

CUESTA CONNECTIONS

The Cuesta Park Neighborhood Association Newsletter | Spring 2018



LOCAL HISTORY MATTERS

Benjamin T. Bubb: A True Pioneer By Paul Hammer, Nilda Ave.



Benjamin T. Bubb, 1860

Benjamin T. Bubb was a true pioneer, having immigrated from Washington County, Missouri to the new state of California in 1850 before the transcontinental railroad was completed. Immigrants traveled along the California trail, which was almost 2000 miles long.

Unlike images shown in the “Little House on the Prairie” TV series, immigrants didn’t actually ride in covered wagons being pulled by horses. While there were wagons, these were full of provisions for the trek. The immigrants walked and often, like Benjamin’s family, herded their cattle along with them. The wagons and their contents were so heavy that many were pulled by oxen instead of horses. The Bubb family traveled from March 12th to August 30th, a total of 171 days, averaging 11-12 miles per day. During the arduous journey, Benjamin was just 12 years old.

The family’s first stop in California was Fremont in Yolo County*. In the spring of 1851, the family moved to Downieville, where they tried gold mining. Not finding

success, the Bubbs instead started a boarding house there. Then, in October 1851, the Bubbs moved again and settled on about 75 acres of what is now the Loyola Corners area of Fremont Avenue next to Permanente Creek in Los Altos.

In 1852, some Mountain View area parents built a one-room school house near what is today Stierlin Road and the railroad tracks. The small wood-framed building had one door and three small windows that lit the room. Hinged to the inside walls were wooden planks that served as the students’ desks. Records show that the Bubb daughters, Benjamin’s siblings, were some of the first students to attend the school. It seems Benjamin did not attend this school.

The Bubbs saw high tech come to their rural community in the early 1860s when the San Francisco and San Jose Railroad Company laid tracks through Santa Clara Valley. On June 11, 1864, William Bubb, Benjamin’s father, died. For a short time thereafter, Benjamin remained at home with his mother. Then, sometime later in 1864, Benjamin purchased 120 acres of land that is now

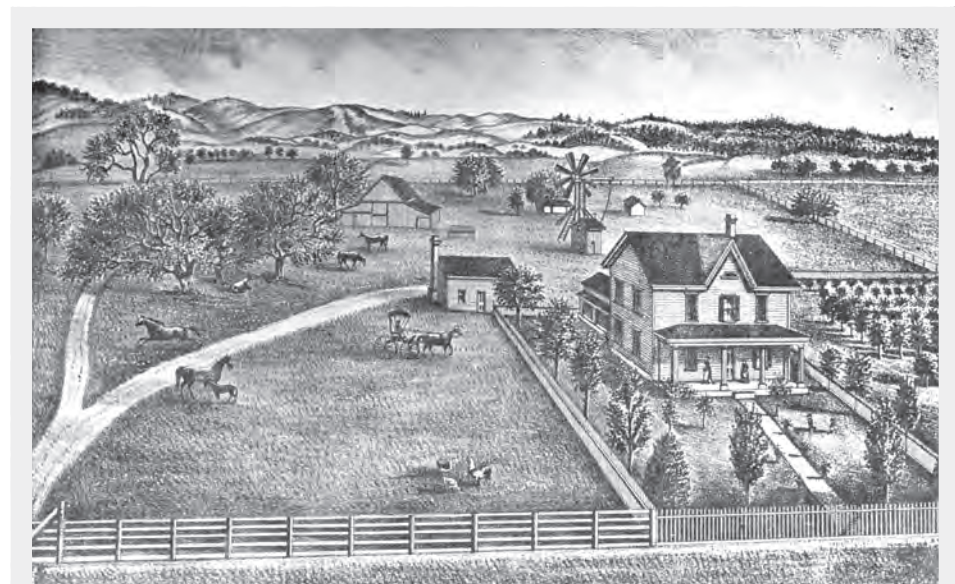
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much of the Cuesta Park Neighborhood. Two years later he purchased an adjacent 48 acres. This resulted in Benjamin’s property being bounded to the north

See Benjamin Bubb, p. 2

1876 lithograph of Benjamin T. Bubb Ranch, near the corner of Miramonte Ave. and Cuesta Dr.



