City after they allegedly robbed and beat a man, stole his car and led officers on a chase.

The victim told police he parked his car in the 200 block of McEvoy Street. He exited the car to

go to Fleishman Park and was approached by a group of people who demanded money.

Three of the suspects took the victim's money, cell phone and other personal items, and then began beating him while three others watched, police said.

The six suspects then drove off in two cars, one of which was the victim's, police said. The victim called police from a nearby home.

An officer in San Carlos spotted the stolen vehicle on Holly Street and followed it onto northbound Highway 101. Officers from Belmont, San Mateo, Hillsborough, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office and the California Highway Patrol responded to assist in the pursuit.

Officers attempted to pull the car over on Highway 101, and the suspects exited the highway at Kehoe Avenue and stopped on Norton Street, police said.

The driver was immediately taken into custody, police said. Two men attempting to flee on foot were also apprehended.

The three other suspects, who were in a separate vehicle, apparently followed the stolen car to the same intersection and were also taken into custody. The six were arrested on suspicion of carjacking, robbery and battery causing serious bodily injury. They are Redwood City residents Joseph Bass, 20, Michael Bass, 23, John Webster, 20, and Kamari Fort, 23; Oakland resident Sean Ward, 20; and San Carlos resident Sarah DiLorenzo, 23.

Teen Murder Trial Delayed Sixth Time

The murder trial of a teenage defendant who escaped juvenile hall last year was postponed a sixth time after his defense attorney asked for more time to investigate a witness' inconsistent statements about the gun.

Josue Raul Orozco, 18, was scheduled for jury trial June 29, but attorney Ray Buenaventura said he needed to examine what the witness now said about the weapon. Prosecutor Josh Stauffer opposed the request, arguing the 2005 case is growing old, but Judge James Ellis "reluctantly" granted the latest delay, according to court records. Buenaventura could not be reached for comment.

Orozco was to return to court June 23 to set a new trial date.

The latest continuance mimicked the last in February, when Buenaventura argued the need for more time to test the evidence.

The fourth postponement was quickly followed by Orozco's escape from the Youth Services Center. At each juncture, a judge has declared that particular delay to be the last.

When Orozco finally faces jurors, he will be out of his teenage years instead of the 14-year-old boy he was when arrested for the July 12, 2005, shooting of Francisco Rodriguez. His age earned him the dubious distinction of being the youngest person ever charged as an adult with murder in San Mateo County.

As I Was Saying...Continued from p6

The city council's decision to rescind the downtown plan and correct its flaws to comply with the judge's ruling will also cost taxpayers. The hiring of a team of consultants to redo parts of the plan is expected to cost roughly \$250,000. That is *not* counting city planners who will also work on the project.

I think the thing that frustrates taxpayers when something like this happens is that very seldom is anyone held responsible for causing or contributing to such incompetency on behalf of us, the taxpayers. Why? Someone was responsible for the situation; it did not just present itself. City Attorney **Stan Yamamoto** has got to be questioning the decision that let the lawsuit move forward in the first place. But then, it doesn't affect the \$232,418 salary he made last year one cent, so I am sure he is not losing any sleep over it at all.

Since we are in a difficult budget crisis, one has to question all the casualness on the city's side in conceding this judgment and holding no one responsible. That is the major difference between private and public service — accountability. What say you?

• • • •

I had the opportunity to attend a dinner at the Hilton Hotel in San Francisco honoring our Mayor **Rosanne Foust** for being named one of the Most Influential Businesswomen in the Bay Area. The annual event, hosted by the San Francisco Business Times, attracts an impressive lineup of women who are accomplishing incredible things in our communities that can only be called remarkable.

Foust was acknowledged for her work as the vice president of the San Mateo County Economic Development Association (SAMCEDA). SAMCEDA, which was started in 1953, is a business-issue lobby group for the San Francisco Peninsula. When asked what makes her influential, Foust responded: respect of my peers; responsiveness to the needs of my employer and the residents in my community; the commitment and willingness to work hard to get the job done. She gave her strategy for success in a tough economy as being focused and having discipline, a sense of humor, patience and a positive attitude.

Attending the event to support Foust were Councilmembers **Jim Hartnett** and **Alicia Aguirre**, City Manager **Peter Ingram**, City Clerk **Silvia Vonderlinden**, HR Director and Assistant City Manager **Bob Bell**, **Nori Jabba**, **John Bruno** and **Paula Uccelli**. Also being honored at the event was Sequoia Hospital's **Glenna Vaskelis**.

The invitation for the event informed all of us that we were going to be in the company of the most dynamic, fascinating and inspired women in our region. They were not exaggerating in the least. I felt both honored and privileged to be there sharing and celebrating the respect and acknowledgment that Foust brings to our community. We should all be proud of her! Congratulations to both of our fascinating women!

• • • •

The summer has begun. Let's have some fun...

As I was saying...



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001952

Dean Johnson: A Dichotomy in Life and Law

By Valerie Harris, Special to the Spectrum

On one hand, you have Redwood City, at an elevation of 20 feet above sea level, and on the other you have Mount Everest, part of the Himalaya range on the border between Nepal and Tibet, at 29,029 feet above sea level. So what do these two locations have in common? The answer is Redwood City resident and practicing criminal defense attorney Dean Johnson. Only 1,400 people have ever made it to the top of Mount Everest, and Dean Johnson is one of them.

As spectacular as that feat is for any human living on earth, Johnson never considered it one of his biggest climbing feats. He considers it secondary to climbing in Bolivia. While climbing a vertical face of Illampú, Johnson wondered where all the other mountaineers were, only to find that he was on the face of the mountain that no one had climbed. Johnson is fearless.

Mountaineering aside, Johnson has always been a free thinker. His father, Andrew, worked in construction in the Deep South. His mother, Mary, was a housewife. There was also his sister, Jan. Because of the nature of the construction business, the family moved a lot to follow the job market. As a result, there was never a sense of permanence, and Johnson had to adapt quickly and frequently to new surroundings. His formative years also came at the time of the Civil Rights movement in the South.

When Johnson finished high school, he applied to Yale University and was accepted for a dual major in mathematics and philosophy. After graduation, he attended Columbia University for two master's degrees, in political science and philosophy. While working toward his doctorate in political science, he also wrote policy and speeches. Most of this work entailed interfacing with the law. One day he thought, "All the people with PhDs are driving cabs!" Johnson remarked, "I decided to go to law school. It was for economic selfishness."

Johnson was accepted to New York University and was granted a Root-Tilden Fellowship. According to law.com, the Root-Tilden program was established in 1951 and "the beneficiaries were to be, by policy, unmarried males." Root-Tilden scholars are expected to dedicate at least 10 years to public service law. No recipient has failed to meet that commitment, and most remain in the nonprofit legal sector.

