

Dreaming... of a new home?

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Willow Glen Times

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Home prices on the rise again amid a lack of inventory, low interest rates

Bay Area home prices are showing an uptick again with buyers coming back into the market amid low inventory and low interest rates.

Zillow is reporting the median sale price in Santa Clara County in January for single-family homes rose 2.7% to \$1.21 million, year over year.

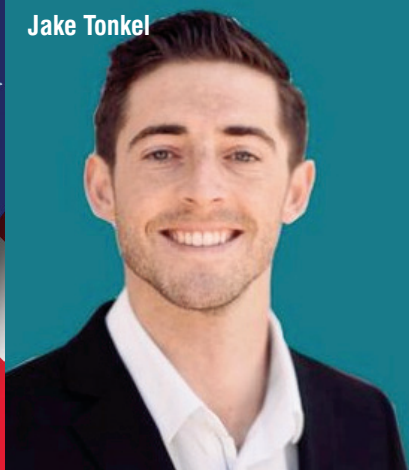
"Buyers have really come back to the table which is a different picture from last year," said Jeff Tucker, Zillow economist. "Inventory is so low, homes aren't languishing," Tucker said. It was reported by MLS Listings that new listings have dropped 16 percent in Santa Clara County.

Another factor that will bring more buyers to the table are the lower interest rates that are due to the recent drop in the stock market.

Dev Davis



Jake Tonkel



ELECTION 2020

Councilmember Dev Davis in runoff with Tonkel

In District 6, Councilwoman Dev Davis garnered 48% of the votes on Super Tuesday, short of the simple majority to win the race outright.

Davis will be up against biomedical engineer Jake Tonkel, a green party candidate in November. He was backed by a number of labor groups.

Commissioner Ruben Navarro came in third and 19 year-old community volunteer Marshall Woodmansee came in fourth.

Before being elected in 2016, Councilmember Davis spent 12 years as an education researcher for Stanford University's Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO).

With a strong interest in community organizing, she served as a Chair of the City of San José's Early Care and Education Committee, a delegate to the Junior League of California's State Public Affairs Committee, President of the North Willow

Glen Neighborhood Association, and Public Relations Chair for the Sherman Oaks Neighborhood Playground Committee.

Davis and her husband Chris have two school-aged children. They currently reside in North Willow Glen.

Tonkel

Tonkel's top priority is addressing inequality.

"We've got a lot of wealth and then we've got a lot of families struggling to get by," Tonkel said. "Inequality affects everything from how many people are driving long distances on our roads to the time that they can spend with their kids, including the amount of funding we get for certain public schools."

Tonkel is an advocate for investments in community land and housing trusts and creating denser housing along major transportation corridors. He wants to increase public transit investment and encourage local hiring, in addition to advocating for worker-owned business cooperatives.



\$12M Super Lotto ticket sold at Safeway store in Willow Glen

A lucky person shopping at a Willow Glen Safeway store bought a golden ticket — a Super Lotto winner worth more than \$12 million — on Feb. 29.

The winner picked all five Super Lotto

game numbers, which were 5, 20, 22, 24, 32 plus the mega number, 15.

The winning ticket was the only one in the state with all of the numbers.

The winner has 180 days from the date of the draw to claim the prize.

Driver who hit and killed cyclist pleads no contest

The driver who hit and killed avid cyclist Robert Lavin, 62, who was riding his bike on Curtner Avenue near Briarwood Drive in Willow Glen in July 5 has pleaded no contest to hit-and-run and manslaughter charges.

Anthony Trusso, 35, of San Jose,

formally agreed to the negotiated plea in exchange for a four-year prison sentence. He is scheduled for sentencing April 8.

According to Deputy District Attorney Marina Mankaryous, the prison term is the maximum allowed for the convictions of

felony hit-and-run causing injury or death, and misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter.

Deputy Public Defender Daniel Portman said the plea agreement was a fair conclusion amid circumstances.

