CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF SERVICE
Annie Folger Retires

Annie Folger, Executive Director of the Midpen Media Center, Founding Midpen Media Center Board Member, and author of the bumper sticker, “Let’s Put the VISION in Television,” retired in January 2017. Annie was a pioneer and a revolutionary who nurtured the nascent public access industry and helped shape national policy.

Some of Annie’s stellar initiatives and contributions:
• Greenlight Environmental Film Festival
• Annual Local Heroes Awards
• Made Into America Immigrant stories
• Youth programs including a Youth Advisory Council
• Zoom-In, a collaborative of field producers
• Purchase and re-design of the Media Center at 900 San Antonio with Cable Co-op Legacy Funds (2003)
• Certification as a Green Business (2008)
• Upgrade of studio to high-definition TV (2014)
• Selection by the Alliance for Community Media from over 3,000 media centers for programming excellence award three times
• Creation of a space for creative expression and community action for hundreds of volunteers, producers and thousands of participants
• Thousands of hours of government access programs, and community and cultural events
• Policy formulation, lobbying and testifying before Congress on behalf of public access TV


Sitting in her office amid memorabilia spanning nearly 32 years in broadcasting, Annie Folger remembered the moment a studio was born in Palo Alto.

“Back in January 1991 when the first Gulf War began, we didn’t have a studio yet – all we had was a bare room and no equipment – but we decided we were going to try to go live, so we jury-rigged (sic) a camcorder into the cable system and invited viewers to call in and share their feelings,” recalled Folger. “People just started calling to tell us how concerned they were about this war going on. … We hung up from one call, and another call would come in.”

“A studio was born in that moment. That was our first (live) show … and we let it be known that all communicators, dreamers and community builders would be welcome in communicating their ideas.

From the earliest days of community-access television, Folger has advocated on a local and national level for people’s rights to express themselves. Her advocacy stretches back to just about the time Congress passed the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 that paved the way for cities to collect fees from cable operators to fund public, educational and government access channels.

Folger said after working for AT&T producing video-training packages in the 1970s, she learned firsthand what could be done with video and television.

“I had this feeling that we could do way more with television than just entertain ourselves,” she said. …

She ultimately got involved in public access, and on her 40th birthday – June 19, 1985 – helped launch the Midpeninsula Community Media Center (formerly called Mid-Peninsula Access Corporation). Though Midpen was incorporated in 1985, it didn’t open its doors until 1990. Her role included supervising the purchase of the two-story concrete studio at 900 San Antonio Road as well as broadcasting the first show with a live audience – a segment that prompted one
OPERATIONS

Operating Revenues

The Total Operating Revenues for 2016 was $912.5K, up $113.0K (14.1%) from 2015. This was driven by increases in Contracted meeting coverage of $20.0K (10.2%), Professional/media services of $46.5K (78.9%), Contributions & grants of $3.6K (6.7%), and In-kind contributions of $54.1K (100.5%).

Note: Includes $307.4K of PEG Fees temporarily restricted for capital purchases.

Operating Expenses

Operating expenses were $1,226.0K, a $109.2K (9.8%) increase that was due to increases in In-kind legal services of $54.1K (100.5%), Salaries and benefits of $58.2K (7.8%), Professional services/Extraordinary professional services of $6.6K (3.9%), and Facility expenses of $3.7K (6.8%). This was partially offset by a decrease in General operating expenses of $13.4K (-13.9%).

Summary

Overall, Total Operating Revenues less Total expenses resulted in a net difference of -$313.5K. This was in line with the 2016 budget authorized by the Board, adjusted for the change in accounting for PEG fees.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

In 2016, we had capital expenditures of $25.6K for program equipment.