* The town of Fremont was wiped out when the Sacramento River flooded in the fall of 1851.

Benjamin Bubb, continued from cover

by near what is now Hans Avenue, to the south by today's Cuesta Drive, to the west by a line halfway between Springer Road and Miramonte Avenue, and to the east by Grant Road (see map below). Permanente Creek ran through part of the property. Benjamin built his home in the area of what we know today as the corner of Begen Avenue and Leona Lane. His mother, Mary Ann Bubb, lived there with her son until her death on October 21, 1879.

On June 28, 1871, Benjamin married Sarah J. Smith, who also had been born in Washington County Missouri. Together they had seven children, born between 1872 and 1887. During that time Benjamin joined and became an elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, which was located in the area of what is now the Mountain View Public Library. In about 1884, he became a member of the A.O.U.W. of Mountain View, a fraternal organization. Benjamin was politically active in the area and multiple times acted as judge of the polls during elections.

During that time, more changes occurred in the Mountain View area as shipping businesses grew along the bay shore and the rail line. This era saw hay and grain fields replaced with fruit trees. *The Mercury News* reported plantings by individual land owners, including:

Bubb, Benjamin T:
50 apple, 10 pear, 30 peach,
6 plum, 5 cherry, 10 apricot

On February 24, 1888, at the age of 50, Benjamin Bubb was killed in a farm accident. His youngest child was just 13 months old. Benjamin was buried in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church cemetery, which is now the site of Pioneer Park behind the Mountain View Public Library. Over time, some bodies but not all, were moved out of this old cemetery and reinterred elsewhere around the valley. Records show those moved included some Bubb family members. While it isn't known for sure if Benjamin T. Bubb is still in his original resting place, it's nice to think that he is, and is still close to his home.

Sarah J. S. Bubb lived to be almost 91 years old, surviving 56 years



Benjamin T. Bubb Ranch house and surrounding fruit orchards (left); Sarah J. S. Bubb in 1940 (right).

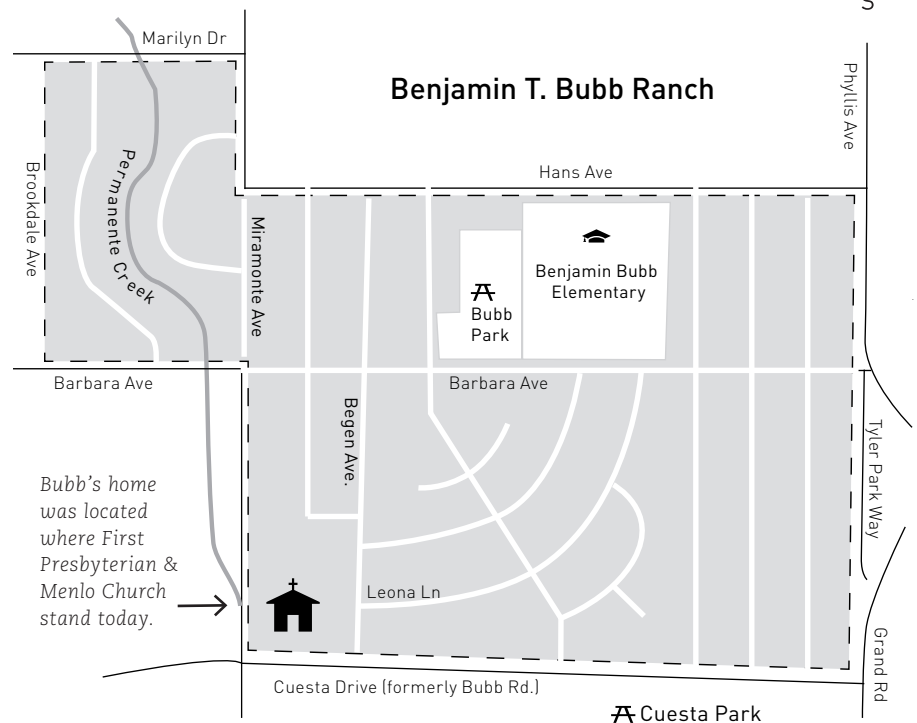
beyond her husband's death. She died on August 25th, 1944.

