Public rebirth for an ‘oasis of culture’

Director changing estate’s perception, finances
By Richard Schinn

Back in 2006, when the Montalvo Arts Center was limping along, volunteers at Montalvo Arts Center were clearing dense bamboo and brush behind an abandoned garage on the 12-acre campus in the Saratoga Hills. Stumbling—about a half a foot that turned out to be a buried urn, which was slowly excavated and lifted from the ground with a small crane.

“It was 5 feet tall, and it’s probably been buried 50 years, and we had an appraisal done and it was worth $300,000,” says Angela McConnell, Montalvo’s executive director. “Who would have thought?”

But it was just the beginning of the reclamation process that’s been under way since McConnell became director of this venerable but beleaguered institution just 10 years ago.

Her arrival has changed everything, an executive director of Montalvo Arts Center.

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CFL bulbs, lauded for cutting power consumption, contain tiny amounts of toxic mercury

By Dana Hull

For years, consumers have been urged to switch to CFLs (compact fluorescent) lights, which use about one-quarter of the electricity of incandescent bulbs. But unknown to many, CFLs come with a health risk—visible mercury. The contain small amounts of mercury, a neurotoxicant that can be particularly harmful to pregnant women and children.

“A small shadow is cast over the task,” says a public health and environmental activist. “It’s a public health issue and an environmental issue if they are not disposed of properly,” said Fish & Wildlife’s hazardous materials program manager for Santa Clara County.

California and several other states ban disposal of CFLs in the trash, because they

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Gulf spill

Tests on new well cap to begin

After two-day effort to place tighter cover over leak, BP will start work to try to contain oil

By Tom Duree and Harry R. Weber

NEW ORLEANS — BP robots attached a new,motionless well cap to the leaking Gulf of

Mercury oil leak Monday, raising hopes that the crude could be kept from spouting the water for the first time in nearly three months.

Placing the cap on top of the leak was the climax of two years of delicate preparation and a step close to clearing the way for a long-term patch before the next.

The new cap — aimed at avoiding being a bottom-feeder — is a temporary fix, but it is just a temporary fix. The next step is to close the leak itself.

Reclaiming mercury

How the new cap will stop or begin oil stops or if it starts to leak.

Metal, glass and plastic are separated and sent to landfill or recycled.

Recycling

By Tom Duree

Because mercury is toxic, state law prohibits CFLs from being placed in the trash. Instead, CFLs should be dropped off at participating stores.

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Disposal

The next unimportant step is to clean up the area surrounding the cap. Mercury can be reused.

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Recycling

By Tom Duree

The capping project will work. BP plans to pipe and valve oil to a temporary cap.

The next unimportant step is to clean up the area surrounding the cap. Mercury can be reused.

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See more information about events and venues at Montalvo Arts Center.

See MONTALVO, Page 6

Online Extra

View a slide show of Montalvo and its artists at mercurynews.com/extra.

ONLINE EXTRA

More inside for more information and test locations to recycle CFLs. See Page A6.
MONTALVO
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more than a year ago. He has been a part of the fabric of the community, an active participant in one of the nation’s most vibrant arts organizations, and his own personal support community – he imaginative, thoughtful, and caring – he is the glue that holds it together.

Montalvo’s $1.8 million budget has not changed over the past 20 years, but the program has grown exponentially. “That’s one of the true miracles of Montalvo,” said former Oakland A’s owner Peter Magel, who succeeded Locatelli as president in 2001. He also engaged the Loyola Student Union, which is largely volunteer-based, to increase its visibility.

“Paul Locatelli is the heart of the university – the tree lined entrance to the campus, the heart of the university – the tree lined entrance to the campus,” said Alan Mazariegos, a former Jesuit priest who was Locatelli’s colleague in El Salvador.

Paul Locatelli will be held at Ms. Warner. A viewing will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13, 2010, at the Parlier Family Mortuary in San Jose.

At the same time, executive director Elspeth Clark announced that Montalvo is launching a new local arts initiative, “Final Fridays,” where the center will host a new series of events, including music, theater, dance, and other performances.

The New Project will be held at Ms. Warner. A viewing will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, July 13, 2010, at the Parlier Family Mortuary in San Jose.

For more information, contact Elspeth Clark at (408) 967-3637 or elspeth@montalvoartcenter.org.

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