

*July 6, 2007  
Palo Alto, CA*

## **FRANK'S WEEKLY MEMO**

### **City Hires Assistant Director for Utilities**

The City of Palo Alto Utilities is pleased to announce that Jane Ratchye has accepted the position of Assistant Director of Resource Management. Jane has over 20 years of experience with the City of Palo Alto working on utility resource portfolio issues such as the water integrated resource plan, risk management portfolio models and energy supply options. She represents the City in industry forums and has served on the Bay Area Water User's Association Board as its Secretary and Vice President. Jane's initial challenges will include increasing the renewable content of the electric supply portfolio, focusing on energy efficiency and climate protection issues, continuing to manage supply risk and managing supply portfolio costs.

### **15th Annual Palo Alto Clay & Glass Festival July 7 & 8**

Come to the 15th Annual Palo Alto Clay and Glass Festival at the Palo Alto Art Center, July 7 and 8, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Shop for the finest glass and ceramic objects for home and garden created by more than 180 clay and glass artists. Ceramic workshops for all ages will be available, as well as live cool jazz and refreshments. Proceeds benefit the Association of Clay and Glass Artists (ACGA) and the Palo Alto Art Center. For more information, please call (650) 329-2366 or go to <http://www.acqa.net>

### **Never Too Young to Donate to the Library**

On June 29, Palo Alto City Library staff was pleasantly surprised when two avid library customers, siblings Natalie and Michael Byun, who are nine and six years old, came in to Mitchell Park Branch Library to donate over \$19. The money was raised by collecting door-to-door contributions in their neighborhood along with their nine year old neighbor, Maritha Wang.

The grassroots fundraising campaign was Natalie's idea, and Michael and Maritha were happy to help. The children were thanked for their hard work and generosity, and given stickers and bookmarks in



appreciation. For more information on how you can donate to the library, please visit the Friends of the Palo Alto Library at <http://www.friendspaloaltolib.org/> or the Palo Alto Library Foundation at <http://www.palf.org/>

### **Fire Damages Downtown Buildings; Causes Street Closures**

On the evening of July 1, 2007, a fire broke out in the building located at 310 University Avenue, causing damage to the entire second floor and a roof collapse. Approximately 50 firefighters from Palo Alto, Mountain View, Sunnyvale and Santa Clara County responded to the blaze that damaged four businesses. The building was unoccupied and no injuries were reported. The Palo Alto Fire Department estimates the damage to be approximately \$3 million. The Palo Alto Police Department, Santa Clara County Arson Investigation Task Force and Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) agents are working to determine the cause of the fire.

A structural engineer has deemed the building unsafe, resulting in closures to surrounding streets. The 300 block of University Avenue and the 500 block of Bryant Street will be closed to all pedestrian and vehicle traffic. The 400 block of Bryant Street and the 200 block of University Avenue will both be closed to vehicle traffic. All street closures are for an uncertain period of time. For more information and an update on the fire and local street closures, please check the City's website at <http://www.cityofpaloalto.org>

