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Councilmember-elect
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MAY 1 – MAY 14, 2020 ■ VOL. 33, NO. 10



Almaden Times

SERVING ALMADEN VALLEY SINCE 1986 ■ ALMADENTIMES.COM

CANCELLED

Almaden Valley Art & Wine Festival canceled for 2020

Women's Club plans to host on-line fundraising events

By Beth Swartz
Special to the Times

The Board of Directors for the Almaden Valley Women's Club voted on April 15, 2020 to cancel this year's Almaden Art & Wine Festival.

The decision was made after careful consideration and was based on the current indications from the CDC as well as the Santa Clara County Public Health Department in light of the global pandemic. The Festival was scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 13, 2020 at Almaden Lake Park.

"This is extremely disappointing, and the first time in its history that the Almaden Valley Art & Wine Festival has been canceled," said Jenny Teixeira, President of the Almaden
See FESTIVAL, page 16

Shelter-in-place order extended through end of May

Six Bay Area counties this week released the joint statement that they are extending shelter-in-place orders through the end of May amid the novel coronavirus pandemic.

The extended orders affect Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties, as well as the City of Berkeley, which has its own public health department.

Health officers will soon provide details about the limited easing of specific restrictions for a small number of lower-risk activities.

In a recent survey conducted by the workplace app Fishbowl, more than 80 percent of workers responded that they would not feel safe going back to work if their state were to reopen now.



At La Playita, only owner Juan Gutierrez and his mother, Rita, are working.

SURVIVING THE CORONAVIRUS

A look at Almaden's restaurants

By Lorraine Gabbert
Senior Staff Writer

Almaden restaurants took an enormous hit from the coronavirus, forcing many to close their doors and others to cut hours and operate with a skeleton crew.

Eateries which chose to remain open are struggling to survive by offering takeout and/or delivery services. However, not every restaurant owner can afford delivery service commission fees, and even with takeout options, restaurants are seeing a dramatic
See RESTAURANTS, page 6

How San Jose supermarkets are keeping customers and employees safe

By Lorraine Gabbert

Article courtesy of San José Spotlight

In the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, supermarkets have taken new steps to protect customers and employees, from installing Plexiglass dividers at checkout counters to placing stickers on the floor reminding people to stand 6 feet apart and around-the-clock sanitizing.

Although many businesses have been closed due to the pandemic, supermarkets are

deemed essential and their workers remain at the forefront in the fight against COVID-19.

"We are taking this precaution very seriously," said Henry Audon, assistant manager of Safeway in Almaden Valley. "We protect our employees so they can be here to serve the community. We speak daily about washing our hands, sanitizing and social distancing. These things will protect us, and our customers appreciate it."

See SUPERMARKETS, page 15



Plexiglass barriers protect workers and customers at the Almaden Safeway. Photo by Lorraine Gabbert



2020, A SPACED-OUT ODYSSEY

SOCIAL DISTANCING HAPPY HOUR - Almaden neighbors living on Fox Meadow Court enjoy happy hour while abiding to social distancing rules on Saturday evening, April 18. "It was fun to get out and physically visit even though very far apart," said Aylene Kuhn. "Everyone wants to do it again!"

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Shelter-in-place controversy seems short-sighted

Dear Editor,

My husband and I, who are both about 85, have “sheltered at home” in San Jose, CA for six weeks and have found it easy and convenient to do. We started our “sheltered at home” practice a week before the Governor of California required it.

The current controversy on whether to continue or stop “sheltered at home” practices seems short sighted. Why does it have to be either “continued” or “stop” the “sheltered at home” practice? Why can’t it be START a modified “sheltered at home” practice?

For example, has anyone done any models to see if Covid-19 could be controlled by just requesting all Americans in the “over the age of 60” category to practice “sheltered at home”? About 20% of Americans are in the “over the age of 60” category and I suspect most of them would be glad to follow a “sheltered at home” practice, if it would help to make it safer for the other 80% to go back to work and back to school AND save the USA from economic collapse. I am also sure that those who are vulnerable to Covid-19 due to health issues would be willing to follow “sheltered at home” practices to make it safer for younger and healthier people return to work and school AND build up herd immunity.

Louise Cate
Almaden Valley

Valley Currents

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

Homeless shelter donation drive spear-headed by Gro-STEMs

By Adarsh Ambati

Special to the Times

Gro-STEMs is a non-profit, San Jose-based organization entirely run by high school students residing in Almaden Valley.

The organization sells succulents to raise funds to promote climate change awareness and STEM education for the underrepresented especially in homeless shelters across the Bay Area.

It all began when I was working at the local homeless shelter teaching fun yet educational science experiments. One day, a lady who I had taught came up to me and gave me my first ever succulent.

She said that she was moving out of the facility and was going to take the information that she had learned to teach her kids back home. I was moved, so I decided to take good care of the succulent even though I had a bad history with gardening. To my surprise (and my mother's), it is still alive today. I am now an avid succulent gardener, as they are the only plants that I cannot seem to kill.

Succulents have a low environmental impact, needing 90 percent less water than traditional plants. They also need minimal intervention. Furthermore, succulents symbolize endurance and longevity.

I am now in my sophomore year at Archbishop Mitty High School, and I have a team of five like-minded high-schoolers supporting Gro-STEMS. We are supported in our endeavors by the Succulent Gardens Nursery in Cas-



Adarsh Ambati with Kristin Scheidt, General Manager of Succulent Gardens. sgplants.com

troville, local succulent lovers who donate their succulents and generous local patrons who buy our succulents.

To date, we have raised more than 1000 dollars and conducted several STEM classes and science fair boot camps. We have also distributed more than 500 care cards that raise climate change awareness by providing tips to reduce our carbon footprint in addition to instructions on how to take care of succulents.

