

Pioneer grad Catherine Roberts earns 'Gold Award' for mural project  
**SEE PAGE 4**



**Help with stress**  
Pioneer HS opens wellness center to help students cope with anxiety  
**SEE PAGE 10**

Girls Scout Service Unit 642 presents annual awards for exceptional achievements  
**SEE PAGE 14**



OCT. 4–OCT. 17, 2019 ■ VOL. 32, NO. 21

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# Almaden Times

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## SJUSD focuses on other sites for employee housing

By Lorraine Gabbert  
Senior Staff Writer

Almaden residents can breathe a sigh of relief as San Jose Unified School District (SJUSD) has currently shifted its focus to other sites for potential affordable employee housing. However, it's a cautious optimism as Leland High School and Bret Harte Middle School have not been removed from the original list of nine properties created as part of the district's Master Plan.

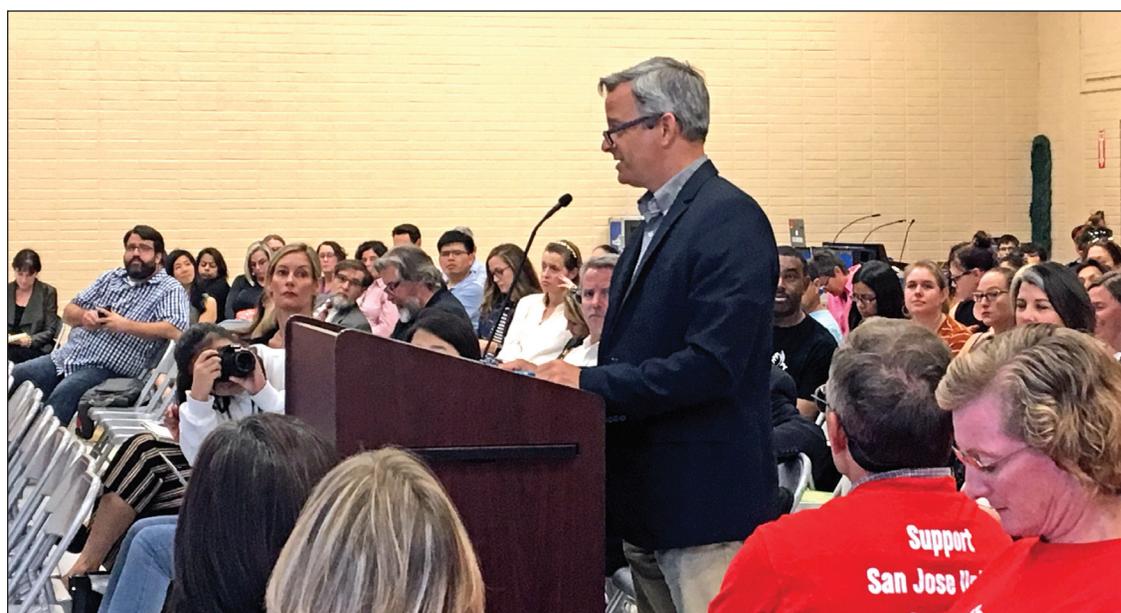
In a Special Session Board Meeting on Sept. 23, the Board of Trustees voted 4 to 1 in favor of a feasibility study on four locations under consideration for employee housing: Parking Lot 9, Lenzen Avenue, San José Unified District Offices; River Glen K-8 School; Second Start-Pine Hill Non-Public School; and recently added Metropolitan Education District (MetroED).

At the meeting held at San Jose High School, an Almaden resident implored the board to "bring relief to the Almaden community" by offi-

cially taking Leland and Bret Harte off the list. "The Almaden community's anxious about this," he said. "It's been going on for a year now."

Another Almaden resident believes that the district should rethink its plan to only build housing on property it currently owns. "It's like rebuilding a sports car into a minivan when you get kids," he says. "That's ridiculous. You sell the sports car and buy a minivan. The district should consider selling some land, buying an apartment block, and moving staff in."

Although the best site for affordable employee housing is debatable, the fact that it's crucially needed is not. Renata Sanchez, an instructional coach for Allen at Steinbeck Elementary School, is hopeful about the district providing affordable employee housing. Sanchez loves her job but says that it's hard to continue teaching in San Jose due to the cost of living: 45 percent of her salary goes to rent and utilities. "I've never been able to rent without another roommate,"



Land use consultant **Erik Schoennauer**, who was hired by the district, said that it will take three to five years to design, approve, develop, construct, and occupy housing. *Photo courtesy of Save Neighborhood Schools*

she says. "Stipends and raises are Band-Aids. They're helpful, but don't address the root problem: Housing."

Matthew Seymour, who teaches

3rd grade at Hacienda Elementary, also supports the district's plan as he can't afford to pay rent by himself. Seymour faces a constant

*See HOUSING, page 19*

**"We're at the point where we're training spectacular teachers who are forced to leave because they want a quality of life."**

–SJUSD Board Vice President Teresa Castellanos

## Almaden–Blossom Valley NCL Class of 2020 chooses LifeMovesShelter supporting LGBTQ+ for senior project

By Lisa Scott  
Special to the Times

The Almaden - Blossom Valley Chapter of the National Charity League (NCL) Class of 2020 (pictured, right) has chosen LifeMoves-New Haven Inn as its focus for their senior project this year.

LifeMoves-New Haven Inn, is its newest shelter facility supporting homeless individuals identifying as LGBTQ+ providing clients immediate and longer-term services to return to stable housing and achieve self-sufficiency. It is only the second of its kind in the country and one the girls felt passionate about helping.

The 19 young women of the senior class are supporting New Haven Inn with organizing systems for food donations, linens, per-



sonal hygiene supplies, cleaning supplies and clothing donations.

The NCL Class of 2020 represents young women from eight nearby high schools including Branham, Leland, Mitty, Notre Dame, Pioneer, Presentation, St. Francis, and Valley Christian. They have spent the past six years together developing leadership skills, learning through cultural experiences and providing many hours of philanthropy service throughout our local community.

Each year they have volunteered in a different focus area such as supporting animals and the environment in seventh grade, helping families in need in eighth grade, assisting children in ninth grade, supporting senior care in 10th grade, and helping the homeless and hungry in 11th grade as well as working with many other NCL philanthropic partners.

The 2020 class is looking forward to celebrating their years of working together at their Senior Recognition March 14, 2020 at the Ranch Golf Club.

**SEE OUR LISTINGS OF LOCAL REALTORS, CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING AND HOME IMPROVEMENT ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER**

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**Results...**



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# Not Rhetoric



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## Big turnout for California Coastal Cleanup Day in Santa Clara County

“We’re proud of the big turnout by our volunteers for today’s Coastal Cleanup Day,” said Valley Water Board Chair Linda J. LeZotte.

“The volunteers in the South Bay demonstrated that people can come together to keep Santa Clara County’s streams clear of harmful pollutants, which in addition to contaminating water, and harming birds and wildlife, can block our creeks and cause flooding,” said LeZotte.

Cleanup at 47 Santa Clara County sites on September 21 was organized by the Creek Connections Actions Group, a consortium of public agencies and non-profit organizations, chaired by Valley Water.

Valley Water said that this year’s event was a huge success. In Santa Clara County, a record-breaking 2,131 volunteers participated in the cleanup at 47 different sites. They collected more than 51,000 pounds of trash and cleaned 53 miles of creeks. Overall, 60,000 volunteers responded to the call to action, gathering 469,100 pounds of trash from California’s waterways. The cleanup event attracted scores of high school students.

The group, formed in 1995, includes Valley Water, Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation, and the City of San Jose. Since the group’s inception, thousands of volunteers have participated in hundreds of cleanups, removing thousands of pounds of trash each year from creeks, rivers, and lakes in Santa Clara County.

“I’m thrilled with the many volunteers who took the time to help beautify our city this morning and am grateful for our partnership with Valley Water and their efforts to help keep our waterways clean!”, said San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo.

The Mayor, along with members of the Valley Water Directors, joined hundreds of volunteers to participate in the cleanup at several Santa Clara County sites.

# Valley Currents

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

## Catherine Roberts earns 'Gold Award' for mural project

*Murals painted on utility boxes, roll-away doors at Pioneer High School*

Students at Pioneer High School are seeing something different around their school campus this fall. Brightly painted murals on utility boxes and storage rollaway doors can now be seen among the blue and tan outside walls.

Created under the supervision of Catherine Roberts, a recent 2019 graduate of Pioneer High School, the beautification task was an integral part of Robert’s Girl Scout Gold Award project.

The highest award in Girl Scouts, participants who complete and are awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award must address an issue and effect positive change in their community. To be considered for the award, girls must complete the following seven steps: 1) Identify an issue; 2) Investigate thoroughly; 3) Solicit help and build a team; 4) Create a plan; 5) Present plan and gather feedback; 6) Take action; and 7) Educate and Inspire through the sharing of the project.

Noticing the lack of public art displays at the school, Roberts chose to focus her project on not only bringing artwork to the school but also introducing art that would encourage school spirit. Over the span of several months, Roberts created a step by step “How To” guidebook for future artists who might wish to provide similar art at their schools. By using her newly created guidebook, Roberts enlisted fellow artists from the school’s art club to help her develop some ideas and sketches to bring



Catherine Roberts, a recent 2019 graduate of Pioneer High School, supervised the beautification task, which was an integral part of Robert’s Girl Scout Gold Award project.

to the school’s administrators for approval. Upon gaining the proper authorizations, Roberts and her fellow artists set about painting colorful murals on selected areas around the school.