The 11.9 acre site of what is now Bubb Elementary school was purchased by the Mountain View School district in 1953 for \$53,944. The district has had a tradition of naming schools after former teachers or administrators. For example, Isaac N. Graham was one of the first board members, Frank L. Huff was a principal, and Kenneth Slater was a teacher, principal, and superintendent. The question of why Bubb School was

named after the former landowner has been investigated without results. The only other school in the original Mountain View school district named after a former land owner is Castro Elementary. If you have any knowledge as to the naming of Bubb School, please share it with us at paul_hammer@hotmail.com. 🍄

Local History Matters is a recurring column exploring the history of our neighborhood and prominent figures who have helped to shape it.

The map below shows the boundaries of Bubb Ranch, which covered 168 acres.



Hidden Treasures

By Merry Yen, Nilda Ave.

2017 was a good year. I had taken some time off of work and baby Ari came into our lives in April.

In June, my mother-in-law came to visit the new baby and stayed with us. During her stay, my husband asked for help in breaking down a big piece of concrete on the side of our house. It was back-breaking work; the two of them toiled for many hours in the hot summer sun.

For a bit there it seemed like they were just working for nothing — concrete is hard to break down! But then, something sparkled! Buried deep in the concrete, they found an engagement ring!

Ben asked several of the neighbors on our street, but no one recognized the ring. My mother-in-law took it in for an appraisal and the jeweler estimated that,

based on the style of setting, the ring was likely from the 1950s. While the ring itself doesn't hold much value, we could probably sell it for the stones and metals.

This lead me to think "what else have people uncovered?"

Paul and Sarah Donahue on Nilda uncovered notes and the 4/29/1954 issue of the *Mountain View Daily Register* in their wall when they remodeled their house. The note read:

Mtn. View — April 9, 1954

This home was built by Ben Ronchi + son Anthony in 1953. The street was named Nilda Ave. after Mrs. Nilda Ronchi. John and Fern Hesselein bought it and moved in Nov. 1, 1953. This was formerly an orchard. Mt. View had a population of 10,000. I removed an ironing board from this part of the wall so am leaving a note. We moved here from 1036 Sylvan Drive, San Carlos where we had lived for 5 years.

- John Hesselein



Engagement ring found on Nilda property.

There are also things that may or may not be considered "treasures." Joseph on Allison Avenue found "five used car tires (not kidding), three cubic yards of concrete, broken pottery, and a few matchbox cars" when he redid the backyard. Kavita on Stamm found old horseshoes and discovered her house used to be the site of a stable. Other neighbors have found razors and other random household goods when they've remodeled.

So, next time you're renovating, consider leaving a time capsule, or "treasures," for future generations to find! 🏠

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I have sold over 40 homes in Cuesta Park and love the Cuesta Park neighborhood. My children went to Bubbs and I have so many good friends and clients who love living in this beautiful part of Mountain View!



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Humane and Effective Gopher Control

By Mohan Gurunathan, Nilda Ave.

One day last summer, I was inside the house when suddenly I heard my two-year-old daughter, Aanika, yell from the backyard, "Gopher! Gopher Gopher Dada!" I ran outside with my older daughter, Ella, to see what the commotion was about. Aanika was sitting by a small mound of dirt, pointing at it with a huge smile on her face. A moment later, the cutest little creature poked his head out of the dirt, turned to look at each of us, then retreated back into his hole. For the next ten minutes, we played peek-a-boo with him. It was a delightful experience that my girls and I still talk about.

At this time, our yard was in pretty bad shape. Our sprinklers had been turned off since 2015 due to the drought, and the yard had become a tundra-like landscape dominated by weeds, crabgrass, and gopher mounds. I was thinking about re-doing our lawn, but didn't see the point of doing so if the gophers from nearby Cuesta Park Annex would just tear up anything we installed. So I began to research solutions for "gopher control."

