

# CANOPY

## TREES FOR PALO ALTO

*Canopy is a Palo Alto-based non-profit advocate for the urban forest and works to educate, inspire and engage the community as stewards of young and mature trees.*



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## THE SEEDS OF PEACE, THE SEEDS OF HOPE

### Canopy Hosts Nobel Peace Laureate Wangari Maathai to Celebrate Tenth Anniversary on April 30

by Catherine Martineau, Executive Director

The brave, visionary work of Wangari Maathai became known to the world when she received the Nobel Peace Prize at the end of 2004. She is the Kenyan woman who founded the Green Belt Movement in the seventies and since has become a member of Kenya's Parliament and a leader among all African nations. By 2004, her organization, the world's largest grassroots community forestry program, had planted over 30 million trees in Kenya. She is also one of the most remarkable and celebrated women on the planet.

I am thrilled to announce that Wangari Maathai has accepted Canopy's invitation to visit Palo Alto to celebrate our tenth anniversary. On Sunday, April 30th, she will help launch Canopy's new Trees for East Palo Alto Initiative with a ceremonial planting in East Palo Alto. She will also be the keynote speaker at a dinner later that evening.

Wangari Maathai is an inspiration to all who care for the future of the Earth. When she started planting trees in Kenya, she wanted to address the many problems poor women faced because of uncontrolled deforestation. She realized that trees in Kenya contribute to



**Professor Wangari Maathai**

improving women's livelihood in a very direct way. In addition to environmental benefits, they provide firewood for cooking, food in the form of fruit, building material, and most importantly income and self-reliance through the sale of these products.

Maathai received the Nobel Prize "for her contribution to sustainable development, democracy, and peace." She wasn't recognized

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## THE SEEDS OF PEACE, THE SEEDS OF HOPE

— continued from cover

for planting the trees, but the trees were a means to foster environmental justice and a tool in the struggle against Kenya's corrupt and murderous regime in the seventies. Her work became a symbol of political opposition and as a result she was harassed, beaten and jailed. Kenya's first election considered by the world as "fair" was held in 2002 and Maathai ran for parliament. She was elected by a huge majority. The following year Kenya's new president made her a member of his cabinet where she now serves as Assistant Minister for Environment, Natural Resources, and Wildlife.

When we plant trees in our communities, we do so because they shade our streets and sidewalks, they clean our air, they give us fruit, or simply because they are beautiful and sooth the soul. In other words, we too plant to improve our quality of life, and in so doing, we participate in Wangari Maathai's movement to plant "the seeds of peace and the seeds of hope".

All Bay Area communities do not enjoy as beautiful and abundant an urban forest as Palo Alto's. East Palo Alto is both an under-served and under-planted community, a place where the seeds of peace and hope are ready for the planting. Canopy, now with ten years of experience writing grants and organizing tree plantings, is working hand in hand with the City of East Palo Alto to bring the benefits of an urban forest to their community. At the ceremonial tree planting Wangari Maathai will plant the first of 1,000 new trees to be planted in East Palo Alto in the next four years.

Please join us for these exceptional events. Invitations will be dropped in the mail late March. For more information, please e-mail [info@canopy.org](mailto:info@canopy.org). I hope you can come, and look forward to seeing you on April 30.

For more on Wangari Maathai and on the Green Belt Movement, point your browser to: <http://www.greenbeltmovement.org/> or <http://www.wangarimaathai.com/>

## CANOPY TENTH ANNIVERSARY

*proudly hosts*

### PROFESSOR WANGARI MAATHAI 2004 Nobel Peace Laureate

Sunday April 30, 2006 at 2 p.m.  
Ceremonial Tree Planting, East Palo Alto

Sunday April 30, 2006 at 6 p.m.  
Dinner with Wangari Maathai  
Crowne Plaza Cabaña - Palo Alto

#### HONORARY COMMITTEE

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Susan Ellis  
Catherine Martineau  
Mary McCullough  
Nancy Peterson

\*Information current at press time

## Canopy Celebrates: Annual Party and Mayor's Tree Planting

On January 19, Canopy combined its annual volunteer party with its annual Mayor's Tree Planting for a festive afternoon in Rinconada Park.

