

FUNDRAISER SCHEDULED TO FIGHT DIPG PEDIATRIC BRAIN CANCER – P4



FITNESS FLEXIBILITY: CITY RECREATION STAFF TO STUDY FITNESS CLASS PARTICIPATION – P8



EARTHTALK: IS IT TOO LATE TO FIX OUR PROBLEM OF PLASTICS IN THE OCEAN? – P21



NOV. 2–NOV. 15, 2018 ■ VOL. 31, NO. 23

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Almaden Times

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Leland High School senior **Brian Lin** presented his website to his volunteer group at the California Academy of Sciences, a group of roughly 25 youth volunteers.

HOT IDEA

Leland senior Brian Lin develops online map to predict wildfire behavior

Leland High School senior Brian Lin has developed a website to help visualize potential wildfire behavior throughout the state of California.

"I developed the website over the summer of my high school junior year," Lin explained. "It measures potential fire behavior in California through an interactive map. The idea was born out of a conversation I had last year with someone whose home had been close to the Tubbs fire complex, and how happy he was to be out of the smoke for the first time in a few days stuck with me."

To gather data for the website, Lin utilized the Fosberg Fire Index, which is based on weather conditions. "This

index doesn't predict where fires are, but instead how the fire will behave if one starts in a specific location - how far it will spread or how intensely it will burn, for example," Lin said. "The interactive map is updated regularly, and it is divided at the county level for California."

Lin's website also features embedded links to the webpage of each county on the map, and links to other useful resources for wildfires such as CAL FIRE. Lin presented his website to his volunteer group at the California Academy of Sciences, a group of roughly 25 youth volunteers.

For more information about Lin's Fosberg Fire Map, contact Brian Lin at brian.lin78536@gmail.com or visit www.fosbergfire.com.

Almaden Little League A Field of Dreams

By Lorraine Gabbert
Senior Staff Writer

The pitcher winds up for the pitch as the batter stands ready. With steely determination, he swings, the ball hitting the sweet spot. Heads swivel as the crack of the bat reverberates across the diamond and the ball's sent flying into the outfield. The batter releases the bat and races to first base, then second, as the runner on 3rd slides towards home. The crowd cheers caught up in the excitement.

This isn't just any ballgame: It's Almaden Little League, whose Major and Minor teams both won their District 12 Tournament of Champions in 2018. It's also not just baseball.

"Little League is a Youth Development League," says



(l to r): Almaden Little League Board Vice President **Pete Fuqua** and President **Don Dixon** appreciate all that Little League has to offer.

League President Don Dixon. "It's about raising young boys and girls to be part of a community. It's so, when an umpire makes a horrible call, and the coach and parents handle it with dignity, it makes an impact on the children."

"Little League is a community," agrees League Vice President Pete Fuqua. "Everyone has a soft spot in their heart for it. Kids learn a lot of life lessons here: paying it forward, helping the younger ones coming up, being role models. It's not just baseball: it's where kids come to hang out and be together."

"...and get candy from the snack shack," adds Dixon with a

smile.

Almaden Little League has called Almaden Country Day School's baseball fields home for more than 20 years. Situated beside a shady park, it's an ideal location. "They love coming down here," says Fuqua. "With a park next door and the school, everyone's playing. You have a good vibe here. Some kids spend all day, arriving at 8 a.m. and leaving at 8 p.m."

But, as great a location and partnership as it is, things needed to change. When Dixon and Fuqua joined the Board a year ago, they were determined to make an investment to trans-

See *FIELDS*, page 14



Three-year-olds **Lincoln** and **Jameson Armes** inspect the new dirt for the baseball field.

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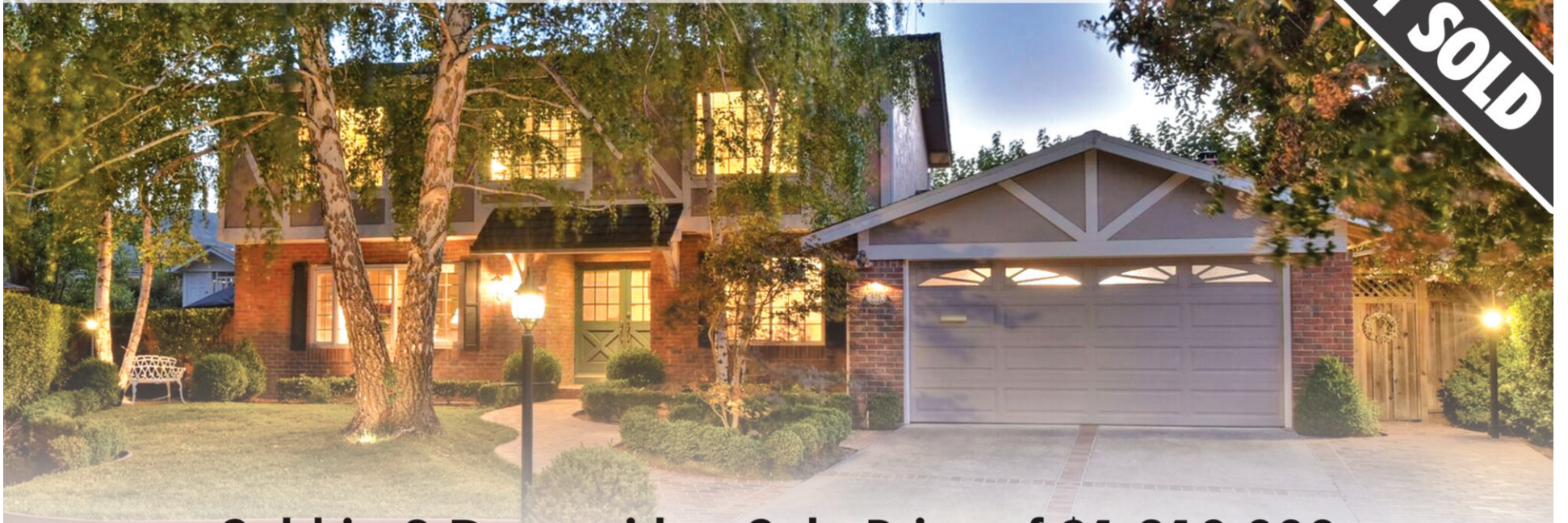
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This Week:

HEALTH

Change up your kids' school lunch routine with these healthy options: **PAGE 8**

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County traffic is a constant worry, and is being constantly studied: **PAGE 10**

COMMUNITY

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New seasonings capture trendy flavors: **PAGE 16**

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Valley Currents

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

MITHIL PRASAD FOUNDATION

Fundraiser scheduled to fight DIPG pediatric brain cancer

The Mithil Prasad Foundation is holding its first annual Fundraising Gala on December 2 to raise funds to help fight DIPG, the number one form of pediatric brain cancer that affects 300 children in the United States every year.