NET ASSETS UPDATE

Net assets increased by $226.6K as compared with 2015. That increase included $491.5K in disbursements for operations from the investment account, and $180.5K in depreciation. The Board continues to invest the capital fund conservatively with the advice of professional investment managers.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT RESULTS

We engaged accounting firm RJ Ricciardi, Inc. to perform an independent audit of our 2016 financial statements. They issued an unmodified opinion, meaning that they believe our financial statements are presented, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.
Our Mission

Our mission is to Inform, inspire, and empower people to speak and act on behalf of their communities, to use television and the Internet to create and distribute programs that promote and celebrate individual expression, local achievements, education, cultural exchange, arts appreciation and civic engagement.

Midpen Media Center is a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation.

Our History

Midpen Media Center was created by the 2001 merger of Mid-Peninsula Access Corp, operating since 1990, and Silicon Valley Community Communications, established by Cable Co-op to keep local programming alive by providing our facility and equipment in perpetuity. From our earliest day, we have been providing government transparency, enabling multicultural inclusivity and building social capital.

Midpen Media Center Staff
Left to right: Louise Pencavel, Becky Sanders, Elliot Margolies, Lupita Segura, Jesse Norfleet, Chris Pearce, Karen Adams, Mary McCargar-Van Arkel, Dave Sorokach, Sara Bennett, Nancy Brown. Not pictured: Elizabeth Kiler

Midpen Media Center Board of Directors
Back row from left to right: Andrew Mello, Sue Purdy Pelosi, Mike Di Battista, Lawrence Lee
Front row from left to right: Barbara Noparstak, Gayathri Kanth, Joanne Reed. Not pictured: Michael Stern, Less Lincoln, Marie McKenzie, Azieb Nicodemus, Nick Szegda
We couldn’t have done it without you!
We celebrate, salute and thank everyone who helped make 2016 a fabulous year.

Our deepest gratitude goes to:
• Community members, volunteers and producers for their time, talents and stories
• Employees for their passion, dedication and expertise
• Board of Directors for their guidance and stewardship
• Advisory Council for their referrals
• Donors for their financial support
• Field and studio professionals for their skills and workshops

Thank you!
Barbara Noparstak
Board President

Donors and Members

Ken Allen
AmazonSmile
Azerbaijan Cultural Society of Northern CA
Judy Blumenstein
Lessa Bouchard
Diane & Martin Brandt
Beth Charlesworth
Ladoris Cordell
Linda Craig
Catherine Crawford
Czech School of California
Doug Devore
Michael DiBattista
Dorothy Fadiman
Heising-Simons Foundation
Joyce Fredericks
Annette Glanckopf
Theodore Glasser
Katie Hammersen
Ron Herman
Ellen Hope
Gloria Horsley
Janet & Robert Johnson
Larry Klein
Cathy Kryymann
Lawrence Lee
Janet Littlefield
Mac MacCorkle
Joyce McClure
Nancy McErlain
Patrick McErlain
Marie McKenzie
Andrew Mellows
Menlo Atherton High School
Deborah Mytels
Stanley Ng
Ai Nguyen
Azieb Nicodimos
Barbara Noparstak
Henry Organ
Susan Purdy Pelosi
Elizabeth Raffel
Joanne Reed
Nancy Reed
John Richards
Rebecca Sanders
Marie Scigliano
Jeffrey Shore
Barbara Shufro
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
Joe Simitian
Phil Smaller
Michael Stern
Lee Taubeneck
Melinda Thomas
Tom and Mary Thomas
Paul Wehrenberg

In Kind
Milk Pail Market
Salesforce
Hobee’s
Cooley LLP

Annie Folger continued from page 1
unexpected listener, former U.S. Secretary of State George Schultz, to call into the studio. …

During her nearly 32 years at Midpen, including 15 years as executive director, Folger helped the nonprofit media center grow from one channel to five local channels, produce more than 2,000 hours of city council meetings annually and contribute educational and public programming to a regional channel that reaches more than 400,000 homes in 15 cities. …

Her most memorable studio experience, however, wasn’t airing a show. She recalled a time when the Midpen was hosting a group of young adults with Down syndrome. After teaching the group about the aspects of work behind the camera, Folger and others decided to put them in front of it, making the group feel just as important as anyone else working there. The gesture was so unexpected, the group began laughing and hugging each other.

