

# OMVNA Newsletter

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# Profile: Hope Services

by Susan Bickford



When I leave my regular water exercise program at Eagle Pool on weekday mornings, I usually find a cluster of young people congregating near the exit. Most of them are developmentally disabled in a wide variety of ways, mixing together and interacting with a team of counselors who drive vehicles labeled Hope Services.

A short time later, some of my swim group meets at Le Boulanger, and I often see the same group there. When I joined the El Camino YMCA for an exercise program, I saw some of the same individuals working out there too. My interest was piqued. I wanted to know more about this organization.

Covering an area from Monterey Bay to Northern Santa Clara County, Hope Services (not to be confused with Hope's Corner) is the leading provider of services to people with developmental disabilities.

The term developmental disability refers to a severe and / or chronic disability that is attributable to a mental or physical impairment that begins before adulthood.

We are very fortunate to have a Hope Services facility in Mountain View, their northern-most office.

"At Hope Services, we believe the world is a better place because of people with developmental disabilities such as cerebral palsy, Down syndrome and anything on the autism disorder spectrum. We serve over 3,900 people with 60 programs, from infants to seniors, in six Bay Area counties," said Suanne

continued on page 7

# Concerts on the Plaza Are Back!

Outdoor activities are back in season!

The Community Services Department proudly presents five Concerts on the Plaza.

The concert series will take place on the first Friday of the month May through September from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Join your friends and neighbors and bring your blanket or lawn chair down to the Civic Center Plaza for a variety of musical performances.

In addition to the music, there will be food trucks, a "Pop Up Park" area for children and, for adults, beer and wine.

2018 concerts on the Plaza May 4, 2018 - Samba Cruz June 1, 2018 - David Landon July 6, 2018 - Elaine Ryan August 3, 2018 - Garrick Davis Sept. 7, 2018 - Jerry Jay Quartet

**Sponsorship Opportunities** 

Interested in sponsoring the 2018 Concerts on the Plaza? Download the 2018 Special Event Sponsorship Packet and submit your letter of intent to Bill Mykytka. For more information on sponsorships and advertisement opportunities, contact Bill at (650) 903-6607.



## **Read Inside**

Our tribute to community activists Greg Fowler and Julie Lovins appears on pages 4 and 5.

#### **Restaurant Scene**

by Max Hauser

Mahalo Bowl at 650 Castro, serving açai bowls and smoothies, and Posh Bagel at 444 Castro both closed.

Since February Bangkok Spoon, 702 Villa, the downtown's oldest Thai restaurant (1980), has been shut, but interior is unchanged and plans unclear at this writing.

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Le Plonc, a new wine bar with a fixed price of \$7 a glass and diverse small-plates food menu, opened March 19 at 331 Castro (previously La Panotiq).

**SweetHoney** "authentic Hong Kong style desserts" opened at 841 Villa (formerly Totoro and briefly Song Pa).

Signage is up (though construction remains underway at this writing) for return of both **Peet's Coffee** and **Rose International Market** to the ECR/Castro SW corner.

Ongoing projects currently unfinished: **Fu Lam Mum** (153-155 Castro), remodeling work has moved to the downstairs. 317 Castro site of Korean-influenced bakery-café chain **Paris Baguette** is "coming soon," as is **C'est Si Bon**, a new bakery at 282 Castro, which has a window video display of products. 212 Castro's **Maison Alyzee**, a new French bakery concept, has been under vigorous construction.



#### Save the Date!

OMVNA Ice Cream Social Sunday August 26, 2018 1p.m.-3 p.m.

#### OMVNA Artist In Residence: Rocky Austin" A Mellow Troubadour





by Don McPhail



For a guy who has played backup guitar for Joan Baez from time to time and, with his wife Jeanne, was a guest observer at her Nashville recording session, Rocky Austin is one modest dude.

Chatting with him over a latte at Dana Street, you might take him for a retired high-tech exec or a longtime surfer—and you would be right.

A longtime resident of Old Mountain View, Rocky is also a generous, accomplished and successful musician, who donates time and talent to his sizable network of Bay Area charitable organizations.

He knows the incredible healing power of music, and he regularly shares it with folks who need it. Rocky has volunteered at the Palo Alto and Menlo Park Veterans Hospitals, visiting patients with guitar in hand, to play and sing

with ailing military vets.

