# {HAPPY THANKSCIVING} FROM THE STAFF OF THE ALMADEN TIMES

Residents rally to help those in need SEE PAGE 16



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# After heated debate, San Jose approves drafting new property tax measure

By Nadia Lopez

Article courtesy of San José Spotlight

an Jose lawmakers Tuesday, Nov. 19 voted 8-2 to
put a new property transfer tax applying to all
properties valued at \$2 million or more on the
March 2020 ballot, following a heated debate on tax
burdening residents and how city funds are used to solve
the region's housing crisis.

Councilmembers Johnny Khamis and Sergio Jimenez voted against putting the tax on the ballot — one of a handful of times the lawmakers agreed on a policy ini-

tiative — concerned that residents here are already being overtaxed.

Councilmember Dev Davis was absent for Tuesday's vote.

"We already have money coming in, we've already passed sev-



San Jose City Hall is pictured in this file photo. *Photo by Nadia Lopez* 

eral taxes and this will be the fifth tax that we're proposing in the last four years," said Khamis. "I really want to highlight the fact that it takes more than money to build housing. It actually takes people to want housing next to them and it takes land, and the cost of construction was one of the biggest problems that we have. This ballot measure would not solve those issues."

Jimenez said he can't support the money streaming directly into the city's general fund, which means the City Council could use it for whatever purpose they see fit in the future.

"Tax fatigue is real, the sentiments exist and it's something we need to grapple with," Jimenez said. "I don't necessarily feel comfortable about the money going into the general fund. I think that presents challenges that we can't dictate where that money is going to flow."

But several lawmakers said the tax is necessary to address the region's housing woes, considering the city is stretched thin on resources. While many lawmakers recognized that locals are feeling tax burdened, they couldn't sign onto voting against the measure. The city needs critical funding for affordable housing and homeless prevention in the midst of the region's ongoing housing crisis, some argued, despite residents' concerns.

"I believe in fiscal responsibility but it's hard to exercise when the members of this council are given very limited opportunities to exercise discretion, when we are, as a city, facing annually \$20 million in shortfalls

See PROPERTY TAX, page 8



Almaden volunteers were recognized by the AVCA for all they do for the community.

# Almaden Valley Community Association gives thanks for its volunteer groups

By Lorraine Gabbert

Senior Staff Writer

edicated volunteer groups of Almaden Valley were recognized at a recent Almaden Valley Community Association (AVCA)

meeting.

This year's honorees include: Almaden Valley Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Almaden Valley Public Safety Net, Beautify Almaden, Friends of Guadalupe Oak Grove Park, and Martin-Fontana Parks Association.

"Tonight is a giving thanks reception honoring and celebrating the hardworking volunteers we have in Almaden," said AVCA board member Michele Dexter. "They've all done amazing work."

After a presentation by each organization, they were awarded Certificates of Appreciation.

Residents were invited to visit the display tables to learn about local issues, socialize, and enjoy gourmet hors d'oeuvres

The Almaden Valley Community



Public Safety Net connects Almaden Valley residents when it mat-

Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) trained community-based organization. The CERT program

educates volunteers about disaster pre-

paredness such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and medical operations. CERT training is an intensive 20-hour course open to all ages. They also offer a one-hour preparedness class at people's homes and/or the community center in basic emergency safety protocol. Aiming to "do the most good for the most people in the event of a disaster," the Almaden Valley CERT team is trained and ready to help their community in times of need.

The **Almaden Valley Public Safety Net's** mission is to provide a 24/7 radio communication network for the purpose of public safety for Almaden Valley.

See AVCA, page 18



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Pat Herbig

"Dave is the best. He provided the expertise, insights and guidance we needed to buy our family's very first home in Almaden. Dave made it easy. Can't say enough great things about him."

The Sato/Tsai Family

# "Thank you!

Your whole team is terrific! Appreciate it!"

Elizabeth Phillips

"Thank you for all your help with the sale of my Mom's home. You did an amazing job."

Lauri Larson

"We're so happy with the friendly and professional way you've handled the sale of our house. We've often been asked, "How's your agent?" and we'd like you to know that we've highly recommended you." Paul & Karen Chiswell

"Thank you for making this whole process of selling my home so smooth. You two

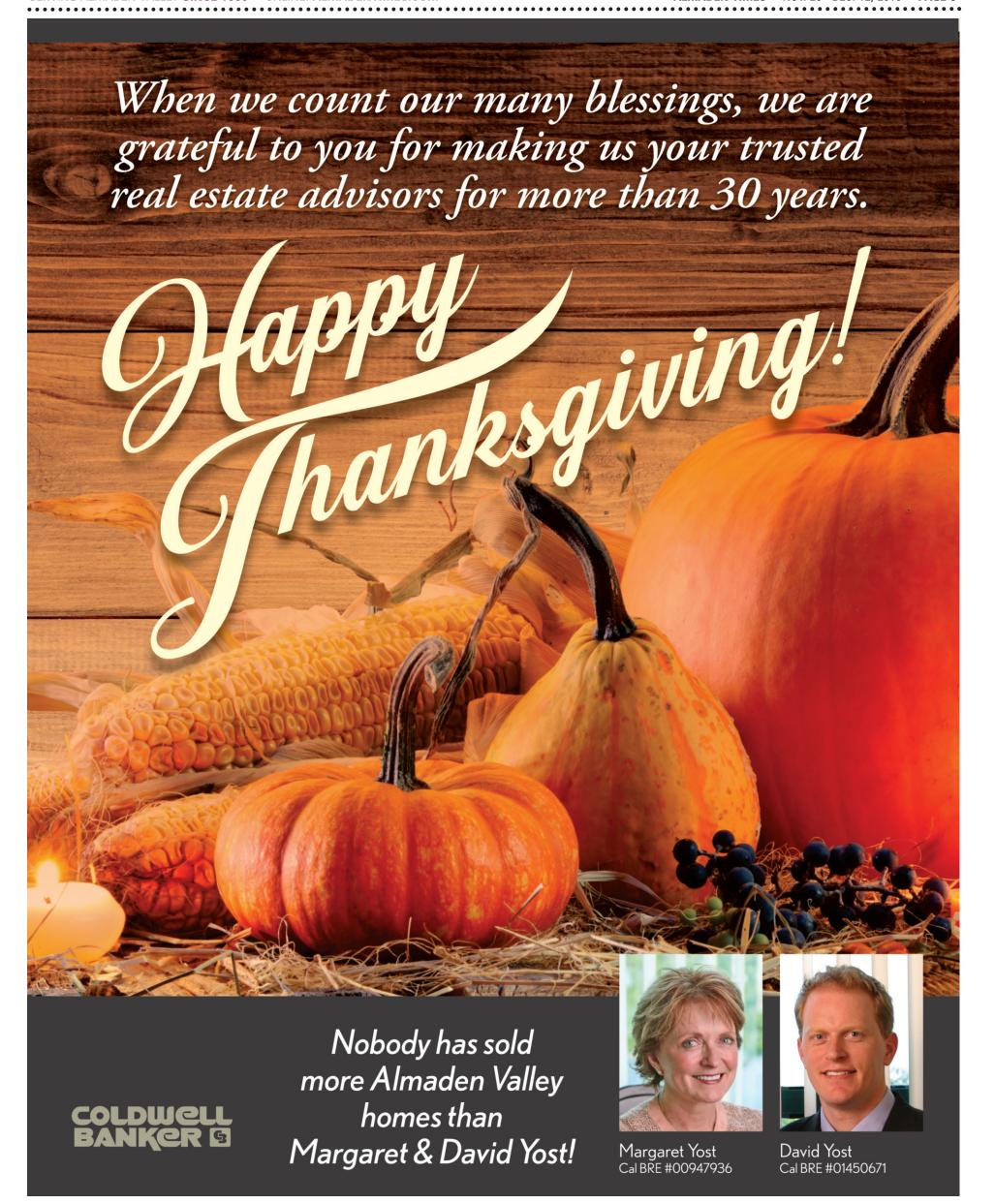
Dorothy Swan

make a great team."



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Scholarship recipient **Niki Kazemi** with PremierOne Credit Union CEO **Andrea Brewer**.

# PremierOne Credit Union awards scholarships

PremierOne Credit Union recently awarded scholarships to university-bound members.

Niki Kazemi of San Jose accepted the award during a scholarship awards ceremony held at the credit union's corporate headquarters in San Jose

Kazemi was awarded the Richard Busse Memorial Scholarship based on her community involvement and is now attending the University of California at Irvine.

