

CUESTA CONNECTIONS

The Cuesta Park Neighborhood Association Newsletter | Fall 2018



LOCAL HISTORY MATTERS

Long-time Cuesta Park Residents Helen and Chris Ogaz Celebrate 70 Years of Marriage By Kavita Aiyar, Stamm Ave.



Helen and Christopher Ogaz have lived on Sonia Way in the Cuesta Park neighborhood for over 60 years, and have seen Mountain View grow and change over that time. They recently celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary and along with their son Phillip and daughter Liz, shared a bit about their life together.

Helen, 98 years old, was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico on August 18, 1920, the youngest of 15 children. Chris, 102 years old, is the 5th of 11 kids and was born in a small cabin in the middle of a fierce snowstorm on April 12, 1916, also in Albuquerque. The wind was gusting so strong that day, Chris recalls his parents telling him, that the snow blew into the house through the cracks in the wood siding. Originally immigrating from Spain, both families had lived in the Americas for several generations before finally settling in Albuquerque.

Pictured above: Guadalupe Sanchez (Helen's mother), Helen, Chris, Sara and Florencio Ogaz, (Chris' Parents), on their wedding day in 1948.

Although Helen and Chris attended different schools, their families both attended the San Felipe de Neri church in "Old Town" and they crossed paths casually through church groups and clubs. The advent of World War II got in the way of further acquaintance though. Chris joined the Army in 1940 and started with the Corps of Engineers. During the course of the war, Chris was stationed in both Europe and North Africa, and was later transferred to Germany in 1945 when the war finally finished. To get home, Chris embarked on an arduous 10-day journey, though it was considered quite quick for the time. He first traveled by train to Marseille, France then by a B-17 to Casablanca, followed by a flight to Florida with a stopover in Brazil, before taking a train to his home base of Fort Bliss, Texas. And we complain when we don't have a non-stop flight today!

IN THIS ISSUE:

Kids of Cuesta	p. 3
Learning from Our Neighbors	p. 4
Tips for Gardening Success	p. 5
Downtown Restaurant News	p. 7
Get to Know City Council Candidates	p. 8
Neighborhood Happenings	p. 10
New Neighbors	p. 12
What is CPNA?	p. 12
Where in the World of Cuesta Park?	p. 12

After being honorably discharged, Chris returned to Albuquerque and was working at a service station when he noticed a pretty girl in a car at the nearby stop sign. Running over to talk to her, he realized it was his old acquaintance Helen, but he was too shy to ask her out. It was up to Helen, encouraged by Chris' sister, who finally invited Chris to a hayride in early 1947. They dated for about a year before Chris proposed on his 32nd birthday in 1948. Luckily for him, Helen gave him the best birthday present and said YES!

They decided to get married in September of that year, and Helen recalls that when she was shopping for her wedding dress in August, all the bridal shops were closed for the season. Typically, they were only open April-June to support summer weddings. "Luckily," she remembers, "my niece Lucy had just got married so she loaned me her dress and it fit!"

As their lives together began, Chris joined the University of New Mexico on the

See Helen and Chris, p. 2

Helen and Chris, continued from cover

G.I. Bill majoring in Industrial Arts. Two children, Mike (b. 1951) and Liz (b. 1953) followed as Chris was wrapping up his degree. A fortuitous visit by Helen's sister Charlotte and her husband prompted a move to California, where Chris would join his machinist brother-in-law at a manufacturing company in Rodeo (in the East Bay.) After a few months, the family then moved to San Francisco, where Chris took a job teaching at the Boys' Club and Helen worked in insurance. In 1956, an offer of work came from NASA Ames and the family picked up and shifted south to Mountain View.

Their first house was at 642 Sonia Way, a recently built, wood frame 2-bedroom home. The asking price was a mere \$10,000! At that time, the small housing development on Sonia Way was surrounded by orchards – Cuesta Park, Graham Middle School and the offices across the street were all apricot orchards. A barn with one horse was located on Lane Avenue, next to the alley. The local children would visit the horse and pick almonds from a few straggling trees growing on the fence line. Helen also remembers seeing cherry orchards stretching along El Camino Real between Mountain View and Sunnyvale while riding in the family car.

