

May 2, 2008
Palo Alto, CA

FRANK'S WEEKLY MEMO

Movin' & Groovin' at This Year's May Fête on Saturday

Palo Alto Recreation Division invites you to the **86th Annual May Fête Children's Parade** on Saturday, May 3, 2008, in downtown Palo Alto. Northern California's oldest and largest children's parade begins at 10 a.m. at the corner of Emerson Street and University Avenue. This year's theme is "Movin' & Groovin' – A Celebration of Keeping Active."

Serving as Grand Marshals will be members of the Stanford University Women's Basketball Team, finalists in this year's NCAA Championship.

While pre-registration for youth groups has passed, individual kids who show up by 9:30 a.m. on the morning of the parade can march in one of three categories: Kids with Pets, Kids in Costume and Kids on Wheels.

The morning will be filled with spirited entertainment from local high school and junior high school marching bands, decorated hand-pulled floats, and thousands of children marching, skating, cycling, tumbling and strolling through downtown Palo Alto. After the parade, join Partners in Education and celebrate our schools with food, music and games at the 6th Annual Town Fair at Addison School at 650 Addison Avenue until 1 p.m.

This exciting event is presented by the City of Palo Alto Recreation and is sponsored by **NBC-11**, the **Palo Alto Weekly** and the **Palo Alto Recreation Foundation**. Band and Open category sponsors are: Diamonds of Palo Alto, Hobee's, The Play Store, University Art, Palo Alto Sport & Toy World, Insurance by Allied Brokers, Stanford Painting, Inc., and Gleim the Jeweler. For more information call (650) 463-4921 or visit us online at www.cityofpaloalto.org/recreation

4 Destination Palo Alto Booth at Admit Week

Once again, the City of Palo Alto and Stanford University partnered to welcome visiting parents attending Stanford Admit Week on April 24 and 25 to Downtown Palo Alto and California Avenue. In the second annual Dine and Shop Around event, parents were provided with "goodie bags" with information on Stanford Shopping Center, Downtown Palo Alto, Midtown and

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

California Avenue. Participating merchants provided coupons and information regarding their businesses.

This year, shuttle buses leaving from Stanford transported parents on Thursday evening to dine and shop in Downtown Palo Alto. On Friday evening, parents were taken to California Avenue for the evening. Palo Alto “ambassadors” rode the buses and provided information on restaurants and shopping in Palo Alto.

Parents received the “goodie bags” at the Destination Palo Alto booth, staffed by volunteers and City staff. Participants met representatives from Palo Alto and received visitor information on “anything Palo Alto”. Volunteers asked questions regarding directions, trains to San Francisco, hiking trails, biking, restaurants, shopping and much more.



Even Michael J. Fox stopped by!

4 Proposition 218 Notices of Proposed Water and Refuse Rate Changes

On April 21, the City mailed written notices of proposed rate changes for water and refuse collection services to customers and property owners. Pursuant to Article 13 of the California Constitution (amended by Proposition 218), such notices must be mailed at least 45 days before the public hearing adopting the changes and must include details about the proposed changes as well as instructions on how to protest them. The public hearing is set for June 9, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Residents and customers may submit a written protest against any or all of the proposed charges. The City must receive signed, written protests prior to the close of the public hearing on June 9, 2008. Protests should indicate which utility rate adjustment is being protested (water and/or refuse) and information identifying the affected parcel, such as the Assessor’s Parcel Number(s) of the property(ies), or, at a minimum, the street address. Protests are limited to one per parcel and may be mailed or delivered to: City Clerk, 250 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, California 94301.

If a simple majority of affected customers and property owners object in writing to the proposed changes, the City may not impose the new rates.