The foundation was started last year by Prasad Rao and his wife Sarva, who lost their son Mithil to the dreaded disease in November 2016.

"We are acting on his wishes and his attitude of Live Life Blissfully," said Prasad. "So we have created this foundation last year. Mithil Prasad Foundation is a nonprofit created to raise awareness and funds to support DIPG research and patients. 'Live life blissfully' is profound advice, isn't it? It was written by 11 ½ year old Mithil on a post it, to hang at his mother's cubicle. We all soon realized however, that these were not just words on a paper, but that they were the true philosophy that Mithil lived by. Even through his sickness, Mithil's positivity never wavered and he spread that joy wherever he went."

Mithil's story

Mithil was a voracious reader, a big Star Wars fan, and loved playing with Legos, Minecraft and Clash of clans. Baseball was his favorite sport. He was the starting pitcher for his baseball team. "On a trip to his grandparents place, we noticed Mithil's gait was a bit off," Prasad said. "It seemed to get worse and prompted a doctors visit. That was when we were told that Mithil had DIPG - Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma. We had never heard of this disease and worse, the prognosis of 6-8 months left us shocked."

During his sickness, Mithil showed tremendous strength, was always positive, and cared for others. "Mithil also became very empathetic towards kids like him going through a tough time," Prasad said. "He would say 'I will never look at another kid in a wheelchair the same way again'. After Mithil passed away, we donated his brain and spine for medical research, with the hope that it will help researchers learn more about DIPG in any way possible."

The idea of starting a foundation stemmed from Mithil's love to help children like him. In honor of Mithil's spirit, the family started the Mithil Prasad Foundation.



"We are acting on his wishes and his attitude of 'Live Life Blissfully'."

—Prasad Rao, pictured here with his son Mithil

DIPG

Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma (DIPG) are highly aggressive and difficult to treat brain tumors found at the base of the brain

which affect 300 children in the US each year. They are glial tumors, meaning they arise from the brain's glial tissue—tissue made up of cells that help support and protect the brain's neurons. These tumors are found in an area of the brainstem (the lowest, stem-like part of the brain) called the pons, which controls many of the body's most vital functions such as breathing, blood pressure, and heart rate.

Gala scheduled

The first annual Gala Fundraising Dinner for DIPG Research is going to be held Sunday, December 2 at the Willow Heights Mansion in Morgan Hill. The event opens at 4:00 p.m., with dinner and the program beginning at 6:00 p.m. Music will be provided by singer/songwriter LemoLive, and the guest speaker is Dr. Nalin Gupta, chief of pediatric neurological surgery at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital.

To buy tickets or for more information, visit mithilprasadfoundation.org.



Mithil was loved by his family and friends.

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Times Health

Fitness flexibility: City recreation staff to study fitness class participation

By Councilmember Johnny Khamis
Special to the Times

A meeting was held at the Almaden Community Center on October 4th to roll out a new fitness pilot program. This meeting was the final discussion in what has been a year-long conversation with the residents who are still taking part in the SJCityFit program offered by the City's Recreation Department.

Several years ago, the Recreation Department rolled out a program called GroupX that was a sort of "all-you-can-eat" annual fee program. Over time, it was clear that the program was not appealing to residents across the entire City, so they discontinued the program. There were three Community Centers that had many members enrolled in the program, so to accommodate them, the Recreation Department kept the program going, but changed the name to SJCityFit. Under that program, users were allowed to drop in on any class, any time, for an annual

fee. Classes in that program were never cancelled, even if only just ONE person showed up.

As the City looks for ways to cut costs and make things more efficient, the Recreation Department has analyzed all recreation programs and realized that SJCityFit has been losing a significant amount of money, so they let members know that the program would be discontinued. To put things into perspective, to fully cover the cost of the program, Staff would have to raise the \$250 annual fee to over \$800 per person. The 150+ users were very upset and vocal about the plan to terminate the program. My office received many calls and emails over the past year on this issue.

In response, my staff met with staff from the Recreation Department a few times and provided input that helped shape the new Pilot Program that was rolled out at the October 4th meeting. In the new program, all classes will require registration, as do all the classes in what

the Recreation Department calls "Leisure" classes. However, to allow for the drop-in element, during the pilot period they will offer a Flex Pass, which will be a one-time-fee, per-season (not annual), pass that will allow participants to drop into any class. Also during the pilot, no classes will be cancelled due to lack of registered participants. This will allow City Recreation staff to collect data on how many classes are filled with registered versus drop-in participants.

Members are still disappointed to have lost the program they love, but are hopeful that the new program will work. The pilot will run from January to June, 2019. I appreciate the efforts the Recreation Department staff put into working with the community, listening to their concerns, and caring about the needs of even this small group of residents, while also being mindful of the need to be fiscally responsible. I also appreciate the community participants for their flexibility and willingness to try out this new pilot program. Thank you all for working together to solve this difficult challenge!

To learn more about the Flex Pass Pilot Program, please talk with staff at the Almaden Community Center.



District 10 Report
Johnny Khamis,
City Councilmember



Make the grade with these fresh new school lunches

(Family Features) Back-to-school time means it's back to being busy before, during and after school, so it's time for parents and kids to create new routines. From early wakeup calls to shuttling kids to school and activities, ease the morning mayhem by incorporating a simple meal-planning strategy.