Third child Phillip was born in 1958 at Stanford Hospital, and the subsequent need for space prompted a move to a larger house at 768 Sonia Way. Around this time, Graham Middle School was being built, and the neighborhood kids had a great time playing "army" in the construction trenches and piles of dirt after the workmen had left for the day.

While Chris' days at NASA were spent supporting space research, and Helen worked part-time in insurance, the kids attended local schools. At that time, the kids of Sonia Way went to Bubb, though when Phillip and Jerry, who was born in 1963, started kindergarten, they went to Landels. Even back then, school boundaries could be fluid, though there were school buses available to take the burden off parents. Kids were even bussed from Sonia Ave to Bubb!

The intersection of Castro and El Camino Real had two car dealerships and a gas station while the site of the new Elan apartment complex had a revolving array of businesses including a donut



Ogaz family members gather at Helen and Chris' 70th wedding anniversary celebration.

shop offering glazed donuts for 5¢ each and special donuts for 6¢. Clarke's Charcoal Broil and Frankie, Johnny and Luigi Too are the only nearby businesses that remain put to this day.

After leaving elementary school, the Ogaz kids attended St. Joseph's School through 8th grade, and then moved on to local high schools. Liz went to Holy Cross High, which was located right next to St. Joseph's, while the boys went to Mountain View High, which used to be where Amici's Pizza is today. Eagle Park was the site of the school's playing fields. If you were ever wondering why the street right there is called High School Way, now you know! As far as Helen and Chris remember, there have been exactly two snow days in the last 50 years – one in 1961 and the other in 1976. Schools were closed, and the kids built snowmen in the front yard.

To this day, Helen fondly recalls the tight community on Sonia Way and that they "were all friends, looking out for one another, helping each other. It really was lovely." Phillip remembers an idyllic childhood. He and his friends had a lot of freedom, and used to ride their bikes everywhere—to wade in Permanente Creek (an open tomato field next to Holy Cross allowed easy access), play kickball or tetherball at Graham Middle School, take swim lessons at the new Rengstorff Park pool, watch afternoon baseball at McKelvey Park, do some dirt riding at the vacated site of Foothill College (where the Two Worlds complex is located today) or even visit the new Jack in the Box restaurant on El Camino after school. The only challenging thing was that navigating El Camino was a messy proposition: the road had few

curbs or sidewalks in those days, so often the bikes would slip in the loose gravel or splash up mud and water from potholes along the edge of the road. In addition, as cars pulled up in front of the stores along El Camino, they would splash any unwary passers-by!

"Besides loving each other, you just need to respect that others have opinions of their own. You need to be willing to compromise."

Helen Sanchez,
on the secret to a long marriage.

At home on Sonia Way today, Chris and Helen spend their time listening to music, keeping up with local events (newspaper and TV), writing family history, and regularly attending St. Joseph's Church

See Helen and Chris, p.3



102 year old Chris Ogaz with his wife, 98 year old Helen Ogaz celebrate 70 years of marriage.

Kids of Cuesta

We asked kids in our neighborhood, “What’s the smartest thing your mom or dad ever told you?” For this issue, we’re keeping identities confidential to protect the parents of our respondents!

Stop watching TV!
Right now! I mean it!
“ROSIE,” AGE 5

Get off the roof!
“PUMPKIN,” AGE 10

That the perimeter is
the outside and the
area is the inside.
“TINY BOB,” AGE 10

No phones at the table!
And that I can climb to
the top of the ladder.
“LELE,” AGE 5 3/4

The way to find answers
to really hard math
problems. “ZERO,” AGE 8

If you can’t do something
one way the first time,
try it a different way
the next time to see if it
works better.
“LITTLE TURKEY,” AGE 10

**Don’t dive into the
shallow end of the
pool.** “BATMAN,” AGE 6

Don’t wear your
socks outside.
“BANANA,” AGE 7000

**Be who and what you
want to be because
it’s your choice and
nobody else’s.**

“I DON’T DO CODE NAMES,”
AGE 13

If you’re going to climb
buildings, make sure you
wear your Spiderman
boots and gloves.
“NUTTY,” AGE 5

Study hard and get a
good job and don’t forget
to take a shower.
“CUPCAKE GIRL,” AGE 11