Sadly, most of the common methods of gopher control are cruel and/or environmentally toxic. Many methods such as traps, poisons and chemical foggers are based on killing. These methods can cause terrible pain and suffering, not only to gophers, but to other wildlife such as squirrels and birds. Poisons are also a danger to children and pets. As an animal lover and a vegan, there was no way I was going to use one of these methods.

After all, gophers are simply trying to live their lives and take care of their families, and I couldn't kill them simply so I could have nice grass to look at. Plus gophers are actually great for soil health; they continuously till and aerate the soil and provide organic fertilizer in the form of plant matter and droppings. Moreover, studies show that killing gophers does not produce lasting results.

I did some more research and found there are plenty of humane methods for dealing with gophers. One method is to plant bulbs from the family *narcissus*, including daffodils, jonquils, and paperwhites. These bulbs emit an odor which naturally repels gophers. Another method is to allow weeds to grow in a small corner of your yard or garden. Gophers love to eat weeds, and if you allow them this "buffet," they will likely leave the rest of your yard alone.

We opted for a longer-term solution called gopher wire. The idea is to simply install a galvanized steel mesh, that will last at least 20-25 years, about 1 to 2 inches beneath your lawn. Gophers can tunnel under it, but can't penetrate through to the surface.

We had our landscaper rip out our old dead lawn, re-grade the yard, fix up the sprinklers, install the gopher wire and lay the sod on top. This was in July 2017. We've had zero gopher mounds since and the yard has remained lush and green. We love our new lawn and especially the fact that we didn't have to hurt gophers to enjoy it!

If you're considering installing gopher wire, here are a few tips:

- Make sure to use double-galvanized steel mesh with a ¾" square mesh or smaller. Our contractor used a ½" mesh, which is even better.
- After placing the gopher wire, it should be covered with 1 to 2 inches of topsoil before laying sod. Otherwise gophers can reach through and pull the grass down through the mesh.
- You can create vertical barriers, or "wire baskets" using the mesh to protect gardens, trees, and special plants.

Most importantly, find a landscaper who has experience doing this kind of job. We have a wonderful landscaper who re-did both of our lawns. I would be happy to recommend him. If you are interested, please contact me at bigmo@alum.mit.edu.

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Kids of Cuesta

We asked kids in our neighborhood, "What do you want to do when you grow up?"

I want to do big puzzles because they are fun.

CLAIRE, AGE 4

I want to go up in an airplane and jump out...I want to sky dive! I've seen it on TV and it looks cool. I just need a little help with the parachute.

HENRY, AGE 8

I want to climb Mt. Everest!

NAVEEN, AGE 10



I want to help people. I want to give them the life they deserve. I want to heal people.

JONAH, AGE 12

Be a truck driver! Because I think trucks are pretty cool. A big long truck that sells drinks.

LEO, AGE 5



I want to invent a jet pack or a time machine.

LUCA, AGE 7

I want to do something in the STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) field because it makes the world a better place.

JACOB, AGE 14

I want to be a billionaire. Isn't that what everyone wants to be?

PATRICK, AGE 10

Eat, sleep...I want to be like (my dad), without all the beer, wine and coffee.

LIAM, AGE 13

I want to learn to drive a car, fly an airplane and explore the American River all by myself.

MIA, AGE 9



I want to fly!

JUDA, AGE 5

I want to be a major league baseball player. If not, a software engineer.

YILDIZ, AGE 11



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Keeping Fitness Fun in Cuesta Park

By Christine Oakes, Bonita Ave

Temperatures are getting warmer and everyone in our neighborhood is going outside to enjoy the sunshine. With summer right around the corner, there's a good chance you are also looking to get into better shape. No more hiding under those baggy sweats; it's almost time to bring out the tank tops and shorts!

