



DEC.13 – DEC. 26, 2019 ■ VOL. 32, NO. 26

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Almaden Times

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Leland's Jenna Flynn named CCS Water Polo Player of the Year

By William Bellou
Publisher

2019 All-Central Coast Section (CCS) Girls Water Polo coaches have voted at this year's End-Of-Season meeting and **Jenna Flynn** (pictured above), a sophomore at Leland High School, has been named Player of the Year.

Flynn led Leland to the CCS championship game for the 5th consecutive year – one of only three schools to ever accomplish that feat. This is also the 5th year in a row that Leland has had the Player of the Year.

"Jenna takes over the game," Leland coach Eric Rise said. "She is the only player other than her sister, Nina, last year that I have ever seen require a double team on the perimeter. One player cannot stop her. She has insane range. She can score from more than 10 meters out consistently. Jenna is like the Steph Curry of water polo. She hits shots that no one else could even attempt."

Jenna returned to her high school team for the 11th game of the season and immediately made a huge impact. The team increased its offensive production by 9.3 goals per game to
See FLYNN, page 17

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! District 10 staff members decorate the tree for Christmas in the Park on Nov. 26

In honoring the history of District 10, the historic Almaden Winery was chosen for the decorating theme. Almaden Winery was the first winery founded in California.

The District 10 Tree is located on the main walk across from the Museum of Art.

On Wednesday December 11 a District 10 Community Stage event was held at Christmas in the Park which included performances by The Veterans Chorus, and CRANDL Chamber Group.

Pictured, right: The District 10 Christmas Tree honoring Almaden Winery is decorated by District 10 staff members along with City Councilmember **Johnny Khamis**. Pictured (left to right) are: **Denelle Fedor, Khamis, Jose Salcido, Enrique Navarro-Donnellan** and **Michelle Dexter**.



Leland Hosts 11th Annual Lego Robotics Qualifier Competition

Five Almaden Quixilver Qualifier teams advance

By Sahana Vijji
Special to the Times

Sixteen FIRST Lego League (FLL) teams from San Jose, Santa Clara, Fremont, and Sunnyvale traveled to Leland High School to compete in the FLL Quixilver Qualifier on Nov.16.

For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) is an international youth organization that operates the FIRST Robotics Competition (high school ages), FIRST Tech Challenge (ages 12-18), FIRST LEGO League (ages 8-14), and FIRST LEGO League Jr. (ages 6-9).

Founded by Dean Kamen and Woodie Flowers in 1989, its expressed goal is to inspire stu-



The Eaglebots cheer on their creation at the FLL Quixilver Qualifier on Nov. 16 at Leland High School.

dents in engineering and technology fields. The organization promotes "coopertition" meaning cooperative competition, and "gracious professionalism."

not only build a robot, but also research a problem with a building or public space in their community and create or refine an existing
See ROBOTICS, page 18

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

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Victorian Holiday Living History Day: December 15

Take a step back in time at Casa Grande's Victorian Holiday Living History Day from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 15 in Almaden Valley.

The Victorian era celebration is sure to create delightful memories for the whole family. .

Come explore the museum while observing and participating in activities considered commonplace in the 1880s.

Park staff will dress in period costumes and volunteers will greet visitors of all ages, tour them through the mercury mining exhibits and holiday-themed Victorian rooms. Weavers, lace makers and woodcrafters will be on hand to demonstrate their skilled crafts.

Kids can create Victorian era paper cornucopia tree decorations and decorate wooden ornaments. Don't forget to see the mine manager for a candy cane or sweet treat.

The event is free and no reservations are required. A \$2 per person suggested donation is kindly appreciated.

Casa Grande / New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum is located at 21350 Almaden Road, San Jose.

For more information contact Park Interpreter Victoria Heyse at Victoria.heyse@prk.sccgov.org or call (408) 918-7738.

Almaden Times

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Valley Currents

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

Student athletes and PE classes enjoy new weight training room at Castillero Middle School

By Bonnie Olmsted
Special to the Times

Castillero Middle School – which has long been known for its outstanding academic programs with a focus on visual and performing arts – now offers students more athletic opportunities including a new onsite strength training weight room.

The dedicated room near the gymnasium is well stocked with professional-level equipment including dumbbells, medicine balls, TRX suspension trainers, kettlebells, weighted bars, balance trainers, yoga mats and a 50-inch television for video instruction.

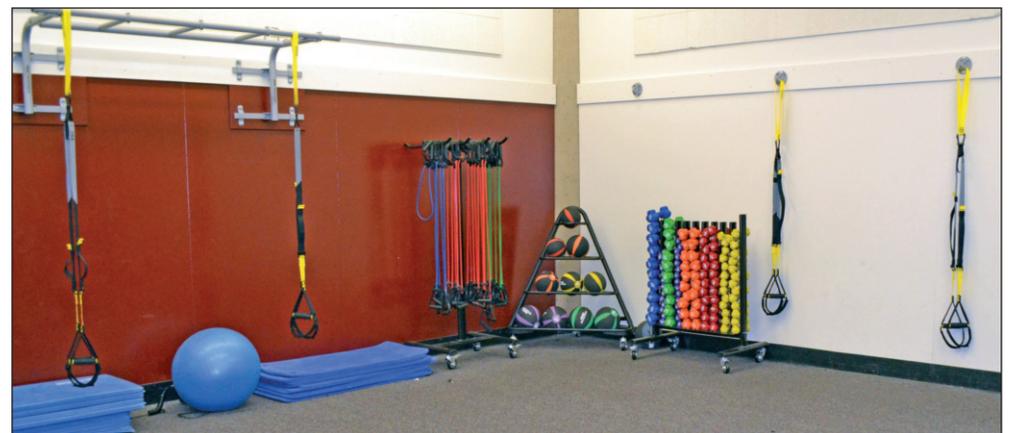
Research has shown that strength training is beneficial for young athletes. Teens who work out with weights, as well as exercise aerobically, reduce their risk for sports injuries by half. Weight training has also been proven to boost bone density, strengthen tendons and improve sports performance.

The weight room was funded by the Castillero Athletic Booster Club (CABC), a non-profit organization that raises money to fund athletic programs at the school. CABC has been bringing intramural and competitive team sports to Castillero students of all ability levels since it was created in 2015.

"We are grateful to our student families and local business sponsors that help fund sports equipment and capital improvements like our new weight training room," said Stephanie Schweizer, CABC cofounder and president. "This is just one example of the resources CABC has been able to provide that benefit Castillero's competitive and intramural athletes after school as well as the rest of the student population during PE classes."

Throughout the year, Castillero athletes compete in cross country, baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, team handball, track and field and volleyball, as well as several intramural sports. The new weight room is available to coaches to use for after-school athlete training and conditioning. The PE teachers also utilize the room and equipment during the school day. Weight training technique and proper form is taught by coaches and teachers as well as through instructional videos on the room's large television screen.

In addition to the weight room, the CABC funds other sports equipment, coaching stipends, officiating costs, student scholarships and other resources that benefit PE classes. Monies are raised through direct drive donations from students' families, sponsor-



Castillero's new weight training room is fully stocked with enough equipment to accommodate after-school sports teams and PE classes.



Working out during their eighth-grade PE class are (left to right) Ava Ries, Nico Higuchi, Joey Kittinger, Lily Fanning and Ronan Deneen.

ship fees from local businesses, and fundraisers like the Annual Dodgeball Tournament. This ongoing financial support bolsters the school's athletic budget.

"The new weight training room is a welcome and valuable addition to Castillero's ath-

letic program," said Castillero Principal Darbi O'Connell. "We enjoy a productive partnership with the CABC, which helps us provide students not only with an excellent academic and arts education, but also a well-rounded athletic experience."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR CO2 a nuclear problem

Editor,
STOP the problem of CO2 production by using nuclear reactors for energy!
450 nuclear power reactors are operating now in 30+ countries, 50 more are being constructed. Over 100 more power reactors are on order or planned and over 300 more

are proposed.