“I hope this project will help brighten the day for future students at my school. When choosing the designs, we focused on ideas that would mean something to the students,” Roberts said. “From a science themed mural near the science quad to a motivational saying along another corridor, I hope these murals will be a permanent art display showcasing the pride and

creativity at our school while beautifying the campus and enlivening school spirit. It would be great to see fellow students embrace these murals and share them on their social media pages as a go to place for a photo opportunity.”

Roberts, who was a member of Troop 60114, was notified of her Girl Scout Gold Award in August. “We are all very proud of Catherine,” stated Marlene Muraco. “Like any project, she had a few setbacks and delays, but Catherine stayed the course and never gave up in her quest to complete all aspects of the award. We couldn’t be more proud!”



## 12th annual Harvest Festival to be held Oct. 19

The 12th Annual Harvest Festival will be held on Saturday, October 19 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Almaden Community Center.

Join the community in celebrating local artists, tasty food and lots of fun! Pick a pumpkin from the Pumpkin Patch, get spooked in the Haunted House, and enjoy story time. Children are encouraged to come in costume! General admission and parking are free!

If you are interested in donating goodies for the bake sale, you may bring them to the conference room at the Almaden Community Center on Friday, October 18 from 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

If you are interested in volunteering to help package baked goods on October 18, please let Anne Marie know. You can leave a message with the Almaden Community Center front desk by calling: (408) 268-1133.

### Almaden Times

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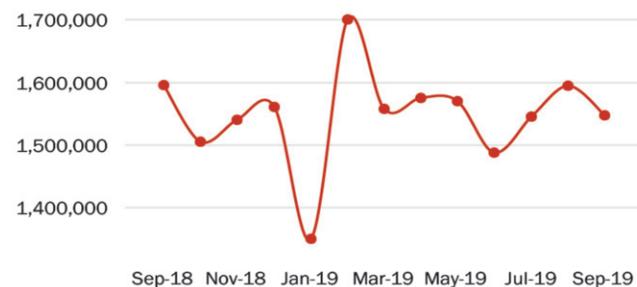
The average Single Family Home costs \$1.55M and sells in 16 days for 99% of asking price based on 18 sales in September 2019

### MEDIAN SALE PRICE

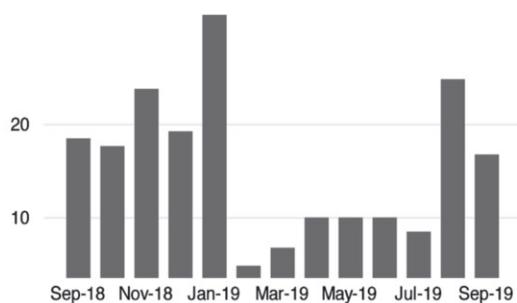


**99%**

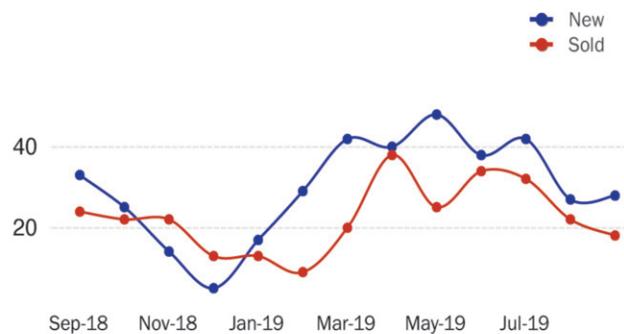
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## Miss Saigon

At the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts

Saturday, November 16, 2019, 2:00 pm

Price: \$85.00

Miss Saigon is a musical by Claude-Michel Schonberg and Alain Boublil, with lyrics by Boublil and Richard Maltby Jr.

It is based on Giacomo Puccini's opera *Madame Butterfly*, and similarly tells the tragic tale of a doomed romance involving an Asian woman abandoned by her American lover

A stunning spectacle with a sensational cast of 42 performing score, including Broadway hits like "The Heat is On in Saigon," "The Movie in My Mind," "the Last Night of the World," and "American Dream." This is a theatrical event you will never forget.

Rating: Recommended for ages 12+

Run time: 2 hours, 40 minutes (including intermission).

Contains some language and scenes of sexual nature.

Tickets sold M,T,W 9:30-11:30 @ Almaden Community Center

More information call, Rich 408 219-8641 or Sally 408 826-9619

### Times Community

## Big turnout for the SJVRC charity race at Almaden Lake Park

A larger than anticipated turnout was appreciated by race officials for the San Jose Viet Running Club SJVRC 3rd Annual OneMile4OneChild Charity Race at Almaden Lake Park Sept. 22 from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.

There were more than 1000 runners around the US from Orange County, Washington, Oregon, New Jersey, Colorado, Flori-

da, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Texas, Maryland and from Saigon, Vietnam.

The race welcomed everyone from casual beginning runners to active elite runners with different fitness levels and running backgrounds.

"It's all for a good cause where people tackled their favorite distance 5K or 10K!," said  
See RACE, page 8

#### Top 5 Adult Male 5 k

##### OneMile4OneChild Charity Run

Name	Gender	Age	City	State	Gun Elapsed Time	Chip Elapsed Time	Age Place	Overall Pace
Juanjo Marron	M	35	SAN JOSE	CA	20:02	19:58	1	06:26
Alvin Dang	M	14			20:49	20:45	2	06:41
Minh Tran	M	14	PALO ALTO	CA	22:00	21:58	3	07:05
Allen Chiang	M	27	MOUNTAIN VIEW	CA	22:13	22:09	4	07:08
Brian Gunney	M	54	PLEASANTON	CA	22:35	22:34	5	07:16

#### Top 5 Adult Female 5 k

##### OneMile4OneChild Charity Run

Name	Gender	Age	City	State	Gun Elapsed Time	Chip Elapsed Time	Age Place	Overall Pace
Lan Aubuchon	F	39	SAN JOSE	CA	26:44	26:41	1	08:36
Jasmine Dam	F	15	SAN JOSE	CA	28:02	27:34	2	08:53
Brenda Nguyen	F	45	SAN JOSE	CA	28:02	27:35	3	08:53
Megan Luu	F	14	SAN JOSE	CA	28:37	28:34	4	09:13
Thuy-Tien Truong	F	65	SAN JOSE	CA	29:21	28:39	5	09:14

#### Top 5 Female age 1-12 5 k

##### OneMile4OneChild Charity Run

Name	Gender	Age	City	State	Gun Elapsed Time	Chip Elapsed Time	Age Place	Overall Pace
Thi Britto	F	12	SAN JOSE	CA	28:16	28:04	1	09:03
Amy Torres	F	11	SAN JOSE	CA	35:08	32:04	2	10:20
Madeline Cho	F	11	SARATOGA	CA	39:59	39:58	3	12:53
Naomi Chang	F	8	SAN JOSE	CA	42:33	42:31	4	13:43
Nanette Chang	F	5	SAN JOSE	CA	42:45	42:43	5	13:46

#### Top 5 Male age 1-12 5 k

##### OneMile4OneChild Charity Run

Name	Gender	Age	City	State	Gun Elapsed Time	Chip Elapsed Time	Age Place	Overall Pace
Justin Tieu	M	9	NEWARK	CA	26:02	25:54	1	08:21
Darren Do	M	10	CUPERTINO	CA	29:17	29:16	2	09:26
Nathan Tran	M	12	SAN JOSE	CA	30:46	30:45	3	09:55
Jason Quach	M	12	SAN JOSE	CA	32:44	32:28	4	10:28
Ethan Pham	M	11			36:53	32:42	5	10:33

#### Top 5 Female 10 k

##### OneMile4OneChild Charity Run

Name	Gender	Age	City	State	Gun Elapsed Time	Chip Elapsed Time	Age Place	Overall Pace
Kelly Pulizzi	F	27	SAN JOSE	CA	45:56	45:54	1	07:24
Helen Polkes	F	54	SUNNYVALE	CA	49:34	49:30	2	07:59
Karen Davila	F	33	SAN JOSE	CA	50:29	50:20	3	08:07
Jenny Vu	F	50	SAN JOSE	CA	51:39	50:57	4	08:13
Lisa Xuan Herbold	F	44	SANTA CLARA	CA	52:07	52:05	5	08:24

#### Top 5 Male 10 k

##### OneMile4OneChild Charity Run

Name	Gender	Age	City	State	Gun Elapsed Time	Chip Elapsed Time	Age Place	Overall Pace
Don Wang	M	37			34:19	34:18	1	05:31
Joseph Aubuchon	M	38	SAN JOSE	CA	39:45	39:44	2	06:24
Hoang-Nam Nguyen	M	53	SAN JOSE	CA	42:54	42:50	3	06:54
Todd Su	M	42	SAN JOSE	CA	01:01:10	44:46	4	07:13
Thai Nguyen	M	45			01:01:27	45:04	5	07:16

#### Top 1 Female age 1-12 10 k

##### OneMile4OneChild Charity Run

Name	Gender	Age	City	State	Gun Elapsed Time	Chip Elapsed Time	Age Place	Overall Pace
Tracy Nguyen	F	10			01:08:02	01:07:34	1	10:53

# Open House: Saturday and Sunday 1-4



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Times **Community**

**Race**

Continued from page 6

SJVRC founder Luong Le. "We appreciate the support of the community for our annual event which helps support orphanages in Vietnam."

