ArtSPARK: Free outreach program for igniting connection of music and math **SEE PAGE 4** 



#### **Budget woes**

ESUHS District Board approves \$23M cut, layoffs; educators will not be cut

SEE PAGE 9

Milan restaurant goes up for sale; not good 'sign' say some residents

SEE PAGE 14



FEB. 28 - MARCH 12, 2020 ■ VOL. 37, NO. 5

# Evergreen & Silver Creek Valley Since 1982 • Evergreentimes.com

#### **ELECTION 2020**

#### March primary not giving California the expected relevance in presidential race

By Dan Walters
CalMatters

The more or less official rationale offered by the state's Democratic politicians for moving our presidential primary election to March 3 was that the nation's most populous and diverse state should play a major role in choosing a challenger to President Donald Trump and compel candidates to pay attention to our issues.

They implied that making the state relevant in presidential politics was worth forcing earlier-than-usual decisions on down-ballot issues, including contests for 153 legislative and congressional seats, countless local government offices and hundreds of state and local ballot See ELECTION, page 17

### Evergreen School District Board of Trustees approves closure/consolidation of Laurelwood and Dove Hill

he Evergreen School District Board of Trustees voted at the ESD Board Meeting on Feb. 13 to approve the recommended closures/consolidations of Dove Hill and Laurelwood Elementary Schools at the end of the 2019-20 school year.

The Board's decision aligns with the recommendations made by Evergreen School District Superintendent Dr. Emy Flores and the 24-member Superintendent's School Consolidation Advisory Committee, comprised of parents, staff and Evergreen community members.

In October 2019, the Board of Trustees approved the closure/consolidation of two schools at the end of the 2019-20 school year and an additional school at the end of the 2020-21 school year to address a \$12 million financial shortfall that is the result of rising operating costs and declining enrollment

"The decision to close Dove Hill and Laurelwood Elementary Schools is the result of a thorough analysis of the current and future demographics as they relate to the Evergreen School District's enrollment and school boundaries, consideration of the positive and negative factors related to closing these schools, as well as variables, including location and community impact," said Dr. Flores. "From a fiscal perspective, we also considered the potential costs of facility improvements for the schools, as well as transportation costs, in addition to the impacts that lower enrollment has on the efficient operation of schools."

"As a former principal in our district, I am intimately aware of how this decision to close schools impacts the families and staff at those schools, which makes this decision all that more difficult," said Leila Welch, President of the See CLOSURES, page 7



### **PAINTER'S DREAMS**

## Weather patterns in Evergreen and beyond Photo by Frank Shortt

At the end of January Evergreen Valley was at 80% of normal in our rainfall and the skies around Evergreen had produced some of the most amazing painter's dreams that could be imagined. *See article, page 20* 

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## San Jose City Council candidate loses some endorsements following divorce claims listed on attack website

By William Bellou
Publisher

Some political and business leaders rescinded their endorsement of San Jose City Council Candidate Jim Zito after an attack website went public Feb. 10.

The attack against Zito, based on allegations from his ex-wife's divorce papers, appears on a website funded by the San Jose Police Officers' Association PAC (POA), which has endorsed Sylvia Arenas in her re-election bid. Direct mail pieces from the POA detailing the allegations have also been sent to residents in District 8.

Zito's ex-wife, Zoe Bizzell, alleged in their divorce proceedings 13 years ago that he was controlling and abusive. Zito pointed out that



San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, right, rescinded his endorsement of City Council candidate **Jim Zito**. *Photo courtesy of Jim Zito* 

in the final custody agreement, which he has published on his campaign website (VoteJim-Zito.com), the court dismissed the ex-wife's allegations and both parents were awarded joint legal custody of the three minor children.

Zito told the *Evergreen Times*: "The selected divorce documents that were released told only one side of the story. These mean-spirited attacks meant to hurt my campaign are ultimately harming my family. It's unfortunate that the unions are trying to use misinformation to distract voters from the issues and my 25 years of service to the community" Zito continued.

Since the attack website was published, Zito, See ZITO, page 19

#### EVERGREEN VOTERS - JOIN COMMUNITY LEADERS SUPPORTING OTTO LEE FOR SUPERVISOR!



## The Mercury News The Newspaper of Silicon Valley

The Newspaper of Silicon Valley
FEBRUARY 2, 2020

"...it's clear that his first priority is the public good... Otto Lee has the best combination of experience and independence. We recommend him to voters."

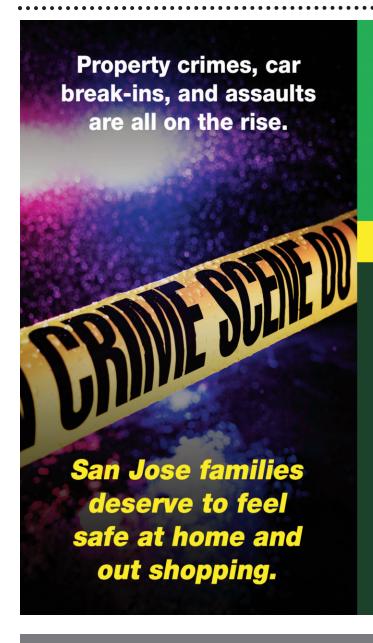
#### **EVERGREEN ENDORSES OTTO LEE!**

Norman Mineta, Fmr. US Sec. of Transportation & San José Mayor Pete McHugh, Former County Supervisor Claudia Rossi, County Board of Education President Rose Herrera, Former San José Vice Mayor Van T. Le, East Side Union High School District Vice President Lan Nguyen, East Side Union High School District Trustee J. Manuel Herrera, East Side Union High School District Trustee Jeff Ota, Fmr. East Side Union High School District Trustee Chris Corpus, Evergreen School Board Trustee Marisa Hanson, Evergreen School Board Trustee & Teacher Maria Fuentes, San José-Evergreen Comm. College Dist. Trustee Thelma Boac, Berryessa School Board Trustee & Fmr. Silver Creek Principal East Side Teachers Association



For more than a decade, conversations with Evergeen families and residents have prepared me to represent you. I will work hard on your behalf on the issues and decisions that will shape our neighborhoods for generations to come. I would be honored to earn your vote and continue my service to our community.

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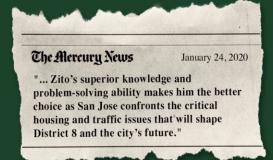


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#### After half a century of Postal Service, San Jose carrier hangs up his satchel

Fifty years ago the Beatles were changing the world, the first ever Earth Day was launched and for letter carrier Peter Licon so was a Postal Career. On Friday, February 21, 2020, his five decades of service were celebrated at the San Jose Hillview Station when Licon hung up his satchel to start his new journey.

He won't leave without a party though. His friends, coworkers and family planned to gather at the Hillview Station Post Office, 2450 Alvin Ave., San Jose, CA 95122 on Friday, February 21, 2020, at 8 a.m., to give him a proper send off.

Licon's appointed rounds have been marked by many achievements and a few nips by dogs over the course of his career. One notable accomplishment is his status as a Million Mile driver, which means he has driven a million miles without even a fender-bender after logging more than a million miles delivering the mail. He has driven the equivalent of 40 times around the globe, all without leaving the city limits.

He states that he will miss the customers he has met and grown to know along his route as well as his fellow carriers.

Licon is looking forward to spending his retirement with his family and grandchildren, and getting mail in his mailbox instead of delivering it.

## **Evergreen Times**

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# Valley Currents

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

# ArtSPARK: Free outreach program for local school children igniting a connection of music and math

Celebrating ten years of programing March 23 and 24

Symphony Silicon Valley presents the tenth year of ArtSPARK "It's About Time: Music, Math & More" Monday, March 23 and Tuesday, March 24, 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. at the California Theatre, 345 So First Street.

The free performances are paid entirely by Symphony Silicon Valley for 4,500 fourth graders throughout the county.

Evergreen School District schools participating in this year's ArtSPARK include Evergreen Elementary School, Matsumoto Elementary and O.B.Whaley Elementary.