Robert's wife of 40 years, Nani

Lavin recently appeared before the San Jose city Council to advocate for additional funding for measures to reduce speeding and roadway deaths. She told lawmakers: "I know this will not bring Bob back or the other 60 people back - but please help us."

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HOLA MOHALLA > HOI Free Admission! > HOLA MOHAL



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— Bob Dhillon, President of the Sikh Gurdwara of San Jose

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Gurdwara contact: Kirpal Atwal (408) 835-7712

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Times **Feature**

Spring Garden Market plant sale at Martial Cottle Park: April 18

The Spring Garden Market will be held at Martial Cottle Park on Saturday, April 18 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. in conjunction with the Spring Celebration at the park.

There will be a huge number of offerings with a variety of tomato, pepper, herb, and flower seedlings and succulents that are raised in the Santa Clara Valley. These varieties, not readily available elsewhere, are selected for outstanding taste, beauty, and performance in Santa Clara County's soil and climate.

Bring your plant, soil, pest, and tool questions to the Education Booths where you can get your gardening questions answered by UC Master Gardeners. You will also learn about water wise plants, animal pest control, and much more.

Hourly talks have been scheduled by UC Master Gardeners, children's activities, a Green Elephant sale, and an "Ask a Master Gardener" booth are available where you can ask questions and bring in plant samples for diagnosis.

Plant Daycare volunteers will watch your purchases while you attend gardening talks, browse our demonstration gardens, visit our vendors, eat lunch either from a food truck or your own picnic lunch, and



enjoy the Spring Celebration taking place throughout Martial Cottle Park.

There will be an opportunity to pick up gently used tools, pots, books, trellises and more at bargain prices while benefiting the UC Master Gardener program.

Admission is free, \$6 parking at Martial Cottle Park. The location for the Garden Market is off Chynoweth Avenue. Plant sales benefit the UC Master Gardener program. Martial Cottle Park is located at: 5283 Snell Ave. San Jose, CA

Editor's note: Please bring a box, cart or wagon for an easier shopping experience. Sturdy shoes are recommended for walking on some uneven surfaces. No dogs except service dogs in the sales area.

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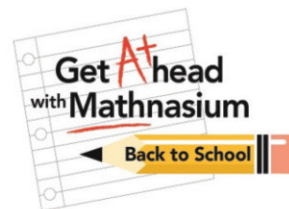
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Sharks Ice complex wants to add two new rinks

Sharks Ice complex in San Jose may expand to nearly 400,000-square-foot under a proposal under review at San Jose City Hall.

The expansion project would add two ice rinks and more than double the size on the 21.2-acre facility at 1500 South 10th Street.

To make room for the expansion, the project developers need demolish the firing range and a portion of the existing parking lot. At present, the ice center totals roughly 180,000 square feet.

The expansion project will include a community and practice ice rink, Rink 5; and a competition rink, Rink 6, for the San Jose Barracuda. The Barracuda is the AHL affiliate of the Sharks and an estimated 34 events a year would be staged at Rink 6.

The expansion would not just include new rinks, but also 20,000 square feet of medical offices would be built as part of the project. These could be used for the treatment or training of athletes.

"A reception and lobby area, restrooms, offices, exam rooms, and support services" would be part of the medical offices, according to city documents.

The San Jose City Council is slated to vote on the project next week. The proposed expansion in the most recent version of the proposal is significantly larger than a preliminary proposal that the San Jose Sharks company had floated nearly two years ago. At that time, an expansion of 178,000 square feet was envisioned, with no mention of a rink for the San Jose Barracuda.

Valley Currents

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



San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo spoke Thursday at the opening of 40 new "tiny homes" on Mabury Road in northeast San Jose, which will temporarily house homeless residents while they find permanent housing.



Tiny homes community debuts in San Jose

Interim housing program to help homeless individuals seek permanent housing

After several years of planning, the first tiny homes community officially opened complete with security and resident services.