For the past three years, PremierOne Credit Union has awarded scholarships in support of student members' future educational endeavors.

"We support our community through this sponsorship, and give back to our young members who are the key to our future," said PremierOne CU President and CEO Andrea Brewer.



# Almaden **Times**

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# Valley Currents

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

# GoFundMe campaign raises money to replace stolen Christmas display

# Family with terminally ill son overjoyed by support after theft

GoFundMe campaign has raised more nearly \$4,000 for a San Jose family that has a yearly tradition of building a magnificent Christmas light display to help brighten the life of their terminally ill son, Christopher.

Shelly Jimenez and her family were devastated on Nov. 18 when large Christmas decorations were stolen from their front yard. Following the incident, the family considered ending their tradition of creating the display because of what had happened.

Every year Shelly decorated her home and yard for Christmas, making sure there are plenty of lights and displays including shimmering white winter horses to bring joy to her disabled 24-year-old son.

Shelly wanted to make a big splash this year by building "Noah's Ark Winter Wonderland," because she didn't know if this season could be his last. Christopher has a terminal lung disease, is mostly blind, and requires nearly round-the-clock assistance from machines for breathing and eating.

When she opened her blinds to see most of her decorations had been stolen, Shelly cried. Her neighbors were also upset, and after hearing what had happened they launched the GoFundMe campaign.

The campaign was so successful, raising nearly \$4000, that the GoFundMe campaign was disabled by the organizer. The family says that they are using the money from the GoFundMe campaign to help buy lights and displays for her neighbors, so together they can light up the entire block.

A team from San Jose's Christmas in the Park coordinated their efforts with Home Depot in Blossom Hill, and together they received an outpouring of donated decorations and brought them back to the Jimenez' family yard.

In another act of kindness, the professional light installers from "Christmas in the Park" came to Shelly's home and added intricate, colorful lighting.

"Words cannot describe how grateful my husband and I are for the outpouring of love and support," said Shelly. "This entire experience is something that has truly changed our lives, for the better.

To view the GoFundMe please visit: gf.me/v/c/4y5/lights-for-chris



A GoFundMe campaign has raised more nearly \$4,000 for a San Jose family that has a yearly tradition of building a magnificent Christmas light display to help brighten the life of their terminally ill son, **Christopher.** 



## 32nd year of 'The World of Italian Opera': Dec. 6

On Friday, December 6 the Italian Heritage Foundation presents the 32nd anniversary of World of Italian Opera with a holiday buffet, and, of course, opera.

Since 1987, the San Jose-based Italian American Heritage Foundation has been hosting the annual event aimed at introducing the community to the power, beauty and history of Italian opera.

The World of Italian Opera celebration has long benefitted from its partnership with San Jose Opera—as the company's world-class performers give audiences a primer on Italian operas. A no-host bar opens at 6 p.m.; Dinner: 6:45 p.m. – 8 p.m.; Opera San Jose entertainment will be presented from 8:15 p.m. – 9:45 p.m. with intermission.

Tickets are available at www. iahfsj.org; or pay by phone at (408) 293-7122.

The Italian American Heritage Foundation is located at: 425 N. Fourth St, San Jose, CA 95112.

# **LET THE ALMADEN TIMES HEAR FROM YOU!**

Send your letters to editorial@timesmediainc.com or mail to: Almaden Times, Silicon Valley Business Center, 1900 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95124



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# VTA's All New Service Valley Transportation



Starting December 28, 2019

### VTA Light Rail Changes

Light Rail will now have three distinct lines, which will be color-coded, and the new Orange Line will connect Downtown Mountain View to the Milpitas Transit Center. During weekday peak hours, service will be every 15 minutes and weekend peak hours will be every 20 minutes.

#### Orange Line – Alum Rock to Mountain View

- Transfer at Baypointe for the Blue Line
- Transfer at Champion, Lick Mill, Great America or Old Ironsides for the Green Line

#### Blue Line - Santa Teresa to Baypointe

#### Green Line - Winchester to Old Ironsides

#### Other Changes to Light Rail

- The light rail segment from Ohlone/Chynoweth to Oakridge will be discontinued and will now be served by Route 64a.
- I-880/Milpitas station renamed to Alder Station
- Montague Station renamed to Milpitas Station
- New Route 60 will serve SJC, Valley Fair/Santana Row, Downtown Campbell and Milpitas Transit Center.
- Only passengers boarding from SJC will board Route 60 for free.

### The Frequent Bus Network

will operate every 15 minutes or better on weekdays between 6:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and every 15 to 30 minutes on weekends.

Rapid 500 San Jose Diridon Station to Downtown San Jose

Rapid 522 Palo Alto Transit Center to Eastridge Transit Center

Rapid 523 Lockheed Martin Transit Ctr to Berryessa Transit Ctr

Route 22 Palo Alto Transit Center to Eastridge Transit Center

Route 23 De Anza College to Alum Rock Transit Center

Route 25 De Anza College to Alum Rock Transit Center

Route 26 West Valley College to Eastridge Transit Center

Route 57 Old Ironsides Station to West Valley College

Route 60 Milpitas Transit Center to Winchester Transit Center

Route 61 Good Samaritan Hospital to Sierra & Piedmont (via

King/Mabury)

Route 64 Almaden & Crown to McKee & White

Route 66 Kaiser San Jose to Milpitas/Dixon Landing Road

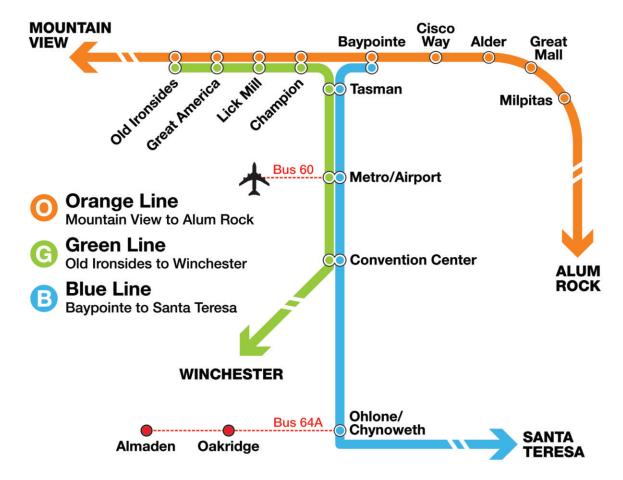
Route 68 Gilroy Transit Center to San Jose Diridon Station

Route 70 Eastridge Transit Center to Milpitas Transit Center

Route 72 Senter & Monterey to Downtown San Jose

Route 73 Monterey & Branham to Downtown San Jose

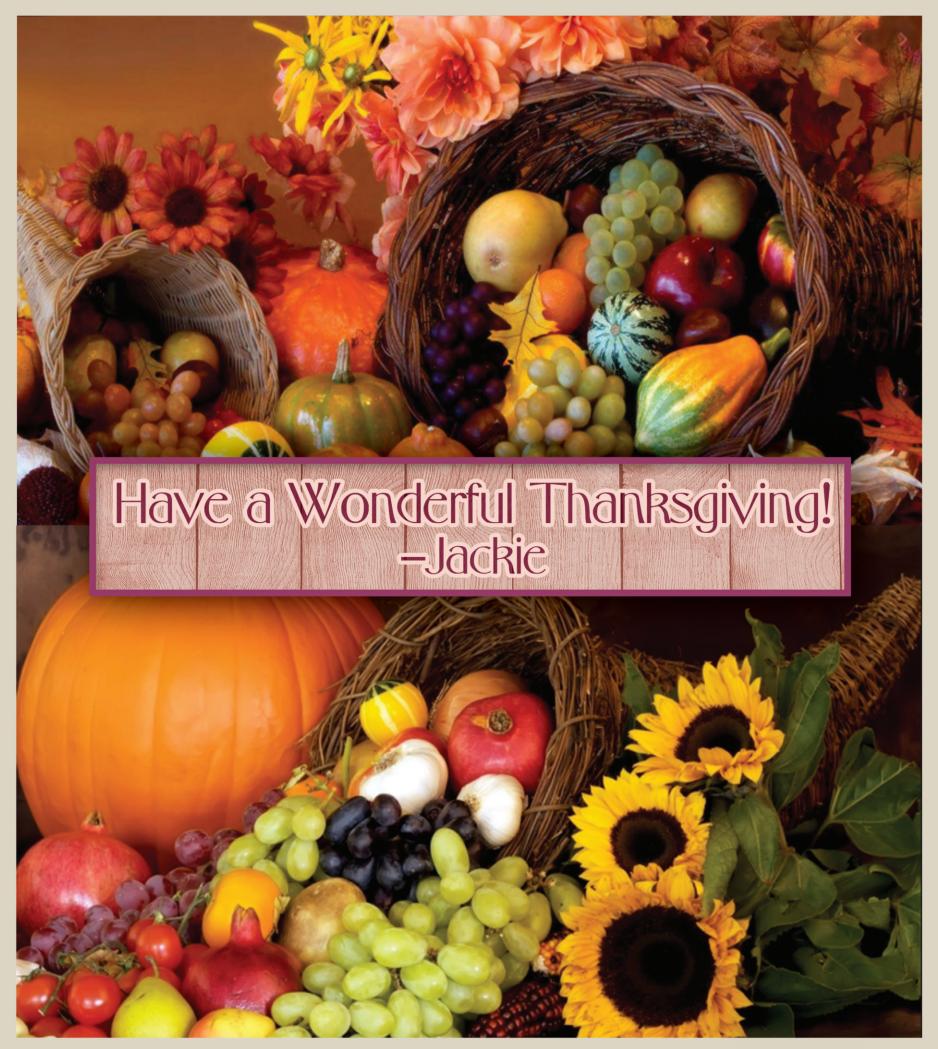
Route 77 Eastridge Transit Center to Milpitas Transit Center



