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High School
student self-publishes
her first book
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FEB. 14 - FEB. 27, 2020 ■ VOL. 37, NO. 4

EvergreenTimes

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East Side Union High School District to cut 69 positions to combat anticipated \$20M deficit

To combat a \$20M anticipated deficit East Side Union High School District (ESUHS) proposes cutting 69 positions at all High Schools.

A resolution was presented at the ESUHS board meeting on Feb. 13 titled Reduction or Elimination of Services Resolution #2019-2020-20.

The resolution states that "the current number of classified positions is no longer possible due to lack of funds and lack of work. WHEREAS, Sections 45114, 45117, 45298 and 45308 of the California Education Code authorize the Governing Board to eliminate the service of such positions, for lack of funds, and/or lack of work; See DEFICIT, page 5

State senate candidates at D8CRT Candidate Forum answer relevant questions impacting the Evergreen community

By William Bellou
Publisher

Editor's note: The D8CRT City Council Forum was covered in the last issue of the Evergreen times. In this issue we report on the D8CRT State Senate Forum.

In the state senate candidate District 8 Round Table Candidate Forum held Jan. 25 at Grace Church in Evergreen, the candidates answered a number of relevant questions that impact the Evergreen community.

"The questions from the steering committee and from the audience really touched on the most important issues impacting District 8 and our city, therefore giving each candidate an opportunity to share their ideas for how they would tackle important issues," said Jeremy Barousse, D8CRT President.

None of the District 15 state senate candidates received questions in advance. Questions presented to the candidates included homelessness, home affordability, public safety, proposition 13 modification, restructuring PG&E, and climate change.

Former San Jose City Councilmember Pierluigi Olivero served as moderator for the forum.



State senator candidates participating in the District 8 Round Table State Senate Candidate Forum (left to right) are: **Nora Campos, Johnny Khamis, Ann Ravel, Dave Cortese, and Tim Gildersleeve.** Photo courtesy of Wesley Lee

Participating in the senate forum were: Nora Campos, former state Assemblymember for California's 23rd State Assembly district (2010-2012) and California's 27th State Assembly district (2012-2016) and candidate for California's 15th State Senate district in 2016; Dave Cortese, Santa Clara County supervisor; Tim Gildersleeve, candidate for U.S. Senate in 2016 and 2018; Johnny Khamis, San Jose City Councilmember; and Ann Ravel, former chair of the Federal Election Commission.

State senate Dist. 15 candidates, vying for the seat of soon to be termed out state senator Jim Beall, introduced themselves to the audience each with a one minute opening remark.

The candidates' comments appear in the same order as they addressed the audience.

Gildersleeve said that Jesus Christ's example of serving others inspires him to serve. Pro-union and pro-environment, Gildersleeve believes tuition-free education, universal health

See FORUM, page 16

Major changes coming to upcoming elections: March 3

By Elizabeth Mendez
Article courtesy of
San José Spotlight

Reparations are underway across California for the upcoming March 3 primary election, which for the first time since 2008, will allow California voters to participate near the beginning of the presidential primary process.

Plus, a new law called the California Voter's Choice Act takes effect in Santa Clara County this year. That means every voter in Santa Clara County will receive a ballot in the mail and they will be able to choose where to cast their vote in person.

The traditional model tied every voter to a certain polling place. If



Advertisements like the one seen here on a shopping cart are just one of the ways Santa Clara County is increasing outreach before the March 3rd elections. Photo courtesy of the County of Santa Clara Registrar of Voters' Office.

they didn't go to their designated polling place, they'd have to use a provisional ballot. But that's all changing this year.

"Any voter can go to any vote center to cast their ballot. They can even go there without the ballot in hand and have a ballot printed on

demand," said Eric Kurhi, a spokesman for the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters.

Beginning on Feb. 29 until Election Day, more than 120 voting centers will open in Santa Clara County. About 25 other locations will open 10 days before the elec-

tion. According to the county, nearly three-quarters of the ballots cast in the Nov. 2016 election were vote-by-mail ballot.

The Santa Clara County registrar's office is ramping up its outreach before the historic election with multi-lingual advertisements. Teenage activists with the March for Our Lives San Jose chapter held a voter registration drive that featured workshops from Californians for Justice and the gun violence team from Archbishop Mitty High School's advocacy project.

Since 2016, 16- and 17-year-olds have been allowed to pre-register to vote. As of Oct. 2019, there are 155,954 teenagers pre-registered See ELECTIONS, page 10

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Editorial: Elect Lee to Board of Supervisors **Mercury News - February 2, 2020**

Three Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors seats are being contested in the March 3 election, and the races couldn't be more different. ...And in District 3, four qualified candidates are vying to replace termed-out Supervisor Dave Cortese.

The county has a \$7 billion budget and employs 22,000 workers in more than 70 different departments. In addition to serving as the safety net for those in need, the Board of Supervisors' broad responsibilities include funding public safety and ensuring a fair criminal justice system, preventing homelessness and maintaining county roads, parks and libraries.

We recommend Simitian in District 5, Chavez in District 2 and former Sunnyvale City Councilman Otto Lee in District 3.

District 3 [which includes Evergreen]

We recommended Otto Lee for the District 3 seat in 2008, when he ran against Cortese, and we haven't changed our minds about his strengths.

An intellectual property attorney, Lee is the most thoughtful of the four candidates and has a proven track record on public safety, finances and the environment. Then there's his independence. When discussing the issues, it's clear that his first priority is the public good, meaning he can work with business and labor without being beholden to them.

Lee's commitment to public service is admirable. He served on the Sunnyvale City Council from 2003-11 before vacating his seat for a yearlong deployment in Iraq as a U.S. Navy reservist. He was awarded a Bronze Star for helping bring home troops from Iraq. Lee retired from the Navy reserves in 2018, concluding a 28-year career with the rank of Commander.

He is well-versed on the county's housing challenges. Finally, as an Asian immigrant, he would bring welcome diversity to the board.

Lee faces strong opposition from Assemblyman Kansen Chu and San José City Councilwoman Magdalena Carrasco.

Chu took the unusual step of running for supervisor instead of seeking another Assembly term, saying he wanted to "focus on the important issues back home." He has a wealth of experience, having also served on the San José City Council and Berryessa Union School Board.

He, too, is an immigrant who would bring diversity to the board. But he has not been a strong leader in the Assembly. His most notable bill in 2019 was his effort to eliminate Daylight Savings Time. His long list of labor endorsements signals that he would not be as independent as Lee.

Carrasco also has labor's backing, but she has built a reputation on the San José Council as an independent thinker. Her background as a social worker makes her knowledgeable about safety-net issues, and as a Latina who grew up in San José, she would bring insight into women's and immigration issues.

The fourth candidate in the race, former San José Planning Commissioner John Leyba, a Dartmouth graduate, has a strong financial background. He has support from former San José Mayor Chuck Reed. But he does not have the experience or name recognition to be a serious contender.

Lee has the best combination of experience and independence. We recommend him to voters.

www.MercuryNews.com/2020/02/02/editorial-elect-simitian-chavez-and-lee-to-board-of-supervisors/



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**“Pick Jim Zito to fill District 8
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“Zito’s superior knowledge and
problem-solving ability makes him the better
choice as San Jose confronts the critical
housing and traffic issues that will shape
District 8 and the city’s future.” 1/24/20

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- ✓ Work to create more cost effective public
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Johnny Khamis with
Madison Nguyen

Madison Nguyen endorses Khamis for state senate

Former San Jose Vice Mayor and City Council Member Madison Nguyen announced Feb. 6 that she is endorsing Johnny Khamis in his bid for State Senate, District 15.

"Johnny Khamis' determination for accountability and transparency in government is the reason why he is known as San Jose's fiscal watchdog," Nguyen said. "His extensive small-business and leadership experience are exactly what we need in Sacramento."

"I'm proud to be earning the support of Madison and other leaders within our community," Khamis said. "I enjoy working with community leaders, regardless of their political party, to work on solving problems and send a strong message to Sacramento."

Senate District 15 is comprised of 950,000 residents and encompasses a large portion of Santa Clara County, stretching from Cupertino east to Mount Hamilton and from Los Gatos north to Alum Rock including Evergreen Valley.

The Primary Election will be held on "Super Tuesday" March 3.

EvergreenTimes

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Valley Currents

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

Opera San José presents 'Il trovatore' Feb. 15-March 1

Opera San José presents "Il trovatore," February 15 through March 1, 2020 at the California Theatre, now one of the most intimate opera houses in the world located in downtown San Jose.

Verdi's Il trovatore has long been a staple of opera houses all over the world, and Opera San Jose has produced it only rarely, as it requires rare voices. This is an opera that helped make Irene Dalis one of the most celebrated dramatic mezzo sopranos in the world.

Opera San José will highlight the raw emotions that drive Giuseppe Verdi's turbulent tale of love and revenge. The opera features an emotional, heart-stopping score with a mesmerizing story filled with romance, obsession, and retribution.

Based on the play El trovador by Spanish playwright Antonio García Gutiérrez, Il trovatore is known for its most famous choral melodies ever written, the "Anvil Chorus." This classic four-act Italian opera has

become a beloved favorite of audiences around the world.

Larry Hancock presents an engaging free 45-minute talk about the opera to ticket holders before every performance of Il trovatore. The talk begins at 6:30pm prior to evening performances, and at 1:30pm prior to Sunday matinees. Open to all ticket holders; no reservations required.

Il trovatore will be sung in Italian with English supertitles with a run time of three hours, including intermission at the California Theatre, 345 South 1st Street, San José. For tickets (\$55-\$195) or more information, visit operasj.org or call (408) 437-4450.

At right: Opera San José presents "Il trovatore," February 15 through March 1, 2020 at the California Theatre, San Jose. (Shown here are **Cecilia Violetta López** as Leonora begging for mercy at the feet of **Zachary Altman** as Count di Luna from Opera San José's 2013 production.) Photo Credit: Pat Kirk



OP ED: THE MEASURE E DEBATE

Two major reasons voters should defeat Measure E

These days it's difficult to drive around San Jose without seeing evidence of our area's housing problems. Tents along the railroad tracks, people soliciting on street corners and parked cars full of personal belongings can be found all over our city. We feel sorry for our fellow residents who find themselves in such dire straits and want to do what we can to help.

Yet Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility (CFR) urges voters to vote no on San Jose's Measure E, the real property transfer tax, expected to raise around \$50 million per year. One issue that we have with the proposal is that there is no sunset clause. Even if we someday solve our housing problem, the tax will persist. But there are two major reasons we believe that voters should reject the measure.

First and most importantly, Measure E is a General Fund tax measure, which means the city council can spend the funds it generates on whatever they deem necessary. Today's council promises

the proceeds will be used for subsidizing affordable housing and addressing homelessness. That's obviously well-intentioned and certainly money needs to be spent addressing those issues. The problem is that the use of the General Fund dollars by subsequent city councils cannot be restricted. When the next downturn hits, the tax receipts will most certainly be diverted to avoid layoffs and other cuts. Alternatively, a future council could determine that paying down the city's \$3.5 billion unfunded pension liability is a better use of the Measure E funds. The bottom line is that Measure E funds flow into the city's General Fund, and therefore can be used for whatever spending the city council chooses.