Mayor Sam Liccardo was joined by Governor Gavin Newsom at the debut of the Mabury Bridge Housing Community that provides interim housing for homeless individuals on public land and acts as the bridge between homelessness and permanent housing. Joining Liccardo and Newsom were Assemblymembers Kansen Chu and Ash Kalra, state Senator Jim Beall and HomeFirst CEO Andrea Urton.

The new community includes 40 tiny homes, officially known as "emergency sleeping cabins" as well as community facilities with showers, a kitchen, laundry facilities, a computer room, and space where residents will receive supportive services, including assistance with employment and housing searches. Comcast generously donated site-wide Wi-Fi, computers for residents to aid in their job searches, and a community room flat-screen TV. The site is currently operated through a partner-

ship with the local nonprofit HomeFirst.

"The Mabury Bridge Housing Community is a unique approach to getting people off the street and setting them up for success," said Mayor Sam Liccardo. "The people we'll serve here are able to work and live on their own. They hit a bump in the road, and we're helping them get back on their feet. We'll provide them with supportive services so they can find permanent housing and remain housed."

The Mabury Bridge Housing Community is the first of its kind, built on land leased from the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) and funded through the State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP). The new unique housing community was built by Habitat for Humanity with an army of volunteers - 1,800 volunteers contributing a total of more than 11,900 volunteer hours from 49 private and community organizations.

"When it comes to homelessness no part of our state is immune, no community untouched and too often no one wants to take responsibility. That has to change and across California it is. Local leaders like Mayor Liccardo are stepping up and offering real

partnership and solutions," said Governor Gavin Newsom. "It's that spirit of collaboration — and San Jose's example — that will help us through this crisis and, more importantly, help move Californians off the streets and into supportive housing."

Newsom recently announced that he will focus on creating a streamlined process to get these types of projects up and running, such as providing California Environmental Quality Act exemptions and fewer obstacles with state agencies.

The creation of the Mabury Bridge Housing Community is part of a larger regional plan, the Community Plan to End Homelessness, including efforts in prevention, intervention, and construction of interim housing and permanent supportive housing. Multiple non-profit, private, and public partners have stepped up to collectively commit to ending the homelessness crisis in Silicon Valley.

The goal of Bridge Housing Communities is to rapidly rehouse residents that have recently fallen into homelessness, are at great risk of homelessness, or waiting for permanent supportive housing. Rapid Rehousing Program participants' average time searching for per-

manent housing in the County after receiving assistance is 120 days. Mabury Bridge Housing Community is expected to serve 120 residents in its first-ever year, with 40 residents rotating to permanent housing every 4 months. The program has already seen two formerly homeless residents successfully graduate to permanent housing.

Community is just one of the many ways we are working to end homelessness," said Andrea Urton, CEO of HomeFirst. "We thank Mayor Liccardo and his team for their leadership."

HomeFirst provides onsite supportive services to residents including creating housing plans for residents and helping them find and apply to permanent housing, connection to mental health services, and other supportive resources. They also host workshops and training sessions catered to the residents such as financial literacy, employment training, and life skills. There is onsite private security 24/7.

The Mabury Bridge Housing Community is the first of two bridge housing communities in San Jose. The second community is under development on State-owned Caltrans land adjacent to Felipe Ct and the intersection of Highways 280, 680, and 101.

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Times In Remembrance



Cynthia Vroom
Oct. 6, 1949 -
Nov. 27, 2019

Cynthia passed away peacefully on November 27, 2019 after a 5-year battle with cancer. Born and raised in San Jose, Cindy was a graduate of Willow Glen High School, where she first fell in love with the French language. After completing her B.A and M.A. degrees in French (minoring in Italian) at San Jose State University, she earned a Ph.D. in French Literature from UCLA.

She worked as a paralegal before being accepted into Stan-

ford Law School. Upon graduation, she worked at several law firms specializing in corporate, immigration, and intellectual property/copyright law. She found her dream job as a Legal Counsel at the University of California. Her primary areas of practice included employment litigation, First Amendment issues, and academic personnel issues. Cindy was one of the foremost authorities on academic freedom and routinely advised the Academic Senate. She was highly regarded by her peers and was qualified as an attorney and counselor of the US Supreme Court.