Given the severity of the COVID-19 crisis, Gro-STEMS is now engaging in an initiative to raise funds to serve those who are disproportionately affected. We have two requests. First,

please consider donating to our GoFundMe by visiting www.gofundme/groSTEMs-covid19-fundraiser to provide supplies to local homeless shelters. Homeless shelters are struggling right now. They cannot get donations, and their residents have a hard time maintaining their regular income. They are nearly entirely dependent on our help. Please consider donating to this cause and receive a free succulent favor as an added bonus.

Second, please support your local businesses in these trying times while staying safe. Take-out and ordering services are extremely helpful. Try to buy local goods, and if you can please tip generously.

If we all do our part, the impacts of this crisis will be greatly lessened.

Editor's note: Adarsh Ambati is a sophomore at Archbishop Mitty High School and a resident of Almaden Valley.



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DAR's Los Gatos Chapter sewing masks for healthcare and essential workers

The Los Gatos Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is lending a helping hand to healthcare and other essential workers on the front lines of the pandemic, ensuring that local residents and facilities have more protective wear resources to face the threat of the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

The Los Gatos Chapter responded to the medical mask shortage by hand-sewing masks



to donate to local essential workers in the most need. Masks also are donated to community members for compliance with health regulations requiring that masks be worn while conducting essential business.

As of April 17, the Los Gatos Chapter of Los Gatos has sewn and donated 126 masks to Hospice of the Valley, San Francisco General Hospital, Lunardi's Markets, Valley Medical Center Foundation, and members of the community.

“While we are each doing our part to slow the spread of the virus by staying at home, the DAR members in our chapter wanted to do more to give back to those working hard to keep our community healthy and safe,” said Regent Rachel Goss of the Los Gatos Chapter. “We know these are tough times for everyone and wanted to do whatever we could to spread a little sunshine and help take care of our community.”

Chapter member Barbara Naden and her husband, Rex, donated 60 masks to Valley Medical Center Foundation, Hospice of the Valley and Lunardi's Markets, and 10 to friends and family. Member Sue Covey donated a surgical cap and two masks to San Francisco General Hospital and 21 masks to the community. Sue Fitzpatrick donated 20 yards of fabric and Sue Ross donated 48 yards of elastic for the project. Trish Boesel, Rachel Goss, and Jill Hygelund made and donated masks to community members.

Would you like to help? Valley Medical Center Foundation, vmcfoundation.org/masks, is accepting donations of hand-sewn masks and scrub caps. The masks will be used by non-patient care staff as added protection as they face the COVID-19 crisis.

If you would like to donate, contact Linda Gallagher: gallagherca@comcast.net.

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Times **Community****Restaurants***Continued from page 1*

decrease in customers and income.

Charlie's Cheesecake Works

Although Charlie's Cheesecake Works has been in business since 2002, owner Charlie Major says they're barely getting by now as catering has come to a standstill and food distributor Sysco dropped them. Nox Cookie Bar is the only wholesale account they have left.

"I started my business alone and I'm back to that now," says Major. "I'm down 70 percent. That's why I'm here by myself."

Still, Major says he's not about to quit and has no doubt his business will survive.

He makes 15 to 20 percent of his income from customer walk-ins using a touchless delivery. Customers order behind a blue line, keeping a distance from the counter and he walks their orders to their trunk.

On the positive side, Major says that he thinks that sheltering in place has led people to appreciate things a lot more.

"I don't think we'll ever go back to how it was before," he says. "More people will order online in the future. It's a convenience."

Charlie's Cheesecake Works offers takeout, DoorDash, Grubhub and Uber Eats. They are open 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, and 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. They're closed Sunday.

Erawan Thai Cuisine

Erawan Thai Cuisine started making their own deliveries in April as they had no business following sheltering in place. They tried DoorDash but employee Ann Sri says it was too expensive. Operating at 50 percent of their usual traffic, they had to let go of most of their employees, and the ones left work part time, mostly on weekends.

"We had a huge loss," says Sri. "From the first day after March 15, we had no customers."

Sri says that she hopes the orders keep coming as otherwise they will have to shut down. Erawan Thai Cuisine is open from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for lunch and from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for dinner. They are closed for lunch on Monday.

La Playita

The outside garden café and inside tables are empty at Mexican restaurant La Playita. Only owner Juan Gutierrez and his mother, Rita, are working, rather than his usual 10 employees. As La Playita has been in business since 1983, Gutierrez says that he views his customers as friends and family and has watched many children grow up.

Although due to sheltering in place, his business is down by 50 percent, Gutierrez doesn't let it get him down.

"We're very fortunate because everyone in Almaden is so nice and coming in little by little," he says. "We're just hanging in there. That's all we can do. This will pass and we'll come out better in the end, I hope."

La Playita doesn't have a delivery service, but does offer takeout Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Sabores of the Valley

At Sabores of the Valley, business has decreased by 30 percent. But owner Marco Silveria is determined to think positively.

"I find the right mood and keep going," he says. "I tell my guests how we look for-



"I started my business alone and I'm back to that now," says Charlie Major.

ward to seeing them when we reopen fully with wine tasting events and music outside. I try to keep them enthusiastic about the future."

Although his staff dropped from 10 to 3, Silveria is determined to remain open and serve the community.

"Everybody's been very appreciative we're still open," he says, "and we appreciate the support. I hope once things open up, we'll become stronger than we were before."

Silveria says that they're working together "as a family trying to get through this tough crisis," and doing everything possible to stay safe by sanitizing handles, dishes, menus and everything they touch.

Sabores of the Valley offers curbside pickup, DoorDash, Grubhub and Uber Eats. They are open from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Sunday through Saturday. For dinner, they are open 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sunday to Wednesday and 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Thursday to Saturday.