Second, the government bodies specifically tasked with addressing our homelessness and affordable housing issues are deploying major funds to do so. Voters passed 2018's Measure A, the Santa Clara County measure allocating \$950 million to solving our housing crisis. Thus far \$234 million has been committed for construction of about 1,600 units scheduled for completion by 2022. Voters also passed the \$4 billion California

Proposition 1 and Governor Newsom has released \$1 billion of it. Additionally, the governor's 2020-21 budget includes \$1.4 billion to fight homelessness. To top it off, local companies recognize their role in helping solve the chronic problem and are stepping up big time. Apple, Facebook, Google and others have committed \$4.5 billion for area housing solutions and are already deploying funds through local non-profits.

Our city certainly should be part of the solution, but within the context of our city charter. San Jose should start by streamlining and reducing the cost of its construction processes, which are major impediments to driving up our supply of housing. Our city government leaders need to reduce planning, development and construction fees, which can add upwards of \$60,000 to the cost building a home. They need to address the bureaucratic quagmire that creates an unreasonably long concept to completion construction cycle. The zoning philosophy must evolve from one favoring existing homeowners to one that facilitates increased density where appropriate to reduce the cost of

land per residential unit. These actions will facilitate the construction of the affordable homes so badly needed in our city.

CFR encourages you to tell our city council how you believe they should address the area's housing problems by voting no on Measure E. We also urge you to consider supporting the non-profit organizations working to help solve the problems, a list of which can be found at our web site, www.cfr-sj.org.

Pat Waite
President
Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility

Measure E will help fund solutions to solve crisis

San Jose has become one of the most expensive cities in America. According to an analysis of rent prices across the country, the average rent for a two-bedroom apartment in San Jose is more than double the national average. That means a renter would need to earn more than \$50 an hour—or more than \$105,000 annually—

See MEASURE E, next page

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Times **Local News****Measure E***Continued from previous page*

in order to afford rent for that two-bedroom apartment.

Our housing affordability crisis is hurting San Jose families. Too many working families are finding it difficult to afford rent and other basic necessities like food, clothing and health care. As a new dad myself, I'm so proud to be raising my family here in San Jose. But I worry about being able to afford to continue living here. San Jose has always been a place where people who work hard can achieve the American Dream. But today, parents are working two or three jobs just to make rent, or worse, having to choose between putting a roof over their child's head or food on their table. That's a decision no parent should have to make.

San Jose voters need to pass Measure E so we can address our housing affordability crisis.

Measure E will help support investments to provide affordable housing for the people who make San Jose work. It will support minimum wage workers who prepare our food or clean our offices. And Measure E will help teachers, fire fighters, nurses, police officers and many more. That's why a broad coalition has united behind Measure E, including The League of Women Voters, Habitat for Humanity, SPUR and Save the Bay.

Measure E will only affect the top 2% of

the most expensive properties—those valued over \$2 million—and applies only when those properties are sold. The other 98% of San Jose properties will be exempt from paying the tax. Few, if any, first-time homebuyers will be affected.

In December, the San Jose City Council passed a spending plan that allocates the funding towards low income households, below market-rate housing and homeless prevention activities. Measure E also has tough oversight protections and accountability measures in place. This way, we can be sure that the money will support affordable housing for those who need it.

Our housing and homelessness problems grow worse each day we refuse to take action. San Jose must do more to address our housing affordability crisis. Right now, the burden is falling on working families—among those least able to afford it. One unexpected bill—having to take your car to the mechanic or your child to the emergency room—can be the difference in whether there's enough left over for next month's rent. In a city as prosperous as ours, that is unacceptable.

Measure E will help us fund the solutions we need to solve this crisis. Help make San Jose remain a place that's affordable for all of us— vote Yes on Measure E on your March 3 ballot.

Jeremy Barousse

President

District 8 Community Roundtable

IN MEMORY**Karen Theresa Schnutenhaus**

July 2, 1952-Jan. 20, 2020

Karen Theresa Schnutenhaus (Emanuel) died peacefully in her home on Jan. 20 in Evergreen at the age of 67.

Karen is survived by her husband, Tom, and daughters Amy (Vince) Hurtado, Anna (Dave) Serena, Megan (Erik) Schappert, five grandchildren and seven siblings.

Karen was born in Denver, CO to Norb and Connie. She married Tom, her high



school sweetheart, in 1971. She was a dedicated stay at home mom until the girls got older, then began working for the Evergreen School District.

After retirement, she enjoyed RV traveling, quilting, "collecting fabric," and visiting family and friends.

Karen's family would like to thank Dr Elwyn Cabebe for his compassion, comfort and counsel during her ten years under his care.

A funeral was held on Feb. 9 at the Mount Hermon Conference Center. In lieu of flowers and condolences, please donate to the Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation.

Deficit*Continued from page 1*

WHEREAS, the Governing Board has determined that certain services and/or positions performed and held by classified employees should be reduced or eliminated due to lack of funds and lack of work; WHEREAS, the Governing Board has determined that the following classified positions shall be eliminated and the persons occupying said positions are laid off subject to appropriate notice.

The following classified positions are being eliminated: Parent and Community Involvement Specialist 15; Support Services Technician 12; Language Assessment Clerk 4; Maintenance Worker 2; Personnel Tech-

nician II 2; Accounting Technician 1; Bookroom Clerk 1; Clerk Typist II 1; Communications/Microcomputer Technician 1; Skilled Trade Worker: Painter (Swing Shift) 1; Central Stores Supervisor 1; Registrar (Independent Studies Program) .5; Attendance Secretary (Independent Studies Program) .5; Testing Technician 1; Warehouse Worker 1; Facilities Operation Manager 1; General Purchasing Manager 1; and Coordinator of Electronic Communications/Surveillance Systems 1.

The School District is giving notice to the affected employees and inform them that they will be laid off and shall further advise the employees of their last date of employment, their displacement rights, if any, and reemployment rights.

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Got a news item? Let us know! (408) 483-5458

Times **Letters to the Editor****Arenas helped improve neighborhood**

Dear editor,

For several years our Edge neighborhood was terrorized by rampant drug activity at a nearby property. Our neighbors and their kids were afraid to walk past this house. At our wit's end, we reached out to Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas' office for help. With her guidance we were able to establish a neighborhood association, initiate a working relationship with the SJPD, and contact the Responsible Landlord Engagement Initiative to finally get the drug dealer out of our community.

Our first neighborhood meeting was held in October 2017. I remember Sylvia (with her young daughter) staying with us until 9 p.m. (!) that evening to listen to our concerns and help us organize. At that moment, I knew we found an ally who went beyond our expectations.

From the moment we told her what we wanted to accomplish, Sylvia rolled up her sleeves and got to work. She helped us plan neighborhood cleanups and dumpster days, worked with the Department of Transportation to ensure a nearby street would no longer be a place for criminal activity, and cleaned up Welch Park that had been a mess as long as I've lived in District 8. In addition Sylvia helped win the funding that got Rigoletto St. repaved.

Sylvia and her team have worked

day in and day out to help us improve our neighborhood.

I urge my fellow District 8 residents to re-elect Sylvia Arenas for City Council.

Andres Solomonoff
Brahms/Edgeview Neighborhood Association President

Zito visionary leader, serious planner

Dear Editor,

So who do you want to represent you on City Council?

Local politics impact our day to day lives more directly than any national politics. Policy decisions made at the local level have long-term impact on how we live, enjoy and take pride in our local surroundings.

I am supporting Jim Zito in his candidacy to represent District 8 on the City Council.

Jim is a visionary, a good listener and a serious planner. He is forward thinking enough to consider the impact decisions have on future residents and generations. He is well organized; methodical. He has a feeling for the needs of all. He can transform those feelings into plans, ideas and constructive action.

Jim has extensive background on land use issues. This is extremely important as the next City Council will be looking at the Master Plan for land use in our area. There isn't much land left and its future use

needs to be carefully considered. Just as current use needs to be energized too!

He has sat on the City's Planning Commission, been an active participant in the City's general plan development. He understands the nuance of word and details that can inadvertently create loopholes for people to subvert the intent of an approved development plan.

Jim has varied experience in Commissions, Boards, School Districts and specific Evergreen land use issues. He has worked hard to help improve the quality of life and education of our children and to create meaningful living conditions and opportunities.

He has years of "hands on" volunteer experience too. He received an award for that! Jim has taken time to show up and physically help with community projects where I have only been able to encourage others to do it! Jim is committed to our Community. He will bring a solid mind, strategic thinking and planning that look ahead for the sake of future residents and our children. Not just us!

We are fortunate to have two candidates of great integrity vying for the Office of our District 8 Representative. The person best prepared with the breadth and depth of experience to tackle the issues we face in District 8 at this time is Jim Zito.

Rev John Goldstein, Pastor
Grace Church of Evergreen

Arenas works hard for community

Dear editor,

I urge my Evergreen neighbors to join me in supporting Sylvia Arenas to continue serving us on the San Jose City Council. She's done a great job of helping neighbors like me, to organize a new neighborhood association. She works hard to help us improve our neighborhood.

In my neighborhood alone, Sylvia has 1) cleaned up a blighted property that had been filled with illegal dumping for years, 2) brought the city Parks Department's ROCK after-school program to our elementary school, 3) helped us clean up the creek, and 4) helped us organize a new neighborhood association and get city grant funding to beautify our neighborhood.

I am not alone, the number of neighborhood associations in District 8 has more than doubled since 2017, when Sylvia became our Council member. The number of police officers in San Jose has gone up 20% too.

She's also helped win new funding, that will allow the streets in Evergreen to be repaired in the next few years. She was supportive in getting the VTA Light Rail extension to Eastridge Mall approved.

Please join me in voting to reelect Sylvia Arenas for District 8 City Council, so that we can continue working to improve our neighbor-

hoods.

Craig Ferguson
Thompson Creek Neighborhood Association President

Zito a strong advocate

Dear editor,

I've had the pleasure of knowing and working with Jim Zito for more than 15 years. I worked with Jim on the Evergreen Valley High School Site Council as well as the formation of the District 8 Community Roundtable.

Jim Zito is a strong advocate for the community!

Many politicians will tell you what you want to hear. Jim takes his time to review the issues, to understand the whole issue and then work tirelessly to get the best outcome. As an independent thinker, he does not need to cater to special interests. This allows Jim to get to the best creative solution for all stakeholders.

For these and many more reasons, Jim will have my vote for District 8 City Council.

Michael Gabler
Community Leader

Temple team impresses resident

Dear Editor,

As a member of the Khmer Krom, I have naturally followed the

See TEMPLE, next page



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Paid for by Kansen Chu for Supervisor 2020

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12/20/2019

www.chuforsupervisor.com

Times **Local News**

Evergreen Valley High School student self-publishes her first book

ESUHSD's Articulation is Power Program

Aahana Chowdhuri (right), a junior at Evergreen Valley High School, part of the East Side Union High School District (ESUHSD), self-published *The Colors of My Dreams: An Anthology about Youth and Emotion*, a collection of poems and other writings written through her own experience as an Indian-American teen.

Chowdhuri is part of ESUHSD's Articulation is Power (AIP) program, which offers students the opportunity to grow and discover their potential as writers, to develop their own creative spirit, and to publish an original piece after the completion of the second year of the program.

"The Articulation is Power program gave me an avenue to develop my style as a writer, and it gave me the confidence I needed to express my thoughts and venture into the world of self-publishing," said Aahana Chowdhuri. "I am an avid be-

liever in the ability to be true to yourself and to share your own story, so I am grateful that I received the opportunity to express myself."