She was tenacious, persistent, and unyielding in achieving

her goals. She was a Visiting Professor at the University of Aix-Marseille and published articles on comparative constitutional law thus beginning her long association with Aix-en-Provence and lifelong friendships built while living there. She was invited every year to represent the United States at the annual International Roundtable on Constitutional Law in Aix.

She had the honor to serve as interpreter for Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist at the 1989 roundtable and

attended an international law symposium in Warsaw along with Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Conner.

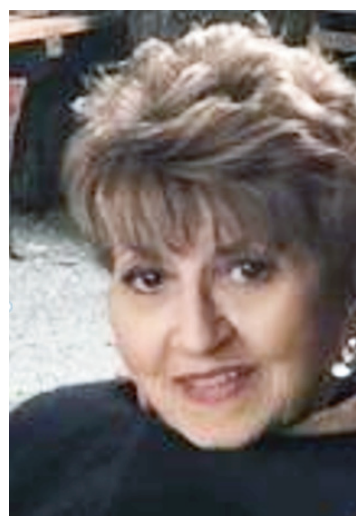
The daughter of a collegiate athletic coach, Cindy was an avid fan of college sports, soccer and basketball in particular. She was fluent in Italian and served as an interpreter for the Italian National Soccer Teams at the 1984 Olympics.

Cindy was an avid art collector and loved the opera and classical music, but was just as happy listening to Bob Dylan and blues/jazz artists. She had a passion for cooking, appreciation for good food and wine, and loved spending time with her family and friends.

Cindy leaves a legacy of loyal friendship, courage, pursuit of excellence, and generosity. She was a unique individual with an unquenchable zest for life, never hindered by the conventional nor appeased by mediocrity.

Cindy was preceded in death by her father Gerald A. Vroom and mother Gladys J. Vroom. She is survived by her brothers Scott (wife Kitty), Barry (wife Jinny), Brad (wife Laurie), and nieces and nephews, Katie, Cory, Addie, Dylan, Lauren, Erin. She was laid to rest in a private family cere-

mony. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made at cancer.ucsf.com



Viola Veronica
Harris passes
away at 81

Viola Veronica Harris, age 81, passed away peacefully on February 11, 2020, surrounded by her family.

Viola was born in Lawrence, Mass on April 18, 1938. Her family then moved to San Jose where she graduated from Willow Glen High School.

Viola was married to Arthur Harris on January 20, 1962. They resided in San Jose where their daughter Brenda was born.

While taking care of her family, Viola worked at California Cannery & Growers Cannery in San Jose as a payroll specialist. In 1983, Viola started in the Accounting Department for Hope Rehabilitation Services and then transferred to the Senior Center Program in 1997. She continued to work part time at Hope until her passing. She loved what she did and the people she worked with.

Viola enjoyed cooking, traveling, dancing, music, gardening and the trips to the Casino. She devoted herself to her family and loved being around them. She will be remembered for her kindness, generosity, quick wit, and the integrity to always speak the truth. Her greatest gift to her family was teaching us about traditions and family values.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated on February 27, 2020 at St. Christopher Catholic Church in San Jose.

In lieu of flowers please donate to Hope Rehabilitation Senior Center 1555 Parkmoor Ave., San Jose, CA 95128

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—Dr. Donald Pepper, DDS



Dr. Donald Pepper, DDS (left) and Dr. Aman Bhullar, DDS.

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Times **Community News**



Boys spin circles as they perform Gatka at a previous Hola Mohalla festival.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR EXCITING FESTIVAL OF COURAGE AND STRENGTH

Sunday, March 15 marks the return of the 9th annual Hola Mohalla festival at the San Jose Sikh Gurdwara

Celebrated worldwide, this event marks the Sikh New Year

Say hello to the Sikhs and honor their depth of kindness in what they do and believe in. These gatherings build community!

Everyone is invited to this completely complimentary festival meaning; free parking, free entrance to all, free events to observe and or participate in, complimentary beverages and delicious handmade foods with plenty of smiles and joyful camaraderie for all to revel in.