Look both ways before
you cross the street.
“THE SPECIAL JUAN,”
AGE 10

**Most things that are
scary are probably
scared of you.**

“CRAZY JEFF,” AGE 8902

Fold the laundry and
brush your teeth.
“M&M,” AGE 10

That I’m one minute older
than my twin brother.
Ha ha!
“PUMPKIN PIE,” AGE 10

Helen and Chris, continued from p.2

and participating in some church activities. Chris still gets around on his own with an electric scooter that he bought when he was 100 years old! Fortunately, the four children still live in the Bay Area and can visit regularly.

Helen reflects on their long marriage and thinks the “secret” is pretty straight-forward: “Besides loving each other, you just need to respect that others have opinions of their own. You need to be willing to compromise. That’s it.” Sound advice that we all can use not only in marriage, but also in our daily lives!

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

Vote November 6th

ELLEN KAMEI

for Mountain View City Council



**Firefighters, environmentalists
& neighbors support Ellen!**



I've spent years contributing to our City of Mountain View as a community volunteer, public policy professional, and Environmental Planning Commissioner, including time as Chair. I've worked to ensure that as our city changes and grows, our city maintains its unique character, diversity, & high quality of life.

As a third generation Mountain View resident and the granddaughter & daughter of small business owners, I will be the strong, collaborative & innovative leader you deserve as we tackle challenges. I will bring my track record of listening, respect for all, and pragmatic consensus building to Council, encouraging residents participation. I would be honored to earn your vote. Visit EllenKamei.com to learn more.



#3 on your ballot!

My Priorities For Mountain View Include:

- **Housing for Middle & Low Income Residents**
- **Environmental Sustainability Awareness**
- **Addressing Oversized Vehicle Concerns**
- **Top Quality Services For Every Neighborhood**

EllenKamei.com

Connect with us!  @mntnviewellen
650.318.1124 | ellen@ellenkamei.com

Paid for by Ellen Kamei for MV Council 2018 FPPC#1367176 | PO Box 1356, MV, CA 94041

Learning From Our Neighbors: Masako Staulo

By Kavita Aiyar, Stamm Ave.

Starting a new career when you have young children at home is not an easy undertaking. Cuesta Park resident Masako Staulo shared a little about how she went about it.

How did you decide you wanted to go back to work?

My three kids were a bit older and all in school, so I wanted to explore something for myself. I knew I didn't want to go back to the job I had previously, so I started thinking about what I might want to do. A lunch conversation with a good friend of mine evolved into a business idea – and two years later, we have an interior design business together.

Why interior design?

I've always been interested in design—I just never realized it could be a business that I could be a part of because my background is in something else. My friend Yoshie broached the subject of starting a design service with me over lunch one day. I was surprised and nervous at first, but I knew how talented she was at design, so I thought with her as a business partner, that this could really become a reality. It felt in my gut like it was the right thing to do, so it didn't take me that long to say yes.

Below: Masako Staulo, Cuesta Park resident and co-founder of Dash of Whimsy



Black and white themed girls bedroom with a mix of playful and modern elements.

What is your firm about?

We're called "Dash of Whimsy." We work in different styles but our specialty is a modern and warm mid-century aesthetic. Yoshie takes the lead on drawing and design, while I take care of the business side. We try and do as much as we can together when time allows, so we can learn from each other.

How do you balance kids and work?

I'm very fortunate that I am to be able to ask for and get help. I share some things with other moms, like dropping and picking up the kids from school and their activities, while outsourcing other things when the business is busier like shopping (Yay InstaCart and Good Eggs!) and cooking (I've had good luck with Sun Basket.) My youngest son's godparent is also really involved in helping with the kids. It's also important to keep a perspective. The kids are young, and they still need us. So when the work slows down, we're ok, and even welcome that. And sometimes, when things are busier, we work at nights or on weekends to catch up.

What does your family think of you going back to work?

I'm lucky that my family is very supportive. It makes me feel good that the kids are interested in what I do: they ask questions, they want to see stuff – it's great! My husband also chips in and helps take care of the kids if I have to work on a weekend.

What have you learned creating your own start-up firm vs. a regular 9-5 job?