Since 2011, more than 100,000 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students have participated from over 165 schools...a majority of them being Title 1 schools. They have seen live theater, ballet, visual art, and world music events.

This program features Symphony Silicon Valley in "It's About Time." It shows the connections between Music & Math by teaching students about Time Signatures in music and





Evergreen School District schools participating in this year's ArtSPARK include Evergreen Elementary School, Matsumoto Elementary and O.B.Whaley Elementary.

how they relate to Fractions in Mathematics. Common Core lesson plans for use in the classroom were developed by Santa Clara County Office of Education Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA) coordinators Jeannine Flores and Jenny Cheng.

The experience begins in the classroom prior to the performance with students listening to music in various time signatures: a Strauss polka in 2/4 time, a Bizet gypsy dance in 3/4 time from Carmen, a Prokofiev march in 4/4, a Tchaikovsky tarantella in 6/8. The students learn to clap along in the various times as they view charts of the signatures. Then things get

really interesting as they learn more difficult signatures in 5/4 from the theme to Mission Impossible, 7/4 from Dave Brubeck's jazz classic Unsquare Dance, and even 9/8 from Wagner's Ride of the Valkyries.

When they get to the theater, Maestro Peter Jaffe leads the audience in clapping out the various time signatures and the live orchestra onstage joins along in playing the pieces. Along the way, the students learn how a symphony concert is different from other types of concerts, they also learn the "families" of the orchestra, symphony vocabulary, and theater etiquette. *Photo credit: Robert Shomler* 

## Neel Raja of Evergreen earns Faculty Honors at Georgia Tech

**Neel Raja** (inset) of Evergreen Valley has earned the distinction of Faculty Honors at Georgia Institute of Technology. This designation is awarded to undergraduate students who have a 4.0 academic average for the semester.

Raja, a graduate of Evergreen Valley High School, is a Georgia Tech Computer Science undergraduate with previous internship experiences at a Silicon Valley stealth mode startup and at Stanford University where he collaborated with a fac-

ulty physician to develop a medical device and an Android

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Stronger, Safer Neighborhoods

### An Open Letter to Our Community by Jim Zito

Dear Community Members,

I've spent the last few months knocking on doors and listening to concerns and suggestions from our community. One thing that resonates from these conversations is that you want a councilmember who represents the **ENTIRE** community. You don't want a political puppet, or someone who ignores the facts in favor of ideology or special interests. You want someone who thinks independently and considers all the facts when making decisions. Someone who is willing to learn from people and take a position based on the evidence.

Many know I am a long time District 8 community advocate, appointed San Jose Planning Commissioner for 8 years and elected to the Evergreen School Board three times, where I've served 10 years. I've worked on behalf of our community for more than 20 years, all in the service of making it the best possible for all our residents. After 30 years in high tech, I am now a math teacher at a middle school. I understand the importance of a strong public education system.

Our community and city face many serious challenges, and my priority has always been to find sensible, sustainable and fiscally responsible solutions to our problems. My focus is to improve public safety, decrease homelessness, increase housing affordability, promote jobs, decrease traffic through cost effective public transit, fix our roads, and protect our hillsides and open spaces. Most importantly, I am independent and not beholden to any special interest group.

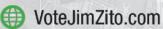
I have run a solid issues-based campaign with respect for our community. However, it is unfortunate that in the last few weeks, my opponent and her Union supporters have spent over \$100,000 so far on vicious personal attacks. These are meant to derail my candidacy with lies. It appears that my opponent's plan is simply to mischaracterize my reputation with hopes to slide into victory. It is very concerning that the Unions and my opponent have continued these deliberate and malicious personal attacks on me and my family, even in the face of the truth. On my website I have published the facts of my divorce, backed by our judge's decision. (Go to **VoteJimZito.com**).

I am honest, fair and hard working. I treat all people equally and am a good father and provider. Thirteen years ago, I had a messy divorce, but the court threw out all my ex-wife's allegations and ruled that we would share joint custody of our three children. In accordance with the law, our assets were divided. I paid alimony and continue to pay child support every month. I've never missed a support payment. Nor have I ever had a police record or complaints filed against me.

It is true that I lost some endorsers in this campaign. But, because of my integrity and rock solid record of community service, I kept even more. Even so, this is not that important because I am not beholden to my political endorsers, I would work for you!

As my family and I receive the daily Union hit pieces delivered by my mailman, I realize that I am not alone. I now know this appalling Union strategy has been used before. So, I am eternally grateful to those friends, family and supporters who realize the truth, and who are sticking with me because they want our city to move beyond divisiveness. Please stand with me in fighting for honesty and integrity in our election process. I will always stand with our entire community.

Sincerely, Jim Zito





#### **Times Letters to the Editor**

## In support of Jim Zito

Dear editor

I am writing this letter in support of Jim Zito's candidacy for San Jose City Council - District 8. Having worked alongside Jim as a Trustee at Evergreen School Board, I personally know of Jim as an independent thinker, willing to dig into the details and consider all options before deciding on a course of action. He has always put the interests of students before other vested interests. His long record of service to San Jose and our Evergreen community is well documented and I know that he will continue to serve each and every one of us as our Council member.

**Balaji Venkatraman** *Trustee, Evergreen School Board* 

#### A clear choice for City Council — Sylvia Arenas

Dear editor,

I hope Evergreen voters will re-elect Sylvia Arenas. I've found that District 8 residents and families can count on her at City Hall. Your choice will help shape the direction of our city. She is focused on the needs of families and neighborhoods.

I've been impressed by Sylvia. She provides a strongly needed moral voice on the Council, pushing for common sense solutions that put families first. She helped launch San Jose's Family Friendly City initiative which directs city departments to have the needs of families in mind as they make decisions.

Sylvia is leading San Jose's efforts to improve public safety for women and children. She brought together a coalition to improve the way sexual assaults are investigated in San Jose – bringing focus to a crisis too long overlooked.

She's a leader... From her focus on family homelessness, to her advocacy for neighborhoods, to her role in defeating a recent ballot measure that would have harmed Evergreen; Sylvia provides Evergreen families the strong voice that they need at City Hall.

Sylvia is a Democrat running against a Republican who has now lost multiple endorsements because of his [alleged] abusive treatment of his ex wife. This behavior is not in-line with our San Jose values. While city council races are non-partisan, it seems to me that right now all of us, even Republican voters, should

vote to reject the values of Donald Trump at every level of government. Like me when I ran for local office, Sylvia wasn't selected by city hall insiders. Instead, she is backed by neighbors and the grass roots.

You have a very clear choice in this election. I hope Evergreen voters will re-elect Sylvia Arenas to represent them on the City Council.

**Zoe Lofgren**Conaresswoman

## Spotlight conjures fake news, reader says

Dear editor,

In an effort to gain readership, Spotlight has conjured fake news hoping a scandal would fix its sinking tabloid and to reward its union backers in hopes of continued contributions. The voters are too bright for such tactics and can see right through it.

Jim Zito worked over 20 years in D8 to help the people in his community. His many years on the planning commission, school board, D8 Roundtable and countless commissions and committees resonated soundly with the voters. As his campaign soared,

his opponents union backers became concerned. Jim was not a rubber stamp to high pensions and infinite raises. Desperate times call for desperate measures so the unions responded.

It's a sad day in America, when unions attempt to control our government and destroy an innocent person for their own self-serving agenda.

Jean Valencia McCauley Evergreen Valley Community Leader

## Arenas earns readers' vote

Dear editor,

Sylvia Arenas our Evergreen District 8 Councilmember has earned our vote in support of her re-election on March 3 because she listens, cares and takes AC-TION to improve our quality of life in Evergreen and San Jose!

As a longtime resident of Evergreen Sylvia Arenas is our community's powerful voice!

First advocating for quality education for our children as an Evergreen School Board Member and today is our tireless representative on the San Jose City Council.

Sylvia works hard for us through her public service!

200 new SJ Police Officers, a 20% increase over 2016.