“These are the things that make me proud,” she said with tears in her eyes.

(Read the entire article at https://paloaltoonline.com/news/2017/02/17/the-free-speech-revolutionary)

What’s in store for Midpen’s next 30 years? Building on Annie’s legacy, Midpen Media Center will continue to provide media access and technology equity, to make sure that every voice can find expression, can find its place in the chorus of our diverse community and have equal footing in the marketplace of ideas. When everyone’s voice is valued, more ideas emerge, and those ideas lead to connections and to solutions.

Advisory Council

Elisa Agor, Learning, HR & Technology Director
Bern Beecham, Former Palo Alto Mayor
Peter Drekeimeier, Tuolumne River Trust
Sid Espinosa, Director of Corporate Citizenship, Microsoft
Ted Glasser, Stanford University
Karen Holman, Former Palo Alto Mayor
Tony Klein, Latham & Watkins, LLP
Liz Kniss, Palo Alto City Council
Meda Okelo, Publisher, El Ravenswood
Joanie Bigwood Osborn, Former Director, MPAC and SVCC
Audrey Ramberg, City of Mountain View
Carl Yorke, Principal Information Developer at Symantec
Silvia Vonderlinden, City of Redwood City
Our Volunteers

Azita Gandjei
Haley Garrison
Gianna Gencarella
Sean George
Toni Gooch
Trich Gray
Marla-Rae Guerpo
Shihao Guo
Twila Harrison
Mark Hatasaka
Jake Holzhey
Chih-Hao Hsieh
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Dany Jacobs
Roxanne Jansen
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Cathy Keys
Sana Khader
Keiko Kim
Michael Kim
Jeff Kimball
Laura Kinley
Suresh Kondapalli
Carla Kong
Aleksandr Korolko
Daniel Kottke
Brian Kraker
Doug Kreitz
Jennifer LeBlanc
Allyn Leshchiner
Denet Lewis
Erik Lind
Zach Lipsett
Tony Lo
Carmen Looney
Alma Love
Austin Lu
Sheri Luevano
Allison Ma
George Marshall
Omar Martinez
Jeff McGinnis
John McGuire
Andrew Mellows
David Menasco
Diego Mendez
Sam Miken
Sam Miller

Herb Moore
Laura Morejon
Miguel Moreno
Valentina Morigi
Magdalena Neurbrand
Helga Newman
Stan Ng
Mark O'Neill
Gabe Paganucci
Sue Pelosi
Cesar Peralta
Nina Perry
Phil Pflager
Isaiah Phillips
Simone Polanen
Jean Ramacciotti
Premika Ratnam
Sally Rayn
Alexander Redding
Judy Rock
Leah Rogers
Owen Ryan
Elizabeth Salwitz
Kent Schneeveis
Mark Scriver
Tata Serebryanaya
Karunya Sethuraman

David Simon
Mary Skinner
Vicci Smith
Jonathan Sneh
Vidoor Sood
Belinda Sosnow
Tyler Spreng
Birgit Starmanns
Amber Stime
Jeff Stone
Shobana Swamy
Lisa Tesler
Pemo Theodore
Jules Thomas
Gavin Tieng
Kristi Tillman
Rich Tucker
Pje Tupou
Hadas Unger
Tom Upton
Scott Van Duyne
Victoria Van Duyne
Maria Vazquez
Leonardo Wai
Azalea Wakelee
Ryan Wang
Vicky S. Wang
Marty Wasserman
Greg Weinstein
Nance Wheeler
Linda Wieder
Fiona Wiesner
Carolyn Williams
Charles Williams
Ali Williams
Nozipo Wobogo
Evan Wong
Margaret Yoon
Loren Young
Mark Zand
Alan Zoraster
We are a valuable community resource, helping local residents capitalize on the evolving opportunities in the digital era. We serve Atherton, East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, Palo Alto, Stanford and unincorporated portions of San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. We help these residents adapt to the changing media landscape by teaching them skills to independently use the media. We help schools, churches, local governments and non-profit organizations tell their story through multiple media platforms.

