

**MUSLIMS,
CATHOLICS,
MORMONS,
JEWS BUILD
BRIDGES – P4**



**EVERGREEN
VALLEY AUTHOR
RELEASES DEBUT
THRILLER NOVEL
'STORM' – P14**



**ADDRESSING
HOMELESSNESS
HOUSING, SOCIETAL CONCERNS
AT HEART OF CRISIS – P5, 13**

AUGUST 3 – AUGUST 16, 2018 ■ VOL. 35, NO. 16

EvergreenTimes

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Two Evergreen Valley students win prestigious national STEM competition in Washington DC

By William Bellou
Publisher

Two middle school students from Evergreen Valley are winners in the prestigious 2018 Project CSGIRLS National STEM (Science Technology Engineering Mathematics) competition in Washington, DC.

Sneha Revanur (Quimby Oak Middle School) has won First Place Prize for her algorithm project to analyze Gender Based Violence and Nivedita Sanghavi (Chaboya Middle School) has won Fifth Place Prize for her invention Neck Check for Text Neck.

The 2017-2018 Project CSGIRLS Competition for Middle School has reached more than 7,000 middle school girls to date and has brought together students, technical professionals, and organizations to work towards a common goal of inspiring girls to pursue computer science and technology.

Revanur's winning invention

is titled: Analyzing Gender Based Violence.

Revanur: I have always been passionate about finding the solutions to some of humanity's most paramount issues in a computational space; stories about the plight of women victimized by gender-based violence (GBV) around the world filled me with a drive to somehow leverage computer science to ameliorate their lives.

I soon learned that little to no information about GBV exists, which is why it is so difficult for aid groups to effectively channel

See WINNERS, page 10



Nivedita Sanghavi from Chaboya Middle School won fifth place for her invention "Neck Check for Text Neck."

250 single detached homes, 4 softball fields and retail stores under construction at Capitol Expy.

Developer donates 14 acres and is in process of building four softball fields to open summer 2019

By Kevin Larsen
Times staff writer

For those who have driven Capital Expressway north from Aborn towards Quimby (Eastridge Area) we now see a flurry of development going in the more than 80 acre open field.

There are three components being developed.

- 17 acres of public park space (4 top-flight softball fields)
- More than 300,000 feet of commercial development space
- Approximately 250 single family homes

Softball fields
There will be four world first class softball fields. The reason for four of them is so that sanctioned certified competitions can occur between teams that compete across the Bay Area and beyond.

Background

On September 2, 2016, the Arcadia



An artist's interpretation of potential retail space at the Evergreen Circle Project.

Development Co. signed the PSA with the City at See EVERGREEN CIRCLE, page



Fun activities and aerial acrobatics were plentiful at the 2017 Hot San Jose Nights event.

Hot San Jose Nights event returns to Reid-Hillview with bigger, better show

Spectacular family entertainment day with cars, free aircraft rides, tanks and more

Plans are underway for Hot San Jose Nights 10th annual charity car and airplane show at Reid-Hillview Airport on Saturday, September 8th. The July date was changed to September to allow for more schools to participate.

As Mike Hennessy, creator of this event likes to say, "Hot San Jose Nights is much more than a car show, it is an event for the entire family. Hot San Jose Nights offers the only car show that is specifically designed to entertain children, grandchildren and

See HOT NIGHTS, page 3



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Current Villages For Sale

Street Address	Price	DOM	Bds	Bths
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7054 Via Belmonte	\$630,000	51	2	2 (2/0)
7688 Galloway Drive	\$810,000	61	2	2 (2/0)
8747 McCarty Ranch Drive	\$1,149,000	43	3	3 (2/1)
8636 Solera	\$945,000	51	2	2 (2/0)
7232 Via Mimosa	\$800,000	27	2	2 (2/0)
5017 Cribari Vale	\$550,000	51	2	2 (2/0)
8699 Lomas Azules Place	\$999,900	13	3	3 (2/1)
9069 Village View Loop	\$1,195,000	13	2	3 (2/1)
8873 Wine Valley Circle	\$995,000	35	3	2 (2/0)
6029 Montgomery Corner	\$568,000	4	2	2 (2/0)
8752 McCarty Ranch	\$989,950	3	2	3 (2/1)

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Times **Local News**

The 2018 Santa Clara County Fair opens

The 2018 Santa Clara County Fair is now open for a community celebration.

The Fair runs August 2, 3, 4, and 5 at the Fairgrounds facilities located at 344 Tully Rd, San Jose.

This year's Fair is offering new features, more entertainment, more food (pepper steak is back), the animals are back, and more excitement.

The Fair schedule includes a Saturday's celebration of Indian Independence, Swades, and a pair of big arena concerts featuring top acts from Mexico on Friday and Sunday. On Saturday at 7:30 p.m., The Fair hosts Eddie Money for rock n roll fans on Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

"We're very much the county fair you love plus a whole lot more!" – Valleri Merken, Fair Manager.

Daily Hours

Thursday, Aug 2nd: 1pm-10pm (Carnival open until 11pm); Friday, Aug 3rd: 11am-11pm (Carnival open until Midnight); Saturday, Aug 4th: 11am-11pm; (Carnival open until Midnight); Sunday, Aug 5th: 11am-10pm; (Carnival open until 11pm).

Ticket Prices

Adults (12-64): \$10; Youth (5-11): \$5; Under 5: Free; Senior 65+: \$5. All military personnel (active, retired, veteran) w/ proper identification (VA Cards Accepted) enter fair for FREE!

Concerts

Chely Wright; Eddie Money; Metalachi; LoCura; Cisco Kid; San Jose Entertainment — Grupo Laberinto, Revancha, Coyote, and El Dasa; and Busta Goove. For more information about concerts visit: bit.ly/SCCFairconcerts

Additional information is available at TheFair.org.

AJ's Kitchen signs lease at Silver Creek Plaza

Weingarten Realty announced that AJ's Kitchen has leased 1,800 SF at Silver Creek



Pepper Steak is Back! Mike and Fred DiPietro stand in front of the Pepper Steak stand at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds.

Plaza on E Capitol Expressway. AJ's Kitchen is a Vietnamese-Pho Restaurant and will join tenants including Orchard Supply Hardware, Walgreens, Wendy's, Starbucks and more.

Helpers needed for Lions Backpack Stuffing Party

Sunday, August 12, 10:00 am at James Lick High School Community Room

Please join the San Jose Host East Valley Lions Club on Sunday, August 12, 2018 10:00 am at the James Lick High School Community Room as we assemble more than 500 backpacks for low income students in the Greater Evergreen/East Valley area.

This event usually takes about two-three hours and is the perfect activity for students interested in getting community service hours or anyone interested in helping out needy children. Chores include pack stuffing, cardboard removal, putting packs in trucks and clean up.

We will start our morning with donuts and coffee to get in the right frame of mind. Interested volunteers should contact Marilyn Leonard at marilynleonard@sbc-global.net or Carla Evans at evans4u@att.net.

Hot Nights

Continued from page 1

the whole family. There is something here for the entire family."

Along with the classic, vintage and special interest cars on display there will also be an array of aircraft and the largest display of military tanks and vehicles on the west coast. The Eagle Field Foundation will be giving rides in over 6 of the military tanks and vehicles. Baylands RC Group will be putting on a fantastic RC airshow to delight the crowds.

The EAA62's Young Eagles will be offering free flights in small aircraft to kids aged 8 – 17. There will be a variety of S.T.E.A.M. oriented displays to engage the youth. Music will take center stage all day with headlining performances by Big Mike & The Hartbeats. A number of notable citizens will be honored for their service to the community. Canned foods will be collected to benefit Second Harvest Food Bank.

Hot San Jose Nights is sponsored in partnership with Chris Wilder of the VMC Foundation, President and 3rd District County Supervisor Dave Cortese & County Supervisor District 2 County Supervisor Cindy Chavez.

Admission and parking are free to the public. Show hours are from 10am – 4pm. Proceeds will be donated to the VMC Foundation. Registration forms for the cars, vendors, food trucks & vendors, Non-Profit organizations and S.T.E.A.M. related activities as well as more information can be found at www.HotSanJoseNights.com.

Mike Hennessy is owner of Hennessy's Automotive Repair in Santa Clara and is the host of the popular Car Guy Channel TV show.



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This Week:



PETS

Tips for keeping pets cool in the summer heat: **PAGE 12**

COUNTY

Free business development services available: **PAGE 8**

COMMUNITY

Local author releases debut novel 'Storm': **PAGE 14**

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Worship Guide: **PAGE 16**

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Valley Currents

cur-rent (adj.) *Present, topical, timely, newsworthy.* (n.) *Movement in a definite direction, a flow.*

Muslims, Catholics, Jews, Mormons building bridges of understanding

Blood drive, Saturday, September 8

By Stacey King

Special to the Times

It's not every day you come across Muslims, Catholics, Jews, Mormons, non-profit organizations, and a County Supervisor gathering in a Christian chapel.