First, at Lou Henry Hoover Girl Scout House, Canopy volunteers, donors, staff, and community leaders watched as a new redwood tree was planted in honor of outgoing Palo Alto Mayor Jim Burch. Former mayors Gary Fazzino, Larry Klein, Dena Mossar, Vik Ojakian, Dick Rosenbaum, and Lanie Wheeler and supervisor Liz Kniss all plied the ceremonial shovel to help plant the tree. Council members Yoriko Kishimoto and Jack Morton also lent support.

Next, the group moved on for Canopy's volunteer party at the Junior Museum, whose mission of nature education made it an excellent venue for Canopy, with our mission of educating, inspiring, and engaging the community as stewards of



Many former Palo Alto Mayors were on hand to celebrate Canopy's achievements at the Annual Party. Front row: Executive Director Catherine Martineau, Judy Kleinberg, Lanie Wheeler, Dena Mossar, Liz Kniss, Canopy Board Chair Susan Rosenberg. Back row: Dick Rosenbaum, Jim Burch, Gary Fazzino, Vic Ojakian, Larry Klein.



Canopy Board Chair Susan Rosenberg looks on as Executive Director Catherine Martineau presents outgoing Palo Alto Mayor Jim Burch with a photograph taken at the inauguration of Heritage Park.

young and mature trees.

As part of the festivities, Canopy Board Chair Susan Rosenberg presented the **Arnold Soforenko Award**, named for Canopy's first treasurer, to three recipients. The award is given annually to those who have made an extraordinary effort to preserve and enhance Palo Alto's urban forest.

- Jennifer Kane, a parent at Ohlone Elementary School, organized a massive tree planting effort at Ohlone. She wrote a successful proposal for a "Leaf It to Us" grant from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection that received the highest rating from the grant reviewers. Jennifer then organized teachers and students to help plant 24 new trees at the school. The tree planting was worked into the students' curriculum—the students made posters about why trees were important to them, and the posters were put up as protection around the trees. Jennifer was accompanied by her son and the principal of Ohlone, Susan Charles, and expressed the hope that other schools in Palo Alto would apply for a similar grant.

- Alex Haedrich, an employee with Roche Palo Alto, has created a number of environmental

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## Canopy Celebrates: Annual Party and Mayor's Tree Planting

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programs at Roche including their Environmental Day, in which Canopy has taken part. Thanks to Alex, each year Roche sends a number of volunteers to help Canopy with a project for a day. Roche volunteers have helped plant new trees in Heritage Park and remove ivy in Pardee and Bol parks, among other projects. Alex also arranged the donation of a van from Roche to Canopy, which Canopy uses to transport tools to workdays.

- Dave Sandage has been the City of Palo Alto's Arborist in charge of the Public Works Tree Section for 23 years. He was hired in 1982 as the City's first arborist and charged with protecting Palo Alto's urban forest. During his tenure, he has created a master plan to manage the urban forest and has built the Tree Section up to 15 employees. Dave will be retiring in July 2006, and plans to spend his time on an extended trip to Europe and landscaping around his house.

**"Out on a Limb" awards** were also given at the party to three Canopy volunteers who have consistently and dependably volunteered with Canopy over the past year or longer. Ann Bilodeau was cited for continued work on the finance committee and newsletter. Katie Hasnain was recognized for her dedication to the tree care survey and for her help with Ivy Busters and tree planting workdays. Katie completed five tree care routes this summer and also wrote an article for the newsletter. Charles Ridley was recognized for continued support of many Canopy workdays, including both tree plantings and the tree care survey.

During the party, volunteers also received five-year and ten-year service pins (*see related article "Volunteer Spotlight" at right*).

The combined tree planting and party served as a wonderful way to kick off Canopy's celebration of the tenth anniversary of its founding.

## Volunteer Spotlight

by Jana Dilley



**Canopy Vice-Chair Marty Deggeller presents a 10-year volunteer award to Kate Feinstein.**

As Canopy's staff and board began to think about celebrating our 10th anniversary, we looked back through the years at how far Canopy has come. None of our growth and the work we have done for the urban forest would have been possible without the help and support of our wonderful dedicated volunteers. So when we kicked off our 10th anniversary celebration during our Annual Party in January, we took some time to acknowledge volunteers who have been with us for 5-year or 10-year milestones.

