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'Living room' conversations on homelessness help build bridges

By Lorraine Gabbert Senior Staff Writer

uilding bridges and working to help the homeless is nothing new for members of the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA). They devotedly participated in Village House, taking their turn at providing a warming center for 15 medically fragile homeless women at their church in January and July. ECA members also volunteer for Village House at other churches throughout the year and serve on the steering committee.

"We didn't know if we

could do it for 12 hours a day, seven days a week, for a month," says Reverend Shelley Booth Denney. "We had to provide lunch and volunteers. But we had the space and decided to take the plunge. It was

"Homelessness in America is a problem that reminds us daily of our failure to be our best. How do we explain to children the presence of hungry, cold, neglected and often mentally ill men and women and children on our streets in the midst of plenty? If we gather neighbors, business owners, health care workers, police, government officials, homeless people and their families in conversation, might we build trust and begin to explore opportunities to do better?"

-The Episcopal Church in Almaden

really about spending time with these ladies. They were right off the streets. It took a while for them to relax and trust they would be treated like human beings. You sit and talk with them and they tell their stories. The fact that we could listen and accept who they were was an important part of forming relationships."

"It's about being present," says Bonnie McPherson, ECA Program Coordinator for Village House, "looking them in the eyes and hearing their stories. It's transformative: They move onto transitional housing, get jobs and

get on their feet. It's changed our church, too. We've found ourselves. By serving God, it means serving his people."

See LIVING ROOM. page 10



Reverend **Shelley Booth Denney** and **Bonnie McPherson**, of the Episcopal Church in Almaden, are dedicated to helping the homeless.



The cast and crew of "Annie" pause to pose while rehearsing for the production. Annie can be seen from Nov. 28 through Dec. 1 at Pioneer High School.

'Annie'- veteran actors, volunteers and 80 drama students conduct a grand experiment

By Jane Johnson

Special to the Times

hat do you get when you combine some seasoned semi-pro veteran actors, a sprinkling of philanthropic parent volunteers and 80 highly enthusiastic high school Advanced Drama students? You get "The Grand Experiment"

For the first time ever The Glue Factory, Pioneer High School Drama Program's fundraising arm, is expanding by uniting with the Advanced Drama students. "Annie" was chosen for this first combined production — also known as The Grand Experiment.

Adults volunteer their time and talents, rehearsing nightly starting in early

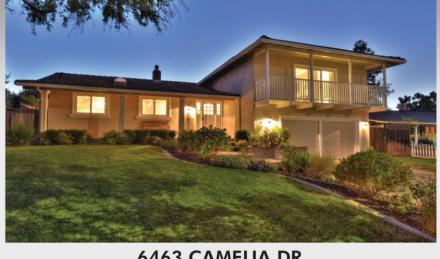
September. Students rehearse in class, combining with nightly rehearsals as needed and definitely once the show's in full rehearsal run-throughs. One adult performer, Billie Wilson, is even flying back from out of state to contribute her talents. It's truly a labor of love with the hope the community will appreciate all that goes in to creating not only The Glue Factory

shows but also the top notch Drama program at Pioneer.

For those not familiar with the story, "Annie" is set in 1930's New York during the height of the Great Depression. Annie's an orphan constantly trying to escape self-serving Miss Hannigan's orphanage. Her big break comes when Mr. Warbuck's See ANNIE, page 14



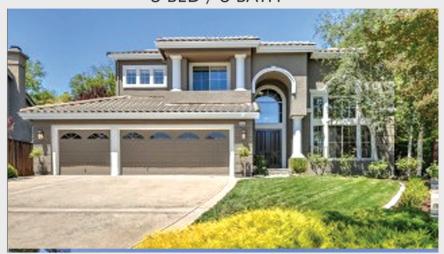
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Vallev Currents

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



Mustangs win water polo BVAL championship

he year was 1997, and Pioneer High School's water polo team won the league championship. It would be another 21 years until they won again! On Saturday, October 27th, the PHS Varsity team beat Leland High School to become the 2018 BVAL water polo champions. Pioneer Athletic Director Joe Berticevich was a first-year teacher at Pioneer when the team won the 1997 championship, and said "needless to say, the Pioneer community is ecstatic about this win and so proud of the

Varsity Coaches Jon Foote and Kevin Zondervan set their sights on a league championship title from the beginning. "We coaches created a group text called 'WinBVALLeague,' and worked with the team from day one of the season to make that our goal," said Coach Kevin. But, their season wasn't off to a great start when they lost their first league game of the season to Willow Glen and had two losses at their first tournament in Merced. "We had a short bench due to players being out with illness, and we lost our first two games at the tournament" said Coach Jon.

"Losing the first game of the season to Willow Glen in overtime was a blessing in disguise," Coach Jon recalls. "The players and coaches realized that we could be better and win, but we would have to work hard, be dedicated and believe that we could do it."

with this group was that after every loss or win, they knew the things they did well and the things they needed to work on. After the two losses in Merced on a Friday night, we came back Saturday morning making adjustments to our play and won our next two games."