I've done both and what I've learned is that it is very difficult to draw a line between working and non-working hours

when you have your own business! In our first year, things went pretty slow. We found it hard to put time aside for our work because "real life" kept interrupting. Now with experience, we are able to manage our business time better. We work out of our homes—sometimes I go to her house, sometimes she comes to mine - which can be challenging, but since most of our work is at client sites, we realized that with a bit of structure and boundary-setting at our homes, we didn't need to create a separate office for both of us to go to.

What advice would you give to stay-at-home-moms (or dads) starting up their own business?

I think it's important to just do it. I thought about doing something for a long time, and you know what, there is never a "right" time. Once you start doing it, it just comes to you what's important, and if it's something that you really want to do, it somehow just happens.

Find out more about what Masako is up to at dashofwhimsyinterior.com



Tips for Gardening Success

By Vera Kark and Joan Cloutier, Master Gardeners, Santa Clara County

Replacing a lawn with low water plants? Want to grow vegetables or fruit trees? Follow these tips for successful gardens.

There is a reason our area is called "Blossom Valley" or "Valley of Heart's Delight." Prune and apricot orchards used to cover this valley and our homes have been built on this exact land. We have inherited the good soil and great Mediterranean climate for growing.

TIP 1: Soil

How can this clay that seems tough as a rock be good? Our soil is nutrient rich and holds water well, but it is lacking in organic matter. Incorporating compost into your soil helps to loosen the hard clay and creates a wonderful foundation for planting. Sources for compost include the SMaRT Station in Sunnyvale.

TIP 2: Location

What you can plant successfully depends on what you plant and where you plant it. Some humans like snow and chilly weather, while others prefer warm sunny beaches; the same is true for plants. Take time to get to know your garden. Where are the sunniest areas? Does this change in the summer vs winter? Is there a part of your yard that gets more frost? Bakes in the hot afternoon sun? Each one of these details influence the success of a plant.

TIP 3: Right Plant, Right Place

Before spending \$3 or \$300 for a plant, get to know the plants characteristics. Does it prefer sun, part sun or shade? Does it want lots of water or no water at all (once established.) Will it grow 8 inches tall and 12 inches wide or is its final size 6 feet or taller? Some plants, like Ceanothus come in wide varieties; some remain short and act as ground cover, while other varieties can end up 18 feet tall! Research to be sure you get the variety of plant that best suits your needs. There is a lot of good information on the internet but always read the plant label carefully and ask the nursery where you purchase your plant for more information about a plant.



David Morey, proprietor of Mtn. View Nursery, 1908. Photo courtesy Mtn. View Public Library

TIP 4: Shop Carefully

In addition to choosing the right type of plant, check that the plant you purchase is healthy and vigorous. The biggest plant in the bunch may not be the best in the long term. Are the roots growing out of the bottom of the pot? That plant may be stunted or stressed by being in the pot too long. Are there yellowing or withering leaves? This may indicate disease or poor care in the nursery. Does the plant have new fresh growth? This indicates a healthy vigorous specimen. These are all things to check for when choosing the best plant.

See Gardening, p. 6

John Inks

City Council 2018

I look forward to serving Mountain View residents and businesses again by emphasizing:

- **Conserving City surpluses**
- **Economic growth instead of new taxes and fees to generate revenue**
- **Support economical housing and development without mandates**

www.ElectInks.com

FPPC ID# 1407814

johninks@sbcglobal.net

650.941.4167



City Council should not use your sales and property tax dollars to subsidize RVs on Mountain View streets.

Endorsed by Many Mountain View Citizens, Businesses, Commissioners, Former Mayors and

**Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association
Silicon Valley Association of Realtors**

Vote for John Inks November 6

Gardening, continued from p.5

TIP 5: Water

How much is the right amount? It depends on the soil, the weather, the plant. Hand watering is the most effective way to control water usage, but this is not always practical. Automatic watering systems, especially those with drip irrigation can be tuned to distribute water efficiently to plant roots with less evaporation loss as from above ground sprinklers. Over watering can kill a plant as easily as not enough water. The best way to determine the moisture content of the soil, is to dig into it and feel. Is there a lot of water on the surface, a few inches down, or deeper? A layer of mulch helps the ground retain moisture. Free mulch is available from local tree trimmers. They are happy to drop a load of wood chips in your driveway for you to spread on your garden.