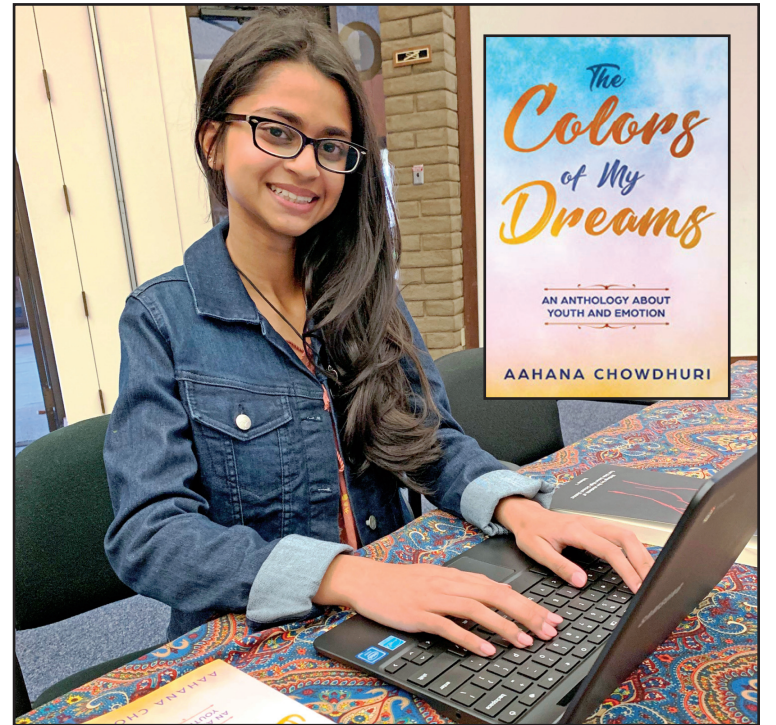
Chowdhuri's anthology, available on Amazon, brings stunning insight and commentary on many aspects of teenage life. The book contains vivid descriptions and is uplifting for anyone who's felt like life has let them down. The collection of poems and other pieces highlight the power and resiliency of emotions. "My book calls for the release of the emotions that we as people hide deep within us," Chowdhuri said. "It is a journey, and I want to take my readers along the way. And finally, this book is an articulation of the colors of my dreams." Available through Amazon.com

Started during the 2018-19 school year, the (AIP) 12-session program is held on Saturdays, and

apart from writing, it also includes mentors and special presenters educating students about the publishing business. Tyson Amir, a graduate of ESUHSD, is author of *Black Boy Poems*, and is the creator and teacher of the program.

"I'm extremely excited about offering this innovative program to our East Side students," said Chris Funk, Superintendent of East Side Union High School District. "It is an amazing learning opportunity for our students and we want to support educational outcomes in all fields. In particular, I want to wish Aahana much success."

"Aahana is an incredibly talented and gifted young mind. It has been a pleasure to work with her and watch her grow. She has so much to offer the world through her voice," said Tyson Amir, AIP creator and teacher.



Temple

Continued

progress of the Khmer Buddhist Temple with interest and anticipation. That's why I was surprised to read a recent letter which included the assertion that our leaders had not been responsive to neighborhood concerns. On the contrary, I have been impressed with the Temple team's commitment to a transparent process, which has included four meetings with the neighborhood and a desire to openly share their plans. I commend them for their effort to involve and inform the community and make adjustments when possible in response to some of the concerns that have been raised.

In addition, I wanted to mention that the Temple will be used for religious and culture reasons for members only; there are no plans to rent the facility for any private events. And, while the maximum number of people at the events will be 300, very few will even approach this number.

But what's most important is the fact that our goal is to practice our religion in peace. We have long sought a tranquil and safe retreat. In return, we seek to be good neighbors by developing an aesthetically beautiful property that minimizes our use of natural resources; for example by using drought-friendly plants and creating a way to park cars out of sight to dedicate the open space to natural beauty.

I believe all of us desire to live in a diverse community that respects the traditions of many different religions, and we hope the local neighborhood will embrace our peaceful group.

Mike Hang
Evergreen Resident

Sylvia Arenas for City Council



Paid for by Arenas for City Council District 8 2020 FPPC# 1421866



COMMON SENSE SOLUTIONS FOR EVERGREEN FAMILIES

Improving Public Safety

- ✓ Police Force expanded by hundreds of officers since taking office
- ✓ Burglary Unit restored and violent crime investigations team expanded
- ✓ Doubled neighborhood associations in Evergreen, supporting coordination with police

Supporting Families

- ✓ Reopened shuttered community center and opened new Teen Center at Eastridge Mall
- ✓ Expanded city after-school programs in Evergreen schools

Fighting for Evergreen

- ✓ Reduced vacant storefronts
- ✓ Led effort to defeat Measure B - preventing out-of-control illegal development in Evergreen
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Times **Op Ed**

Leadership lessons learned from Kobe

By Gino Blefari
Special to the Times

On the subject of sports, the biggest news as you know was the tragic passing of Lakers legend Kobe Bryant.

As the news outlets widely reported, Kobe died suddenly along with his daughter Gianna Bryant and seven other passengers aboard a helicopter that crashed on a Sunday morning into a hillside in Calabasas, California.

As the world mourns all those lives lost in the crash. And while we collectively grieve, there are patches of hope to be found in the important leadership lessons the basketball luminary left behind.

Kobe was an undeniable master of his sport. He was a five-time NBA Champion and the youngest player to ever start an NBA game at 18 years and 158 days old. At 18 years of age, Kobe was also the youngest Slam Dunk Contest winner when he took first place in the 1997 competition during All-Star Weekend. In his final NBA game, Kobe scored an incredible 60 points. He was also an 18-time NBA All-Star and a two-time Olympic gold medalist.

But even with his massive accomplishments, he made just as profound an impact off the court, especially through the development of his unique approach to sports, business and life. After watching Quentin Tarantino’s Kill Bill, Kobe coined his own nickname, Black Mamba, which was code in the movie for the world’s deadliest assassin. Inspired by the nickname, Kobe developed a mindset called “Mamba Mentality,” applicable to any situation and every leader. Speaking with Amazon Book Review, Kobe defined the term: “Mamba Mentality is all about focusing on the process and trusting in the hard work when it matters most. It’s the ultimate mantra for the competitive spirit.”

Here are a few examples of Kobe’s unrelenting Mamba Mindset:

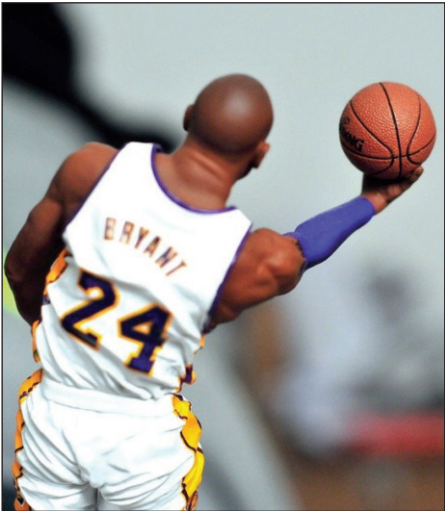
1. He was a fierce competitor. Even during Kobe’s high school years playing at Lower Merion in Ardmore, Pennsylvania, he would show up to practice at 5 a.m. and stay on the court for a solid two hours. He’d also play one-on-one games with his teammates ... to 100 points. (During his worst match-up, Business Insider says he still won 100-12.)
2. He never let anything—even injury—sideline him in the execution of his goals. During his years as a Lakers player, Kobe was always the first player in the gym, even when he was hurt. He once played left-handed because he had an injury to his right hand and was determined not to



let it keep him off the court.

3. He combined physical practice with mental motivation. He was a proponent of the mental aspect of the game; former Lakers teammate Shaquille O’Neill wrote in his book that Kobe would often practice dribbling and shooting without a ball and exhibit the same physical intensity as if he had a ball in his hands.
4. He was a student of continuous improvement. According to Sports Illustrated, in 2008 he requested Nike shave a few millimeters off the soles of his sneakers to get “a hundredth of a second better reaction time.”
5. He believed in authenticity and the power of personal storytelling. “Be yourself,” he once said to Bloomberg. “That’s it. Be you. There’s no gimmick. You don’t have to contrive anything. Who are you? Where are you today? What is your story? And all you’re doing is communicating that story to the public.”
6. He was committed to accountability in leadership. Speaking with NBA TV, Kobe said in February of 2015: “There’s a big misconception where people winning or success comes from everybody putting their arms around each other and singing ‘Kumbaya’ and patting them on the back when they mess up, and that’s just not the reality. If you are going to be a leader, you are not going to please everybody. You have to hold people accountable, even if you have that moment of being uncomfortable.”
7. He programmed the non-conscious portion of his brain to reject failure. To Showtime, Kobe explained: “When we are saying, ‘This cannot be accomplished, this cannot be done,’ then we are short-changing ourselves. My brain, it cannot process failure. It will not process failure. Because if I have to sit there and face myself and tell myself, ‘You’re a failure,’ I think that is ... almost worse than death.”

Gino Blefari is Chairman, HSF Affiliates LLC. gino@hsfranchise.com



Evergreen Islamic Center hosts Climate Change Education Day

Evergreen Islamic Center hosted a Climate Change Education Day attended by concerned citizens from Evergreen and the Bay Area on Saturday, Feb. 8.

There were fourteen private and public organizations hosted tables sharing information about their products and services related to energy, water, and waste management technologies.

The event was a call to action to address the world's climate change and featured speakers and a program fair. Many ideas were shared from people of various faiths and organizations expressing a mutual concern to further the cause of environmentally-sensitive practices to help sustain the environment.

Invited guests included California Assemblyman, Ash Kalra; Santa Clara County Supervisor Dave Cortese; and City Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas, who all reiterated their support for clean energy and climate change measures.

Three youths from the Evergreen Islamic

Center (Hamza Shaheen, Dania Akheel, and Shaheryar Asad) presented the Center's sustainability best practices and future goals. The Center has implemented several advance sustainability measures in the building envelope, HVAC, lighting, water and waste management fronts.

Evergreen Islamic Center revealed plans to install a roof top PV solar system, EV charging stations and a new water landscape system to achieve a Net Zero Energy goal and become a zero waste operation.

"I am proud to note that my community is implementing several green measures in operation," said Dania Akheel, a 12th grade student who is passionate about clean environment. Community members also participated in the California Clean Air Day and in e-waste events.

Keynote speaker Rev. Susan Hendershot,



Keynote speaker **Rev. Susan Hendershot**, President of the Interfaith Light and Power, presented a religious response to global warming and inspired everyone to take action at Climate Change Education Day held on Feb. 8.

President of the Interfaith Light and Power, presented a religious response to global warming and inspired everyone to take action. "I believe if places of worship can take

the lead and influence their members, considerable work can be done resulting in an impact that is generational and consequential," Hendershot said.

The Reverend also presented from the Islamic Declaration on Global Climate Change, which says- --"We recognize that we are but a miniscule part of the divine order, yet within that order we are exceptionally powerful beings, and have the responsibility to establish good and avert evil in every way we can. We also recognize that—we are but one of the multitude of living beings with whom we share the earth. We have no right to abuse the creation or impair it. Intelligence and conscience should lead us, as our faith commands to treat all things with care and awe of their Creator, compassion and utmost good."

Sweet, Luscious Snacks for Loved Ones

Valentine's Day eats and treats

FAMILY FEATURES

Valentine's Day naturally brings thoughts of hearts, flowers, sweetness and love. Because it also occurs during American Heart Month, it's a perfect opportunity to start taking care of your own heart and the hearts of loved ones.