SJVRC's primary goals are to encourage and foster physical health, expand community support, networking, and most importantly raising funds to support orphanages through the One Mile 4 One Child Charity fund. The running club provides foods of nutritional value to orphans, rebuilds schools and orphanages, buys school supplies, sponsors medical procedures to save orphans' lives and provides education.



The race attracted a plethora of young participants.

Awards were presented to the top three 5K and 10K male and female runners. All participants received a timing bib, tech T-shirt and finisher's medal designed by local artists.

Activities at the Lake included delicious post-race treats and live music hosted the DJ Kcteezy and Singer Victoria Thuy Vi McDowell. Milpitas Mayor Rich Tran and San Jose City Councilmember Johnny Khamis participated in the event.

"On behalf of SJVRC, we would like to say thank you to our sponsors, volunteers, members, friends, families, and supporters across the world for being part of SJVRC and partaking in the OneMile4OneChild 5k & 10k Charity Run," Le said.

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**DC Comics releases its only library card on the West Coast**

*San Jose Public Library and DC Comics partner to release a limited-edition library card*

The San Jose Public Library (SJPL) and DC Comics have partnered to introduce a limited edition DC Comics library card in celebration of Batman Day which is celebrated around the world every year on September 21.

SJPL is the only library system on the West Coast to offer this limited edition card which features an official DC Comics design of Batman reading a comic book.

This card will be made available to the public at all 25 San Jose library locations, and will only be available while supplies last. Everyone is invited to pick up a FREE card by becoming a member of their San José Public Library, or replacing their current card with the new design.

Partnering with organizations such as DC Comics allows the San José Public Library to further boost awareness, connect and engage with community members to ensure library programs, services and resources are being accessed by people of all ages and backgrounds. Currently, there are more than 550,000 San José library members, but with the help of partners, the library hopes to continue growing

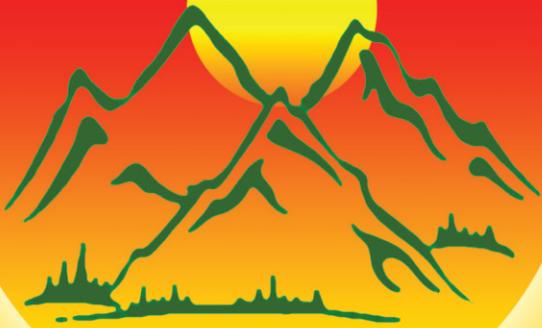


their number of memberships, and one day have every resident become an active user of their library.

For more information and to become a member of your San Jose Public Library, visit: <http://www.sjpl.org/DCComics>

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Monday, October 14, 7:00 PM

We invite you to join us for a *fun* evening of getting to know your *neighbors*, engaging with *speakers* about local issues and of course, eating a cookie or two!

Meetings begin with an update from our District 10 Councilmember Johnny Khamis.



Meeting location:  
WestGate Church – South Hills Campus  
6601 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120

**Our September speaker is**

**John Ristow** - Director, Department of Transportation

John Ristow has worked for San Jose's Department of Transportation for the past three years, becoming Director this past April. Prior to joining our City, he served as Director of Planning and Program Development at VTA for eight years.

The Director will talk with us about street conditions, paving projects, Measure T paving plans, and answer your transportation questions.

**Come to our monthly meeting to hear directly from** Department of Transportation **on current issues in Almaden and San Jose.**

Join us to learn more and get your questions answered!



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## AMY'S TIP OF THE WEEK



### Window Treatments For Sellers

When selling, showcasing windows with minimal window treatments is best. Buyers today want clear views and only simple adornments for privacy if needed.

Find more information at my blog: [amccafferty.com/blog](http://amccafferty.com/blog)

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### 1320 RIMROCK DRIVE, ALMADEN

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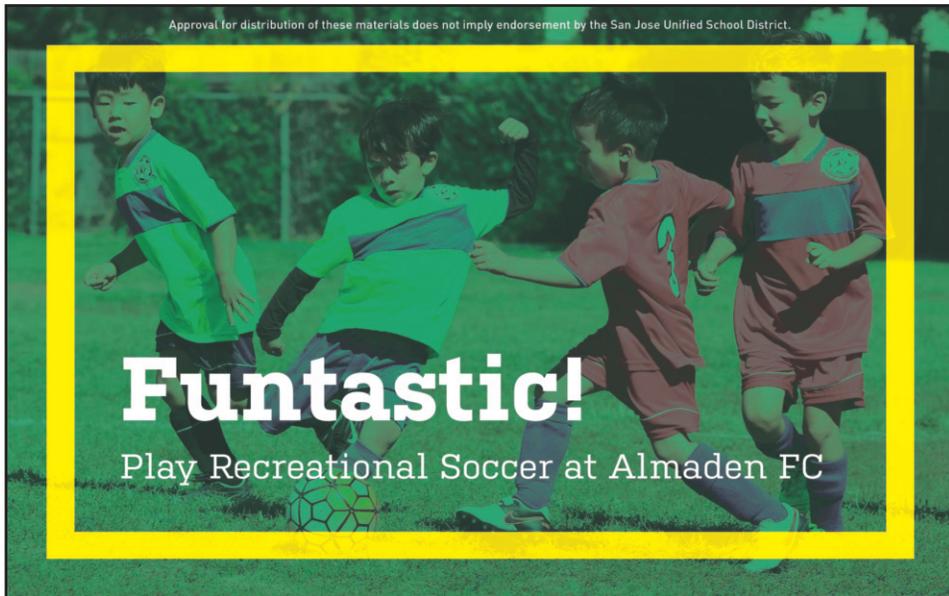
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Times **Community News**



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#### Fall 2019 Almaden FC Recreational Soccer

- 10 GAME SEASON:**
- August 19, 2019 - November 2, 2019
  - Jamboree is November 2, 2019
  - Unlimited friend requests

- FEES:**
- \$160 - U6 Boys and Girls
  - U6 program is Saturday mornings only
  - \$265 - U7 - U18 Boys and Girls



Almaden Valley Youth Soccer League is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization. Financial Aid is available.

## Pioneer High School opens wellness center to help students cope with stress, anxiety

The number of teens, ages 13 to 17, experiencing some form of anxiety disorder has been steadily rising with seven in ten teens today saying they see anxiety and depression as major problems among their peers, according to a 2018 Pew Research Survey.

Observing the rising needs in their own student population, students and staff at San Jose Unified School District's (SJUSD) Pioneer High School decided to take a proactive step toward providing students with mental health support by opening the district's first of its kind Student Wellness Center directly on campus.

The Pioneer Student Wellness Center opened on Wed. Aug. 14, 2019 and has seen a steady increase in usage.

According to the 2018 Pew Survey, academics and school performance topped the list of pressures faced by teens, with 61 percent of teens expressing pressure to produce good grades and excel in their studies.

Administrators at Pioneer High School noticed the increase in concerns from their students; concerns substantiated during a student led exercise held last year when students expressed a desire for additional support for mental health issues. To address this need, student leaders and several teachers applied for and received a grant from the LEA Medi-Cal reimbursement fund for \$49,000 to create a wellness center at the school. Over the summer of 2019, the two groups worked together to create a welcoming space for students to access should they feel anxious or depressed.

The new Student Wellness Center offers a quiet and calming place of refuge during the school day and provides the teens a chance to learn and practice coping strategies to overcome such feelings. A mental health professional is also available should students need additional help.

Staffed each day with two staff members and a counselor available as needed, the

school is hoping to provide support to students should they find themselves facing issues in such areas as stress and anxiety, bullying, family problems, depression, relationship issues, grief or start experiencing suicidal thoughts.

Students who feel the need to stop by the Student Wellness Center may do so by checking in any time between 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. They'll have a 20-25-minute time frame to explore a variety of coping strategies including: mindfulness exercises, meditative apps, self-affirmation cards, and boundary setting exercises. If the student does not feel comfortable returning to class, he or she may be referred to the on-site counselor for additional help.

Support groups addressing stress and anxiety are also available and presented in six-week intervals. In addition, the school is working to create talking groups that relate to trends seen in mental health issues; providing extra support while bringing together students who may share a common struggle.

"We feel very fortunate to provide our students with this new center and hope other schools will be able to soon follow," said Amy Hernandez, Wellness Coordinator for SJUSD Pioneer High School. "By reaching out and offering our teens this opportunity to actively identify and address what might be bothering them or affecting them in some negative way, we hope to proactively address their mental health needs. The Student Wellness Center will help students learn coping skills that can help them throughout their lives, change the stigma of mental health and let them know it's okay not to feel okay; that help is available and easily accessible. We want our students to learn to be their own best advocates; empowering them to be successful in anything they do by giving them the best strategies and the courage to ask for help if they need it. We want to be proactive rather than reactive."