## **Improved Bus Routes**

- Route 20 Sunnyvale Caltrain Station to Milpitas Transit Center; 15-minute frequency during commute periods and 30-minute frequency in midday.
- Route 21 Stanford Shopping Center to Santa Clara Caltrain station; a merger of Routes 32 and 35 into a single route.
- Route 51 Moffett Field to West Valley College; hourly service on weekdays.
- Route 56 Lockheed Martin Transit Center to Tamien Station; 30-minute service on weekdays and weekends.
- Route 59 Old Ironsides Station to Valley Fair Transit Center; 30-minute frequency on weekdays and hourly on week-

Bus Routes that have been discontinued or changed: Bus Routes that have been discontinued or changed: Routes 17, 34, 45, 58, 88; Limited Routes 304, 321, 328 and 330; Express Bus 120, 140, and 180 will be discontinued. Express Bus 181 will continue to operate until BART service opens. Contact VTA for other options.



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# HATHAWAY FINANCIAL

The US stock market is up 25% this year (thru Nov 25)

Question: How long does it take to double your money with

annual returns of 25%?

Answer: 3 years

We can't expect high returns like we've seen this year to persist. But on average and over time the US Stock market has returned 10% per year, a rate that doubles your investment every 7 yrs.

#### Happy Holidays! Be safe!

Don't forget to visit important finance issues prior to year end: tax returns, charitable donations, IRA funding, 529s, RMD's, employer provided 401k and healthcare, etc..

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#### Times Local News

## **Property tax**

Continued from page 1

and really trying to get things done with what little we can," said Councilmember Lan Diep.

But Khamis fired back that the city should look for other revenue streams, such as using money donated by big tech companies like Facebook and Google for housing projects. Diep and Mayor Sam Liccardo reminded him the city has been critically underfunded for years and that money coming from other sources was not just reserved for the city to

"Commitments made by Google, Facebook, Apple and others while helpful are by no means confined to the city. We have no control over them," the mayor said.

The lawmakers also approved including strong accountability and transparency measures in the ballot draft, requiring a 60-day notice and a two-thirds council vote before lawmakers shift funding, and creating a citizens oversight committee. In addition, city officials will reach out to labor representatives to develop a strong workforce standard policy for workers who build housing under projects funded by the tax revenue.

After several of the lawmakers revealed different spending plans on how to divvy up the funds for affordable housing projects and homeless services, Liccardo reminded his colleagues at the meeting Tuesday that future discussions can determine how the revenue can be spent.

Unlike a general obligation bond, which needs approval from two-thirds of voters, the potential tax only needs a simple majority to pass. Earlier this month, city officials funded a poll by FM3 Research that found more than 60 percent of San Jose voters support the potential tax.

The survey, which polled 806 registered voters likely to vote in the March 2020 primary, found a majority of San Jose voters support the tax to generate funds for affordable housing and homeless services.

But many concerned residents spoke out against the potential tax at the meeting and submitted angry letters to the council.

"We are adamantly opposed to any new taxes put on those desiring to buy or sell their homes or businesses in San Jose," wrote long-time resident Barbara MacNeil in a letter to the City Council. "Longtime residents, and those who own businesses, are fleeing San Jose and California precisely because of high taxes. We will remember each and every one of you who vote for this added tax, because you obviously don't understand or care about the negative effects it will create for San Jose

businesses or residents, whether they are buyers or sellers."

Still, many community organizations and nonprofit leaders expressed support for more housing projects, especially those that prioritize the city's most vulnerable residents subject to displacement and homelessness.

Councilmember Sylvia Arenas agreed, saying the majority of residents will not have to pay the tax, as city officials estimate that only 5 percent of all single-family homes, condominiums and townhomes in San Jose will be affected.

"It doesn't just include residential. It's not going to impact the majority of our folks out there, and it's going to bring in significant funds," Arenas said.

Councilmember Pam Foley also asked city officials to study how the tax will affect residents when the median home price hits \$2 million, and asked them to return to the council with an analysis on a potential exemption for those homes.

City officials will return to the council by Dec. 3 with a ballot language draft, limited to 75 words

Contact Nadia Lopez at nadia@sanjos-espotlight.com or follow @n\_llopez on Twitter.

### Red Cross makes it easy and rewarding to save lives this holiday season

The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to be the lifeline for patients in need this holiday season by making an appointment to give blood or platelets.

While helping to save lives is likely motivation enough, those who come out to give Nov. 18-Dec. 18 will also receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email, courtesy of Suburban Propane.

- It's quick and easy to find a convenient blood drive. Search for drives by ZIP code and make an appointment to donate using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, online at RedCross-Blood.org, by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or by enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.
- Donors can save time by completing a RapidPass®. The entire donation process only takes about an hour, but donors can save time with RapidPass. Pre-donation reading and health history questions can be completed online to save about 15 minutes.

Editor's note: Donors receive a mini-health screening to help determine eligibility that includes blood pressure, pulse and hemoglobin readings. First-time donors will also find out their blood type soon after donating.

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## AMY'S TIP OF THE WEEK

It's time to light up the holiday season! There are many local holiday events and

family filled with holiday spirit.

My local holiday events guide can help you start planning your calendar. Download it from my blog for easy reference.

Find more information at my blog:

amccafferty.com/blog



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Foothill Community Concert Series

COMING NEXT

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#### WOLFGANG ROETHIG Piano Recital

Saturday, December 7th, 2019 at 7:00 pm Admission: \$10.00 advance / \$15.00 door

Twice finalist in the Paris "Concours de Piano des Grandes Ecoles", Wolfgang now lives in San Jose, CA, and balances family life and work in the high tech industry with his passion for music.

For more information or tickets are visit us online at www.fcpcsanjose/fccs

#### **Times Community News**



# De Keyser competes at SJJIF World Championship

**Camille De Keyser** (Ceejay, pictured above) who trains at Ralph Gracie Jiu Jitsu near Almaden competed at the prestigious SJJIF World Championship on Nov. 9-10 in Long Beach, CA.

Ceejay competed in Gi and Nogi but fell short in winning the finals to the reigning Champ in Gi, but she defeated the previous Champ in Nogi. Ceejay won silver in Gi and she's a world champ in Nogi in her respective weight class. She has won titles at state and local levels and this is her first World Champion title.

# 8 Almaden organizations to volunteer your time

By Kim Nelson

Special to the Times

ost non-profit organizations rely on volunteers to keep their programs running smoothly. Volunteers serve our community to make it a better place for all.

Have you thought about helping our local community of Almaden and greater San Jose but didn't know where to start? Are you new to the neighborhood and want to meet people and make friends while making an impact? Are you looking for an organization that resonates with your passions?

There are a number or organizations right in our backyard that need your help!

The local service clubs of Almaden have joined forces to create awareness of our organizations, recruit new members, share upcoming events and combine forces to host joint events such as local dumpster days, medical supply drives and beautification projects.

Here is a list of 8 local Almaden Service Clubs worthy of your time. Please consider becoming a member!

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love" – Martin Luther King, Ir.

Check out these local non-profit organizations in Almaden. All of these groups are amazing and provide so much for our local community. I'm sure there is one to match your goals, personality and schedule. Please consider joining a local service club today!