China has over a dozen new nuclear power sites being built, India about half as many, and the USA only 2. Many other countries have only 1 or 2. By 2040 worldwide energy from nuclear power will have increased by 50%, but nuclear power energy could probably be increased by much more, if there really is a danger from CO2.

Louise Cate
Almaden Valley

LET THE ALMADEN TIMES HEAR FROM YOU!

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VTA's All New Service



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

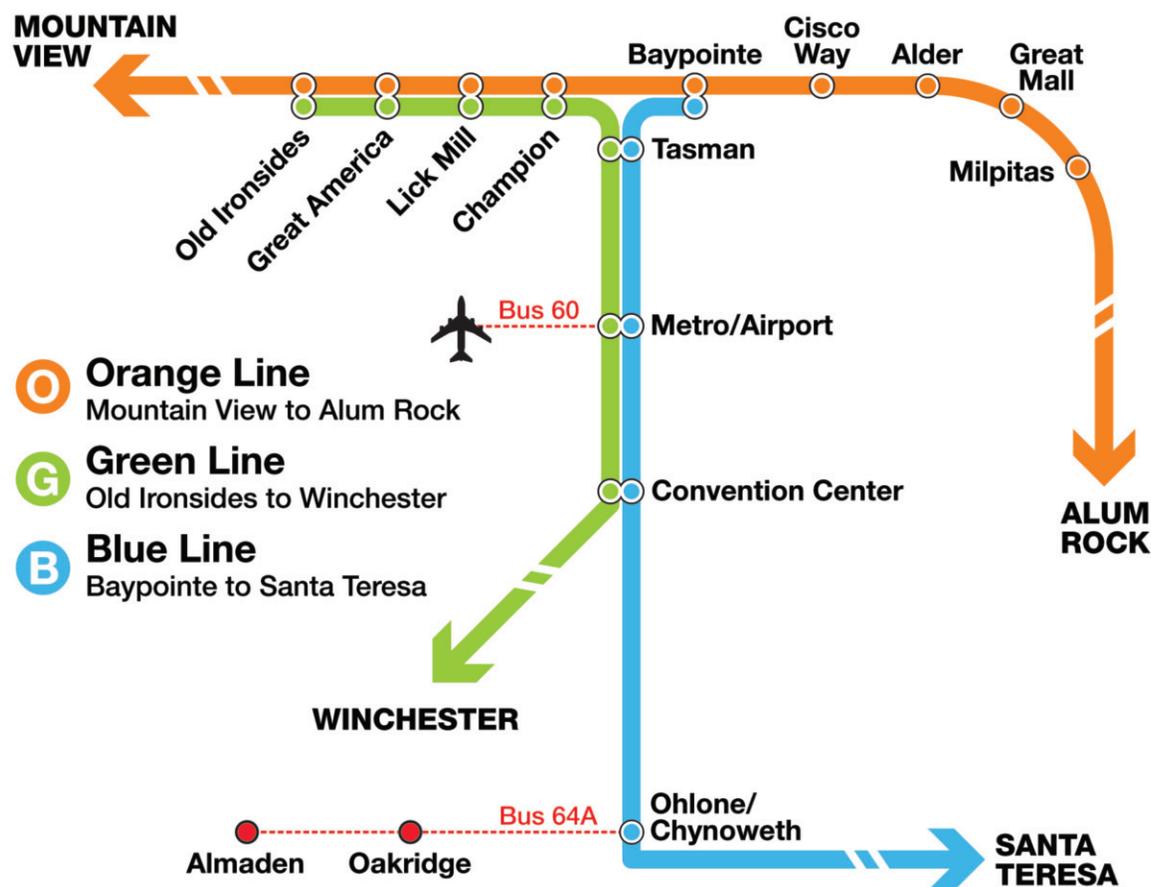
Other Changes to Light Rail

- 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 weekends.

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.



1147 Reed Avenue



Ideal Sunnyvale location

Adorable first floor end unit in desirable Sunny Meadow complex. This home is ready to move in with freshly painted interior and new carpeting. 1,084 square feet of open living space offers, three bedrooms and one-half baths. The spacious living room with glass sliding door to patio flows easily to dining area. Bright galley kitchen with tile floors, and white cabinetry with solid surface counters. The master bedroom features a walk-in closet and attached full bath. Plus, an additional hall powder room for guests. Spacious patio with extra storage is perfect for year-round California outdoor dining

Additional Features

- Double pane windows • Community pool and club house • Dedicated car port and laundry facilities
- Close to major tech firms, shopping, Murphy Avenue restaurants and easy access to freeway for commuters
- Highly rated schools **Offered at: \$848,000**

1103 Reed Avenue, #B, Sunnyvale

This is a delightful first level condo in the Sunny Meadow Complex. Convenient location to major Tech firms, shopping and access to major freeway for commuters. This unit is perfect for first time buyer featuring 917 square feet of functional living space, two bedrooms and one bath. Galley kitchen flows into the dining area with access to the cozy patio from the family room for California alfresco dining.

Additional Features:

- Updated bathroom, fresh interior paint, carpet and flooring
- Community pool, club house and laundry facility
- Dedicated carport • Highly rated schools

Offered at: \$690,000



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Mo's is Closed!

Next Up: Almaden Public House?

What: A group of Almaden families is interested in acquiring the Mo's location. We're interested in raising \$10k from 50 families to create a cooperative partnership: **The Almaden Public House.** A place where families and friends can gather to enjoy each others company, eat high quality organic food and drink the finest beers, ciders, wines and cocktails. Great service, ambience and people. Community owned and operated.

Mission: Remodeling will be done to hide the kitchen, install more of a wood, decorative and hip vibe. The "bar area" will feel more like a bar. Sporting and community events will be promoted (viewing parties for example). Big screen TVs. An inviting warm and welcoming atmosphere for family dining. Wood floors, oak tables and wall flair and decorations abound.

If interest is sufficient we'll schedule a meeting to discuss.
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'All the Way Home Campaign' progress

1602 homeless veterans housed since veterans day 2015

The number of new veterans housed has exceeded the number of new homeless veterans seeking assistance for the first time.

Since the launch of the campaign, 826 landlords have agreed to rent to a homeless veteran.

Thanks to the collaboration of the public, private and non-profit sectors, 1,602 homeless veterans have been housed in the past four years in Santa Clara County.

This coordinated effort is now consistently housing homeless veterans faster than new veterans are becoming homeless.

The "All the Way Home" campaign was launched in 2015 by San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and Santa Clara County Supervisor Dave Cortese with a goal of ending veteran homelessness. While the campaign enjoyed immediate success placing homeless veterans into housing, progress was stymied by a growing "inflow" of new homeless veterans seeking assistance for the first time. This same inflow trend has fueled the overall growth in homelessness reported earlier this year.

Thanks to the efforts of the All the Way Home partners, there has been a reversal of this trend for veteran homelessness. For 12 consecutive months, housing placements have exceeded inflow. While we see an average of 22 new homeless veterans seeking assistance every month, we are now housing 31 veterans per month.

"Not only have we changed the lives of 1,602 individuals who have served their country through military duty, we have created a model that we hope will work well in other segments of our homeless population," said Supervisor Dave Cortese. "A special thank you goes to the landlords who stepped up to rent rooms and apartments to veterans who desperately needed housing to stabilize their lives."

"By collaborating with partners in the public, private and non-profit sectors, we've made important gains in the fight against veteran homelessness - yet much work remains," said Mayor Liccardo. "We must fulfill our moral obligation to ensure that every veteran has a roof over their head."

The All the Way Home campaign has been led by the City of San Jose, County of Santa Clara, Santa Clara County Housing Authority and Destination: Home, in partnership

with a wide array of private and nonprofit partners.

A key tool behind the campaign's success has been the federal HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program, which provides housing vouchers and case managers to help local veterans find housing. Due in part to the success of the campaign, HUD has allocated close to 400 additional HUD-VASH vouchers for homeless veterans in Santa Clara County since 2015 - with the most recent allocation totaling 175 additional vouchers. The Santa Clara County Housing Authority now has an allocation of 1222 VASH vouchers.