The influence of witnessing the Civil Rights movement in the South, combined with his experience speechwriting and policy writing at Columbia, made Johnson a perfect match for





Currently, Johnson keeps very busy with his law practice and his TV journalism (he is under an exclusive contract with ABC), and he also teaches game theory at Notre Dame de Namur University. He has attended San Francisco Comedy College and has performed as a stand-up comedian.

to trial and won it. To him, this case really stood out because the defense attorney was so confused by the evidence and never thought he could get it admitted. Johnson tapped into his years of trial advocacy and offered to help the defense attorney. Johnson argued for the admissibility of the evidence, and the judge still denied it. The defense attorney turned to Johnson and said, “But I thought you said you could get it in!” Johnson won the case.

Another interesting case was the prosecution of a defendant accused of committing arson for insurance money. The first trial was declared a mistrial due to a jury deadlock. Johnson not only took it to trial again, but also stood up against famous defense attorney Hugh Levine and won.

Johnson’s third most memorable case was a murder with special circumstances, in which the defendant was accused of robbing and murdering a woman in Daly City. Johnson said it was a great case for him because during his closing arguments, nine of the 12 jurors were weeping. The defendant was convicted and went to prison for life.

In 1998, Johnson left the district attorney’s office and started his practice as a defense attorney. He said, “I liked my job, but it was more of a case of been there, done that.” Johnson has been a criminal defense attorney ever since.

When asked to describe a recent case, Johnson pointed to one in which a young man was charged with child pornography. If convicted, the young man would go to prison and have to register as a sex offender for life. The DA’s office brought in a computer expert to analyze the data on the young man’s computer. Johnson was able to cross-examine the expert in front of the judge and brought up the point that some of these images could have been mistakenly stored on the computer’s hard drive simply through opening an e-mail with the embedded images. The judge turned to the prosecuting attorney and asked, “Is that all you’ve got?” When the assistant DA said, “Yes,” the judge dismissed the case even before the jury was picked.

It was during the Scott Peterson murder trial in Redwood City in 2004 that Johnson found one of

(continues on next page)

this fellowship. He was already well-versed in working for the public interest, but this time it would be with a law degree.

After graduating from NYU, Johnson married his first wife, Susan, a teacher. He then joined the field of trial advocacy. Johnson said, “I loved it. I went in that direction.” Trial advocacy is teaching lawyers to enhance their legal skills through a learning-by-doing methodology. Usually the training is performed by an all-volunteer faculty drawn from a cadre of judges, law professors and practicing attorneys. These teams present multiday “boot camp” seminars to improve the professional development of nearly 6,000 attorneys each year. In short, lawyers are taught to be much better trial lawyers.

Johnson began his trial advocacy when he joined Arnold and Porter, a huge nationwide and international law firm. Johnson’s base was in Washington, D.C., until he transferred to Seattle. But he felt confined working for such a big business establishment.

Johnson’s next step was to apply to the Office of the District Attorney of San Mateo County. His application was accepted, and he and Susan moved to the San Francisco Bay Area. In 1994, they separated and divorced. His current wife, Linda, was a defense attorney in the San Mateo County court system. Johnson knew her through their work. They were friends, and that friendship grew. In 1995, he and Linda wed and moved to Redwood City.

When asked which three cases in his DA career really stood out, Johnson quickly replied, “My favorite was a case of embezzlement from an oil company. It was like a Ponzi scheme with receipts.” Johnson’s boss brought it to him with the caveat that it couldn’t be filed. Johnson took it



Clifford Students Achieving Green Dreams

Attention Clifford students: Reusable lunch bags are cool.

Throwing away paper bags every day and making fun of other kids who care about the planet is definitely not cool.

At least that's the message incoming eighth graders Rachel Hoke and Kristina Perrone are trying to spread. The dynamic duo at Redwood City's Clifford Elementary School care about the planet and want to cut down on the school's waste by providing reusable lunch boxes, bags and containers to other students so the trash containers won't fill up every day after lunch during the school year.

It might seem like a no-brainer but is proving to be anything but.

"A lot of kids think having a lunch box is dorky," said Hoke, 12.

As part of their quest to get students at their school to reuse containers or at least recycle, Hoke and Perrone have tried organizing spirit days with contests centered around recycling and recently entered the Daily Journal/San Mateo County RecycleWorks "Granting Green Wishes" contest to pay for the reusable lunch containers. Although the competition was fierce, the two won a \$500 grant to make their wish a reality.

"Our school has so much trash, the trash bins are overflowing. ... We wanted to change that," Hoke said.

Now comes the hard part. The two will use the money to buy reusable containers and are

planning a school assembly to tout the benefits. They are aiming for the younger grades — second through fifth — because that age seems to have less cares when it comes to being cool and might be more amenable to getting into the habit of reusing containers.

"In middle school, it's not cool anymore," Hoke said, explaining that she sometimes has to hide her black, nondescript, reusable lunch bag because others will throw it in the bushes.

Hoke and Perrone, 13, hooked up in student government, where Hoke serves as ecology commissioner and Perrone serves as spirit commissioner. They have encouraged an expanded recycling program at the school and an Earth Day event in which students received prizes for recycling. They also took part in a lapathon and a carnival that raised money for recycling.

"We try to do as much as we can," Hoke said. And the results were apparent.

"We didn't realize how many bottles we use until we started recycling," Perrone said.

They are also working with the administration to further promote their "green" ideas, and mom Karyl Hoke is helping the parents club to collect recycling at the school as a fundraiser. But more can always be done. So the two will try their best to get other students to catch on to the idea and hope their simple message of helping save the planet catches on — one bag at a time.

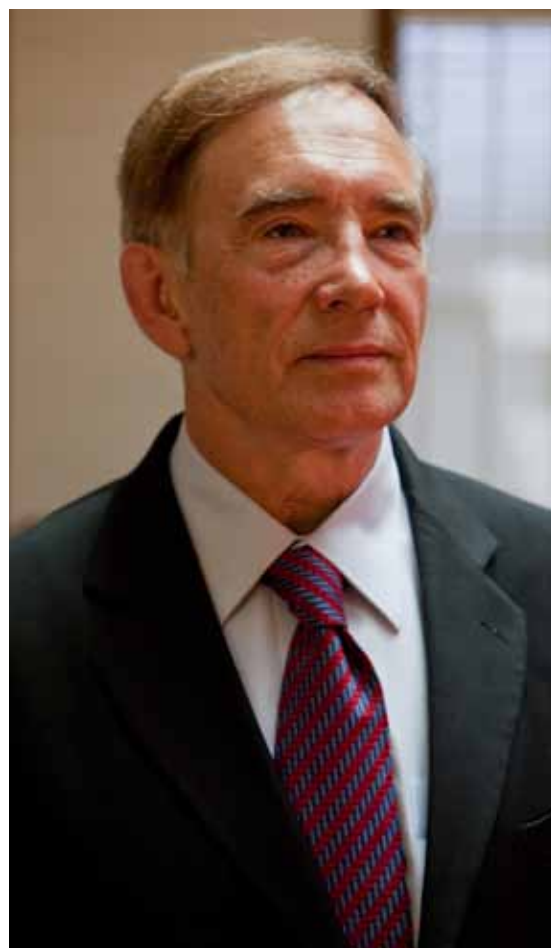
"You feel so much better about yourself in a clean environment," Hoke said.