Luckily for you, we have an amazing park right in our neighborhood that can get you into tip top shape. As a personal trainer and yoga instructor, I frequently use things in the outdoor environment to help improve the strength and stamina of my clients — no fancy equipment required! If you are looking to take your workout away from the smelly gym and get your sweat on in the fresh air, consider Cuesta Park your new exercise playground.

Seven Ways to Get In Shape at Cuesta Park:

1. Slow Stroll

If you are fairly inactive, you may want to start with something simple. On my active recovery days, I like to grab a tea from Starbucks and then leisurely walk throughout Cuesta park. It's a great way to get your steps in if you have a fitness tracker or to just enjoy the fresh air for mental clarity.

2. Hill Sprints

Jog to the south side of the park and find rolling hills to incorporate intense intervals into your running routine. After warming-up, take a jog around the park. Once you approach the hills, start your sprint. Run as fast as you can. Then turn around and repeat 3 times. Continue with a slow jog around the park to recover. Repeat one more interval of sprints when you return back to the hills. Finish with a 5 minute cool down.

3. Friendly Volley

If you are looking to make your workout a group event, then hit up the volleyball courts. This can be a great idea if you have friends or family looking to enjoy an afternoon together. Reserve one of the nearby picnic tables to have a meal



Christine Oakes leads a yoga class in the park.

and then burn it off with a friendly game of volleyball. You can play with as little as 4 people (2 to a team). If you aren't used to playing, you may want to wear a long sleeved shirt to lessen the sting on your arms from volleying the ball.

4. Play with Fido

Not only can you let your dog off leash in the designated area of the park, but you too can get your heart pumping. Throw that ball and then run with your dog. There's a good chance they will beat you to it, but that doesn't mean you can't reap the benefits of taking short runs with your dog.

5. Stairs for Strength:

Cardio is a great way to get your heart strong, but so is strength training. There are a couple of areas in the park that have stairs that you can use to mix up your workout. You will find stairs next to the swings on the northern part of the park and near the playground. Here are exercises that I work in frequently with my clients:

PUSH UPS:

Make it easier by putting your hands on the steps so your body is at a decline. Too easy? Turn around and put your feet on the steps so your body is at a decline.

SINGLE LEG SQUATS:

Stand on one foot and put the other foot on a step behind you. Bending the knee of the standing leg, reach down towards the ground. Press through the standing foot to come back up. This helps hip and glute strength, as well as balance.

SEATED CRUNCHES:

Sit down on a step and place your hands on either side of your hips for support. Lean back slightly and draw both knees into your chest. This mostly works lower abs and your core.

6. Love:

Hitting the ball up and down the tennis court will get your heart working hard. Whether you have a partner to hit balls with or you just hit up the practice wall to work on your backhand, tennis is a great way to burn some major calories. If you are interested in how to join a tennis program or want to get lessons from a pro, check out Mountain View's site: www.mountainviewtennis.net

7. Namaste:

Roll out your mat in one of the large grassy areas and work on your yoga practice under a tree. Free of Silicon Valley distractions, you can work on your Warrior One or find yourself in a seated forward fold to lengthen your hamstrings. No matter where you are in your practice, you will have a peaceful environment to enjoy it in. Namaste! 🙏

Christine Oakes runs a successful health and wellness business in Mountain View, offering personal training, boot camps, yoga and lifestyle coaching. She is the author of [Reshape Your Health: A Beginners Guide to Getting Fit with No Money, Muscles, or Motivation](#).

Oakes holds multiple fitness certifications with ACE, NASM, TRX, and Yoga Alliance. Her clients know her for being creative, giving tough love and keeping them injury free.



CPNA: The Early Days By Paul Donahue, Nilda Ave.

The Cuesta Park Neighborhood Association (CPNA) was started in 2002 by three women in our neighborhood: Pam Miller, Nancy Smith and Kirsten Chan. The three founders applied for a city grant to help get the neighborhood association off the ground. They used some of the funds to advertise the first CPNA picnic at Cuesta Park which, compared to subsequent years, was lightly attended. Those of us who were there enjoyed a potluck meal and discussed the next steps.