The team went on to win nine more games in a row for 11 consecutive wins. During that winning streak, they beat Willow Glen in a non-league game and beat Leland in their only league game against them. The varsity team finished the season with a 14-5 record and became the number one seed for the league finals tournament.

"Our team goal before the season started was to win league and make a statement in CCS. The boys came out in that league championship game ready to play and overcome any adversity thrown their way, and they did!" Coach Jon proudly states.

The championship game played at Gunderson High School was filled with cheering and tension on both sides. As much as Pioneer wanted to win, Leland wanted to retain their title. Many of the players from both schools play club water polo together and have known each other for years. When the game ended in a tie, the game went into overtime with Pioneer eventually winning 6-5. Pioneer parents who had been pacing in the stands erupted in cheers and high fives as they watched their sons celebrate by jumping into the Coach Jon continued, "The great thing | pool and pushing their coaches in with |

For the nine Pioneer seniors on the team, this was an amazing way to end their league season. "Many of these boys have been friends since elementary and middle school, and have played water polo together all four years at Pioneer and on club teams. They will always remember that they helped their high school team win the league championship for the first time in 21 years!" said proud parent Laurie Christian-Neff, whose son Justin is a senior and was one of the high scorers in the final game.

Senior goalie Tristan Felberg definitely helped lead the team to a win. "His goal keeping skills are outstanding and his ability to block goals and play defensively is amazing to watch!" said Coach Jon. "But, we couldn't have done it without everyone's efforts!" Our team is made up of so many hard working and wonderful young men: Logan Cota, Ryan Edington, Tristan Felberg, Anthony Giacinto, Brian Hardell, Cameron Hoefer, Brendan Kurihara, Jav Laborin, Dylan Lehman, Alex Lymberopoulos, Leo Michels, Justin Neff, Nathan Roach, Connor Sechrist, Krishna Shenoy, Sean Wolfe, and Ryan Zimbauer. A few junior varsity players were also brought up to assist the team: Jaylen Bodemar, Cruz Bradanini, Jamison Cota and Earle Schweizer.

Congratulations team on an exciting win! GO MUSTANGS!

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Times Community

Symphony Silicon Valley presents Mozart & Mendelssohn, Dec. 8 and 9

Symphony Silicon Valley presents "Mozart & Mendelssohn" concert on Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 8:00pm and Sunday, December 9, 2018 at 2:30pm at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street, San Jose.

Following Mendelssohn's enchanting Overture written during his teens, we hear two great works from late in their composers' lives. The Scottish Symphony, Mendelssohn's last, is filled with echoes of Scotland's stormy, embattled history, punctuated by both a Scottish reel and perhaps the most beautiful Adagio he ever wrote. Mozart's Clarinet Concerto, one of his final works, is a touchstone of the clarinet repertory. With its rich, mellow voice, the solo clarinet seems to engage the orchestra in a loving conversation between friends.

Tickets are \$50 - \$94. Purchase tickets at 408.286.2600 or www.symphonysiliconvalley.org, or visit the Box Office between 10am and 5pm, Monday through Friday at 325 South First Street in downtown San Jose, between San Carlos and San Salvador Streets just one-half block from the California Theatre.

Easy, inexpensive parking just one block away at San Jose City Garage on



San Carlos Street with entrances on 2nd and 3rd Streets.

Conductor (pictured above): William Boughton. Soloist (pictured below): Michael Corner, Clarinet

Photos courtesy of Symphony Silicon Valley. Photo of Michael Corner by Dee Rogers



Scouts from Almaden Valley honor Veterans at Brookdale

By Cyndi Goble

Special to the Times

Resident military veterans were honored on Monday Nov. 12, at Brookdale San Jose with the help of 22 Williams Elementary School Pack 272 Scouts from Almaden (Den 17 Webelo- 4th graders, Den 3 Wolf- 2nd graders, and Den 7 Tiger- 1st graders).

The scouts began the program with the flag procession, pledge of allegiance, and singing of the national anthem. They then handed a flag to each veteran and thanked each of the 41 veterans for their service.

Vietnam War veteran Ed Goodwin remarked, "That's the first time I've ever felt truly thanked for my time in the military."

They may be too young to vote but they sure did a great job of showing their respect to the servicemen which included a number of WWII veterans and Congressional Medal of Honor recipients.

Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren sent a Certificate of Special Recognition to help honor those who served living at the Brookdale facility.

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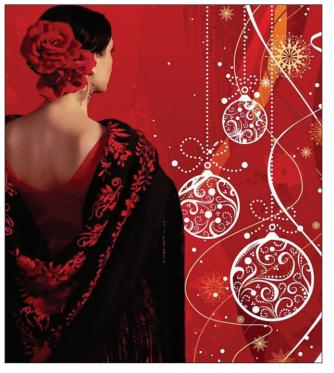
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Flamenco Society Christmas performance to feature a great cast of dancers, singers and musicians

The Flamenco Society of San Jose will host "Christmas Flamenco Juerga" (Flamenco Jam Session) at the historic Hoover Theatre on Saturday, December 8 with musical arrangements composed of dance, song, guitar, and percussion. This is a performance of traditional Flamenco festival style in the spirit of the holidays. Showcasing a great cast of flamenco artists, Koko de la Isla's Dance & Company. Special guest appearance by Flamenco Society Dance Academy.