Bamboo Fish

Young Park, owner of Bamboo Fish, a Korean sushi restaurant, says they "have no choice" but to use DoorDash, Grubhub and Uber Eats as their business has decreased by 15 to 20 percent. Happily, using the delivery services has brought him some new customers as well.

Park says he had to lay off workers, going from 10 to 5 employees.

"Thankfully, the regulars help us," Park said. "They try to come in regularly. They're more like family to us."

Park was so appreciative of their business, he gave them a bottle of wine on the house. Customers can order wine or Saki with their meals. They are open from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for lunch and 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. for dinner. On the weekends, they're open until 9 p.m. for dinner.

Amato Pizzeria

"Coronavirus has definitely been crazy to grasp with," says Amato Pizzeria owner Amin Rafsanjani.

Rafsanjani says that Amato puts the community and their staff first and as they have received community support for more than 16 years, it's their turn to give back. On their Facebook and Instagram pages, they are offering a meal on the house for anyone going through a difficult time due to the coronavirus. They are also providing complementary food to local retirement homes, firefighters and nurses at Kaiser Permanente and Good Samaritan Hospital.

"We are all a team in the community and showing the people who take care of us that we have their back allows us to be Almaden Strong," Rafsanjani says.

Although he says Amato already had a high standard of cleanliness, the staff now takes extra precautions, wearing face masks and cleaning counters, machines, door handles, walls, and anything else that gets touched.

Amato is operating with a lighter crew, but Rafsanjani says they are still looking out for their staff.

"When we hire someone, they become part of our family," he says. "We want to make sure our team feels secure, no matter the situation. Many of our staff depend on a paycheck to keep their families comfortable. We find creative ways to ensure our team is happy and taken care of."

Rafsanjani is enjoying seeing people outside spending time with their families.

"It truly is beautiful to see the whole family walking, riding their bikes or walking their dogs and enjoying their days with each other," he says. "I hope that continues as it truly is wonderful to see."

Amato offers takeout and delivery through DoorDash, Grubhub, and Slice. They are open from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Legends Pizza Co.

With a drop of 15 to 25 percent, business has slowed down for Legends Pizza Co., but remains steady. Employee Hugo Hernandez says that customers have been kind, giving them tips and asking how they're doing. In turn, he says he appreciates the community keeping them open.

"The Almaden community has become a lot closer," says Hernandez.

Although staff hours have decreased, it's been spread around evenly with workers each losing a day off their schedule. Hernandez says that he believes people are more grateful now and taking the time to appreciate the things around them. Legends Pizza Co. is open every day from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

T4

A line forms outside T4, a Taiwanese tea and bubble tea cafe. Many customers wear masks and follow social distancing. However, the line can be misleading as their overall customer base has decreased substantially. Before schools were closed due to sheltering in place, most of their revenue came from students at Bret Harte Middle School and Leland High School, who flocked to T4 after school from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Now, they have a flurry of business for about one hour a day and otherwise it's pretty dead, says employee Jacqueline Rin. While they previously had three to four employees, now they're down to one or two.

"I can feel the pain of the businesses still going," says T4 owner Miranda Mill, "and the pain of those businesses not being able to be open."

T4 has taken many steps to keep their staff and customers safe during the coronavirus. Sanitation and social distancing guidelines are posted on their doors and walls, doors are left open so customers don't have to touch the handles and tables separate customers from the counter. After placing their orders, customers are asked to wait outside.

"People have been patient and respectful of others' space," Mill says. "It takes a long time, but we have to take steps to sanitize. People are aware of social distancing and wearing masks. It's changing how we do business."

"We've had to adapt," Rin says.

Rin says that on the whole customers have been patient and kind, but she recently had a few incidents that upset and surprised her.

"People were completely rude to me. I think it was racial because of my being Asian American. As they came up and saw me, they got freaked out. One time, a customer purposely spoke to my Caucasian coworker rather than to me."

Mill says that they're fortunate to have customers still come and support them.

"We're just trying to stay afloat," she says. "I work more because we can't afford a full staff. People show their appreciation and that keeps me coming even though I'm exhausted."

T4 offers online ordering as Mill says that the delivery services are too expensive. They are open 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sunday to Thursday and 1:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Check Facebook for updates.

Customer Kris Nakaji says her family is making an effort to order takeout from Almaden eateries several nights a week.

"I know it's absolutely devastating for these places," Nakaji says. "I think so many of them in this area are family-run and need all the support they can get."

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Times of challenge come with important lessons

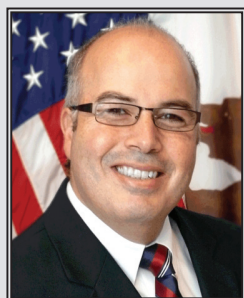
By Johnny Khamis
Special to the Times

It has been more than five weeks since Santa Clara County leaders issued the first shelter-in-place order and asked all nonessential workers to stay home. I applaud their efforts that are successfully, and dramatically, slowing the spread of the deadly coronavirus, and I welcome their continued expertise on how to keep us safe.

It is clear that times of challenge come with important lessons.

What I have learned is that the government cannot continue to spend money to stabilize our economy and make up for huge job losses, especially since local and state governments depend mostly on business-related taxes to provide services. While they can be helpful for some, in the short-run, subsidies are often given to those most adept at dealing with the government and help may not get to the small businesses and micro-enterprises most affected. Hence, we must find new, hygienic and efficient ways to return to work sooner rather than later.

We must use some of the new tools we have been acquiring, like teleconferencing,



District 10 Report

Johnny Khamis,
City Councilmember

to provide flexibility for our workforce. This is why I am calling on county and state health officials to look for safe ways to put people back to work as soon as it can be done safely.

Public health leaders must assess risks and look for ways to mitigate them, one job classification at a time. Many jobs could resume with the right protections and procedures. I think of outdoor jobs that do not typically require interpersonal interactions or that naturally meet the social distancing requirements — jobs like pool and lawn maintenance, as well as many aspects of construction work.