Burglary Unit has been restored

Helped to secure funding to repair every neighborhood street

Doubled number of Neighborhood Associations in Evergreen

Helped stop illegal development in Evergreen by leading the effort to defeat Measure B which would have increased traffic congestion

Expanded City after-school programs in Evergreen

Opened a new Teen Center at Eastridge Mall

Secured over \$700,000 in new San Jose Police Department funding through the budget process to help reduce sexual assaults

Sylvia takes the ACTIONS we need!

She has the support of our San Jose Police Officers and Firefighters, the Sierra Club and the League of Conservation Voters.

Please strongly consider casting your vote for the re-election of Sylvia Arenas on March 3 as our San Jose Councilmember for District 8.

**Maria Fuentes**, *Trustee*, San Jose Evergreen Community College District

Evangeline Sangalang Daniel & Rosa Reyes Robert Reese

More LETTERS, next page



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#### VOTE FOR KANSEN CHU FOR SUPERVISOR ON MARCH, 3, 2020

#### **Times Letters to the Editor**

## Cortese deserves reader's support

Dear editor,

I'm voting for Dave Cortese! I was born and raised in San Jose. I moved my family to Evergreen in 1995. Shortly after that, I had the opportunity to meet Dave Cortese, who was running for the city council seat in District 8. I'm a lifelong Republican, but after getting to know Dave, a Democrat, that didn't matter to me. I believed in his vision for our community and that he was someone who would make a difference. I have voted for him in every election he has been in. He has proven me right by making a difference for our local schools, affordable housing and protection of the environment. His consistency while supporting the Evergreen community, City of San Jose and the County of Santa Clara has been steadfast!

There are several other candidates running against Dave for State Senator. However, I don't feel that any of them have the proven track record that Dave has. Dave has lived and worked here all his life, as one of his flyers states, he is "Homegrown." Dave has dedicated his political

#### **Closures**

Continued from page 1

Evergreen School District Board of Trustees. "However, our Board of Trustees is moving forward with this decision because we need to do what is best for all students as we face closing a \$12 million financial shortfall and declining enrollment."

In addition to the Superintendent's School Consolidation Advisory Committee, stakeholders were provided a number of opportunities to remain informed and engaged throughout the process through the School Consolidation website, videos, two Board of Trustees public hearings, various community input sessions and information meetings over the past two months, as well as district leadership meetings with staff members and families at Dove Hill and Laurelwood Elementary Schools.

Evergreen School District is appointing a transition team to coordinate different activities to facilitate a smooth transition for students and staff of the affected schools over the next few months, including activities for families to interact with the new campuses, staffing re-assignments, and the movement of supplies and equipment to the new school campuses.

career to the betterment of the lives of those he represents. That is the type of candidate I want representing my interests as our State Senator!

**Mark Milioto** 

Evergreen resident

## Jim Zito has courage and integrity

Dear editor,

I am proudly endorsing Jim Zito for City Council because he has courage, integrity and tells the truth even in the face of recent false vicious personal attacks by union-backed special interest groups. I have known Jim for 15 years (8 of them serving on the school board as colleagues), and he has always been respectful to everyone of all genders, faiths and ethnicities.

Our city and community has become a divisive place to live. It is full of fear, dirty politics by Independent Expenditure special interest groups with a lot of money, and political pressure tactics. We need someone like Jim who will listen to all, is an independent thinker, will stand up to special interests, protect our tax dollars, and work collaboratively with everyone to solve critical issues facing our city. The unions are trying to control the city council, and the recent attacks on Jim are part of this larger battle over the future of our city.

People need to feel free to vote privately and not be bullied by anyone. I have been politically bullied repeatedly in my last eight years as a school board member, but I will stand tall and not yield to harassment by people who want to tell me how to

vote and whom to endorse.

So I'm voting for Jim Zito, and I hope you will too. But above all, let's move beyond fear and find a way to move our community and city forward in unity.

**Bonnie Mace** 

Evergreen resident

## Lancaster introduces self

Dear editor,

Recently I filed to run for the office of State Assembly, District #27 here in California.

Many people have asked me "Who are you and what are your background and positions?" So I am writing to you, the editor of the *Evergreen Times* to let me tell a little of my story.

I was born in San Francisco and grew up in East Palo Alto. I attended the California Maritime Academy and have had a long career consulting with many countries, governments and companies. My main message to all of them was the same as I bring here to District 27. The message is conservative management. Don't spend more than you make. Take care of your people.

I am not a politician, but I am a businessman. My background in engineering, economic and marketing is skill sets that I bring to this office. I am not a "me too" person. On the other hand I have had many years of conciliation in groups around the world.

So I would ask and hope that you would vote for me for Assemblyman for District 27.

G. Burt Lancaster

Evergreen resident



## 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
- Helped win funding for repairing all streets and expanding Light Rail to Eastridge

Endorsed by San Jose Firefighters, Police Officers, Supervisor Dave Cortese, and Senator Jim Beall

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- Exemptions for small business owners, renters and all properties under \$2M
- Strict oversight guidelines to ensure accountability

# San Jose's leading civic organizations agree YES on Measure E

to support common-sense solutions to our city's homelessness and housing affordability problems.





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#### Times Local News



#### **Otto Lee meets with Evergreen residents**

Santa Clara County Supervisorial candidate Otto Lee answered questions at a meeting with Evergreen residents on Feb.23. Issues the candidate covered included public safety, transportation, government spending and the housing crisis.

The "meet and greet" was organized by former Vice Mayor Rose Herrera who is endorsing Lee. "Otto Lee is our best choice for Supervisor in our District," Herrera said. "As a former Sunnyvale Mayor and decorated Navy Commander,



Otto has a track record of getting things done on the environment , balancing budgets, and bringing people together to solve problems. He's an independent thinker, smart, as successful attorney, with a passion to serve."

Otto said he enjoys visiting with Evergreen residents to understand their concerns and point of view. "I hope to give them a voice on the board of supervisors," said Lee.

## East Side Union High School District Board approves \$23 million budget cut, staff layoffs; educators will not be cut

he East Side Union High School District Board of Trustees voted unanimously in a meeting last week to cut \$23 million from its budget and eliminate 125 fulltime positions across the district's 16 schools, citing a severe lack of funding.

The board believes there may be a way to avoid the layoffs by voting to hire a third party auditor to study the financial condition of the District.

The audience pleaded with the Board to stop the cuts, which includes the elimination of 26 student advisers, 24.6 counselors, 11 custodians, along with other classified and certificated positions.

Whatever the outcome, educators will not be cut, only community involvement specialists, service technicians and custodians.

"If we can find a way to not do layoffs this year I will grab it," said District Board Member J. Manuel Herrera "I am committed to finding a way out of this folks because if you don't, it is hard on everybody, including the hoard"

ESUHSD Superintendent Chris Funk told the *Evergreen Times* that the upcoming budget cuts are due to a "structural deficit that has been caused by the state under funding public education, declining enrollment and increased costs associated with step and column, pensions, health benefits, the rising cost to transportation, providing student meals and the increased cost to serve our special needs population. The cuts will severely impact the supportive structures that we have put in place the last eight years."

Among the ideas Funk said could wipe away the certificated layoffs are:

- An increase to class size by two
- $\bullet$  Cutting back on one staff development for the 2020/2021 school year
- Finding savings in our benefits plan.

"All of these ideas need to be negotiated," Funk said.

#### Justan Su of Evergreen named to Dean's List at Georgia Tech

Justan Su of Evergreen Valley made the Dean's List at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

This designation is awarded to undergraduate students who have a 3.0 or higher academic average for the semester.

Su serves as External Vice President of the Multicultural Greek Council (MGC) at Georgia Tech, comprised of 5 multicultural fraternities and sororities.

One of the nation's leading research universities, Georgia Institute of Technology is ranked among the nation's top five public universities by U.S. News & World Report.



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#### Times Comunity News



## **CBD** oil and pets

By Dr. Raj Singh Special to the Times

veryone these days has ◀ heard about CBD oil which is an all-natural oil that has

been used in humans for many years for numerous medical conditions.