TIP 6: Pests

For snails and slugs, the best way to reduce them is search your entire yard for them at night with a flashlight or headlamp. Put them in a bucket half

full of water and some detergent. In the morning put them in the compost pile.

Insects are our friends! They provide pollination and pest control. A garden with a diversity of plants attracts a balance of insects including the "good" bugs that eat the pests. Avoid using pesticides, they destroy the balance in a garden, killing the helpful insects as well as the bad. Plant flowers with tiny blooms like alyssum, thyme, or mustard. Their flowers provide beauty and a great habitat for beneficial insects.

TIP 7: Weeds

Don't let weeds go to seeds! Weeds compete with your garden plants for light, space, water, and nutrients. They will win if you don't fight back. Make weed pulling a habit; one year's seeds can equal seven years (or more) weeds.

TIP 8: Maintenance

Learn before lopping. Proper pruning trains young plants, shapes for appearance, shape and size, influences flowering and fruiting, and invigorates stagnant growth. Maintenance of your garden keeps it looking good and reduces

pests. Rake leaves from beneath fruit trees to limit pests overwintering and reinfection of your trees. Remove dead and diseased plant or parts of plants so that they will not infect other plants.

TIP 9: Enjoy

Linger in your garden. Nature can be a sanctuary, a place apart from the busy world we live in. Take time to enjoy the beauty of your garden, share it with family and plan for improvements.



Master Gardeners of Santa Clara are volunteers whose goal is to help you be successful in your garden. Their website provides information on various aspects of gardening, a calendar with upcoming events like talks at demonstration gardens and local libraries. Contact the "Hotline" via email or phone to get answers to your specific questions: mgsc@ucanr.edu

See page 8 for **Gardening Resources** and recommendations from the Master Gardeners.

RE-ELECT Pat

2016 Mayor
4 years on City Council

9
years on the Planning Commission

34 YR RESIDENT & VOLUNTEER

40 YEARS as a professional Civil engineer

www.patshowalter.com

Downtown Restaurant News

By Max Hauser

In May a new açai bowl shop, **Vitality Bowls**, opened at 650 Castro where Mahalo Bowl was.



Treats on Castro (C'est Si Bon's 282-Castro bakery outlet) opened June 1. www.treatsoncastro.com

The **Peet's Coffee** at El Camino Real/Castro southwest corner reopened mid-June in new quarters.



Wine bar **Le Plonc**, 331 Castro, added a lavish brunch menu on weekends from 11-4.



Business hours have been limited at **Gelato Classico** at 241 Castro; the owner evidently has been short-handed even at the \$18+ per hour offered.

Maison Alyzée (French bakery and tea room, 212 Castro) opened at the end of July.

Chop & Pub, the small-plates restaurant at 124 Castro since late 2017, now offers lunch service featuring burgers and other casual fare.



Turkish bakery-café **Olympus** got City approval to expand from 135 Castro into an adjacent retail space.

A Mountain View outpost of Los Gatos-based restaurant group **Flights** is pending at 800 California at Castro, where **Shiva's** closed in June. flightsrestaurants.com



Alcohol-license notice for 210 Hope at Villa (former Verde Tea Kitchen site) proclaims a coming restaurant, working name **Superhot Hot Pot & Korean BBQ**.

A similar notice September 13 announced new ownership at **Fu Lam Mum**, 153 Castro, whose massive remodeling progresses.



End-of-September transitions: **Bierhaus** (383 Castro) closed, as did **HanGen Szechuan** after 25 years at 134 Castro (a new restaurant is planned there). 315 Castro's new **Paris Baguette** bakery-café opened.



Projecting years of potential obstacles to a stalled redevelopment proposal, venerable Villa Street pub **Tied House** has opted to reinvest

and revitalize, says General Manager John Savage. The pub is here to stay for the foreseeable future, with fresh interior, expanded menu, and "nine new guest taps" besides its own beers.



Max Hauser reports restaurant news in the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Newsletter.