"The property owner response to our campaign has been tremendous," said Katherine Harasz, Executive Director, Santa Clara County Housing Authority. "Santa Clara County is ground zero for the nation's housing crisis, and the success we have seen with this program is an example for the entire nation. Moreover, in this case, success results in more resources: when we demonstrate we can fully use these federal resources, we make the case that more resources should be allocated to us when additional federal resources are made available."

In addition to leveraging VASH vouchers, the All the Way Home campaign has benefited from additional funding from the County of Santa Clara and the City of San Jose for supportive housing programs for homeless veterans. Veterans have also been housed through the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF), a VA-funded program administered in partnership with local nonprofit veteran programs at Goodwill Silicon Valley, HomeFirst, and Veterans Resource Center. In addition, the Veteran's Rapid Re-Housing Program administered by HomeFirst provides rapid re-housing to homeless Veterans who do not meet the eligibility criteria for SSVF.

"The SSVF program outreached to me and got me connected to services," said Michael Bandanza, a formerly homeless veteran who is now stably housed, thanks to the help of HomeFirst. "The results with housing and V.A. benefits were quick and everybody was very thorough. I was even able to get a new electric wheelchair."

The All the Way Home campaign has also focused on recruiting additional landlords

See ALL THE WAY HOME, page 10

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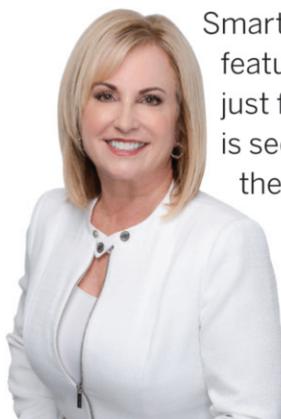


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20425 HUNTERS HILL ROAD, ALMADEN
Offered at \$1,750,000 | 20425HuntersHillRd.com

AMY'S TIP OF THE WEEK

Smart Home Technology — What Makes Sense for You?



Smart home technology is becoming a popular feature for homeowners and buyers. No longer just for upscale markets, smart home technology is seen in all property price points. Investing in the right technology can enhance quality of life and attract more home buyers resulting in a better sales price.

Find more information at my blog:
amccafferty.com/blog



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Bea @ 408 761-4002 or Sally 408 826-9619

Play slots



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Table games



OP ED

**Santa Run
offers hope**

650,000 lives impacted positively

By Carl Guardino

CEO, Silicon Valley Leadership Group

It isn't every day that our Silicon Valley Leadership Group Foundation can have a positive impact on the lives of 650,000 people - primarily individuals and families in some of our neediest neighborhoods.

Yet that is precisely what we accomplish through one of our most fun and unique community/charity events.

Our "Santa Run Silicon Valley," generously sponsored by Google, which supports the tutoring program "Reading Partners" through the in-kind donation of children's books, along with financial contributions to "Christmas in the Park" and "Downtown Ice."

I want to encourage you to sign-up and join us on Sunday afternoon, December 15 for our 3:00 pm "Santa Run." You have not laughed until you have seen more than 4,000 people - all dressed up as Santa Claus - chasing "The Grinch" (County Tax Collector Larry Stone) through the streets of Downtown San Jose.

The 5-k Run or Walk is a great way to spend an afternoon, with the finish line at Christmas in the Park, where our 4,000 "Santa Clauses" are greeted with milk & cookies, a finisher medal and a snow machine.

Registration is easy. Visit: www.SantaRunSV.com.

**City unveils
new website**

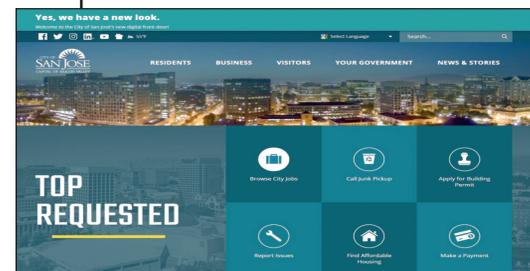
Site required an injection of \$550K to bring it to life after three years of work

It took three years and a recent injection of \$550,000 to bring the city of San Jose's newly refurbished website to life.

Many have lambasted the out of date web presence in the Capital of Silicon Valley as being stuck in the Stone Age. But on Nov. 30, the hard to maneuver website suddenly became a more user-friendly mobile experience.

Visitors to the site, www.sanjoseca.gov can now more easily use the homepage to find info on water, garbage, recycling, yard trimmings, find affordable housing, building permits, make a report, and find other helpful services when needed. Two of the most popular features are making an appointment to pick up junk and browse for city jobs. If you ever wondered what type of benefits the city offers, it's on the site.

There were reports that the make-over took longer because some tech companies lured away city employees working on the project with promises of higher wages and generous benefits. But under the direction of web administrator Matt Opsal, the site is up and running smoothly, with just a few hiccups.



All The Way Home

Continued from page 8

willing to rent to a homeless veteran. Since the launch of the campaign, 826 landlords have agreed to rent to a homeless veteran. These landlords can qualify for a variety of financial incentives, including: a County-funded landlord incentive program that covers security deposits and gratitude payments administered by The Health Trust, and the City of San Jose's "Rebuilding for Heroes" program which provide grants and/or forgivable loans to help landlords

repair or renovate their properties.

The All the Way Home campaign has also received generous donations from Lockheed Martin Space and Opera San Jose.

"We're extremely thankful to all of our public, private and nonprofit partners, whose collective efforts have helped more than 1,600 veterans find a home," said Jennifer Loving, CEO of Destination: Home. "While we still have much work to do, the progress of our All the Way Home campaign has demonstrated what is possible when we pull together the resources and collective will behind a common goal. We can do more when we work together."

Times **Community News**

Zuleyna Martinez, a 9-year-old student at Gardner Academy, paused to go over her shopping list with San Jose Police Officer **Sabrina Robinson** as the pair strolled the aisles of the Target on Coleman Avenue on Dec. 4 for the 12th annual Shop with a Cop event.

'Shop with a Cop' brings holiday experience to underserved kids

By **Carina Woudenberg**
Article courtesy of
San José Spotlight

They were on the hunt for a teddy bear for Martinez's mom and a basketball for her brother — among other items for her family members. For herself, Martinez is hoping to get her hands on a container of slime.

It was a crowded day at Target as the two were joined by more than 200 children who were matched with uniformed officers across various departments to complete their holiday shopping.

The annual event, which was started by retired officer Darrell Cortez and his wife Alicia more than a decade ago, provides underserved children with the opportunity to select gifts for family members and themselves. Cortez serves as the executive director of the Shop with a Cop Foundation Silicon Valley which funds the program.

This year, the foundation provided each participant with a \$175 gift card to spend however they wanted.

Martinez spent most of Tuesday thinking about what she would select for each person on her list, even staying up late to complete the task.

"I'm so excited to buy stuff for my family," Martinez said. "I'm grateful for them."

Officer Robinson — who's been an officer with the San Jose Police Department for a year and a half — says she enjoys it too.

"I love it," she said. "Especially helping the kids."

The foundation selects some of the participants from the Readers Are Leaders campaign. Students who do well in the program are rewarded with the holiday shopping spree. Other children are selected for the event due to hard-

It's a thrilling day for the children, organizers say, but often it's just as rewarding for the officers who get to relax a little on the job.

ship in their lives such as domestic violence or the loss of a parent.

Cortez says the idea is to allow children to get to know uniformed officers in a normal setting rather than a time of crisis.

"We have to show that cops are human," said Cortez, who retired from the police department ten years ago after three decades.

The annual event continues to grow every year. Among other agencies, officers representing the military, Drug Enforcement Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department were on hand to assist the young shoppers while 100 volunteers from various organizations helped by wrapping the gifts.

It's a thrilling day for the children, organizers say, but often it's just as rewarding for the officers who get to relax a little on the job.

"We get to lower our guard," said Officer George Constantina, who participated in the event for his first time. "(The children) can see a different side of us."