- **1. Almaden Super Lion's Club** Founded in 1956 the club provides services for those in need, especially children and the visually impaired, providing free eye exams and eyeglasses, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for families (including gifts for the children), backpacks filled with school supplies, Diabetes Camp for children, and much more.
- 2. Almaden Valley Community Emergency Response Team CERT offers a nationwide approach to volunteer training that professional responders can rely on during disaster situations that may impact Almaden Valley's residents. CERT is 'neighbors helping neighbors.'
- 3. Almaden Valley Women's Club Organized in 1965, the club is committed to serving the needs of the Almaden Valley community through funds raised at the annual Almaden Valley Art & Wine Festival. All festival proceeds are donated back to the community as scholarships and community grants.
- **4. Assistance League of San Jose** Chartered in 1988, the Assistance League of San Jose is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that puts caring and commitment into action through philanthropic programs in the San Jose community.
- **5. Beautiful Day** Since its inception in 2004, Beautiful Day is a group of government agencies, community organizations and people from all walks of life serving others by addressing all sorts of needs across Santa Clara County. They seek to invest in communities with simple, direct and unyielding kindness. Each project is *See VOLUNTEER*, page 12

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San Jose, 95118 3 Bed 2 Bath 1,406 sqft \$1,300,000



3 Bed 2.5 Bath 1,837 sqft \$969,000



Morgan Hill, 95037 5 Bed 3 Bath 2,785 sqft \$1,150,000



\$1,199,000







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STEVE DINA

BRIAN LAURA HANNAH MARIA

#### **Times Community News**

### Volunteer

Continued from page 10 an act of no-strings-attached service for those who are otherwise unable to help themselves.

6. Boys team charity - A volunteer service organization dedicated to developing an altruistic spirit in young men through active participation of parents and sons (7th - 12th grades) in philanthropic projects in their communities.

7. Kiwanis Club of Almaden Valley - The club is about making a difference one child and one community at a time. Serving the Almaden Community since 1988, the club participates in projects such as: Turn-around scholarships, Special Games (for highly disabled kids), Leland and Pioneer High Schools' Leadership clubs, Teen Challenge, Breakfast w/Santa, Parma Park maintenance and several others throughout the year that involve fundraising, community service, and assisting children locally and worldwide. See our website

8. The Rotary Club of Almaden Valley - Chartered in 1969, includes men and women representing a wide cross-section of local businesses and professions. The club meets to plan service projects, enjoy fellowship, discuss community issues and host interesting and informative programs dealing with topics of local and global impor-

Thank you for considering one of these organizations. Together we serve.

# ing events:

#### 2019

fast with Santa, 9am - 12pm, Almaden Community Center

Sponsor: Kiwanis Club of Almaden Valley

gerbread House Decoration, 6pm -7:30pm, Almaden Community Cen-

Help the Kiwanis with one of their fundraisers. Buy a ticket to decorate your own house (supplies come with the ticket).

Sponsor: Kiwanis Club of Almaden Valley

# Here is a list of a few upcom-

• Saturday, December 14 - Break-

Buy tickets to enjoy a pancake breakfast, watch performances, participate in arts & crafts and sit on Santa's lap. All money raised goes towards kids in our communitv.

• Tuesday, December 17 - Gin-

#### 2020

• September 2020 - 44th Annual Almaden Art & Wine Festival, 10am - 6pm, Almaden Lake Park

Every year the Almaden Valley Women's Club presents its signature fundraising event - the Almaden Valley Art & Wine Festival. All proceeds from the festival are donated to non-profit organizations and schools in our community and also support meritbased scholarships to deserving

Almaden Valley Sponsor: Women's Club

## **Holiday shipping** deadlines for '19

What are the last days to send packages for the holidays?

USPS® Domestic Shipping Deadlines

When sending thoughtful holiday cards or gifts to clients, it makes more of an impact when it is sent out on time! Make the right impression this season and keep your costs low by using one of the USPS serv-

Note: If you are shipping on a budget, check out using Priority Mail® flat rate boxes.

- Retail Ground: Dec. 14
- First-Class Mail: Dec. 20
- Priority Mail®: Dec. 21
- Priority Mail Express: Dec. 23 FedEx® Shipping Deadlines

FedEx waived the holiday surcharge this year for residential deliveries, which will help cut down on shipping costs. You can manage your costs even more by shipping  $early \, and \, using \, FedEx \, Smart \, Post @$ or FedEx Ground® for your deliv-

Note: FedEx SmartPost is a costefficient way to deliver light-weight packages domestically because it uses the USPS delivery network.

- FedEx Smart Post®: Dec. 9
- FedEx Ground: Dec. 16
- FedEx Home Delivery®: Dec.
  - FedEx 2Day: Dec. 20
  - FedEx Same Day®: Dec. 25 **UPS®** Shipping Deadlines

Like FedEx, UPS also waived their holiday shipping surcharges on residential deliveries, which can help lower your shipping costs. The UPS has compiled some tips for shippers this holiday season that should make the holidays less stressful for you and your recipients!

Note: UPS has UPS Access Points® at certain locations that can cut down on shipping costs and ensure packages are safe from porch pirates.

- UPS Ground: Dec. 13
- 3-Day Select: Dec. 19
- UPS 2nd Day Air: Dec. 20

• UPS Next Day Air: Dec. 23



## **Auditions**

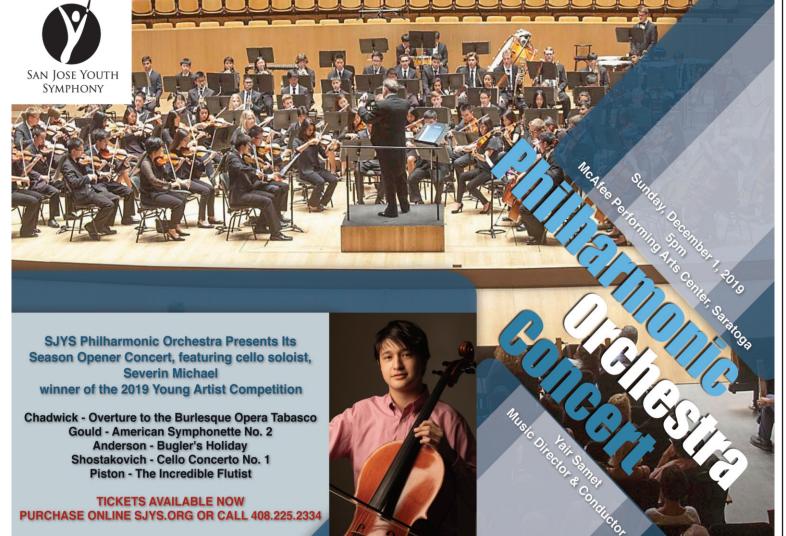


Auditions Still Open for the 2019-2020 Season for

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#### **Times Community News**

# Welcoming new and returning staff

District 10

Report

By Johnny Khamis Special to the Times

his month I welcomed the return of Enrique Navarro-Donnellan as a Council Policy & Legislative Analyst after having left for three years to pursue graduate studies and work at the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Having started in the District 10 office as an intern in 2014, he joined the office as a full time staffer from 2015-2016 before moving to Malibu to earn his Master of Public Policy degree at the Pepperdine School of Public Policy.

He spent the summer of 2017 at the International Institute for Counterterrorism in Israel as a Research Assistant, reaffirming his love of travel, international politics, and cultural immersion. After graduating from Pepperdine, he worked as the Assistant Deputy for Transportation and Land Use for Los Angeles County Supervi-

sor Kathryn Barger, where his portfolio immersed him in the LA metropolitan regions' policy scene. His knowledge of Metro, Metrolink, LA County, and SCAG's administrative functions and future operational ambitions has equipped him to assume his new and current role in our office with a multi-regional perspective, experience, and ideas.

Also joining the office in mid-November was Ammal Elhaddad, a part-time Community Relations Representative who has a track record of empowering local community leaders to advocate on behalf of the organizations they represent. Throughout her career, Ammal has held leadership positions that have allowed her to work very closely in the neighborhoods in which she resides. She is dedicated to public service and civic engagement and, as a former Ameri-Corps volunteer, Ammal has led community

service projects for neighbors of all ages and embodies the spirit of volunteerism. She is a resident of District 10 and continuously strives to improve public safety and better the lives of her fellow residents.