If we do not take a thoughtful, science-based approach to getting people back to work, no amount of government subsidies will revive our workforce or rescue small businesses and micro-enterprises.

We have learned a lot in the past two months on how to work from home and to conduct our affairs more safely.

I am proud of the San Jose planning department, for example, for implementing video inspections. This approach will revolutionize the planning department because it creates safety and efficiency while improv-

ing customer service. For restaurants, we have temporarily allowed them to deliver alcoholic beverages, as long as they are delivered with meals. This has allowed some struggling restaurants that used to be full service to stay open and eke out a living. These lessons and policies must be carried forward when we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

We should also not miss the opportunity to rethink local and state policies so we can meet challenges more quickly, such as by reforming CEQA, investing in online

learning and reconsidering employment laws to help small businesses and the self-employed. We had big challenges around issues like a housing supply that failed to keep up with demand and the crisis of homelessness, well before COVID-19 struck.

Temporary changes in CEQA and contracting laws have sped up emergency and permanent housing development. If we continue to innovate when it comes to local and state policy, we will be able to meet the challenges of the current and post-COVID-19 landscapes.

Santa Clara County Coroner confirms Covid-19 spread much earlier than previously believed

The coronavirus has been spreading earlier in the community than previously believed after Santa Clara County's Medical Examiner-Coroner confirmed that at least two people died in February from Covid-19.

Tissue samples taken from two local residents who died at home on Feb. 6 and 17 tested positive for

Covid-19, according to county health officials.

The earliest Covid-19 fatality in the U.S. was previously believed to have happened on Feb. 29 in Kirkland, Washington.

Right: Covid-19 has been infecting and killing people in the county weeks earlier than officials thought. Photo credit: CDC



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Times **Community News**

Pat Tillman proudly remembered

Killed in Afghanistan 16 years ago

It has been 16 years since Almaden Valley lost its hero Pat Tillman, 27, who gave up his lucrative NFL contract to join the Army and serve as a member of the U.S. Army's elite Rangers unit. He was killed in action in southeastern Afghanistan on April 22, 2004.

"For a lot of kids in Almaden, he was bigger than life," said Randy Zimmer, who coached Tillman at Leland High School. "For those of us that knew him, he was just Pat; somebody we loved."

Tillman played college football at Arizona State, was named the Pacific-10 Conference defensive player of the year, and was drafted by the Arizona Cardinals and played four seasons. He turned down a three-year contract offer by the Cardinals in 2002 and decided, along with this brother Kevin, to enlist in the Army with the goal of becoming Rangers, a specialized unit that is part of the Army's Special Forces. The 9-11 terrorist attacks left a profound impact on both brothers, pro-

moting them to serve their country.

Tillman was a big playmaker who was always around the ball. In a lopsided Leland victory his senior year, Tillman, who played on both offense and defense teams, kept sneaking back on the field on a lopsided game. The only way to stop Tillman was for the coaches to take away his helmet for the rest of the game.

Tillman had planned to return to the NFL when his three-year military obligation was completed.

Arizona State and the Arizona Cardinals retired Tillman's jersey numbers 42 and 40



Pat Tillman at Arizona State University
(Pat Tillman Foundation)

respectively.

Many people never had the privilege of meeting Pat Tillman but many carry his memory in their hearts.

Editor's Note: To learn more about the Pat Tillman Foundation go to pattillmanfoundation.org

San José Unified School District provides vital support during school closures

While school buildings are closed during the COVID-19 pandemic, San José Unified is implementing a comprehensive plan to provide vital support to its 29,000 students, as well as families, teachers, staff, and community throughout Santa Clara County's shelter at place of residence order.

Within the first week of school closure, San José Unified, in partnership with the City of San José, began serving meals to families in need. Over 17,000 meals a day are being distributed to anyone that needs assistance. The District has also been able to allocate critical supplies, such as face masks and hand sanitizer, to community partners.

In addition to providing essential support to the community, San José Unified has been taking steps to ensure families and students have access to reliable information. San José Unified's website, phone, and email systems have all been updated since the school closure.

High speed Internet

The greatest need for success with dis-

tance learning was student access to high-speed internet at home. "Many of our students lacked connectivity at home," said Assistant Superintendent J. Dominic Bejarano, "We knew a device alone would not solve the connectivity challenge for our students and have been committed to finding a solution to ensure our students have access to both a learning device and high-speed internet. We deployed a system to distribute Chromebooks and prepaid cell phones with free high-speed internet for three months. It has been a great solution for our families and is helping to eliminate online access gaps for our students."

San José Unified's teachers and educational staff have been trained on distance learning tools and are working to ensure that all students continue learning while sheltering at home. "Our goal has been to keep our families connected to their schools and keep our students engaged as we transition to a completely new style of learning," said Associate Superintendent Jodi Lax. "We have worked with local and state partners to develop distance learning guidelines that support all of our students while ensuring the safety of our students and employees. Our most recent feedback shows it is working for families."

San José Unified has all teachers connecting with students online and is adding grade-level video lessons each week. While these educational videos are already available at San José Unified's website, www.sjsud.com, they will also soon be shared community-wide via a partnership with CreaTV in San José.