The admission charge for this event is only \$25 general admission, \$20 for students/senior citizens and \$15 for chil-



dren. This promises to be a very special event. Feel the passion, power and emotion of flamenco with a flamenco intimate setting. Come see and hear the wonderful singing and beautiful dance of great artists.

The troupe promises a great performance full of excitement and passion.

For tickets:, visit https://bpt.me/3662754 or call 1-800-838-3006. The historic Hoover Theatre is located at 1635 Park Avenue, San Jose.



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Times **Advice**

Intestate succession: how does it work?

By Steven R. Roeser, Esq.

Special to the Times

This week's question:

"My aunt passed away recently and she didn't have a trust or will. What happens to her property?"

David G.

Almaden Valley

Dear David:

When a person passes away without a will, it is termed dying "intestate". The laws of the State of California allocate who is to inherit what from your uncle's estate. If one dies without any relatives, the great State of California can obtain all of the assets through the "escheat" process.

The following is an outline of how property is allocated under the California Probate Code if you die without a valid will and/or trust.

BASIC LAW OF INTESTATE SUCCESSION IN CALIFORNIA:

Intestate succession provides as follows under state statute:

- 1. The first question is whether the decedent (the person who died) was married.
- A. If the decedent was not married, the estate is distributed as follows:
- i. To the decedent's children, who take in equal shares if they are in the same generation.
- ii. If there are no children or other issue (issue is the legal term for children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc.) living, the estate goes to the decedent's parents.
- iii. If there are no parents living, the estate is distributed to the "issue of the parents." If the decedent had brothers or sisters, they will inherit the estate.
- iv. If there are no brothers or sisters, the decedent's grandparents will inherit the estate.
- v. If there are no grandparents, then the "issue of the grandparents" will inherit the estate. This could include the decedent's aunts and uncles, or if there are no aunts and uncles, the decedent's cousins.
- vi. If there are no cousins, Probate Code section 6402 provides that the estate will be distributed to "next of kin in equal degree," generally meaning more distant cousins.
- B. If the decedent was married, the first question is whether the decedent owned community property, separate property, or a combination of the two. Community property is generally defined as the assets acquired during marriage from earnings or salary. Separate property is generally defined as assets brought into the marriage when the decedent married, inheritances to the decedent, or gifts to the

decedent. (California case law provides many exceptions to these definitions, and assets can change from community to separate property, or from separate to community, by combining assets, by improving separate property with community property, or by written agreement of the spouses, for example.)

i. The decedent's community property goes to the surviving spouse, who may have to file a spousal property petition to establish ownership.

ii. The decedent's separate property is distributed as follows:

- a. The surviving spouse receives all of the separate property if the decedent is not survived by issue, parents, brothers, sisters, or children of a deceased brother or sister.
- b. The surviving spouse receives one-half of the separate property if the

decedent had only one child, or issue of a deceased child.

- c. The surviving spouse receives one-half of the separate property if the decedent left no issue, but left parent(s) or their issue.
- d. The surviving spouse receives only one-third of the separate property if the decedent left more than one child.
- e. The surviving spouse receives only one-third of the separate property if the decedent left one child and the issue of one or more deceased children.
- f. The surviving spouse receives only one-third of the separate property if the decedent left the issue of two or more deceased children.
- 2. If no spouse or kin can be located, the estate is transferred, in whole, to the State of California for its own use.

Regardless of who gets the assets, the assets of a decedent that dies intestate must go through probate, which is a court supervised process of administration of the estate. Probate is expensive and time consuming, which is why many families prefer trusts to govern their estate planning affairs (with pour over wills as part of that plan to act as a safety net for the trust).

If you find yourself needing advice as to an estate planning matter, please feel free to contact me.

Until next time ...

Kindest Regards,

Steven R. Roeser, Esq.

You can reach Mr. Roeser with your questions by email at steve@roeserlaw. net, with "Almaden Times" in the subject line, or by telephone at (650) 300-5778. Your real name will not be used. No attorney-client relationship is created by these articles, and any information in this article does not constitute legal advice and is not to be relied upon.



Ask the Lawyer Steven R. Roeser, Esq. Attorney at Law

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Times **Features**



Residents found the Living Room Conversation About Homelessness moving, informative and hopeful.

Living Room

Continued from page 1

"From the religious point of view of 'Love God and love your neighbor," says Rev. Booth Denney, "how can I say I love my neighbor if I'm willing to let him or her sleep in the gutter?"

During her stay, one of the homeless women told Rev. Booth Denney that it was the first time in her life she didn't feel judged. "So many of the ladies who came in were able to relax because they were safe," she says. "They had food and somebody to talk to."

"That's how I felt," says one of the women. "Safe and a sense of relief. The people really wanted to know me. I thought I'd never get any better. There were some great people here and a community and I wanted to be part of it." Now, she has a full-time contract job, lives in a house, and is a member of the church.

"I want to give back to the churches who helped me," she says. "I want to show that homeless people aren't bad people. We need job training and housing. I want to have hope."