Rachel Hoke and Kristina Perrone provide reusable lunch boxes to students at Clifford Elementary School in Redwood City.

Editor's note: This article first appeared in the Daily Journal newspaper.

Dean Johnson: A Dichotomy in Life and Law (Continued from previous page)



his best jobs: that of legal commentator. Early on, Johnson predicted that the entire case was merely a battle of the jury consultants. The Stanislaus County District Attorney brought in Howard Varinsky, and Mark Geragos, Scott Peterson's defense attorney, brought in Jo-Ellan Dimitrius. Johnson predicted the prosecution would win

the Dubai ports, the Michael Jackson trial, the Duke lacrosse case and, most recently, the Melissa Huckaby case (Huckaby is accused of murdering 8-year-old Sandra Cantu in Tracy). Johnson has studied criminal profiling and finds the upcoming Huckaby case fascinating because she doesn't fit the profile of a murderer.

One day he thought, "All the people with PhDs are driving cabs! ... I decided to go to law school. It was for economic selfishness."

the case, because Varinsky selected jurors who were rule-followers by trade: firemen, a banker, a coach. After the jury was seated, Johnson told the media that a conviction was imminent. Peterson was convicted and given the death penalty.

Johnson knew John Goold, the chief investigator for Stanislaus County in the Peterson case. The case was getting a lot of media attention, and Goold sent inquiries for legal commentary to Johnson. Johnson decided to accept the media's invitation "because a large percentage of the commentary on TV was wrong," he said. With wife Linda's urging to call CNN, MSNBC and the networks, Johnson became a regular contributor of legal commentary on TV. He has commented on the NSA wiretaps,

Currently, Johnson keeps very busy with his law practice and his TV journalism (he is under an exclusive contract with ABC), and he also teaches game theory at Notre Dame de Namur University. He has attended San Francisco Comedy College and has performed as a stand-up comedian.

But of all his many hats, Johnson loves his job as a legal commentator and TV journalist the best. He quipped, "I've learned how to do my own make-up, and I usually get free lipstick in department stores."

Clearly, Johnson has done it all.

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Nonprofits in Action

The Nonprofits in Action section will now be printed every other month in The Spectrum Magazine. However, the section will continue to appear each month online at www.spectrummagazine.net.

Advocates for Children

Advocates for Children, CASA of San Mateo County, is actively seeking caring and consistent adults to mentor and speak up for the best interests of these children. Over 130 children are waiting for someone who cares. If you would like to become a volunteer advocate or just want to learn more, visit www.AdvocatesFC.org or call 650-212-4423 for more information.

City Talk Toastmasters

Join the City Talk Toastmasters to develop communication and leadership skills. The club meets Wednesdays 12:30–1:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1017 Middlefield Road. Call Manny Rosas at 650-780-7468 if you would like to check out a meeting, or just stop in. Visit www.toastmasters.org for more information about the Toastmasters public speaking program.

CityTrees

CityTrees is a nonprofit working with the Public Works Department to enhance and care for Redwood City's urban forest. They usually plant or prune on the third Saturday of each month. Check www.citytrees.org for a listing of events, dates and how to join.

Family Connections

This parent-participation preschool focuses on low-income families. Family Connections parents stay involved in their children's education and, as a result, their children are more prepared for kindergarten and beyond. They are always looking for volunteers to play with the children while moms and dads attend parent-ed classes, organizers to help coordinate fundraisers, and people from the business world to initiate new corporate partnerships. Check www.familyconnections.org for more information.

Family Service Agency of San Mateo County

Family Service Agency of San Mateo County provides employers with mature, ready-to-work, experienced workers who are 55 and older. Employers contact the service because they appreciate the superior work ethic and the commitment to quality that mature workers possess. Contact Barbara Clipper at 650-403-4300, ext. 4368, to place your job order. For those who are at least 55 and looking for work, Family Service Agency provides a range of services for qualified participants. Contact Connie Tilles at 650-403-4300, ext. 4371, if you are looking for work.

Friends for Youth

Do you like to play video games, shoot hoops, watch baseball games or just have fun? Then you have what it takes to be a mentor! As a mentor, you can hang out with a young person

like Reggie. He's a 12-year-old who loves pizza, baseball and cars. He lives with his grandmother and three sisters and would love to hang out with a guy and have fun. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, you are invited to attend a one-hour information session in Redwood City. For upcoming sessions, call 650-482-2871 or e-mail mentor@friendsforyouth.org.

Funders Bookstore

If you haven't wandered into the Funders Bookstore, you have missed one of Redwood City's hidden treasures. This volunteer effort supports the San Mateo County History Museum and provides a community bookstore for everyone's pleasure. The collection includes hardback first editions, trade paperbacks, children's books, cookbooks and an entire room of \$1 paperbacks. Open Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the lower level of the San Mateo County History Museum at 2200 Broadway, with the entrance facing Hamilton Street.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity International seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat for Humanity Greater San Francisco partners with working families and the community to build affordable ownership homes in Redwood City. Contact Jennifer Doettling, communications director, at 650-568-7335 or jdoettling@habitatgsf.org. Visit them at www.habitatgsf.org.

Hearing Loss Association of the Peninsula

This organization of hard-of-hearing people and their relatives and friends is devoted to the welfare and interests of those who cannot hear well but are committed to participating in the hearing world. A day meeting is held on the first Monday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Senior Center, 1455 Madison Ave. A demonstration of assistive devices is held on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. at the Redwood City Public Library, 1044 Middlefield Road. Call Marj at 650-593-6760 with any questions.

Nursing Mothers Counsel

Nursing Mothers Counsel provides free breastfeeding education and assistance by highly trained counselors (moms who breastfed for at least six months). To speak with a counselor (no fee), call 650-327-MILK (327-6455). NMC also has breast pumps and breastfeeding supplies available for purchase and rent. Call 650-364-9579. If you'd like to become a trained counselor, call 650-365-2713. Visit them at www.nursingmothers.org.