The group of varying backgrounds and faiths recently convened at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to continue building bridges of understanding in our community.

Dave Cortese, Santa Clara County Board Supervisor, who was present at the gathering stated: "I am grateful to the LDS church in the Evergreen area for its efforts to bring people in our community together and I'm impressed with the work they're doing with our youth."

During the meeting, about 60 full-time missionaries, who serve here from all over the world and who can be as young as 18 years old, were gathering for a conference at the time of the meeting. Two of the missionaries as well as Mission President Hunt provided the group with a tour of the church. Some of the noted doctrinal teachings shared during the tour included serving others as Jesus Christ did, which is what these groups have been accomplishing together.

Blood Drive, Saturday, September 8

The Evergreen Islamic Center and The Church of Jesus Christ are uniting their efforts to host an interfaith community blood drive on Saturday, September 8, 2018 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the LDS church located at 3060 Patt Ave., San Jose, CA.

There is always a shortage of blood donations during the summer, but on July 9, the American Red Cross declared an emergency blood shortage. Just one single donation can save up to three lives. The two groups are hopeful that between their efforts and communities, many will donate blood and help alleviate the shortage.

There are so many groups trying to serve and do good in our community-- what better way to do so than to join efforts with other like-minded community members in such an important cause as literally saving lives by donating blood.

This isn't the first interfaith effort these groups have supported one another in. The Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley, who also had representatives present at the meeting, holds a donation drive Embrace-a-Family to support refugees with basic necessities during the winter holiday season. More than 20 local wards (congregations) of the LDS church helped by donating hundreds of items varying from a bicycle for a young boy, a dress so a single



A group of people of varying backgrounds and faiths recently convened at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to continue building bridges of understanding in our community. *Photo by Stacey King*

mother could have something nice to wear to work, gift cards to buy gas and groceries, and a space heater to provide warmth in a home. All these generous but basic household items, clothing, and toys were given directly to each refugee and were graciously received.

Zoya Lazer, Director of Refugee & Career Services from the Jewish Family Services, said: "Together with this partnership and support, Jewish Family Services and The Church of Latter-day Saints are stronger and able to deliver an even higher level of

service to refugees living in our community."

For more information on the upcoming blood drive, please visit redcrossblood.org, enter the sponsor code InterfaithCommunity or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) and to find more service opportunities you can participate in, visit JustServe.org.

Editor's note: Stacey King is a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) and a lead in organizing this important blood drive.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bone Marrow registry response was 'amazing'

Editor,

Thank you so much for putting a notice on the front page of the last issue of the Evergreen Times announcing the Stanford Blood Center's blood drive and bone marrow registry on July 23rd. Yours was the only publication we could get it posted in because the bone marrow registry portion was added at the last moment.

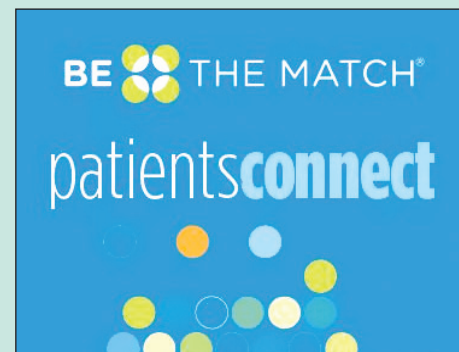
I want you to know that we had an amazing response and that you were a very important part of the event's success. We were able to find 27 age eligible potential bone marrow donors. 11 of these folks signed up for the program through their smart phones at the event while the other 16 left promising to do

so once they got home. That's fantastic results! I don't know how many blood cancer victims may be saved through these added donors, but the bone marrow worker from "Be the Match" was really happy with the results.

There's still time for your readers to become a part of the nationwide registry and possibly SAVE A LIFE. They can see the details online at www.BeTheMatch.org. There's a great Q & A and the whole registration process is simple and painless.

Rich Crowley

Member, Venture Christian Church



Times Features

OpEd

The problems of being homeless: Is it a crisis?

Touching on the Homeless situation in Evergreen Valley has become a huge discussion. Areas of safety, health and sanitation have upset many of our residents.

First and foremost, let us remember that in any human situation there are rules and regulations that should be adhered to.

If there are as many homeless out there who are having mental health issues, as we are led to believe from reading our newspapers, then how can we expect those individuals to follow any set of rules and regulations? They are almost to the stage of being involuntary in their thinking and depend wholly upon instinct for survival and something to eat when they can find something.

It has been established that homelessness is brought on by several problems that exist in our society. Some say it is a mental health issue. Some say it is brought on by drug and alcohol abuse, probably from an early age. Regardless of the cause, it is a present problem.

Recent news articles have shown the homeless being kicked by irate individuals. Another man in Oakland became so irate, as he tried and tried to help one individual, that he took the man's belongings and threw them in the lake when he saw no improvement.

Many statements that have appeared in the press and social media continue to mention the problem of homelessness, but few people have made suggestions on how to cure the problem.

Here are comments from Evergreen residents.



Cliff-like dwellings under freeways house the homeless, who also construct encampments near streams and parks.

“This morning as I walked my dog I saw a man using one of the trash cans as a toilet. I felt compassion for the man as it looked as though he was struggling. The encampments erected by the homeless have created a critical health and safety issue. Not only is there a Health and Safety issue in the encampments, but also in the surrounding communities, as well as, the ecosystems (streams and creeks) and among the wildlife in the area of the encampments.

Unsanitary conditions tend to draw rodents and insects that feed off the filth, giving these pests a perfect environment to propagate diseases.” The world’s most destructive pandemics were a result of poor hygiene and inadequate sanitation propagated by infected rats and mice.”

Another statement suggested: “Throw those bums in suits (politicians) out by voting them out of cities, counties, and the state!” Radical! But when nothing else works, we should vote the old system out and vote for the locals that know the problem and have a solution to the problem without raising taxes to fix the problem that has happened year after year! To this was replied, “You

are right, voting them out is part of the solution but only if the newly elected officials make homelessness a crisis, as it surely is! When the homeless use a garbage can for a toilet and have to wipe with a bag from a fast food establishment, it is totally ironic!”

Another replied, “There has been more than 500 million dollars allotted to handle the homeless problem, but I don’t see much of an effect. Officials keep coming to tell us how that they are working on the problem, but there are little results! I would like to see a weekly report card of what the local government is doing to solve the problem. All we have received, so far, are piecemeal abridged reports, political statements which are confusing and conflicting!”

Another continued, “Those millions of dollars are being used to have study after study, not to find a solution to the housing problem! It has been said that the city is sending the homeless out to clean up where the large corporations are so that they will continue to look good as this draws business!

Stop sending representatives to other countries on our

See CRISIS, page 8

Evergreen Circle

Continued from page 1

no fee in order to donate a 14.48-acre site for the proposed softball facility. The project, scheduled to open in the summer of 2019 will provide active recreation opportunities to the community for youth, adult and senior players as well as tournament, league, and permitted play.

Evergreen Circle Project beginning

It’s a new neighborhood and it has been christened to be called “The Evergreen Circle.” This is the name given to the entire development project. The home development is called Asana and it is overseen by the DeNova Home Group. One can see the selection of home designs now being offered at the builder’s website. Due to the increase in home values, the homes are now only being offered as 2-3 story models. You might say that Evergreen is building up (multiple stories) now and this is the future!

About DeNova

DeNova Homes has earned a good reputation for the past five years as one of the most respected homebuilders in the Bay Area. According to the company’s website, DeNova is a private family-owned builder, allowing it to address each community individually, incorporate the unique characteristics of the surrounding area and commit to build only the very best, a sentiment that the



Proposed map of the Evergreen Circle Project layout. Note that three softball fields are shown but a fourth has been added.

Building Industry Association has reaffirmed with numerous awards. Their website states, “While we focus on this innovative design and superior craftsmanship — our ultimate commitment is to the lifestyle our homeowners enjoy when they move into a DeNova home.”

The Building Industry Association has reaffirmed DeNova Homes’ ideals with numerous awards, including Builder of the Year. And in 2004, together with the hit ABC television show

Extreme Makeover: Home Edition and over 1,200 volunteers, DeNova Homes proudly put their heart and soul into building a new home for a family in Martinez in just five days.

The planning committee city staff report PDC10-022 states; “The proposed project (Evergreen Circle) will provide a variety of commercial retail and office amenities to the new community and the existing community surrounding the project site. The development of

this site could provide unique urban retail opportunities that will not only be a local neighborhood attraction, but a regional attraction as well.”

The land is now being cleared for this tremendous development. Homes will be going in soon along with retail development. The softball fields are said to be ahead of schedule and could be completed at a rapid pace before next summer (2019).



Plan 1	
Stories:	3
Square Footage:	2,560
Bedrooms:	3-4 Bedroom
Bathrooms:	4 Bathroom

A sample of a single-family home of the type that may be constructed in the Evergreen Circle Project.