#### Can your pet benefit from CBD oil or treats?

The CBD business is growing and now it's a popular medicine. People care about their pets these days and want to do what's right for their pet, including the option of using CBD Oil.

#### What is CBD?

Cannabidiol is an extract from

flowers - buds of cannabis - hemp plants but it has very low to virtually zero of this chemical called THC so it will not get your pet "high" unlike marijuana. Hemp derived CBD oil is legal in all 50 States.

#### Is CBD oil safe for pets?

Many vets have started to use CBD oil

for dogs and cats while veterinary scientific research is still in the early stages. Surveys show that pet owners are buying CBD to treat conditions like cancer, seizures, arthritis, and anxiety. Overall healthy dogs tolerate CBD well but can have minor side effects like mild diarrhea and slightly high liver values.. No long term adverse effects of CBD were seen in dogs. Also pet parents share their stories on online forums or social media regarding their experience with CBD use.

#### How can CBD help your pet?

Just like humans, pets have the same endo/neuro system that helps them to reap the benefits of CBD oil. This system allows the active ingredients in CBD to relieve many symptoms and chronic conditions like anxiety, stress, moderate to severe pain, inflammation,



arthritis, joint pain, seizures, symptoms of cancer, nausea and digestive problems.

#### What is a good quality CBD oil?

There are many important factors when buying CBD oil. High quality CBD oil is toxin free and made from organic hemp. It should be processed by using methods like cold

press extraction and should be tested by an independent compa-

The level of THC is very important as higher levels can be harmful for your pet so look for products with less than 0.3% THC. There are a lot of CBD products and treats in the market so be sure to do your research regarding the pros and cons, ingredients, pricing, dosing, etc. and read reviews for the best CBD oil for

CBD can be a part of your pet's comprehensive care plan so talk with your veterinarian to discuss all possible options to manage your pet's ailment.

Editor's note: Questions for this column may be directed to Dr. Singh's email address: forpetvet@ yahoo.com; 408.270.4600; Aborn Pet Clinic, 3286 S White Rd, San Jose, CA 95148.

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#### **Times Community News**



## **San Jose Gurdwara Hola Mohalla Festival completely complimentary**

Festival of courage and strength returns Sunday, March 15

By Kevin Larsen

Times Staff Writer

t all takes place on the hillside of one of San Jose's most beautiful landmarks: San Jose Gurdwara Hola Mohalla Festival on Sunday, March 15.

The event is complementary for everyone to attend; no entrance or parking fees and delicious free food is provided on plates with beverages all day long, including different flavors of ice cream. Also, anyone of all ages can participate in any sports or of course just to observe is great fun. Sometimes when we see others competing it inspires us to get active and consider developing healthy and strong habits in how we choose to live our lives.

The purpose of the event is to encourage all people to be healthy and engage in physical sports and challenges which help give a person well rounded physical and mental health. People of all ages enter into challenges of sports and skill demonstrations. Another purpose of this festival is to educate the community about the Sikhs and the people of India. It is an opportunity for everyone to have wonderful conversations and to bring all closer together with understanding and love for one another.

Throughout the world the Festival of Courage and Strength referred to as the Hola Mohalla is held yearly by the Sikhs. Their mission is helping each person in building strength and welcoming all to know that we are all brothers and sisters, all connected and here to help one another. The Sikhs do not proselytize or try to get people to join their religion instead they believe the entire human race is connected and each religion can work in its own way to achieve the virtuousness of God.

"We want everyone to know that this festival belongs to everyone and all are welcome to come and enjoy it to build new friendships and understanding," states a Sikh leader. It is clear that this festival is a representation of love from the Sikhs to all people in this area and beyond.

President of the Gurdwara, Mr. Bob Dhillon states: "This is a festival where you can come and enjoy events with your family and walk around to enjoy the activities. We welcome you as our guests and hope you have a wonderful time."

#### Booths of food & wares

There will be food booths offering complementary mouthwatering delicious handmade culturally authentic foods, including ice cream. There will also be many booths that will feature authentic traditional Indian

wares (clothing items, kid's toys, jewelry and more) for purchase. It is like walking through a bazaar in India. Community information booths will feature San Jose Agencies and the availability of complimentary services.

#### The girl on the train

Long ago in India it is said that an elderly man had to put his granddaughter on a train to a city far away. She needed to go alone and the older man wanted to protect her. He asked a Sikh gentleman to sit with his granddaughter in the same compartment to ensure her safe passage. This was done and it all has to do with the tenants of the Sikh religion and how honorable it is to the welfare of all in our world. It also demonstrates the importance of having strength and courage inside each person's heart.

#### **The Protectors**

The Sikhs have many cherished religious tenants which promote goodness in our world and in giving back to those in need. Their beliefs are composed of equality between man and woman and much more. The founder of the Sikh religion Guru Nanak Dev Ji saw the world suffering and urged every person of faith to seek within their hearts that there is one creator which exists everywhere regardless of religion color or creed. The Sikhs care and protect our world and thus many refer to them as "The Protectors." One of ten great leaders of the Sikh religion, Guru Gobind Singh Sahib Ji believed in teaching all to defend themselves with regard to building up courage and strength in the heart and mind. Be strong, it is good. His wisdom is the reason why we are able to observe and actually participate in the Festival of Courage of Strength today on an annual basis.

#### **Building strength and courage**

Hola Mohalla focuses on building up your own personal strength and courage in all you do. You and your family can join in and observe many athletic competitions such as Tug of War (different competitions for gents, ladies and children), Running Races for adults and children, Martial Arts, competitive games and performances, Volleyball and Basketball competitions, Horseback Riding competitions, and Pony Rides for the little ones. Just watching the youngsters navigate the saddle and ride the circular track is a joy to observe and will bring a smile to your face.

#### Historical Significance of the Gurdwara

You can also take a tour and learn about the culture as the San Jose Gurdwara, the largest in the United States, is open to the public year round and is certainly one of the most beautiful places in the world. Many say it is very peaceful and relaxing just to be See FESTIVAL, page 14

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## The Gift of Biliteracy! ¡El regalo del bilingüismo!

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Evergreen School District is excited to offer a Spanish Dual Language program for incoming TK and Kindergarten students in fall 2020 at Holly Oak Elementary School! We invite you to learn more about the importance of bilingual education, Evergreen's program and next steps should you wish to enroll your child. Our program will be available to all Evergreen families as a program of choice. **All families are welcome!** 

¡El Distrito Escolar Evergreen se complace en ofrecer un programa de doble inmersión en español e inglés para los nuevos estudiantes de TK y Kindergarten en el otoño de 2020 en la Escuela Primaria Holly Oak! Los invitamos a conocer más sobre la importancia de la educación bilingüe, el programa de Evergreen y los próximos pasos si desea inscribir a su hijo. Nuestro programa estará disponible para todas las familias en Evergreen como un programa de elección. ¡Todas las familias son bienvenidas!





#### Location:

**Holly Oak Elementary School** 2995 Rossmore Way, San Jose, CA 95148

#### Dates:

Presented in English & Spanish / La presentación será en inglés y español: Wednesday March 4 **Tuesday March 31** Monday May 4

For more information visit www.eesd.org Para más información visite www.eesd.org



Time:

6:30-7:30 p.m.