Optimist Club of Redwood City

Optimist International's mission has been "bringing out the best in kids" for over 80 years. The Optimist Club of Redwood City meets every Tuesday at 12 p.m. at Alana's Cafe, 1020 Main

St. For information, visit www.optimist.org or call President Ed Rosen at 650-366-7589 or Membership Chair John Butterfield at 650-366-8803. Or just come join them for lunch to learn more about how you can make a difference to the youth in our community.

Peninsula Hills Women's Club

Founded in 1960, Peninsula Hills Women's Club, a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the California Federation of Women's Clubs, is a philanthropic organization serving the community through charitable, educational and service programs. Meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. For additional information, contact PHWC, P.O. Box 1394, Redwood City, CA 94064.

Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA

In addition to sheltering and finding new homes for stray and unwanted animals, PHS/SPCA has vital programs for people. The shelter's mobile spay/neuter clinic offers owners free "fixes" for their pets. PHS/SPCA also provides a free animal behavior help line in English and Spanish. Call 650-340-7022, ext. 783 or 786. And domestic abuse victims who wish to leave their abusive situation but are fearful of doing so because they have pets can receive temporary sheltering for their pets through PHS/SPCA. Call 650-340-7022, ext. 330.

Peninsula Sunrise Rotary Club

The Peninsula Sunrise Rotary Club meets weekly at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and to hear a speaker at the Waterfront Restaurant at Pete's Harbor in Redwood City. The club, with 22 members, has frequently been honored as an outstanding small club by Rotary District 5150, which includes San Mateo, San Francisco and part of Marin counties. For more information or to join, call Brandy Navarro at 650-367-9394.

Rebuilding Together Peninsula

RTP provides free home repair and renovations for low-income families, seniors and people with disabilities. RTP's mission is to promote independent living in safety and warmth through volunteer partnerships with individuals and groups in the community. RTP is currently seeking skilled volunteers and construction captains for its annual National Rebuilding Day. If you are interested in volunteering, call 650-366-6597. For more information, visit rebuildingtogetherpeninsula.org.

Redwood City Art Center

The Redwood City Art Center promotes creativity and community by providing art education, exhibitions, studio space for artists and outreach to the local community and schools. For scheduling or donation, contact artreach@redwoodcityartcenter.org. For more general information, visit www.redwoodcityartcenter.org or call 650-369-1823. Or visit in person at 2625 Broadway, Redwood City.

(continues on page 27)

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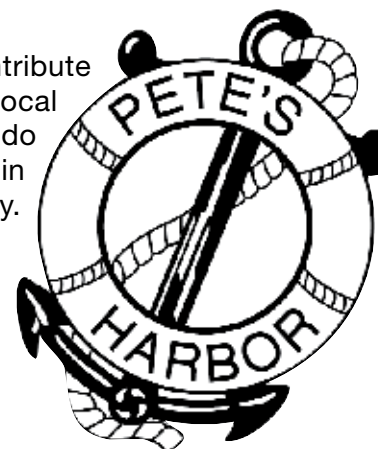
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Redwood General Tire – 1630 Broadway – Redwood General Tire was founded on the principles of good customer service and quality products at fair prices. Whether you are looking for a new set of tires or need repair work on your vehicle, this Redwood City institution has been providing quality vehicle services since 1957. They even have free Wi-Fi Internet hookups so you can work while you wait for your vehicle to be serviced.

Eating and Catering:

Angelica's Bistro – 863 Main St. – Sit in a cozy alcove and listen to romantic live music as you enjoy your meal. Lean at the counter and order a microbrew beer. Or sit in the garden among fountains and sculptures for afternoon tea. Visit www.angelicasbistro.com for menu and live entertainment offerings.

Canyon Inn – 587 Canyon Road – “The Canyon Inn is famous for their hamburgers, and they also serve pizza, sandwiches, pastas and South-of-the-Border dishes. There's a Sunday breakfast buffet from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reserve their closed patio for your next party — they have heaters, fans and a big-screen TV, for no additional charge. They do catering too!”

Deseo Tequila Lounge and Restaurant – 851 Main St. – “We went there and it was fabulous! My friends were very impressed by their food menu, and I have to say the burger I had was tasty. They also have 21 big-screen televisions to view sporting events and more. This place has it all! I am so happy that Redwood City finally has such an upscale place for watching your favorite sports team, having a drink with friends or dancing the night away. Let's all get out and support them!”

Little India – 917 Main St. – “There are good restaurants. There are bad restaurants. There are okay restaurants. Then there are those places, the magic ones. You come back again and again because the food doesn't just taste good and satisfy hunger, but helps heal the heart and soul.” Senior citizens receive \$1 off and children under 12 dine at half price. www.littleindiacuisine.com.

Legal Services:

Hannig Law Firm – 2991 El Camino Real – Hannig Law Firm LLP provides transactional and litigation expertise in a variety of areas. The professionals at HLF are also committed to supporting and participating in the communities where they live and work.

Personal Improvement:

Every Woman Health Club – 611 Jefferson Ave. – A women-only, body-positive fitness center in downtown Redwood City. Services include classes, weight and cardio equipment, personal training, therapeutic massage and skin care. Flexible pricing, with several options available for members and nonmembers. Visit www.everywomanhealthclub.com or call 650-364-9194.

Re:Juvenate Skin Care – 1100 Laurel St., Suite F, San Carlos – Whether you are seeing a Re:Juvenate clinician for acne, sun damage, skin tightening, wrinkle reduction or laser hair removal, the process starts with a complimentary consultation with a member of the aesthetic staff. Call 650-631-5700 and mention The Spectrum Magazine.

Specialty Businesses:

Bizzarro's Auto Auction – 2581 Spring St. – Services include auto auctions, consignment vehicle sales, appraisal services and even ways to donate your vehicle to charities. Increase your fundraising efforts with a live auction — Bizzarro's is your one-stop auction team with spotters, clerks, sample catalogs, bid numbers, etc. Call 650-363-8055 for details on all of their services.

Castle Insurance – 643 Bair Island Road, #104 – Castle Insurance is an independent insurance agency representing a carefully selected group of financially sound, reputable insurance companies. Visit www.insurancebycastle.com or call 650-364-3664 for a free quote.

Saf Keep Storage – 2480 Middlefield Road – At Saf Keep, you and your belongings are safe and secure. A friendly and reliable team is ready to assist you with a variety of storage products and services to suit all your storage needs. Visit www.safkeepstorage.com to see exactly what products and services are available.

Michele Glaubert, Realtor at Coldwell Banker – 650-722-1193 – Michelle doesn't want to be one of the real estate agents that pass through your life; she wants to be the only Realtor in your life! “People like my honesty and my follow-through,” says Michelle. “They know they can count on me and I absolutely refuse to let them down.” Visit her online at www.glaubert.com.

