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# killed, driver faces DUI

## Fatal crash followed police chase

Friday to mourn, pray and sing in remembrance of 22-year-old Lupe Veamatahau, who was the passenger in a vehicle driven by a former co-worker Friday night.

The driver, a 25-year-old woman

who has not been named, was ejected from the car and is still in the hospital with "serious but non-life-threatening injuries," according to a police report.

Once she is released, police said

they will arrest her on charges of homicide, DUI and evading police.

Officers allegedly saw the woman driving recklessly at Pulgas Avenue and Camellia Drive at around 10:30 p.m.

Police said the officers attempted [See KILLED, page 18]



VEAMATAHAU

# Music fest draws thousands

## Organizer relieved by large turnout

BY MATT MINICH  
Daily Post Staff Writer

Claude Ezran was nervous about closing down University Avenue for his World Music Day celebration. He feared not enough people would show up to justify keeping cars out, but was excited by the sight of about 20,000 people and 45 musical acts — double what the festival saw last year.



EZRAN

Ezran serves on the board of the Palo Alto Recreation Foundation, one of the main organizers of the event. Originally from France, he said the celebration [See MUSIC, page 18]



**DOWNTOWN TUNES** — The Palo Alto Jazz Quintet performs at the World Music Day on University Avenue yesterday. Matt Minich photo.

# KILLED

to stop the vehicle, but the car would not yield. It continued to speed in what appeared to be an attempt to evade the police.

A short chase ensued, which ended when the vehicle crashed at the intersection of Pulgas Avenue and East Bayshore Road, Police Capt. Jeff Liu told the Post. Veamatahau was killed and the driver was ejected from the car.

## She cared for siblings

Family members and friends set up a small memorial for Veamatahau at the corner, placing several photos of her in a chain-link fence there and spelling out her initials "LV" in prayer candles on the sidewalk.

A group of friends and relatives gathered at the location Saturday night for an impromptu memorial service.

The oldest of five siblings, Veamatahau spent much of her life caring for her brothers and sisters, Veamatahau's cousin Antoinette Mahoni said.

"She was just all about taking care of her siblings," she said.

A teller at the Wells Fargo bank in Menlo Park, Veamatahau was studying Business Management at Foothill College in Los Altos. The night she was killed, Mahoni said, Veamatahau was celebrating her first weekend off in months.

## Spiritual and outgoing

In addition to her work and studies, Veamatahau served as the treasurer for the youth club at her family's church, St. Francis of Assisi.

"Even though she was outgoing socially, she was a very spiritual person as well," said Emily Latu, who spoke on behalf of the family.

# MUSIC

was inspired by a tradition enjoyed in Europe.

Since the 1980s, cities in France and other parts of Europe have put on World Music Day celebrations on the day of the summer solstice, he said. When he

decided to bring the festivities to Palo Alto, though, Ezran said he settled on Father's Day because it always falls on a Sunday.

Since World Music Day was first held in Palo Alto three years ago, it has almost doubled in popularity, said Ezran, who plans to make the event a permanent fixture on the city's calendar.

## Global cacophony

The musicians on the streets yesterday came from the Bay Area, but they represented genres of music from all corners of the world. Musicians played everything from Eastern European folk music to jazz to barbershop-style singing, and most gathered large crowds of onlookers.

"This is really impressive," said Mark Torrance, a singer with The Peninsulaires Barbershop Chorus, a vocal group based in Sunnyvale.

Pete Kelso, who picked up instruments along with his family as part of Pete Kelso and his Ragadelic Orchestra, echoed the feelings of many in attendance.

"All it needs is a few vendors, some beer, and everything here will be cool," he said.

Other attendees echoed that opinion, but organizers said they do not plan to invite any vendors in the future for fear they would steer customers away from University Avenue businesses.

## Happy with the closed street

This was the first year University Avenue was closed for the event, and organizers, musicians and police alike agreed the closure allowed more people to attend and created a safer environment for those who stopped to listen to musicians on the sidewalk.

Sgt. Wayne Benitez, one of five Palo Alto police officers provided by the city to oversee the event, said allowing people to congregate in the street provided officers with a welcome respite. In past years, he said, much of their work had been keeping crowds around musicians from spilling out into traffic.

Though the event meant the closure of one of Palo Alto's major roads, Benitez said his department did not hear any serious complaints of traffic

congestion on the surrounding roads.

Problems along University Avenue were also few. By the time the festival was halfway over, the only incidents police had responded to were a lost child and a lost purse, Benitez said, and both had been found.

"We haven't heard any complaints," he said of the event.

# POT CLUB -

torney for narcotics.

But don't expect cities within the county to lift their bans on medical marijuana clubs. That's because the policy doesn't trump city zoning ordinances.

## Citywide ban

Palo Alto banned marijuana clubs through its zoning in 1997, a year after California voters legalized medical marijuana with Prop 215.

Mountain View got into a court fight with Buddy's Cannabis Patient Collective, which opened a store last year on Shoreline Boulevard despite the city's ban.

City Attorney Jannie Quinn successfully shut down Buddy's, which is now thriving in San Jose.

While she hasn't fully read the policy, Quinn said there aren't any plans to repeal the city's ban on medical pot clubs because of the D.A.'s policy.

## Pot club owner OK with policy

Matt Lucero, owner of Buddy's, said he applauds the D.A.'s policy because it outlines how medical pot clubs should manage their cash flow.

Should Mountain View change its mind, then Lucero would jump.

"I would go back (to Mountain View) in a heartbeat and (we) unfortunately left a lot of patients there," said Lucero.

## Restrictions on sales

The policy also strictly defines how medical marijuana is bought and sold. It can only be sold through a caregiver to a patient, and the price charged can't be outrageous.

The D.A.'s office hopes to finalize the policy this week or next.