Working with Village House was enriching for all involved. "It transformed our hearts and made us passionate about helping with homelessness," says Rev. Booth Denney.

However, both she and McPherson felt that what they were doing wasn't enough. "We love bringing the ladies in and breaking bread with them," says McPherson, "but we don't want to keep seeing more and more people become homeless.'

Desperately wanting to make a difference but realizing that homelessness was too complex an issue to tackle alone, they decided to connect with others to form a larger, more powerful community. They invited their congregants, neighbors, members of other religious organizations and councilmembers to join them in Living Room Conversations.

"The idea is not just to have another conversation about homelessness, but to gather together a group of people interested in working with us on the root causes," says Rev. Booth Denney. "It's about developing relationships, understanding homelessness and finding out what the city and county are doing."

In Living Room Conversations, a small group of people come together (up to six at each round table in a meeting room) to get to know one another in a more meaningful way. Guided by a simple and sociable format, participants practice being open and curious about all perspectives, with a focus on learning from one another, rather than trying to debate the topic at hand.

Anna Eng, lead organizer with Bay Area Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), partnered with ECA to help them form a broadbased organizing group and focus on next steps. "Having conversations like this are meaningful," she says. "We build relationships and learn. We also need to be people of action and find ways to address a piece of the problem. Talking with people is the best way to find out what the specific problems are and find solutions."

"There's no easy answer," says a resident. "I hope we can come together and find solutions. They're not going to be grand solutions. There's going to be one here and one there."

"This meeting is about listening and finding out what we can do as a group to make a difference," says McPherson, "so someday we won't have a need for Village House. How can we help those who haven't given up? How can we help them be successful in this very expensive valley? As long as the valley has such high rents, even working people can't afford homes. San Jose State has college students who live in their cars who can't afford dorms."

Rev. Booth Denney believes that real solutions take time. "This is long, slow work that requires patience, determination and the ability to not have a quick, shiny product sitting in your hands so you can feel good about what you've done," she says. "It's about the process of getting there and actually doing something. It's all about relationships. Even when it's not about relationship, it's about relationships."

"Homelessness is a crisis and a social justice issue," says a resident. "My hope is that I can make a difference."

'I grew up here, went to college and got a degree and I can't afford to live here," says a resident. "I probably will never be able to buy a house here. People work at stores and as hygienists and teachers. These aren't high paying jobs, allowing people to live here, but we depend on their services."

"Homelessness is more of a symptom," says a resident. "Homes cost too much. All of us are on the verge of homelessness. It's scarv."

Rev. Booth Denney agrees. "It's not just See LIVING ROOM, page 12

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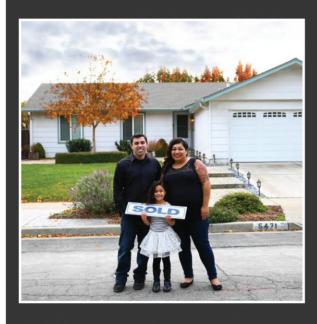


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BRIAN LAURA JEN HANNAH

Times Feature

Living Room

Continued from page 10

the Bay Area," she says. "Two-thirds of all bankruptcies are due to medical emergencies. Most of the people in this country are one catastrophic illness away from bankruptcy and homelessness. If we worked on other problems, homeless would decrease. I'd like officials to look at these problems as a whole to see how they're interwoven."

A resident pointed out that the plight of the homeless is extensive. "You go to work and come back to your tent and all your things are gone, or you're going for a job interview but have nowhere to take a shower or you're sleeping in your clothes," she says. "I hope we can come together as a community and bring these people up and empower them to hope and be better than they are now."

One of the homeless women helped by Village House said she spent her life trying to find a community like the one she found at ECA and doesn't want to have to give it up. "When my housing time is up in the summer, I'll be right back where I started," she says. "It's scary. They need to reevaluate who gets the housing. Drug addicts, alcoholics, and people who got out of jail get housing. I'm working and trying to get back on my feet. If they have issues, help them, but with housing it's not fair. It's not right. I couldn't get help from any programs because I didn't have those problems, but I needed help while I looked for a job."

To keep warm, when she wasn't at a warming center, she'd ride the bus or light rail all day. When she returned to her cot at Village House, sometimes she'd find a note with a smile face or get a hug. "It helped me feel better," she says. "It's the little things you take for granted. Treating homeless people like human beings."

A resident said that the impact of sitting at the table and hearing the woman's personal story changed her perspective. "Hearing how you used the program here is very inspiring," she says. "I never heard it from a person who was actually helped. You have made a big impact on me. Your plea is very real and poignant."

Others note that in Silicon Valley, many people are living paycheck to paycheck. "In the tech industry, with contract employees, there's no stability there. They're professionals but every twelve months they have to take three months off and that's a significant amount of time," says a resident. "Companies are beholden to shareholders rather than doing the right thing," adds another.

One suggestion is to have Silicon Valley companies compete in creating solutions for homelessness, in addition to supplying jobs and financing. "We should approach it in the Bay Area style of innovation and leadership," says a resident. "The more we house the homeless, the less it actually costs taxpayers. When you help others, you help yourself and everyone benefits."