Schoenstein Physical Therapy – 363A Main St., 650-599-9482 – The clinical approach of this independent, community-based practice focuses on thorough physical therapy assessment, specific treatment strategies and patient education. Individualized treatment programs are designed to help meet patient goals of restoring function, returning to sport or occupation and maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

Business Profile of the Month

San Mateo Credit Union Celebrates 3 Years on Broadway

The longest-running San Mateo Credit Union branch on Broadway is turning three, and SMCU wants everyone to celebrate. For two weeks from June 22 through July 3, the branch is throwing a birthday party complete with great product offers, daily gift-certificate drawings for branch visitors, and a splash of excitement with decorations, candy and other treats. According to President and CEO Barry Jolette, the financial turbulence of the past two years has made credit union staff especially proud of SMCU's longevity and grateful to members for their loyalty and support. “We owe our financial health to the active participation of our member-owners,” said Jolette, “and that seems like a great reason to throw an appreciation party.” Employees are gearing up for the celebration to build excitement around some great offers on discounted car loans and bonus points for opening a new credit card account. Members who want to take advantage of the current drop in home prices should make a point of stopping in to apply for a first mortgage with a low \$500 rate on lender fees. New members who sign up during the event and new and existing members who apply for a loan will also be entered into a daily giveaway drawing for a \$50 gift certificate they can spend at local stores, theaters or restaurants. “Member or not, we'd love everyone in the community to stop in and enjoy the party,” said Jolette.

The party is going on from June 22 through July 3 at the On Broadway branch at 830 Jefferson Ave., at the corner of Jefferson and Broadway Street in Redwood City. For more information and directions, visit www.smcu.org or call 650-363-1725.

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Redwood High's Cardenas Turns It Around



"Angel became extremely focused and diligent after he decided to reject negative influences in his life ..."

**Redwood High
Angel Cardenas**

School didn't start as a priority for 17-year-old Angel Cardenas.

The teen from Redwood City admits to earning nearly straight Fs for many years. This trend changed while talking with Redwood High School teachers on the way home from a field trip. Cardenas realized he needed to do well in school if he wanted to do something with his life. This year, he graduated early from Redwood High School.

"Angel made the most astounding turnaround I have seen in years," wrote his English teacher, Carlo McCoy. Cardenas' own summary of his turnaround was published in the school newsletter recently and referred to his early drug use and lack of interest in school. He wrote that after going to several schools, he was sentenced to 60 days of therapeutic detention in juvenile hall for possession and use of marijuana. He attributed his epiphany to his relationship with two teachers at Redwood, Mr. Williams and Ms. Gibbs, and, later, his participation in the Redwood Environmental Academy of Leadership (REAL).

"Angel became extremely focused and diligent after he decided to reject negative influences in his life ... a complete transformation in attitude and behavior as ... he completed an extensive amount of work in a short period," said science teacher John DeSollar.

Cardenas grew up in Redwood City. He attended Nesbit Elementary until fifth grade, then went on to Ralston Middle School. High school

was less consistent for Cardenas, who spent one month at Sequoia before transferring to Hillsdale. He returned to Sequoia his sophomore year.

Cardenas began experimenting with drugs in seventh grade but then quit for a number of years. Sophomore year, he started again. Cardenas just wasn't inspired to apply himself to education.

He transferred as a junior to Redwood High with 45 credits. It takes 200 to graduate from Redwood. Cardenas began his senior year with 72, but he applied himself to catch up with his studies and graduate early.

Most students take classes in either the morning or afternoon. Cardenas made his way to honor roll by the end of his junior year, allowing him the opportunity to take classes at both times, which he did.

"I miss going to school," he said on a May afternoon. "I want to go back."

Since graduating early, Cardenas began volunteering at school a bit. He helped as an outdoor education cabin leader this spring.

This fall, Cardenas will attend Cañada

College with the goal of transferring to Stanford University. Cardenas quoted W. Clement Stone: "Aim for the moon. If you miss, you may hit a star."

Regardless of where he ends up taking classes, Cardenas plans to be an investment banker, noting his talent for numbers.

Cardenas will have some help getting started at college thanks to a \$5,000 scholarship.

Editor's note: This article first appeared in the Daily Journal newspaper.



**Woodside High
Hana Giradot**

Woodside's Giradot Got Involved to Make a Difference

Being involved can mean a number of things.

For Woodside High School senior Hana Giradot, involvement becomes a commitment, which is proven by the years she sticks to something.

The 18-year-old graduate is fluent in Spanish, was school president with years of leadership under her belt, and is a nearly lifelong dancer and an advocate for others. Her experiences have driven Giradot to pursue political science at the University of California at Santa Barbara this fall.

"I don't want to be a lawyer or run for president, or even run for office," she confessed. "I just think it will teach me a lot about the way the world works."

The job she really wants is indescribable as Giradot feels it has yet to be created. Regardless of the route she chooses, she has a wealth of experience from which to pull.

Giradot grew up in Redwood City with a love of dance. Her parents enrolled her in Adelante Spanish Immersion Elementary, an immersion program. While there, Giradot was able to take merengue. There weren't studios just for that, so Giradot ended up also taking jazz, ballet and tap classes.

The Giradot family took leave from California when she was in fifth grade. Giradot's father, an opera singer, had a job that moved the family to Valencia, Spain.

"It was hard at first, but I went to a British school for Spanish kids to learn English," she said.

"One aspect about Hana that I admire is that she is not afraid to take on an active role and take initiative when she wants to know more about a topic."

Living in Spain for a year gave the family a chance to travel around Europe on every break. When Giradot returned to Redwood City, she attended McKinley Institute of Technology, then went on to Woodside.

While at MIT, Giradot got her start in school politics as the eighth-grade class president. Those political interests continued as she became freshman class treasurer, sophomore class president, junior class president and, this year, associated student body president.

Woodside Student Activities Director Leslie With has worked with Giradot since her sophomore year.

"One aspect about Hana that I admire is that she is not afraid to take on an active role and take initiative when she wants to know more about a topic," With wrote in a letter about Giradot.

Giradot pointed to her enjoyment of planning events. Getting others involved, particularly at dances, is what she enjoys about leadership. Her

leadership roles made Giradot a member of other groups such as the Student Advisory Council and the school's Decision Making Council. She's traveled to Sacramento twice during this school year to be on the Student Advisory Board on Education and Legislation through the California Association of Student Councils, a statewide, student-led group focused on advocating for youth.

"I have tremendous respect for Hana. She epitomizes integrity, perseverance, honor and commitment. As her teacher, I have learned much from her," said Sue Rhodehouse, Giradot's advanced-placement literature teacher.