Our 5-year volunteers are: Cedric de la Beaujardiere, Lauren Bonar-Swezey, Dave Dockter, Kacie Draeger, Susan Hansen, Joe Hirsch, Charles Ridley and Bob and Kay Schauer. Our 10-year volunteers are: Ann Bilodeau, Bill Courington, Kate Feinstein, Ruth Lacey, Mary McCullough, Kevin Raftery, Sue Thiemann, Joan van Gelder, and Susan Wilson. Thanks to all of you for all you've done over the years.



# Celebrate Canopy's Tenth Anniversary throughout the Year

## MARCH – Arbor Month

All-month Display at Mitchell Park Library

**Saturday, March 4: 9 to 11 a.m.**

Tree Talk with Samuel Yates. “The Color of Palo Alto: Art Meets Canopy: How a Public Art Project is Helping to Preserve Our Urban Forest—One Photograph at a Time”

*Contact Canopy for more information*

**Wednesday, March 8: 7 p.m.**

Main Library Children's story time about trees

**Saturday, March 11: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Tree Walk with Arborist Roy Leggitt at the Main Library and Art Center. *Meet at entrance to Main Library parking lot, 1213 Newell Road*

**Sunday, March 19: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

Golf Course tree planting

## APRIL

**Saturday, April 8: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Tree Walk with Arborist Roy Leggitt in the Crescent Park neighborhood. *Meet at the corner of University Avenue and Lincoln Avenue*

**Saturday, April 22: 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Fruit tree pruning workshop with Dave Muffy.

*Contact Canopy for more information*

**Sunday, April 30:** Ceremonial planting and Canopy 10th Anniversary celebration dinner with Professor Wangari Maathai

## MAY

**Saturday, May 13: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Tree Walk with Arborist Michael Young in the North Palo Alto neighborhood. *Meet at Johnson Park at the corner of Hawthorne and Waverley Streets*

**Wednesday, May 31: 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

Tree Care Survey

## JUNE

**Saturday, June 3: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Tree Care Survey

**Saturday, June 10: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

with Canopy Program Director Jana Dilley. This will be a special Tree Walk for children at the Junior Museum & Zoo, 1451 Middlefield Road

## JULY

**Saturday, July 8: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Tree Walk with Arborist Dave Muffy in the Greenmeadow neighborhood.

*Meet at the Greenmeadow Community Center, 303 Parkside Drive*

## AUGUST

**Saturday, August 12: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Tree Walk with Arborist Jeff Newborn.

*Location TBA*

## SEPTEMBER

**Saturday, September 9: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Tree Walk with Arborist John McClenahan.

*Location TBA*

## OCTOBER

**Saturday, October 14: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Tree Walk with Arborist Jeff Newborn.

*Location TBA*

## NOVEMBER

**Saturday, November 11: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Tree Walk with Arborist John McClenahan.

*Location TBA*

## DECEMBER

**Saturday, December 9: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Tree Walk. *Location TBA*

## Know Your Street Trees:

### The Linden Tree by Forest Preston, III

“Unter den Linden” in Berlin is one of the grand boulevards of the world—and perhaps the only one named after trees. A splendid allée of linden trees lines the grassed pedestrian mall between its two carriageways—road traffic runs on either side, as in the Champs-Élysées in Paris, or the Mall in Washington, DC.

Planting of the linden allée was started in 1647 by Friedrich Wilhelm I, “The Great Elector.” The allée extended from the electoral palace to the gates of the city; he wanted to ride from his castle to his hunting park in appropriately Baroque splendor. During the time of the divided Berlin, a brief, but certainly significant, period of its history, Unter den Linden was bisected by the Berlin Wall at the Brandenburg Gate.

Linden trees are also sometimes called basswood or lime trees. In yet another example of two nations separated by a common tongue, the trees are generally called “linden” in North America, and “lime” in Britain. Both names are derived from the Germanic root “lind.” The modern forms in English derive from “linde” or “linne” in Anglo Saxon and old Norse, and in Britain the word morphed more recently to the modern British form lime. Neither the name nor the tree is in any way related to the citrus fruit called “lime” (*Citrus aurantifolia*). Basswood, the other common name, is derived from bast, the name for the inner bark.

These trees are an excellent choice for the urban landscape. They are especially hardy, tolerant of alkaline soils, visited by few destructive insects and exhibit a natural, pyramidal shape that requires little pruning. Lindens are slow growers and will take many years to provide shade. They produce small, round, persistent fruits that are

attached to leaf-like appendages. The heart-shaped leaves of the lindens have attractive, golden yellow fall color.