## Symphony Silicon Valley opens 2019-20 Carlos Vieu

Symphony Silicon Valley presents Peacock Variations & Tchaikovsky, Saturday, Oct 5, 2019 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, Oct 6 at 2:30 p.m. at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street. San Jose.

The Symphony Silicon Valley season opens with a richly exotic, song-filled work by Zoltán Kodály. Based on a Hungarian folk tune, its variations set a festive mood. That mood shifts in the second half with Tchaikovsky's deeply emotional final symphony. The composer heard only its first, poorly received performance; but its second was a triumph, and this symphony remains one of his most celebrated and beloved.

**PROGRAM:**

Zoltán Kodály: Variations on a Hungarian Theme - Peacock Variations

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 6 - Pathétique

Conductor: **Carlos Vieu** (pictured)

Prices: \$50 - \$98; Box Office: 408.286.2600 or [www.symphonysiliconvalley.org](http://www.symphonysiliconvalley.org)

Or visit the Box Office between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 325 South First Street, San Jose, between San Carlos and San Salvador Streets just one-half block from the California Theatre. Easy, inexpensive parking is just one block away at San Jose City Garage on San Carlos Street with entrances on 2nd and 3rd Streets.

*Photo courtesy of Symphony Silicon Valley*





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### Blue Man Group

Speechless Tour

At the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts

Saturday, November 2, 2019

Price \$85.00

Blue Man Group, the world renowned bald trio embark on a fresh journey of discovery through this tour, the result of 27+ years spent observing humanity.

Speechless will feature new and original compositions, invented instruments and unexpected situations alongside iconic Blue Man Group moments based in joy, art, music, comedy, social commentary and profound absurdity.

Rating: Recommended for ages 5+

Run time: 1 hour, 45 minutes with no intermission

Strobe lights will be used at this performance.

Tickets on sale M, T, W 9:30-11:30 in the lobby of the Almaden Community Center

For questions call:  
Rich: 408 219-8641  
Sally: 408 826-9619

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Times **Community News**

The Almaden Senior Association members are a diverse group of enthusiastic, active, 50+ adults who enjoy new learning opportunities, new experiences, and new adventures.



Membership in the Almaden Senior Association offers discounts and opportunities to enjoy . . .

- exercise classes for all levels of ability;
- lunches and other social programs organized and run by members of the Association;
- book clubs, cooking, computer and photography classes;
- trips to local and not so local places of interest such as the Steinbeck Museum in Salinas, Whale Watching in Monterey, casino trips and more.

As a member you're encouraged to help plan these activities and suggest new ones to enjoy. The Senior Association Philanthropy Program set up a process to donate funds to other non-profit organizations that reflect our mission.

**Connected**

We enjoy meeting new people, making new connections and getting involved. All volunteer opportunities are based on your time and energy commitment. Fees for classes, trips and social events are kept low because of senior volunteer participation and membership strength.

Stop by the main desk at the Almaden Community Center and ask for an application today. Yearly dues of \$10 are returned to you by discounts to most of the programs you participate in.

Join us today, meet new people and get involved with classes and programs that will enhance your life and open new doors.

**For more information, go to [www.almadenseniors.org](http://www.almadenseniors.org)  
Contact via email: [alamadenseniors1@gmail.com](mailto:alamadenseniors1@gmail.com)**



**WallteHub releases report on 'Best & Worst States for Teachers'**

With World Teachers' Day around the corner and teaching among the lowest-paid professions that require a bachelor's degree, the personal-finance website WallteHub has released its report on 2019's Best & Worst States for Teachers.

In order to help educators find the best opportunities and teaching environments in the U.S., WallteHub analyzed the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 23 key metrics, ranging from teachers' income growth potential to pupil-teacher ratio to teacher safety.

**Teacher-Friendliness of California**  
(1=Best; 25=Avg.)

43rd - Avg. Starting Salary for Teachers (Adjusted for Cost of Living)

- 13th - Avg. Salary for Teachers (Adjusted for Cost of Living)
  - 38th - Quality of School System
  - 50th - Pupil-Teacher Ratio
  - 18th - Public-School Spending per Student
  - 37th - Teachers' Income Growth Potential
  - 9th - Projected Competition in Year 2026
  - 6th - 10-Year Change in Teacher Salaries
  - 16th - Teacher Safety
- For the full report, please visit: <http://walltehub.com/edu/best-and-worst-states-for-teachers/7159/>

**Study shows industries adding the most jobs in San Jose**

A new study on job growth across U.S. cities shows which industries are hiring the most in the 50 largest metropolitan areas of the country.

The study shows that IT (information technology) and services is the industry adding the most jobs in the city of San Jose, with 37,988 open jobs, followed by computer software (34,341 jobs) and hospital and health care (19,619 jobs).

The results were put together by the data team at Moneypenny, and is based on job opening numbers from LinkedIn.

You can view all of the findings: [www.moneypenny.com/us/resources/blog/industries-hiring-the-most-us](http://www.moneypenny.com/us/resources/blog/industries-hiring-the-most-us)



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**!!! BOOK SALE !!!**  
**Friends of the Almaden Library**

**Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
**9:00a.m. – 2:30p.m.**

@ Almaden Library (6445 Camden Avenue, San Jose)

Come explore a **huge** selection of gently used books and media. Most items are priced at \$2.00 or less!

All proceeds from this sale support various programs and new additions to the Almaden library collection that benefit the whole community.

**Don't forget to BYOB - Bring Your Own Bags!**  
We'll see you there! Thank you for supporting your local library! ☺

~ Friends of the Almaden Library  
[www.almadenfriends.com](http://www.almadenfriends.com)

# You are Invited to a local Housing Solutions Seminar

The purpose of this Home Solution Seminar is to educate you on the home buying and selling process from beginning to end. We will not ever try to sell you anything. It is our goal to educate, provide answers and solutions to real estate needs. With the housing market getting less affordable and complicated, it is our goal to assist you in seeking and finding the answers by gaining real estate knowledge and lending options.

**Topics Covered:** Getting a loan that works for you; Choosing a real estate professional; Rent vs. Buying; The selling process; The buying process; Getting pre-approval for a loan; Refinancing your current loan; Relocation Assistance; Tax Implications; Stock Options and Gifts of Money for Down Payment; 1031 Exchanges – and much more!

RSVP for the seminar by email: [camillihomes@serenogroup.com](mailto:camillihomes@serenogroup.com).

**When:** Wednesday,  
October 9th from 6pm to 7pm  
**Where:** Almaden Community  
Center, 6445 Camden Avenue,  
San Jose, CA 95120  
Upstairs Room 4

**Who will be presenting:**

- Carol Camilli Montgomery  
Local Realtor - Sereno Group
- Brandon Knapp, Lender -  
RPM Mortgage
- Ron Ricard - IPX1031  
Exchange Expert

## Off MLS Listing – Almaden Valley Single Story Home Open House: Sunday, October 6th from 2pm to 4pm



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DRE # 01210160



*Almaden Senior Association Presents a Thanksgiving Feast*

**Saturday, November 23, 2019**  
**1:00-3:00 pm**

*Enjoy a delicious holiday dinner catered by*  
**Golden Harvest Catering**

**Menu**  
*Turkey, stuffing, cranberry sauce, ham, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls, green salad, 3 bean salad, pumpkin pie and cider.*

*\$14.00 members, \$17.00 non-members.*  
*Cash or check only.*

*Ticket sales begin November 1st in the lobby of the*  
**Almaden Community Center**  
*M, W, F, 8:40 am-10:00 am*

*If you have questions call: 408-268-1133*

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Gabrielle Plante and Talia Musicer, from Troop 62280, lead a candle lighting ceremony.

## Girls Scout Service Unit 642 presents annual awards

For more than 100 years, Girl Scouts have recognized exceptional achievements of young women in scouting.

Girl Scout Service Unit 642 presented 56 girls with Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards and 10-year pins during their annual ceremony at Holy Spirit Church on Sept. 22.

More than 200 friends and family attended the event to show their support for Girl Scouts being honored for their dedication to earning the highest awards in their level of Girl Scouts in the Almaden/Branham area.

"The award projects are a culmination of many hours of hard work and dedication for the girls and their leaders and advisers who guide them," said Marilyn Regan, lifetime Girl Scout and former troop leader and Vice President of the local council.

The Bronze and Silver Awards can be earned for Girl Scout Juniors (grades 4 and 5) and Girl Scout Cadettes (grades 6-8), respectively, while the coveted Gold Award is the highest achievement within the Girl Scouts of the USA, earned by Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts (grades 9-12). Only 5% of eligible Girl Scouts successfully earn the Gold Award.

The day's highest honor was awarded to Megha Karthink, from Troop 60323, for her Gold Award project "Art from the Heart." Megha wrote and taught art lessons to the students at Doris Dillon School in Cambodia. She purchased and donated numerous art supplies and, for the long-term, provided lesson plans and videos of lessons.

"I wanted the students to know school curriculum beyond math and science," Megha said. She went on to add that "it was hard

being there every day, but the smiles on the students' faces made it worth it."

Eight Silver and two Bronze awards were presented on Sunday for various projects including providing books to low-income kindergarten classrooms, building a welcome center for Animal Assisted Happiness, assisting the Ronald McDonald House with sorting and cataloging their donated toys and books, and creating recycling programs. The ongoing theme heard from these young ladies is that they hope their work will inspire other Girl Scouts to follow in their footsteps.