For assistance in determining the cost of the proposed rate adjustments, please call the City of Palo Alto Utilities Department Customer Service Center at (650) 329-2161. For further information on rate increases please visit the utilities website at www.cityofpaloalto.org/utilities

“Tip-a-Cop” Event Raises \$3,000 for Special Olympics

Members of the Palo Alto Police Department participated in the annual “Tip-A-Cop” event at the Olive Garden Restaurant on Wednesday, April 23, 2008. All tips received that night will benefit the Special Olympics. Members of the Department exceeded their goal by \$500 and raised a total of \$3,000. Proceeds from the “Tip-A-Cop” event assist in allowing the Special Olympics Northern California to provide year round sports training and competition to children and adults with developmental disabilities, all at no cost to them or their families.

Genealogists Find Gems in Palo Alto Library Resources!

Attention genealogists! The Palo Alto City Library offers two excellent on-line resources for finding your roots: Heritage Quest and Ancestry.com - Library Edition. Join the staff for a free demonstration of these powerful tools. The Palo Alto Historical Association photograph and article files will also be covered.

- **Wednesday, May 14, from 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon,
Main Library, 1213 Newell Road**

This is a repeat of a very popular demonstration, so reserve your spot now! To register on-line, visit the Palo Alto City Library homepage at www.cityofpaloalto.org/library or call the Reference Desk at (650) 329-2436.

4 Join City in Recognizing Volunteers

The culmination of National Volunteer Week in Palo Alto takes place Monday, May 5 at 5 p.m., at City Hall when Mayor Larry Klein presents a proclamation citing volunteers’ contributions to the City. In addition, department representatives from Police, Fire, Animal Services, Library, Open Space, Recreation Services, Art Center and the Children’s Theatre will present awards recognizing the special contributions of volunteers. Cake and

coffee will be served following the presentations. All community members are invited to attend.

You can learn more about volunteer programs throughout the City by visiting the City's web site at www.cityofpal Alto.org and dropping by the display board featuring various volunteers located outside Council Chambers.

4 New Vending Machine Installed in Foothills Park



In last year's budget, the Council allocated \$100,000 for a new Innovation Fund. The purpose of the Innovation Fund is to provide monies that can be invested in employee ideas producing net cost savings or net revenue gains for the City. Employees submitted 21 ideas and six ideas were approved for funding. The first of our six Innovation Fund projects was completed on April 10 with the installation of a vending machine at Foothills Park in the Orchard Glen picnic area.

Many thanks go to Lester Hodgins, Richard Bicknell, Joseph Collie, Daren Anderson, Lisa Myers and Greg Betts of the Open Space team, who quickly purchased the vending machine, animal-proofed it and constructed the new "surround" to protect the machine from the elements. This new machine is state of the art and allows us to sell not only soda but also bottled water and sport beverages. The vending machine is expected to more than pay for itself as it helps visitors quench their thirst.

Palo Alto Children's Theatre 2008 Summer Season

Popular offerings include Hot Dog Suppertime Shows, Summer Conservatory Productions and Wingspread Summer Stock Season.

The Hot Dog Suppertime Shows have been popular outdoor summertime treats at the Children's Theatre for many years. The Roy A. Ginsburg Magic Castle Stage 10th Anniversary season opens with Michael Litfin's dramatization of Rapunzel, followed by The Rabbit Who Wanted Red Wings, by Nellie McCaslin, and ends with Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty's musical adaptation of The Emperor's New Clothes, performed by members of the Summer Conservatory. The Summer Conservatory will also perform Michael Litfin and William Liberatore's original musical Pecos Bill on the main stage.

The Wingspread shows are in the summer stock style and are performed by high school and college-aged participants. The first Wingspread production will be three one-act comedies by Anton Chekhov entitled Chekhov's Shorts, followed by The Dinosaur Musical by Robert and Willie Reale, and Anything Goes, Cole Porter's classic Broadway musical.

Tickets for all summer productions will go on sale on Wednesday, May 14 at 1:30 p.m. Patrons may place a ticket order by calling the Children's Theatre Box Office at (650) 463-4970 or in person at the Children's Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto, CA 94301. Tickets for all productions are \$8 for Adults and \$4 for Children.

For more information, please visit the Palo Alto Children's Theatre web site at www.cityofpaloalto.org/depts/csd