"My work with music therapy at Stanford Hospital and being a Vietnam war vet was my inspiration to take on volunteer work at the VA."

He and Jeanne are longtime volunteers and organizers for the Downtown Streets Team in Palo Alto (www.streetsteam.org), an amazing organization that works with homeless clients, training them for employment, and helping them to find secure jobs and housing.

"In the early days I would provide live music for their picnics, parties and other events. I still get a group together to play for their Thanksgiving dinner at All Saints Church in Palo Alto."

One especially memorable event was in La Honda, where he and his longtime band, Buffalo Chips, were playing.

They learned that some of the team members were musicians, so they switched-out some of the band members with some of the Street Team members, while others came up and joined a well-known local volunteer, Joan Baez, on vocals.

"It was a magical moment," Rocky recalls.

He grew up in Palo Alto and graduated from St. Francis High School in 1968, and music was in his genes.

"My Mom sang professionally and encouraged me to pursue my own interest in music. She bought me my first guitar and signed me up for lessons at Dana Morgan Music in Palo Alto. Jerry Garcia was one of the instructors there, though not mine. She also helped me form my first band in 8th grade. Later, she owned Murphy's Law in Sunnyvale, a popular restaurant, for many years. I eventually booked their bands."

As for his business career, Rocky worked as a laboratory aide, before starting his career with HP as an electronic/engineering technician.

He returned to Stanford later as a volunteer for the Music For Healing program. He eventually took over and managed the program.

He remained at HP for 27 years, until his retirement. Surprisingly, that's where he met other avid musicians, and they eventually formed Buffalo Chips.

They have played in some special places.

"One was a benefit for the Innvision Organization of Santa Clara County a few years back. The Chips performed for the event and played as the back-up band for Joan Baez for a few songs, with her son Gabe playing percussion."

Rocky has an upcoming music gig: May 3 at Alice's Restaurant, 17288 Skyline Boulevard. Woodside.







# See & Know What You Eat

# **Keeping Mountain View Safe:**

# Updates and Advice from the Mountain View Fire and Police Departments

by Laura Gentry



#### PG&E's Gas & Electric Safety Workshop for Residents Hosted by Mountain View Fire Department

Firefighters, Police, EMTs, Public Works, CERT members, and resident volunteers are usually the first to respond on the scene of a neighborhood emergency. Both gas and electrical hazards may be present.

Do you know how to identify them, what safety measures to take and how to contact the utility?

Who should attend this workshop: residents and CERT members who have the potential of responding to gas or electrical emergencies. What you will learn:

- Gas and electric infrastructure components and how they operate.
- Identifying utilities hazards and risks
  - Recognizing an emergency.
- National Pipeline Mapping System
  - · Do's and don'ts at the scene
  - Step and touch potential
  - Making contact with ener-

# Keep in Touch with Mountain View's Finest

Want to get the latest on the Mountain View Police Department?

Read about it on Twitter @MountainViewPD, at http://mountainviewpoliceblog.com, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mountainviewpolicedepartment

Just want critical alerts and advisories? Sign-up for Nixle via your smartphone by texting your Mountain View zip code to 888777.

gized sources, such as cable, phone and other utilities lines

- Where is the migrating gas accumulating?
  - · Secondary ignition sources
  - · Keeping the utilities safe
  - Calling 811 before you dig

#### **PG&E Safety Workshop**

Wednesday August 22, 2018 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm 1000 Villa St., Mountain View, 94041

Fire & Police Administration Building Cost: FREE

Register on Eventbrite: www.eventbrite.com/e/ mountain-view-cert-pge-gasand-electric-safety-workshoptickets-43796356080







## Safety Readiness for Summer

We've changed our clocks and paid our taxes, so now it's time to prepare for the summer.

The kids will be out of school which means vacations and bbq's and enjoying the outdoors.

If you're outdoors gardening, remember to pick up tools, not only for your safety but also to avoid leaving potential tools someone could use to break into your house or car.

With warmer weather we like to have the windows open, but remember to secure them if you are leaving the house to avoid easy entry for a home burglar.

If you and the kids are out enjoying a bike ride, be sure to secure your bikes with solid bike locks to fixed objects so they are not stollen

And once home, place the bikes in the garage or backyard or,

by Jodie Pierce



if that's not an option, secure them with a lock.

Leaving bikes unsecured makes your property an easy target and can be an invitation for thieves.