Part of the charm of the day's celebrations is in giving family and friends flavorful foods to enjoy from chocolates and candies to other sugary treats. However, the festivities don't have to be completely focused on unhealthy bites in order to make someone feel special.

This year, it can be easy to share in the fun of Valentine's Day by serving those you love with sweet, seasonal treats. For example, these Frosted Watermelon Cutouts make for ideal snacks for children and adults alike whether it's an after-school treat or a sweet dessert with just three ingredients, heart-shaped cookie cutters and minimal time spent in the kitchen.

If you're really looking to impress that special someone, this Watermelon and Chocolate Dessert Board calls for creativity and plenty of tasty morsels like berries, cashews, almonds and dark chocolate. Without any baking or cooking required, simply spread out the ingredients for a platter that's just as visually appealing as it is appetizing.

Both recipes include the benefits of watermelon, which boasts plenty of vitamin C to boost the immune system's defenses as a cholesterol-free, fat-free and sodium-free food. Plus, watermelon draws its red color from the powerful antioxidant lycopene (12.7 mg per serving), which may help protect cells from damage, and the healthy treat is American Heart Association Heart-Check Certified with just 80 calories per serving, making it the perfect centerpiece for Valentine's Day recipes.

Find more Valentine's Day inspiration and recipes at watermelon.org.

Frosted Watermelon Cutouts

- 1 seedless watermelon, cut into 1/2-3/4-inch thick slices
- 4 brownie bites
- 1 cup frosting (any flavor)

Using heart-shaped cookie cutters, cut shapes out of watermelon slices or simply use cut watermelon wedges, if desired. Top heart shapes with brownie bites and add frosting as desired.



Watermelon and Chocolate Dessert Board

Servings: 6-8

- 1/2 medium seedless watermelon, cut into wedges and cubes
- 1 cup fresh raspberries
- 1 cup fresh red cherries
- 1 cup strawberries, trimmed and halved
- 1/4 cup dried cranberries

- 1/3 cup roasted, salted cashews
- 1 cup chocolate covered almonds
- 1 bar dark chocolate, broken into squares
- 1 cup coconut chips
- mint leaves, for garnish

On serving board, arrange watermelon in center and surround with raspberries, cherries, strawberries, cranberries, cashews, almonds, chocolate and coconut chips. Scatter mint leaves around board for garnish.

Times Cover Story

Elections

Continued from page 1
to vote in California, and 9,722 of them are in Santa Clara County.

"The youth group has been historically underrepresented at the polls," said Cassidy Chang, media coordinator for March for Our Lives San Jose. "We wanna show why it's important for teens and young adults to be able to vote and why their vote matters."

Voter registration and turnout in Santa Clara County and California at large have reached historic highs. As of Oct. 1, there are 20,328,636 Californians registered to vote. According to the California Secretary of State's office, that's 80.65 percent of all eligible voters in the state, making it the highest rate of registration since 1952. According to figures from the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters, as of this week there are more than 484,000 voters registered in San Jose.

Registration data from the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters. Santa Clara County had its highest turnout rate in the 2016 presidential election, with 724,596 voters participating. According to Kurhi, although there was an 86 percent turnout rate in the 2008 election, there was a higher volume of voters in 2016.

The past two presidential primary elections in California took place in June, toward the end of the nominating process. But this time

around Californians will vote on Super Tuesday along with thirteen other states, including Texas. Recent polling by the Public Policy Institute of California found that 27 percent of likely voters in the state would choose Bernie Sanders, followed closely by Joe Biden with 24 percent.

"We have a much bigger operation this time around. I think in California in 2016 the campaign didn't really turn its attention to the Golden State until much later in the primary season," said Anna Bahr, a California spokesperson for the Bernie Sanders presidential campaign.

Bahr says the campaign has 80 full-time staffers working across the state, three of them based in San Jose.

"I think many of the other campaigns are still operating on a first four basis which is Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Nevada," Bahr said. "That's not how we're thinking of it."

Mayor Sam Liccardo endorsed Michael Bloomberg back in December. Since Bloomberg entered the race late in November, his team has decided not to campaign in the first four states voting in the primaries.

"Obviously our campaign has made California a priority," said Chris Masami Myers, the California director of Michael Bloom-

berg's campaign.

The Bloomberg campaign says it's working on hiring a total of 300 staffers to work in the state, 200 of those will be field organizers.

"We're running the biggest presidential primary operation here in California history," said Myers.

Another stand out issue to consider: 32 percent of Santa Clara County registered voters are registered as no party preference, making ours the county with the highest percentage of NPP voters in the state.

If no party preference voters want to participate in the primaries, they must request a ballot that features Democratic, Libertarian and American Independent candidates. No party preference voters must change their political party affiliation if they want to vote for Republican, Green party or Peace and Freedom candidates.

Voters can alter their registration all the way up through Election Day. For more information about registering to vote, please contact the county registrar's office. The deadline to register to vote is Feb. 18, although in California, eligible residents are permitted to register on Election Day and cast a provisional ballot.

Contact Elizabeth Mendez at elizabeth.ambriz@gmail.com or follow @izziemae on Twitter.



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Times Features

Church on the Rock-Baptist to honor Pastor Moore for 30 years of service

Church on the Rock-Baptist will honor **Pastor R. G. Moore, III** (inset) for 30 years of faithful service to their congregation with a special program and dinner at 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16.



The church which shares space at the San Jose Filipino American Seventh Day Adventist Church 2995 Yerba Buena Road (next to the Evergreen College Tennis Courts) was organized by Moore in the backyard of his home in Evergreen in 1990.

At the time it was the only black led multi-ethnic Baptist congregation in Evergreen. Moore, a third generation Evergreen resident and a graduate of Independence High School and Dallas Baptist University, started preaching at the age of 11 under the tutelage of his grandfather in Chicago.

After college he returned home and planted Church on the Rock.

The public is cordially invited to come and celebrate this milestone. Guest churches from all over the Bay Area and a sermon by Pastor H. L. Garnett of the New Covenant Church, Oakland will climax the celebration.

For more information call: 408.532.7625 or visit www.churchontherockbaptist.com

February is National Children's Dental Health Month

With February being National Children's Dental Health Month and about 15 percent of children aged 2-17 having not seen a dentist in the past year, the personal-finance website WalletHub released a report on 2020's States with the Best & Worst Dental Health.

In order to determine which places have the healthiest teeth and gums in the U.S., WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 26 key metrics. The data set ranges from share of adolescents who visited a dentist in the past year to dental treatment costs to share of adults

with low life satisfaction due to oral condition.

Dental Health in California (1=Best; 25=Avg.):

- 16th - % of Adolescents Who Visited a Dentist in the Past Year
- 28th - % Of Adults Who Visited a Dentist in the Past Year
- 41st - Dental Treatment Costs
- 10th - Dentists per Capita
- 7th - Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Consumption
- 13th - % of Adults with Poor or Fair Oral Condition
- 51st - % of Adults Who Experienced Oral Pain in the Past Year
- 23rd - % of Adults with Low Life Satisfaction Due to Their Oral Condition

For the full report, please visit: wallethub.com/edu/states-with-best-worst-dental-health/31498

Evergreen teachers endorse city councilmember Sylvia Arenas for re-election

Evergreen's teachers are lending their voice in support of reelecting Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas, citing her strong record of making City Hall responsive to the needs of families and her accomplishments in support of education. The Evergreen Teachers Association unanimously endorsed her re-election campaign.

"Sylvia Arenas has a strong and proven record on improving education opportunities for Evergreen kids," Evergreen Teachers Association President Brian Wheatley said. "Both in her previous work on the school board and her current leadership on the San Jose City Council, Sylvia always keeps the focus on the needs of families and kids. The choice is clear - Evergreen teachers recommend Sylvia Arenas for City Council."

"I'm honored to have the unanimous support of the Evergreen Teachers Association," Arenas said. "Evergreen's teachers are at the heart of our community, and they give our children the safe space to learn and grow. Supporting families and children is at the center of my mission at City Hall - and I'm so honored to have the teachers join the education leaders that are supporting my campaign."

East Side Union High School District Seeks Applicants for the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

The East Side Union High School District (ESUHSD) is recruiting applicants to serve on the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (CBOC) in the categories of **Business Organization Member** and **Parent or Guardian of an ESUHSD Student**.

The Committee meets four times a year in January, April, July, and October to receive information and updates on bond-funded projects in progress throughout the district.

No employee or official of the district can be appointed to the Committee. Also vendors, contractors, or consultants of the district are not allowed to serve as members of the Committee. For more information on the roles and responsibilities of the CBOC or to download the application, please visit: <http://thebond.esuhd.org/bond-measures/citizens-bond-oversight-committee/>

Deadline for submitting applications is by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2020. Completed applications can be sent by e-mail, fax, or U.S. mail to:

Nhu Nguyen at NguyenNQ@esuhd.org
Fax: (408) 347-5015
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Swearing in

San Jose Police Academy's thirty-sixth Graduating Class ceremony swears in 46 police officers on Jan. 24. The San Jose Police Department continues to strive to reflect diversity of the city of San Jose. It was reported that the last two police academy classes, more than 70 percent of recruits have gone on to finish their field training to become street-ready officers.

Books or toys needed by homeless children through See The Rainbow

Children suffer the most in family emergencies and tragedy.

Here is a small way to help them in tough times.

Every year during February, the non-profit See The Rainbow collects new or unused books and toys for homeless children of all ages and distributes them to Homeless family and children's shelters.

The non-profit See The Rainbow is organized by an Evergreen Elementary aged youth dedicated to helping children who are not as fortunate as himself. This is one small way we can join him to say thank you for his efforts.

Please drop off your gift at Grace Church, 2650 Aborn Road, San Jose, CA 95121.



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Times Features



Nikita Salunke, founder of "Love for STEM" (right), Councilmember **Sylvia Arenas** and her daughter (center), **Nikita's mother** (left).

Councilwoman Arenas hosts Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon for District 8

A special event honored over 50 members of the community who help the Evergreen Valley and make a positive impact on the entire district was held on Saturday, Feb. 8 at the Ranch Golf Club restaurant.

Arenas stated, "They give their hearts to make sure others are in a better place and we are thankful!"

In honor of the 100th anniversary for woman's rights Councilwoman Arenas spoke about many women leaders in the community and as they walked up she handed them a certificate of thanks.


The same honors were awarded to other groups of organizations that have contributed to District 8 in all they do such as neighborhood associations, those who contribute to helping the less fortunate, and more.

Arenas stated, "the best investment we can do is to always work with our children," as she awarded groups that take on this role to partner and create new innovative programs that enhance the quality of life for youth and all other ages.

It was clear that this ceremony had a synergistic effect on increasing networking and that each person in District 8 can make a positive difference! Arenas and her team encourage all to contact her office to kick-start new programs and partnerships within District 8. Arenas stated, "We need to be brave and take a step forward for leadership and we can have creative solutions to problems."

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Times **Features**

Primrose School of Evergreen to celebrate their grand opening: February 15

Aspiring to make a difference in the lives of the children and their families in Evergreen, Primrose of Evergreen School franchise owners Bejal and Mohit Patel will host a grand opening event for local families to celebrate on Saturday, February 15, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The 15,000 sq. ft. school is located at: 3008 Aborn Road, San Jose 95135.

The community is invited to the school's Grand Opening for a tour of the brand-new facility. The school serves children ages 6 weeks infant to 5 years old and offers after school care for children in kindergarten through fifth grade.

The event will feature family-friendly activities including at petting zoo, face painting, balloon artist, coloring station, scavenger hunts, obstacle course and a visit from Primrose friend Percy the Rooster!