Another addition to the team is Queenie Ngo, who joined the office as a part-time Community Relations Representative. Queenie is the owner of Phu Nu Cali magazine, a magazine for Vietnamese American women entrepreneurs in the Bay area. She was born in Vietnam and immigrated to the United States in 1992 with her family. Coming from a low-income family, working her way through

college, and graduating from San Jose State University in 2001 and Lincoln Law School in 2009, Queenie is passionate about advocating for under-privileged individuals and providing them with resources and tools to become self-sufficient. She decided not to practice law because she wanted to pursue her passion for public service. Prior to joining District 10, Queenie worked for former San Jose District 4 Councilmember Manh Nguyen, Catholic Charities, Mercy Housing, and other non-profit organizations.

Happy Thanksgiving!





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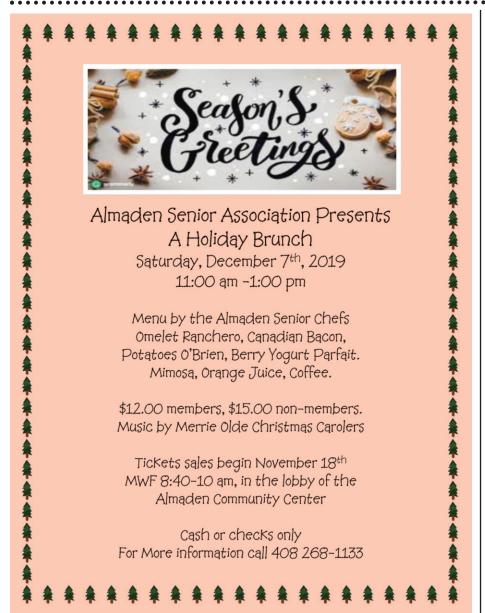
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## Italian American Heritage Foundation

## 32nd Year of The World of Italian Opera

6:00 pm, Friday, December 6, 2019 at the IAHF Hall





CULTURAL NOTE: The IAHF Cultural Committee started The World of Italian Opera in 1987. The objective of this collaborative program was to expose local audiences to classical Italian opera in an Italian American setting. A committee was formed to develop a program, and some of the original founders included Jeanne McCann, Theresa Spinler, Martha Best, Tony & Kay Virgilio, Sal & Genevieve Scrivano, Eugene Mirabella, Tony Zerbo, and Ken Borelli.

#### Commuter Holiday Menu

Antipasti, Bread & Salad Family-Style.

Buffet entrées catered by Elegant Events SJ: Breast of Chicken in Creamy Marsala Sauce w/ Sun-dried tomatoes; Honey-baked Spiral-Sliced Ham;
Penne Primavera with vegetables in Pesto Alfredo.

Dessert: Spumoni Bomba during intermission.

No-Host Bar opens at 6 pm. Dinner: 6:45 to 8:00. OPERA SAN JOSE entertainment is from 8:15 until 9:45 with intermission.

SEE'S CANDIES are available at tonight's Holiday Boutique to benefit the IAHF!

Tonight's
CO-CHAIRS
Jeanne McCann
Kay Virgilio
Tony Zerbo
Ken Borelli

#### \$45 per member & \$50 per member guest

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_To be seated with \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to the IAHF and mail to: IAHF, 425 N Fourth St, San Jose, CA 95112 You may also pay online at www.iahfsj.org ....or pay over the phone at 408-293-7122.

Times Local News

## Fantasy of Lights 2019 walk-thru and drive-thru tickets on sale

antasy of Lights, one of the most spectacular holiday events in Northern California, is set to open the weekend of December 7-8 for the Walk-thru event and December 10 through the 30 (closed Dec. 25) for the Drivethru event at Vasona Lake County Park in Los Gatos.

The Walk-thru weekend includes international food and beverages by Moveable Feast, costumed characters, visits with Santa and Mrs. Claus and special performances by Los Gatos Ballet. Visitors should bear in mind that Fantasy of Lights is a 3-mile loop making comfortable walking shoes a must! Dress warm for the night air and consider bringing a flashlight too.

There is no parking at the Walk-thru event. FREE parking and shuttle service is available at Netflix, 121 Albright Way, Los Gatos. Ridesharing with Lyft or Uber is highly encouraged.

The Drive-thru nights offer a magical evening in the warmth of your vehicle as you drive through large animated displays while listening to holiday music on your car radio. See the sights and sounds of an erupting volcano in the dangerously fun Dinosaur Den, cheer on Santa shooting hoops, wave at a pen of playful penguins, watch blazing Pirate Cannons and sail through the tunnel of moving lights. Over 50 themed displays and a 90-foot twinkling tree will have you "oohing and aahing" throughout your adventure.

Walk-thru and Drive-thru tickets are available at www.parkhere.org. Tickets must be purchased in advance for both events. Drive-thru patrons purchase tickets by the day of entrance and an allotted time slot of arrival. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Processing fees are additional.

Walk-thru Pricing \$10 adult (13 & up)

\$ 5 child (4 thru 12)

Drive-thru Pricing \$20 per vehicle (up to 12 people) \$50 oversize vehicles (capacity 13+)

Free – 3 years old or younger

Fantasy of Lights would not be possible without the support of our loyal media sponsors. A special thanks to The Breeze 98.1FM, CineLux Theaters, Telemundo TV48, NBC Bay Area, KOFY TV20, El Observador and News for Chinese

Vasona Lake County Park is located at 333 Blossom Hill Rd, Los Gatos, CA 95037. For directions, ticketing and more information visit www.parkhere.org or call (408) 355-2201.



# #BeautifySJ Grants awarded to 91 community groups

The City of San Jose has awarded 91 neighborhood groups and community organizations #BeautifySJ grants in the third year of the program.

The organizations will roll up their sleeves between now and Sept. 30, 2020 to beautify their neighborhoods.

Launched in early 2017, Mayor Liccardo's #BeautifySJ campaign aims to reduce trash, graffiti and other sources of blight in our city. Since, the City has taken steps to improve its own beautification-related services and enhance partnerships with neighborhood and community groups committed to beautification.

To better leverage community-led beautification efforts, the City Council allocated \$300,000 in the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 budget to support the grant program managed by the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) Department. An additional \$55,131 was reallocated from the previous grant cycle which allowed the program to fund additional projects in 2020.

"With the first two rounds of #BeautifySJ grants, we were grateful to the dozens of neighborhood associations who showed up for San Jose – ready and willing to join our efforts to combat community blight," said Mayor Liccardo. "We look forward to another successful round of beautification projects this year."

For volunteer opportunities and updates on #BeautifySJ grant projects, please visit www.beautifysj.org.

#### **Times Local News**

#### **FINANCE**

# Some end-of-the-year financial reminders

**By Sean Hathaway** 

Special to the Times

appy holidays! As we head into the holiday season of family, parties and fun, also keep in mind this is the time of year to revisit important personal finance and tax related matters (I know...sorry...but it has to be done). All these areas can be nuanced based on individual circumstances, so if you're not sure about something, take 15-30 minutes to chat with your financial advisor or tax accountant; a few minutes that could save \$1000s.

#### 401k and IRA Contributions

If you participate in an employer 401k this is generally the time of year to revisit your 401k contributions; raise them to the max if you can. Generally, you want them to be spread out evenly over the course of the year to ensure the maximum employer match.

You can contribute up to \$6,000 annually to an individual IRA. Technically, deadline is April 15, but good to just get it done now.

This is also the time to review employer provided health insurance and supplemental life insurance plans.

#### **Charitable Giving**

December 31 is the deadline to donate to a charitable cause and still get your tax deduction. But remember the standard deduction for married couples is \$24,400 (\$12,200 singles) for tax year 2019. So in order to get a tax benefit for charitable deductions, your total itemized deductions, which includes charitable, need to exceed the standard deduction.

Some people are implementing a "bunching" strategy; that's where you provide a larger charitable donation every 2 or 3 years, as

opposed to annually. So instead of \$15,000 per year, you might donate \$30,000 every 2 years, which enables you to exceed the standard deduction of \$24,400 and receive a larger tax benefit.

You could also consider a Donor Advised Fund, which would allow you to make a large contribution in one year, take a tax deduction, but then distribute the funds to charities over the time period you desire.

#### Gifting or 529 plan contributions

A single person can gift up to \$15,000 in 2019 to each person or \$30,000 as a married couple. So consider this, if you have 2 children and really want to kickstart their college savings fund you could "gift" \$30,000 per child to a 529 college savings plan. A \$30,000 gift today would be worth over \$50,000 in 10 years (assuming a 6% annual return).

Gifting is an efficient way to share your wealth in a tax free manner.

#### Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs)

If you are age 70  $\frac{1}{2}$  do not forget to take RMDs from your retirement accounts, including 401ks and IRAs (not required for Roth accounts), or incur up to a 50% penalty on the distribution if you forget.