Anyone wishing to volunteer, participate or donate to Shop with a Cop Silicon Valley can visit shopwithacopsv.com or mail checks to P.O. Box 8003 in San Jose.

Contact **Carina Woudenberg** at carinaw86@gmail.com or follow @carinaew on Twitter.

2019 Holiday Shipping Deadlines

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 services.

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 deliveries.

Note: FedEx SmartPost is a cost-efficient 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. 16
- FedEx 2Day: Dec. 20
- FedEx Same Day®: Dec. 25

USPS® 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

Fantasy of Lights 2019 drive-thru night through Dec. 30

Fantasy of Lights, one of the most spectacular holiday events in Northern California, is now open for the (closed Dec. 25) the Drive-thru event at Vasona Lake County Park in Los Gatos through December 30.

More than 50 themed displays and a 90-foot twinkling tree will have you "oohing and aahing" throughout your adventure.

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.

Walk-thru and Drive-thru tickets are available at www.parkhere.org. Tickets must be purchased in advance for both events. Tickets are issued by the day of entrance and an allotted time slot of arrival. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Drive-thru Pricing: \$20 per vehicle (up to 12

people); \$50 oversize vehicles (capacity 13+). Fantasy of Light is closed on Christmas Day.

Fantasy of Lights would not be possible without the support of our loyal media sponsors which includes 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.



Casa Grande New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum
21350 Almaden Rd.
San Jose



Step back in time and visit the Victorian Era Casa Grande!
Explore the museum while observing and participating in activities that were commonplace in the 1880s. There will be demonstrations, crafts, and guided tours of the museum by costumed staff and volunteers.



Free event! No reservations required!

For information contact Park Interpreter Victoria Heyse
victoria.heyse@prk.sccgov.org • (408)918-7738



SANTA CLARA™ COUNTY PARKS

OPINION

An open letter to 16-year-old Greta Thunberg from 85-year-old Louise Cate

Dear Greta,

I imagine you must be a little disturbed and a little amazed to find that you can not only tell your parents what to do, you can also scold the UN and everyone else in the world for not doing enough.

You are probably excited to be considered a leader, but do you ever consider that you might be leading your followers in the wrong direction? You claim that the world faces imminent destruction caused by too much CO₂. Did you know people like you warned in 1989 that cities would be flooded by 2000 if CO₂ wasn't controlled? Can you report any cities that have been flooded? There have been many other false climate warnings and when your warning is proven false, how will you justify falsely frightening all your followers?

You may not know there was a warming period in the past when Greenland was warm enough for people to move there to farm abundantly. Have you ever considered that the slight increase in temperature that we have now is being caused by the same forces that once raised the temperature in Greenland?

Have you ever looked at a photo of one of the walls of the Grand Canyon in Arizona, USA? When the Colorado River created the canyon it exposed thousands of different colored layers of sediments revealing the history of the earth in that area for millions of years. The different colors and different contents of each layer indicate constant climate change during those millions of years. Have you ever considered that changes in sunspots, the tilt of the earth's axis, and the shape of the earth's orbit all affect the earth's climate?

You are clearly an intelligent and tenacious young woman. I hope you will use your intelligence and tenacity to explore more than one side of the climate controversy. Perhaps you'll change your mind if you seek out other sources of information.

Please contact me if you are willing to consider examining other information about global warming and I'll send you information that has been collected by people with more education and experience than you.

A real scientist keeps their mind open to examine information that challenges their point of view.

Best wishes!

Louise Cate

Almaden Valley

Apoorva Panidapu of San Jose named World Science Scholar

Apoorva Panidapu of San Jose was one of the 30 students selected from around the world for the 2019 World Science Scholars.

The announcement was made at the World Science Festival – the annual celebration of science that brings together some of the leading minds in science, business, government and the arts.

The Festival identifies the world's most exceptional math students and encourages them to tackle some of the most pressing challenges facing society.

The World Science Scholars program is designed to teach students how they can apply their math skills to a broad range of new disciplines that extend their knowledge of math beyond traditional mathematics into such diverse areas such as neuroscience, physics and astrobiology. This program is designed to expand the personal horizons of the students, inspiring them to pursue opportunities that will have an impact on the world's biggest problems.

"Our goal is to reach the most talented math students in the world and bring them together and show these young people the possibilities of where their gifts can take them," said World Science Festival Co-Founder and CEO Tracy Day. "Ultimately, we want to create a



Apoorva Panidapu

network that is mutually supportive and has the skill set to tackle our world's most significant challenges."

The 2019 Scholars join the 2018 cohort totaling 75 students ranging from age 9 to 17 (at the time of admission), representing 13 countries. The centerpiece of the World Science Scholars courses is riveting lectures by leading Nobel and Breakthrough Prize Winners and bestselling authors, filmed using professional production values. Classes are augmented with a variety of resources, including interactive demonstrations, custom-designed animations, key summaries, community discussion pages, virtual office hours, and live sessions with each expert, creating a substantially enhanced online educational experience.

Participating students will also be able to create a professional, educational, and social network of talented individuals through the community they build. The World Science

Scholars experience also extends far beyond the coursework, with opportunities for interaction and collaboration with peers, teaching fellows, and faculty via the digital platform and social media networks established for these groups, and during the annual World Science Festival in New York City.

The World Science Scholars program is made possible by a grant from the John Templeton Foundation. The students were chosen after either being nominated from the World Science Festival network of individuals and organizations, or learning about the program through select media and by directly applying. The World Science Scholars program is committed to identifying students from diverse communities regardless of their race, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic class or location.

This broad, multifaceted approach to identifying and recruiting students who have the potential to become a "one-in-a-million" mind reflects a commitment to creating a network of students from diverse backgrounds with a burning desire to engage in challenging coursework and meet people similar to them. For students with innate, exceptional abilities who lack the means or access to resources to help them reach their potential, the high-quality digital experience of the World Science Scholars program, will be a life-changing experience.

Upon completion of the World Science Scholars program, students become members of an alumni network that helps to identify and support future cohorts based upon their own experiences in the program. Over time, the hope is that the connections between past and present cohorts lead to mentoring relationships, friendships, and professional collaborations, as well as future engagements with the World Science Festival and the larger mathematics and science communities.

Bax and Chung Duo to perform January 11

Husband and wife team presented by Steinway Society At Hammer Theatre

Husband and wife team Alessio Bax and Lucille Chung, called one of the most "appealing and impressive piano duos of our time," will be the featured artists in the January concert of Steinway Society – The Bay Area's 25th Anniversary Season.

The concert will be held Saturday, January 11, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. at Hammer Theatre Center in San Jose. A pre-concert talk starts at 6:45 p.m. The artists will be available to meet the audience following the concert.

Established artists in their own rights, Bax and Chung first met at Japan's Hamamatsu Competition, where Bax says, "I think we fell in love with each other's playing!" Since then, they have performed in major festivals and concert halls around the world, as well as recorded three CDs featuring



Husband and wife duo **Alessio Bax** and **Lucille Chung** will perform four-hand piano music on Saturday evening, January 11, 2020 at Hammer Theatre in San Jose, as part of Steinway Society's 25th Anniversary Season. *Photo courtesy of Steinway Society*

works of Saint-Saens, Stravinsky, and Ligeti for piano four hands and two pianos.

Besides their individual solo careers and their newest duo collaboration as parents of four-year-old Mila, they are also co-artistic directors of the Joaquin Achúcarro Foundation in Dallas, created to cultivate the legacy of the Basque pianist and to support young pianists' careers.