"I got so much out of working on my projects and learned so much about myself including I could do anything," said Paityn Hider, from Troop 61360, who earned her Silver Award.

The twenty-four Girl Scouts who earned their 10-year pin had the opportunity to share some of their favorite memories and achievements. These young ladies continue the Girl Scout mission of building girls of courage, confidence and character.

"My favorite part of being a Girl Scout for 10 years is the amazing 'sisters' I've had all these adventures with," said Alexandra Sullivan.

Emphasizing the global nature of the girl scouting movement, the Service Unit also presented a 2019 Global Action Day Award to Sophie Tomei for her work partnering with the Doris Dillon Foundation to construct a home for a young girl and her family living in a hut without walls in rural Cambodia.

Developed in 2015 by leaders around the

*See SCOUTS, next page*

Times **Features**



A group photo of the 56 Girl Scouts who received awards on Sept. 22.

## Scouts

*Continued from previous page*  
world, the Girl Scout Global Action award focuses on the global goals of taking care of the environment, making sure people have enough to eat and improving people's health.

Girl Scouts of the USA is part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS for short), which includes 10 million girls in 146 countries. And all of those girls in all of those countries are working to make the world a better place.

### List of Awards

#### Bronze Awards

Troop 62277 **Campus Community Kindness Campaign:** Alex Murphy, Alexa Anderson, Aniela Stromfeld, Aria Holsen, Audrey Osborn, Avery Casey, Eva Wilson, Natalie Malak, and Raina Goyal.

Troop 62280 **Coding for All:** Gabrielle Plante and Talia Musicer.

#### Silver Awards

Troop 61224 **The Gift of Reading:** Bell Ereno, Jewels Torres, and Jacquelyn Michael

Troop 61224 **Thank You for Caring:** Emma Ernani, Shea Barger, Caroline Elmer, and Sofia

Carretero.

Troop 61224 **A Quiet Space:** Ally Burns, Avery Pazdel, and Katie Floering.

Troop 61360 **Art Smart:** Sophia King

Troop 61360 **The P.A.I.T.Y.N. Method:** Paityn Hider

Troop 60327 **Recycling Project at Holy Spirit:** Ida McGinley, Meher Virk, Rhea Virk, and Rebecca Jatnieks.

Troop 60372 (SU 602) **Supporting Shelter Pets:** Alexandra Toro and Anniku Muju.

Troop 60826 **Welcome Center for Animal Assisted Happiness:** Alexia Southern

#### Gold Award

Troop 60323 **Art from the Heart:** Megha Karthik

**2019 Global Action Day Award:** Sophie Tomei

#### 10-Year Pins

Kaylin VasANJI, Catherine Paulazzo, Yong Ooi, Courtney Yick, Ashley Muraco, Alexandra Sullivan, Megan Sarringhaus, Sophia King, Paityn Hider, Brook Bertolin, Amanda Keith, Katie Sanders, Brenna Gallagher, Elizabeth Larabee-Weigand, Alexia Southern, Sameena Thomas, Sarah Thompson, Taryn Kern, Miranda Beard, Kara Barrese, Sabrina Leto, Mira Karthik, Ashley Wilson, and Megha Karthik.



Megha Karthik, from Troop 60323, achieves the highest award in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award.



## Cache Creek Resort Casino

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Spend the day to try your luck, have lunch and leave the driving to us.

Arrive: 7:45 am

Depart: 8:00 am

Return: 7:00 pm approximately

Cost: \$35.00 which includes \$15.00 slot play or 20.00 table match play with players card. Spa available by appointment. 1 530-796-5860

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



For questions call:

Bea: 408 761-4002

Sally: 408 826-9619



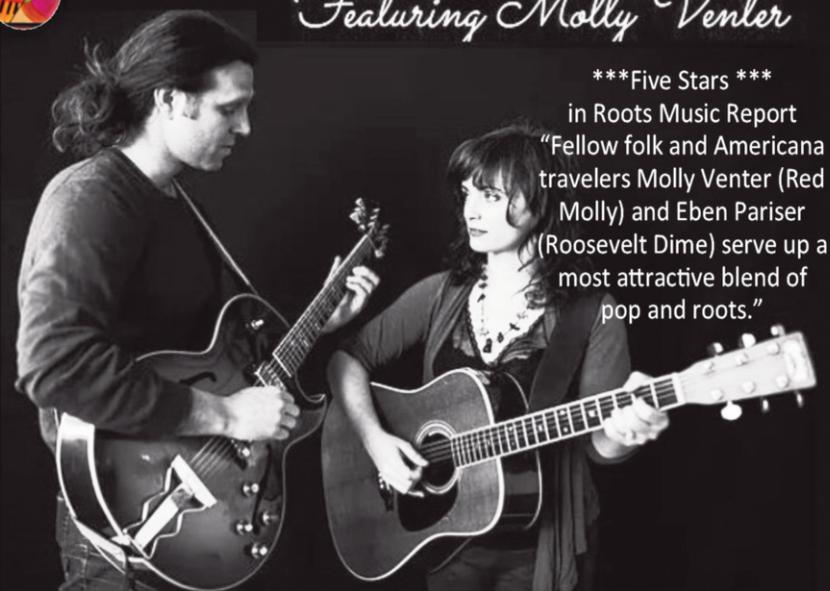
Foothill Community Concert Series  
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## GOODNIGHT MOONSHINE

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"Fellow folk and Americana travelers Molly Venter (Red Molly) and Eben Pariser (Roosevelt Dime) serve up a most attractive blend of pop and roots."



Saturday, October 4th at 7:00 pm

Foothill Community Presbyterian Church

5301 McKee Road, San Jose, CA

Admission: \$20.00 advance / \$22.50 door

Tickets are available at the door or online at [www.fcpcsanjose/fccs](http://www.fcpcsanjose/fccs)

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CHRYSLER CAPITAL 2019 BONUS CASH**	-\$500
JEEP CA 2019 BONUS CASH*	-\$500
JEEP RETAIL BONUS CASH	-\$1,000
CA 2019L BONUS CASH***	-\$500

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DODGE CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,050
DODGE CA 2019 BONUS CASH*	-\$1,750

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DODGE CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$250
DODGE CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$2,500
DODGE CA 2019 BONUS CASH*	-\$1,500

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NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

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DEALER DISCOUNT

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RAM COUPONS (4)	-\$1,000
2019 ON-THE-JOB \$500 COMM'L EQUIPMENT/UPFIT**	-\$500
FCA CONQUEST BONUS CASH***	-\$500
COMMERCIAL TRUCK/VAN SEASON B&E BONUS CASH	-\$1,000

NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP!

## \$14,000

2 AT THIS NET SAVINGS #593202, 593203

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY. \*\*A QUALIFIED COMMERCIAL CUSTOMER THAT IS CURRENTLY IN BUSINESS AND HAS BEEN IN BUSINESS FOR MORE THAN 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE VEHICLE PURCHASE IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE ON-THE-JOB INCENTIVE. \*\*\*MUST CURRENTLY OWN OR LEASE A NON-FCA LIGHT DUTY CARGO VAN, TURN-IN OR TRADE-IN NOT REQUIRED, CURRENT REGISTRATION REQUIRED. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS.

### 2019 RAM 3500 LIMITED MEGA 4X4

DEALER DISCOUNT

DEALER DISCOUNT	\$10,000
RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$1,000
RAM COUPONS (4)	-\$1,000
2019 ON-THE-JOB \$500 COMM'L EQUIPMENT/UPFIT**	-\$500
FCA CONQUEST BONUS CASH***	-\$500
COMMERCIAL TRUCK/VAN SEASON B&E BONUS CASH	-\$1,000

NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP!

## \$13,000

3 AT THIS NET SAVINGS #94753, 624277, 624279

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY. \*\*A QUALIFIED COMMERCIAL CUSTOMER THAT IS CURRENTLY IN BUSINESS AND HAS BEEN IN BUSINESS FOR MORE THAN 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE VEHICLE PURCHASE IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE ON-THE-JOB INCENTIVE. \*\*\*MUST CURRENTLY OWN OR LEASE A NON-FCA LIGHT DUTY CARGO VAN, TURN-IN OR TRADE-IN NOT REQUIRED, CURRENT REGISTRATION REQUIRED. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS.

### 2019 1500 BIG HORN/LONESTAR 4-DOOR 4X2

DEALER DISCOUNT

DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$7,250
RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,000
RAM CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$750
CA CHRYSLER CAPITAL 2019 BONUS CASH***	-\$1,000
RAM CA 2019 RETAIL BONUS CASH*	-\$500
TRUCK OWNER CONQUEST RETAIL BONUS CASH****	-\$1,000
RAM CA 2019 BONUS CASH*	-\$500

NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP!