If you are giving to a charity, it is likely advantageous to directly contribute your RMD (up to \$100,000) to the charity, then you do not have to recognize any income for the RMD! This is known as a Qualified Charitable Distribution or QCD, and it's a great deal.

#### General

The above items are fairly common, but there may be other issues unique to you and your financial situation. Take a few minutes to think about it prior to year end and don't forget to grab some exercise between all the meals and holiday cocktail parties.

Questions relating to this column can be directed to Sean Hathaway, Financial Planning and Investment Advisor; (971) 409-4180; or visit: www.HathawayFinancial.com.

### **POLITICS**

# **Jenny Higgins Bradanini wins the Silicon Valley Democratic Club endorsement in District 10 race**

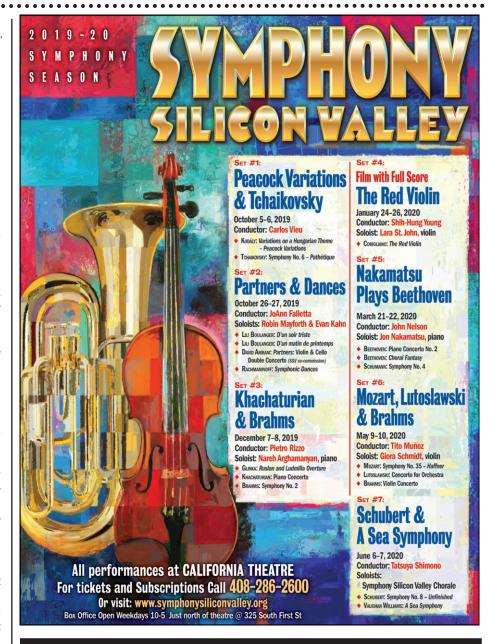
Tenny Higgins Bradanini (pictured) captured the Silicon Valley Democratic Club's endorsement in her bid to replace soon-to-term out San Jose Councilman Johnny Khamis.

Higgins Bradanini, who serves as president of the Bay Area Women's March, faces ex-Brigade CEO Matt Mahan, businesswoman Helen Wang and financial advisor Vinh Do in the race to represent the Almaden Valley City Council district.

Higgins Bradanini and Mahan faced off at the club's November 18 meeting in a debate over the city's Ellis Act law and cooperation with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Following the debate, members voted to endorse Higgins Bradanini by a 46-17 margin.





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 Contact via email: alamadenseniors1@gmail.com



**Times Community News** 

# A happy Thanksgiving: Residents rally to help those in need

By Lorraine Gabbert

Senior Staff Writer

n Saturday, cars, vans and motorcycles convened on Second Harvest Food Bank filled with frozen turkeys, chickens and non-perishable goods. It was all part of the food bank's Great Turkey Drop—the last Saturday to drop off donations to reach hungry families in time for Thanksgiving—and the start of their Holiday Food and Fund Drive.

"That's what I love about this time of year," says Second Harvest Chief Executive Officer Leslile Bacho. "You really see the generosity of our community."

"You see the best in people," says spokesperson Diane Baker Hayward. "It's a great day." Second Harvest's goal is to receive 24,000 turkeys for Thanksgiving. "It's the most wonderful goal ever," says Baker Hayward, "because you're feeding people."

As the vehicles pull up, volunteers from Bellarmine College Preparatory rush over with dollies to help them unload. "We're having a day where we can create a lot of excitement and have volunteers at the ready," says Bacho. "It feels good and gives everyone a way to get engaged."

Almaden resident Leslie Oberhelman has been donating turkeys and other food to Second Harvest every year at Thanksgiving for 20 years. "I have a deep inner commitment that nobody should go hungry, she says. "I believe children can't learn when they're hungry. People can't function. They need to be able to get on with their lives knowing they have food. I'm hoping that knowing they won't be hungry, they can do a job, take care of their kids, or pay their rent. I had a very good friend who often got things from the food bank and I know she was deeply appreciative."

The Whelan and Dangar families, representing the Franciscan Gardens Homeowners Association, soon pull up in their cars. Lisa Whelan, who started their neighborhood food drive 10 years ago, helps to collect and bring items to the food bank. "I think it's really important that everyone has a meal to eat," says her daughter, Evie. "I don't want any kids at my school or in the community to go hungry."

The Fontecha family arrives with a van full of food. They've

done this annually since their children were small. "It's the right thing to do," they say.

Louis Orta donates turkeys and bags upon bags of food every year at Thanksgiving and Christmas. "It's not right, people starving," he says.

Bacho says seeing the deliveries is heartwarming. "You see everybody stepping up to help each other out," she says. "People want to make sure everyone can have a nutritious Thanksgiving meal. We see some of these people every year. There are families that bring their kids and show them the meaning of giving. We have kids who save and donate their allowances. There are people who have used the food bank in the past: There was a guy who had 10 turkeys in his trunk, and he was a former client."

Bacho says that locally, one out of four people are at risk for hunger. "We're just seeing the numbers grow," she says. "Already this year, we are serving 10,000 more people per month."

To ensure that everyone in the community receives the healthy food they need to thrive, Second Harvest has set a goal of raising \$19 million during the holiday campaign, which ends January 17. The campaign represents about half of the food bank's annual operating revenue and will support efforts to make food more accessible during the holidays and all year long.

The holidays are Second Harvest's most important fundraising time of the year, but this year they're operating at a deficit. "We have to raise a million and a half more dollars," says Bacho, "so, we're concerned about how fundraising is looking so far this holiday season."

Bacho says that one of the challenges of hunger is that it's an invisible issue. "We're surrounded by people in our community who don't have enough to eat," she says, "who may have to skip meals or make compromising choices. There's no one face of hunger. It's hard to know who's hungry. Homelessness is a very obvious consequence of the housing crisis, but in fact, so many of the people we serve are renters who are struggling to be able to afford their rent and afford food. We see more and more working people, people who are working low-wage jobs—jobs that are the backbone of our com-

#### **Times Community News**



Second Harvest has a goal of receiving 24,000 turkeys this year to feed hungry people.

munity—but again, who are struggling to make it day-by-day here."

"It's hard to imagine that where we live in such a prosperous valley that working people are struggling to pay rent and buy food," says Baker Hayward. "It could be loss of a job, a health incident: when you're living paycheck to paycheck, that sometimes is all it takes to throw things off." Baker Hayward says that one of Second Harvest's concerns is the barriers that keep people from coming and getting help. "If someone has an incident that puts them behind, they should come get nutritious food," she says, "because that's the foundation for healing and getting to a better place until they no longer need the food bank. That's what we're here for."

Giorn agrees. "We're always concerned people are afraid to come or feel ashamed to get food," she says. "We want to make things accessible and open, so people don't feel that way. It's totally fine if you need it one time or you need support longer than that. Everybody needs support sometimes. It's really important people know we're not a government agency. We're a nonprofit and we don't ask anybody what their status is. It should not be a barrier to getting food."

On some of their barrels, Second Harvest features a single mother, Natasha, and her two children. "I couldn't have done everything I had to do in the past year without nutritious food," said Natasha, who needed food assistance from Second Harvest after she left an abusive marriage, taking only her two children with her. "I had no money and no credit card. The first thing I worried about was how I was going to feed my kids. Kids don't need expensive toys and entertainment to be happy, but they do need nutritious food. It's the one thing they can't live without."

Although Natasha now works fulltime for a children's hospital, feeding and clothing her children is still a challenge. "You wouldn't know walking by her on the street that she needs support," says Second Harvest Director of Marketing and Communication Katy Giorn. "You can't judge a book by its cover. It's not just the homeless persons living on the street who need help with hunger. That's the problem with Silicon Valley. You think everyone's affluent here and it's not the case."

Last month, Bacho met a single mom who has three kids. Although she works full-time,

when her rent increased by a couple of hundred dollars a month, she couldn't afford to go grocery shopping. Instead, they ate fast food every night. "Imagine how hard it is for a mom to have to make those kinds of choices and the long-term health consequences of food insecurity," says Bacho. "She was so excited to be at the pantry where there's so much fresh produce because she really likes to cook."