Throughout the event, children and their parents will be treated to healthy snacks and lunch from the Primrose Balanced Menu. District 8 Councilmember Sylvia Arenas will commemorate the school's official grand opening at 10.15 am.

"Primrose School of Evergreen is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for children," Bejal said. "Living in the epicenter of the tech economy where most schools follow an aggressive academic-based curriculum, we recognized a need for high-quality early education in the Bay Area. Since children here often feel the pressure to succeed academically, the Balanced Learning approach will help instill a true lifelong joy for learning in children."

Primrose encourages a child to be a child by focusing on building children's confidence and independence, so they feel comfortable venturing out, exploring on their own and asking questions – all of which help them develop a love of learning they take with them into elementary school and beyond.

"We know every child and family is different – there is no one-size-fits-all approach to teaching and learning," said Bejal. "At Prim-

rose, our approach is all about balance: balance between purposeful play and guidance from teachers, balance between traditional early education methods and the latest research, and balance between different developmental areas. Children learn and practice concepts in language and literacy; science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM); social studies; music; physical development and health; and compassion,



kindness and life skills are taught continuously throughout the day.

The 15,000-square-foot Primrose of Evergreen building has 12 private classrooms and nearly 14,000 square feet of secure, age-appropriate playground area. Additional features include a Primrose Patch for gardening and nature studies.

More information about the school is available at PrimroseEvergreen.com.

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Lucy Hsu: the saga continues

By Frank Shortt
Times staff writer

Lucy Hsu has become a great example for students, teachers, and parents alike in the Evergreen School District, as well as, at her home school, Cadwallader Elementary.

Hsu's volunteer work each summer has taken her to very exciting and exotic areas of the globe. She has visited 161 United Nation countries and only has 32 left which would make her the first Asian person to have visited all the countries in the world.

This past summer, Lucy focused her travels on Western Africa. She states, "One of the reasons I continue to return to Africa is because it continues to be the continent that shows the most need."

"The level of poverty and underdevelopment is unmatched anywhere else in the world, and to top it off, our money can go very far in Africa, meaning any small amount can make big differences," Hsu said. "Also, after nearly two decades of travel, I continue to have the desire to visit every country, so I'm focusing my energy and resources to travel more extensively through regions and countries I haven't explored yet!"

The first part of Lucy's journey this summer was partially a family holiday. She wanted to bring her family to some of the most important places where she has profound memories, and as a sort of follow-up to her past visits while she and her husband were celebrating their 10th wedding anniversary. During this phase of their visit they went to Seychelle Island, Namibia, Kenya, and Ethiopia. The sand dunes of the Namibian Desert were very memorable when seen up close.

The adventurous Mrs. Hsu then broke off by herself to visit Gabon, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, São Tomé, and Angola, all new countries to her. Here, Lucy says, is where the excitement begins; "In Gabon, I spent a few days at an orphanage with a woman, Mama Rosette, who raises roughly 20 children on her own with the help of some community members. I was very moved to learn about her mission to provide a cozy home for children without a stable family and some with special needs. While there, I spent time teaching the kids English and doing physical activities like hiking and swimming at the lake. They speak French in Gabon, but many express a strong desire to learn English, so I found everywhere I go people welcome English teachers."

Lucy breathlessly continued, "Next I met up with some travelers from my travel club, Nomad Mania. They all had plans to be in Western Africa this summer, so we all coordinated to spend a few days together exploring some new territories. There were six of us total, all Americans. We are all part of Nomad Mania, a travel network consisting of the more well-traveled people in the world. All but one of us, a lady from Seattle, have traveled to over 130 countries. It was a great experience congregating with other like-minded adventurers and sharing experiences and advice about other obscure countries. Together we traveled to São Tomé, Equatorial Guinea, and Angola."

Hsu continued, "We saw many important and impressive monuments, learned more about the political and economic development in these countries, and of course enjoyed beautiful beaches, amazing waterfalls, nature, cuisine, and interaction with lo-

cals. All the others left Angola a few days before me, while I lingered a few extra days to visit a local orphanage. I met Sister Generosa, who runs a church, and with the help of some local volunteers, expanded the church to include an orphanage and school. They hire local teachers and together feed and educate nearly 200 underprivileged kids in the community."

In September, Hsu was presented the opportunity to visit Pakistan. Previously she had heard that to obtain a visa was tedious and lengthy, so she didn't prioritize a visit there. But this time she got in touch with a host family who was able to help her get a letter of invitation from a government approved travel agency. With the letter of invitation, obtaining the visa was much quicker and easier. She expressed her interest in visiting the most underdeveloped and underprivileged community.

"Upon arrival, I learned more details about the 'Tent Slums,' Hsu said. "Hundreds of people live in the community with makeshift tents; the most basic homes are made of bricks and metal scraps, but for those families who don't even have that, they resort to

the tent. To survive, some of them collect scrap metal, recyclable materials and trash, and some make bricks. Many of the families do not have the means to send their children to school. I was very inspired about the story of Asad, the volunteer teacher in the Tent Community and decided to arrange a few days to meet and volunteer with him. He volunteers his time daily to educate the Tent Community's children. He wakes up at 5am every morning, and makes his way to the Tent Community. He and some other volunteers constructed a tent to serve as the "classroom" and bought lots of books, to teach the kids Urdu, English, and basic math. He teaches them for two hours every morning before heading off to his own job, to support his own family with young children. Since my visit was just a few short days, I asked if there were some other ways I could support him aside from teaching. He expressed concern that with winter coming up, the kids didn't have any warm clothing. In fact, most of the kids arrived barefoot each day. The tent community has many children, but we considered there are roughly 30 children who come regularly for school, so those would be the children we would shop for." That night, Lucy arranged for Ahmad, who was her host and guide, to take her shopping at the local night markets, where they could bargain and find the best deals. They were able to get sweat pants and sweaters for roughly \$1-\$2 per item. After several hours, they managed to find and purchase socks, shoes, long pants, and sweaters for the children at school. On the last day, they also went to the local grocery store to pick up lots of treats and goodies and had a little celebration! It was delightful to see the children's joy. Lucy stated humbly, "I know I'm just one ordinary person with a basic teacher's salary, but knowing just spending \$100-200 can provide clothing to keep them warm for a winter...it's something that can mean the world to them. Ahmad, the volunteer teacher expressed that he doesn't get foreign visitors often, but my simple gestures made him feel encouraged to keep going and doing what he does. The children also felt grateful and encouraged. What I realized is that as a foreign volunteer, I am not able to singlehandedly "change the world" but I can offer a sense of hope that can go a long way."

See LUCY, page 18



Lucy Hsu (right) in Angola.

Forum

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care and housing are human rights. He said he is taking no money for his campaign.

Cortese said he served on the Eastside Union High School District as a trustee and worked on bringing a new high school to Evergreen twenty-five years ago. He represented Evergreen on the City Council. In order to allow people to have input on issues he founded the District 8 Round Table. Cortese currently serves as a Santa Clara County Supervisor.

Ravel said she has been in public service her entire career and knows how to get things done. She started at the County level where she served for 31 years. Ravel was asked by President Obama to work at the Justice Department and also served as the Chair of the Federal Election Commission. She was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown as the head of the Political Fair Practices Commission.

Khamis said he became a financial advisor and built his own business. When the city faced financial difficulty, closing libraries and laying off police officers, Khamis decided to run for City Council and work to save tax payer money. He said he has been the voice of fiscal responsibility, saving millions of dollars and making sure tax dollars are spent wisely.

Campos said she served on the San Jose City Council for 10 years and also served on the State Assembly serving for six years. She tackled many issues, with the help of the public, pertaining to K-12 education, infrastructure for colleges and universities and bringing resources back to the county which included public safety.

What do you see as creative solutions to building more affordable housing across the state to solve our current housing crisis?

Cortese: "Senator Beal's bill, SP5, would create a state financed agency that would create the financial incentives to get housing production back going again, including affordable housing that is absolutely critical. As we know, tethered to that issue is the homeless issue. I co-chaired the 2016 Measure-A Bond here in our community which was supported by the voters by two thirds, which provides \$700,000,000 for extremely low income housing and \$950,000,000 total. So, there's a lot of that money that is going to affordable housing in general and then extremely low income housing where we have financed 21 projects. Those ideas, those kinds of mechanisms need to be enacted, replicated to the extent that we've been innovated here. There's no reason to leave the other 57 counties out of the kind of efforts that we've created here to deal with those issues. On a regional level, we have supported assembly bill 1487 which will create economic incentives for builders to build the right kind of housing in the right places."

Ravel: "I also agreed that senator Beal's bill which has tax increment financing which means we're not going to have another sales tax. It will be a way of getting some of the increase of the taxes that can help pay for affordable housing that we need so desperately; not just for the very low income,

but for teachers and firefighters and also for homeless housing which is so essential for those people to be off the streets and make the rest of the community safe. I worked at the state government. I ran an agency. I saw that too often money is being spent, given to those agencies, and not being spent for the purposes intended, and no one is going back to look at it, to really analyze an audit for those agencies to determine whether it's needed. If it's not still needed, how about bringing it back to the state and using it for the purposes that we have an urgent need like homelessness, homeless housing, transportation, and affordable housing for everybody. Having those big budgets really needs oversight and the senate has failed to do that."

Khamis: "I have been advocating for reducing regulations and reducing fees, and I think that's the quickest way to bring in more housing. An experiment happened here at the city of San Jose on something called A.D.U's. Most of you know them as granny units or auxiliary dwelling units, which is what they're really called. What we've done over the last four years is reduce regulations; lot sizes, what they have to look like, actual sizes. Recently we reduced the fees. So what happened? Five years ago we only had five permits for A.D.U's. Right now we have 780 permits for A.D.U's. That's the best way and the fastest way. We need to look at regulation and fees and reduce them. But because everybody else keeps talking about increasing fees; we need to look for ways to reduce fees and make it easier to build housing wherever we can. It's worked here; it's just simple economics and the more that we have the more that the prices will drop and people will be able to afford their rents. Unfortunately a lot of people think that new taxes and adding new fees will help bring housing prices lower, that never works. I've been an advocate to reduce fees and taxes as a way to solve our problem."

Campos: "So as an elected official for the past 16 years in my life starting off on the local level and then having the opportunity to serve in the assembly, what I've learned is that we can continue to raise revenues for housing, but we also have to look at the policies that prevent housing from being built right here in our city. One of the things that we need to reevaluate is why we have so many lawsuits around CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) when it comes to building affordable housing in our communities. CEQA was intended to protect our resources, to protect other things, but it wasn't made as a tool to stop housing and affordable housing in our city. One of the things that I think is showing up that we're using as a good pilot program is that the city of San Jose has been able to adopt AB 2176, which now they're building tiny homes which are mobile in the Mayberry area and the mayor has taken a great lead along with the council members and one of them happens to be here in the forum. The policies around there have given local government the ability to be able to figure out what they need to do to move policy forward."

Gildersleeve: "I'm going to answer of what I think would be the quickest way to make it profitable and

Continued, next page

Times **Cover Story**

lucrative, highly profitable and lucrative, for the developers, but that's not what I would like to do because I believe housing is a human right. If you do it that way, you're going to have a lot more people out on the street and have a lot more people that can't afford the housing. So I like the prototype of the bond measure that was done here in Santa Clara County. We could do more of these statewide. I am actually in favor of taxation, because we can help, as I view it, as a community pulling our money together to help our neighbors. Remember the principle of love your neighbor as yourself. So I would say bond measures and taxation, but if you really want it to be quick and fast you could make it profitable and lucrative, but you're going to hurt a lot of people by doing that."