PROGRAM

Schubert, Fantasie in F Minor for Piano Four-Hands, D. 940 (Op. posth. 103)

1. Allegro molto moderato
2. Largo
3. Allegro vivace
4. Tempo I

Debussy, Petite Suite for Piano Four-Hands

1. En bateau ("Sailing") (Andantino)
2. Cortège ("Procession") (Moderato)
3. Menuet (Moderato)
4. Ballet (Allegro giusto)

INTERMISSION

Stravinsky, Petrushka for Piano Four-Hands

- I. First Tableau: The Shrovetide Fair
Russian Dance
- II. Second Tableau: Petrushka's Room
- III. Third Tableau: The Moor's Room
Waltz: The Ballerina and the Moor

IV. Fourth Tableau: The Shrovetide Fair (Towards Evening)

1. Dance of the Nursemaids
2. The Peasant and the Bear
3. Dance of the Gypsy Women
4. Dance of the Coachmen and Grooms

5. Masqueraders

6. Scuffle (The Moor and Petrushka)

7. Death of Petrushka

8. The Policeman and the

Charlatan

9. Apparition of Petrushka's Double

Piazzolla-Bax/Chung

Milonga del ángel for Piano Four-Hands

Piazzolla-Bax/Chung

Libertango for Piano Four-Hands

TICKETS/INFO

Single Tickets: \$40-\$60. Senior/Student Discounts Available. Student Rush \$10, thirty minutes prior to the performance: www.steinwaysociety.com or (408) 300-5635

Editor's note: There will be a pre-concert lecture (6:45 p.m.). Meet-the-artists time follows the concert. Hammer Theatre Center is located at: 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San Jose, CA.

Times **Community News**

Almaden's Super Lions

By **Greg Goodman**
Special to the Times



Lion's Club
Greg Goodman,
Director at Large

Almaden Lions and our president Tom Smith has partnered up with Angel Warriors this Holiday season.

Angel Warriors is a local 501(c)(3) foundation that serves the needs of families with a child that has cancer here in Santa Clara County and its surrounding communities.

These are families that are in need for our services.

Here are just a few of their needs which Angel Warriors through our contributions have helped:

Monetary funeral services; help with Direct Bill Assistance for rent, utilities, phone and other important bills; supplied Practical Support including gas, groceries, vehicle maintenance, meals, clothing, car seats, diapers, smoke detectors, and other necessities valued at over \$61,000;

We pledged to support cleaning services to families who want to take care of their children in a clean environment at home; and we finally adopted 56 families at the holiday season through their Holiday Family Blessings campaign.

How can we as a community help?

Make a monetary donation restricted to the Holiday campaign or unrestricted for all needs.

Adopt families from

Santa Clara County, Angel warriors will let Tom know each family's wishes. You can shop for items or have Angel Warriors volunteers do the shopping. Needed items include warm blankets, bath towels, socks, household cleaning supplies, grocery and gas cards, Target/Walmart cards, or a toy or book for each pediatric cancer child and his or her sibling.

If you choose to get involved in this worthwhile community giving endeavor: please contact our president Lion Tom Smith at 408 646-2687 or his email tsmith14857@gmail.com.

Relax at Christmas with floral decorations

Christmas is a time with a lot more sights, sounds and clutter.

Actually, however, we'd rather reduce some of this sensory input. A good reason, thus, to use flowers in your Christmas decorations. This is because flowers promote a sense of calm during all the commotion of the holidays.

Different kind of decorations

It's the most beautiful time of the year. Even so, Christmas is also a time filled with stress and a long list of extra things to do. If you'd like to relax a bit this year, what about making some changes in your decorations? Using flowers in pastel colors would be the first step. This is a good way of creating the look of Christmas in your home while also making it a relaxing retreat.

Flower power

Flowers have that special something that lets you relax and feel good. So why wait? Go ahead and fill your house with flowers like tulips, hyacinths, anemones and grape hyacinths. Snowy white is a natural choice as the main color. Then widen the color palette with delicate pastels augmented by soothing natural tints and pink accents.

An alternative

Why not replace Christmas baubles with tulips and hyacinths for a chilled-out look? To achieve this, hang tiny vases in the tree and fill them with water and flowers. Then use the top-of-the-tree decoration in a vase filled with tulips, anemones and Polianthus. What a great way to give your home that look and feel of Christmas without the extra clutter!

More information about bulb flowers is available at www.ilsysays.com.



Photo by Teresa Aragó (CC2.0)

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 &
The Harp Ensemble
 Saturday, December 14, 7:30 PM

The San Jose Youth Symphony is proud to be part of this wonderful holiday tradition, now celebrating its 25th annual performance with the Church this season!



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

San Jose lawmakers approve new tax for primary ballot

"Taxpayers are growing weary of new taxes." – Johnny Khamis

By **Nadia Lopez**

Article courtesy of San José Spotlight

A hotly contested real property transfer tax will be placed on the March 2020 ballot, but it wasn't easy getting there. Several lawmakers reignited a debate on Tuesday, Dec. 3 around putting the measure on the ballot before settling on a draft.

In a 8-3 vote, the councilors approved the ballot draft language for next year's primary election, but the move was met with disagreement from many councilmembers who expressed concerns about residents being overtaxed and the tax revenue streaming into the city's general fund, which can be used for any purpose.

Councilmembers Johnny Khamis, Dev Davis and Sergio Jimenez dissented.

"There's no question that homelessness and housing supply are our biggest issues in San Jose and all of the Bay Area," Davis said. "I won't be voting for it today because this measure is revenue that would go straight to the general fund. There is no guarantee that this money will ever be spent on homelessness and housing, or that these items will continue to be the focus for this revenue over time and with other councils."

Khamis agreed, adding that it's "dishonest" to call it a tax for housing when it's a general tax and that the only way to increase affordability is for the city to reduce the cost of construction, find new land to develop on and use existing funds.

But Councilmember Sylvia Arenas rebutted many of her colleagues' concerns about the measure being a general tax, adding that recent polling showed voters favored the potential tax. "This is what is palatable to them, which is most important, so it doesn't matter whether we want a specific tax or general tax," Arenas added. "From the polling, this is what they're willing to approve."

The potential ballot draft will include strong accountability and transparency measures, requiring a 60-day notice and a two-thirds council vote before lawmakers shift funding, and creating a citizens oversight committee. In addition, the draft will include exemptions for property sales valued under \$2 million

based on inflation.

The exemption was recommended by Mayor Sam Liccardo and Councilmembers Pam Foley and Lan Diep, who said first time home-buyers will be protected from a potential "barrier entry" into the housing market. But Vice Mayor Chappie Jones raised concerns that the potential tax is not actually targeting the "wealthy" demographic it's supposed to, as many of his constituents live in homes valued at more than \$2 million but are retired or living on fixed incomes.

"This is not a tax on wealthy residents. These are elderly people who've worked hard, saved a lot of their savings in their home and they're counting on that," Jones said. "If they have to sell their house, it's not just this transfer tax but it's also other taxes, commissions and fees that will eat up their life savings."

While city officials said nearly 98 percent of all homeowners would not be affected by the tax, Jones said 42 out of the 229 San Jose homes valued at \$2 million or more that sold last year were in his district.

But the mayor said home prices have been decreasing over the last 10 years. Councilmember Raul Perez added that selling a home over the \$2 million threshold will not "make or break" a person's retirement considering the tax will be evenly split between the buyer and seller, decreasing the burden on the property owner.

Still, Khamis said taxpayers are growing weary of new taxes and called on the city to use funds offered by big tech companies.

But Councilmember Maya Esparza said those funds won't help solve all of San Jose's problems, considering they'll be distributed to multiple cities, and even to the state. Liccardo agreed, saying that while the city beefed up resources in emergency response and fire department, it lacks the nearly \$40 million in funds from the loss if its redevelopment agency, which was devoted to building affordable housing.

The new tax can generate up to \$70 million a year, according to housing officials.

"One thing we have not improved is the state of homelessness in our city, or the lack of affordable housing," Liccardo said. "We are continuing to fail to meet our goals in part

See TAX, next page



**Want to
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 news item
 for the
 Almaden Times?**

Press day: December 23, 2019

Deadline: December 19, 2019

Write to editorial@timesmediainc.com

Almaden Times

Times **Local News**

Taffetas appear at Tabard

Starring as The Taffetas: **Lindsay Sommers** as Donna (peach), **Brennah Kemmerly** as Peggy (lavender), **Melissa Gialdini** as Cheryl (pink) and **Elizabeth Neff** as Kaye (blue) at Tabard Theatre, downtown San Jose, through Dec 22. *Photo credit: Edmond Kwong/ImageWurx*

Symphony Silicon Valley Chorale presents 'Carols in the California' Saturday, Dec 14

Symphony Silicon Valley Chorale presents "Carols in the California" on Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 7 p.m. at the California Theatre.