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ERIC PARKER & NICKI BROWN PRESENT



Silver Creek Valley Country Club 2,916+/- sf of living space, 6,120+/-sf home site, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths and a 3-car garage. Built in 1996. This beautiful home invites casual entertaining with spacious living and dining rooms and a gourmet kitchen. The formal living and dining rooms feature hardwood flooring. The updated kitchen includes beautiful cherry cabinetry and granite slab countertops. Enjoy a rare premium view location perched above the 11th green with views down the fairway and surrounded by lush landscaping, distinctive mature trees and gardens in the most private of settings with no rear neighbors. This family-friendly home is ideally located within close distance to award-winning schools, and Silver Creek Valley Country Club amenities including golf, pool, tennis and fitness facilities. Perfect for family living!

Offered at \$1,849,000



2984 REECE WAY

newly updated family home, a blend of traditional style & modern-day convenience. 4bd/3ba, 2662+/-sf on a 6000+/-sf home site.
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2068 BIARRITZ PLACE

8451+/-sf, 5bd/5+ba home (plus guest quarters with separate entrance). Two garages can accommodate 8+ cars. All in a private setting of 1.09+/-acres.
Sold for \$5,045,000



5581 COUNTRY CLUB PARKWAY

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Want to start a business? The county offers free development services

By Supervisor Dave Cortese
Special to the Times

Have you thought of starting a business but don't know where to begin?

Santa Clara County provides free services to County residents who want to start and grow a business here. The Small Business Development Center offers programs that will help you get the loans you need to purchase real estate, equipment or pay for operation costs.

Through meetings, workshops and one-on-one counseling from SBDC advisers, you can learn how to gain

access to government contracts, be competitive and contract ready. If you're a restaurant owner, or interested in starting a restaurant, advisers can provide education and advocacy to help you follow regulations, increase repeat customers and have a positive cash flow.

More details about the programs and articles on local small businesses are available in Access Magazine, an SBDC publication produced by Dennis King, Executive Director of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Silicon Valley and of SBDC Silicon Valley/SBDC

Hispanic Satellite. My endorsement of the SBDC is on Page 4. You can also visit the Small Business Development Center website or call 408-248-4800.

Attention families with school-age kids

I'd also like to tell you about a free service for parents who are juggling many schedules and sometimes find it difficult to get kids to school, after-school events or summer camps and activities. Ujama is a free service that will help you find other parents in your neighborhood who are sending their

kids to the same activities. With Ujama, an app available on an iPhone or android phone, parents can make new connections to start carpooling, arrange play dates or discover new enriching activities for children. Visit ujama.co for more information and to sign up. Ujama, by the way, is a Swahili word for extended family.

For questions on these or any other topic, please call my office at 409-299-5030 or email me at dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org.

Crisis

Continued from page 5

dollar, to see how they are handling the homeless situation, just do something practical here to get the ones out on the streets clean and sober!" To which another replied, "We don't have anything to show for our money.

The little homes project is a bad idea; just another failed attempt to waste money and look like something is being done. We have plenty of vacant buildings to house some of these people. Not in large populations but in groups of, maybe fewer than 20, where people are individuals not institutionalized numbers. These people need a small community that they can depend on and trust."

Another stated, "And yet if you look you will see they are in our back yards, they know how to hide quite well, but when the larger communities are taken down they are just moved to another location, why not at that point be ready to house them. We do homeless counts why not be ready to give them someplace at that time. In Utah, they believe in teaching a man to fish and he will feed himself. California believes in giving a man a fish and he will continue to ask for and receive more fish!"

One lady said, "Recently I tried to help an older homeless woman in the neighborhood. It was a real eye-opener as to how most services are over used. The public health issue is a huge problem. Many diseases are spread via human feces and urine. The City never responded to my requests for information to help with the homeless woman. so I am now left believing they are ineffective!"

Last but not least, another replied, "Well, we voted as a start in June, now let's get out and vote in November!" But

is voting one politician in and another out the solution? Someone needs to come up with a plan and follow through with that plan! At least we now know what it is that most of us fear, that our health and safety is threatened by allowing the homeless to run rampant over the city! It will be interesting to see who steps up to the plate in November to address this sensitive and crucial issue!

Large, cliff-dwelling type, encampments have been under freeways and expressways for several years. It will not be easy to entrench a problem that has existed for a long time.

Who is going to tell the homeless individual that he must leave or be forcibly removed?

Is it a crisis? Yes, and some say getting worse!

Frank Shortt
Evergreen Valley



Battle of the Big Bands August 25 Glen Miller vs. Harry James

Experience an incredible afternoon of live 1940s music.

An exciting musical tribute to the 1940s Big Bands will be performed live at the California Theatre in San Jose on August 25.

The "Battle of the Bands" features two popular bands, Glen Miller vs. Harry James. Also featured are the The Satin Dollz, as they entertain audiences with their big band sound, tight vocal harmonies, and show-stopping tap dancing.

Get ready to be entertained by vocalists Ned Rifkin, known as the "Ambassador of Swing". Joining Ned on stage is Candace Delbo. She has a passion for singing and it shows in her performances.

This show features 30 musicians performing non-stop for 2 hours plus a 15 minute intermission.

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Above: The Satin Dollz; Below L-R: Candace Delbo and Ned Rifkin.



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Times Local News

Winners

Continued from page 1

their efforts to tackle the issue. Since humans generate masses of data daily through social media, I thought that I could use Tweets, or posts on Twitter, to make conclusions about how we discuss and react to GBV.

Computational algorithm

I went on to develop a computational algorithm that employs machine learning and natural language processing to independently label Tweets as GBV-relevant or not and classify them among four categories: Physical Violence, Sexual Violence, Harmful Practices, and Other. My model is able to do so with upward of 85 percent accuracy and it can provide information about the types of users that discuss GBV, how they do so, and the geographical regions that most frequently discuss GBV.

Twitter has an accessible, secure API and offers a wide range of free streaming services. I set up and defined each of the four classes while also maintaining search criteria for each; Twitter's services would allow me to only stream Tweets containing any of the preselected words. I streamed, preprocessed, formatted, and filtered the nearly 2,000,000 Tweets I collected. I continued to perform natural language processing on my Tweet set using the Natural Language Toolkit (NLTK). The

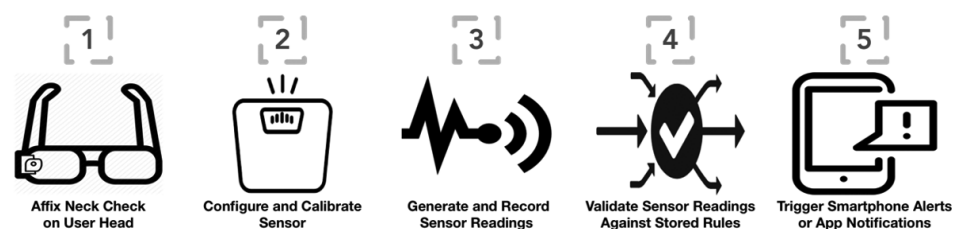
frequency of all the terms that remained following the NLP stage was counted, and the terms with a frequency greater than 4 became unigrams.

I formulated my bigram list by pairing up any two consecutive unigrams. I proceeded to label the 4,000 Tweets I had after the filtering stage while maintaining objectivity and consistency. I used the Naive Bayes classifier, which is easy to understand and implement, for machine learning. I conducted a comparative analysis of the two feature sets I was working with: the unigrams and bigrams generated from the NLP stage and the unigrams and bigrams generated from the search criteria I selected for streaming Tweets.

I found that the search criteria-based features gave me better accuracy and precision, with that feature set tending to perform better on average. Overall, I was able to develop a model whose classification accuracy was more than 85 percent to achieve my goal for the project. I was also able to mine information about the cities, states, and countries that most frequently discussed GBV; information about the specific classes that were most frequently discussed; and topics that were most frequently discussed.

Sanghavi's winning invention is called Neck Check for Text Neck.

Sanghavi: Due to the recent proliferation of smartphones, tablets and other mobile devices a new world-wide



health scourge called 'Text Neck' is taking shape and sending thousands of people to medical institutions for a range of health issues.

Virtually unheard of just years ago, text neck is a repetitive strain injury that's becoming more common as more people hunch over smartphones.

Over the course of a normal day with regular routine, a human being may angle the neck downward for a variety of tasks. However due to excessive use of mobile devices over the past decade the average time a person spends in this awkward position has increased significantly which aggravates muscle pain in the neck, shoulders and the lower back.

Smartphone or tablet based visual aids for posture correction are not effective as they require the user to view the mobile devices at a particular angle. They also do not help measure the user's neck angle and strain when the user is not in front of a mobile device.

I want to help solve this ongoing global issue with my invention called the 'Neck Check' which aims to be a new, lightweight, long-lasting, use-any-

where, wearable which can be affixed to any part of the human head or accessories. Neck Check in its productized form will have a very small footprint and will be attachable directly to a user's spectacles, ear rings, Bluetooth headsets or simply by anchoring it behind the ear.