The first official meeting to pick leaders was in October 2002. I volunteered to be the first president and found lots of support from many of our neighbors. The first year was a whirlwind of activity as we tried to get established.

A small army of dedicated volunteers, led by my wife Sarah, organized our 2003 summer picnic in Bubb Park. We planned for 100 people to attend but in the end there were over 300! Several of us missed much of the



At the 2003 CPNA picnic (left to right): Marilyn Neri (Montalto), Svetla Zlateva (Nilda), Andy Miller (Leona), Pam Miller (co-founder, Leona), Kirsten Chan (co-founder, moved to Ohio), Kim Merry (Begen), Paul Donahue — standing on a box — and Sarah Donahue (Nilda), Eric Lipanovich (moved to Portland), Annett Trail (moved to another Mountain View neighborhood).

picnic as we ran back and forth to stores to keep buying more food.

In late 2003, Dave Offen led the effort to launch our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) committee to prepare our neighborhood for a disaster such as an earthquake. Today, we have a supply trailer and

tireless neighborhood volunteers who meet and train regularly to help neighbors in times of need.

The association was thriving by the time Kirsten Chan moved out of state in 2005. Sadly, Nancy Smith passed away in 2006 though her legacy lives on. Pam Miller continues to serve as the

Early Days, continued on back cover

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The Poetry in Patterns

By Helen Richardson, Gretel Lane



The Poetry in Patterns is found easily in our early Spring Cuesta Park gardens. The bright colors and the scented air of late Spring are yet to come, but the remnants of

winter and early signs of spring are quietly on show. As I wander my new neighborhood, getting to know it through my lens, I am moved by how much beauty lies right at our doorsteps.

In every walk with nature,
one receives far more than
he seeks. - JOHN MUIR



Helen Richardson is a photographer who immerses herself in her subject. She enjoys nature, wildlife (especially wild horses) and portrait photography. She is happiest spending time with her family or on a long road trip with her camera for company. Her work can be found at helenrichardsonphotography.com



ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

Interview with Our Neighbor, Ming Luke

By Paul Hammer, Nilda Ave.

Ming Luke is the Principal Guest Conductor with the SF Ballet, the Music Director for both the Merced Symphony and the Berkeley Community Chorus and Orchestra and the Program Director for Festival Napa Valley. He also serves as the Associate Conductor and Education Director for the Berkeley Symphony and works as a guest conductor with ensembles around the world. Read more about Ming at his website: www.mingluke.com

PAUL: What's your background and education? I'm sure you started music as a child to get as far as you have.

MING: My parents told me that we went to a wedding when I was three and I sat in front of the string quartet for an entire hour. That's when they knew I had a musical connection. I started piano at three with my parents. We all started piano lessons at the same and they still take piano lessons from the same teacher. I learned violin in public grade school in New Jersey. I played in the local youth orchestra and sang in choirs. I did my undergraduate work at Westminster Private College, which is in Princeton, New Jersey and then grad school at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

PAUL: When did realize you wanted to go into conducting?

MING: As an undergrad, I was focusing on piano and I was interested in conducting but I didn't intend to pursue it directly. I went on a choir tour my freshman year in the winter to maybe a dozen different cities. The seventh performance was really odd because we sang a Ukrainian folk song in Ukrainian church. Something about that performance was so engaging for the performers and the audience. The conductor was, I now realize, the conduit for that. That's when I realized, 'Hey, this is our seventh time performing all this music, and it feels so fresh like the first time we performed it.' I realized the conductor wasn't dictating it but enabling it. I think that was the event that made me made me want to be a conductor.

PAUL: Please tell us about your current and past positions. What does a conductor's career involve in 2018?

MING: In the U.S., a distinction is made between orchestral conductors, choral conductors, operatic conductors and education conductors. I like a little bit of everything because, for example, composers didn't only write for a single genre. Tchaikovsky wrote just as much opera as he did symphonic plays and ballets. I feel conductors also should have a wide range of experience in various areas. I find it engaging and invigorating to work with different groups.