Giradot's passions are not limited to academics or politics. Her dedication to dance continued through a couple of classes. As a sophomore, she participated on the competition team at her dance studio before joining the Woodside Dance Team for the last two years at school. Giradot had tried out for the team unsuccessfully two years prior but wasn't deterred.

Giradot has also remained active with her church through weekly meetings. She traveled with the group to Mexico the past four years over spring break to help add on to a church and participate in children's ministries. Giradot often acted as the translator for the trip.

Despite all those activities, Giradot is really excited about sleeping. She plans to spend her summer relaxing before heading to college in the fall.

Editor's note: This article first appeared in the *Daily Journal* newspaper.

Sequoia's Garcia Finds Her Place in School

Tania Garcia began Sequoia High School knowing few people and having little conversational English skills.

Garcia had recently moved to Redwood City from Mexico with her mother. She had already met a cousin who was also enrolled at Sequoia, but she was otherwise beginning anew. The challenge did not discourage Garcia, who lived most her life with a "why not?" attitude. Looking at life as full of possibilities helped Garcia grow from an unknown, new student on campus to a young woman who found a place through activism and on stage.

She attributed her success to simply trying.

"You don't have to be the most perfect person. You have to fail," she said. "You have to make mistakes."

Garcia was born in Mexico City, where she lived until she was 13. Her parents had married young and split while Garcia was young.

At 9, Garcia auditioned for a community theater group called Nahui Ollin. The name is rooted in Aztec tradition and means "fourth movement." Garcia had never been on stage but quickly took refuge in the character-driven world. Through



the nonprofit group, Garcia was able to travel to Toronto for an international festival. During the festival, she met people despite the language barriers.

Shortly after returning to Mexico, Garcia and her mother moved to Redwood City to be closer to family.

Garcia had taken English in Mexico but was better at written than conversational English. She had some basics but really came to the school knowing few people and having little ability to communicate. The following summer, Garcia was enrolled in a bridge class, which would have allowed her to take mainstream classes her sophomore year. Instead, Garcia was placed in English for students planning to take the international baccalaureate courses junior year. Garcia was

"Tania began her time at Sequoia as a beginning English learner, recently arrived from Mexico. She is now a standout student in her senior International Baccalaureate program English class. She's a risk-taker who has participated in a number of our school's theatrical performances, studies French and follows her passions courageously."

unsure she could do it, but she stuck with it.

"Tania began her time at Sequoia as a beginning English learner, recently arrived from Mexico. She is now a standout student in her senior International Baccalaureate program English class. She's a risk-taker who has participated in a number of our school's theatrical performances, studies French and follows her passions courageously," said Principal Morgan Marchbanks.

During her sophomore year, Garcia decided to return to the stage by auditioning for the spring musical, "Leader of the Pack." She was given a role; it was one of four Garcia had while at Sequoia.

Although not a dancer at the time, she enrolled in dance for her physical education class junior year. Garcia recalled watching the dance team at a rally freshman year and thinking how wonderful it would be to be one of them. Senior year, she found herself on the other end of that vision.

Before starting her junior year, Garcia was chosen for Summer Search, a national leadership development program helping low-income students graduate from high school, attend college and enter successful careers. As part of the program, Garcia traveled to Colorado for a two-week backpacking trip. She was given a mentor, whom she chats with once a week, and attends monthly events and workshops. Last summer, Garcia spent time at an international camp in Virginia through Summer Search.

Garcia held a position on the Youth Advisory Board this year, which helps with the on-campus teen center. The board organized events to spread awareness on topics like pregnancy, alcohol and tobacco.

This year, Garcia joined the Dream Club, which raised funds for scholarships for undocumented students to go to college. Many of the members participated in a demonstration on Cesar Chavez Day this year.

Garcia took French lessons sophomore year, and French became her third language. The language had intrigued Garcia during her visit to Toronto. She is interested in languages and plans to major in French at UC Berkeley in the fall.

She'll have some financial aid in her quest. Garcia was awarded the Peninsula College Fund and a scholarship from Summer Search. She is still searching for other scholarships.

Her long-term goal is to be a teacher in Mexico. "I've had so much opportunity in public schools here — dance, drama, language. In Mexico, I'd need to go to a private school," she said, explaining most people cannot afford such a luxury.

Garcia envisions working with a nonprofit in a low-income area of Mexico to offer similar opportunities.

Editor's note: This article first appeared in the *Daily Journal* newspaper.



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Nonprofits in Action (Continued from page 20)

Redwood City Eagles #418

The Fraternal Order of Eagles supports our police, firefighters and others who protect and serve. They have provided support for medical centers across the country. They raise millions of dollars every year to help handicapped kids, uplift the aged and make life a little brighter for everyone. The Eagles meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the Eagles Hall, 1575 Marshall St., at 6 p.m. for a social hour and dinner meeting. They play cards on the third Thursday and would love to have you join them. For more information, call President Ryan Herbst at 408-489-6582 or Secretary David Tomatis at 650-575-3225, or visit www.foe418.org.

Redwood City Education Foundation

The Redwood City Education Foundation is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing students in the Redwood City School District with a strong education that lays the foundation for future success. They raise private money to provide enrichment programs to all students in the district. Their funding is focused on academic achievement, music and art, and health and wellness. For more information, check out www.rcef.org.

Redwood City Rotary

Redwood City Rotary performs many service projects, provides college scholarships and donates to international relief efforts. The club meets each Tuesday at 12:15 at the Sequoia Club, 1695 Broadway, to hear speakers and plan community benefits, including the annual July 4 raffle that raises \$80,000 for 12 local charities. For more information about joining, contact Dr. Paul R. Piccione at drpaul@woodsidewellnesscenter.com or 650-703-5957, or visit www.redwoodcityrotary.org.

Redwood City Seniors Softball Club

These recreational and tournament-level senior men and women play slow-pitch softball all year long. Membership is open to anyone at least 50 years old within the calendar year. Many of the players are in their 60s and 70s and still going strong. Club members play every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning at Griffin Field at Red Morton Community Park. For more information or to join the club, contact Joe Kirby at 650-366-5299 or joekirbyis@comcast.net (include "Senior Softball Club" in the subject line).

Redwood City Sunrise Lions Club

This group is small but has a growing membership. All members either live or work in our community and share a common goal of making our city a better place to live. One of over 44,000 Lions Clubs in 199 nations, the club has been vigorously active helping eyesight-impaired youth in our schools and seniors who are hearing-impaired. The Lions meet every Wednesday at Bob's Court House Coffee Shop, 2198 Broadway, beginning at 7:15 a.m. Call Bill Gibbons at 650-766-8105 for more details.