My invention Neck Check for Text Neck is comprised of three components.

1. Wireless Wearable – Users will be able to affix the Neck Check wearable onto their heads either by placing it on one or more accessories (spectacles, earrings, blue-tooth devices) or by simply sticking it behind their ears with skin-safe adhesive. In order for maximum impact and benefit, a user will be able to use multiple Neck Check wearables allowing them to permanently affix some to their accessories.

2. Paired Smartphone or Tablet – Users will be able to pair their Neck Check wearable with a Smartphone or Tablet which will sync the sensor readings from the wearable on a periodic basis.

3. Mobile App – Users will be able to

Continued, next page



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Times Features

download a companion app from iOS and Android app stores which will act as a secondary computational device. The app will take in the sensor angle readings and will use the data to provide health insights to the user. The app will also offer aids which the user can utilize to set daily limits for smartphone and tablet usage.

Summary

My solution to combat the new worldwide scourge of Text Neck is the 'Neck Check' wearable that is aimed to be an inexpensive, lightweight, long-lasting, use-anywhere, gender-neutral which can be affixed to the user's head for constant neck angle readings. The wearable when combined with the power of a paired smartphone and a health app which provides insights can inform the user to correct their screen-viewing habits and take corrective action before it is too late.

Editor's note: Last year Sanghavi also won an award for her invention which allows a 911 call initiated via a smartphone will be routed to a conventional PSAP as well as the PEPERS system,

which utilizes a nationwide network of smart phones providing identifies of other users in need of emergency services. The advantage of this system is the ability to rush aid to victims before conventional First Responders arrive at the scene.

2018 National Winners

1st Place Grand Prize – Sneha Revanur (Quimby Oak Middle School - California)

2nd Place Grand Prize – Gitanjali Rao (STEM School Highlands Ranch - Colorado)

3rd Place Grand Prize – Kailey Aponte, Janeliz Guzman, Bria Roettger (Ramey Unit School = Puerto Rico)

4th Place – (TIE) Krisha Patel (Margaret Mead Junior High - Illinois); Mary Cotter (Allendale Columbia School - New York)

5th Place – (TIE) Lara Scherer, Haruka Doi (Environmental Charter School at Frick Park, Pittsburgh Colfax K-8 - Pennsylvania); Nidhi Mathihalli, Elizabeth Stoiber (Redwood Middle School - California); Nivedita Sanghavi (Chaboya Middle School - California)

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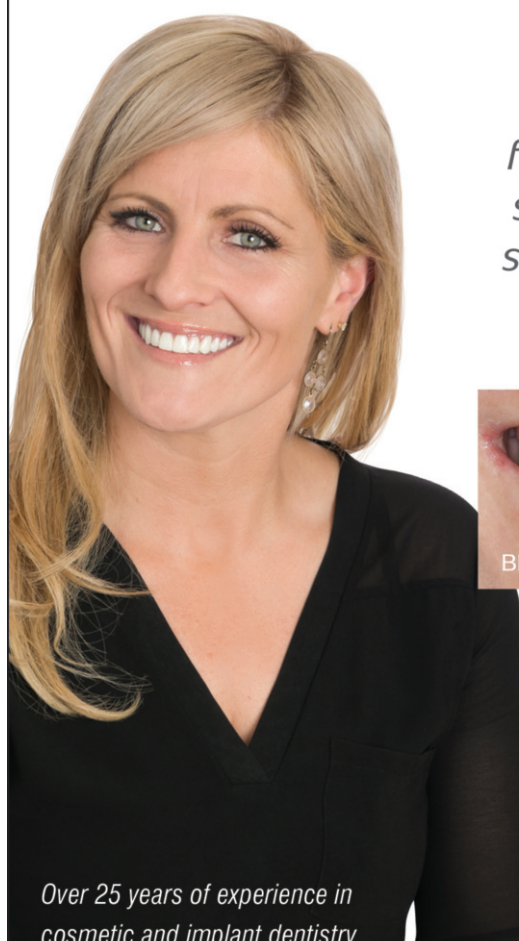
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Times **Local News**

Keeping pets cool in the summer heat

Summer time is perfect time for all those who like to go for camping, hiking or going to beach and that means lot of fun for you and your pet.

But hot weather and scorching sun can create dangerous or even deadly situations for your beloved pets. So today we will discuss about safety tips to keep your pet safe and cool in the summer time.

1. The most important advice I can give is to never leave your pet in a car in the summer time. Even when it doesn't seem that hot outside, temperatures inside a closed car can rise to dangerous levels in matter of minutes. A car with closed windows can virtually turn into an oven.

2. Pets need exercise all year long but when temperatures rise then you might need to change your pet's routine. To avoid over-exertion, it's best to do shorter and more frequent activities rather than long runs or hikes. It's also best to take out your pet for walks early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler. Check the pavement for heat before taking your dog on a walk. Place your hand or a bare foot on the surface for 10 seconds. If it is too hot for you to keep your hand or foot

on it, then it is too hot for your pet.

3. If you think it's hot outside, it's even hotter for your pet – make sure your pet has a means of cooling off. Make sure your pet has access to shade when outside and unlimited access to fresh water.

4. When walking, try to stay off of hot surfaces (like asphalt) because it can burn your dog's paws. Take walks during the cooler hours of the day.

5. Just like people, pets can sunburns too which can cause pain, peeling skin or even skin cancer. It's best to reduce your pet's exposure to mid-day sun. You can also apply a pet-specific sunscreen. DO NOT use human sunscreens as many of them can be toxic to pets if ingested.

6. Keep your dog free of external parasites (fleas, ticks) and heartworms – Ask your family veterinarian about the best product for your pet;

7. Consider clipping or shaving dogs/cats with long coats (talk to your veterinarian first to see if it's appropriate for your pet), and apply sunscreen to your dog's skin if she or he has a thin coat.

8. Not all pets like to be near water or
See HEAT, next page



Your Pet and You
By Dr. Raj Singh
Veterinarian

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Addressing homelessness

By Supervisor Mike Wasserman
Special to the Times

The seemingly intractable issue of homelessness is a frustration for those watching it, and a sad, often desperate reality for those experiencing it.

Homelessness can happen to anyone: sudden loss of a job, a medical emergency, divorce or domestic violence, missing a rent payment or other unexpected life experiences. And there is only one way to really solve it- housing. Homelessness doesn't end when an encampment is cleared out or with handing out blankets. Homelessness ends when people have a home.

In Santa Clara County, 7,500 people are without a home on any given night.

Of those, 2,500 are considered chronically homeless. What we need is permanent, sustainable housing for all, and resources built to last for the long term. Along with my colleagues on the County Board of Supervisors, the nonprofit Destination: Home and our community partners, we are moving forward with a "Community Plan to End Homelessness."

A recent study showed that for 100 homeless residents who were housed through the Housing 1000 program, the estimated average annual pre-housing public cost was \$62,473. The estimated average post-housing cost was \$19,767, a reduction of \$42,706 annually. Not only

is housing the right thing to do, it also saves taxpayer money.

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors works closely with numerous partners including the City of San Jose. In fact, the first housing development dedicated exclusively to taking vulnerable residents off the streets in being built now. Santa Clara County contributed \$7.2 million to the project, San Jose- \$3.4 million. The rest came from low-income housing tax credits. The project is being built by the nonprofit PATH and affordable housing developer Affirmed Housing. By October 2019, this new development – Villas on the Park – will house 83 homeless residents. This is just one of many projects that will ultimately provide 5,100 affordable housing units for vulnerable populations.

The County portion of these projects is funded by Measure A – the \$950 million November 2016 affordable housing bond that was approved by 67% of Santa Clara County voters. The housing bond enables the County to partner with cities, residents, and the affordable and supportive housing community to significantly address the housing needs of the community's poorest and most vulnerable residents.

Q: How do we solve homelessness?

A: Housing.

Contact Mike Wasserman, Santa Clara County Supervisor, District 1 at www.supervisorwasserman.com.



County Report

Mike Wasserman,
County Supervisor

Heat

Continued from previous page

are great swimmers so if your summer plans includes lakes, rivers, pools etc. then you should introduce your pet to water gradually so they get it used to it slowly. Don't let your dog drink seawater; it causes dehydration and vomiting. If a dog ingests enough it can be fatal. Bring fresh water for your dog when you're going out to the beach.

9. If you have a short faced dog like a Bulldog or Pug remember that they don't pant efficiently; they're much more susceptible to heat stroke. Bulldogs are especially intolerant to heat. They should have limited access to the outdoors when the weather gets above 80 degrees.

10. Stay safe at barbecues. Backyard barbecues are a lot of fun, but the food and drinks offered can be bad for pets. Keep your pets away from alcohol and foods like grapes, onions, and chocolate.