"It's all about relationships," says Reverend **Shelley Booth Denney.**

"We're Silicon Valley, one of the richest places," says a resident. "My hope is that people will speak with their representatives about homelessness."

Rev. Booth Denney says she is pleased to see the way people were connecting during their Living Room Conversations.

"I like this format," says a resident, "and sharing experiences and what's in our

hearts. It makes me know I'm not alone and there's still hope. People are thinking about what to do. But thinking is one thing and action is another."

Some came away feeling informed, energized and hopeful. Others said they were overwhelmed and frustrated with the large problem homelessness presents.

That's where planning their next steps comes in. The group decided they need additional conversation partners, to narrow the focus of attention to specific issues (such as expanding Village House and partnering with SJSU Cares, a program to aid homeless college students), find out what the city and county are doing, and advocate for more resources for mental health.

To increase their effectiveness, ECA is joining with IAF to build an organization of institutions in Santa Clara County to address homelessness, affordable housing and other community issues. House Meetings will be held from February through May at ECA and in community centers throughout the county. An assembly will be held in April to review their findings.

"One thing that I think is hopeful," says Rev. Booth Denney, "is that the City of San Jose is really committed to doing something about this. My hope is that with a lot of ordinary people working together, along with a city that has good intentions to solve this problem, we can find solutions."

The Episcopal Church in Almaden's next Connection Team meeting is Dec. 9, 12:30p to 2:00p. The next House Meeting will be held in February. The Episcopal Church in Almaden is located at: 6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, 95120.



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Times **Features**

Annie

Continued from page 1

personal secretary arrives to select an orphan for a publicity stunt. Annie manages to get noticed and is taken to the mansion. Hardened Mr. Warbucks wants to immediately send her back as he had asked for an orphan boy. However, Annie wins the hearts of the staff and Mr. Warbucks alike and she remains. When "Daddy" Warbucks learns Annie believes her parents are just missing, he commissions a search for them. Miss Hannigan's criminal relations decide to pose as the long-lost parents to obtain the reward money offered seeking to kidnap Annie as well. Orphans, President Roosevelt, the mansion's staff and Daddy Warbucks collaborate to ring in the ending of this musical. "Annie" is one of those shows you can see over and over. Rags-to-riches, ultimately joyous with a fairytale ending it draws us all, young and young-atheart, back to see this production again and again.

Ms. Alisabeth Bacon adds her musical gift and acting chops to the stage as Annie. This will be a special treat for students to see one of their gifted teachers/former teachers, amongst others including Mrs. Kathleen Quint, Mr. Rick Conrad, Mr. Evan Givedon, Mrs. Ashley Coleman, and Mr. Dave and Mrs. Randi Heinrichsen, grace this production. "This is a really great idea to have both the adults and students together in their fundraising show.....It allows people to portray their correct ages....One of the best things about Drama at Pioneer is people come from every part of the school (community) including athletes, robotics programmers, dancers, etc...It speaks a lot that people want to be here. There are 90 kids in just Advanced Drama this year alone," Alisabeth shared. "This is a really fun show for me. I've known my whole life that I'm Annie. Just look at me: freckles...red hair...it was a natural!"

Mike Hanlon has performed in 17 Glue Factory shows at this point. He had never performed prior to his first show, but found the people were really fun and welcoming and it was a great way to give back to a program from which his family had benefitted. "The Glue Factory always puts on an amazing production. A matter of fact I've often heard from the audience members that although we're not professional performers, we're able to put on a professional level show on a very minor budget! The idea is to make money for the Drama department by staging these shows. We have a great time doing it while scratching the acting itch so to speak."

DECEMBER 31, 2018

As the years have gone by (20+!) many of The Glue Factory cast have had to stop for health or other reasons. Because of this they're looking to grow The Glue Factory again through Pioneer alumni (any alumni - not just drama alumni!), teachers, parents, siblings and friends of the program. Mike described the kind of person "...if you've ever performed, or even might ever like to perform, if you're a dancer, actor or singer or might like to try your hand at that....they're all fine in The Glue Factory. There's a level of a part from very small to large that will fit what you'd like to do. And our directors will find what fits together to make it all work!"

Valerie Doyle is a great example. Not once had she ever acted prior to The Glue Factory. But after her neighbor performed in a show the year before her first-born even came to Pioneer, she got the "acting bug" watching that show and decided to give it a try. She started with a small part in the chorus, and then marked her calendar every year to participate no matter what the show. She just wanted to be involved and give back. Both her sons, Zach and Riley, went through the high school Drama program and she directly supported them and others by volunteering her own talents on stage. When asked why she continues to perform Valerie exclaimed "I love it, love it, love it!" She marks her calendar a year in advance every year to make sure she's available.

To a tee all The Glue Factory adults I spoke with were thrilled to pair with the Advanced Drama students in this Grand Experiment. "All those angelic young voices...combining their experience and ours...is a recipe for success!" Valerie added.