LUCAS RAMIREZ
CITY COUNCIL

"His thoughtful and thorough approach to issues makes Lucas Ramirez an excellent addition to the Mountain View City Council."

Anna Eshoo
Congresswoman

VOTE for Lucas by mail or at the polls on NOVEMBER 6

LEARN MORE ABOUT LUCAS at RamirezforCouncil.com

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Get to Know City Council Candidates

By Merry Yen, Nilda Ave.

This November, Mountain View residents will have a choice of six candidates to fill three seats on the City Council.

The six include retired urban planner Alison Hicks, former City Councilman John Inks, legislative director Ellen Kamei, public policy analyst Lucas

Ramirez, City Councilwoman Pat Showalter, and Mayor Lenny Siegel.

We asked the candidates to tell us a little about themselves and what they plan to focus on if they're elected to City Council.



Alison Hicks

Over the next decade Mountain View is likely to grow faster than any other city in the Bay Area. We need to take serious steps to ensure that growth is healthy. I have a Masters of City Planning from UC Berkeley and a career that includes improving parks and schoolyards, creating affordable housing, planning walkable streets, homeless transitional housing and downtown revitalization.

I will be the only city council member with experience making development livable and equitable. I am endorsed by the Sierra Club as well as many Mountain View leaders and individuals.

www.alisonhicks4council.com



John Inks

City Council 2009-2016
Mayor 2013
Parks and Recreation and Planning Commissioner 2002-2008

Principal Goal: Streamline planning and development policies to accelerate housing production.
electinks.com



Ellen Kamei

I am a community volunteer, public policy professional, and two-term Environmental Planning Commissioner, including serving as Chair. As your Council member, I will continue working to ensure that as we change and grow, Mountain View maintains its unique character, diversity, and high quality of life.

As a third generation Mountain View resident and granddaughter of local small business owners, I understand our community's issues. The City needs multi-modal transportation options, solutions for our vehicle dweller population, pragmatic ways to address environmental sustainability, and access to open space and parks. I'll represent your voice in City Hall, and I would be honored to earn your vote.
www.ellenkamei.com

GARDENING RESOURCES (continued from p.6)

UC Davis has online resources with extensive information for gardeners:

- Statewide Integrated Pest Management: ipm.ucanr.edu
- The Backyard Orchard: homeorchard.ucanr.edu
- The California Garden Web: cagardenweb.ucanr.edu

Free Compost is available to residents of Sunnyvale, Los Altos, Mountain View and Palo Alto at SMaRT Station:

- Open 8 am–5 pm, 7 days a week
- 301 Carl Rd, Sunnyvale
- Limit 96 gallons per week. Bring your own shovel and containers.
- The compost is made from local yard waste and is certified organic. Supply can vary.
- Call before you visit: 408-752-8530

Free wood chips are available by contacting local tree services or check out ChipDrop, helping arborists get rid of wood chips and helping gardeners get cheap mulch: getchipdrop.com

Plant research:

- Arboretum All Stars: arboretum.ucdavis.edu/arboretum_all_stars.aspx
- CA Native Plant Society: www.cnps.org

- California Rare Fruit Growers: crrfg.org

Plant growers often have excellent information about their plants:

- Dave Wilson Nursery: davewilson.com
- Suncrest Nurseries: suncrestnurseries.com



Lenny Siegel

Mountain View is showing that it's possible to address our joint crisis in housing and traffic by building mixed-use medium-density car-light neighborhoods complete with housing, employment, retail, schools, and parks near our employment centers and transit.

With this approach, we can strengthen our economy, preserve our existing neighborhoods, enhance our quality of life, protect the environment, and retain the diversity that our community treasures. I urge you to elect three members to the Council who will stay the course.

lennysiegelforcouncil.net



Lucas Ramirez

The housing crisis and severe traffic congestion threaten our city's long-term health. As a life-long resident, member of the Planning Commission, former Chair of the Human Relations Commission, and a longtime City Council observer on behalf of the League of Women Voters, I have a deep understanding of the unique issues facing our city.