What is one specific thing you would push for climate change?

Ravel: "The major problem that we have with regard to climate change is the automobiles and their emissions, trucks that are on the road with their emissions and even rail with their emissions. So, we have to move towards electrification. One of the problems with electrification we know is that there are batteries that are big enough to be able to maintain also some of the solar and some of the water and other ways of electric wind. So I believe that something that would really help both low income communities that are impacted terribly by fracking and by other environmental devastation is those individuals could be trained to work and we could invest in companies that would work on much

better battery, bigger batteries and other environmental solutions and that I think will deal with both problems; both what I see as environmental justice issues as well as helping us with our climate change problem."

Khamis: You know we've done a lot in the city of San Jose including community choice energy and investing in electrification and many other things. But one of the things that I've submitted is the mower and blower lawn equipment gasoline powered lawn equipment buy backs. So basically, you turn in your old, really polluting, gas powered mower and blowers and you trade them in for an electric non-polluting one. I don't know if you guys know this, but I've done the research; those mowers and blowers actually pollute the air more than an 8-cylinder car and so it's important to get those out of our use as soon as possible. I have many other ideas on this issue including making sure that we recycle here instead of shipping our recycled plastics all the way across the earth and then who knows what happens to it there? If we really want to start recycling, if we want to help the environment, let's recycle here. Make sure that we take care of our own waste instead of wasting billions of dollars in gas and pollution just shipping our garbage across the seas and having no guarantees that they'll actually be recycled in a proper manner."

Campos: "We know that one super tanker is equivalent to fifty million cars in emissions. So we need to be bold and start looking at how we address that. The other thing that I think we need to

do is that we know that when we give individuals for buying a Prius a credit or a tax credit, we know that most individuals that are able to buy electric cars, brand new, they have the shortest commuting distance and they live in some of the highest zip codes. So I think what we need to do is we need to be able to address that issue. So when we have individuals that work here, but they're commuting 2 to 3 hours to come into San Jose or Silicon Valley to work. Those are the individuals that we actually should be giving credits, or a tax break, to be able to buy a Prius or a used electric car so that they can be able to commute in the city of San Jose or Silicon Valley. Those are just a couple of the things that I would move forward on addressing and we really need to be able to have bold leadership to address those issues."

Gildersleeve: "There's a myriad of ways, but since we're focusing on one, I think as Nora mentioned, I'd like to see electric vehicles, which we're moving in the direction of. Getting more electric vehicles on the road and get more gas powered vehicles off. As mentioned subsidies to low income people so that they can buy electric vehicles; they are very expensive and you have to be wealthy to get a Tesla right now. I'm in favor of public transportation. I don't use it myself because it is inconvenient; we have to make it convenient. We're not doing very well with public transportation in this area as regards to the busses. So, I think we need to move in the direction of getting people off the road and into busses, onto light rail, onto the trains. That's all go-

ing to take a lot of work and that means some reformation in the public transportation system. The way it's going right now, that isn't going to happen."

Cortese: "So when I got over to the board of supervisors in late 2008, moving over from the city council, the county didn't have any environmental stewardship goals at all. Since that time we've worked so hard at it, particularly my former colleague, Supervisor Ken Yeager and I put together the county's first environmental goals; the complete list of things the county needed to do, including solar farms. We're now at 100 percent renewable. As a government we are the second largest public entity storage of solar power in the country. So, these things can be done. The one thing that is the biggest and it should be done up and down the state; we call it community choice aggregation. You have it here now, the county and the 14 cities that are not in San Jose they were the first to do this. The state will allow local governments to form clean energy utilities essentially that purchase clean energy delivered to you on your PG&E bill, and unless you opt out, that's what you get. Sounds simple, but not all 58 counties are doing that in the state of California. Here that's happening and I don't think there's any single thing you could do that's any bigger than getting ordinary consumers like all of us on clean power as quickly as possible."

Modification of Proposition 13 is on the ballot statewide to remove commercial properties from Proposition 13 protection. Do you support, yes or no, and if so why?

Khamis: "I have been a solid no on this issue from day one. I can tell you why too, because how many of you guys think that corporations will pay these new taxes? Okay, so none of your hands have gone up. Corporations won't pay these taxes... you will! And here's how. You know the shopping centers' retail spaces they have something called triple net so as soon as we raise the prices on the shopping center owners, they're going should raise the prices on mom and pop dry cleaners and the Subway sandwiches and everything that you actually eat and participate in every day. If those people don't raise their prices, then they're going to go out of business; so you're going to hurt two people; yourselves and the small business owner. Big businesses I don't really much care about, but it will hurt all the small business owners. And by the way, we had a 22 billion dollar surplus this year. Why are we still raising taxes?"

Campos: "I've been very consistent on prop 13. I said that I would support it if it had exemptions for making sure that our small business owners were exempt and I do mean small business owners because there are business owners that also owns the property that they're able to have their business out of. If we start taxing them and making them part of prop 13 then were going down an avenue where we're now hurting our small mom and pop businesses, I've been very clear about that... and that is my position."

Gildersleeve: "I was against the old proposition 13, but I wasn't old enough
See FORUM, next page



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SOS AUTO REPAIR'S 'Quick Tip'**The 10 worst car tips mechanics have ever heard****Save on washer fluid by using water**

Windshield washer fluid is a mixture of solvent, detergent and antifreeze agents. If it's replaced with water you risk clogging the reservoir and/or hoses. In addition, in low temp climates the reservoir may crack when the water freezes and expands.

Your car will become a classic/collector's item

We see it all the time. We know someone who is so in love with her 1990 Pontiac, and everyone keeps begging her to stop getting it repaired. She's spent thousands and thousands on it. The parts keep getting harder and harder to find and sometimes are very expensive. But she's convinced it'll be worth a ton if she holds onto it long enough.

Ignore those squealing sounds

If you hear a squeal when braking, don't just turn up the radio! This is a sign there may be a problem. If you wait until they are really bad, you'll need more brake repairs and it can become a pricey brake job. Be smart, don't wait. It's the only thing that stops your 4,000 pound car!

Clean out your engine with soap and water

Someone had problems with knocking in their engine and decided to "clean it out" by pumping soapy water into the gas tank. Hard to tell if it was a joke, but either way—do not do that! You'll have the most sparkling seized engine in the junkyard.

Use hot water to defrost a windshield

The hot water will cut through the frost, no problem! But the extreme temperature change will cause the glass to expand and contract very quickly, which can result in a chipped or cracked windshield.

Get the tire pressure number from your tire

NO, NO, NO! Use the tire pressures on the sticker inside your driver-side door as a guide. Never

ever use the number on your tire. That tire could fit over a dozen different cars that use different pressures. Use a digital pressure gauge and check the tires when they are cold to get an accurate reading. This extends tire life, increases fuel economy, and improves handling and safety too.

Don't sweat an overheating engine

"When your engine is overheating, turn up your AC to chill that sucker down!" That's actually the opposite of what your car needs: Turning on your heater may help tame the engine temperature, but the safest thing to do is pull over and contact roadside assistance (we recommend Jose at Cruz Towing 408-648-7000, just let him know SOS sent you).

Wait for rain to wash your car

When you let your vehicle go for long periods between washes, you not only doom yourself to driving around in a dingy car, but your neglect can dramatically reduce your car's value. Built-up dirt can diminish paint, encourage rust, and allow pollutants to become embedded, which can enhance scratches and dings.

Those dashboard warning lights aren't important

Ignoring dashboard lights and putting tape over them, hoping they will go away—that's terrible advice. They won't go away, and the resulting damage to your emissions system and engine could be very expensive.

Busted tailpipe? Improvise

In a list of terrible automobile DIY projects, someone posted a photo of their homemade fix for a rusted tailpipe: They patched it with a soda can and string. Remember how hot exhaust pipes get—that's a fire waiting to happen.

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Times Cover Story**Forum**

Continued from previous page

to vote on it, so I would have voted no on that. I also know that the county assessor voted no on that as well, but he's not for the new proposition 13. I am in favor of the new proposition 13 because of the damage that has been done by proposition 13 to the schools and our public entities have been horrendous. We have one of the worst school systems K through 12 in the nation. And so I am for it. I'm concerned about small businesses being affected. I was a small business manager. I managed a restaurant at night many years ago for 10 years. So, that is my concern. I think those issues could be addressed in the legislature legislatively and we could do that and counter balance any bad effects to small businesses a yes on proposition 13 would have."

Cortese: "There's nothing out there that's suggesting that proposition 13 should be reversed in any way in terms of residential property owners; homeowners like some of us. That's not what's on the table. In case you're hearing a fear kind of politics coming up: 'no we don't want to reverse prop 13, it's there to protect us.' But it is also protecting folks like the 20 driving industries here in Santa Clara County. It's protecting the Apple campuses, it's protecting the eBay campuses, it's protecting folks providing good jobs for a lot of us. But they have been there a long time, and they're going to be there a long time further without reassessment raking in billions of dollars in corporate profits at a time when we're 41st in per pupil spending. So educators in the state are saying, 'why are we giving them a free ride like we would for an elderly couple on a fixed income when they are bringing in massive amounts of corporate profits.' Why shouldn't they be reassessed once in a while to a true property value instead of the property value from 20 years ago? I think that is reasonable. Spending down our 22 billion dollar surplus to cure that problem is kind of absurd. The surplus is there to protect us from a downturn."

Ravel: "The problem with some of these proposals that are put on the ballot like the new Prop 13 and also the problem with a lot of the legislation in Sacramento is nobody is thinking clearly about what the consequences are and how it's going to come to fruition and how it's going to be enacted. That's true I believe in the prop 13 discussions. I was a county employee at the time that it was passed, and no one thought it was intended to cover businesses, but it does cover businesses now. I have had conversations, because that's how I like to be informed about consequences. Larry Stone the county assessor and the assessor in Alameda County and I have talked about this issue and they say very clearly, number one that we know that the money doesn't just go to schools, the money from the taxes is spread much more broadly, so this is not a school issue. They cannot implement it, they cannot implement it the way it's written on the ballot measure and so they say that the only way that you would ever be im-

plemented, it would be maybe another 5 to 10 years. So to have this kind of a solution to the problem of what we need to do to get businesses to step up I think is mistaken and there are other ways that we can accomplish the same thing."

Do you support the restructure of PG&E and turning it into a public entity? Why or why not?

Camos: "When I was on the city council we had the explosions from the San Bruno. And I remember pulling the city manager in and saying I need to understand are there [gas] lines in the city of San Jose and where are they? And so they did and they pulled out the map and they ran right through the district that I was representing in a very high thoroughfare. And then when I got to Sacramento I sat on resources and transportation and I was one of five individuals that sat on that committee. PG&E came in and they reported to us and we had an opportunity to review an audit that the state had done on PG&E. It was very clear in that report that the culture in PG&E needed to be changed. I was one of five that actually took them to task and made recommendations for us to actually make sure that we could remove the current leadership in there, but because the California Public Utilities Commission are the ones that have the ability to do that, we were left without that. So, I proposed that they actually report to the legislature and that did not move forward."