As a parent, look for fresh, make-ahead options your kids will enjoy. Serve up lunchbox love by mixing up the classic sandwich with a spin on sushi in this Bento Box Lunch recipe. It's a creative way to deliver nutritious, wholesome ingredients that will make the whole lunchroom drool. Plus, it's something you can take for lunch too.

No matter what meals you're prepping, a store like ALDI can be your solution for packing tasty and better-for-you choices for lunches and on-the-go snacks. With high-quality ingredients at affordable prices, ALDI offers what you need to get ready for the days ahead.

For more recipes and meal prepping ideas, visit aldi.us.

Bento Box Lunch

Recipe courtesy of Chef Alyssa, ALDI Test Kitchen

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 30 minutes
Total time: 40 minutes
Servings: 4

■ "Sushi Roll":

4 slices SimplyNature Knock Your

Sprouts Off Sprouted Low Sodium 7 Grain Bread

4 slices Lunch Mate Never Any! Turkey

1 teaspoon Burman's Yellow Mustard

1/2 avocado, sliced

1 mini cucumber, cut into 3-inch-by-1/4-inch sticks

■ **Quinoa Salad:**

1 cup SimplyNature Organic Quinoa, cooked

1/4 cup Southern Grove Sliced Almonds

2 mandarin oranges, peeled and separated

1/4 cup Southern Grove Dried Cranberries

3 bunches green onions, sliced

1 teaspoon Carlini Pure Olive Oil
Stonemill Iodized Salt, to taste
Stonemill Ground Black Pepper, to taste

■ **Broccoli Salad:**

1 large head broccoli, chopped

1/4 cup Southern Grove Sliced Almonds

1/4 cup Southern Grove Dried Cranberries

1 teaspoon Fusia Soy Sauce

1/2 cup Friendly Farms Vanilla Nonfat Greek Yogurt
Stonemill Ground Black Pepper, to taste



■ Cinnamon Apples:

1 Granny Smith apple, sliced

1 tablespoon Nature's Nectar Lemon Juice

1 teaspoon Stonemill Ground Cinnamon

To make "Sushi Roll": Trim crust from bread. Using rolling pin, roll out bread slices to 1/8-inch thickness. Top with turkey, mustard, avocado and cucumber. Roll into cylinder, wrap with plastic wrap and cut in half.

To make Quinoa Salad: In medium bowl, combine quinoa, almonds, oranges, cranberries, green onions and

olive oil; season to taste with salt and pepper.

To make Broccoli Salad: In medium bowl, combine broccoli, almonds, cranberries, soy sauce and yogurt; season to taste with pepper.

To make Cinnamon Apples: Toss apples with lemon juice and cinnamon. Place in sandwich bags and wrap tightly.

Organize equal amounts of "Sushi Rolls," Quinoa Salad, Broccoli Salad and Cinnamon Apples in separate bento box compartments.

#14416 Source: ALDI

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As always, pricing is important. If the price is too high, buyers will look elsewhere. However, some sellers have found that they were able to price more ambitiously during the winter months having less competition.

Play up the season with festive greenery and a warm, welcoming entry. Make sure you keep the shades open, lights on and the thermostat to a comfortable temperature. With the right steps to prepare your home, prospective buyers will have a favorable impression and hopefully reward you with an attractive offer!

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Times **Features**

Traffic issues are under constant study

By Supervisor Mike Wasserman
Special to the Times

As residents of the highly-populated Bay Area, we all experience some form of traffic problems in our daily commutes—be it the bumper-to-bumper traffic along State highways, cars speeding through neighborhoods, or the ubiquitous potholes. Even my modest 12-mile commute from my home to the County Government Center in San Jose often takes 45 minutes dur-

ing rush hour and even longer on a Friday evening.

The County's Roads and Airports Department is constantly studying County roads to learn where improvements need to be made. As part of their infrastructure improvements, they also help by adjusting the traffic lights and timers at intersections. Almaden and Capitol Expressways, for example, are under constant scrutiny and improvement to reflect the demands of daily traffic. To report an area of concern on an Expressway, please fill out a service request form at the Santa Clara County Roads and



County Report

Mike Wasserman,
County Supervisor

Maps and Waze directing drivers away from main routes and on to neighborhood streets. While it may be quicker to

use a neighborhood street to avoid heavy traffic, these shortcuts through unfamiliar neighborhoods can create unsafe conditions. I met recently with representatives of Google and Waze to convey residents' concerns about their apps and to find a balance between efficient transportation and keeping roads safe. My hope is that they have gained a better understanding of the unintended impacts of their tools. For our part, the County works to keep County-maintained roads safe by using traffic calming measures in the face of so many cars on the road. While there is no magic spell to eliminate all traffic issues, it is through working together that we can tackle these and other problems.

Another road-related issue that residents mention to me are the navigation apps such as Google Maps and Waze directing drivers away from main routes and on to neighborhood streets. While it may be quicker to

use a neighborhood street to avoid heavy traffic, these shortcuts through unfamiliar neighborhoods can create unsafe conditions. I met recently with representatives of Google and Waze to convey residents' concerns about their apps and to find a balance between efficient transportation and keeping roads safe. My hope is that they have gained a better understanding of the unintended impacts of their tools. For our part, the County works to keep County-maintained roads safe by using traffic calming measures in the face of so many cars on the road. While there is no magic spell to eliminate all traffic issues, it is through working together that we can tackle these and other problems.