No matter what time of year, don't leave anything in plain view in your car—even a bag of laundry could be something that draws in an auto burglar.

MVPD is always here if you need us. Dial 9-1-1 in the event of an emergency or 650-903-6395 for non-emergency incidents.

Have a great summer and remember, see something, say something.

## **Woman's Empowerment**



Day at MVPD May 12, 2018 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.



Women of all ages are invited to attend. Learn about women in law enforcement, play games and interact with the awesome women of MVPD.

#seestrong #bestrong.

For more information go to mvpd.gov.



Proud member of

# **Mountain View Rotary**



Tori Ann Atwell



# ఆసాయాA Tribute to Lives Well-lived: Greg Fowler and Julie Lovins ఆ ఆ ఆ కార్యంలో

by Susan Bickford



In Old Mountain View, we are very fortunate to have many residents who are dedicated and vocal participants in our government and service organizations, and have profound impacts on the quality of life in our neighborhood, Mountain View as a whole, and well beyond our borders.

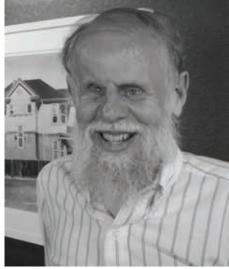
Amongst all those, two individuals—Greg Fowler and Julie Lovins—stand out as amazing contributors to so many causes and associations that we are taking this opportunity to celebrate the depth and breadth of their efforts as we also mourn their passings.

As many people know, Greg Fowler died suddenly from a massive heart attack in September 2016. While still reeling from this loss, Julie was diagnosed with an aggressive and incurable brain cancer discovered 18 days later. Thanks to her fierce determination and skilled, compassionate, and devoted caregivers, Julie lived longer than expected and died in January 2018.

Greg was born in Fremont, Michigan in 1952. He lost his entire optic system following his diagnosis at age one of bilateral retinal blastoma.

Being blind did not stop Greg from earning his bachelor's degree in engineering and computer science at Michigan State University. He was an electrical engineering graduate student at Stanford University starting in 1976, finishing with a degree in engineering in 1981.

A distinguished career as a software engineer at a number of well-known Silicon Valley compa-



nies followed. After retiring in 2003, Greg devoted countless hours, and his formidable technical and critical-thinking skills, to the benefit of local and regional organizations.

Julie was born in Washington, DC, and grew up on the East Coast. She earned her honors AB at Pembroke College (now Brown University) and an MA and PhD in linguistics at the University of Chicago. After teaching Japanese phonology at prestigious Tokyo universities for three years, she implemented early speech synthesis at Bell Labs, then engineered software at seven Silicon Valley firms and consulted on computational linguistics for many more through the 1990s.

Fifty years ago, she famously invented the first "stemming algorithm" that cuts endings off a word until just its meaning-bearing stem is left, enabling computers to understand and synthesize human speech. Many remember her as a penetrating teacher of clear, vigorous, and precise expression.

Julie moved from Japan to Bell Labs in New Jersey in 1973 to work on speech synthesis. Three years later she moved to Silicon Valley. In the first six weeks, Julie met an equally brilliant engineer from Michigan, Greg Fowler.

The rest is history, as they say. Their shared a commitment to a

# Flute Lessons

in Old Mountain View with Marian Concus. Instructor is: conservatory trained, member of two professional symphony orchestras, Flute Coach at Bellarmine Preparatory School.

mconcus@mac.com • www.mconcusflutist.com

better world and community made them fast friends and partners. They began a profoundly deep, nearly 29year marriage, and the collaboration in civic affairs that has done so much to improve this community.

This remarkable couple added the further dimension of extensive work with and for the blind, and a lot of quiet philanthropy whose blessings live on in many hearts uplifted and lives made better. Their wide-ranging and whole-hearted efforts included good government and fair mobility, affordable housing and environmental innovation, historic preservation and community-supported agriculture, vegan food and food co-ops, and more.

Greg and Julie were also very private individuals. As a result, the full range and depth of their efforts is hard to measure because they often gave anonymously. Suffice it to say, they received red carpet treatment as prized donors from several organizations.