Abilities United
Acterra
African American Community Health Advisory Committee
African American Composer Initiative
American Legion, Santa Clara County
American-Islamic Relations, San Francisco Chapter
AmeriCorps
Amnesty International
Arillaga Recreation Center
Atheer
Atherton City Council
Autodesk
Bayview Hunters Point Foundation
Belle Haven School
Bill of Rights Defense Committee
BOK
Brady Campaign to Reduce Gun Violence
Breakthrough Initiatives
Brennan Center for Justice, NYU Law School
Brentwood Academy
Bright’s Well Celtic Musicians
Brilliant Forge
Burlingame United Methodist Church
CA People of Faith Against the Death Penalty
California Council on Science and Technology
CarbDM
Carlmont High School
Century 21 Fine Homes & Estates
Cesar Chavez & Green Oaks Academy
CgoXchange
CharitySmith
Cinequest
Citizen Climate Lobby
Citizens Trade Campaign
City Lights Theater Company
City of Atherton
City of East Palo Alto
City of Menlo Park
City of Mountain View
City of Palo Alto
City of Palo Alto, Public Works Department
City of Redwood City
City of San Jose
City of Sunnyvale
College Track, East Palo Alto
Community School of Music & the Arts
Concentric Media
Costano School & 49ers Academy
CreaTV San Jose
CWA Local 9421
Czech School of California
Denodo
Dragon Theatre
Earthjustice
East Palo Alto Academy High School
East Palo Alto Charter School
East Palo Alto Library
East Palo Alto Seed Library
East Palo Alto Today
East Palo Alto YMCA
El Tecolote
Election Defense Alliance
Encinal Elementary School
Encinal School
ENJOY
EPA Center Arts / Live in Peace
EPA Today
First Community Housing
Foothill-De Anza Community College District
Forrester Research
Foster City Lions Club
GGVC
Girls to Women
GLBT National Help Center
Golden State Greyhound Adoptions
Google
Grace Lutheran Church
Gunn High School
Habitat for Humanity
Hands on the Arts
Heartlight Studios
Hillview Middle School
Hortonworks
Institute of Noetic Sciences
IQ 650
Ironbound Films
Jane Lathrop Stanford Middle School
Jewish Community Center
JLS Middle School
Jordan Middle School
Kiwanis Club of Palo Alto
KiwobaCARES
Kleid Group
KMVT 15 Silicon Valley Community Media
KPMG
La Estrada School
Las Lomitas School District
Laurel Elementary
League of Women Voters
League of Women Voters of San Mateo
LinkedIn
Little House
loveeverafter.org
Menlo Atherton High School
Menlo Park City School District
Menlo Park Fire Protection District
Menlo Park Library
Menlo Spark
Menlo-Atherton High School
Mental Health Association of San Francisco
Michael Doyle Partners
MidPen Housing Corporation
Minds of Steel
Mothers Against Murder
Move to Amend
## Organizations We Served in 2016