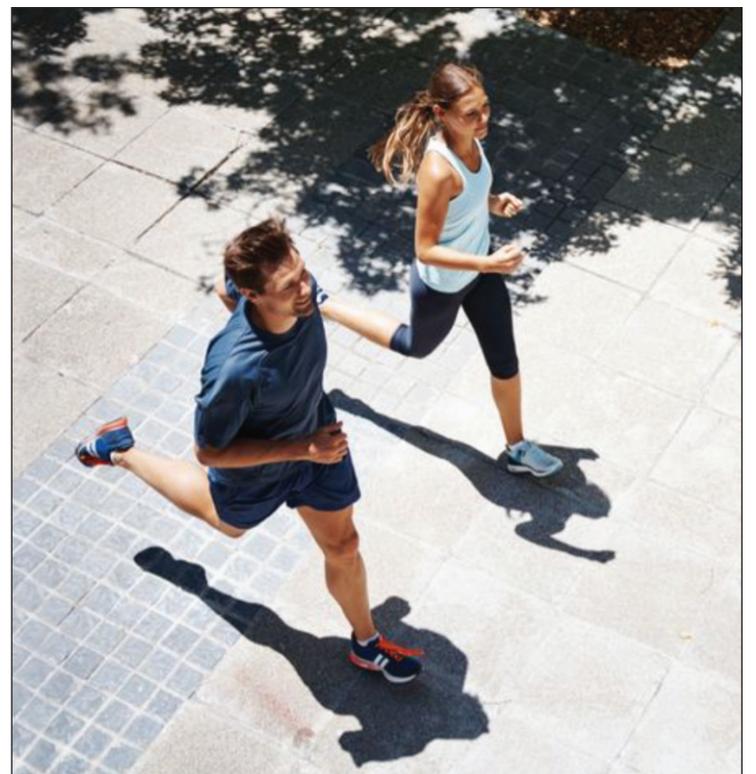
## \$14,000

5 AT THIS NET SAVINGS

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY. \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620. \*\*\*MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL. \*\*\*\*MUST CURRENTLY OWN OR LEASE A NON-FCA LIGHT DUTY CARGO VAN, TURN-IN OR TRADE-IN NOT REQUIRED, CURRENT REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

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## These are the 20 fittest cities in America

Men's Health crunched health stats, obesity data, and activity records to find the fittest cities in America - and San Jose is #6 on the list.

A city can't get "fit" without two kinds of citizens. It needs loads of people like you filling up local parks and speeding along freshly paved bike lanes and generally having a blast outside or in rec centers.

But it also needs elected officials actively responding to the needs of these constituents by setting health policy and creating new public spaces and making sure that pothole in the bike lane gets fixed pronto.

The 20 winners that follow have all figured out the right balance between their active citizens and their active leaders. But how exactly did Men's Health arrive at this list?

Menshealth.com analyzed 100 of America's most populous cities and gave each an activity rating based on fitness guidelines, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and, on the flip side, the percentage of the population reporting inactivity. This rating contributed 50 percent of the weighted score.

Then they looked at general health, with their team determining the percentage of the population reporting "good, very good, or excellent overall health," according to the CDC and various state and county health records. Self-reported data was also pulled about heart health and obesity. These three categories made up

the other 50 percent of the weighted score, with obesity level carrying 25 percent, general health 15 percent, and cardiac health the remaining 10 percent.

After calculating all that, they found a clear correlation between raw data and fitness culture (how much a city creates opportunities for fitness and encourages connection). A city's culture of activity can play a large role in persuading people to exercise with others, says Dan Giordano, D.P.T., C.S.C.S., cofounder of Bespoke Treatments, a physical-therapy clinic.

"These top cities engage people to be active—whether it's biking, hiking, or walking," says Michael Fredericson, M.D., of Stanford Medicine's Department of Orthopaedic Surgery. "Researchers now know that being in shape can involve more than working out in a gym."

- THE 20 FITTEST CITIES IN AMERICA**
1. SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
  2. MADISON, WISCONSIN
  3. SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
  4. DENVER, COLORADO
  5. SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
  6. SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA
  7. SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
  8. MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA
  9. BURLINGTON, VERMONT
  10. PORTLAND, MAINE
  11. COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
  12. BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT
  13. SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
  14. BOISE, IDAHO
  15. BILLINGS, MONTANA
  16. LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
  17. DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA
  18. HONOLULU, HAWAII
  19. RENO, NEVADA
  20. VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA
- To review the report, visit: [www.menshealth.com/fitness/a28945130/healthiest-fittest-cities-united-states](http://www.menshealth.com/fitness/a28945130/healthiest-fittest-cities-united-states)

Times Features

## Op Ed Different, not less

By Trisha Parthasarathi  
*Special to the Times*

Attaining social justice and equality for various groups of people is a prominent goal in modern day communities.

We see recurring campaigns and protests advocating for these topics. One group of people that is not in the limelight of the news is the neurodiverse community. Like many in our modern society, I was not aware of what neurodiversity was or how to interact with the individuals on its spectrum.

Neurodiversity is simply the concept that neurological differences, such as in people with dyslexia, autism, down syndrome, tourettes, and various other conditions, are to be respected as any other human variation. Up until a few years ago, I had never met or interacted with anyone that was neurologically different from me. Two years ago, a friend of mine introduced me to Pragnya, a local nonprofit, that assimilates autism into mainstream society. When I began volunteering at this organization, I realized that despite my personal efforts to be as welcoming and educated as possible, I was completely uninformed on the topic of interacting with neurodiverse individuals.

Volunteers at Pragnya are known as allies to their neurodiverse peers. As an ally, I help teach these neurodiverse individuals academic and social skills on a weekly basis. After several weeks of forming unique friendships, I had repeatedly heard that we allies were some of these kids' only friends. Knowing that I was an ally, advocate, a friend, and support system to these children meant so much to me.

As the allies received training from a behavioral specialist and psychologist, I

learned how to perceive and interpret the behavioral characteristics and needs of those with autism. Working with these children individually helped me understand how to interact with compassion, sensitivity, and respect. The majority of our communities lack a basic understanding of autism and other neurological disorders. Reading the news, I learned of instances where school administrators, peers, and first responders lacked the training to interact with understanding and sensitivity towards neurodiverse children. Many of these disturbing instances have resulted in severe injury or the death of children.

In an effort to create safer, more accepting communities, Pragnya is leading several student run projects that create new legislation proposals and advocacy measures to promote Autism awareness. We met with State Assemblyman Kansen Chu to discuss promoting neurodiversity training in local schools that would be available to students and first responders. The allies of Pragnya have also created several clubs at their respective high schools and recruited new allies to join the advocacy effort. Additionally, our organization's efforts were recognized in Congressman Ro Khanna's Town Hall Meeting.

Working at Pragnya has taught me the importance of respect and compassion. With a little patience and compassion from my end, I was able to form new relationships and be a part of a unique community at Pragnya. Being able to volunteer here has been an unparalleled experience where I learned to never look down on another human being, because different never means less. Working with kids who are different from me, helped me understand that being open minded, accepting, and compassionate can change one's outlook on life and is the first step in creating safer, more welcoming communities.



## San Jose Post Office hiring full time career carriers

For the first time since 2006, the San Jose Post Office is opening the rolls for full-time, career letter carrier positions. Effective now until December 16, people can go to the website [www.usps.com/careers](http://www.usps.com/careers) and search for Keywords: "CARRIER SAN JOSE."

New hires start the first day with excellent benefits, such as being covered by the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) where they can contribute to a Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) - similar to a 401 (k) plan, and get a 5% matching contribution

by the USPS; Employees immediately have the option to enroll into the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) as well as automatic coverage in the Federal employees Group Life Insurance (FEGLI).

If that is not enough, employees have the option for dental, vision, long-term care insurance and a flexible spending account to cover eligible out-of-pocket health care and dependent care (day care) expenses.

The pay could very well be the best part, with a range of \$39,615 to \$64,413 that includes 10 paid federal holidays and accrued vacation and sick leave.

Whether it's your first career or next career, the San Jose Post Office is a great place to work that provides job security, career advancement opportunities and generous benefits.

## WAITRESS

Saturday, December 21, 2019  
2:00 pm, \$85.00



### At the Center for the Performing Arts

Inspired by the beloved film *Waitress*. It tells the story of Jenna, an expert pie maker who dreams of a way out of her small town.



A baking contest and the town's new doctor may offer her a fresh start, but Jenna must summon the strength to rebuild her own life.

Don't miss this uplifting celebration of friendship, motherhood and the magic of a well-made pie.



Sign up M, T, W 9:30 am to 11:30 am in the lobby of Almaden Community Center.

For questions call: Rich: 408 219-8641 or Sally: 408 826-9619



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KinderCare offers unique, expertly designed early education programs for infants as young as 6 weeks to children up to age 5, which includes preschool and pre-kindergarten programs.

Times **Community**



Tick (Photo courtesy of the Bay Area Lyme Foundation)

## The invisible epidemic in the Bay Area

By **Raeena Lari**

*Special to the Times*

**M**ay was Lyme Awareness Month. Yet, for my family – like hundreds of thousands of families across the country – every waking minute is a constant painful reminder.

Bay Area Lyme Foundation, a national non-profit organization that focuses on funding medical research to “make Lyme disease easy to diagnose and simple to cure,” provides some astounding information: Lyme disease has been detected in 42 of 58 California counties, tick season is year-round in California, the greatest incidence of Lyme disease is among school age children, and a single tick bite can transmit many other diseases besides Lyme, commonly referred to as coinfections.