# NOTARY PUBLIC



# Tori Ann Atwell Your neighborhood Notary Public

Certified Signing Agent

# (650) 996-0123

# OMVNA Steering Committee

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Historical

Preservation: Jerry Steach
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Next Meeting: July 23, 2018



A short list of organizations they actively participated in and / or supported monetarily, include:

- OMVNA
- The Mountain View Coalition for Sustainable Planning
- The Greenbelt Alliance
- · Advocates for Affordable Housing
- Mountain View Voices for Peace
- The Silicon Valley Council for the Blind
- Learning Ally/Reading for Blind and Dyslexic
- The Mountain View Educational Foundation
- The Monterey Bay Aquarium
- Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Community Health Awareness Council
- Leadership Mountain View
- National Braille Press

Julie also served as the League of Women Voters Council observer from at least 2002 to 2017.

It was no secret than many of their neighbors found Julie and Greg a bit eccentric. Although they owned a 1992 car, Julie rarely drove it. Even when they traveled to the Monterey Aquarium for special events, they took public transportation for the entire trip.

Julie's brother, Amory, says that one of her gripping passions in her last year was to make sure that her rarely-driven car would get so thoroughly scrapped that nobody would ever drive that carbon-emitter again, or even be able to mine it for spare parts, thus taking even more old and polluting cars off the road. (Sure enough, a state program paid her \$1,000 to send her car straight

To sign up for neighborhood alerts by OMVNAtalk email:

- Send a blank message (no subject or content needed) from your preferred email address to omvnatalksubscribe@yahoogroups.com
- You will get back an automated message from yahoogroups
- Select option 2 ("Reply, Send") to confirm your request.

For more information about the OMVNAtalk list, please see http://www.omvna.org/omvnatalk.html

For newsletter delivery problems or to volunteer to help, send email to lorraine.omvna@gmail.com

to Honda Heaven.)

And yet, despite their strong views on many topics, both Julie and Greg welcomed differences of opinion and the respectful exchanges of ideas.

Max Hauser was often surprised that Julie—a dedicated vegan—closely followed all the restaurants on Castro Street:

Julie was my best tipster for Newsletter restaurant news: she roamed the downtown and noticed changes. But also, as a Japanese-language scholar, she offered insights such as one Japanese restaurant having Chinese staff (Julie visited it, addressing employees with a conventional courtesy in Japanese, only to get blank looks). And Japanese food words derived from English: kare raisu (curry rice), katsu-retsu (cutlet -- from that word's syllables). She described how in Tokyo of the 1970s, "katsu" was already the fashionable shortening of katsu-retsu, while in conservative Kyoto, such loose phrasing was disdained.

From a 2015 Julie email:

"When I lived in Japan in the mid-70s, I was more intrigued by the fact that a futon-shop owner would not sell a blue futon to my female neighbor; that in supermarkets, toilet paper was not allowed in the bag with the groceries; by its being a major social faux pas to sit on a desk; by my probably being an object of ridicule for buying a very brightly-colored umbrella that was considered more suitable for a teenager than for an ancient woman of 30."

At Julie's memorial, Mountain View Mayor Lenny Siegel recalled, "Julie was a constant presence among Mountain View activists for decades. I met her through Mountain View Voices for Peace during one of the Middle-East Wars. I can't remember which one."

Lenny was instrumental in arranging for holding Julie's memori-

Opinions expressed herein are not official positions of the OMVNA Steering Committee or its members unless otherwise stated.

Contact the newsletter team at: s.bickford@comcast.net

Submissions for our August 2018 issue are due by July 17, 2018.

al service in City Council Chambers, where she had faithfully watched and reported on countless meetings over the years, always occupying the same seat.

Robert Cox, OMNVA's Vice Chair, offered a powerful remembrance at Julie's memorial. These same thoughts could apply to Greg as well. Following are a few excerpts from his speech:

I first met Julie in 2009 when the issue of constructing a large apartment complex in our immediate neighborhood came before the city council. The issue was a divisive one and we were on opposite sides.

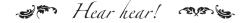
When the group of which I was a part overturned the Old Mountain View Neighborhood association board, Julie was one of only two members of the leadership team who decided to stay on and help the new board. She refused to adopt a "sour grapes" attitude. For her, it was more important that our neighborhood continue to be a vital and successful place...

Julie understood that having people on both sides of an issue craft a comprehensive solution would lead to a better answer than having only one side get its way. Would that our national leadership had such wisdom!

[Julie's] life was an active testimony to the importance of preserving our environment. Those who wanted to learn from Julie only needed to observe her life. While she was never slow to speak on any issue about which she was passionate, it was her actions that most clearly demonstrated how we all could live better lives.

