

March 28, 2008  
Palo Alto, CA

## FRANK'S WEEKLY MEMO

### **4** Take the Pledge for a Greener Palo Alto during Earth Month, March 21 – April 26

Step up your commitment to the environment. As a community, we've committed to reducing our carbon footprint five percent by 2012. Join Mayor Klein and other members of the City Council in reducing their carbon footprint when they start in Earth Month and go on into the future. Be a part of the solution. Get inspired to make a positive environmental impact with ideas from our Earth Month theme weeks:

#### **March 23-29 - Business Goes Green**

- Become a Certified Green Business at [www.greenbiz.ca.gov/](http://www.greenbiz.ca.gov/)

#### **March 30-April 5 - Forget Fossil Fuels**

- Sign up for PaloAltoGreen at [www.cityofpaloalto.org/pagreen](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/pagreen)
- Cut your energy (water) use 10% at [www.cityofpaloalto.org/utilities](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/utilities)
- Look for the 5 for \$1 Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) offer in your mailbox.

In upcoming Frank's Weekly Memos, we will highlight other theme weeks and the recommended actions to take: April 6-12 - Be Water Wise, April 13-19 – Bag the Bags, and April 20-26 – Cool Your Commute.

Get started today by taking a pledge at [www.cityofpaloalto.org/EarthMonth](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/EarthMonth) and reducing **your** carbon footprint!

### **Police Chief Lynne Johnson to speak at AAUW “Women and Leadership Forum” on March 29**

Professor Deborah Rhode of Stanford Law School will be the principal speaker at a free public forum on “Women and Leadership” on Saturday, March 29, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Mitchell Park Community Center, Main Hall, 3800 Middlefield Road in Palo Alto.

Professor Rhode is one of the nation's leading scholars in the fields of legal ethics and gender, law and public policy. She is the Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law and founding Director of the Center on Ethics at Stanford



Designates an item related to one of the City Council's “Top 4” Priorities.

and co-author of a recent book "Women and Leadership: the State of Play and Strategies for Change."

Professor Rhode will be joined by local women leaders in several fields for a discussion of the issue. Other participants will be Dr. Jane E. Shaw, retired Chairman of the Board and CEO, Aerogen, Inc.; Audrey C. Rust, President, Peninsula Open Space Trust; and Lynne Johnson, Chief and Department Director, Palo Alto Police Department.

Co-sponsors are the Palo Alto branch of American Association of University Women, the League of Women Voters of Palo Alto and the Michelle R. Clayman Institute for Gender Research at Stanford. For more information, contact Barbara Evans at (650) 856-0618.

#### **4 Community Disaster Recovery Fair on April 5**

The City of Palo Alto and the Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce are hosting "Recipe for Recovery," a free community disaster preparedness event on Saturday, April 5, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Road. The event will feature police and fire department displays, first aid demonstration, police dogs, and other live demonstrations. The Palo Alto Red Cross, Palo Alto Neighborhoods and other non-profit organizations will have resources available to help community members prepare for any type of disaster. The event is free and open to all members of the public. Get more information at [www.paloaltochamber.com](http://www.paloaltochamber.com) or by e-mailing [programs@paloaltochamber.com](mailto:programs@paloaltochamber.com)

#### **4 Utilities Hosted Workshop for Large Businesses in the Stanford Research Park**

The City of Palo Alto Utilities (CPAU) hosted an informational Facility Manager's Network meeting for Key Account (very large) business customers at the offices of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) on Wednesday, March 19. The meeting gave the 14 attendees current information about the utilities' cost drivers and provided updates about the proposed rate increases for FY 2008-09. In addition, a brief overview on the new cogeneration incentive program was provided. For the remainder of the session, attendees received training on methods to improve cooling tower efficiencies in their facilities. The in-depth presentations gave details on the chemical treatment needed to maintain these cooling systems at high operational levels and improve water and energy efficiency.

This meeting was a part of ongoing water and energy conservation education program provide by CPAU, which provides residential online audits, commercial facility audits, conservation and efficiency information, workshops, community events and educational materials to various customer groups in the City. For more information on these programs, visit [www.cityofpaloalto.org](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org) or call (650) 329-2241.