Know the signs of heat stroke

Recognizing signs of heatstroke could be lifesaving. Common signs of heatstroke in dogs and cats include

- increased panting
- white/pale gums

- rapid heartbeat
- high fever
- collapse
- vomiting
- excessive drooling

If you suspect your dog may be suffering from heat stroke measures must be taken immediately to cool him down. Take your dog inside immediately. If you have a thermometer, take your pet's temperature – if it's above 104F you need to begin cooling him down.

Start by spraying or immersing him in cool water. Drape your dog with cool towels. Don't use ice water if your dog has heat stroke – it will close the dog's pores and make the problem worse. You need to gradually decrease his temperature without inducing shock. Take your dog to the veterinarian as soon as possible following an episode of heat stroke as it can be associated with other complications.

If you're looking to go out with your dog this summer, keep these tips in mind. You can enjoy the summer with your dog safely with a few simple tips.

Editor's note: Questions for this column may be directed to Dr. Singh: forpetvet@yahoo.com; 408.270.4600; Aborn Pet Clinic, 3286 S White Rd, San Jose, CA 95148.



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The ultimate vocational change happened for Bernadette Ashby at the age of 37.

She became a career piano teacher. How is this possible when she didn't even know how to play the piano? That is, until she discovered a remarkable piano method that would change her life. She's been teaching ever since. "I never thought in my lifetime that I would be able to play the piano, let alone teach it. I gave that dream up a long time ago. Then I found Simply Music, an Australian breakthrough piano method that has students playing pop, accompaniment, blues, and classical pieces immediately from their very first lessons.

Everything changed for me," she happily exclaims. Recognized as the 2016 Best Small Business in San Jose by the Best Businesses in San Jose Award Program, her 19 years of teaching includes hundreds of satisfied and musically expressed students. They are elementary age children to high school, doctors, retirees, other piano teachers, adults who've dreamt of playing all their lives and adults who've always wanted to play without having to read music at first. She's taught online, children with autism and special needs, but one of her most joyful experiences was teaching a young blind and deaf girl how to play. That is one of the pinnacle times in her career because she dared to do the possible.

How does Simply Music work? "Simply Music temporarily delays

music reading and immerses students in the actual experience of playing," she says. "It begins by distilling entire pieces into shapes, patterns, and concepts that students can clearly see and easily play on the keyboard.

With no attention on music reading, students are free to relate directly to the piano and develop a natural connection to the instrument. My students are building a repertoire of 20-30 songs in their first year of lessons with me. Eventually, when I begin to teach them to read, they are thrilled and excited to learn."

As a master teacher in this playing-based method, her desire is to help families and individuals experience the same joy that she received over the years. Cindy Vierhus remarks, "I appreciate the many years of experience Bernie brings to each student. We are delighted to be reaching our goals in musicianship, freedom, and joy.

Bernie is an inspiring coach and mentor." She continues to propagate her message in her visionary book, *A World Where Everyone Plays*, a collection of inspiring stories from teachers and students around the world. This mission is her personal lifetime commitment. Boldly, her studio, For the Luv of Piano, is proud to celebrate their 19th year of bringing about a more musical world.

For more information about Bernadette Ashby or her studio, visit her website, www.fortheluvofpiano.com, or call (408)712-5040.

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Times **Local News****Evergreen Valley author releases debut novel 'Storm'**

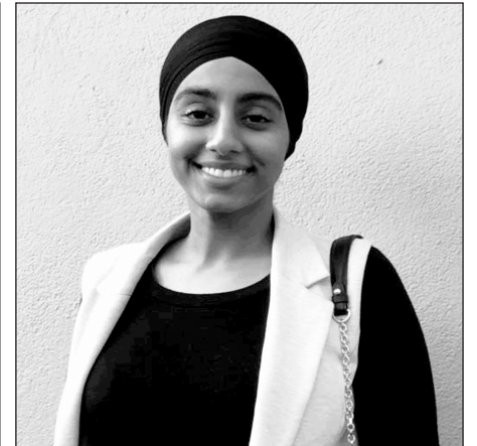
Evergreen Valley author Gurpreet Kaur Sidhu has released her debut novel, *Storm*, on July 24.

The first in a series, *Storm* is a twists-and-turns thriller driven by compelling characters challenged by dangerous forces, external, internal, and eternal.

Evan Storm had been confronted by his past (an unpleasant one at that) in his dreams, and now in his waking life. He is struggling to reconcile the evil that lurks in his soul. Shadow Hex is his new neighbor, who also fears a dangerous past – her former fiancé who works for the Secret Eye Agency (which is as shadowy and sinister as it sounds). Does Shadow hold the key to Evan's redemption? Is redemption even possible?

"This book explores reincarnation, which is something that I've always been curious about. I look back at my life and wonder why some of the things that happened to me had to happen. I believe that we pay for mistakes we don't remember; things that we've done in another lifetime. This story also explores how karma comes into play in one's current life based upon previous actions," says Sidhu.

Born and raised in Evergreen Valley, Gurpreet Kaur Sidhu always had an insatiable appetite for reading and writing. She would often be reprimanded for working on literary ventures when



Gurpreet Kaur Sidhu

she should have been paying attention to teachers. In addition to being a highly accomplished writer, Sidhu is a passionate businesswoman, holding a bachelor's degree in Business Management and running a women's clothing company with her younger sister.

STORM (ISBN-13: 978-1-7322344-0-6). Psychological Thriller; Recommended reading age 18+. Paperback and electronic: Amazon, Kindle, Nook, iBooks

For more information about *Storm* and Gurpreet Kaur Sidhu, please visit her website at <http://gurpreetkaursidhu.com>. Facebook: [facebook.com/itsacursetoremember](https://www.facebook.com/itsacursetoremember); Twitter: @gurpreetsidhu; G: gurpreetsidhu316.



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Times **Feature**

The Classic Pinewood Derby helps cub scouts learn to bridge art and science. Photo by Sarah Gordon

All American Pinewood Derby 'The Big Race'... powered by gravity

By Kevin Larsen
Times staff writer

All the Cub Scout Dens from Pack 281 converged on a Saturday to race their glossy hand made cars with spinning black wheels all whirling in place by simple nails.

"To me, the fun part about this event is the fusion between art and science," stated, Cub Scout leader, parent, Jonathan Duval, who served as Master of Ceremonies for the event.

"On the one hand you can talk about the transfer of potential energy to kinetic energy and you can talk about wood-working, paint schemes, and crazy cool car themes. I love seeing the kids like creativity and I like to see things come from the heart and the mind and all be put out in the car." He also stated, "we had a hot dog on wheels, 2 Pokémon-based cars, a creepy high-speed coffin and even what may have been our first corporate-inspired racer with the OSH car."

Magnificent track

Held at Shepard of the Valley Lutheran church, as one entered the wood paneled spacious recreation room all kinds of goodies were being sold to fundraise for future Scout events. The majestic race track made of the finest aluminum took center stage. It was

iconic.

Car lanes were enameled with green yellow red and blue paint. Eighty chairs were neatly set in bleacher seat rows in symmetry on both sides of the track. Over a hundred people made up of Cub Scouts siblings, moms and dads looked on with dads engaged in working together with all the youngsters running about the room all on their own. The adults encouraged the youthful leadership and the boys worked things out together throughout the day.

In addition to the mighty track, there were three other stages the Cubs could choose to go to and run cars. The Flaming Leap of Death was a separate game in which the boys could zip their vehicle down a track and fly through an ingeniously designed (by Cubmaster (Leader) Dan Gordon) hula hoop of fire

See DERBY, page 17

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Times Feature

Derby

Continued from page 15

(bright diodes). Similar to a hot wheels track, there was a target which they could aim to land on. After each car sailed through the air it would touch down on a pillow of foam. Suddenly the announcer's voice alerted all that a race (heat) was about to begin on the giant track and all eyes looked there.

"Craig helped ten years ago in creating the track and it is shared with other Cub packs today," stated one parent. Allan who ran the computer data (he along with another parent were in charge of instantly posting the photos of each car, the race results and the tabulation of results on a large public white screen) stated, "I did Pinewood Derby when I was a kid." There was a passing of the guard from man to man as he explained on this day he was turning over his job to a new dad since his son was moving upward in the Arrow of Light group to make the next step in joining the Boy Scouts.

Cars roll with the pull of gravity and were positioned behind a metal switch so that all four cars fairly started down the track simultaneously. Graphite was applied to the wheels by an adult before race day. Careful rules limited weight so that where it is placed on the car (drilled and filled) made the difference along with design. Most rules specify a 5 oz. maximum weight. Pinewood Derby cars weigh between 1.5 oz and 3.5 oz (depending on design) without weights so a car may need 3.5 oz. or more of additional weight. The photo electronic timer captured each winner of a race and scored the first, second, third and fourth place in milliseconds showing the results on the large screen within one second. "We have a data base for the last ten years that shows record of how fast the cars ran," said Allen.