### JUST LISTED! Open House Sat. 2/29 1:30 to 4:30, Sun. 3/1 2:00 to 4:00

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& storage space, gorgeous marble



backsplash, stainless steel appliances & recessed lighting. The remodeled master bathroom has double sinks, beautifully tiled stall shower, stand alone soaking tub with waterfall faucet and walk-in closet with organizers. The second bathroom was also remodeled with a large walk-in shower, decorative sink & modern lighting. Gorgeous stacked stone fireplace and floating cabinet & shelving in the living room. This home boasts tons of natural light and is in move-in-ready condition! Offered at \$ 1,498,000

#### 7045 Livery Lane

Lovely family home in a quiet cul-de-sac location in California Oak Creek. Recently remodeled kitchen with white cabinetry, quartz countertops & stainless steel appliances. Gorgeous bamboo flooring throughout the main living areas. The main level has a guest bedroom with full bathroom, formal living & dining rooms, powder bath, plus a cozy family room. A beautiful



wood staircase leads you to the second level where there is a large loft that can be used as an office, study or play area. The large master bedroom suite, two additional bedrooms and full bathroom complete the upstairs. For outdoor entertaining, there is a spacious & private backyard perfect for hosting family & friends. Offered at \$ 1,880,000



#### 5895 Killarney Circle

Resort style living in Silver Creek Valley Country Club. Monterey floorplan in the Carmel collection that been beautifully updated. Three bedrooms plus an office and 2.5 bathrooms. Remodeled European style kitchen with custom Lyptus cabinetry, slab granite counter tops, a large island with stunning Italian natural edge granite and tons of storage space. Versatile floor plan for



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#### **Times Features**



## Primrose School of Evergreen celebrates grand opening

By William Bellou
Publisher

Primrose School of Evergreen celebrated their grand opening with the community on Feb. 15 which included a ribbon cutting attended by San Jose City Councilwomen Sylvia Arenas and Magdalena Carrasco, and Santa Clara County Supervisor Dave Cortese.

"At Primrose School of Evergreen, we look forward to having the privilege of partnering with parents to help shape children's minds and lay the foundation for future success," said Bejal Patel, Owner of Primrose School of Evergreen. "We aim to develop well-rounded children that not only excel academically but we also nurture their crucial executive function skills by promoting generosity, empathy and more so children develop a foundation that empowers them to be anything they want when they grow up."

The event featured family-friendly activities including a petting zoo, face painting, a balloon artist, a coloring station, scavenger hunts, an obstacle course and a visit from Primrose friend Percy the Rooster! Throughout the event, children and their parents were treated to healthy snacks and lunch from the Primrose Balanced Menu.

Councilmember Sylvia Arenas commemorated the school's official grand opening.

"As you all know my biggest focus as a councilmember has been families," Arenas said. "I have a family-friendly initiative. I've made sure that our schools have more after school care. When I heard that you were going to focus on children I thought it was amazing, because we need as many people supporting our children, supporting our family so they're ready for our workforce and for their generation, and we need to invest early in their lives."

Reyad Katwan, president of Scw Aborn, owners of the building, explained that the property's history goes back 160 years to when brothers Louis and Pierre established the Mirassou

Winery, which is the oldest wine making family in America.

"We love that Primrose School of Evergreen emphasizes hands-on education. The learning experience is fun for the kids, yet impactful and encourages them to explore new things outside the school as well," said Smitha, a parent at the school.

"Primrose is a premium family experience that promotes the child's inner desires to become curious and adventurous through rich educational experiences," said Marisa Valdez, Center Director. "The school serves children ages 6 week infants to 5 years old and offers after school care for children in kindergarten through fifth grade."

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.

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. Photo credit: Triphoto

#### Milan restaurant goes up for sale; not good 'sign' say some residents

By William Bellou

Publisher

"For Sale" sign on the side of Milan restaurant went up Sunday morning, Feb. 16. Milan was Evergreen's upscale restaurant which was the "go to place" for those wanting something more than a fast food offering. The asking price: \$199,000.

Many residents said Milan's demise was "not a good sign" meaning that another restaurant has closed in

Evergreen. Milan is the third restaurant at its location to close. Many patrons enjoyed relaxing on Milan's outdoor patio overlooking the vineyards, while enjoying their traditional Italian dishes which were prepared using only fresh ingredients as the restaurant did not use a freezer.

Well, I'm glad our family had many memorable gatherings including multiple birthdays and Mother's day with friends and family. The varied lunch and dinner menu was a delight, the waiters attentive, had a great bar selection for a small restaurant and conveniently nearby," said a Milan patron. "I was so rooting for Milan's longevity in our neighborhood. It won't matter whether it's another Italian or new fare, unless

we support the business it won't survive."

Some in the community said that Milan's prices were out of reach for those on a limited budget, especially college students and seniors, while others said prices were moderate. Spaghetti and meatballs and lasagna sold for \$20. Salads were sold a la carte for \$7.

This area can't support any place which charges more than \$15 per entrée," explained Evergreen resident Rick Lane on a social media site. "Best options for this area would be restaurants which are moderately priced no frills eateries, which place less emphasis on service and ambiance, but more emphasis on food quality and value."

Residents have been offering their ideas on the type of restaurant that could flourish at the 3,200 sq. ft. Milan site located on San Felipe Rd.

Here are some comments from Evergreen residents:

"As to this location in particular, Pasta Pomodoro was there for 14 years. They closed because the parent company made mistakes that both alienated their customers (as all of them were struggling in their last two years) and they had steady price increases with declines in both service and quality after Adriano Paganini sold the chain."

"Aqui's Cal-Mex would be a great restaurant at that location; my family would dine there once a week instead of driving to the Snell location. The food is great and it's reasonably priced which makes for a great value."

"I also would love a good burger place. Not a run of the mill fast food burger."

"Businesses have a hard time making it in Evergreen with the high prices landlords charge. Milan's rent is nearly \$11,000 per month."

"I loved Milan. The food was always delicious, but parking at this shopping center is a problem."

"If I'm paying \$20+ for a pasta dish, I am eating at Maggianos or Old Spaghetti Factory."

"How about Coconut Fish's Cafe?"

"How about a good ole great traditional pub? ...the kind you see in The UK. Full bar with beer on tap, fish & chips (fries), different meat pies, bangers and mash, burgers, sandwiches, etc."

"The minimum wage has increased 50% in four years, making it difficult for restaurants to operate in San Jose. Add to that the high rents and it's easy to understand why they went out of business." *Photo credit: Lou Alexander* 

#### **Festival**

Continued from page 11

there. Ask about their history museum and you will be amazed. They have many complementary programs which you can find out about including Yoga. Their kitchen (Langer) is open 365 days of the year to offer delicious hot hand made vegetarian foods to anyone who enters at no cost. The Gurdwara is very accepting and welcoming to all people of all cultures and religions. At the day of the event, if you like, there are times for free tours of the history room where visitors with a guide can learn more about the Sikh culture or you can come back another day and do more exploring.

#### Take the shuttle or just walk in

For the past nine years the festival has grown in attendance. There is free parking in the Gurdwara and that fills up by morning and so many park along Gurdwara Avenue or at the schools where a free shuttle runs which will bring you to the site and back to your car later in the day. There are also shuttles from nearby schools and you can drive your car and walk into the main festival area on the field. More than 250 volunteers assist in the festival from prep to monitoring and to completion and clean up. Everything is done like clockwork because the volunteers and oversight leaders are extremely professional in ensuring this family friendly festival runs smoothly and is of great enjoyment and meaningful to all visitors.

Editor's Note: To get to the San Jose Gurdwara go to Quimby Road. Go all the way up the hill and the Gurdwara is on the right. Also, you can park your car at Evergreen High school part way up the hill and take a shuttle to the Gurdwara. Shuttles are also available at Carolyn Clark Elementary School and run all day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information visit: sanjosegurdwara.org or contact Kirpal Atwal (408) 835-7712.



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#### **Times Local News**

## City Councilwoman Arenas commits \$20K from office budget for recreation scholarships for Evergreen families

an José City Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas has pledged \$20,000 from her council office budget to ensure that eligible children in District 8 have access to city recreation opportunities and programs.

Arenas has already covered more than \$8,000 of scholarships for programs run by the Evergreen Community Center, so that District 8 children can afford to participate. The increase to \$20,000 adds \$12,000 more in dedicated funding.

"No child in San Jose should be denied access to our city's recreation programs because we run out of scholarships – yet for the last few years, that's exactly what has happened," Arenas said. "By carefully managing my council office budget, I am able to repurpose \$20,000 to fund scholarships for our kids – but what we really need is for the city to reform its scholarship process – which I will continue working to solve using the city's budget process."