A Family Holiday Tradition! The Symphony Silicon Valley Chorale under the baton of Elena Sharkova presents the 14th Annual "Carols in the California," an exciting and festive program of holiday cheer. And this year, Broadway and symphonic star Lisa Vroman will guest.

Come for a traditional sing-along of your favorite carols with choir and brass ensemble and prepare to be dazzled by performances of classical works by members of Symphony Silicon Valley and the SSV Chorale all in the warm glow of the beautifully restored California Theatre.

The program includes such popular and tra-

ditional songs as: Bright Morning Stars are Rising, Cantate Domino, Go Tell It on the Mountain, Christ Was Born on Christmas Day, O Little Town of Bethlehem, Sing Hallelu! and much more.

And while downtown, enjoy Christmas in the Park, The Holiday Ice Rink Under the Palms, and Winter Wonderland rides and games just two blocks from the theater. San Jose comes alive with the Holiday Season, with activities and memories for the entire family! All-day parking is available for just \$5 at the city-owned garage on Second and San Carlos Streets.

PRICES: \$36 (\$26 for attendees under 26 years old.) BOX OFFICE: 408.286.2600 or www.symphonysiliconvalley.org Or visit the Box Office between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at 325 South First Street in downtown San Jose, between San Carlos and San Salvador Streets just one-half block from the California Theatre. Easy, inexpensive parking just one block away at San Jose City Garage on San Carlos Street with entrances on 2nd and 3rd Streets.

Tax

Continued from previous page

because for many years we had the assistance of redevelopment. That money went away, and as a result we have struggled mightily. We need more funding to address these crises that we face."

Esparza asked city officials to make the new ballot measure available in multiple languages and to ensure all residents are informed before voting.

New fees for landlords who violate rental laws

Also on Tuesday, the City Council voted unanimously to implement new fees for landlords who violate the city's rental laws, including just cause eviction, rent control and the Ellis Act.

Jimenez was absent for the vote.

In the past, a court would mandate a fee of up to \$10,000 to landlords who violated these laws, but housing officials said they hope to

cut out that process through the city-mandated fines. The city however can still pursue any civil or criminal proceedings for the same violations.

Several property owners said the tax places an undue burden on "mom and pop" landlords, potentially forcing them out of the market. But housing officials said the fees will ensure landlords comply with the updated San Jose tenant protections, and can be helpful to resolving disputes between tenants and landlords before any legal action is taken.

Violations are separated into two categories: Curable, which means they can be resolved and fees can potentially be waived, or non-curable, classified as potentially criminal and more severe. Violators will be able to contest any citation.

"What we're hoping is that they will continue to communicate with us and with their landlord and fix the problem," said Housing Director Jacky Morales-Ferrand.

The new citations go into effect in Spring 2020.

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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.

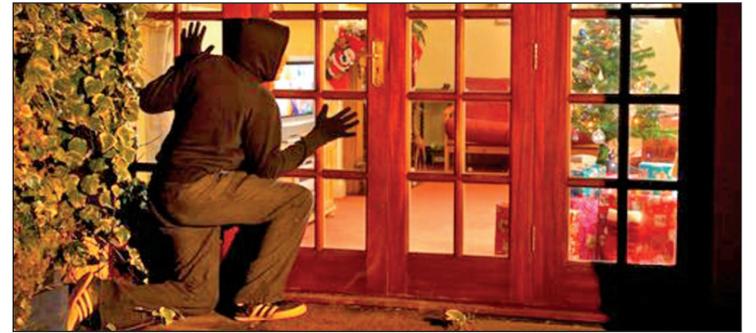
Stop by the main desk at the Almaden Community Center and ask for an application today. Yearly dues of \$10 are returned to you by discounts to most of the programs you participate in.

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**



Holiday preparation - It's not just about decorating!

By **Johnny Khamis**
Special to the Times

Each year, around the holidays, I take a moment in my

responsible for investigating and apprehending individuals or groups involved in property crimes, with a focus on burglaries and thefts.

newsletter to remind everyone to be vigilant and safety-aware because it is, historically, a time when burglaries and thefts increase.

The BPU is using data-driven analytics to determine the areas of San José experiencing high burglary rates to focus their efforts. They work closely with the SJPD Financial Crimes Unit to target burglary crews, trends, and burglary strings and to enforce pawn shop regulations.

With holiday deliveries, shopping excursions to local stores, and families traveling out of the area to visit relatives, opportunities abound for thieves and burglars.

We encourage the community to partner with the BPU by

Chief Garcia of the San Jose Police Department



District 10 Report
Johnny Khamis,
City Councilmember

everything they can to keep us safe during the holidays and I'm happy to report that their efforts have produced a 9.1 percent decrease in burglaries compared to the same period last year. We, too, have a part to play in improving safety and awareness by reviewing, sharing, and following the SJPD's crime prevention tips.

providing information about suspicious or ongoing criminal activity by filling out their PBP Tip Line form: www.sjpd.org/_forms/bputipline.asp.

Helping to drive down burglaries in San José has been the creation of the SJPD Burglary Prevention Unit (BPU). Last year, Chief Garcia created and implemented the BPU within the SJPD Investigations Division. The BPU is

Persons wishing to remain anonymous may call the Crime Stoppers Tip Line, (408) 947-STOP (7867), or click "Submit a Tip" on their website. Persons providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of suspects may be eligible for a cash reward from the Silicon Valley Crime Stoppers.

Stay safe while you enjoy the holidays with family and friends!

South Bay Post Offices extend hours for next two Saturdays

To ease the hustle and bustle of getting your holiday shipments in the mail and on their way, select South Bay Post Offices in the Bay-Valley postal district will be open for full retail services on the next two December Saturdays - the 14th and 21st.

The following post offices will be open for retail service from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Dec. 14 and 21:

POST OFFICE	ADDRESS
Campbell Main	500 W. Hamilton Ave., Campbell CA 95008
Cupertino Main	21701 Steven Creek Blvd., Cupertino CA 95014
Los Gatos Main	101 S. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos CA 95030
Milpitas Main	450 S. Abel St., Milpitas, CA 95035
San Jose Main	1750 Lundy Ave. San Jose, CA 95101
San Jose-Willow Glen	1750 Meridian Ave., San Jose, CA 95125
San Jose-Westgate	4285 Payne Ave., San Jose, CA 95117
San Jose - Berryessa	1315 Piedmont Rd., San Jose, CA 95132

To search for a specific Post Office, go to <https://tools.usps.com/find-location.htm>

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2019 RAM 1500 CLASSIC 4-DOOR

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2019 RAM 1500 TRADESMAN 4-DOOR

NET PRICE AFTER DEALER DISCOUNT AND REBATES

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NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

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\$19,999

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2018 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED 4X4

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2018 JEEP RENEGADE LIMITED 4X4

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Times **Community News**

Flynn

Continued from page 1

14.3. “Jenna makes everyone around her better,” Rise said. “Jenna didn’t just come in and score. Her teammates also scored more with her there – nearly 3 goals more per game. What makes Jenna special, though, is that she is not just a stat player. Jenna does everything. She had over 20 field blocks, is all over the place on defense, and led the team in assists. When your best player takes pride in those areas, then everyone else does too.”

Flynn started her season by representing Team USA at the Youth World Championships where she was also chosen as MVP. She followed that up by scoring five goals for Team USA’s Junior National Team at the Junior World Championship. She was one of only three high schoolers on that junior team.