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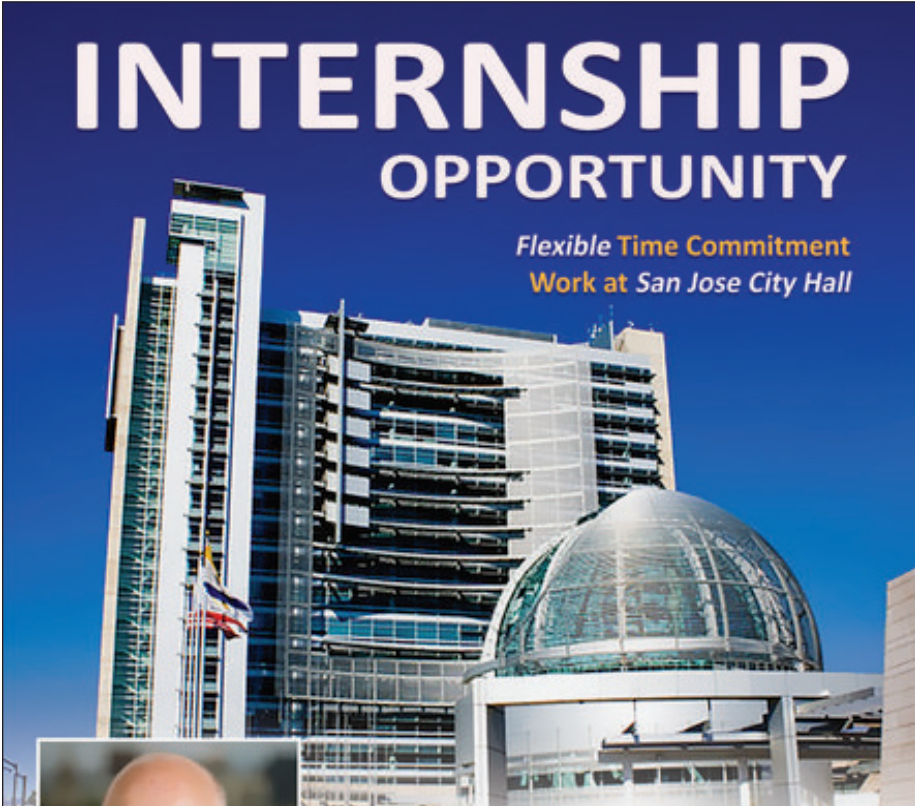
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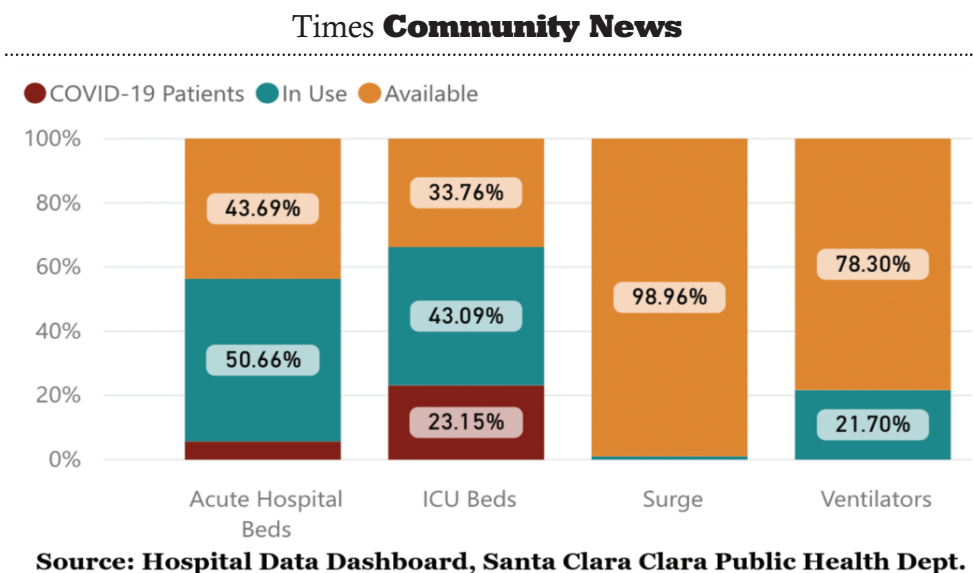
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One month into shelter-in-place

By Matt Mahan
Councilmember-elect, San Jose District 10

Most of us now have been sheltering in place for over one month.

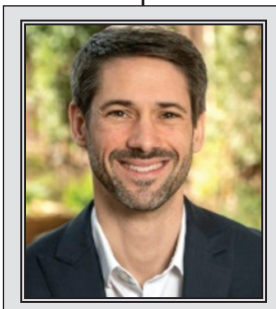
While there are signs that we've successfully slowed the virus' spread, it also appears we have a long road ahead. In this update, I'll try to assess where we are in the health crisis and how an economic reopening may unfold.

Knowing where we are in the fight against COVID-19 is key to beginning to relax the shelter-in-place order and pursuing economic recovery. Fortunately, many of the concrete measures of the virus' spread and severity locally, such as hospitalizations, ICU use and ventilator use, have been on a flat-to-downward trend over the past week. While testing volumes are still too low to draw definitive conclusions, the rate of positive tests has also gradually declined. Finally, daily confirmed deaths from COVID-19 have thankfully remained relatively flat.

Taken together, these are great signs that we have successfully "bent the curve" by sheltering in place. We need data from a longer period of time to better understand how much we've reduced infection rates, but the recent data is heartening.

That said, this public health success has come at a great cost. Over 2.5 million Californians have lost their jobs in just the past few weeks. Lost income is forcing many to go into debt just to cover basic needs. In fact, approximately one-third of renters did not pay rent in April--these are deferred debts that will eventually have to be paid or forgiven. After just one month of widespread shelter in place orders, we are heading toward unemployment levels not seen since the Great Depression.

Clearly, the status quo is not sustainable. We will need to begin reopening our economy. But, we should do so gradually and with great respect for the potential risks. Data



District 10 Report

Matt Mahan
Councilmember-elect, District 10

from the Spanish Influenza provides a stark warning from a century ago: after an initial outbreak that killed millions, second and third waves of contagion over the subsequent two years killed even more people.