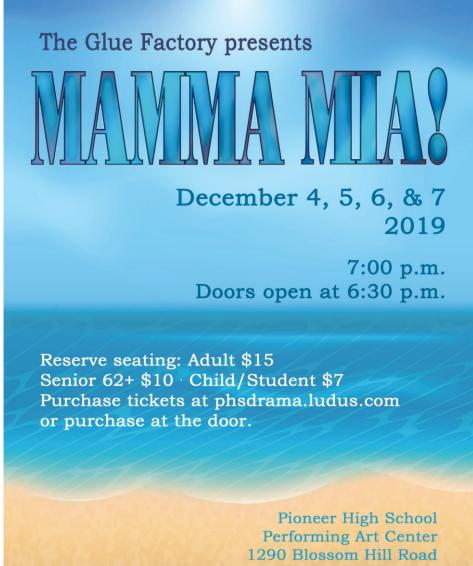
Half of what Second Harvest distributes is fresh produce. About 22 percent is protein and dairy. They also distribute spices, oil, shelf and pantry staples. They spend pennies on the pound to bring in fresh produce from the Central Valley by tractor trailer. "That's a great way we can stretch people's donations," says Bacho.

"We rely on individuals for the majority of our financial support," she says. Although they'd like to receive more donations of whole grains and protein items like hams, chickens, canned meat, and peanut butter, Bacho says they can stretch people's dollars so much farther than if they go to the market to buy food. "Because we get so much donated food and rely on so many volunteers, for every dollar donated," she says, "we can provide two healthy meals."

Bacho says that while people think about hunger during the holidays, for the families, seniors, and the individuals they serve, it's a challenge year-round.

In an effort to reach more people, Second Harvest is opening more grocery distribution sites where people live, work and attend school, and at more convenient times like evenings and weekends. The food bank currently serves 87 affordable housing complexes, 142 K-12 schools and 14 colleges. "One of the things that we're trying to do is to bring food closer to where people already are," says Bacho, "and one of our best partnerships has been with schools. We do farmer's market style distributions for families. They're able to get 8 or 10 different items of fresh produce and chicken, eggs, milk and lots of critical items that can take them through the month."

Giorn notes that more and more people with full-time jobs are relying on Second Harvest to supplement their household incomes because they have to afford things like rent, medication, school supplies, and clothing. "It's important people have access to healthy food," she says. "It's a huge relief See SECOND HARVEST, page 19









#### **Times Community**

### **AVCA**

Continued from page 1

They work to strengthen neighbor-to-neighbor communications, awareness of potential dangers, and provide assistance to residents at home or in places with limited cell-phone access like trails.

"During the power shut off, most of Almaden Valley lost its power, as well as their cell phone and telephone coverage," says Trent Engler. "That's a helpless feeling not having any connection to 9-1-1 services or anything else. We have a repeater system that's up and running and covers Almaden Valley with our radios. You can use it to call for help during emergencies, disasters, or public safety power shutoffs. We are your link to the outside world. We can get you the 9-1-1 services or any other services you need. During a power outage, walkie talkies work. That's why you need groups like we're trying to establish."

Beautify Almaden: Having lived in Almaden for about 33 years, Helen Brock cares about her neighborhood and devotes time to its beautification. "Unfortunately, Almaden and the city as a whole seems to be filled with trash," she says. "We'd like Almaden residents to be able to drive into the community and feel a sense of pride." Once a month, for the past several years, she and her husband and local neighbors have joined together to pick up trash in Almaden. They recently filled 18 garbage bags in two hours. "I'd love to clean from Coleman Road to Harry Road once a month," she says. "It will only take two hours if we have enough help." Volunteers submit their cell phone numbers for notification of cleanup dates and times. "You don't have to volunteer every month," she says. "just when you're available. Wouldn't it be wonderful if Almaden was clean again?"

Julene Pansarasa has a deen appreciation for Guadalupe Oak

**Grove Park,** having spent time hiking and biking through it with her friends when she was young. She volunteers with Friends of Guadalupe Oak Grove Park to encourage the growth of more oaks. "We're about contributing to nature and keeping the park alive," she says. "There are so many city buildings and businesses that its wonderful to have this gem of 60 acres of oak trees in our backyards." To create a sense of community, they'd like to host an outdoor classroom for youth and other organizations and host events such as planting acorns and wildflower seeds. "It's a very walkable family-friendly park with a restroom," says Pansarasa. "Come see how the trees are growing."

Martin-Fontana Parks Asso- $\boldsymbol{ciation}$  , the longest running park adoption group in Almaden, began with a defiant group of neighbors set on saving park trees from being cut down by PG&E.

"In February 2010, PG&E announced at a community meeting that they'd cut down every single tree under their power lines in Jeffrey Fontana and TJ Martin Parks," says Linda Wilson. "That was 140 trees, which would have made the parks a desert with little shrubs in it." On July 5, 2010, as PG&E cut down 12 trees in Jeffrey Fontana Park, a phone tree rallied the community to their aid. Soon, 17 neighbors encircled Tree 13. which Wilson calls the most special tree in the whole park. They encircled the tree and refused to allow PG&E to cut it down. When PG&E threatened to call the police, they were told to go ahead. PG&E moved onto TJ Martin Park, cut down one more tree and left. "We stopped them," says Wilson proudly. "We became a non-profit in August that year and have been dealing with PG&E every year since then." Martin-Fontana Parks Association raises funds for trimming the trees PG&E sees as safety hazards to the power lines. They also See AVCA, next page

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#### **Times Community**

### **AVCA**

Continued from previous page plant native gardens throughout the two parks and every five years, commemorate police officer Jeffrey Fontana, the park's namesake. "When you see Guadalupe Oak Grove Park, it's the most magnificent open space and you feel like you're in an oak forest," says Wilson. "When you come out, you've got the dog park and our native gar-

dens. There's lots to see in TJ Martin and Jeffrey Fontana Parks."

"We are the ]," says Dexter, "We want the community to see what their neighbors are involved in, and maybe participate in those groups. We want to be a hub for people to come together and build community in Almaden. The more we know each other, the safer we are, and the more inviting and welcoming our community is."



The San Jose Hogs delivered 49 turkeys to Second Harvest.



(L to R): Second Harvest CEO Leslie Bacho and spokesperson Diane Baker Hayward appreciate residents generosity.

#### **Second Harvest**

Continued from page 17 to families, especially when they have young children, that they can provide them with healthy food so they can do well at school. We provide on average about \$225 worth of groceries a month so they can put their money towards other expenses. We have a robust nutrition program that works in the community to help people figure out how to prepare the foods we're providing them at distribution sites. They do cooking demonstrations showing people how to use items they may be unfamiliar with like spaghetti squash. We find the best way to help people utilize produce is to give them simple recipes and great variety."

"We are so lucky we receive so much support from our community to be able to feed the people we do," says Giorn. "Every month we feed over a quarter of a million people through our direct and partner distribution. About 87,000 are children. One in four people in Silicon Valley and one in three children are at risk of hunger. We couldn't do what we do without all of our partner organizations. We work with over 300 partner organizations and have 1,000 distribution sites in Santa Clara and

San Mateo Counties."

The roar of motorcycle engines resounds as Harley riders approach, their saddle bags laden with frozen turkeys. Sunlight glints off the polished metal as 24 riders park their bikes. It's the San Jose Hogs, formerly known as Lane Splitters, delivering 49 turkeys to Second Harvest. "They show up every year," says Bacho. "We've grown to know and love them."

"This time of year, there are so many people in need," says Hogs Road Captain Scott Cramer. "We just try to do whatever we can to help those less fortunate."

"It's always good to give back to the community," says Hogs Director Bill Thigpen. "Everyone should have a nice Thanksgiving."

Individuals, corporations and organizations can help to ensure that anyone who needs a healthy meal can get one by donating to Second Harvest. A monetary gift helps Second Harvest feed people this holiday season and all year long and donations of food also help.

"Because of the generosity of our community, growers, retail partners, and manufacturers, we're able to provide food to a quarter of a million people every month, 58 million meals a year," says Bacho. "The volume of need is really high, but the response of our community is really tremendous."







#### CAMPRELL LINITED

**CHURCH OF CHRIST** 400 W. Campbell Ave. Campbell, CA 95008 (408) 378-4418 Pastor: Rev. Naomi Schulz No Matter Where You Are On Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here! We are an Open and

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· Bible study on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6PM.

include:

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

#### CONGREGATIONAL **CHURCH OF ALMADEN** VALLEY, UCC

6581 Camden Ave.. San Jose, CA 95120. Pastor, Rev. Marty Williams, 408 268 0243. www.ccavucc.org.

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 Commun-

2nd Sunday in Worship: Folks Choir and Potluck

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Sunday. Tuesdays, AA Meetings, 8:15 - 9:15 PM. Wednesdays, 9:30 AM, Women's Study Group

**CHURCH OF CHRIST** 

5351 Carter Ave., San Jose 95118 408.265.5837 www.bibleroad.org We strive to be a group of Christians that love and honor God and Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We assemble each Sunday to encourage each other through singing, studying praying and sharing in the Lord's supper. Simple—iust like what one reads about in the New Testament Bible class at 9:30 AM Worship at 10:30 AM Located in south San Jose near Kooser Rd. and Camden Ave. (behind the Almaden Valley Athletic Club). Come make new Christian friends!