In recent years, media coverage of Lyme disease has expanded because of the growing number of people affected, but, sadly, funding for research lags significantly behind this growth. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there are over 400,000 new Lyme disease cases every year in the U.S., 232,570 new breast cancer cases,

and 50,000 new HIV cases in the U.S. annually. Yet in 2018, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded \$30 million to Lyme research, while awarding \$721 million to breast cancer research and \$3 billion to HIV research.

Everything about this disease is complicated, making patients feel like they live in an alternate, unreal, and surrealistic universe. It can take many different doctor visits over many years to obtain a diagnosis, mainly because not everyone gets the tell-tale “bull’s-eye” rash, or even recalls being bitten by a tick.

In a survey of more than 12,000 patients, [lymedisease.org](http://lymedisease.org), a national advocacy group, reported that over 51 percent of respondents waited more than three years for a diagnosis, and 72 percent were misdiagnosed before receiving the Lyme diagnosis.

Lyme can be caused by the bite of infected ticks, tiny arachnids that can be the size of a poppy seed and are almost impossible to detect. Some people get immediate acute symptoms, while others have a gradual slow deterioration in health. In addition, the myriad

*See LYME, next page*



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Times Community



Land use consultant **Erik Schoennauer**, who was hired by the district, said that it will take three to five years to design, approve, develop, construct, and occupy housing. Photo courtesy of Save Neighborhood Schools

## Housing

Continued from page 1

turnover of challenging roommates, along with the threat of homelessness. “It impacts my ability to bring my best to school each day,” he says.

Elementary school teacher April Avalos is passionate about making a difference in her students’ lives. However, she also has to consider her family’s needs. She and her husband want to start a family and buy a home. “But in San Jose,” she says, “it seems impossible. Rent continues to increase. Housing prices have skyrocketed.”

Some residents question whether real estate is right for the district and ask it to pay a fair wage or offer property tax credits instead, allowing teachers to live where they choose. “The school district entering the real estate market is ill conceived,” said Almaden resident Atul Moghe. “Why don’t you pay your teach-

ers? Why don’t you pay your support staff?” he asked the trustees. “If the school district pays enough, good teachers will come from far off. You’re not even paying them enough for two-bedroom apartments.”

“We spend 80 percent of our budget on employee salaries and benefits,” says Board Vice President Teresa Castellanos. “This isn’t because of our management: this is the way the state of California funds education. We can’t pay them more because there’s no more to pay them with.”

Castellanos says that teachers make incredible sacrifices to stay in the profession they love and the district has a responsibility to do something about the current housing crisis.

The Teacher Housing Act of 2016 enabled school districts to use state and local funds to construct employee housing. Additional legislation extended the property tax exemption for schools to affordable

See HOUSING, page 21

## Lyme

Continued from previous page

symptoms may often mimic many different diseases, earning Lyme the moniker “the Great Imitator.”

Anecdotal evidence suggests that doctors and others involved in helping patients recover are primarily those that have been personally impacted. U.S. Rep. Chris Smith of New Jersey introduced legislation in January (H.R. 220 - “National Tick-Borne Disease and Accountability Act”) to create a new national strategy on Lyme disease and is an outspoken supporter. His own family has apparently been affected.

Lyme is a disease that is unfathomable to people who are untouched by it. Mothers have been accused of Munchausen by Proxy syndrome because they are the ones who tend to advocate the most vociferously for their children. Families have been torn apart at a time when they most need to

be united, because of a lack of awareness and understanding caused in most part by an abysmal failure of the medical system.

So how do we correct this egregious medical failure and reverse a disease that has all the manifestations of becoming a pandemic? Please begin by visiting the website bayarealye.org for education, and by calling and/or writing your U.S. House Representative to support HR 220, which includes the creation of a national tick-borne disease strategy, related to prevention, diagnosis and treatment of tick-borne diseases.

So far, Zoe Lofgren is the only representative from California cosponsoring the Bill. It is important to remember that no one is immune.

Raena Lari is a former economist and has been a resident of San Jose for nearly 25 years. She has an MBA from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and a BA from Bryn Mawr College.



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\*per September 2019 Hyundai Sales Report.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2019 Hyundai Accent SE</b> AUTOMATIC, AIR</p> <p>MSRP .....\$17,195 Dealer Discount .....-\$3,207 Sale Price.....\$13,988 Hyundai Rebate .....-\$1,000</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Net Price After Discounts and Rebates <b>\$12,988</b> 2 at this Net Price #057180, 058046</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2020 Hyundai Elantra SE</b> AUTOMATIC, AIR</p> <p>MSRP .....\$20,015 Dealer Discount .....-\$4,277 Sale Price.....\$15,738 Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash.....-\$1,250 Hyundai Sales Event Cash .....-\$500</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Net Price After Discounts and Rebates <b>\$13,988</b> 6 at this Net Price</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2019 Hyundai Sonata SE</b> AUTOMATIC, AIR</p> <p>MSRP .....\$23,820 Dealer Discount .....-\$3,682 Sale Price.....\$20,138 Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash .....-\$2,750 Hyundai Valued Owner Coupon** .....-\$500 Hyundai Finance Bonus Cash* .....-\$1,000</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Net Price After Discounts and Rebates <b>\$15,888</b> 6 at this Net Price!</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*Must finance through Hyundai Motor Finance (HMF) subject to credit approval. **Customers must be the registered owner of an TMY - 18MY Sonata or Santa Fe Sport. Offer cannot be combined with Competitive Owner Coupon. Customers currently living with an immediate family member who is the registered owner of a Hyundai vehicle at the commencement of the program period. An immediate family member is defined as follows: Father/Mother, Spouse, Daughter/Son, Brother/Sister.</p> </div>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2019 Hyundai Kona SE</b> AUTOMATIC, AIR</p> <p>MSRP .....\$21,525 Dealer Discount .....-\$2,887 Sale Price.....\$18,638 Hyundai Valued Owner Coupon** .....-\$500 Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash.....-\$1,250</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Why Buy Rav-4?</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Net Price After Discounts and Rebates <b>\$16,888</b> 1 at this Net Price #378262</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">**Customers must be the registered owner of an TMY - 18MY Sonata or Santa Fe Sport. Offer cannot be combined with Competitive Owner Coupon. Customers currently living with an immediate family member who is the registered owner of a Hyundai vehicle at the commencement of the program period. An immediate family member is defined as follows: Father/Mother, Spouse, Daughter/Son, Brother/Sister.</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2019 Hyundai Tucson SE</b> AUTOMATIC, AIR</p> <p>MSRP .....\$24,775 Dealer Discount .....-\$3,748 Sale Price.....\$21,027 Hyundai Valued Owner Coupon* .....-\$500 Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash.....-\$2,750</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Net Price After Discounts and Rebates <b>\$17,777</b> 6 at this Net Price</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*Customers must be the registered owner of an TMY - 18MY Sonata or Santa Fe Sport. Offer cannot be combined with Competitive Owner Coupon. Customers currently living with an immediate family member who is the registered owner of a Hyundai vehicle at the commencement of the program period. An immediate family member is defined as follows: Father/Mother, Spouse, Daughter/Son, Brother/Sister.</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>THE NEW FIRST GENERATION</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>2020 Hyundai PALISADE IS HERE NOW!</b></p> </div>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2019 Hyundai Ioniq Hybrid Limited</b></p> <p>Dealer Discount Off MSRP.....-\$3,750 Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash.....-\$1,250</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Net Savings Off MSRP After Discounts and Rebates <b>\$5,000</b> 2 at this Net Savings! #137631, 138910</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2018 Hyundai Elantra GT Sport</b> AUTOMATIC, A/C</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>\$6,000</b> Dealer Discount Off MSRP! 4 at this Discount #075914, 086766, 076862, 075947</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2020 Hyundai Veloster N</b> “Performance Blue” Is Here!</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>#004225</p> </div>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2019 Hyundai Sonata Plug-In Hybrid Limited</b> AUTOMATIC, AIR</p> <p>Dealer Discount Off MSRP .....-\$3,750 Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash .....-\$2,000 Hyundai Sonata Plug-In Hybrid Bonus Cash .....-\$750 Hyundai Valued Owner Coupon* .....-\$500</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Net Savings Off MSRP After Discounts and Rebates <b>\$7,000</b> 3 at this Net Savings #089044, 092001, 092329</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*Customers must be the registered owner of an TMY - 18MY Sonata or Santa Fe Sport. Offer cannot be combined with Competitive Owner Coupon. Customers currently living with an immediate family member who is the registered owner of a Hyundai vehicle at the commencement of the program period. An immediate family member is defined as follows: Father/Mother, Spouse, Daughter/Son, Brother/Sister.</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2019 Hyundai Kona Iron Man Edition</b></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Dealer Discount Off MSRP .....-\$4,500 Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash .....-\$500</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Net Savings Off MSRP After Discounts and Rebates <b>\$5,000</b> 1 at this Net Savings #318786</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2020 Hyundai Veloster N</b> “Performance Blue” Is Here!</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>#004225</p> </div>

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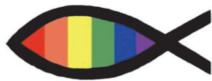
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- A Food Pantry serving anyone in need—open Tu/Th/Sa 10:00 AM to Noon.
- Lighted Window Productions featuring uplifting concerts, thought-provoking theater productions, informative lectures, and even an occasional karaoke night—all in a wholesome environment.
- 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 core values:

- Extravagant Joy
- Passionate Faith
- Loving Respect
- Deep Connectedness
- Intentional Growth
- Shared Laughter

Visit us at our web site at: [church@campbellucc.org](http://church@campbellucc.org) or better yet, visit us at our worship services on Sundays at 10:00 AM. Coffee, refreshments, and conversation always, right after service.