Student Isabella Osborne notes what makes Pioneer Drama so very good is the sheer commitment to excellence from both past and present directors, Mr. Steve Dini and Mrs. Ashley Coleman, on down through every last student in the program. Although students come to the program from many different "walks of life" they leave it at the door when it's time to put on the production and it clearly shows cohesively on stage. Fellow student, junior Emily Nguyen, agrees. "We all work so hard but it doesn't feel like work because my favorite people are in this class and even when I'm having a bad day the work we do in here to put on amazing productions cheers me up every time." Emily feels the take away from this show in particular is to "be grateful for what you have and to be entertained and happy."

Annalise Martelino, also in her senior year with Isabella and together since the beginning of their high school years, says of this Grand Experiment "This is really cool! I'm not sure why we didn't do this sooner. It allows us to do lots of different shows we otherwise couldn't do. Bigger shows. Shows with many characters and large choruses." She even named "School of Rock," "The Sound of Music," and "Oliver" as ideas that came to her mind for potential future shows.

Steve Dini returns to direct this production along with seasoned choreographers (and performers!) Sue Dini and Ashley Coleman. Mrs. Coleman instructs the Advanced Drama students during the day and works to combine the groups right alongside Mr. Dini. Marissa Bacon returns as musical director insuring rich and full harmonies. Jan Vincent, Diane Zlotziver, Lorie Biviano, Jim Wolk, Sara Hanlon and Chris Raimondi all work their behind-thescenes magic with an army of volunteers to make this production shine.

Mrs. Coleman shared "this is a great opportunity for our students to be part of the fundraiser that's been supporting them for the last 20 years." She added "The Music Man" and "Oklahoma" to ideas for future shows beyond those Annalise mentioned. "We were able to reward long-time Glue Factory members with principal roles, and the huge ensemble provides a brilliant sound. This cast of 129 really shines!'

Besides experiencing a heartwarming show, attendees can know all profits from ticket and concession sales goes straight to supporting the school program that receives no funding at all from the school district or state. This allows purchase of rights for excellent shows to be staged in the future amongst all the logistics required to make those shows happen. What an easy and fun way to both give back to the community and to these hard working, positive teens!

Just in time for the holidays, "Annie" runs November 28through December 1st 7 p.m. nightly. Tickets can be purchased online in advance (strongly suggested) at phsdrama.ludus.com \$15 adults, \$10 seniors 62+ and \$7 students/children. Even if sold out online go to the door starting at 6:30 p.m. as seats will sell to capacity nightly.





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.



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Almaden Community Center will deliver the gifts to the collection center.

Thank you for bringing smiles to so many children.

If you have questions call: 408 268-1133

Times **Feature**



JB Smith giving Mike Hennessy a very generous Toys for Tots donation at last year's event.

Hot San Jose Nights to host Red Cross fire relief, holiday giving program Dec. 8

Tot San Jose Nights invites the community to join them for a Red Cross fire relief, along with a giving program to benefit Toys for Tots and Second Harvest Food Bank. As a special incentive to all of the "Car Guys and Car Gals" in the area, the organization plans to credit all donations from the event to "the Bay Area Car Guys & Car Gals of California (CGCG)."

The event will be held Saturday, December 8th from 10am-2pm at Cambrian Park Plaza Shopping Center at the Corner of Union and Camden Avenue in San Jose.

"Pull out that cool car for one last ride of 2018 for people in need in our very own backyard," said Mike Hennessy from Hot San Jose Nights. "We invite everyone to bring a donation to support any or all of these causes, then park and chat! Or, you are welcome to drive right on up to our trucks and some of our special guests and helpers will help you unload and say thank

you – and you can drive away knowing you've helped to make a needy family's holiday season a little brighter. We're taking pictures of all our donors and their cars - and pets, too," Mike added.

The organization is looking for checks payable to the American Red Cross; new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots, or canned food or food in sturdy packaging (no glass) for Second Harvest Food Bank.

Special guest supporters and help for the day will include Dave Cortese, Sam Van Zandt, Dennis Mattish, Rich Sieve, Danny Keydeniers, Mark Blaskovich, and Mike and Susan Hennessy.

"The horrible fire that just hit both northern and southern California needs our help," Hennessy continued. "Please join in, bring a neighbor or person that would love to ride with you and see other cool cars. There are no better giving and supportive people than car people!"



Times Spotlight

Floors to Go: a family run company serving the local community

Ploors to Go originally opened their first location in Campbell back in 2001. Then it was just Mike Rorie, his wife Viki, and their kids painting walls and putting up racks to hold the samples. With a few years of hard work, persistence and even longer nights, one job turned into two, which turned into three and so on.

Now almost 20 years later Mike has two locations from which he is very proud to be able to offer a great selection of flooring and service to his hometown community. Mike has been in the business for over 35 years and has a talented team of eight people who you can trust to get the job

done right

"Our business thrives on customer service and workmanship," Mike says. "We are at your house measuring for free, giving you a quote, we email, call you back, all to ensure our customers and neighbors don't just get the best deal in town, but have the best experience with our service. We are there from beginning to end and even afterwards to check on the results and customer service aspect to the job," says Mike on his commitment to his clients.