We feel keenly the loss of not having our fellow soldier, Julie, at our side. Julie's values provided a conscience for those in leadership whose actions too often were dictated only by the short term profit motive. Not everyone liked having that conscience, but all needed it.

In short, I am grateful to Julie for her service to our neighborhood as our newsletter distribution chief, parking co-chair, and constant advisor. More than that, I deeply miss having her and Greg to talk to about all issues affecting our neighborhood. She is one of my lifetime heroes.



# CERT. COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

#### **CERT Update**

by Sherril Brennan

The city of Mountain View held a city-wide drill on Saturday, April 21, 2018. The purpose of the drill was to do community outreach by walking neighborhoods to hand out literature that is pertinent to emergency preparedness, to answer questions about CERT, and to encourage participation in the program. Old Mountain View (OMV) fielded an enthusiastic group of CERT volunteers for the day and we were able to cover many blocks in our section. Three documents were distributed to help each household prepare for an emergency or a di-

- 1) Prepare for Emergencies with CERT
- 2) Earthquake Preparedness Check list
  - OK-HELP sign

If a CERT volunteer did not make it to your door on April 21 and you would like to receive a packet of the emergency literature, contact Sherril Brennan at Sherrilsb@yahoo.com.

This year there will be one CERT class given by the City of Mountain View. The class is held over 5 nights from 6:30pm to 9:30pm, beginning on Thursday May 31 and continuing on Tuesday and Thursday of the following two weeks. The final exercise, review and check out, will occur on Saturday, June 16 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm. To sign up for the CERT Academy, go to "Eventbrite" on the web and search for "Emergency Events" in "Mountain View".

The Old Mountain View Neighborhood CERT group is looking for a few neighbors who are interested in organizing the block where they live, using a program called "Map Your Neighborhood". An introduction and overview of

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CSA Kitchen Volunteers

# Profile: Community Services Agency (CSA)

by Leona Pearce



For 60 years, the Community Services Agency (CSA) has been a source of vital social services for residents of Mountain View, Los Altos, and Los Altos Hills by providing a safety net so that independence and self-sufficiency can be restored and maintained.

We understand that hardship can come at any time and knows no age limit.

CSA has grown from humble origins. In 1957, a group of Mountain View residents concerned about the welfare of low-income families in the city, gathered to talk about the plight of the local migrant farm workers. By 1967, the interests of the council had expanded to include housing issues, immigration issues, and the needs of senior citizens.

CSA provides comprehensive services for all ages, including:

- Emergency Financial (rent & utilities) Assistance
  - Food & Nutrition Center
  - Senior Case Management
- Senior Lunch & Nutrition Program
  - Homeless Services
  - Challenge Diabetes Program

The number of people receiving food assistance from CSA has nearly doubled in the past six

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## City Council to Address Historic Preservation... Down the Road

Down the Road عن المناطقة الم

In what some could consider a semi-victory for Old Mountain View preservation, the City Council agreed to address, later this year, if and how protection of historic properties would be incorporated into the city's Downtown Precise Plan (DPP).

The council's decision to hold a fall study session arose from a February goal-setting meeting, in which council members considered what city issues and projects to prioritize, and what to "backburner" until later dates.

Several members of the public attending the meeting expressed concerns that the current DPP's guidelines have been largely ignored and that the plan desperately needs safeguards for historic resources.

An often-evoked example of the DPP's shortcomings is the Weilheimer House. The 120-year-old Victorian structure, presently home to Chez TJ, was built by early Mountain View merchants and later was the residence of a U.S. congressman.

Though long regarded by residents, downtown merchants, and visitors as an iconic representation of Old Mountain View's rich past, the house enjoys no protection by the DPP and is targeted for removal, along with the Tied House building next to it, to be replaced by a four-story office building.

That proposal has become a flashpoint among many residents and merchants who view the downtown as losing its character and appeal, prompting demands for more-immediate revisions to the DPP that would put some "teeth" into historic preservation.

Council members acknowledged the need for a more definitive historic-preservation component of the DPP but, citing time and resource limitations, they elected to concentrate on other matters, such as the Terra Bella area development.

While this isn't ideal from a preservation standpoint, it's still encouraging that the protection of the downtown's historic resources, as a component of the DPP, will have its day in front of the City Council.