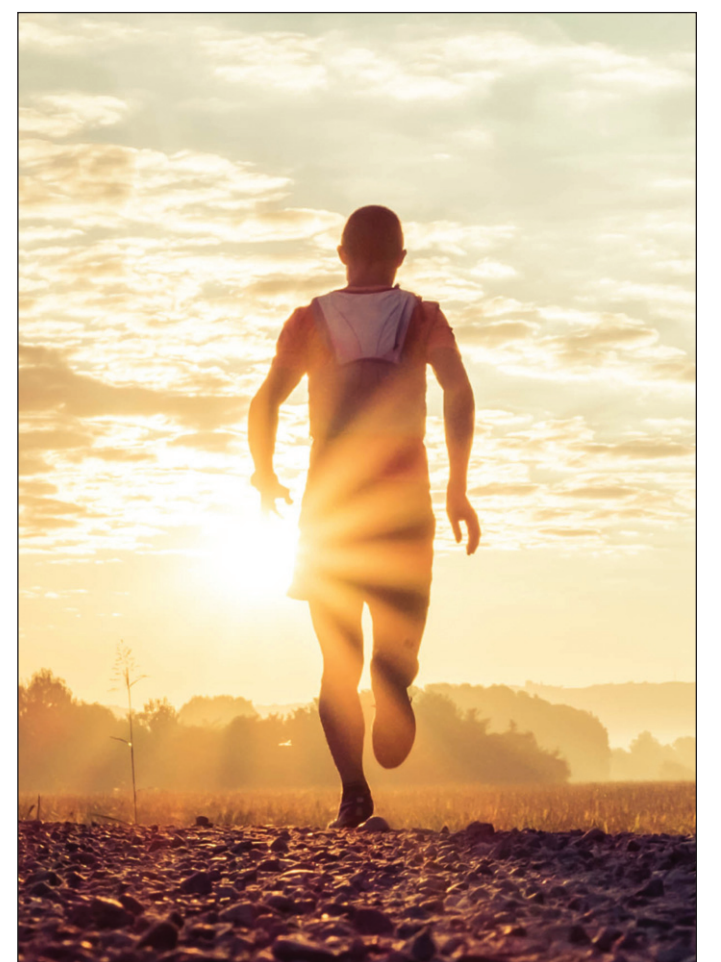
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Run Turkey Run fundraiser to aid Bret Harte programs

Dear Editor,

The Bret Harte Middle School Booster Club in Almaden would like to invite the community to the 7th annual Run Turkey Run fundraiser fun run event.

Our Booster Club is made up of volunteers who run the club for the PE and athletics department at Bret Harte Middle School so that all of the students have great sports programs and PE equipment. We depend on the Run Turkey Run fundraiser each year to help support all the athletic teams and sports and Physical Education programs at the school.

The event takes place Thanksgiving morning with the race being 5K or 10K and it is held at Leland High School. Anyone interested can register online or get more information at <https://run.signup.com/Race/CA/SanJose/AVRTR>

Stacy Pimental

SAVE THE DATE – October 3, 2019 – 18th Annual Charity Gold Classic
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Mario Ramirez | 408.605.9999



Sierra Road, San Jose
Offered at \$2,750,000
Keith Kanady | 408.353.4664



19361 Mountain Way, Los Gatos
Offered at \$2,998,000
Judi Matlack | 408.821.3533



1451 Glenwood Ave, San Jose
Offered at \$2,975,000
Julie Wyss | 408.687.2026



1024 Camino Ramon, San Jose
Offered at \$2,699,000
Russell Maynard | 408.497.9057



6253 Calle Bonita, San Jose
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Steve Cooper | 408.828.0859



1194 Magnolia Ave, San Jose
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Mark von Kaenel | 408.568.6602



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Agent DRE#s for featured listings: Greg Simpson DRE#01449209, Mario Ramirez DRE#01093234, Keith Kanady DRE#00953975, Judi Matlack DRE#01159697, Julie Wyss DRE#01350871, Russell Maynard DRE#01918162, Steve Cooper DRE#01237958, Mark von Kaenel DRE#01189869, Michael Kenyon DRE#01942685

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Times Features



New irrigation, top soil, grass and infield dirt has been added to Almaden Little League's Majors field at Almaden Country Day School. Photos Courtesy of Don Dixon.

Fields

Continued from page 1

form the fields and re-energize the program. "Our job as Board members, coaches, umpires, dads, is to give the boys and girls the best fields to play on," says Fuqua, "and families the best place where they can come and spend time. We want to make the fields look good and make everyone feel good."

Dixon says that in the past 20 years, the fields have been minimally maintained. "If you look around the district—I'm a district umpire so I go to all the fields—you'll see that our fields are low in terms of quality compared with others," he says. "We knew that we had a project we had to do, but we kept putting it off."

The addition of new portables at Almaden Country Day School, changing the dimensions of the fields and making the entryways unusable, compelled them to action. "The portables made it problematic for us," says Dixon. "We could either move, and we didn't have any options, or figure it out. We have a really nice partnership with Country School and a lot of the other school fields weren't built for Little League. Plus, we like these fields. They work well for us."

They had their work cut out for them as renovating the baseball fields required a great deal of planning and funding. Fuqua, who had been involved with the fields as Vice President of Almaden Valley Girls Softball League, drove the discussions, initiating the approval process with the League's Board, Almaden Country Day School and San Jose Unified School District.

"We all knew the fields weren't in great shape," says Dixon, "so it wasn't a hard sell. The hard part was making sure we had finances in order." With a budget of \$125,000 to \$150,000, this project is a major investment for the League. Luckily, they had a nest egg set aside.

"The League's done a decent job over the years with long-term capital planning," says Dixon, "and hasn't done a lot of maintenance on these fields, so we were able to stockpile money without

having to do major fundraising."

The renovation included grading, irrigation, top soil, infield dirt, infield and outfield sod, fencing, seven-foot high dugouts, scoreboards and more. With the irrigation dug up and massive piles of fresh dirt, "it looked like WWI with trench warfare," says Dixon of the initial construction.

Main work was done on the Major's Yankees' field. After years of water runoff, scraping was necessary for creating a smooth, level surface and a much more playable field. "It's a nice fresh start," says Dixon. "It should really be done every five, six or seven years but it's probably been 20 years since we've done it."

After the new irrigation and sprinkler heads were put in place for better water coverage, the dirt was rototilled, new topsoil was added for the grass, and mulch-treated fertilized dirt was distributed, rolled flat, and raked for rocks. A warning track was created with different colored dirt as well as a pitching mound. "It makes it look and feel like baseball," says Dixon. "That's a huge thing for kids."

A new concrete backstop with fresh wooden boards was also created, as well as a scoreboard for the Minor's Cubs' field, a scorer's booth for both fields and

a relocated bullpen as a safety measure. "When kids were warming up to pitch," says Dixon, "they were running onto the field, ducking balls."