A while back, there was a dad from Google named Russell who years ago helped in aggregating data on all previous car race times. There are four car lanes on the track and he compared the speeds in a comparative data analysis. It was explained that when the analytics were done for all the scores in each of the lanes, sure enough, it proved out that indeed, one lane was consistently faster so now each scout gets to run on each lane. This meant that heats (individual races) were comprised of four trials with cars using all lanes to honor explicit fairness.

"It's just Cub Scouts but some parents take it pretty seriously," said Alan. "Because we have a lot of dads who are engineers in the Pack, in the past years, we had a problem when dads take over the building of the cars, so we created a separate race called the Extreme Race. The Extreme Race is where dads can enter their own cars. We encourage Scouts to work independently." The Extreme Race has no weight restrictions so egregious amounts of weight can pull a car faster, anything goes!

It was explained that there are many different race entry events. In one called "Best Effort," it was stated, "You can tell that the cars are Scout built because it's not always the nicest design or best paint job but it's from a Scout who you can tell is real proud of doing it himself." Other events include; Fastest Time, Slowest Finishing Car Overall, Backwards Go The Distance, Hit The Spot (after a push by contestant, the closest resting car to the designated spot on the playing field wins) and more.

Also, there were winners for themed categories in how each Scout designed their car such as: Fastest Looking, Funniest Car, Best Woodworking Skills, Best Car That

Does Not Look Like A Car, Most Creative, Best Paint Job, Most Realistic, Most Edible Looking, Best Pop Culture, Most "Scouty," Least Wood Left On Car, Best Effort, and Family Member Most Creative.

Gentlemen start your engines

"And down the stretch they go," was heard by the enthusiastic announcer. Each race was begun with an audio sound of a revved up car then the noise of drag racing then brakes screeching followed by more drag racing sounds as the cars flew down the metal track. Sometimes the sound effect of a police siren was heard randomly too during the races which lifted up the excitement factor even more for all.

When a car name was called along with the entrant, each boy took their turn to proudly walk their car up by themselves to the top of the track and then carefully set

it behind the metal bar (switch) while they sat on the carpet (pit row) along the raceway to anxiously await the start of the race. Races were all done in "heats" meaning the cars are run against each other and each den (age group) would have it out against all boys their same age. One can imagine the fun competition as each year the Pinewood Derby returns so that rivals can go against each other just as they do at the Indy 500, all with dad's help.

As the cars flew down the track their times would be caught to the 10,000th of the second and speeds of 190 miles per hour would flash on the screen.

Mechanical Failure

Sometimes a race would end with a damaged winner's car due most often to a loose wheel (Sound effect of siren would play for a moment). In that situation the announcer

See DERBY, page 21



Times Feature

CHECK IT OUT

Volunteer for a Day: Try it; you'll like it!

By Edith Sutterlin
Special to the Times

Many know me as a librarian—but today I am writing this article sharing my experience as a San Jose Public Library's Volunteer Away Your Fines (VAYF) program volunteer. This is not an official library narrative or commentary, but a summary of my personal perspective.

On Saturday, July 14, I volunteered for a public library Early Education outreach program. It was the Gerald and Piggie Hoedown at the Farm - Dance Party at Emma Prusch Farm Park. I didn't go as a paid staff, but went as a first time VAYF volunteer to help promote SJPL's 1000 Books Before Kindergarten program.

Almost every week, San Jose Public Library has at least one location offering the opportunity to eliminate fines by volunteering. Fines will be cleared from your account at a rate of \$20 per hour. I volunteered for four hours. Fortunately, I did not have \$80 worth of fines to clear, only \$13.50! How could someone who works at the library five days a week ever have a late book? Well, as we all know, life happens. How to explain how a book I carefully set on a table intending to take back gets overlooked? Is it a piece of my shared humanity that makes me fall victim to the same

trick played on others-- forgetting to take the last audiobook disc out of the car when I finish? I always double check the case, but one time I realized when I was ready to turn it in, OOPS! So I decided time to take advantage of SJPL's Volunteer Away Your Fines.

What were my choices? Ongoing community volunteers make a regular commitment of six months or more helping in ongoing duties. These vary by branch, such as reshelving materials; facilitating book clubs or ESL conversation groups; Reading to Children; tutoring adults or students; serving as a tech mentor providing computer help; supporting a branch's Friends group; or leading or monitoring homework clubs or classes. Teen volunteers help in different ways at each branch. Ongoing volunteers get any needed training from library staff. Jason Pell and Robert Miranda, in Volunteer Services, provide additional support to branch staff who coordinate volunteer engagement or who mentor teensReach volunteers. I knew these two had initiated several ways to help both volunteers and the public regain access to blocked accounts, or, like mine, before fines got too high. This time, though, instead of crediting library volunteers' accounts, I was in the position of a borrower with late fees to settle.



Like the public, I could sign up for a volunteer option listed at sjpl.org/vayf. One-time volunteers usually assist with book sales, special branch programs, overall library events and outreach or with maintaining a welcoming environment in library facilities, including detailed cleaning projects. Any needed instructions are provided by a library staff, so it isn't hard. Branch buddy shifts usually are scheduled during hours when I am working. Otherwise, I could have cleaned keyboards, monitors, windows, or books like these volunteers shown on the library's Flickr page (pictured above).

But somehow, for me, a couple of hours with a spray bottle or cleaning toys didn't sound like as much fun as it was for these young volunteers.



Since I'm not a celebrity like **Andrew Tarbell**, an Earthquakes player pictured below with **Carmen**, I couldn't offer a high profile to bring a large fan base into the library, even if I do love doing storytimes!



Since I work for the library, I couldn't do my Volunteer Away Your Fines at the branch where I work, like our ongoing regular volunteers can, I admit, it would be fun to make a cool custom volunteer shirt like Evergreen Branch's Reading to Children volunteer, **Martha Kell**, has, but that would have set me back more than my late fees owed.



When the invitation was posted for volunteers to help with a dance party, I knew that would be perfect! I remembered about the Early Education Services summer Dance Parties, like the previous Pete the Cat dance party at Village Square Branch. (See photo below, bottom of page.)

I wondered if that might be an opportunity for me. If they were on days when I was already working, then that wouldn't work out, but if, like today, I were off work, that would be ideal!

Sure enough, the call for volunteers was posted for a Dance Party with Elephant and Piggie at Emma Prusch Farm Park on Saturday, July 14. I signed up and had so much fun. When you are a volunteer, you usually have to arrive a little early to help set up. As I arrived, a rooster let me know I was early enough with his greeting, "Cockadoodle doo!" Maybe I should have asked him if he'd come inside to be my partner for the Chicken dance.

Continued, next page





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1975 S. White Rd, San Jose
408-715-6500

Visit East Valley Family YMCA or ymcasv.org for a location near you.

Times Feature



An Info table was already set up. My first job was to hand out bags and to sign up people for 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, an SJPL program encouraging parents of infants and preschoolers to read to and share books with their children, promoting a lifelong love of reading. I got 38 people to sign up, but we ran out of printed booklets. We gave out our limited pile of Potter the Otter Gets Ready for Kindergarten, from the Santa Clara County Office of Education. Later I got to dance, to help read, and to help manage lines of people waiting for photos with the characters! Other volunteers managed arts

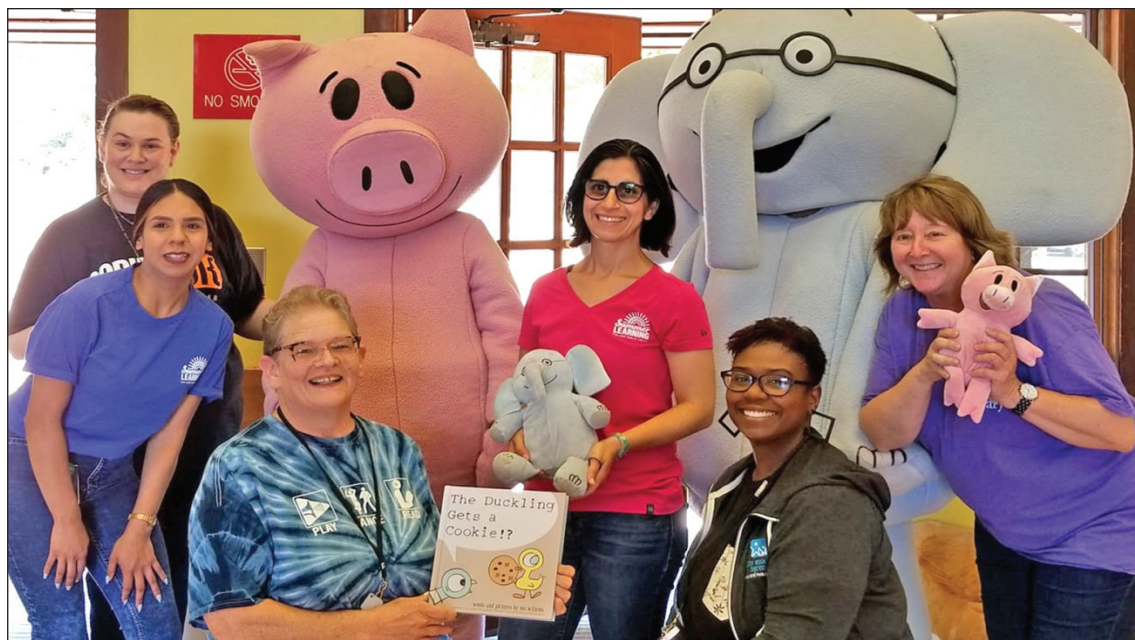
and crafts. Children decorated fans with washable markers, get faces painted, or did other art. There was a quiet reading table for children who either felt overwhelmed with the loud music or wanted a quiet break. Drawing with markers, especially on a fan for a hot day, is always a favorite art activity for toddlers and preschoolers. With over 500 people attending throughout the morning, it got pretty crowded, but for those who stayed till the end, the line finally got shorter for face painting.