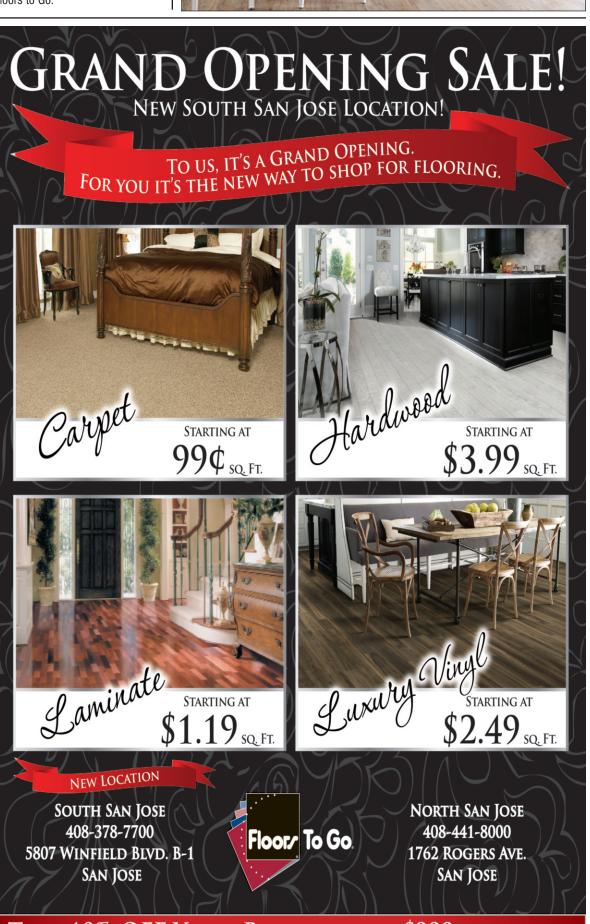
Mike's son Alex and his best friend Grant run the new location on Winfield. These two are long-time friends from their days of playing sports at Leland High School. They are the new generation at Floors to Go. Alex says, "It's a perfect time to drive down the street and come talk to me or Grant about your flooring needs. See you soon."

Pictured, right: Wood and stone-look luxury vinyl are but some of the many options available through Floors to Go.









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Times **Feature**

Sacred Heart Community Service prepares for annual Thanksgiving Food Distribution

Food distribution begins Monday, November 19

ore than 100 volunteers will come to Sacred Heart Community Service (SHCS) to sort and pack food boxes for the agency's annual Thanksgiving Food Distribution on Saturday, Nov. 17.

Starting Monday, Nov. 19, families will come to SHCS to pick up holiday food boxes and their choice of a turkey, ham, or chicken. The agency will also do another food distribution in mid-December. The agency's goal is to collect 7,400 turkeys this holiday season.

Each food box contains canned goods, fresh produce, cooking oil, and a turkey. From now until holiday distribution, SHCS will work with the community to stock their freezer with 7,400 turkeys.

This Thanksgiving, the holiday food box will save SHCS members \$100 at the gro-



cery store, which is critical for people living in one of the most expensive rental markets in the country.

The agency currently has 1,300 turkeys and chickens of its 7,400 goal for the holidays. SHCS' Donation Station is open all this week and Saturday from 9am to 3pm.

People interested in bringing joy this holiday season can visit SHCS' website at www.sacredheartcs.org/holidays to donate online, volunteer, or see our wish list of items to donate.

Severe blood shortage: Red Cross issues call for blood and platelet donations

Blood drive hosts also needed this winter to stop prolonged shortage

he American Red Cross is facing a severe blood shortage and urgently needs blood and platelet donors to give now to avoid delays in lifesaving medical care for patients. Volunteer blood drive hosts are also critically

needed to prevent the shortage from worsening this winter.

During October, the Red Cross collected over 21,000 fewer blood and platelet donations than what hospitals needed. Blood donors of all blood types, especially type O, and platelet donors are urged to make an appointment to donate at Red CrossBlood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

An additional 4,300 blood drives nationally are needed in December, January and February to help stop the shortage from continuing throughout winter. Donations often decline during the winter holidays when many groups postpone blood drives

while regular donors are busy with holiday activities and travel. Severe winter weather may also cause blood drive cancellations contributing to fewer donations than needed.

To encourage donations around the Thanksgiving holiday, those who come to donate blood or platelets with the Red Cross Nov. 21-24 will receive a longsleeved Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

How to help

Eligible donors can find a blood or platelet donation opportunity and schedule an appointment to donate by using the free Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Donation appointments and completion of a RapidPass, are encouraged to help speed up the donation process.



Rapid-Pass lets donors complete the predonation reading and answer the health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, from the convenience of a mobile device or computer, or through the Blood Donor App.

Those interested in hosting a blood drive can learn more and sign up to sponsor a drive this winter, by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/HostADrive.

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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.