Did you know the San Jose Gurdwara is the largest of its kind in the United States and it acts as a community asset. Also it is one of the most beautiful landmarks to walk around and take your family to.

Bob Dhillon, President of the San Jose Sikh Gurdwara states, "With great dedication and devotion we are hosting one of the largest family festivals in all of California. We gladly invite

you to our festival. It is a safe and fun place for you to take your family. We hope you will come and enjoy the complimentary tasty food and refreshments we take pride in making for you by hand. Also, it is a joyful experience for you to walk around with your family and enjoy yourself at our annual Festival of Strength and Courage which we refer to as the Hola Mohalla."

The festival is held outdoors and you will see many sports competitions to view and also you can, if you like, participate in some too. Competitions are created for people of all ages. Free pony rides are offered for the little ones so that they too can build their own personal courage and strength inside themselves.

This festival brings many cultures together and all are welcome. There will be booths which will sell wares from India and much more. You will see foot races and

displays of martial arts, tug of war challenges, along with many other competitions in sports you may not have witnessed before.

The day builds strength in all for it awakens our understanding of how we too can individually advance and enhance our own personal strength and courage.

Sikhs care about all cultures

The Sikhs care about humanity and honor it. They do not try to proselytize others by trying to change their religions. They honor equality between man and woman and consider all of us brothers and sisters.



Believing the entire human race is connected they embrace each religion working in its own way to achieve the virtuosity of God.

Editor's Note: Kindly look for the informational ad in this issue of the Almaden Times. To get to this event from Almaden, go Highway 101 north. Take the Capital Expressway exit. Turn right on Quimby Road and follow it up a mile to the foothills. You can park at Evergreen High school and take a shuttle or Carolyn Clark Elementary School. Shuttles run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The festival is outdoors on the large field. You can also park anywhere you wish and walk in. Get ready for a wonderful day of engagement in seeing and experiencing strength and courage. For more information visit: sanjosegurdwara.org or contact Kirpal Atwal (408) 835-7712. Sign up for the Gurdwara App.



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TEETH IN ONE DAY



Opera San José presents Mozart's 'The Magic Flute' April 18 – May 3

Comedy, adventure, and brilliant singing come together on stage when Opera San José presents Mozart's *The Magic Flute* April 18 – May 3 at the California Theatre.

This magical adventure follows a wandering prince who must complete three quests to win his true love's hand. Filled with fantasy, romance, and vengeance, the opera dramatically alternates spoken dialogue with some of Mozart's most beautiful music.

Featuring colorful characters including a lovesick bird catcher, a giant serpent, and the Queen of the Night, *The Magic Flute* has charmed audiences since its first performance in 1791. Sung in German with English subtitles, *The Magic Flute* will be conducted by Donato Cabrera, music director of the California Symphony and Las Vegas Philharmonic, and directed by Brad Dalton, who has staged major opera productions throughout the United States and abroad, including for San Francisco Opera, Metropolitan Opera, Washington Opera, and oth-

ers. It will be presented at the magnificent California Theatre, the elegant 1927 former movie palace meticulously restored to opulent splendor and now one of the world's most intimate opera houses.

Introduction to Opera: Larry Hancock presents an engaging free 45-minute talk about the opera to ticket holders before every performance (6:30pm for evening performances and 1:30pm for matinees). Open to all ticket holders.

The Magic Flute Preview: Moderated by Larry Hancock, this free sneak peek includes a lecture and performances by Opera San José artists. Held from 12:00pm-1:00pm, Tuesday, April 7, 2020, guests are asked to use the Market Street entrance of the California Theatre.

Opera at Your Doorstep Lecture Series: Longtime Opera San José subscriber Bradford Wade offers FREE talks about *The Magic Flute* to increase understanding and enjoyment of opera. (Dates for *The Magic Flute* lecture talks will be announced in March 2020 and can be found at operasj.org)

For information or to order tickets, visit operasj.org, call (408) 437-4450, or visit the Opera San José Box Office (2149 Paragon Drive, San José).