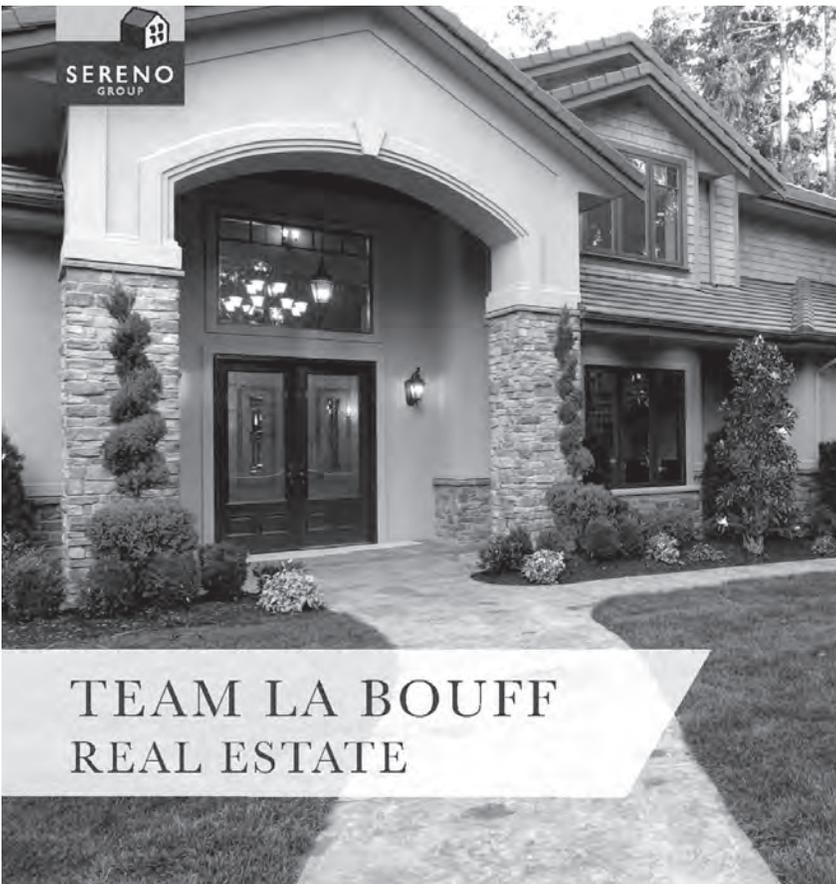
I support building housing for all income levels, fair implementation of the rent stabilization program (Measure V), and safe parking areas for RVs. I would be honored to serve you on the City Council, and I look forward to working hard to earn your vote. ramirezforcouncil.com



Pat Showalter

It has been an honor to serve on the City Council and as Mayor of the community that has been my home for 34 years. If re-elected I will continue to champion housing, reducing traffic, protecting our environment and civility. I'm proud of our accomplishments: raising minimum wage; adding 2500 housing units, 370 of them affordable; making our streets safer for bikes and walkers; and opening 3 new parks.

In my 2nd term, getting housing built in the North Bayshore will be job one. I'm progressive, pragmatic and persistent. patshowalter.com



TEAM LA BOUFF
REAL ESTATE

For decades, Aileen has provided unparalleled real estate advice to help Sellers and Buyers in Silicon Valley make the best real estate decisions with the least amount of stress.

Resident of Cuesta Park

Supporter of Bubb School

Supporter and President of CPNA



650-804-0522

teamlabouff@serenogroup.com

DRE # 01392043

WWW.TEAMLABOUFF.COM

Neighborhood Happenings

It's been a busy summer and fall in the Cuesta Park Neighborhood. Here are a few snapshots of some of the neighborhood gatherings held since our last newsletter.



Block Party

It can be easy to host a block party. Just invite a bunch of neighbors over. This one came together recently with s'mores and a borrowed fire pit. What would yours look like?



Piano Club

Contributed by Paul Hammer
Photo courtesy of Helen Richardson

In September, a group of Cuesta Park Neighborhood friends got together to play music at a gathering called Piano Club. People come to play (and listen) for the sheer joy of live music. Children & adults perform new pieces or pieces they have re-learned. There is no formal program; no music is too short, or too simple. Like signing up for a running race, people are motivated to practice for the upcoming event, and bring their family members to listen.