Gildersleeve: "I'm sensitive to the fact that this is an area that has a really direct impact to power shut-downs. We actually had a shutdown where I work over at Eastridge Para Transit and it wasn't good. First of all, you may not like this. I think we need to be a bit more flexible with them. What I would like to see is a series of guidelines that they have to achieve before we're going to break them up, because if they don't achieve a series of guidelines that are set out by the state that they have to fix these certain things by a certain time, then I would favor breaking them up into smaller entities. I'm not so sure that a state controlled utility would work, it might make it worse, but maybe breaking it up if they can't achieve the goals that we lay out might be something that would light a fire under them to get these issues fixed."

Cortese: "Just a few weeks ago Mayor Sam Liccardo suggested that maybe it shouldn't be PG&E and maybe it shouldn't be the state. Maybe it should be a public benefit corporation or some kind of public entity that we own that is running what we now call PG&E, our utility; I signed on, and I think I was the first supervisor in from this area to sign on to a letter that he began to circulate. I don't know if that is the perfect answer, but I know that doing nothing is not the answer. PG&E it is clear is broken. It is broken from a management standpoint; it's disconnected up and down its management tree. We talked to middle managers as county supervisors on big issues facing our county. They say one thing. We talked to folks above their head who don't know what the middle manager said or what they stand

Continued, next page

Lucy Hsu and friends in a tent school in Pakistan.

**Lucy**

Continued from page 16

Lucy also reflected, "On the other hand, seeing the gratitude and joy of these poor Pakistani children is a reminder to not take my life for granted. Here I was, looking at these precious children, with no shoes, learning from a volunteer teacher in a makeshift tent of a classroom, no electricity or real learning supplies, just a few books to be shared among the entire class. It really puts into perspective all the complaining and griping that goes on here at home. Around this time

was the blackout in San Jose, and I caught myself lamenting about the inconvenience...but I snapped out of it real quickly! Going without electricity will cause some inconvenience but we can get through it with a positive attitude, and keeping school open can be a great teachable moment for our students." Surviving without electricity is a daily reality in many parts of the world. These children survive on rice, flatbread and lentils!

As Lucy continues visiting and volunteering around the globe, she continues to be a positive influence wherever she goes.

Times Cover Story

for. So, it's no wonder we're having the kind of problems that we have. It's no wonder we have chaos with blackouts and nobody knows why it's this area, or why it's that area, or why it's not even evidently in a wild fire area when it happens for that reason. The second thing that needs to be done is that the P.U.C. needs to be gutted. The story we just heard from Nora, I would have suggested at that point and immediately a bill that would completely make over the P.U.C.; it's corrupt. There is no way that you can assign any appropriate accountability to a public utilities commission that allows this to happen. That oversight mechanism it's no good anymore."

Ravel: "So we know that PG&E for San Bruno is actually in criminal court and the court has determined that they spent all kinds of money on bonuses and cut the money that was intended to cut trees and to make it safer for the people of this state. PG&E needs greater oversight. It is impossible for this state or cities banded together to be able to oversee together all the lines, all of the power poles that PG&E has in mountainous areas throughout the state of California. What we need is greater oversight and the problem has been the P.U.C. but more importantly the problem has been the state legislature, the governor, they have failed to make sure that the P.U.C. was doing the job that they were intended to do which was to make sure that they were doing work for the people of this state and not for the benefit solely of their shareholders. That's what we need to do, we need to have a state senate that is far more involved in oversight and much less willing to exceed to others and not look at what's happening in the state and that what's got to happen with PG&E."

Khamis: "I agree with some of these comments; it takes two to tango. It was PG&E and the Public Utilities Commission who have failed miserably and the oversight it is clearly on the P.U.C. Now I don't like monopolies, but we're stuck. It doesn't matter what the solution we tell you about today, I could tell you this, whatever happens, it's going to cost us a lot more because PG&E never invested in upgrades that they were supposed to be investing in to make our electricity grid safer and smaller so that we can have less blackouts. Regardless of what happens, I think our rates are going to go up. But for me it's about accountability; making sure that we're getting the best bang for our buck in making sure that government is responsive. Now as a state legislator, I would make sure that whatever form of this new, it doesn't matter what it is, it's going to be a monopoly, has accountability in it. If we say you can raise your rate by two percent if you want to upgrade this grid, we need to make sure that the increase was used for that purpose. That's what my tenure at city council has been about; making sure that your money is going to the right places."

Californians are fleeing the state at record numbers, what are your top three priorities if elected to the state senate?

Gildersleeve: "I think the constituents of this vast District 15 would probably like to focus on education, housing and transportation. Of course housing is a big reason why it's happening. So that is going to be the number one reason I think anyone of us are going to say that's the number one issue we are going to address. As I said housing is a human right, that's my position on that. I want to state that I'm a renter by the way and many of you have young adult children that are only going to be able to rent, so I was in favor of proposition 10 which was not popular in the state. I think people were misled. It was not about rent control, it was simply giving the power to the local municipalities to set rents for the needs of the people. I don't view that as a permanent solution but we have to control rents or we

are going to have our young adults fleeing because they can't afford to stay here and they are not going to get into a house right away. Second solution is that we may need to change the rules on housing ownership. I watch some of these, I don't even like the word flipping, I hear that word and I think I don't even know if that was the intention of what the American dream of owning a house was about. So I think we kind of have to look at some of the rules for housing in the state."

Cortese: "Tim is right about one thing, that the cost of housing is the number one issue. Clearly that's going to drive people away. It's driven a couple of people, young people, in my family, out of the area. I think these issues that we're talking about all afternoon here start to impact families; I think families start voting differently. I'm hoping that you're going to support me because of my background in addressing this issue and my understanding in terms of this issue. As I said housing and homelessness are connected together very closely. The second thing that I think people are extremely focused on is public safety. I've been here as most of you know basically my entire life aside from being born in the Ft. Ord army hospital; I ended up right here in Evergreen. I love this place; but when you knock on doors, when you talk to people and they say 'it's not the same anymore. The police from SJPd don't show up when there are packages stolen from our door; we don't get responses like we used to. We don't have as many police officers as we used to.' These are issues that need to be addressed and they need to be addressed up and down the state. Those are two of the primary issues. I talked about the environment and about education earlier. All of those things are going to retain people here or not."

Ravel: "I too have been around this entire district talking to people. And the things that I hear from people and also let me just say my own son had to leave the area because even with me helping support him and his wife and my adorable grandchildren they couldn't live here. So, I'm personally affected by this. What people say though, yes it is housing costs; housing costs are ridiculously high. Rent is ridiculously high. It's hard for young people to live here. People are also really upset about the horrible gridlock that we have in our traffic I mean there was even gridlock coming from my house. I'm sure you see it all the time and how difficult it is if you want to work in a place like Mountain View or wherever it is and coming through our transportation system that is so terrible; all of those things lead to economic disparity in this area. People are so clearly unable to live here and have the quality of life that I had when I was growing up in Santa Clara County in a very lower middle class family, but it was still a great place to grow up. They can't have it and we need to deal with those issues."

Khamis: "Well, I think one of the reasons why people are leaving the state is that it has become a one party state. There are no other ideas being presented at the state level; it's just the same ideas that are trying to address the problems. Now I concur that there's a housing crisis, there is the criminal you know; criminal aspects. Many of these problems have been plaguing us for years, but there are no new ideas. I've been talking about for example on crime that the pendulum of justice has swung too far to the side of the criminal. Our police when they catch their criminals that Dave's talking about, there's no way to prosecute them! If they steal something under \$950 dollars it's a misdemeanor, and there's no way to add the misdemeanors to turn it into a felony which it used to be. A lot of the laws have turned against law abiding citizens. And a lot of ideas need to change at the state

See FORUM, page 21



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EvergreenAreaMeetings

Adlibmasters Toastmasters Club: A group dedicated to helping develop communication and leadership skills. The group meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 5:15 - 7 p.m. at HGST, a Western Digital Co. and the second and fourth Tuesdays from 12 - 1 p.m. at IBM. For more information, go to www.adlibmasters.org or call Lorraine Myers at (408) 717-5552 weekdays or 1(408) 238-4580 weekends.

District 8 Community Roundtable: 1st Thursday of every month from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Location: Village Square library (For information, visit d8crt.org)

CalRTA-Area V-Div. 70 Retired Teachers Organization: Meets bi-monthly at various eastside cafes also conducts a variety of holiday socials/activities and scholarship fundraisers. Established in 1983! All teaching levels and others welcome. This organization supports the goals and purposes of the California Teachers' Retirement System. For more information call E. Paros at (408) 274-1609 or email parose@sbcgloball.net.

East Side Union High School District Board of Trustees: Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in the ESUHS Education Center, 830 N. Capitol Ave. 347-5000. Check the web site for agendas and updates: www.esuhd.org

San Jose East / Evergreen Kiwanis Club The Kiwanis meet regularly 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 12:15pm at The Ranch Golf Club, 4601 Hill Top View Ln, San Jose, CA 95138. For 2nd Saturday community projects and 4th Thursday evening socials, consult www.rotarysjee.org

The Evergreen Business Assn is a networking group for business owners who live and work in the Evergreen and nearby areas. The purpose of the Evergreen Business Association is to develop and foster connections and to provide a forum for members to share knowledge, promote growth opportunities, and encourage referrals. The group meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 am at the Evergreen Village Square Library, 4035 Evergreen Village Square, San Jose. We also meet at Evergreen Coffee Company on the 4th Friday of the month for a more informal session at noon. Evergreen Coffee Company is also located at Evergreen Village Square. For more information, please refer to our website at www.ebagroup.org.

Evergreen-East Valley Realtors Marketing Meeting: Meets each Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The EEVRMM invites realtors, brokers, lenders and related affiliates to its breakfast meeting. Market your listings, match buyers with sellers and share real estate success stories. Meetings are held at New Seasons 5667 Silver Creek Valley Rd San Jose Ca 95138. \$3 admission, coffee and pastries included. For more information, call David Castillo at 238-2000.

Evergreen School District Board of Trustees: Meetings are typically held on the second Thursday of every month, in the district boardroom at 3188 Quimby Road. For more information, call (408) 270-6800.

The Evergreen Senior Advisory Council meets the third Thursday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Get involved in helping plan events for seniors, volunteering for a

good cause, and getting to know your fellow seniors. For more information, call the Evergreen Community Center at (408) 270-2220.

Evergreen Valley High School Athletic Booster Club meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the school's administration office.

Evergreen Valley High School Site Council: Meets the first Wednesday of every month on the EVHS campus in the administration building D, 3300 Quimby Rd., San Jose. Confirm meetings by visiting the school's web site, <http://ev.ca>. campusgrid.net/home and clicking on school site council in the left hand toolbar or calling the school at (408) 347-7000.

Evergreen Valley Rotary Club We are a local service club dedicated to improving our neighborhood and the world. Local business leaders and active community members may visit us every Monday at 12:15 p.m. at the Clubhouse at the Villages Golf & Country Club.

Evergreen Valley Service Organization: For more information, call (408) 274-6756.
Falls Creek Neighborhood Assn: Homeowners from the Madison and Pulte area developments are welcome and encouraged to attend future meetings. For more information go to the Web at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fallscreekneighbors> or call Dave Zenker at (408) 238-2591.

The Evergreen Community Center offers a variety of classes and special events, for kids, adults, and seniors. For more information on our activities visit: www.sanjoseca.gov/prns. The Senior

Nutrition program serves a delicious and well balanced meal to seniors 60 and over every Monday - Friday at noon. The suggested donation is \$3 per person. Please make reservations at least one day in advance by calling (408) 270-1244. The center is located at 4860 San Felipe Road.