**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC**  
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 We are a welcoming church with a progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and Affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local LifeMoves (formerly InnVision) Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco Night Ministry, Second Harvest Food

Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End Poverty. Worship Sunday, 9:00 AM followed by fellowship and refreshments. 1st Sunday in Worship: Holy Communion  
 2nd Sunday in Worship: Folks Choir and Potluck Sunday.  
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 Wednesdays, 9:30 AM, Women's Study Group.

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 Worship 9:45am, Sunday School for all ages 11:15am  
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 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](mailto:info@eastvalleychurch.com)  
 We are associated with Converge Worldwide [www.convergeworldwide.org](http://www.convergeworldwide.org)

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 6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev.

Shelley Booth Denney, Rector Phone:408-268-0243 Web:[www.eca-sj.org](http://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.

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 3636 Gurdwara Ave. San Jose, CA 95148  
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 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!

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Times **Community News**

Kelly Snider addresses the attendees. Photos courtesy of Save Neighborhood Schools.

## Housing

*Continued from page 19*

rental housing for school employees on district land. Together, these laws allow school districts to build rental units and offer them to school employees at substantial discounts to help raise the standard of living for teachers and other school staff.

Land use consultants Kelly Snider and Erik Schoennauer, who were hired by the district, say that it will take three to five years to design, approve, develop, construct, and occupy housing, so sites that can be developed in the shortest amount of time are ideal. They also recommended the four sites based upon residents' access to shopping and transportation, and development plans for the area.

Lenzen, the most urban of the sites, affords the opportunity for denser housing and the largest number of units. Employee apartments would fit in with the urban village planned for the Alameda area. Shopping, restaurants and Diridon Station are nearby.

The River Glen site for employee housing, with its accessibility to Lincoln Ave. in Willow Glen is within walking distance of grocery stores, medical, and bus routes. "It's a great little neighborhood with some multi-family and mostly detached housing nearby," says Snider.

Offering upwards of eight acres, Pine Hill is the largest of the four sites. As it borders four public streets, architects can create a variety of employee housing. Although it isn't located near mass transit, it is close to an emerging urban village.

Centrally located, MetroED offers shopping and easy access to the light rail and 87 freeway, as well as ample acreage for housing or mixed-use development. In addition, an urban village is planned for this area. Most importantly, unlike the other locations, this site wouldn't require moving students, teachers, and staff during development.

### Development and Construction cost estimates

The board was asked to vote on whether to commit \$150,000 for each of the four sites for an in-depth analysis on employee housing opportunities. The information would include the work necessary to develop the site, the types of housing that could be built, cost and occupancy. The district plans to build 300 to 400 units in the hopes of housing 10 to 15 percent of its employees.

Payment for the \$600,000 total cost would come from the SJUSD Building Fund.

While she "whole-heartedly" supports the

need to assist school district employees with housing, Board President, Kimberly Meek is reluctant to have the school district commit an enormous expenditure to developing housing without financial support from city, county, state, or private funders. "I am worried that...in eight months we're still going to be on our own without anybody having contributed anything financially," she said. "I do feel concerned that we are so alone and it's so difficult to get things built...developers are having a hard time, people don't want [affordable] housing in their neighborhood. I worry that we're going to invest good money and not be able to move forward."

In the end, Meek voted against the proposal. "There's a potentially great award of being able to build employee housing for our people," she says. "I worry about students not having quality teachers and aides. But it's been a year and there's no financial support from anybody. I'm concerned were spending \$600,000 on a hope. If there was one partner... I'm not saying, 'No.' I'm saying, 'Not now.'"

Meek says she wants someone to publicly state that they'll stand with the board and work with them throughout the process. "A partnership would show the viability of the project and that it's more than just a dream," she says.

The other board members said they voted to approve the pre-development analysis in order to make informed decisions towards a housing solution for district employees. "Both teachers and staff come to us monthly with heart-breaking stories," they said. "We feel we have to have the information to take the next step."

Meek agrees that something needs to be done. "There are 18 new teachers at Leland High School this year and there are still 100 open roles within San Jose Unified," she said. "These roles range from an Assistant Principal position to student services workers. While many are filled with subs, it does show the challenge in both retention and recruiting."

She would like to see the community mobilize to lobby state officials to move more money to public education. "We use most of our budget, 82 percent, for staff salaries and benefits so there is not a lot of room to pay more and still take care of our 42 buildings, athletic fields, performing arts centers, 80+ buses, food service facilities, etc." she said. "Schools in high-cost areas like San Jose need more money to pay staff a living wage."

Please see: [go.sjUSD.org/housing](http://go.sjUSD.org/housing) with timeline of events, answers to commonly asked questions and links.

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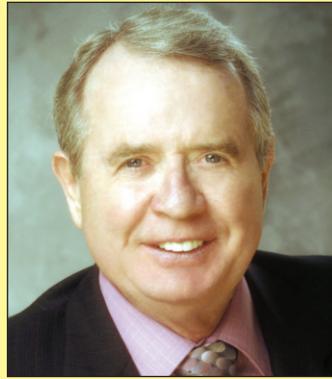


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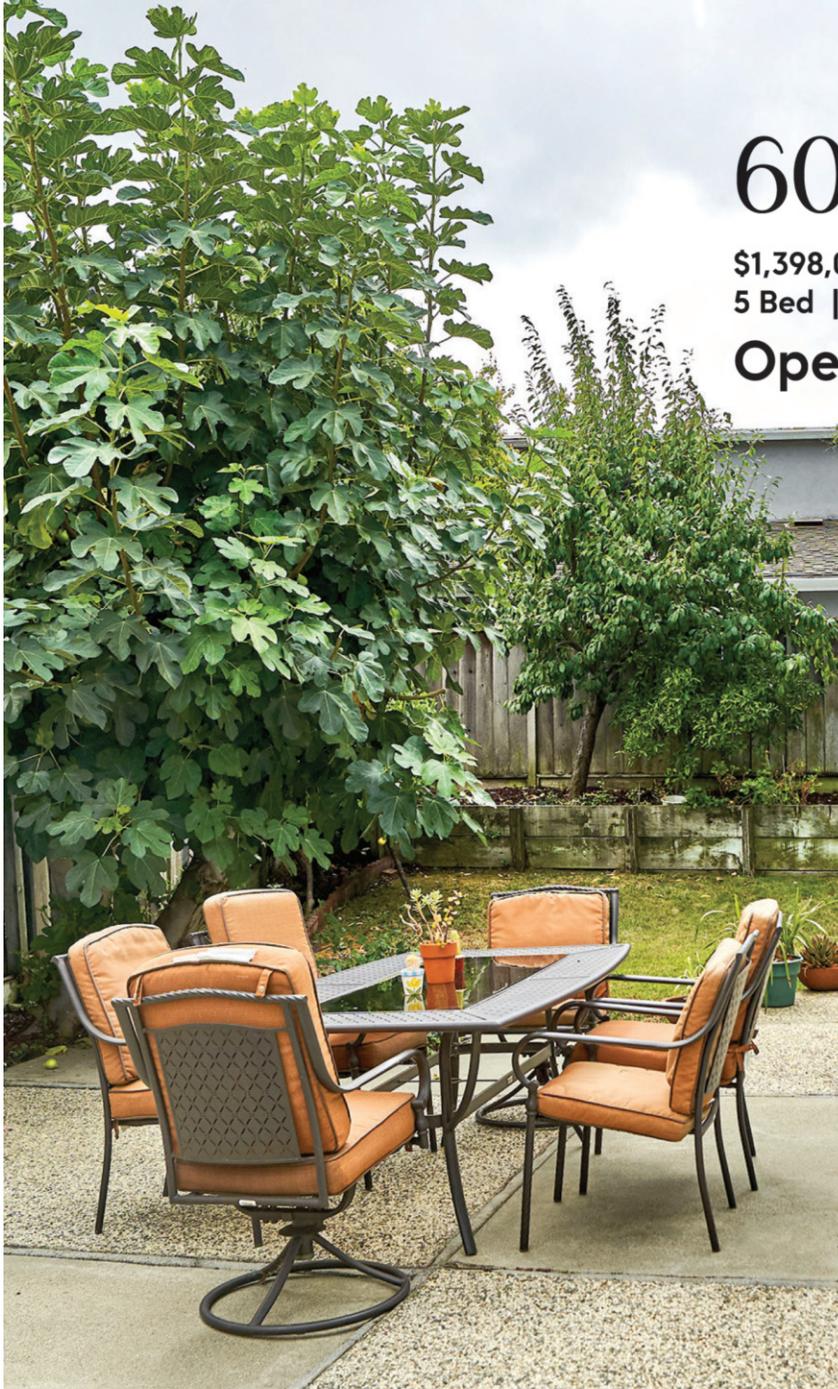
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