“It is humbling being selected Player of the Year,” Flynn said. “Water Polo is the ultimate team sport, so the concept of an MVP or Player of the Year is strange to me. This award belongs to my teammates. Whether you are playing high school or for Team USA you can’t get an MVP without your team. You can’t score without a good pass from a teammate, and you can’t get an assist without your teammates scoring. We all have the same goal to win a championship, and you can’t do that by yourself. You need the team!”

Leland had three other players make the list along with Flynn: Sydney Scott, 3rd team and Mia Raimondi and Alyssa Ross Honorable Mention. Sydney and Mia stepped up huge this year. Sydney was 2nd on the team in scoring with 50 goals. She went from being 3rd off our bench last year to becoming our #2 scoring threat this year. Mia also stepped up huge from JV last year to making the starting line up and playing great at both ends of the pool. Alyssa was our only other returning starter. She had scored three goals in last year’s championship victory, but missed 2/3 of the season do to injury. She came on huge for us to help us reach the CCS finals again this year.

Eight players who are on the San Jose Almaden Water Polo club made the list: Katelynn Bettencourt from Soquel, Arrington McGee from Mitty, Grace Smith from Willow Glen, Sydney Scott from Leland, Mia Raimondi from Leland, Roxanne Harris from Soquel, Annalise Baust from Mitty, and Alyssa Ross from Leland.

This season at Leland, Flynn has racked up an impressive 130 goals, 50 assists, and 74 drawn ejections in 20 matches.

At the Blossom Valley Athletic League Mt. Hamilton Division Girls Water Polo Championship match

recently, Flynn had 10 goals and two assists in a 15-5 victory over Willow Glen. This marked Leland’s 12th straight league championship with a 94 game win streak in league. Flynn was also named the BVAL MVP. Sydney Scott was named BVAL Senior of the Year and Mia Raimondi was named BVAL Sophomore of the Year. First team All League players included Alyssa Ross, Mia Raimondi, and Ashley Ren. Second team All League included Marin Faria and Katrina Huynh.

When asked what’s her favorite part of playing water polo? Jenna said, “My favorite part of it is the team, having someone be there for you. Those girls are like my family.”

2019 All-CCS Girls Water Polo

Player of the Year: Jenna Flynn, Leland, 10

FIRST TEAM

- Jenna Flynn, Leland, 10
- Eleanor Facey, Sacred Heart, 11
- Ella Woodhead, Sacred Heart, 10
- Kelsey Matthies, Soquel, 10
- Elise Walker, St. Francis, 12
- Ella Bachler, Sacred Heart, 11
- Sophie Golub, Menlo, 12
- Annabel Facey, Sacred Heart, 12
- Katelynn Bettencourt, Soquel, 12
- Arrington McGee, Mitty, 12
- Mariah Walker, Santa Clara, 12

SECOND TEAM

- (G) Grace Smith, Willow Glen, 12
- Cooper McKenna, Gunn, 12
- Sydney Bianchi, Menlo, 12
- (G) Megan Norris, SHP, 11
- Quinn Healy, Soquel, 9
- Courtney Okumura, St. Francis, 11
- Lucia Sarimacki, St. Ignatius, 11
- Minhee Chung, Castilleja, 12
- (G) Jackie King, Los Gatos, 10
- Christina Reed, St. Francis, 12

THIRD TEAM

- Sydney Scott, Leland, 12
- Kate Mallery, Gunn, 11
- (G) Stephanie Santos, Valley Christian, 12
- Elise Mullen, Presentation, 11
- Lexi Triantis, Castilleja, 11
- Belene Rodriguez, Santa Cruz, 10
- Sophia Harvey, Presentation, 11
- Kate Morgan, Stevenson, 10
- Ola Szczerba, Sacred Heart, 10
- Slike Tulys, Los Altos, 12
- Chesnie Chung, Palo Alto, 12

HONORABLE MENTION

- Mia Raimondi, Leland, 10
- Ashley Penner, Sacred Heart, 12
- Mina Woyciehowski, Valley Christian, 12
- Hailey Multz, St. Francis, 10
- (G) Lucy Holland, Los Gatos, 10
- Kathryn Peak, Santa Clara, 12
- Roxanne Harris, Soquel, 12
- Annie Bisconti, Menlo, 12
- Carly Whitaker, Presentation, 11
- Annalise Baust, Mitty, 12
- Alyssa Ross, Leland, 12



Residents enjoy music at Almaden Senior Association Holiday Brunch

More than a hundred seniors enjoyed joyful carols performed by the “Merrie Old Carolers” at the Almaden Senior Association Holiday Brunch on Saturday, Dec. 7.

Almaden senior chefs prepared scrumptious items such as Omelet Ranchero, Canadian Bacon, Potatoes O’Brien, Berry Yogurt Parfait, Mimosa, Orange Juice, Coffee.

2019 - 20
SYMPHONY
SEASON

SYMPHONY SILICON VALLEY

SET #1:
Peacock Variations & Tchaikovsky
October 5-6, 2019
Conductor: **Carlos Vieu**
◆ Kodály: Variations on a Hungarian Theme – Peacock Variations
◆ TCHAIKOVSKY: Symphony No. 6 – Pathétique

SET #2:
Partners & Dances
October 26-27, 2019
Conductor: **JoAnn Falletta**
Soloists: **Robin Mayforth & Evan Kahn**
◆ LIU BOULANGER: D'un soir triste
◆ LIU BOULANGER: D'un matin de printemps
◆ DAVID AMRAM: Partners: Violin & Cello Double Concerto (SSV co-commission)
◆ RACHMANINOFF: Symphonic Dances

SET #3:
Khachaturian & Brahms
December 7-8, 2019
Conductor: **Pietro Rizzo**
Soloist: **Nareh Arghamanyan, piano**
◆ GLINKA: Ruslan and Ludmilla Overture
◆ KHACHATURIAN: Piano Concerto
◆ BRAHMS: Symphony No. 2

SET #4:
Film with Full Score The Red Violin
January 24-26, 2020
Conductor: **Shih-Hung Young**
Soloist: **Lara St. John, violin**
◆ CORRIGLIANO: The Red Violin

SET #5:
Nakamatsu Plays Beethoven
March 21-22, 2020
Conductor: **John Nelson**
Soloist: **Jon Nakamatsu, piano**
◆ BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 2
◆ BEETHOVEN: Choral Fantasy
◆ SCHUMANN: Symphony No. 4

SET #6:
Mozart, Lutoslawski & Brahms
May 9-10, 2020
Conductor: **Tito Muñoz**
Soloist: **Giora Schmidt, violin**
◆ MOZART: Symphony No. 35 – Haffner
◆ LUTOSLAWSKI: Concerto for Orchestra
◆ BRAHMS: Violin Concerto

SET #7:
Schubert & A Sea Symphony
June 6-7, 2020
Conductor: **Tatsuya Shimono**
Soloists:
◆ Symphony Silicon Valley Chorale
◆ SCHUBERT: Symphony No. 8 – Unfinished
◆ VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: A Sea Symphony

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Times **Community**



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Petra Pack won the Project Award for their exceptional ideas.

Robotics

Continued from page 1
solution to the problem using existing research and talking to experts in the field.

At the tournament, the teams ran their robot on the fields to and tried to get as many points as they could in their two and a half minute matches. Each team was judged on their research project, their robot design, and their core values of the FIRST programs.

FLL team RoboPixls won the Champion's Award for their out-

standing performance and scored the highest robot performance score of the day.

Team Eagle Bots won the Robot Design award. Team Petra Pack won the Project Award with their exceptional ideas, and displaying amazing teamwork and gracious professionalism, Team da Catbots won the Core Values Award. Finally, Team HyperShock Bulldogs won the Overall Judges Award.

Five of the Quixilver Qualifier teams will be advancing to the Silicon Valley Championship, held at Saint Francis High School in Mountain View on Saturday, December 14th.



At the tournament, the teams ran their robot on the fields to and tried to get as many points as they could.

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- Mobile App



Times **Community**



Supervisor **Mike Wasserman** signs his name to a beam at the Topping Off ceremony for the new Santa Clara County Animal Services Center.