This may or may not prove to be a good comparison (no two pandemics are the same), but it is clear that new viruses for which humanity lacks immunity should not be underestimated. We need to develop new therapeutics to better care for those who are stricken and, ultimately, we need to develop a vaccine to prevent infection. This will take time. Most estimates for a vaccine timeline fall between 12 and 18 months, but no one knows for sure and some experts believe these to be optimistic projections. Until then, our economic re-opening will be incremental and incomplete.

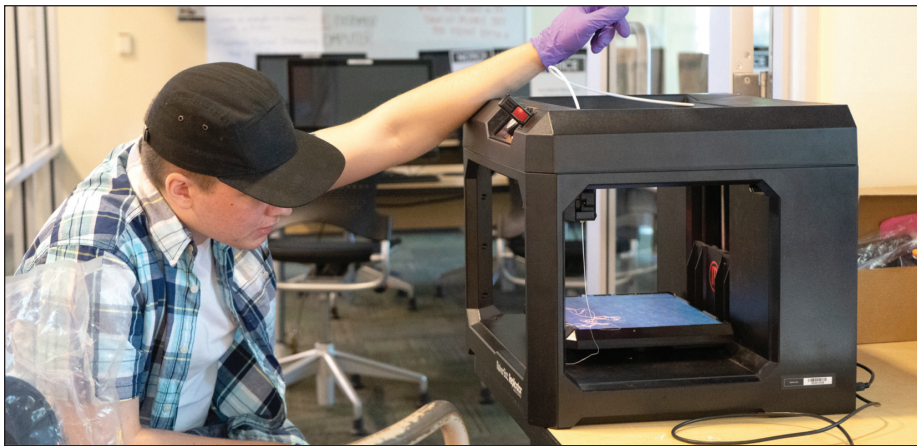
So, what might an initial reopening look like? Only our state government and local public health officials can make that determination, but I would expect them to begin relaxing the shelter-in-place order in early June, with a focus on putting people back to work in industries that lend themselves to social distancing, such as construction.

For the general public, continued social distancing and mask wearing in public will be important practices. Vulnerable populations, such as people over the age of 65, likely will be encouraged to continue minimizing trips out of the home. Large events and social gatherings likely will continue to be prohibited for some time.

Our "new normal" will not be life as we remember it just a few months ago, at least not for a long time. But, we are adaptable and creative people. We will find new ways to stay connected, be productive and care for one another. And eventually, I'm hopeful that we will truly return to normal, perhaps even better off in some ways for the slower and more deliberate way of life this unexpected pandemic has forced upon us.

I'm proud of how our community has come together in recent weeks and I know that this spirit of solidarity will continue as we figure out how to get people back to work safely. As always, I appreciate the ideas and questions so many of you have shared with me. Please keep your ideas and questions coming!

Your comments are always welcome; matt@mahanforsanjose.com; www.mahanforsanjose.com; 408-891-9708.

Times **Community News**

SJ Library delivers 3d printed face shields and masks to Good Samaritan Hospital

The San José Public Library's (SJPL) staff, volunteers and City Librarian Jill Bourne were joined by Mayor Sam Liccardo and District 9 Councilmember Pam Foley to officially handover the donation of 3D printed face shields and masks to Good Samaritan Hospital's CEO Joe DeSchryver and front-line staff on April 24.

Using the Library's 3D printers and approved prototypes developed by PRUSA PRINTERS and Make the Masks, 24 library staff members and two teen volunteers teamed up to print hundreds of 3D face shields and masks to donate to organizations in need of these supplies. The two teen volunteers, who are brother and sister, also contributed to the project by using their personal 3D printer to help speed up production.

"Our library is so fortunate in having such a dedicated group of staff and volunteers. They had a vision of putting our 3D printers and supplies to use, and they made it happen. This project embodies the library's belief that if you give access to knowledge and tools, an individual can learn and make anything happen, and the entire community is lifted," says City Librarian, Jill Bourne.

Good Samaritan Hospital graciously accept-

ed SJPL's first round of donations, which included a total of 220 face shields and 75 face masks. The Hospital's CEO, Joe DeSchryver, says, "We are honored to be the first recipients of the 3D printed protective gear created by the San Jose Library. We appreciate the creativity and caring that went into this work. This is an important gift for our well-deserving staff."

SJPL began 3D printing the supplies two weeks ago and since then, a total of 575 face shields and 150 face masks have been created. Each face mask took 2.5 hours to print and the face shields took 1.5 hours to print – that's a combined total of 1,238 hours of printing, so far. In the coming days, SJPL plans to donate hundreds more of their 3D face shields and masks to hospitals, nursing homes, shelters, and any other organization that has expressed a need for these supplies. In addition, Library staff and volunteers are also sewing "cloth face coverings" to provide to unhoused residents and medical workers.

"I'm grateful to the San Jose Public Library for stepping up to protect healthcare workers on the frontlines of this crisis," said San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo. "Their partnership with innovative volunteers helped create hundreds of 3D printed masks, embracing the spirit of Silicon Valley while keeping our community safe."

The San José Public Library is the first City of San José department to 3D print and donate supplies to medical facilities who are combatting COVID-19. SJPL takes pride in being an innovative library system that is consistently providing resources and support to its communities.

Phi Kappa Phi inducts new members from Almaden Valley

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines, announced that eighteen residents of Almaden Valley have become new members.