Let council members know what you think:
CityCouncil@MountainView.gov

#### **Hope Services**

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Rinta, North District Director.

Hope Services' mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities, as measured by eight indicators: personal development, self-determination, interpersonal relations, social inclusion, rights, emotional well-being, physical wellbeing, and material well-being.

Through an individualized personcentered plan, the Hope Services team and the individual served, choose what combination of recreation, training, socialization, volunteer work, or employment would be best for individual participants.

Some individuals work with a Hope Services job coach alongside. Others work independently with minimal supervision. In all cases, the work environments are carefully monitored to make certain that Hope Services clients are paid appropriately and have safe conditions. Clients can chose full-time or part-time hours.

Volunteering is another way that clients participate in the community, for example as Shoreline Park Rangers, and working at Villa Siena. Or clients can take advantage of the activities that I noticed. The YMCA very generously offers a group membership for Hope Services clients.

"In my over 30 years with Hope Services in Mountain View, I can honestly say that my life is indeed better because of the thousands of men and women my team and I have served. It's rewarding to know that our clients have choices today that were unimaginable 30 years ago," says Rinta.

There are many ways to support Hope Services. In addition monetary donations and sponsorship, programs such as eScrip (www.eScrip.com) allow subscribers to share a percentage of purchases from places such as Safeway and Savemart. You can also specify Hope Services through Amazon Smile (http://smile. amazon.com/ch/94-1399287). In addition, Hope Services accepts donations of used goods and definitely loves having volunteers as a part of their team.

For more information, visit Hope Services at www.hopeservices.org &

## **画☆** Library Update

by Amy Helmig

The Mountain View Library is currently undergoing a remodel. Much of the work on the second floor has been completed with new carpeting, new furniture, and a new reading room. The Children's Department on the first floor is being expanded and remodeled and we hope this work will be done by the end of the fiscal year. You can track progress of the remodel here: www.mountainview.gov/libraryremodel.

It is almost time for summer reading at the Library! The Library's Summer Reading Program runs from June 1-July 31st. It is free to everyone, and there are separate programs for children, teens, and adults. Completion prizes include free books for children and teens, and tote bags with the library logo for adults. Each age group will also host a raffle with awesome gift certificates donated by the community. Visit the Library's website for more information: www. mountainview.gov/depts/library.



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MYN is available at:

https://mil.wa.gov/ emergency-managementdivision/preparedness/map-yourneighborhood.

If you are interested in being part of the pilot program in Old Mountain View, contact Sherril Brennan at Sherrilsb@yahoo.com.



#### Summer Camp Registration

Registration for Mountain View Summer Camps has begun. Visit:

http://www.mountainview gov/depts/cs/rec/register.asp



Hope Services at Villa Siena



ONLINE ORDERING

Ready for Pick-up in 15 min.\*
Use Code OMVNA to save 8%. (\*excluding our rush hour)

Find OMVNA Newsletters online at: https://tinyurl.com/yaen3kxh



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months. This is simply unprecedented in the agency's history and speaks to an essential tension in our wealthy community where some longtime residents are having a hard time keeping up with the changing economics.

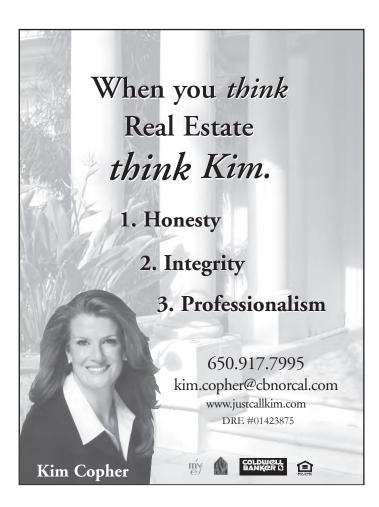
CSA is taking steps to address the difficult challenges currently facing many families in Mountain View. Everyone is concerned or has a view about the increasing number of RVs and vehicle dwellers on our streets. CSA has a dedicated staff person whose sole responsibility is to try to link these folks to the services offered. CSA will soon announce substantial new resources available for at-risk seniors, who are having a hard time continuing to live in this community.

For volunteer information, please contact LaDrea Clark at 650.964.4630. If you are interested in learning more about CSA, please visit their website at: https://www.csacares.org



**CSA Bagging Produce** 







www.nancystuhr.com facebook.com/nancyadelestuhr CalBRE# 00963170