Animal Services Center topping off ceremony

By **Mike Wasserman**
Special to the Times

It was a beautiful day to attend the "Topping off" Ceremony for the new Santa Clara County

Animal Shelter in San Martin - a monumental construction milestone on Nov. 22.

When I first set foot in the existing 70-year-old County Animal Shelter as a newly elected County Supervisor, I vowed then and there to help build a new and improved one. I am so proud that after years of planning, our new LEED Silver certified Animal Services Center is on track to open in 2021!

The 37,000 square foot facility will include:

- Modern dog dorms that allow dogs indoor and outdoor access,
- An open air outside park for dogs to interact with potential for-

ever owners,

- Free-roam cat condos with climbing structures,
- A 10-stall barn and pasture,
- Two surgical clinics to service

our growing animal population, and

- A community space that will accommodate up to 300 people at a time.

We must still raise funds to complete critical infrastructure inside this state-of-the-art facility, and I hope that you will consider supporting local animals with a tax-deductible financial contribution. If you are considering making a holiday

donation - please keep this in mind! Donate online at www.aplace4animals.com or call (408) 918-4643 to discuss strategic opportunities that match your wishes.



County Report

Mike Wasserman,
County Supervisor

Blood donors needed during the month of December

The need for blood doesn't pause for the holidays.

Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, more than 1 million units of blood could be transfused in the United States.

Despite this constant need, busy holiday schedules make it difficult for the American Red Cross to collect enough blood to meet those patient needs. Donors of all blood types, especially type O, are urgently needed.

In thanks for being the lifeline patients need this holiday season, the Red Cross is thanking those

who come to give now through Dec. 18 with a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email, courtesy of Suburban Propane.

Individuals are urged to give a lifesaving gift this holiday season by making an appointment to donate blood or platelets and help the American Red Cross ensure a sufficient supply is available for patients throughout the holiday season. Those with type O blood are especially needed.

During the holiday season, set aside an hour to give blood and be the lifeline patients need. Make an appointment now by downloading the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

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Sales Event

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2020 Hyundai Accent SE
AUTOMATIC, AIR

MSRP	\$17,555
Dealer Discount	-\$3,528
Sale Price	\$14,027
First Responder Rebate*	-\$500
Hyundai Rebate	-\$750

Net Price After Discounts and Rebates **\$12,777**

*Customer (or spouse) must be an active First Responder (Police, Firefighter, EMT/Paramedic or 911 Dispatcher). Must show proof of current employment.

2019 Hyundai Sonata

MSRP	\$23,715
Dealer Discount	-\$2,966
Sale Price	\$20,749
Hyundai Rebate	-\$2,750
Hyundai Sales Event Cash	-\$500
HMF Rebate	-\$1,000
First Responder Rebate*	-\$500

Net Price After Discounts and Rebates **\$15,999**

*Customer (or spouse) must be an active First Responder (Police, Firefighter, EMT/Paramedic or 911 Dispatcher). Must show proof of current employment.

2020 Hyundai Elantra SE
AUTOMATIC, AIR

MSRP	\$20,250
Dealer Discount	-\$4,001
Sale Price	\$16,249
Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash	-\$1,250
First Responder Rebate*	-\$500
Hyundai Sales Event Cash	-\$500

Net Price After Discounts and Rebates **\$13,999**

*Customer (or spouse) must be an active First Responder (Police, Firefighter, EMT/Paramedic or 911 Dispatcher). Must show proof of current employment.

2019 Hyundai Tucson SE
AUTOMATIC, AIR

MSRP	\$24,775
Dealer Discount	-\$4,277
Sale Price	\$20,498
Hyundai Rebate	-\$2,000
First Responder Rebate*	-\$500
Hyundai Sales Event Cash	-\$500
Hyundai Regional Sales Event Cash	-\$500

Net Price After Discounts and Rebates **\$16,998**

*Customer (or spouse) must be an active First Responder (Police, Firefighter, EMT/Paramedic or 911 Dispatcher). Must show proof of current employment.

2019 Hyundai Sonata Limited

Dealer Discount Off MSRP	-\$6,588
Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash	-\$3,000

Net Savings Off MSRP After Discounts and Rebates **\$9,588**

*Customer (or spouse) must be an active First Responder (Police, Firefighter, EMT/Paramedic or 911 Dispatcher). Must show proof of current employment.

2019 Hyundai Sonata Plug-In Hybrid Limited
AUTOMATIC, AIR

Dealer Discount Off MSRP	-\$5,988
Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash	-\$2,000

Net Savings Off MSRP After Discounts and Rebates **\$7,988**

*Customer (or spouse) must be an active First Responder (Police, Firefighter, EMT/Paramedic or 911 Dispatcher). Must show proof of current employment.

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AUTOMATIC, A/C

4 at this Discount #075914, 086766, 076862, 075947 Dealer Discount off MSRP **\$7,988**

2019 Hyundai Ioniq Hybrid Limited

1 at this Net Savings! #137631 Dealer Discount Off MSRP - \$4,738 Hyundai Retail Bonus Cash - \$1,250 Net Savings Off MSRP After Discounts and Rebates **\$5,988**

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483206 **\$10,999** AUTO MATIC

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467708 **\$9,999** AUTO MATIC

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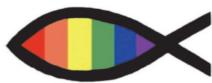
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Our ministries/activities include:

- Bible study on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6PM.
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- Lighted Window Productions featuring uplifting concerts, thought-provoking theater productions, informative lec-

tures, and even an occasional karaoke night--all in a wholesome environment.
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- Shared Laughter

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

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Bible class at 9:30 AM
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Web: www.eca-sj.org
At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, loved, valued and empowered to serve. Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family. All junior high and senior high students are welcome to participate in our Youth Groups. During the school year we have joint Sunday School with our sister church, the Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, UCC. The Episcopal Church in Almaden offers the following regular opportunities for worship: Sunday at 7:30AM and 10:45AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.



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"As-Salaamu-Alaikum," the Arabic greeting meaning "Peace be upon you".
Announcement: Evergreen Islamic Center (EIC) will hold its annual fundraising dinner on December 7th, 2019 at Chandni Restaurant located at 5748 Mowry School Rd., Newark, CA at 5:30 PM. Please purchase ticket online from EIC's website and bring friends & family members to the event.
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. Jazak Allahu Khayran!

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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!



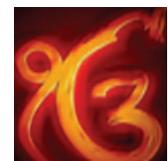
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Faith.Knowledge. Community - this is our promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, 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 Sixty High School Youth Ministry by calling 408-997-5106. Holy Spirit School serves grades Pre-K through 8th, and is located at 1198 Redmond Avenue. You can reach the school office at 408-268-0794.

thepoint.church
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(408) 270-7646
English Service: Sundays at 9:30 & 11:00 AM
Spanish Service: 11:00 AM
Cambodian Service: 11:00 AM
Cantonese Service: 11:00 AM
Mandarin Service: 11:00AM
Youth Extreme Point (7th-12th grade): Every Saturday at 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH
We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and wherever 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 (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www.churchsanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.



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

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Saturday, December 21, 2019
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For questions call: Rich: 408 219-8641 or
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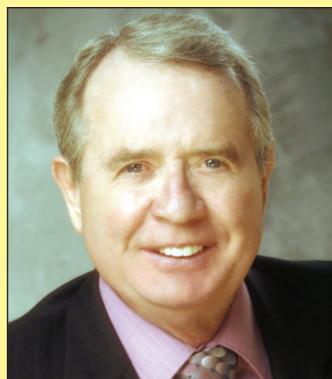


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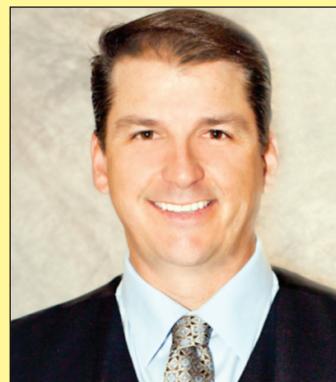
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Employment

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:

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