#### **EAST VALLEY CHURCH**

We are a Multicultural Christian Community committed to making Christ known to our Neighbors, Community and World. Sunday Schedule: Coffee and Conversation 9:15am Worship 9:45am, Sunday School for all ages 11:15am

Childcare is provided for all our Sunday Services. Our NEW Children's Building is

Open! Uplifting music, Biblical teaching, ministries for

Children, Youth, College & Career, Small Groups for all adults, Ministries to Men, Women, Seniors, Celebrate Recovery Please see website for details and meeting times www.eastvalleychurch com Senior Pastor – Pastor Ron Johnson, Community-Life Pastor - Pastor Patrick Boyd, Children's Ministry Co-Directors – Alyssa Friend and Kristen Pearson We are located at 2827 Flint Ave (Between Tully & Norwood) San Jose, CA 95148, Phone 408-238-0231. e-mail info@eastvallevchurch.com We are associated with

#### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

www.convergeworldwide.org

Converge Worldwide

6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector Phone:408-268-0243 Web:www.eca-si.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



#### **EVERGREEN ISLAMIC CENTER (EIC)** Visit our Web Site at

http://www.eicsanjose.org 2486 Ruby Ave, San Jose CA 95148 (408) 239-6668 "As-Śalaamu-Alaikum," the Arabic greeting meaning "Peace be upon you". The members of the EIC would like to extend our best wishes to all of our neighbors. It is not just the festivities that make Thanksgiving special. It is a time to ponder upon the lessons we learnt through the year, and the happiness we spread around. We take this opportunity to thank our neighbors for their indubitable support and friendship. Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving! Services: Five daily prayers. Quranic/Islamic studies for all age groups, weekly seminars, presentations and much more. Learn about our weekly programs and current prayer times by visiting our website. Jazāk Allāhu Khayran!site. Jazāk Allāhu Khavran!

#### FIRST CHURCH **DOWNTOWN**

Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.com Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a message that is relevant to real life. based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds.

We work in our community

to provide real assistance

and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips Come, Make a Difference and feel the difference God can make in your life!



#### GRACE CHURCH OF

**EVERGREEN** www.GraceChurchSJ.net See you on Facebook 2650 ABORN ROAD at Evergreen Public Library Serving Evergreen for over 50 Years. John S Goldstein Pastor Ryan Sheng, Musician In Residence 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.

#### **HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC** CHURCH

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

# 4

school office at 408-268-

#### thepoint.church

#### THE POINT CHURCH

3695 Rose Terrasse Cir San Jose, CA 95148 (408) 270-7646 **English Service:** Sundays at 9:30 & 11:00

Spanish Service: 11:00 AM Cambodian Service: 11:00 AM Cantonese Service: 11:00 AM Mandarin Service: 11:00AM Youth Extreme Point (7th-12th grade): Every Saturday at 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

#### SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH We invite you to become

a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC): Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road. San Jose 95120 Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m.. 10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday. 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call 1+ (408) 997-4800 or visit our website at www.church stanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor



#### God is One ਰੱਬ ਇਕ ਹੈ Rab Ik Hai

**SAN JOSE GURDWARA** 3636 Gurdwara Ave. San Jose, CA 95148 The word Sikh (see-kh) means "disciple" or "student." A Sikh is a practitioner of the faith founded in the 15th century by Guru Nanak in Punjab of old British India. A Guru who is a "teacher" or "enlightener" completes the relationship of teaching and learning. Sikhism is monotheistic and stresses the equality of all men and women. Sikhs believe in three basic principles; meditating on the name of God (praying), earning a living by honest means and sharing the fruits of one's labor with others. Currently there are close to one million Sikhs living in the USA and Canada and 25 million Sikhs living around the world Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world.

At the Gurdwara (House of God) in San Jose we welcome all. We pray daily for peace and prosperity for everybody in the world. Come to visit and enjoy Langer (food) in our kitchen which is open 365 days of the year and serves complementary vegetarian meals. We also encourage you to enter our history room on site and walk the beautiful grounds. Learn more about us and community events we sponsor by visiting our website: http://www. SanJoseGurdwara.org

#### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH 5111 San Felipe Rd., San

Jose, CA 95135

408-223-1562. www.stfrancisofassisi.com or www.stfrancis 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 serv ice 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 408.483-5458

# SJenvironment.org/junkpickup

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### WAITRESS

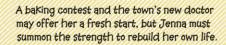
Saturday, December 21, 2019 2:00 pm, \$85.00





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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.

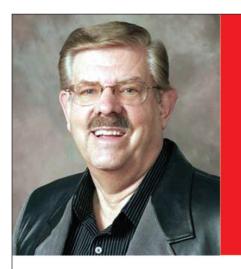


Don't miss this uplifting celebration of friendship, motherhood and the magic of a well-made pie.



Sign up M, T, W 9:30 am to Il: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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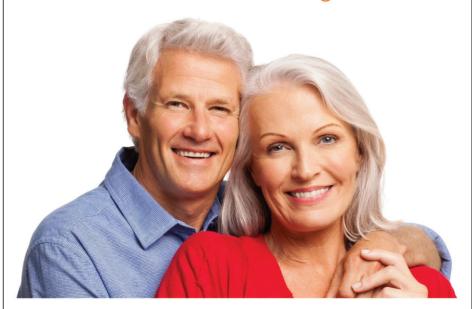
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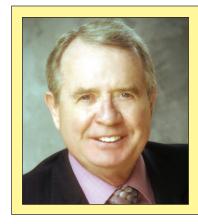
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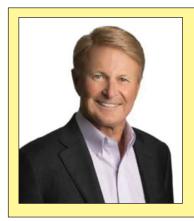
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#### **Grants Available**

Since 1965 the Almaden Valley Women's Club has served the needs of the community by providing funds to local area non-profit organizations and educational institutions through grants. Grant applications are available October 15 - November 30. For more information on the application scoring criteria, eligibility, funding and deadlines, please visit:

https://www.almadenwomen.org

#### **Employment**

#### history / san josé

#### **POSITION DESCRIPTION MUSEUM EDUCATOR**

**About the Position** 

Are you an engaging storyteller with a passion for history? Do you have a thirst for knowledge and a flair for interacting with school children and museum audiences of all ages?

If so, you may be eligible to join our dedicated and lively team of Museum Educators. The primary responsibilities of the Museum Educators are to assist in preparing and presenting hands-on, interactive school programs at History Park (Kelley Park, San Jose) and the Peralta Adobe-Fallon House Historic Site (downtown San Jose). The Museum Educators are responsible for delivering inquiry-based interpretive programs for 2nd-6th graders that encourage meaningful connections with the past, as well as planning and participating in hands-on history family programs occurring on select weekends.

The position is a part-time, working weekday mornings (8:30a.m. to 1:00p.m.); and occasional weekends for History San Jose. The education programs presented are aligned with and support the Common Core State Standards and new College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies. HSJ serves over 20,000 students each year. Topics addressed in our school programs include: immigration, the westward movement, and the rancho era

A full job description is on History San Jose's website, www.historysanjose.org. Interested candidates should submit their resume and cover letter to:

bjohnson@historysanjose.org

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**Notice** 

Happy Holidays from the staff of the **Almaden Times** 

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

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## **Almaden Valley** (Senior) Singles

**Singles** 

The organization that brings single residents of Almaden Valley (95120) over 65 to enjoy a social life close to home and take part in community service.

Come and join us for our monthly breakfast which is held at 9 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at Cup and Saucer, Princeton Plaza Mall, 1375 Blossom Hill Road.



Wishing Everyone a holiday blessed with traditions that uplift you, experiences that inspire you, and family and friends who love and appreciate you.



Therese Swan 408.656.8240 tswan@tswan.com AlmadenValleyRealEstate.com DRE 01355719









Swan has been the #1 Agent in Almaden Valley each year for the last 10 years as measured by Dollars per Agent per Year. She is the only Almaden Valley specialist to ever have been nationally ranked and recognized by Wall Street Journal/RealTrends twice for being in the Top 250 Agents in the US. Additionally, Swan is consistently among the Top 100 Agents in the SF Bay Area.