## **Palo Alto Police Lieutenant Selected for FBI National Academy**

Police Lieutenant Doug Keith has been selected to attend the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Academy (NA) in Quantico, VA. The ten week course will feature training in leadership development, community relations, homeland security preparedness and numerous other topics. The FBI pays for the cost of the course, excluding salary and benefits of attendees. Attendees include law enforcement officials from around the world. Lieutenant Keith begins his instruction on March 31. At least 15 other members of the Palo Alto Police Department have attended the NA over a period of 40 years.

## **4 Creative Recycling of Plants Benefits Community**

A capital improvement project to renovate the section of El Camino Real in front of the Palo Alto Medical Foundation between University Avenue and Encina Avenue will replace shrubs of flax, wild iris (Fortnight Lily) and sea lavender, with London Plane trees and drought-tolerant Manzanita to match the design of other stretches of El Camino in the median strip.

As part of the renovation project, City staff carefully removed the existing mature shrubs and re-planted them in other locations in Palo Alto. Fifty flax plants were planted along the borders of Ramos Park in South Palo Alto; other plants were used to revive downtown parking Lot T; and another forty flax and lily plants were used to spruce up the landscaping around City Hall. The creative re-use of this plant material enhances the beauty of parks and City facilities, saves nearly \$6,000 in plant materials and diverts two tons of materials from ending up in the landfill.

For information on park landscaping projects, please contact Park Superintendent Don Piana at [don.piana@cityofpaloalto.org](mailto:don.piana@cityofpaloalto.org)

## **4** City to Recognize Contribution of Volunteers on May 5

Join the City, community leaders and volunteers on Monday, May 5, at 5 p.m., when volunteer contributions are recognized. Attend the reading of a City proclamation and award presentation with cake and coffee. The event is a culmination of National Volunteer Week, April 27 – May 3.

Did you know that last year more than 3,000 citizens gave Palo Alto the most valuable gift anyone can give a community? As volunteers they donated their time and skills to the Art Center, Children's Theatre, Junior Museum and Zoo, Library, Open Space, Recreation Services, Animal Services, Police Department, Fire Department and Public Works. The commitment of our volunteers is astounding, and very much appreciated:



- **3,000 citizen volunteers** = number who gave their time to the City
- **57,000 hours** = number of hours volunteered on behalf of the City last year alone
- **\$1 million** = economic value of citizen's time at the national hourly rate of \$18.05

In addition to the assistance provided and the monetary value of hours donated, research shows that residents who are actively engaged in their community contribute to the overall quality of life bringing about healthy and vibrant places to work and live.

To learn more about volunteer programs and opportunities throughout the city, read the next issue of Frank's Weekly Memo and visit the City's web site at [www.cityofpaloalto.org](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org), then select one of the departments listed above.

### **Thieves Target Unlocked Vehicles in Palo Alto**

The Palo Alto Police Department advises citizens to lock and secure all parked vehicles. Additionally, citizens are encouraged to remove valuable items from their vehicles or move these items out of the line of sight.

The Palo Alto Police Department has discovered a spike in thefts from unlocked vehicles. The Green Meadow neighborhood has been the hardest hit, experiencing almost 12 thefts during the first two weeks of March. The

majority of the thefts took place during the late evening and overnight hours. Thieves seem to be looking for small electronic devices such as I-Pods and portable GPS units.

Visit [www.cityofpaloalto.org/depts/pol/crime\\_prevention.asp](http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/depts/pol/crime_prevention.asp) for more crime prevention tips.

### **Citizen Robbed at Gunpoint**

On Tuesday, March 25, at approximately 12 p.m., Palo Alto Police responded to the 1100 block of Harker Avenue on the report of an armed robbery. Arriving officers located the female victim, who reported that she had just been robbed by a man with a gun.

The victim explained that she was walking down the street when she was approached by a male subject. The subject stopped in front of her, produced a silver handgun and demanded her property. The victim gave the suspect her cellular phone. When the suspect realized she had nothing else, he turned and ran away.

The victim described the suspect as a Hispanic male juvenile, approximately 16 years of age, 5'5" tall and 125 pounds. The suspect was wearing a black hooded sweatshirt with the hood over his head, baggie blue jeans and white sneakers. The victim recalled that the suspect may have been unshaven, specifically around his mouth area. The suspect is currently at large.

Please call the Palo Alto Police Department Tip Line at (650) 329-2190 with any information concerning this case.