"We're doing this because it's our way of giving back to the community for the common good," says Fuqua. "The gratification is making sure the kids have a good place to play. I'm a big proponent of team sports. You learn just as much here as you do in the classroom. That life's not about you, it's about the team and a common goal. It's not just the game, it's practice and hard work. Life's not fair. You have to learn how to deal with that at an early age."

Dixon also values getting kids away from electronic devices. "Baseball's a slow sport and they have to focus and pay attention," he says. "It's the interaction that's important. There's time for teammates in the dugout to talk about homework or buying bubblegum at the snack shack. It's those types of things that are neat about baseball."

"It helps you have physical interaction and deal directly with people," adds Fuqua. "It's about building friendship, the community, the camaraderie. You might make a friend for life."

Resident Michael Armes agrees. "Base-

ball gives kids a sense of structure and discipline, as well as sportsmanship," he says. "It brings the community together and provides an opportunity to make friends and get away from that California feel where we don't know our neighbors."

"It's an innocence of play and one of the last things we can do community-building with," says Fuqua. "It's more than the game. It's where the community comes together and socializes and develops relationships. We bridge generations. We'll all sewn together. You remember the good times, the people you met...the families."

Fuqua and Dixon also appreciate the opportunity to watch the kids grow and mature. "It's the way they work together as a team and interact," says Dixon. He recalls a family with multiple siblings who were disrespectful and didn't pay attention to the game at age 9. By age 11 and 12, they displayed leadership, letting younger kids go in front of them at the snack shack. He also gets a kick out of seeing dads umpire games with their older sons and daughters who have aged out of the program.

As tryouts are in early February, Almaden Little League plans to have all of the work completed by New Year's. They're planning an Opening Day to celebrate the kids, community and the opening of the new field in March with the start of the new season.

Almaden Little League is sporting a new online registration system (Blue Sombrero) that makes it easy to register, track schedules and standings for the Spring 2019 season. The platform also helps with scheduling, building team rosters and volunteer signups.

"At the end of the day, we're a collaborative group of parents and volunteers who are trying to help each other out and make this a better environment for everyone," says Dixon. "When the kids are in an environment that's clean and fresh and looks good, and we ask them to take care of it, they understand why. There are so many lessons you can teach and part of having a good facility for kids to be proud of is teaching all of those lessons."





run turkey run

Almaden's Thanksgiving Fun Run

Join us for the Bret Harte Booster Club's 2018 Run Turkey Run 5K/10K and start your Thanksgiving off on the right foot! This fun family run starts and ends at Leland High School in scenic Almaden Valley, San Jose. Both the 5K and 10K courses are run on level terrain on the paved trails along the Alamitos Creek and the Open Space area.

Late Registration (November 1-November 15)

Kids 13 & under \$16, Adults \$20, Seniors \$14 - shirt not included

Super Late Registration (November 16-23)

If available - don't delay! We expect to sell out! \$25 per person all ages - shirt not included

A limited supply of shirts will be available for purchase at packet pickup and race day for \$17

Race Day Schedule, Thursday, Nov. 22

Packet pick-up and last minute registration (if available): 7:00 - 8:00 am (sharp!)

10K start: 8:30 am | 5K start: 8:40 am

**6677 Camden Ave
(Leland High School)
San Jose, CA US 95120**

REFUND POLICY

Please remember that entries are non-refundable and non-transferable. Event is rain or shine. Tell your friends to register early as space is limited!

PACKET PICKUP & LAST MINUTE REGISTRATION

We will be hosting pre-race packet pickup on Wednesday, November 21 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm at Bret Harte Middle School Cafeteria (7050 Bret Harte Dr, San Jose, CA 95120).

Day of race packet pickup is available from 7 am to 8:00 am (sharp!) at Leland High School (6677 Camden Ave, San Jose, CA 95120).

Registration will be available at both packet pickup and race morning if the race is not sold out and will be \$25 for all ages, shirt not included.

Times **Feature**



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Grilled Chicken Shawarma

Try the trendiest flavors tonight: new seasonings make it easy

(Family Features) Exotic flavors common in the Middle Eastern region of the world like harissa, za'atar and shawarma are having a moment, appearing on restaurant menus and in popular make-at-home recipes.

Now is the perfect time to give these flavors a try. Thanks to new global seasonings from McCormick Gourmet, the spice combinations are already blended for the ultimate taste and simplicity.

Made from high-quality herbs and spices, the seasonings are USDA-Organic certified and Non-GMO Project verified so you can feel good about the ingredients used in your cooking. The expertly blended spices help create distinctive global-inspired dishes that take your home dining experience to the next level so you can explore these flavors from around the world without leaving the comfort of home.

* Za'atar: This traditional Middle Eastern blend of spices including thyme, oregano and sesame seeds is per-

fect for sprinkling on flatbreads, roasted vegetables, nuts or popcorn. It can also be mixed into hummus or oil for dipping.

* Harissa: A spicy flavor found in North African cuisine, this seasoning is made from a combination of chilies, warm spices and mint. Add it to meat and veggies before roasting, stir it into cooked rice and grains, mix it into yogurt to make a dip or combine it with roasted bell peppers and oil to turn this spice into its namesake sauce.

* Shawarma: Often associated with the slow roasting of meat, this Middle Eastern street food favorite is made with cinnamon, coriander, cardamom and more. Use this seasoning to flavor an easy marinade for chicken, pork or steak.

Look for these flavors as well as new Peruvian and Berbere seasonings in the spice section of retailers nationwide. Find more recipe ideas at McCormick Gourmet.com. *(See next page)*



Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Arrive 7:45 am

Depart 8:00am

Return: 7:00pm

Cost: \$35.00 includes \$15.00 slot play or \$20.00 table match play with players card.