The following Almaden Valley residents have been sworn in as new Phi Kappa Phi members: **Bryant Bowman**, San Jose State University; **Kilho Chang**, San Jose State University; **Vanita Cillo**, San Jose State University; **Sonja Giacinto**, San Jose State University; **Morgan Haynes**, San Jose State University; **Aaron Lington**, San Jose State University; **Presley Lugo**, San Jose State University; **Shirley Ni**, San Jose State University; **Evan Ogawa**, San Jose State University; **Desiree Rafizadeh**, California-Davis; **Thilip Ravindran**, Florida Institute of Technology; **Ryan Reid**, San Jose State University; **Sherilyn Reinhart**, San Jose State University; **Susan Robinson**, San Jose State University; **Sarah Shih**, San Jose State University; **Stephanie Todd**, San Jose State University; **Ian Tyson**, San Jose State University; and **Nicholas Veren**, San Jose State University.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a dif-

ferent kind of honor society; one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

Membership I Phi Kappa Phi is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction. Some of the organization's notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, novelist John Grisham and YouTube co-founder Chad Hurley. Each year, Phi Kappa Phi awards nearly \$1 million to outstanding students and members through graduate and dissertation fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, funding for post-baccalaureate development, and grants for local, national and international literacy initiatives.

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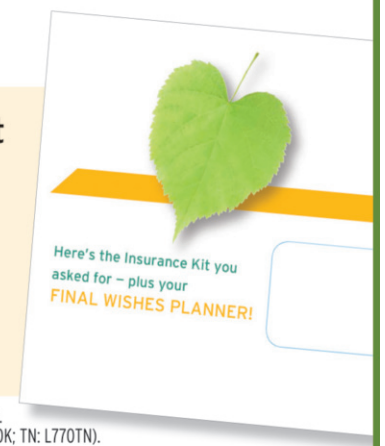
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Times **Community****Supermarkets***Continued from page 1*

At Safeway, sanitation crews have been provided with color-coded vests and gloves. A janitorial service arrives at 5:30 a.m. daily to disinfect every dairy and freezer door, basket and shopping cart. Sanitation crews work all day cleaning everything in the store, Audon added, including the breakroom phones and time clocks. "We're doing what we have to do," cashier Shannon Lowery said. "It's scary for all of us."

Plexiglass sneeze guards separate customers and cashiers at checkout counters, customer service, the pharmacy and the Starbucks within the market. Each checkout stand is equipped with sanitation wipes for the pin pads and disinfectant spray bottles for everything else. "I think they're doing a wonderful thing," customer John Dumont said, "and I very much appreciate it."

Because the county banned reusable bags due to the potential of spreading COVID-19, customers need to purchase grocery bags at checkout or pack their own groceries in their bags. "Most of the time, we're courteous and give them bags to help them out, especially on senior day," Audon said. Senior days are Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m.

Raley's is following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines, including having their employees wear masks and gloves. "The situation is evolving with new orders and information and we're making modifications as needed," said Chelsea Minor, corporate director of public affairs for Raley's.

In addition to enhancing sanitation and cleaning procedures and closing the self-serving food bars, Raley's/Nob Hill Foods gives employees what Minor calls "the grace and comfort to stay home if they're not feeling well," in addition to two weeks paid sick leave.

Managers ensure employees have hand sanitizer and wash their hands often, she said, and cashiers have the flexibility of stopping their line to wash their hands or wipe down keypads, registers and other surfaces. The produce section is limited to one entrance with arrows directing the flow of traffic.

Reusable bags currently not allowed in stores

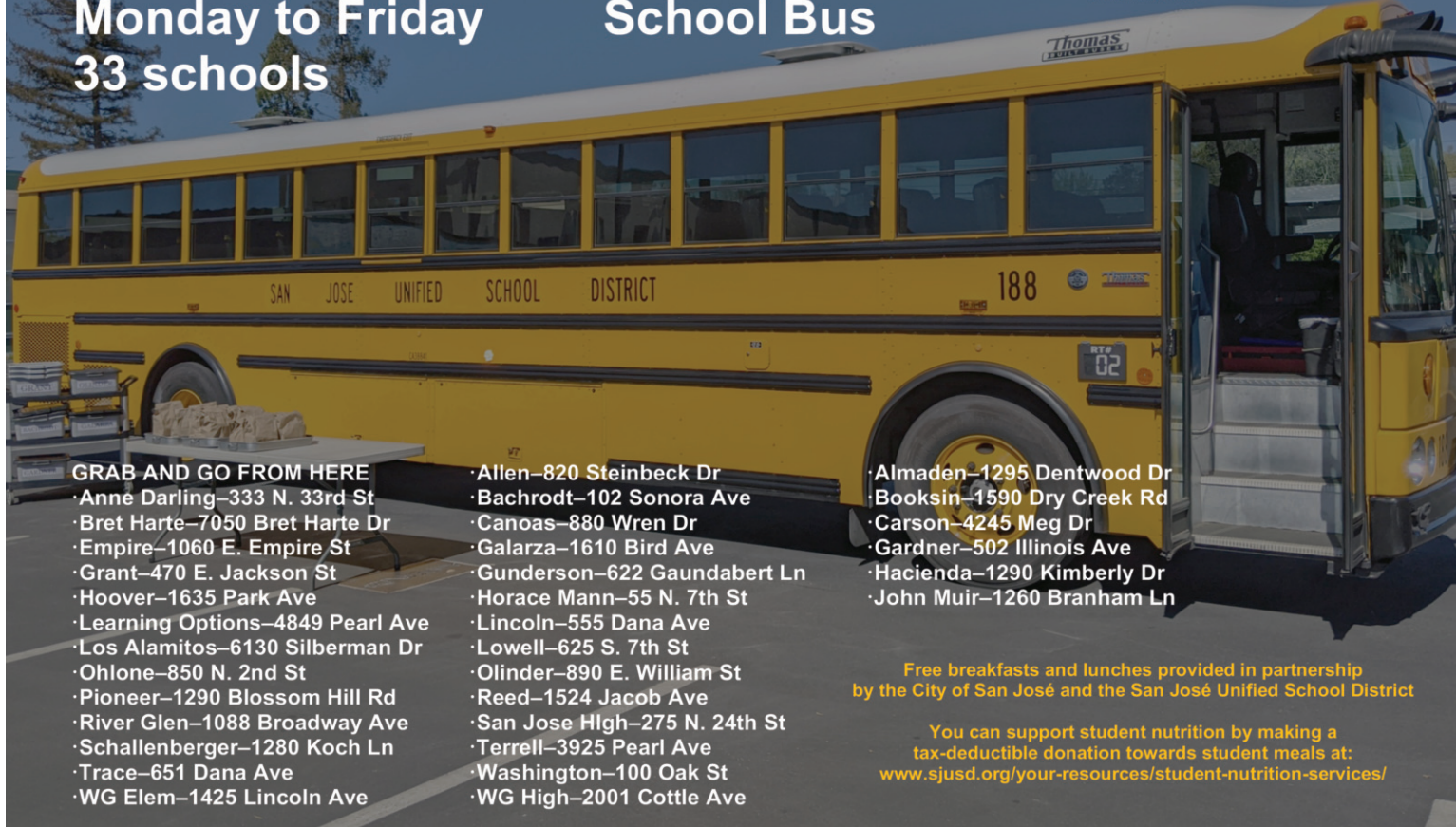
No reusable bags are permitted in San Jose grocery stores. Although they don't have employees arriving early to sanitize, everyone has sanitation responsi-