| National Legal Sanctuary for Community Advancement | Ravenswood City School District  |
| New America Media | Ravenswood Family Health Center |
| Oak Knoll Elementary School | Reading Bonanza in the Park |
| Oak Knoll Middle School | Redwood High School |
| OEPA/Summer Employment Program | Reel Impact Film Festival |
| Office of John McAlister, Councilmember and former mayor, City of Mountain View | REI |
| Office of Pat Burt, Mayor of Palo Alto | Richmond Grows Seed Lending Library |
| Omniscell | Riekes Center |
| One East Palo Alto | Ron Herman Photography |
| Open to Hope TV | Ronald McNair School |
| Pac-12 Network | Rosalie Rendu Center |
| Palo Alto Art Center | Rotary Club of East Palo Alto |
| Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce | Rotary Club of Palo Alto |
| Palo Alto Daily Post | Samsung |
| Palo Alto High School | San Francisco 49ers Academy |
| Palo Alto Historical Association | San Francisco Creek Joint Powers Authority |
| Palo Alto Impact Center | San Jose State University |
| Palo Alto JCC | San Mateo County |
| Palo Alto Philharmonic | San Mateo County Office of Education |
| Palo Alto Players | Santa Clara County Board of Education |
| Palo Alto Unified School District | Saratoga High School |
| Palo Alto University | Scary Cow Film Co-Op |
| Palo Alto Weekly | Sensemo |
| Paradigm Education | Sequoia Adult School Scholars |
| Pear Theatre | Sequoia District Adult School |
| Peery Foundation | Sequoia Healthcare District |
| Peninsula Boys and Girls Club | Sequoia Union High School District |
| Peninsula Conflict Resolution Center | shatterproof.org |
| Peninsula Health Care District | SIGGRAPH Conference |
| Peninsula Humane Society | Sight and Sound |
| Peninsula Peace and Justice Center | Silicon Valley Black Chamber |
| Peninsula Volunteers | Silicon Valley Community Foundation |
| Picture the Possibilities | Silicon Valley Shakespeare |
| Posit Science | Silicon Valley Thorium Alliance |
| Precourt Energy Efficiency Center | Silicon Valley Virtual Reality Expo |
| Predii | Somas Una |
| Project Read | SoundPost |
| Project Safety Net | SPCA |
| Project WeHope | SRI |
| PSAV Creative Services | St. Francis of Assisi Faith in Action |
| Purple Fox & Heebie Jeebies | Stand4Lyme |
| Racing Hearts | Stanford Broadcasting Crew |
| Rape Trauma Services | Stanford Cancer Institute |
| Ravenswood Child Development Center | Stanford Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences |
| | Stanford Parkinson’s Community Outreach Program |
| | Stanford School of Medicine |
| | Stanford University |
| | Stanford University Center for Internet & Society |
| | Stanford Video |
| | Stop Hospital Euthanasia |
| | StreetCode Academy |
| | Super Ventures |
| | SV2 |
| | SVOS |
| | Terman Middle School |
| | The Compassionate Friends |
| | The Golden Follies |
| | The Office of Judge LaDoris Cordell |
| | The Pink Pistols |
| | The Soul Line Dancers |
| | The Team Scot Foundation |
| | Third Baptist Church of San Francisco |
| | Toastmasters |
| | Tom Ford |
| | UC Berkeley Graduate School of Journalism |
| | UCSF |
| | UN Development Fund for Women |
| | UN Panel on Climate Change |
| | UNAFF |
| | VA Law Enforcement Training Center |
| | VA Medical Center Police Department, Houston |
| | VA National Center for PTSD |
| | VA Palo Alto Health Care System |
| | Veterans Helping Veterans |
| | Vets in Tech |
| | Vida |
| | Voice for the People |
| | Voicekick |
| | West Coast Songwriters |
| | Willow Oaks School |
| | Woodside High School |
| | Y.E.S.S. Collaborative |
| | Yarn Movement |
| | YMCA Silicon Valley |
| | Youth Community Service |
| | YWCA Silicon Valley Rape Crisis Center |
# Our Year in Numbers

## Productions
- **105** by the staff
- **481** by the community
- **409** government meetings

## Volunteers & Producers
- **538** students and volunteers
- Contributed **5,751** hours
- To serve and tell the stories of **247** organizations

## Youth
- We mentored **25** youth interns
- Held **24** youth workshops & camps
- Showed **382** live school broadcasts on our channels

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Volunteers & Producers

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