PAUL: I believe over Christmas you were in Tennessee for a while?

MING: Christmas was Nashville, and San Francisco. I went to Nashville the day after Thanksgiving for a run of Nutcracker there. Nashville has a smaller ballet company than San Francisco and they had performances on the weekend. So, I flew out to Nashville three different times and it was a total of 26 Nutcrackers between the two cities. It was a little much!

PAUL: When guest conducting, is there is certain amount of practice time before the first performance?

MING: It depends on the group. Professional groups usually have one to five rehearsals in total before a concert. For the Nutcracker this year in Nashville it was two. The Nutcracker actually is very difficult music, but musicians have played it many times, and everyone knows their part. First there was one orchestra rehearsal, then one rehearsal with the dancers and then we just started doing shows. I flew out there Wednesday, had rehearsals on Thursday, and the first performance was on Friday.

PAUL: Are you in competition with other conductors?

MING: The music world is pretty small. We tend to know most of each other quite well. When positions open up, many of us forward the information around to the people that are appropriate. So right now, for instance, there are some community groups that are opening up and so we've been forwarding some of the information to people looking for positions like that. There's not that many conductors graduating from music school.

PAUL: How did you come to live in Cuesta Park Neighborhood?

MING: My wife Angela went to Stanford for her PhD and post-doc and we lived in Palo Alto for a long time. Then we moved to Alameda for one year just to see what it would be like. That cut my commute to Napa and Sacramento. Then we started looking all around the Bay Area. Angela did the research and had very strict requirements about the schools and areas. We were only looking at specific neighborhoods. And about five years ago, 2012 or 2013, the housing market dipped,

Continued on next page.



Neighborhood Milestones



Emma Cummings, who grew up on Leona Lane, is engaged to be married to Cooper Hitchcock sometime after her graduation in June 2019 from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. They met through CRU, a campus Christian ministry, and he proposed to her on March 31, 2018 at Lake Tahoe near his family's home in Alpine Meadows.

Emma, who attended The King's Academy in Sunnyvale for middle and high school, pet-sat and house-sat for many families in the Cuesta Park neighborhood as a teenager and was the neighborhood newsletter distributor for Leona Lane for many years. We wish Emma and Cooper all the best!

Downtown Restaurant News

By Max Hauser, Guest Contributor from Old Mountain View

Korean tabletop-grill restaurant **Ginseng** aka **The Grill Story** (475 Castro) became **K-Pot Grill** (www.kpotgrill.com).

216 Castro's **Quality Bourbons & Barbecue** opened in September: award-winning barbecue chef, many Bourbon whiskeys.



Four-year-old Indian eatery **Park Balluchi**, 288 Castro, "re-branded" itself **Mantra India**, promising menu updates.



Biryani specialist **BiryaniZ** replaced **Shalimar Sizzle** at 246 Castro in October (I've had good inexpensive biryani meals there; a place for people who like spices of all kinds).

The business formerly **Drunken Lobster** (212 Castro) closed for remodeling under its new owner, who declared intent to reopen soon as **Maison Alyzee**, a French bakery and café with "three pastry chefs from Paris."

1 Oz. Coffee became downtown's newest coffee house in January at 650 Castro #130, offering espresso drinks and Alexander's Patisserie pastries.



Since February **Bangkok Spoon**, 702 Villa, has been shut but its plans are unclear.

Wine bar **Le Plonc** opened March 19 at 331 Castro, previously La Panotiq.



Another of three pending Castro-St. bakery-cafés, **C'est Si Bon** from San José, known for fancy custom cakes, is "Coming Soon" to 282 Castro.

SweetHoney "authentic Hong Kong style desserts" opened at 841 Villa, formerly Song Pa.



Other closures since Fall 2017: La Panotiq, Omelette House @ Ava's, Posh Bagel, Song Pa Korean Cuisine.

Ongoing projects unfinished at this writing: **Fu Lam Mum** (153-155 Castro), downstairs now remodeling; new 317-Castro site of Korean-influenced bakery-café chain **Paris Baguette**; popular Middle-Eastern grocer-delicatessen-grill-caterer **Rose International Market** to reopen near its old site when the El Camino Real/Castro corner project completes.