In the upcoming budget season, Councilwoman Arenas plans to request funds for scholarships reform to support healthy, active families in disadvantaged communities.

"We know that when kids are involved in sports or extra-curricular activities, they're also more likely to be successful in school and be positive influences in their communities," Angel Rios, Deputy City Manager remarked. "These scholarships from Councilwoman Arenas will help provide more children with recreation opportunities, but more importantly, a chance at a stronger future".

"Maintaining low-cost programs that provide a safe place for children to learn and grow is a priority. Scholarships ensure all children have access to quality education and recreation," said Jon Cicirelli, Director of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services. "We award over \$1 million in scholarships annually, but the need outpaces available funding. This commitment from Councilmember Arenas allows more San Jose families to access an exciting mix of recreational and educational fun."

Last year, Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas worked with various community partners, residents, and city departments to re-open a shuttered neighborhood center in the Welch Park community that sat inactive for decades. She remains determined to help families



Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas has pledged \$20,000 from her council office budget to ensure that eligible children in District 8 have access to city recreation opportunities and programs.

thrive in healthy, active neighborhoods that offer safe spaces for everyone to enjoy.

Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas is a proud native of San José. Sylvia and her husband have lived in Evergreen for over 15 years, and it is where they are raising their two children. As a daughter of immigrant parents who taught Sylvia the value of hard work and the importance of serving others, Sylvia has dedicated her career to public service. For over twenty years, she has worked on public policy and community issues including serving on the Evergreen Elementary School District Board.

Arenas serves as the Chair of the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee of the San José City Council.

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#### Times Features



Silver Creek High School Alumni from 1970-2019.

## Silver Creek High School Alumni to celebrate school's 50th Anniversary: March 15

A lumni from the past 50 years, past and present administrators, teachers, staff, students, parents and the community are invited to celebrate Silver Creek High School's 50th Anniversary.

This important milestone in the school's history will take place on March 15 from 12-5 p.m. on the Silver Creek High School Campus. The event, organized by the 50th Anniversary Committee of SCHS and SCHS PTSA, is open to the public free of charge.

Silver Creek High School which was founded and opened in the fall of 1969 has been an important part of the lives of its many students, administrators, teachers and staff over the last 50 years.

"Silver Creek High School's 50th Anniversary event provides a great opportunity to honor the memories we hold near and dear to our hearts and a chance to bring alumni, students and the community together to celebrate our great school," said Linda Siqueiros Conroy, SCHS 50th Anniversary Chair.

Some of the activities planned for the event include: A commendation from District 8 San Jose City Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas, Campus Tours, Meet and Greet for Alumni, teachers, and friends, music through the years from 1969-2020, live entertainment and displays by the art department, PTSA & Campus clubs, a car show, raffle to benefit the PTSA, food trucks, and campus club fundraising activities.

Members of the Silver Creek High School Reunion Committee are: Chair, Linda Siqueiros Conroy, Class of '74; Millard Hampton, Class of '74; Annette Hammonds, Class of '77; Anthony MacArthur, Class of '80; Grace Moschella-O'Brien, Class of '80; Lisa Gatewood, Class of '81; Brenda Greenhalgh, Class of '81; Guy Black, Class of '82; Jennifer Bradley Selden, Class of '82.

For more information you can go to scalumni.net or contact Linda Siqueiros Conroy by email: scraider74@aol.com

Silver Creek High School is located at: 3434 Silver Creek Road San Jose, CA 95121; (408) 966-5703.



Silver Creek alumni from the first graduating class of 1970 walk into the stadium during last year's homecoming game. Pictured are **Charlene Masuda McNeil**, **James Watkins**, and **Rhonda Garner**. Also pictured is **Debbie Masuda Boyer** (74') and **Mike Boyer** (75').

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**Times Community News** 

#### **SOS AUTO REPAIR'S "QUICK TIPS"**

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- 2. Failing to change fluids and filters Many fluids are required for the operation and protection of vehicle systems and components.
- 3. Neglecting your tires Your vehicle's tires should be checked frequently for inflation and tread depth.
- 4. Not following a service schedule Because many car parts and components wear out or become damaged over time, vehicles need to be routinely serviced in order to perform optimally.
- 5. Keeping a dirty car Allowing your car to go too long without a wash leads to buildup of damaging chemicals and dirt, increases the potential for rust from road salt and interferes with proper visibility needed for safe driving.
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#### **Election**

Continued from page 1 measures.

An unofficial reason for moving California's presidential primary from June to March was that presidential hopefuls would feel obligated to cultivate California's political figures, making them more relevant or at least feeding their egos.

Moreover, it was believed, if California Sen. Kamala Harris could shine in the early rounds of caucuses and primaries, her home state could give her presidential ambitions a very big boost.

So how's all of that working out? Not particularly well.

Harris was briefly the Democratic flavor of the week but wound up as an early dropout. Other candidates have swooped into the state periodically, mostly to raise money. But in their rare public appearances, they rarely make special efforts to respond to California issues.

Michael Bloomberg, the uber-wealthy former mayor of New York City, is a late bloomer and has ignored other states while spending heavily in hopes of making a big splash in California. He's garnered many endorsements but the latest tracking poll by data guru Paul Mitchell for Capitol Weekly has him with only an outside chance of winning any delegates.

Fellow billionaire Tom Steyer, a Californian, is barely registering at all.

Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and former South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg topped the first two contests in Iowa and New Hampshire and Mitchell's polling in early February confirmed that they are leading the pack in California. Former Vice Presi-

dent Joe Biden, an early leader in California, and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren are fading here as they have nationally.

In other words, California is not standing out as an arena for changing the patterns developing elsewhere. Our March 3 primary will be only one of 16 on that day, which has been dubbed Super Tuesday, and our drawn-out voting system virtually blocks the state from having a big impact.

We really don't have an election day but rather an election month ending on March 3. Most voting is by mail and it's already underway. And as mail voting was beginning, the state Legislature changed the rules to allow more "no party preference" voters to cast ballots for one of the Democratic candidates

We won't know definitely who won what until early April because of the state's laborious system of deciding which ballots are legitimately to be counted and because the Democratic Party awards delegates both by congressional district and statewide, with minimum vote thresholds of 15% for candidates to win anything anywhere.

Chances are very high that by the time California actually reports its results in April and divvies up its delegates, outcomes in other Super Tuesday states, as well as the Nevada caucuses and South Carolina primary, will have pretty much settled who has a commanding lead.

The net impact of moving California's primary from June to March may not be how it affects presidential politics but how an eight month gap between primary and general elections affects choices for legislative, congressional and local government offices.

Dan Walters is a CalMatters columnist.







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**Times Community News** 

## Ensemble Ari to perform at Foothill Community Presbyterian Church: Feb. 29

Poothill Community Concert Series is pleased to present ENSEMBLE ARI Saturday, February 29th, 7:00 pm at Foothill Community Presbyterian Church, 5301 McKee Road, San Jose.

"Ari" is a Korean word with multiple meanings: big river, wisdom and beauty. Ensemble Ari is a group of Korean American musicians in the Bay Area who wants to share this quality with the community. The group's mission is to bridge Korea and other communities through western instruments while honoring Korean history and culture.

The remarkable artists in Ensemble Ari are Heeguen Song, violin (Associate Concertmaster of the San Francisco Ballet Orchestra); Jiwon Evelyn Kwark, violin, (Associate Concertmistress of the Berkeley Symphony), Sarah Hong, cello, (award winning artist and member of over 5 musical ensembles and groups) and Sharon Lee Kim, piano (professor of music at Saint Mary's College of California).

Ensemble Ari will perform American



composer Amy Beach's Trio. Beach's Piano Trio shows her mastery and idiomatic writing that negates the belief that "women cannot write like men," which prevailed during her lifetime. She is remembered as a central figure in the history of women in music. Also included on the program is César Franck Sonata and Amy Beach's Romance for violin and piano.

Tickets are available at the door, or online at www.fcpcsanjose.com/fccs.