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Times **Community News**

Coronavirus concerns impacting Chinese owned businesses in San Jose

Traffic at some Chinese-American businesses is down due to fears about the virus. As concerns increase daily regarding the coronavirus there have been some reports of discrimination against Chinese immigrants and Chinese-American neighbors in San Jose.

"I encourage everyone to be sensitive to what they may be feeling or saying at this critical time," said San Jose City Councilmember Johnny Khamis. "I encourage everyone to take this opportunity to stand with our Chinese-American community and patronize their businesses."

Coronavirus prevention tips

It is suggested that everyone practice preventative hygiene to keep yourselves and others from becoming sick with COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

Here are some tips to protect yourself and your family from infection and prevent the spread of respiratory viruses.

- Avoid close contact with sick people.
- While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Get your flu shot to protect against flu or symptom's similar to COVID-19.
- If you feel sick, please call your primary care physician or the nurse advice line.
- Cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol.
- The CDC is not recommending the use of facemasks for the general public at this time.
- Before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room, call ahead and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.

Answers to your most common coronavirus questions:

What is a coronavirus?

It is a novel virus named for the crownlike spikes that protrude from its surface. The coronavirus can infect both animals and people and can cause a range of respiratory illnesses from the common cold to more dangerous conditions like Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, or SARS.

How worried should I be?

New outbreaks in Asia, Europe and the Middle East are renewing fears of a global pandemic. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention warned this week that Americans should brace for the likelihood that the virus will spread to the United States.

How do I keep myself and others safe?

Washing your hands frequently is the most important thing you can do, along with staying at home when you're sick.

What if I'm traveling?

The C.D.C. has warned older and at-risk travelers to avoid Japan, Italy and Iran. The agency also has advised against all nonessential travel to South Korea and China.

How can I prepare for a possible outbreak?

Keep a 30-day supply of essential medicines. Get a flu shot. Have essential household items on hand. Have a support system in place for elderly family members.

Where has the virus spread?

The virus, which originated in Wuhan, China, has sickened more than 80,000 people in at least 33 countries, including Italy, Iran and South Korea.

How contagious is the virus?

According to preliminary research, it seems moderately infectious, similar to SARS, and is probably transmitted through sneezes, coughs and contaminated surfaces. Scientists have estimated that each infected person could spread it to somewhere between 1.5 and 3.5 people without effective containment measures.

Who is working to contain the virus?

World Health Organization officials have been working with officials in China, where growth has slowed. But this week, as confirmed cases spiked on two continents, experts warned that the world was not ready for a major outbreak.

Please visit the CDC website for the most recent information about COVID-19: cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html.

\$13.2 million available to help California homeowners prepare for 'the big one'

Today, there are more than 1.2 million vulnerable homes in California that reside in high-seismic-hazard areas.

Many homeowners know that their homes are at-risk when an earthquake occurs but are unaware that they can protect their homes with a seismic retrofit.

California's Earthquake Brace + Bolt grant program provides homeowners in eligible ZIP Codes with \$3,000 to help offset the cost of completing a seismic retrofit.

"By undergoing a seismic retrofit, older houses that were not built to withstand an earthquake are braced and bolted into their foundation," said Janiele Maffei, Chief Mitigation Officer for the California Earthquake Authority. "This helps to prevent the home from sliding off its foundation in the event of an earthquake and reduces the amount of damage a house can incur."

With \$13.2 million in funding, EBB will offer over 4,400 retrofit grants in 2020. To date, almost 10,000 Californians have strengthened their homes by successfully completing the retrofitting process with EBB.

Registration for the 2020 EBB program continues through March 19.

To register, visit: www.earthquakebracebolt.com/HomeownerRegistration

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Announcements

Evergreen School District
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

Open Hearing scheduled for the October 10, 2019 Evergreen School District Board of Trustees Meeting, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Room at 3188 Quimby Road, San Jose Re: THE AVAILABILITY OF TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS -2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR.

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