Musicians and the pieces played were:

- Juliet: [Where did you get that hat?](#)
- Violet: [Exam Piece](#), [First Piece](#), [Tango Staccato](#)
- David: [Black Bird](#) by the Beatles (guitar)
- Sydney: [Red River Valley](#)
- Paul: [Sunrise](#) by Paul and [Thanksgiving](#) by George Winston
- Makena: [Blue Bird](#)
- Chloe: [On The Bridge at Avignon](#)
- Nathan: [Le Petit Negre](#) by Debussy
- Jens: [Sonatina in G Major](#) by Clemente
- Cathy: [Cannon in D](#) by Vivaldi
- Mohan: [Impromptu in G-flat Major](#) by Schubert, [Etude in A-flat Major](#) by Chopin
- Karen and Matthias: [On My Own](#) from *Le Mis* (Karen singing)
- Philipp and Serafina: [Der Strom des Lebens](#) by Philipp, [Review](#) by Dougherty (Serafina singing)



Cuesta Park Neighborhood Association (CPNA) Annual Picnic

Another great gathering of friends and neighbors in Cuesta Park this September, with food provided once again courtesy of Rose Market.

Photo courtesy of Sarah Donahoe



Young Entrepreneurship
Contributed by Kavita Aiyar

A lemonade stand can be a lucrative endeavor, especially when there's a weekend event on Castro Street and all these hot and sweaty people have to walk by our neighborhood!



National Good Neighbor Day
Contributed by Rick Van Mell

The Bubb Park Mothers & Dogs Society (BPMDS) had a pleasantly cool evening with lots of low-key family time for 16 families, 44 people and 4 dogs.

Our National Good Neighbor Day theme worked out well with many families and family friendly food. Several pastas and meatballs were a hit. Of course the cake always goes over well, but an added treat was Stuart Neubarth's fresh-baked warm brownies. Several kids and adults took some of each!

Successfully serving
Cuesta Park for
more than 20 years



How can I help you?



Nancy Adele Stuhr



Mountain View Neighborhood Specialist

650.575.8300 email: nstuhr@serenogroup.com

web: nancystuhr.com | facebook.com/nancyadelestuhr



CaIDRE #00963170

New Neighbors

A big Cuesta Park welcome to new neighbors who have recently moved to the Cuesta Park neighborhood.



Sandy Yao, Julian Yu, and their daughter Melody moved to Sonia Ave.

What do you like about Cuesta Park?
"It's so convenient! You're near everything, but it's also very quiet."



The Provencher family moved to Lola Lane. They have three daughters: Claire, Cate and Cara.

What do you like about Cuesta Park?
"The neighbors! Everyone has been so warm and welcoming since we moved in."

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!

WHAT IS CPNA?

The Cuesta Park Neighborhood Association (CPNA) was formed in 2002 to promote a sense of community pride in our neighborhood, to increase emergency preparedness, to sponsor social activities for residents, and to act as a common voice to express our neighbors' wishes and grievances to the City of Mountain View.

CPNA is not a homeowners' association. We do not enforce any covenants that homeowners may have, and we are not exclusively for homeowners. Anyone who lives in the neighborhood is automatically a CPNA member, including a large number of renters, many of whom have lived here

for decades. Our neighborhood boundaries are Miramonte Avenue, El Camino Real, Grant Road, and the back side of Cuesta Park/Villa Siena Senior Living Community.

The CPNA Steering Committee consists of:

President:	Aileen LaBouff
Vice President:	Jan Peters
Treasurer:	Pam Miller
Secretary:	Kavita Aiyar
Member-at-large:	Safdar Ighanian
Newsletter Co-Chairs:	Kavita Aiyar / Amy Rhoads
Social Chair:	Peter Pirnejad
CERT Chair:	Hugo Penafiel

WHERE IN THE WORLD OF CUESTA PARK?



Photo courtesy of Helen Richardson

Can you guess where this cute picture was taken? Hint: It's somewhere in our neighborhood. When you're ready, you can find the answer at the bottom of this page (you will need to flip the newsletter upside down.) No peeking!



To advertise in the Cuesta Connections newsletter, please contact CPNA President Aileen LaBouff at Aileen@SerenoGroup.com

Answer: Mountain View Fire Station #2 at 160 Cuesta Drive