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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

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Every Saturday at 6:30

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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



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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 Puniab 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 vear 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

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135 408-223-1562. www.stfrancisofassisi. com or www.stfrancis

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 Sunday11:00AM, 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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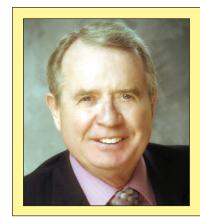


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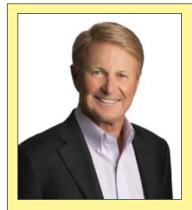
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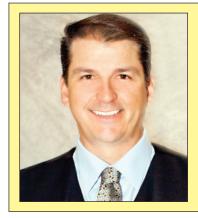
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The Secret is Out!

and your community with your number one neighborhood news source the Almaden Times!"

Driving School



Advantage Driving School is the premier driving school in northern California. Advantage Driving School has trained more than 300,000 students to drive safely since 1994. We offer complete programs for both traditional classroom and online courses. Driver Training is the behind the wheel training which prepares your child to pass the driving test at the DMV. We also offer complete programs for adults and senior citizens. If you have never driven or just need some supplemental instruction to improve your driving skills, we are just the school for you! We believe Advantage Driving School offers a great combination of experienced driving instructors and affordable prices! Location: 5440 Thornwood Drive, Suite F;

Hours: 9 am-5 pm M-F 9 am-12 noon S-S; Phone: 408.363.4182; Email: info@advantagedriversed.com | Website: advantagedriversed.com

Kitchen/Bath

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E-Waste

Electronic Waste Collection Fundraiser

Help the City get rid of E-Waste the right way by diverting it from the landfills to a proper recycling process!

- E-waste is the fastest growing municipal waste stream in America, according to the EPA. 56% of American households have functional e-products that they will no longer use. Less than 15% of e-waste is currently being properly dismantled or recycled. 70% of heavy metals, 40% of lead found in today's landfills come from e-waste.

Saturday Dec 1, 2018

9:00am - 4:00pm (Rain or Shine) 1290 Blossom Hill Rd San Jose CA 95118

Money raised will benefit the Pioneer High Education Foundation!

What is "E-waste"?

FREE RECYCLING: Computer Monitors, Televisions/LCD's, PC's, Servers, Laptop/Tablets, Cell Phones, PC Boards, Wire

\$5 per ITEM Fee Recycling: Printers, Small Copiers, Scanners, Fax Machines, UPS & PDAs, Main Frame Units, Networking R/VCD/DVD Players, Home Entertainment Systems, Landline Phones, Radios, Stereo Equipm Medical Devices, and small household electronic devices.

Not accepting: Microwaves, Florescent bulbs, Smoke detectors, Vacuum cleaners
Large Appliances, Batteries or Fitness Equipment

ALL ITEMS ARE PROCESSED IN A CERTIFIED CA RECYCLER, NOTHING GOES TO THE LANDFILL OR CHINA

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Mind Body Spirit

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.

(408) 270-2220

(Evergreen Community Ctr.)

Music

Music Lessons \$15 per lesson

Piano, guitar, drums, bass and flute

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Property Management

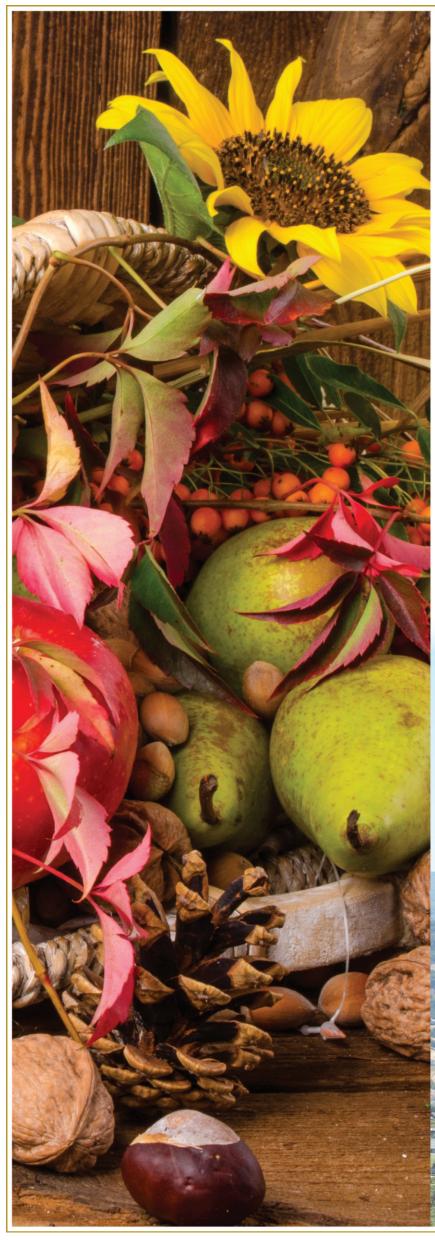
Property Management Services

Tenant-Finding **Ongoing Management** Available **Call Jill Curry**

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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.



Almaden Valley...

The Home We Love

As we drive towards Almaden Valley,
Mount Umunhum welcomes us home.
Home to lush green hills. Beautiful
hiking trails. Nature. Friends. Family.
We are thankful for our cherished community.
Our award winning schools.
Our child friendly neighborhoods.
It's the place we call home.
Almaden Valley. The Home We Love.

The people and things that matter the most are often closest at hand.

Happy Zhanksgiving



Therese Swan
408.656.8240
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