Three species are commonly found in North America:

- **Littleleaf Linden - *Tilia cordata*.**

This is a beautiful specimen tree that tolerates heat and drought better than other Lindens. Small shiny dark green leaves are lopsided and heart-shaped. Littleleaf is the last of the lindens to bloom. It produces small yellow flowers in midsummer and is upright with a densely branched rounded crown when mature. It grows to 50 to 70 feet tall and 25 to 40 feet wide. A small stand of these planted by Canopy in 1999 can be seen in Juana Briones park on the grassy knoll next to the children's play area.

- **Silver Linden - *Tilia tomentosa*.**

The silver linden has dark green glossy foliage with silvery underleaf visible when the wind blows. The tree has yellow-white flowers in June and a beautiful golden yellow fall color. The formal shape of this tree makes it ideal for manicured gardens. A favorite shade tree, it tolerates heat and drought.

- **American Linden - *Tilia americana*.**

This North American native is a tall deciduous tree with dark green heart-shaped leaves and gray-brown bark. It is often multi-trunked, and has fragrant yellow to tan 1/2-inch flowers favored by bees. A great tree for providing dense shade or use as a lawn tree or in a naturalistic setting, it has a moderate to fast growth rate. It grows up to 80 feet in height and 35 feet in spread.

*Tilia*, the genus for linden, has about 30 species of trees, native throughout most of the temperate Northern Hemisphere, in Asia (where the greatest species diversity is found), Europe and eastern North America. Interestingly enough, it is absent as a native from western North America.

## Ask the Arborist

*Do you have a burning tree question—one you have never known whom to ask or how? Well, we've got the solution for you. Send your question to Canopy at [ask@canopy.org](mailto:ask@canopy.org). We'll compile some of the most interesting and thought-provoking questions and publish the answers from arborists. Here's this issue's question:*

**What is compost tea is and how would it help my trees?**

*Answered by Dana Frownfelter, a Certified Arborist and Compost Tea Advisor. She may be reached for consultations at 650. 380.6229 or [dana@professionaltreecare.com](mailto:dana@professionaltreecare.com).*

*Her mailing address is P.O. Box 620394, Woodside, CA 94062.*

Compost tea can be defined most simply by calling it “concentrated liquid compost.” It is an extract of the beneficial soil microorganisms that exist in healthy compost, soil or the upper layers of a forest floor.

Compost tea is made by obtaining very high quality compost that has been observed under a microscope by a knowledgeable person to determine quality. The compost is put into a meshed bag and placed in a tank filled with purified water. The microorganisms (including bacteria, fungi, protozoa and nematodes) make their way out of bag and into water. Air bubbles move up from the bottom of tank allowing the beneficial soil microorganisms in the compost to break free from compost particles and be deposited into the

water. Foods such as molasses are added to feed these microorganisms so that they multiply.

Compost tea helps trees by converting common nutrients such as nitrogen, calcium, and others into a form the tree can use. For example, nitrogen makes up a large percentage of our world but it is not accessible by plants until it is converted into the plant ready form by bacteria and fungi. Calcium also exists in the soil in a form the plant cannot use until it is converted to the plant-ready form on the surfaces of soil fungi. There are other benefits as well. The microorganisms in compost tea can protect tree roots from many different types of diseases. These microorganisms are also naturally occurring on trees' leaves where they aid in the prevention of leaf diseases.

**So when does your tree need compost tea?**

Compost tea applied once a year to the leaves of a tree in an urban area can be a great benefit because air pollution can greatly reduce the microorganisms found on tree leaves. Trees suffering from leaf fungal diseases may also benefit from having compost tea applied to the leaves.

Compost tea can be applied to the soil of trees that have been stressed from construction, excessive foot traffic, or digging/trenching. This also applies to trees that have been transplanted or newly planted. In areas such as these where soil has been disturbed the natural soil biology has been disrupted and compost tea can aid in replenishing natural microorganisms. A healthy tree that has not experienced any stress in its soil root zone will most likely not require compost tea added to the soil.

Compost tea can be applied in two ways. It can be applied as a soil injection or drench to get it into the root zone of trees and plants. It can also be applied to the canopies of trees and plants as a spray.



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