Redwood City Women's Club

Founded in 1909 as a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the California Federation of Women's Clubs, the Redwood City Women's Club will celebrate its centennial in September. The club meets the first Thursday of each month, September through June, at the clubhouse at 149 Clinton St., Redwood City. Social at 11 a.m., lunch at noon, followed by a meeting and program. For information, call 650-363-1266 or visit rwcwc.com.

Sequoia High School Alumni Association

The group meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Sequoia District Board Room, 480 James Ave., at 7 p.m. All alumni and friends of Sequoia are welcome to attend. For more information call Nancy at 650-592-5822, visit sequoiahsalumniassoc.org or e-mail sequoiaalumni@earthlink.net.

Sequoia Stamp Club

This club was established in 1947 and invites community members to visit. The club meets at the Community Activities Building, 1400 Roosevelt Ave., every second and fourth Tuesday at 7:45 p.m. There is a program every meeting and refreshments are served. Contact Hank at 650-593-7012, e-mail sequoiastampclub@yahoo.com or visit www.penpex.org. Sequoia Stamp Club sponsors a free stamp show at the same location on the first weekend in December.

Soroptimist International of South Peninsula

Soroptimist International is the world's largest service organization for business and professional women, where "improving the lives of women and children" has been their mission since 1921. Soroptimists work through service projects to advance human rights and the status of women locally and abroad. They meet the second Thursday of every month. For more information, call their president, Maria, at 650-366-0668, Monday-Friday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Sustainable San Mateo County

Established in 1992, this local nonprofit is dedicated to the long-term health of our county's environment, economy and social equity. Programs include an annual report, an annual awards event, sustainabilityhub.net, green business workshops and more. If you would like to volunteer, contact the SSMC office at 650-638-2323 or e-mail advocate@sustainablemateo.org. For more information, visit www.sustainablemateo.org.

Woodside Terrace A.M. Kiwanis Club

Since October 1956, the Woodside Terrace A.M. Kiwanis Club has been devoted to community service in Redwood City. Through the decades, the club has provided funds to help many worthy community programs and continues to add more community projects. The club meets

every Tuesday evening 6-7 p.m. at Harry's Hofbrau, 1909 El Camino Real (one block north of Woodside Road). They invite you to come to their meetings and check out the club's Web site at www.wtamkiwanis.org.

Woodside Terrace Optimist Club

This club provides an opportunity for seniors to stay involved and be useful. The club's funds are raised by a card, candy and necklace sale held on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the main lobby at 485 Woodside Road, open to the public. Lunches/meetings are at 12:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month in the Assisted Living Dining Room at Woodside Terrace. Guests are welcome. Please call President Jack Murphy at 650-780-9891 or Millie Cole at 650-366-1392 for reservations.

YES Reading

YES Reading recruits and trains community volunteers to provide one-on-one tutoring for elementary and middle school students reading below grade level. YES Reading operates several reading centers on the Peninsula and in the South Bay, including a site at Selby Lane School in Atherton. If you are interested in becoming a reading tutor for a child who needs your help, call 408-945-9316, e-mail info@yesreading.org or visit www.yesreading.org.

Editor's note: If you are connected with a nonprofit organization and want your information printed in The Spectrum, send it to writers@spectrummagazine.net or The Spectrum Magazine, P.O. Box 862, Redwood City, CA 94064. Let our community know your contributions and maybe they will want to join you.

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Finance: Are You on Track Toward Your Financial Objectives?

By David Amann, Special to The Spectrum

It's been almost two years since turmoil began in the financial markets. And during that time, your own financial picture, along with that of virtually every other investor, has probably changed. Still, you can do a lot to get back on track toward the future you've envisioned — and you can start today.

What moves should you make? Here are a few to consider:

Assess your current situation. You're well aware of the change in your portfolio's value over the past two years, and you may well have already made some adjustments. But if you're going to position yourself properly for the future, you need to review your entire financial situation: your savings, spending, investments, insurance and income needs. Only then can you chart the course that's right for you.

Re-evaluate your goals. Since you are already reviewing your financial picture, now is a good time to also re-examine your goals. Would you like to help pay for a child's college education? Do you know when you plan to retire? When you do retire, what sort of lifestyle do you envision? If you haven't already done so, identify your goals and try to put a price tag on them.

Review your strategy for reaching your goals.

Once you know about how much money your goals may require, you'll need to review your savings and investment strategies to determine if they are likely to provide sufficient funds. You'll need to look at your investment mix to see if it's providing the right combination of growth and income opportunities. At the same time, you'll want to analyze your feelings about investment risk. Before the market decline, many investors believed they were more comfortable with risk than they actually were. Because different investments carry different levels of risk, it's essential that you know your risk tolerance and factor it into your investment decisions.

Start making necessary changes. To attain the goals you've identified, you may well need to make some changes. For example, during the most recent bear market, the value of your growth-oriented investments likely fell considerably, which means these investments may now make up a smaller percentage of your portfolio, relative to income-oriented vehicles. Yet to achieve your long-term objectives, you may need a good amount of exposure to investments that have the potential to provide growth, such as stocks.

Consequently, you may need to rebalance your portfolio, possibly with the help of a professional financial advisor — someone who knows your goals, risk tolerance, family situation and other key factors.

Be flexible. After you've identified your goals and revised your investment strategy accordingly, you have taken some important steps — but you're still not done. None of us can predict what will happen in our lives, and as we've seen, the financial markets are equally unpredictable. So you will need to be flexible with your investment moves and prepared to make changes as necessary.

In short, establish an investment strategy that's right for your needs and follow it as best you can, but be prepared to adjust your path as time goes by. By staying diligent, you can help yourself advance toward your important goals — in all economic environments.

***Editor's note:** This article was written by David Amann of Edward Jones for use by The Spectrum Magazine.*

Senior Activities

The Veterans Memorial Senior Center, 1455 Madison Ave., Redwood City, is providing the following activities that are open to the public during the month of July.

Friday Movies for Everyone

Every Friday, 1:15 p.m. (unless otherwise noted)
Come to the VMSC in July for a free featured movie in our state-of-the-art movie theater!
July 3: Holiday / No movie
July 10: "Quantum of Solace"
July 17: "Taken"
July 24: "Gran Torino"
July 31: "The Wrestler"

Fourth of July Dog Days of Summer Celebration

Thursday, July 2, 12 p.m.
Bring your lawn chairs, flags and dogs for this patriotic outdoor celebration. Games for people and dogs will be provided and a hot dog/hamburger BBQ will be served on the grass of the VMSC. This will be a pet-friendly celebration, so bring those pooches and they will receive a special gift. Optional indoor dining will also be provided; however, dogs cannot be accommodated within the Senior Center. Cost: \$8 per human. Dogs free!

History of Union Cemetery With John Edmonds

Thursday, July 9, 1–2 p.m. Free.
Hear the fascinating history of Redwood City, the early pioneers who settled the area, and about Union Cemetery.