Volunteering can be a lot of fun. I also volunteer for Furry Friends, at my church, and for CROP Walk San Jose. Volunteering gives me a chance to connect with others, to contribute to organizations or causes that I support, and to make a difference in my community. Volunteers help extend the ability of professionals to offer their services and programs to more people and to spread the word about a variety of

causes—on this occasion, the importance and fun of early education in promoting literacy and a lifelong love of learning. Thanks for providing this community connection!

The picture below is of the Dance Party staff and volunteer team: **Araceli Delgado-Ortiz, Erika Garcia, Edith Sutterlin, Nari Ferderer, Shalek Chappill, and Lisa Giannotti** are the visible volunteers and library staff who worked together. Some volunteers remain anonymous, known to their adoring audiences only as “Gerald” and “Piggie,” the famous characters from Mo Willems’ books, found at your local public library.

Edith Sutterlin is a librarian at the East San José Carnegie Branch who wanted to share her personal Volunteer Away Your Fines experience. This article is her opinion, and is not presented as any official SJPL comment. Unless noted that they are from SJPL's Flickr page, photos were taken by me or on my camera by another volunteer.



National Night Out: Tuesday, August 7

The 35th Annual National Night Out will be held this year on Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2018.

National Night Out is a crime and drug prevention event that is sponsored nationally by the National Association of Town Watch and co-sponsored locally by the San Jose Police Department.

This year nearly 40 million people across the country are expected to participate in the evening event including families from all over Evergreen Valley that will organize and register their own block parties.

Block parties are a way to instill a sense of community and safety among residents. They can be large or small and range from BBQs to potlucks, ice cream socials, or any other idea where neighbors can come together to strengthen the bonds of community.

National Night Out is a great opportunity to meet the men and women of the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office who work hard to keep our community safe.

National Night Out is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime prevention efforts
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships
- Send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

Participating neighborhoods nationwide are asked to turn on outside lights, lock their doors, and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police. Neighborhoods will be hosting a variety of events



ranging from small potlucks and BBQ's to large block parties.

Some additional event ideas include, but are not limited to, ice cream socials, disaster preparedness, games, contests, discussing neighborhood issues or setting neighborhood goals, food or clothing donations, plan a clean-up day, beautify a common area, discuss or plan a Neighborhood Watch Program.

Youth basketball league begins Sept. 7th at Chaboya Middle School

Open to boys and girls in the 5th thru 8th grade

Teen Basketball at Chaboya Middle School begins Friday, September 7th and continues through November 16th for all interested boys and girls 5th thru 8th grade regardless of the school they are attending. Sign-ups will continue until the two divisions of 60 players are filled.

The league will consist of two co-ed divisions of 6 teams and no more than ten players on each team. In this “funpetitive,” league everyone plays equal time for 4 quarters.

Practices are usually no more than once a week and we are looking for coaches (most coaches practice right before their game). Cost for the league is \$190 which includes a game jersey, 9 games, personal basketball, participation medal, 1st and 2nd place trophies, facility use and officials.

For more information or to register, call John Franza at (408) 605-1513 or Al Ventura at 408-410-3570 or e-mail E.A.S.Y. Hoops Basketball @ easyhoopsbasketball@yahoo.com to obtain a registration form.

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Times Feature

Four reasons to consider delaying retirement

By Marilyn Leonard
Special to the Times

Retiring at 65 is considered the norm by many, and Social Security benefits are available when you're as young as 62. You can even take withdrawals from your retirement savings accounts as early as 59-1/2 without a penalty.

But just because you've hit a certain age milestone doesn't mean you have to retire. Continuing to work can benefit you financially and emotionally.

Work Benefits

Does your employer pay for, or highly subsidize, your life insurance and health insurance premiums? If so, continuing to work could mean better and less expensive benefits than you could buy on your own.

Financial Benefits

Continuing to collect a paycheck is better for your bank account than only having money flowing out. But that's not the only way continuing to work can increase your net worth. Making annual catch-up contributions to your 401(k) on top of maxing out your regular contributions can provide a real boost to your account.

If your employer matches a percentage of your contributions, that's even better. Earning income from work means you can make regular contributions to a Roth IRA, and if you're younger than 70-1/2, a traditional IRA.

Pension and Social Security Benefits

Continuing to work could boost your benefit check if you're in the higher-earning years of your career. Plus delaying taking your Social Security benefits means you'll receive a bigger monthly payment when you start claiming.

Emotional Benefits

Finally, many people enjoy the sense of purpose and productivity that working brings. Interacting with co-workers, especially those who have become true friends, can also provide meaningful social connections that retirees sometimes have a hard time establishing or maintaining.

Continuing to work isn't for everyone, but it might make sense under the right circumstances.

Contact Marilyn Leonard, BeaconRidge Health Insurance Services, Inc., at marilynleonard@sbcglobal.net, or call: 408.528.9170. CA License 0619464

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Times Feature

Derby

Continued from page 17

would state over the microphone that there was a break in the action while the mechanics worked over the car to get it back in the race (dad and son). Then once again four cars would line up and the announcer would state, "On your mark, get set, we're RACING!" On that cue a Cub Scout would be designated to pull the trip handle to release all the cars at the exact same time and down the track they went!

Car Race Names

The following names were given to some of the cars; San Jose Hillbilly, Raptor, Fantastic, Shiny, My Sister's Car, U.S. Flag, Pika-Pika Uppercut, 2 Fast 4 U, Box of Lizards, The Tank, Red Speedster, Cheese Please, What Is This, Car, Slow Poke, The Winning Tortoise, Bumblebee, Tough Duty, OSH 1, Speed Out, Checkmate, and Star.

Some Race Categories

The following were some categories that boys entered; Best Effort, Best Show, Slowest Car, and Sibling Race.

Extreme Race

The rules of the Extreme Race are: "There are no rules." Sure enough, one dad rigged a motor onto the bottom of his ride and with toggle switch in hand he depressed the lever to try to peel out ahead of all the others. Often Extreme Race cars disobey the weight restrictions for a sanctioned race and anything goes. It can be a case of Dad Vs Dad.

Mom says it all

The whole family helps out at the Pinewood Derby. There are also races held to allow girls to race called "Sibling Race," but things are changing to allow girls to join the Scouts and you can read about that at the end of this article. One mom stated, "I wish more kids took Cub Scouts because they learn so many great values."

Event draws to a close

As the event came to a finish it was seen that the parents did well in their well-orchestrated jobs of Master of Ceremonies, Head Mechanic, Car Lubrication, Event Set Up, Registration, Check In Coordinator, Judging Chair, Games Coordinator and more.

Cubmaster Gordon stated, "The awards ceremony is at our Pack's Blue and Gold dinner banquet which celebrates the birth of scouting. The Pinewood Derby (PWD) awards include trophies, medals, and ribbons, which are given out during a presentation during the banquet."

During the cleanup time one of the Cub Scouts named Christopher stated enthusiastically, "The Derby encourages scouts and is one of the biggest events

in Cub Scouts. It's really fun to compete with other Scouts!" He encouraged everyone to join.

Editor's Note: The website for the Boy Scouts of America explains that girls will now be participating in Scouting, the following update on their website

states: "Beginning February 2019, the Boy Scout program name will change to 'Scouts BSA' and will begin serving girls, as well as boys.

"Under the new name of 'Scouts BSA,' that program, which is the same iconic pro-

gram it has always been, will continue to offer Scouting in single-gender troops, through which Scouts – ages 11 through 17 – can work to earn the Eagle Scout rank.

"Before, during, and after that program name change, the overall organization name will con-

tinue to be Boy Scouts of America.

"Both male and female participants in the Scouts BSA program will be referred to as 'Scouts,' just as boys now in the Boy Scout program are often referred to as 'Scouts.'"

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EvergreenAreaMeetings

Adlibmasters Toastmasters Club
A group dedicated to helping develop communication and leadership skills. The group meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 5:15 - 7 p.m. at HGST, a Western Digital Co. and the second and fourth Tuesdays from 12 - 1 p.m. at IBM. For more information, go to www.adlibmasters.org or call Lorraine Myers at 1(408) 717-5552 weekdays or 1(408) 238-4580 weekends.