Admission: \$20 advance / \$22.50 door. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

#### **MOVIE REVIEW**

## Call of the Wild (2020)

By Joshua Kim

Special to the Times

all of the Wild (2020) is the latest film adaptation of the beloved 1903 novel by Jack London that remains a touchstone in the teaching of American literature.

The movie follows essentially the same story beats as the novel, albeit in a more family friendly manner, and tells the story of Buck, a dog who is taken from his comfy home in Santa Clara, California, and a sympathetic prospector named John Thornton (played by Harrison Ford) and the adventures they have in the wilderness of the Yukon Territory.

There are many things that are to like about this film adaptation. First, the portrayal of the vast expanse of the Yukon Territory is a visual delight. Whether it is the barren and snow-laden hilltops during the winter, or the lush forests during the spring, there is so much color and texture in the film that looks gorgeous on the big screen. In addition, the film has some genuinely great moments of excitement and heartfelt emotion, undoubtedly made better by the grizzled, yet terrific performance by Harrison Ford.

These positive aspects, however, were sometimes overshadowed by the glaring overuse of distracting CGI throughout the film. While we have had stunning advancements in photorealistic CG animals in recent years such as in the newest adaptations of *The Lion King, The Jungle Book* and *Life of Pi*, the CGI used in this film falls short. The digitally constructed animals al-



ways seemed painfully out of place with their environments and moved and acted in ways that aren't typical of their real life counterparts. The use of CG animals had some benefits, however, such as allowing for a more sympathetic and emotive portrayal of our animal protagonist, Buck.

Overall, *Call of the Wild* is a competently made family friendly film that has a lot to love. While the use of CGI is distracting at times, that shouldn't stop fans of the novel from enjoying this new adaptation and what it has to offer, especially in its beautiful portrayal of the Yukon Territory and a great performance by Harrison Ford

#### Score: 6.5/10

Questions and comments contact me at: Jk5505@nyu.edu

#### **Times Cover Story**

#### **Zito**

Continued from page 1

a 10-year member of the Evergreen School District board and former San Jose planning commissioner who worked in biotech, lost the endorsements of Mayor Sam Liccardo, Mayor Chuck Reed, Council member Pam Foley, the Silicon Valley Organization PAC and the Mercury News editorial board. But even though Zito lost some endorsements, the Business San Jose Chamber PAC, Evergreen School District Board Trustee Bonnie Mace and former Board Trustee Balaji Venkatraman, former City Council candidate Jimmy Nguyen, Eastside Union High School District Board Trustee Van Le, Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility, and former City Council candidate Pat Waite, continue to endorse Zito.

"While I understand that these allegations were made in the contentious environment of a political campaign by Mr. Zito's opponents, they are sufficiently troubling to cause me to withdraw my endorsement," Liccardo wrote in a tweet.

San Jose Police Officers' Association President Paul Kelly, whose organization obtained copies of the divorce papers for attack ads commended the endorsement withdrawals.

The attack website listed several contentious items based on his ex-wife's divorce papers. These included her claims that he exhibited controlling behavior and that he was involved in a public disagreement with his daughter over possession of her passport. The dispute over the passport resulted in a Civil Standby with police. However, there were no charges or complaints filed against Zito.

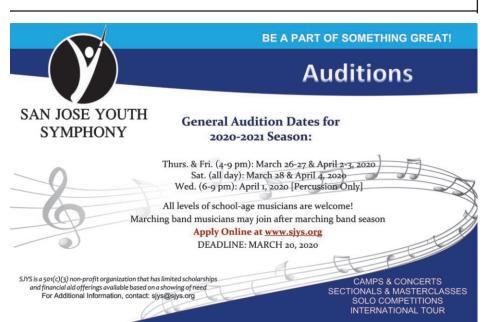
'I gave the voters full access to my final custody agreement where the judge dismissed all allegations 13 years ago and awarded joint custody to both of us," Zito said.

"As for the "list of demands" outlined by his ex-wife in the court documents, Zito said most allegations — such as his wife not being allowed to have a debit card— were "nonsense." "There is no question in my mind that the POA — whose job it is to protect and serve — went after my family with grossly misleading, one-sided information and brought my kids into this, and are trying to make sure I won't get that seat, because they want the unions to control our city council," Zito said. "And none of it is true."

Arenas responded to the details outlined in Zito's divorce documents, denouncing the alleged abuse. "No one should ever have to live through domestic abuse. But, too often, women and children live silently in fear, because they believe that their voices won't be heard, and they will not be protected. That's why I've been leading the effort to improve the process and response within the police department to sexual assault crimes. With the support of my female council colleagues, we are turning the corner and bringing survivors out of the shadows. It's vital that we send a clear message that we believe women, and will support survivors as they come forward. I would be gravely concerned to have someone with a documented history of abuse overseeing the Police Department's protection of women and children who face abuse and violence."

"It's unfortunate that Ms. Arenas has chosen to ignore my supporters' plea for her to denounce dirty politics and these patently false personal attacks by the POA, meanwhile insisting that I and others denounce the personal attacks on her by the SVO, which I did. I want to bring the campaign back to discussing the issues because it seems that Ms. Arenas is not," Zito said.

Evergreen community leader Jean Valencia McCauley sent a letter to the Evergreen Times explaining why the attack website and ads were produced. "As Jim's campaign soared, union backers became concerned," McCauley said. "Jim was not a rubber stamp to high pensions and infinite raises. Desperate times call for desperate measures and so the unions responded. It's a sad day in America when unions attempt to control our government and destroy an innocent person for their self-serving agenda."





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#### San Jose Almaden

1096 Blossom Hill Rd., Ste. 200 San Jose, CA 95123 From 9 am – 5 pm **Times Cover Story** 

## Pondering the weather patterns in Evergreen and beyond

**By Frank Shortt** 

Times staff writer
t the end of January Evergreen Valley was at 80% of normal in our rainfall and the the skies around Evergreen had produced some of the most amazing painter's dreams that could be imagined.

Going into February the possibilities for rain looked exception-

ally good. But alas, the last significant rain recorded was on January 29. A high pressure has settled over California holding any rain clouds from gathering in the Bay Area and points south. We are not privy to what is holding this high pressure in the area. Instead, we have experienced very high temperatures in the daylight hours, with low temperatures happening

at night.

Along Thompson Creek, even with the small stream that has persisted in running with no rain, a mini springtime has happened due to the summer-like weather. The Buckeye trees are budding out with wonderful patterns that should be happening much later. The lone wild Almond tree along
See WEATHER, next page



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#### **ENSEMBLE ARI**

Saturday, February 29th, 2020 at 7:00 pm Admission: \$20.00 advance / \$22.50 door Ari" is a Korean word with multiple meanings: big

river, wisdom and beauty. Ensemble Ari is a group of Korean American musicians in the Bay Area who wants to share this quality with the community.

#### FLAUTI DOLCI & AMICI

Saturday, March 7th, 2020 at 3:00 pm Admission: \$10.00 advance / \$12.50 door

A delightful collection of chamber music from ensembles representing the Bay Area's vibrant Early Music scene. These recorder and mixed ensembles will perform music from the Renaissance and Baroque eras, as well as modern compositions.





#### SOUTH BAY PHILHARMONIC Elgar Cello Concerto

Friday, May 8th, 2020 at 7:30 pm
Admission: \$12.50 advance / \$15.00 door
Foothill Community Concert Series is proud to be the home of the South Bay Philharmonic orchestra.

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



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Times Cover Story

#### Weather

Continued from previous page side Thompson creek has produced a splay of pink very flattering to the eyes. The Hen and Chicks plants are blooming instead of waiting until summer to strut their stuff. All nature is in turmoil! Squirrels are frisking around thinking it is time to bring forth their young. Birds are flitting about looking for possible niches for their nests. This false spring could possibly be the forerunner of a wet March.

The last dry February in California was recorded in 1864 when nary a drop of rain fell on the dry and cracking landscape. The possibility of having rain after all these plants have bloomed could cause fruit and vegetable prices to go up during the summer. Rainfall could damage trees and plants to the point that they will not bear when it is needed most.