AARP Driver Safety Program

Saturdays, July 11 & July 16, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Take this eight-hour refresher course especially designed for drivers 50 and up. In some cases, you may be able to receive a discount from your auto insurance for taking this course! Cost is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for nonmembers. Must sign up in advance by calling 650-780-7270. Maximum enrollment is 30 students, so sign up soon!

Collette Vacations: Canada's Winter Wonderland Presentation

Monday, July 13, 1–2 p.m.
Collette Vacations will give an exciting presentation about Canada's Winter Wonderland trip scheduled for December 2009. If you love to travel and would like to help the VMSC, please check out this free, no-pressure, informative presentation about this trip and others to be offered in the future! Ten percent of all proceeds raised on this trip will benefit the VMSC.

Advance Health Care Directive Clinic

Thursday, July 16, 10 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
The purpose of the health care directive is to put in writing what your wishes are regarding life-sustaining medical treatment in the event that you become incapacitated and cannot tell the doctor what kind of treatment you want. Come to the VMSC for a free Advance Health Care Directive Clinic. Volunteer lawyers and law students from the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County will assist you in completing the forms. Call for an appointment today! 650-780-7274.

Stress Reduction and Meditation

Thursday, July 16, 1–2 p.m. Free.
Dr. Kaisha Puhakka will lecture on a topic that has come to the forefront of discussions of health, longevity and quality of life. We all experience stress in our lives, some good and some bad. Let's see what we can do about the "bad" type.

Patriotic Concert by West Bay Community Band

Saturday, July 18, 7:30–9 p.m.
The VMSC is proud to welcome back the West Bay Community Band! This very special patriotic concert will feature an array of songs honoring our country, along with popular hits from the World War II era. There will be something for everyone at this performance. To receive the discounted cost of \$10, please call 650-780-7274. Tickets purchased at the door will cost \$15. Proceeds from this concert will be split to benefit the West Bay Community Band and the VMSC. Join us 6:30–7:30 p.m. for a pre-concert cocktail hour.

Life Review With Dr. Shen

Thursday, July 23, 1–2 p.m. Free.
Life Review is a special way to look back on your life that can have a very positive outcome, bringing out unique stories, lifting depression and bolstering self-confidence.

Nutrition With Kaiser Hospital

Thursday, July 30, 1–2 p.m. Free.
Older adults interested in the changing nutritional needs associated with aging will enjoy this interactive question-and-answer session. Ms. Faye is a registered dietitian.

A Minute With: Stacey Wagner



Stacey Wagner was born in San Leandro. She graduated from Arroyo High School and then from Cal State Hayward with a degree in marketing management and business administration. She is a single mother and lives in Redwood City with her 2-year-old son, Isaac.

Stacey served as a legislative aide for 12 years and as external affairs director for SBC, where she won awards as EA Director of the Year for the Bay Area and Northern California Manager of the Year. She then worked as community relations manager for Allied Waste.

Stacey is currently the director of public affairs for Kaiser Permanente in the San Mateo area. Most recently in her role at Kaiser she has been actively involved in Rebuilding Together Peninsula, Neighbors in Health, the North Fair Oaks Festival and the San Mateo County History Museum's fundraiser at Runnymede Farm. Last year, as in 2005, she served food to the homeless and elderly on Thanksgiving Day.

Stacey has donated countless hours of her own time as a hands-on volunteer throughout the community. She was an ESL tutor for two students through Project READ and mentored young women through the Puente Project. She has been a member of the Redwood City-San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce board of directors for eight years, serving as an active member of its Governmental Relations Committee.

Describe volunteering.

Giving back.

After the remodel, Kaiser Hospital will look?

More modern.

I live in Redwood City because?

I love the community, business and government.

Which living person do you most admire?

Maya Angelou.

What is your most treasured possession?

My son. I just love him to pieces.

What talent would you most like to have?

To be able to sing and carry a note.

Something few know about you?

I have been a water-skier since I was 7 years old.

Which word or phrase do you most overuse?

Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

What is your greatest regret?

Not starting a political career sooner.

What is your motto?

Hard work yields results.

Why do you get up in the morning?

To see what kind of difference I can make that day.

What will you be remembered for in 100 years?

Raising a strong son who also gives back to the community.

Anyone you got on your mind?

This new guy I am dating.

Most memorable moment?

Of course, giving birth to my son and accepting the Business Woman of the Year award from the Chamber of Commerce.

First word that comes to mind?

Enthusiastic.

What or who is the love of your life?

My son, Isaac.

What is your idea of perfect happiness?

When everyone is able to come together, compromise and find solutions to benefit everyone.

You currently feel?

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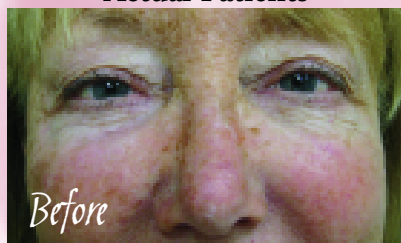
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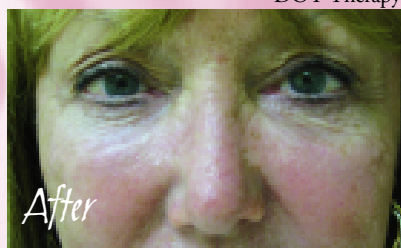


Actual Patients



Before

DOT Therapy

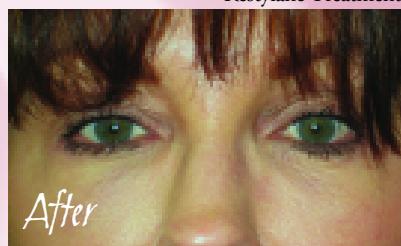


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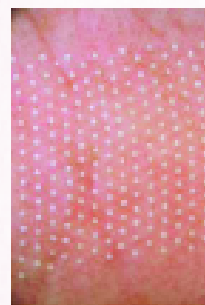
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In addition to the new DOT fractional CO2 laser, we offer Botox™, Fillers, Skin Tightening by Thermage®, and Contouring by Thermage®, Laser Hair and Vein Removal, Laser Skin Resurfacing, Brown Spot Treatments, Medical Microdermabrasion, Medical Peels and Leg Vein Sclerotherapy. We carry many medical skincare product lines including SkinCeuticals, Remergent, CosMedix, La Roche-Posay and DNA Health Institute.

Re: Juvenate Skincare Clinic is a full service, non-surgical rejuvenation center.



DOT Therapy Pattern



DOT Machine

Linda S. Moore, R.N.,
Clinical Director
Restylane® Trainer
Thermage® Trainer

Sherna Madan, M.D.,
Medical Director

Our New Location

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