District 8 Community Roundtable
1st Thursday of every month from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Location: Village Square* library (For information, visit d8crt.org)

CalRTA-Area V-Div. 70 Retired Teachers Organization. Meets bi-monthly at various eastside cafes also conducts a variety of holiday socials/activities and scholarship fundraisers. Established in 1983! All teaching levels and others welcome. This organization supports the goals and purposes of the California Teachers' Retirement System. For more information call E. Paros at (408) 274-1609 or email parosej@sbcglobal.net.

East Side Union High School District Board of Trustees
Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in the ESUHS Education Center, 830 N. Capitol Ave. 347-5000. Check the web site for agendas and updates: www.esuhds.org

The Evergreen Al-Anon meetings held at St. Francis of Assisi Church on Thursdays at 7 p.m. have been cancelled indefinitely due to lack of attendance.

The Evergreen Business Association is a networking group for business owners who live and work in the Evergreen and nearby areas. The purpose of the Evergreen Business Association is to develop and foster connections and to provide a forum for members to share knowledge, promote growth opportunities, and encourage referrals. The group meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 am at the Evergreen Village Square Library, 4035 Evergreen Village Square, San Jose. We also meet at Evergreen Coffee Company on the 4th Friday of the month for a more informal session at noon. Evergreen Coffee Company is also located at Evergreen Village Square. For more information, please refer to our website at www.eba-group.org.

Evergreen-East Valley Realtors Marketing Meeting
Meets each Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The EEVRMM invites realtors, brokers, lenders and related affiliates to its breakfast meeting. Market your listings, match buyers with sellers and share real estate success stories. Meetings are held at New Seasons 5667 Silver Creek Valley Rd San Jose Ca 95138. \$3 admission, coffee and pastries included. For more information, call David Castillo at 238-2000.
Evergreen School District Board of Trustees
Meetings are typically held on the second Thursday of every month, in the district boardroom at 3188 Quimby Road. For more information, call (408) 270-6800.

The Evergreen Senior Advisory

Council meets the third Thursday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Get involved in helping plan events for seniors, volunteering for a good cause, and getting to know your fellow seniors. For more information, call the Evergreen Community Center at (408) 270-2220.

Evergreen Valley Garden Club
Meeting at the SUNRISE SENIOR LIVING CENTER, 4855 San Felipe Road (across from McDonalds). Meetings will be on the 2nd. Wednesday of the month, from 3:15-4:15 EVGC (No meetings in July or August) Membership is \$20/year or \$30 for couples. For further information, please feel free to contact Susie Henderson: susiehenderson@sbcglobal.net or (408)532-6602

Evergreen Valley High School Athletic Booster Club meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the school's administration office.

Evergreen Valley High School Site Council
Meets the first Wednesday of every month on the EVHS campus in the administration building D, 3300 Quimby Rd., San Jose. Confirm meetings by visiting the school's web site, <http://ev.ca.campusgrid.net/home> and clicking on school site council in the left hand toolbar or calling the school at (408) 347-7000.

Evergreen Valley Service Organization
For more information, call (408) 274-6756.

Falls Creek Neighborhood Association
Homeowners from the Madison and Pulte area developments are welcome and encouraged to attend future meetings. For more information go to the Web at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fallscreekneighbors> or call Dave Zenker at (408) 238-2591.

The Evergreen Community Center offers a variety of classes and special events, for kids, adults, and seniors. For more information on our activities visit: www.sanjoseca.gov/prns. The Senior Nutrition program serves a delicious and well balanced meal to seniors 60 and over every Monday – Friday at noon. The suggested donation is \$3 per person. Please make reservations at least one day in advance by calling (408) 270-1244. The center is located at 4860 San Felipe Road.

Friends of Evergreen Library Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of February, April, June, August, October and December from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in Group Study Room A at the Evergreen Branch Library, 2635 Aborn Road, San Jose. Visit their website at friendsofvergreenlibrary.org or call 408-808-3060 for more information.

Hidden Glen Community
To join a neighborhood discussion group, go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HiddenGlenSanJose/> The Kiwanis meet regularly every 4th Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster (12:00 noon). For more information, please contact: President of Kiwanis East San Jose Mr. Bud Lomonaco, Phone: (408) 903-7526

LeyVa Community Action Team Association
This group is bounded by Barberry Lane and Monrovia Drive, Capitol Expressway, Aborn Road, and South King Road. For meeting time and location, please contact the association at (408) 795-5855.

Lions Club - San Jose East Valley
This group meets Tuesday evenings from 6 pm to 8 pm for a dinner meeting at Carrow's Restaurant, 1696 Tully Rd. near the corner of Tully Rd/King Road. For more information, contact Lions Club member Bill Evans at (408) 274-4728.

McLaughlin Corridor Neighborhood Assoc. Meets second Thursday at 7 p.m. at Tully Library. 365-1300.

Meadowfair Neighborhood Association meets the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months at 7 p.m. at Meadowfair Center, 2696 King Rd. For more information, call 539-2308.

Reid - Hillview Airport Association
3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Location: Hillview Airport Terminal. (For information, call (408) 251-4939 or visit rhvaa.org)

Rotary Club of San Jose East/Evergreen meets every Thursday from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. at the Ranch Golf Club, 4601 Hill Top View Lane. (408) 270-0557.

Story Road Business Association
Meets third Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. at Prusch Park, South King Road at Story. For more information, call 238-5422.

San Jose/Evergreen Community College District Board
Normally meets second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Meetings in the District Office, Board Room, 40 S. Market St., San Jose, CA 95113.
San Pedro Squares Toastmasters Club meets every Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. at Jimmy's Restaurant, 222 W. Capitol Expressway in San Jose. Contact Barbara at 373-2815, or email barbaramcchesney@sbcglobal.net for further information, or check out the website at <http://www.sanpedrosquares.freetoasthost.org>.

Silver Creek (PTSA) Parent, Teacher, Student Association
Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday in the Silver Creek High School Principal's Conference Room, 3434 Silver Creek Road. For more information, call 347-5830.

Silver Creek School Site Council Meetings: Second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in room V-1.

Silver Oak Educational Partnership
The Silver Oak Educational Partnership is now called the Silver Oak Elementary PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). New meeting schedule will be posted soon.

Tully Ocala Capitol King Neighborhood Association
1st Monday of every other month from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Location: Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley - Smythe Clubhouse

West Evergreen Neighborhood Association
This group represents the area

bounded approximately by Flanagan Drive, South King Road, Aborn Road, and Alvin Avenue. Meets the third Tuesday at O.B. Whaley Elementary School, 2655 Alvin Ave., 7 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact the association at 535-8613.

Get listed!

Email your meeting times and locations to Evergreen Times:

editorial@timesmediainc.com



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4860 San Felipe Road, San José ■ 408-270-2220

Class of '68
50 Year Golden Reunion



Are you ready for TOO MUCH FUN?

www.willowglenclassof68.myevent.com

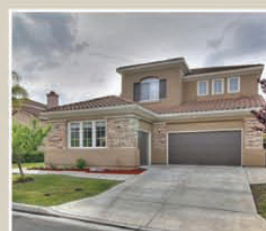
SAVE THE DATES!

September 28, 2018 - Mixer
September 29, 2018 - Reunion

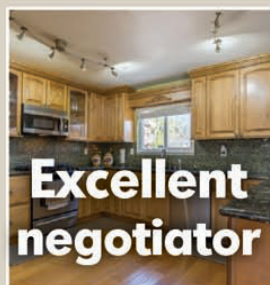
Check out the class website for further information on:

- Event details, RSVP, Tickets, Lodging
- Alumni Jam Band
- Photos of the 40th Reunion (this was an amazing heart & soul event!)
- Update your online bio
- Help us find missing classmates

SEE WHAT NEIGHBORS ARE SAYING ABOUT EDDIE!



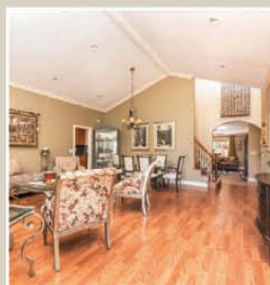
If you or anyone you know are thinking about selling, find out why over 50 families chose to work with Eddie last year! Feel free to text or call.



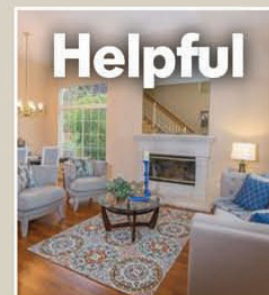
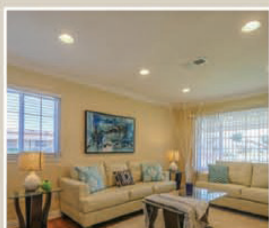
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No obligation consultation: compare for yourself!



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