Sign up M, T, W 9:30-11:30 am at the Almaden Community Center

For Questions call: Sally 408 826-9619

Bea: 408 761-4002



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Times **Feature**

Grilled Chicken Shawarma

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 16 minutes
Servings: 8

1 1/4 cup plain Greek yogurt, divided
5 teaspoons McCormick Gourmet Organic Shawarma Seasoning, divided
2 tablespoons olive oil
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1 teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Sicilian Sea Salt

2 pounds boneless chicken breast
4 pita pockets, halved
1 medium seedless cucumber, thinly sliced
8 lettuce leaves

In small bowl, mix 1 cup yogurt and 1 teaspoon shawarma seasoning. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

In small bowl, mix oil, lemon juice, remaining yogurt, remaining shawarma seasoning and sea salt. Reserve 2 tablespoons of mixture; set aside.

Place chicken in large re-sealable plastic bag or glass dish. Add marinade; turn to coat well. Refrigerate 1 hour, or longer for extra flavor.

Heat grill or skillet to medium heat.

Remove chicken from marinade. Discard remaining marinade. Grill or saute 6-8 minutes per side, or until cooked through and internal temperature reaches 165 F, brushing with reserved marinade.

Slice chicken into thin strips. Serve in pitas with cucumber, lettuce and yogurt dressing.

Shaved Carrot Salad with Pomegranate Harissa Dressing

Prep time: 20 minutes
Servings: 5

1/4 cup chopped fresh mint
3 tablespoons pomegranate juice
1 tablespoon honey
2 teaspoons McCormick Gourmet Organic Harissa Seasoning
1/2 teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Sicilian Sea Salt
1/4 teaspoon McCormick Gourmet Organic Black Pepper, coarse ground

3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1/2 pound multicolor carrots, washed and peeled
1/2 cup shelled roasted pistachios
1/2 cup dried cranberries
3 cups baby arugula
1/4 cup crumbled feta cheese

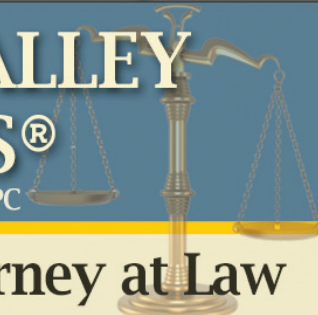
In large bowl, mix mint, pomegranate juice, honey, harissa seasoning, sea salt and pepper. Gradually add oil while mixing with wire whisk until well mixed. Set aside.

Trim carrot ends. Slice each carrot lengthwise into ribbons with vegetable peeler or mandoline. In medium bowl, toss carrots with 1/4 cup prepared dressing. Stir in pistachios and cranberries.

Arrange arugula on serving platter. Drizzle with remaining dressing and top with carrot mixture. Sprinkle with feta before serving.

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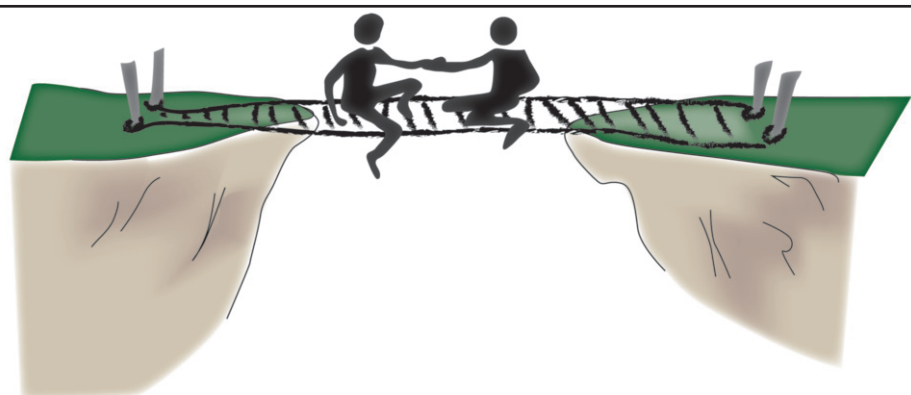
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Los Gatos Office Opening in January 2017
Offices in Menlo Park and San Francisco



Are you interested in having a meaningful discussion on our homelessness crisis?

Would you like to talk with neighbors, share your experiences and opinions, and begin to explore options for action?

The Episcopal Church in Almaden is hosting a Living Room Conversation (livingroomconversations.org) to begin to work together with our neighbors toward action to make a difference in the challenge of homelessness in our area. If you want to work with others who want to be part of the solution, please attend.

When: November 11, 3 - 5 pm
Where: 6581 Camden Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120

Contact us: Rev. Shelley Denney: shelley@eca-sj.org
Bonnie McPherson: Mamasaur@comcast.net
408.268.0243

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August 10 | September 14 | October 12 | November 9 | December 14

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Our community center will be hosting free activities every second Friday of the month! Rep our center by posting on your social media with **#SJNeighborNights!**

RSVP on our Facebook Event at tinyurl.com/SJNeighborNights

For more information, please contact (408) 268-1133.



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William Grant Still
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RAM CA 2019 RETAIL BONUS CASH* -\$500
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- Bible study on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6PM.
- A Food Pantry serving anyone in need—open T/Th 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM and Sat 10:00 AM to Noon.
- Lighted Window Productions featuring uplifting concerts, thought-provoking theater productions, informative lectures, and even an occasional karaoke night—all in a wholesome environment.
- Our facilities also provide rental space for community based groups that promote understanding, wholeness, growth, and education. Some of these include the Old Orchard School, Orchard City Indivisible, AA, etc.

Our activities flow from our most important values:

- Extravagant Joy - John 15:9, 11
- Passionate Faith - James 2:17
- Loving Respect - John 13:34
- Deep Connectedness - John 15:5
- Intentional Growth - Acts 2:46-47
- Shared Laughter - I Peter 1:8

Visit us at our web site at: church@campbellucc.org

or better yet, visit us at our worship services on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. Coffee, refreshments, and conversation always, right after service.