Friends of Evergreen Library meet on the 3rd Thursday of January, April, July, and October from 5:30p.m.-7p.m. in the Community Room of the Evergreen Branch Library located at 2635 Aborn Road, San Jose. For more information call 408-808-3060.

LeyVa Community Action Team Assn: This group is bounded by Barberrry Lane and Monrovia Drive, Capitol Expressway, Aborn Road, and South King Road. For meeting time and location, please contact the association at (408) 795-5855.

Lions Club - San Jose East Valley: This local Lions group meets at the Red Lobster restaurant on Capitol at Aborn on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Dinner and fellowship start at 6 p.m. followed by the meeting at 7 p.m. Since we often meet at other places, attendees should contact Gayle Kludt at 408 531 1063 to confirm location. Guests are always welcome.

McLaughlin Corridor Neighborhood Assoc. Meets second Thursday at 7 p.m. at Tully Library. 365-1300.

Meadowfair Neighborhood Association meets the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months at 7 p.m. at Meadowfair Center, 2696 King Rd. For more information, call 539-2308.

The Norwood Neighborhood Association serves the neighborhoods from Norwood Avenue to Tully Road between White and Ruby. We meet the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm at East Valley Church located at 2827 Flint Avenue. Please visit Next Door Norwood for more information.

Reid - Hillview Airport Assn: 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Location: Hillview Airport Terminal. (For information, call (408) 251-4939 or visit rhvaa.org)

Rotary Club of San Jose East/Evergreen meets at The Ranch Restaurant, 4601 Hill Top View Ln, San Jose, CA 95138; 12:15pm on the third Thursday. For our other weekly meetings consult www.rotarysjee.org.

Story Road Business Association: Meets third Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. at Prusch Park, South King Road at Story. For more information, call 238-5422.

San Jose/Evergreen Community College District Board Normally meets second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Meetings in the District Office, Board Room, 40 S. Market St., San Jose, CA 95113.

San Pedro Squares Toastmasters Club meets every Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. at Jimmy's Restaurant, 222 W. Capitol Expressway in San Jose. Contact Barbara at 373-2815, or email barbaramcchesney@sbcgloball.net for further information, or check out the website at <http://www.sanpedrosquares.freetoasthost.org>.

Silver Creek (PTSA) Parent, Teacher, Student Assn: Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday in the Silver Creek High School Principal's Conference Room, 3434 Silver Creek Road. For more information, call 347-5830.

Silver Creek School Site Council Meetings: Second Tuesday of the month at 4:00 pm in the Parent Center.

Silver Oak Educational Partnership: The Silver Oak Educational Partnership is now called the Silver Oak Elementary PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). New meeting schedule will be posted soon.

Tully Ocala Capitol King Neighborhood Assn: 1st Monday of every other month from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Location: Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley - Smythe Clubhouse

West Evergreen Neighborhood Assn: This group represents the area bounded approximately by Flanigan Drive, South King Road, Aborn Road, and Alvin Avenue. Meets the third Tuesday at O.B. Whaley Elementary School, 2655 Alvin Ave., 7 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact the association at 535-8613.

Email your meeting times and locations:
editorial@timesmediainc.com

Times **Cover Story**

Forum

Continued from page 19

level and I will be that change. I'm one of the only people talking about this justice topic, because stealing off your porch just becomes so easy and with no penalty. There are police officers that don't want to address it because they know that as soon as it goes to the district attorney's office that nothing is going to get done, even though our police force is growing."

Campos: "I think we all have similar issues. We know that homelessness is a big issue. We know that housing is a big issue. We know that transportation is a big issue. I think the issue that I'm going to focus on, my top priorities will be housing. We need to build a system here where we can build houses near job centers. We need to build a transportation system that really allows us to get out of our cars. You, the Evergreen community, are so far from the job centers that it makes it very, very long for you to get to work. So, pushing and figuring out how we work with our local elected, with the state, to make sure that we complete our transit systems in the city of San Jose as well as Santa Clara, those will be my focus areas that I'll continue to move forward. The other thing that I think is also crucial is that I talk to family members and friends as I'm sitting in coffee shops. The number one thing that comes up with in our communities besides housing and transportation is public safety. If you're not safe in your neighborhood, then you don't feel the city is safe. And then you worry about your kids. I mean I have a school age child. I take him to school. My mom picks him up. My husband takes him. My mom picks him up because we are nervous about him being able to go on his own. Those are my priorities."

A video of the forum was made for viewing by Wesley Lee. To view the video on youtube.com, search: D8CRT senate.

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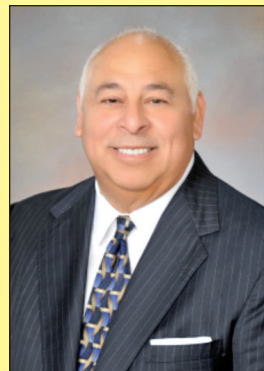
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God is One ੴ ਸਿਕ ਹੈ Rab Ik Hai

SAN JOSE GURDWARA

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

grounds. Learn more about us and community events we sponsor by visiting our website; <http://www.SanJoseGurdwara.org>

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!

Get listed!

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Notice

!! MISSING !!
REWARD of \$1,000



A Nuclear Gauge was stolen from a locked truck at the **Creekbridge Community** near **Beacon Hill Drive** in **Salinas** on **Monday, October 21st** at 2:38 a.m. A reward will be provided for the return of the missing item and its contents. If you have any information please contact:
Alan (RSO): (650) 444-4270
Steve (ARSO): (650) 804-6274



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

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

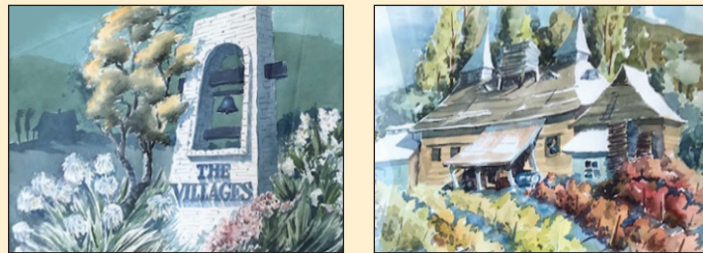
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www.MyWatershedWatch.org

TimesClassifieds

Artwork

Art for sale

Two large **Henry Volle'** watercolors of the early days of the Villages. These are crafted by a master watercolorist in very bright colors depicting the hills behind the villages in a reality setting. Volle' was a resident of the Villages for many years before retiring to a care facility. The barnwood frames measure 32"X41" and are beautifully matted to enhance the beauty of the paintings. \$400.00 for the pair. Call Frank at 408-207-5556 - mention paintings and please leave a message.

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Employment

Evergreen School District
From strong roots grow bright futures

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED – EVERGREEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Evergreen School District is currently hiring certificated substitute teachers for Kindergarten – 8th grade.

Requirements: Bachelor's Degree, Proof of Passed CBEST Exam, 30-Day Substitute Teacher Permit, Fingerprint Clearance, and TB Test.

Rate of Pay: Starting at \$135.00/Day

For further information, please contact Evergreen School District, Human Resources Department, (408) 270- 6817.

Driving School

Advantage Driving School is the premier driving school in northern California. Advantage Driving School has trained more than 300,000 students to drive safely since 1994. We offer complete programs for both traditional classroom and online courses.

Driver Training is the behind the wheel training which prepares your child to pass the driving test at the DMV. We also offer complete programs for adults and senior citizens. If you have never driven or just need some supplemental instruction to improve your driving skills, we are just the school for you! We believe Advantage Driving School offers a great combination of experienced driving instructors and affordable prices!

Location: 5440 Thornwood Drive, Suite F;

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

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**Gifts**

Calendar for sale featuring wildlife in Evergreen Valley

The 2020 Calendar featuring wildlife pictures taken by Lou Alexander is now available for \$23.95. About \$5 goes to the Villages Medical Auxiliary. The calendar is on the far right of the first row at www.zazzle.com/store/thevillagesvma. There are also some small note cards for sale on the site, all featuring scenes from inside The Villages.



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EVERGREEN AND SURROUNDING AREA

Street Address	Price	Bds	Bths	SqFt	Lot Size
3394 Meadowlands Lane	\$1,975,000	5	3 0	3,066	16,419 Lot SqFt
3313 Alsace Court	\$1,620,000	4	3 0	2,547	4,853 Lot SqFt
4147 Voltaire Street	\$1,500,000	4	3 1	2,730	4,730 Lot SqFt
3667 Lago De Bracciano Street	\$1,457,000	4	3 0	2,542	4,840 Lot SqFt
3617 Pleasant Knoll Drive	\$1,445,000	5	3 1	3,649	8,822 Lot SqFt
3550 Rollingside Drive	\$1,370,000	4	3 0	2,106	9,092 Lot SqFt
3156 Markwood Court	\$1,285,000	3	2 1	2,458	10,357 Lot SqFt
3362 Norwood Avenue	\$1,225,000	3	2 1	1,902	6,936 Lot SqFt
3286 Knightswood Way	\$1,225,000	4	3 0	2,106	8,197 Lot SqFt
9057 Village View Loop	\$1,225,000	2	2 1	2,224	2,770 Lot SqFt
8825 Wine Valley Circle	\$1,200,000	3	2 0	2,256	5,200 Lot SqFt
8214 Claret Court	\$1,000,010	3	2 1	2,001	9,962 Lot SqFt
2247 Fairmont Drive	\$974,950	4	2 1	1,973	6,005 Lot SqFt
3112 LUDLOW Court	\$930,000	4	2 0	1,538	5,807 Lot SqFt
3124 Peanut Brittle Drive	\$920,000	3	2 0	1,487	5,963 Lot SqFt
8225 Claret Court	\$920,000	2	2 0	2,001	7,052 Lot SqFt

SILVER CREEK AND SURROUNDING AREA

Street Address	Price	Bds	Bths	SqFt	Lot Size
5735 La Seyne Place	\$3,400,000	5	5 1	6,600	16,749 Lot SqFt
1631 Hill Top View Court	\$2,280,000	5	3 1	3,902	11,763 Lot SqFt
1535 Rangewood Drive	\$2,150,000	5	3 1	4,023	8,199 Lot SqFt
5617 Snowdon Place	\$2,100,000	4	3 1	3,429	7,128 Lot SqFt
1557 Silver Pond Lane	\$2,085,000	5	4 0	3,523	11,774 Lot SqFt
6056 Whitehaven Court	\$2,005,000	4	5 0	3,453	6,547 Lot SqFt
5647 Snowdon Place	\$1,994,000	4	3 0	2,833	8,446 Lot SqFt
4700 Silver Ranch Place	\$1,550,000	3	2 0	2,093	6,327 Lot SqFt
1439 Trestlewood Drive	\$1,410,000	4	2 1	2,459	4,801 Lot SqFt
6624 Gravina Loop	\$1,346,000	4	2 1	2,567	15,893 Lot SqFt
1333 Trailside Court	\$1,262,000	4	3 1	2,538	3,661 Lot SqFt
6113 Country Club Parkway	\$1,235,000	3	2 0	2,332	2,750 Lot SqFt
724 Sirica Way	\$1,235,000	5	3 1	2,753	11,000 Lot SqFt
1262 Thornbury Lane	\$1,190,000	3	3 0	2,234	5,162 Lot SqFt
2313 Silver Breeze Court	\$1,020,000	2	2 0	2,154	3,276 Lot SqFt
6139 Country Club Parkway	\$989,000	2	2 0	1,590	2,709 Lot SqFt
5857 Marshwell Way	\$900,000	4	2 0	1,355	5,774 Lot SqFt

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