Weather forecasters on local television channels are expressing their fear of what could happen if rain does not appear in March and April. Even with Old Thompson Creek running full in past years, she is at a trickle. Even with a lot of rain in March, she would not stay full for very long as summer approaches. As one travels from North to South in California the same story is being told; clear skies as far as the eye can see. There is not much hope of more snow pack in the Sierras. This is what produces most of our potable water in California.

Next time when we hear someone complaining about the wet weather in winter we should remind them that every drop of rain is a very precious gift!

## The Secret is Out!

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Evergreen Times! (408) 483.5458



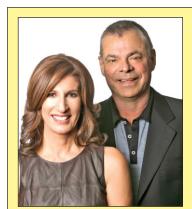
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- · Bible study on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6PM
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tions, informative lectures, and even an occasional karaoke night--all ment

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- Extravagant Joy
- · Passionate Faith
- · Loving Respect Deep Connectedness
- Intentional Growth

· Shared Laughter Visit us at our web site at: church@campbellucc.or g or better yet, visit us at our worship services on Sundays at 10:00 AM. Coffee, refreshments, and conversation always, right after service.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC

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

www.ccavucc.org. We are a welcoming church with a progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and Affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local LifeMoves (formerly InnVision) Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco

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nior's Group and many other adult ministries as HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC well. Saint Anthony CHURCH parish is located Faith.Knowledge. Comin Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, munity - this is our San Jose, 95120. Our promise to our members. weekend Masses are at . If you are looking for an 4 p.m. on Saturday at active Christian faith community, we invite our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in you to experience Holy New Almaden, CA Spirit Parish Community. 95042 and on Sunday at All are welcome! We are 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., located at 1200 Redand 5:30 p.m. at the mond Avenue, San Jose, McKean Road location. CA 95120. Mass is cele-Our Parish Office is open brated at 8:30 a.m. Mon-Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. day - Friday, Our weekand Tuesday thru Thursend Mass schedule is day, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday and 1 - 4 p.m. For more 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 information, stop by the a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Parish Office or call Reconciliation is every (408) 997-4800, or visit Saturday at 4 p.m. or by our website at www. appointment. Our Parish churchstanthony.com. Office is open Monday -Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor. Thursday 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office. Information on Faith Formation for children and adults can

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#### Rab Ik Hai **SAN JOSE GURDWARA**

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

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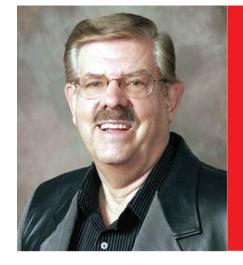
#### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

5111 San Felipe Rd. San Jose, CA 95135 408-223-1562. www.stfrancisofassisi.com or www.stfrancis ofassisipreschool.org We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O -Jr. High, IGNITE - High School and North Star Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented 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 ioin us to worship at one of the following times and locations:

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#### **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/thevillagesyma There are also some small note cards for sale on the site, all featuring scenes from inside The Villages.



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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

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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 ou 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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Price	Bds	Bths	SqFt	Lot Size
\$1,848,000	5	4 0	3,265	6,266 Lot SqFt
\$1,620,000	4	3 0	2,547	4,853 Lot SqFt
\$1,600,000	4	2 1	2,460	7,201 Lot SqFt
\$1,510,000	4	3 0	2,187	10,778 Lot SqFt
\$1,445,000	5	3 1	3,649	8,822 Lot SqFt
\$1,380,000	4	3 0	2,442	8,453 Lot SqFt
\$1,350,000	4	2 1	1,989	3,421 Lot SqFt
\$1,285,000	3	2 1	2,458	10,357 Lot SqFt
\$1,120,000	5	2 1	2,332	12,744 Lot SqFt
\$1,105,000	3	2 1	1,532	2,059 Lot SqFt
\$1,055,000	3	2 1	1,532	2,011 Lot SqFt
\$1,055,000	3	2 1	1,532	2,011 Lot SqFt
\$1,050,000	4	2 0	1,918	6,501 Lot SqFt
\$1,000,000	4	2 0	1,616	6,257 Lot SqFt
	\$1,848,000 \$1,620,000 \$1,600,000 \$1,510,000 \$1,445,000 \$1,380,000 \$1,350,000 \$1,285,000 \$1,120,000 \$1,105,000 \$1,055,000 \$1,055,000	\$1,848,000 5 \$1,620,000 4 \$1,600,000 4 \$1,510,000 5 \$1,380,000 4 \$1,350,000 4 \$1,285,000 3 \$1,120,000 5 \$1,105,000 3 \$1,055,000 3 \$1,055,000 3 \$1,055,000 4	\$1,848,000	\$1,848,000

SILVER CREEK AND SURROUNDING AREA

\$974.950

\$960,000

\$930,000

2|1 2|0

1.973

1.457

1.538

6.005 Lot SaFt

6,327 Lot SqFt

5.807 Lot SaFt

7,670 Lot SqFt

Price	Bds	Bths	SqFt	Lot Size
\$3,400,000	5	5 1	6,600	16,749 Lot SqFt
\$2,800,000	6	5 1	4,999	22,615 Lot SqFt
\$2,280,000	5	3 1	3,902	11,763 Lot SqFt
\$2,150,000	5	3 1	4,023	8,199 Lot SqFt
\$2,100,000	4	3 1	3,429	7,128 Lot SqFt
\$2,085,000	5	4 0	3,523	11,774 Lot SqFt
\$2,005,000	4	5 0	3,453	6,547 Lot SqFt
\$1,994,000	4	3 0	2,833	8,446 Lot SqFt
\$1,550,000	3	2 0	2,093	6,327 Lot SqFt
\$1,410,000	4	2 1	2,459	4,801 Lot SqFt
\$1,346,000	4	2 1	2,567	15,893 Lot SqFt
\$1,330,000	4	3 1	2,687	3,803 Lot SqFt
\$1,290,000	3	2 1	2,091	3,915 Lot SqFt
\$1,262,000	4	3 1	2,538	3,661 Lot SqFt
\$1,235,000	3	2 0	2,332	2,750 Lot SqFt
\$1,235,000	5	3 1	2,753	11,000 Lot SqFt
\$1,190,000	3	3 0	2,234	5,162 Lot SqFt
\$1,125,000	4	2 1	2,179	3,506 Lot SqFt
\$1,110,000	4	2 1	2,386	3,013 Lot SqFt
\$1,020,000	2	2 0	2,154	3,276 Lot SqFt
\$989,000	2	2 0	1,590	2,709 Lot SqFt
\$940,000	4	2 0	1,474	5,787 Lot SqFt
\$900,000	3	2 0	1,488	5,691 Lot SqFt
\$900,000	4	2 0	1,355	5,774 Lot SqFt
\$895,000	2	2 0	1,590	2,626 Lot SqFt
	\$3,400,000 \$2,800,000 \$2,280,000 \$2,150,000 \$2,100,000 \$2,085,000 \$1,994,000 \$1,550,000 \$1,410,000 \$1,346,000 \$1,290,000 \$1,262,000 \$1,235,000 \$1,235,000 \$1,125,000 \$1,125,000 \$1,100,000 \$1,020,000 \$989,000 \$900,000	\$3,400,000 5 \$2,800,000 6 \$2,280,000 5 \$2,150,000 5 \$2,100,000 4 \$2,085,000 5 \$2,005,000 4 \$1,994,000 4 \$1,550,000 3 \$1,410,000 4 \$1,346,000 4 \$1,290,000 3 \$1,262,000 4 \$1,235,000 5 \$1,190,000 3 \$1,125,000 4 \$1,125,000 4 \$1,235,000 5 \$1,190,000 3 \$1,262,000 4 \$1,290,000 3 \$1,290,000 3 \$1,290,000 3 \$1,290,000 3 \$1,290,000 3 \$1,290,000 4 \$1,000,000 4 \$1,000,000 4 \$1,000,000 4 \$1,000,000 4 \$900,000 4	\$3,400,000	\$3,400,000

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