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Worship 9:45am, Sunday School for all ages 11:15am
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Uplifting music, Biblical teaching, ministries for Children, Youth, College & Career, Small Groups for all adults, Ministries to Men, Women, Seniors, Celebrate Recovery
Please see website for details and meeting times www.eastvalleychurch.com
Senior Pastor – Pastor Ron Johnson, Community-Life Pastor - Pastor Patrick Boyd, Children's Ministry Co-Directors – Alyssa Friend and Kristen Pearson
We are located at 2827 Flint Ave (Between Tully & Norwood) San Jose, CA 95148, Phone 408-238-0231, e-mail info@eastvalleychurch.com
We are associated with Converge Worldwide www.convergeworldwide.org


THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN
6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector
Phone:408-268-0243
Web:www.eca-sj.org
At the Episcopal Church

in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, loved, valued and empowered to serve. Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family. All junior high and senior high students are welcome to participate in our Youth Groups. During the school year we have joint Sunday School with our sister church, the Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, UCC. The Episcopal Church in Almaden offers the following regular opportunities for worship: Sunday at 7:30AM and 10:45AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.

EVERGREEN VALLEY CHURCH
Visit our Web Site at www.evcsj.com
2750 Yerba Buena Rd. San Jose, CA 95121. Phone: 408-274-7422. Saturday worship is at 5 pm. Sunday worship services at 9 am and 11 am.. Excellent contemporary Christian music and Bible-based teaching. Nursery care and Children's Sunday School programs at 9 am and 11 am. Junior High students meet at 9am and High School students meet at 11am. Nuevo Comienzo: Servicio en español, Domingo 4pm.


FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN
Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.com

town.com
Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a message that is relevant to real life, based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips. Come, Make a Difference and feel the difference God can make in your life!



GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN
www.GraceChurchSJ.net
See you on Facebook 2650 ABORN ROAD at Kettmann, across from Evergreen Public Library. Serving Evergreen for over 50 Years. John S Goldstein, Pastor
Christian Worship every Sunday at 11.00 am
Together let us build lives toward excellence!
Music Institute (408)791 7772
After School lessons on Piano, Violin, Viola, Flute PreSchool, Age 2-6 years. Caring for your child with God's love and affection (408) 791 7772

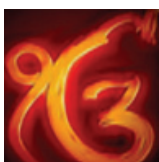
HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH
Faith.Knowledge.
Community - this is our promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office. Information on Faith Formation for children and adults can be obtained by calling our Catechetical Office at 408-997-5115. Get in the loop with our 3sixty High School Youth Ministry by calling 408-997-5106. Holy Spirit School serves grades Pre-K through 8th, and is located at 1198 Redmond Avenue. You can reach the school office at 408-268-0794.


thepoint.church

THE POINT CHURCH
3695 Rose Terrasse Cir San Jose, CA 95148
(408) 270-7646
English Service: Sundays at 9:30 & 11:00 AM
Spanish Service: 11:00 AM
Cambodian Service: 11:00 AM
Cantonese Service: 11:00 AM
Mandarin Service: 11:00AM
Youth Extreme Point (7th-12th grade): Every Saturday at 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH
We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group

and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call 1+ (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www.church-stanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.



GOD IS ONE
ੴ ਸਿਕ ਹੈ
Rab Ik Hai

SAN JOSE GURDWARA
3636 Gurdwara Ave. San Jose, CA 95148
The word Sikh (see-kh) means "disciple" or "student." A Sikh is a practitioner of the faith founded in the 15th century by Guru Nanak in Punjab of old British India. A Guru who is a "teacher" or "enlightener" completes the relationship of teaching and learning. Sikhism is monotheistic and stresses the equality of all men and women. Sikhs believe in three basic principles; meditating on the name of God (praying), earning a living by honest means and sharing the fruits of one's labor with others. Currently there are close to one million Sikhs living in the USA and Canada and 25 million Sikhs living around the world. Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world. At the Gurdwara (House of God) in San Jose we welcome all. We pray daily for peace and prosperity for everybody in the world. Come to visit and enjoy Langer (food) in our kitchen which is open 365 days of the year and serves complementary vegetarian meals. We also encourage you to enter our history room on site and walk the beautiful grounds. Learn more about us and community events we sponsor by visiting our website; <http://www.SanJoseGurdwara.org>

ofassisipreschool.org
We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr. High, IGNITE - High School and North Star-Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd.
Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations:
St. Francis of Assisi Chapel
Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass
St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall
Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM
Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road
Sunday 9:30 AM
The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium)
Sunday 8:15 AM
For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM.
Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

For Worship listing ads, call 408.250.5242

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408-223-1562.
www.stfrancisofassisi.com or www.stfrancis.com

Times **Feature**



Dutch inventor **Boyan Slat** hopes that the marine cleanup boom he dreamed up back in 2013 can be deployed soon to take a bite out of the ever increasing amount of plastic debris floating on or near the ocean's surface. *Credit: The Ocean Cleanup.*

EARTHTALK

Plastic in the ocean: Too late to fix?

By **Roddy Scheer and Doug Moss**
Special to the Times

Dear EarthTalk: What are we doing about getting rid of all the plastic floating in the ocean and forming giant gyres far from land?

—**Jake Johnson,**
Merrimack, NH

Plastic in the ocean is a big problem that first came to widespread public attention in the late 1980s when mariners began sharing reports of what turned out to be a 1.6 million square kilometer garbage patch (that's about three times the size of France) floating in the middle of the North Pacific about halfway between Hawaii and California.

When this news broke, researchers started looking deeper into the problem, and found that perhaps even more troubling than plastic chunks and pieces floating on the surface that you could see with the naked eye was the fact that even more plastic had broken down into tiny particles that would sink in the water column and get eaten by marine wildlife, in turn getting passed up the food chain, in some cases right onto our own dinner plates.

While reducing the amount of plastic that ends up in the ocean is more up to the individual than most environmental challenges—we can just stop buying and using plastic—it may be easier said than done. Plastic is a miraculous material that has made many consumer and industrial products easier to fabricate and afford. The result has been a huge quality of life improvement for billions of us on the planet.

Governmental efforts to ban disposable plastic bags in grocery stores—such as in Kenya, Chile, China, Australia and the UK, as well as in several U.S. cities including Washington D.C., San Francisco, Seattle and

Boston—are no doubt a step in the right direction. And while these bans have proven highly successful in keeping plastic litter out of waterways, they represent merely a drop in the bucket of what we could do societally to ditch plastic.