Ming Luke, continued from p.10

the price looked really great and my parents helped out a little bit with the down payment. It all just happened at the time we were looking and so everything worked out really well.

PAUL: Well, we're glad you're here with us. Thanks for spending the time!

Ming: Sure thing. Thanks. 🍂

Artists in Residence is a recurring column about notable artists who live or work in the Cuesta Park neighborhood.



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Early Days, continued from p.7

association's treasurer, a position she has held since the beginning.

The leadership has changed through the years, but CPNA continues to be a way to bring Cuesta Park residents together, to inform neighbors about issues affecting us and to prepare our neighborhood for disasters. It is the efforts, large and small, of hundreds of community members that have made our neighborhood association so successful over the last 15 years and that will make it successful for years to come.

If you'd like to volunteer for neighborhood planning, activities or events, please contact CPNA president Aileen LaBouff at Aileen@Serenogroup.com

NEW TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

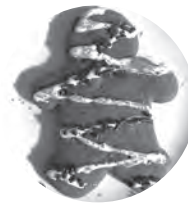
Join the CPNA Yahoo Group to stay up to date on the latest community news. The group is open to all residents and those owning residential property within the CPNA boundaries. Email your membership request to CPNAtalk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com; please include your street address!

HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS ACROSS CUESTA PARK



Our Family Christmas Portrait (top left)
- KIM MERRY, BEGEN AVE

One thing we like to do at Christmas is bake and decorate gingerbread people. This tradition came down from my paternal grandmother, who always brought gingerbread men to us at Christmas, and whose metal gingerbread man cutter is now an ornament for our tree.



- WENDY NELSON, BONITA AVE

Here's a picture from the New Year's fireworks from Taipei 101 (top right). It was the best fireworks show I've ever seen in my life!

- MERRY YEN, NILDA AVE



For Chinese New Year, we get ready to receive the new year by cleaning and tidying up the house, putting up red scrolls (揮春) of blessings and wishes for the new year! On the first day of the new year, we eat 年糕 (glutinous rice cake) for breakfast, and also eat 湯圓 (glutinous rice ball with sweet fillings), which is a homophone for union/gathering, after dinner. On top of gathering with friends and relatives, the most exciting thing for kids is that they get to receive pocket money! For parents, a game of Mahjong with friends is always a fun way to add to the celebration!

- KENDRICK & JANET, GRETAL AVE

CSAs and CSFs in the Area



Purchasing from a **Community Supported Agriculture** (CSA) or a **Community Supported Fishery** (CSF) is a way for individuals, families, and businesses to connect with and support local small farms and fisheries, and to receive fresh, healthy produce, fish and other seasonal foods. Check out these local organizations offering pickup and/or home delivery in Cuesta Park, broader Mountain View and Los Altos.

Pick up in CUESTA PARK:

- Blue House Farm: BlueHouseFarm.com
- Frog Hollow Farm: HappyChildCSA.com
- Full Belly Farm: FullBellyFarm.com
- High Ground Organics: HighGroundOrganics.com

Pick up and/or home delivery in LOS ALTOS

- Freshness Farms: FreshnessFarms.com
- Ocean2Table: GetOcean2Table.com
- Real Good Fish: RealGoodFish.com



Pick up and/or home delivery in MOUNTAIN VIEW

- Ananda Valley Farm: AnandaValleyFarm.com
- Eating with the Seasons: EatWithTheSeasons.com
- Farm Fresh to You: FarmFreshToYou.com
- Fifth Crow Farm: FifthCrowFarm.com
- GrubMarket: GrubMarket.com
- H&H Fresh Fish: HHFreshFish.com
- Imperfect Produce: ImperfectProduce.com
- Live Earth Farm: LiveEarthFarm.net
- Real Food Bay Area: RealFoodBayArea.DeliveryBizPro.com
- Sea Forager Seafood: SeaForager.com