As for cleaning up the so-called Great Pacific Garbage Patch, technology could come to the rescue. Dutch inventor Boyan Slat had a vision as an 18-year-old back in 2013 that a passive drifting system could autonomously collect plastic and other types of marine debris so we could get it out of our oceans, and today his vision has become a reality. Along with a team of 60 engineers, Slat has created a 2,000-foot-long U-shaped floating plastic tube (with a 10-foot curtain dragging underneath) that can float through the water pushed by the wind and currents, entrapping plastic and other fragments along the way.

Periodically, manned boats can catch up with the device and skim the debris for recycling or disposal in landfills back on shore. Slat and crew, incorporated as the non-profit The Ocean Cleanup and funded in large part by Salesforce founder and high-tech billionaire Mark Benioff, believe they can shrink the Great Pacific Garbage Patch by half within five years of deploying their new low-tech plastic scooper.

If Slat's "passive collector" does as well in open ocean trials as its inventors hope, it could be deployed for real next year. This inexpensive low-tech approach is a model for how we can solve other big environmental problems if we put our minds to it.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. To donate, visit www.earthtalk.org. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

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1 AT MARIN

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JEEP CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH*** -\$1,200
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH** -\$500
JEEP CA 2018 RETAIL BONUS CASH* -\$1,000

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES
\$13,777

7 AT THIS NET PRICE
5 AT GILROY
2 AT MARIN #H54326, H54463

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SALE PRICE \$18,638
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JEEP CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH*** -\$1,500
JEEP CA 2018 RETAIL BONUS CASH* -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES
\$14,888

4 AT THIS NET PRICE
4 AT GILROY #25-4960, 254942, 254945, 254943

*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY. **FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620. MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL.

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DEALER DISCOUNT -\$4,747
SALE PRICE \$21,638
JEEP CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH* -\$3,000
JEEP CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH** -\$1,250
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH*** -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES
\$16,888

20 AT THIS NET PRICE
20 AT GILROY

*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY. **FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620. MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL. ***MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL.

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10 AT MARIN

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DEALER DISCOUNT -\$5,163
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RAM CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH** -\$1,250
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH*** -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNT AND REBATES
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4 AT THIS NET PRICE
4 AT GILROY #501392, 501372, 501375, 501381

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CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH** -\$500
JEEP CA 2018 RETAIL BONUS CASH*** -\$500
JEEP CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH*** -\$1,000
JEEP CA 2018 BONUS CASH** -\$1,000

NET SAVINGS AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES
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7 AT THIS NET PRICE
2 AT GILROY #394242, 504462
5 AT MARIN

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CHRYSLER CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH*** -\$750
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH* -\$500
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CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH* -\$500
CHRYSLER CA 2018 RETAIL BONUS CASH*** -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES
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18 AT THIS NET PRICE
18 AT GILROY

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RAM PROMASTER CONQUEST BONUS CASH*** -\$500
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DODGE CAPITAL CASH* -\$500
DODGE CA 2018 RETAIL BONUS CASH*** -\$500

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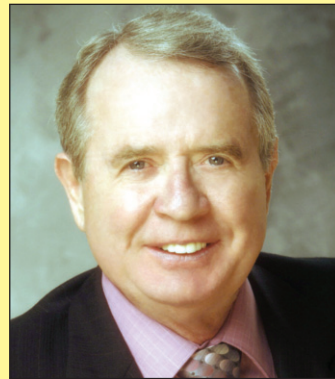
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**Watch out
for mercury
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Fluorescent lights save energy, but contain mercury which is a toxic pollutant. When it's time to replace the bulbs, dispose of used fluorescents properly to prevent polluted runoff into our creeks and Bay.

To find a convenient and FREE bulb drop-off location near you, call **(408) 299-7300** or visit **www.HHW.org**



**Hazardous Waste
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FOR SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Watershed Watch
Protect Our Creeks And Bay

Sponsored by Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention Program – a coalition of local government agencies.

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YOGALITE!

Classes with Robin Pickel.

Light, mindful stretching, deep breathing, visualization and meditation.

Enroll at www.sjregistration.com. Type "Yogalite" in the search box.

Almaden, Evergreen and Southside Community Centers in San Jose.

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Piano, guitar,
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Singles

Almaden Valley Singles:
The organization that brings together single residents of Almaden Valley (95120) over age 55 to enjoy a social life close to home and participate in community service. Monthly breakfast meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, 9 a.m. Cup and Saucer, Princeton Plaza Mall, 1375 Blossom Hill Road.



19460 GRAYSTONE LANE

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 1-4PM

Unique, 2.20+/-acre parcel with a multi-level, 4,580+/-sf home and amazing views in desirable Almaden Valley. Five bedrooms, three-and-one-half baths. Living room with vaulted ceiling and wood-burning fireplace. Kitchen with granite counters and oak cabinetry. Family room with wet bar. Master bedroom with spectacular views. San Jose Unified School District. Very private and serene, this property is adjacent to the Santa Clara Valley Water District open space. basically a "No-Build Zone."

Offered at \$2,699,000



1253 WASHOE DRIVE

OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 1-4PM

Single-level, 2,733+/-sf home on a large 8,436+/-sf lot in the Country Club area of Almaden Valley. Five bedrooms, three full baths. Living room / dining room combination with hardwood flooring, fireplace and double doors that provide access to the backyard. Kitchen has concrete slab counters, plenty of maple cabinetry, and stainless appliances. Spacious master bedroom suite with slider to the backyard deck. Central air conditioning, dual pane windows, solar system plus much more. San Jose Unified School District.

Offered at \$1,850,000



Therese Swan

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License #01355719



Swan has been Almaden Valley's #1 Agent each year since 2009. And 2017 was no exception! Swan has been recognized by Wall Street Journal/RealTrends as Top 250 Individual Agents in Nation by Dollar Volume. She is consistently among the Top 100 Agents in the Bay Area.



APR.COM



Square footage, acreage, and other information herein has been received from one or more of a variety of different sources. Such information has not been verified by Alain Pinel Realtors. It is important to buyers, buyers should conduct their own investigation.