See SUPERMARKETS, page 17

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**Look for the
School Bus**

**GRAB AND GO FROM HERE**

· Anne Darling—333 N. 33rd St
· Bret Harte—7050 Bret Harte Dr
· Empire—1060 E. Empire St
· Grant—470 E. Jackson St
· Hoover—1635 Park Ave
· Learning Options—4849 Pearl Ave
· Los Alamitos—6130 Silberman Dr
· Ohlone—850 N. 2nd St
· Pioneer—1290 Blossom Hill Rd
· River Glen—1088 Broadway Ave
· Schallenberger—1280 Koch Ln
· Trace—651 Dana Ave
· WG Elem—1425 Lincoln Ave

· Allen—820 Steinbeck Dr
· Bachrodt—102 Sonora Ave
· Canoas—880 Wren Dr
· Galarza—1610 Bird Ave
· Gunderson—622 Gaundabert Ln
· Horace Mann—55 N. 7th St
· Lincoln—555 Dana Ave
· Lowell—625 S. 7th St
· Olinder—890 E. William St
· Reed—1524 Jacob Ave
· San Jose High—275 N. 24th St
· Terrell—3925 Pearl Ave
· Washington—100 Oak St
· WG High—2001 Cottle Ave

· Almaden—1295 Dentwood Dr
· Booksin—1590 Dry Creek Rd
· Carson—4245 Meg Dr
· Gardner—502 Illinois Ave
· Hacienda—1290 Kimberly Dr
· John Muir—1260 Branham Ln

Free breakfasts and lunches provided in partnership by the City of San José and the San José Unified School District

You can support student nutrition by making a tax-deductible donation towards student meals at:
www.sjUSD.org/your-resources/student-nutrition-services/

FREE GRAB AND GO MEALS BREAKFAST AND LUNCH FOR ALL AGES

What: free grab and go breakfasts and lunches for pick up

Who: all ages at any location

When: 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Monday through Friday

Where: anyone can pick up at any of these schools

Free breakfasts and lunches provided in partnership through the City of San José and the San José Unified School District



San José
Unified
School District

San José High
275 North 24th Street

Grant Elementary
470 East Jackson Street

Ohlone Middle
850 North 2nd Street

Hoover Middle
1635 Park Avenue

Washington Elementary
100 Oak Street

Galarza Elementary
1610 Bird Avenue

Canoas Elementary
880 Wren Drive

Almaden Elementary
1295 Dentwood Drive

Learning Options
4849 Pearl Avenue

Allen Elementary
820 Steinbeck Drive

You can support student nutrition by making a tax-deductible donation towards student meals at:
www.sjUSD.org/your-resources/student-nutrition-services/

Times **Community News****Festival***Continued from page 1*

Valley Women's Club. "However, this decision had to be made to ensure the health and safety of our members, guests, artists, entertainers, food vendors and corporate sponsors as well as the integrity of the festival moving forward."

The mission of the women's club is to provide service to the Almaden community. The purpose of the annual festival was to raise money for local area charities as well as money for scholarships for graduating high school seniors. With that in mind the club is currently working on several virtual fundraising events that will take place throughout the year. The events will involve some of the previous grant recipients and participating local businesses with a goal of continuing to raise money and awareness of local area charities.

"We believe by continuing to engage each one of our members and, in turn, inviting the community to participate as well in these online fundraisers that we can continue to meet the purpose of our club," says Jenny. "Our motto is friendship through service and we look towards that guide as we work together to continue to serve our community."

Sponsors Continue to Help Club

Despite the cancellation, a few organizations within the Almaden Community have committed to continue to support the fundraising efforts of the Almaden Valley Women's Club. Long-time Festival sup-



Scholarship and Logo Winners with members of the Almaden Valley Women's Club.

porter, realtor Jackie Jones, is continuing to support the women's club and sponsoring at a Platinum level. "Jackie is especially interested in helping us with our community grants and the scholarships that we distribute each year," says Lisa Boissier, Corporate Sponsor Chair for the 2020 events.

"We are thrilled with this level of commitment to our club and our community," she says. The first event will likely be a Wine Pull on-line event featuring local area wines

and the popular Almaden Valley wine glass. Jackie Jones is sponsoring the glasses for the event. "We know the wine glass is popular each year and that some people collect them," says Jenny. "We are thrilled that Jackie wants to remain a part of our efforts by sponsoring our glass as well as our fundraising efforts."

PremierOne Credit Union, another longtime sponsor of the annual Festival, has agreed to help sponsor one of the fundraising events as well. "People are really step-

ping up to help us," says Lisa. "It is very encouraging." Locally, the Almaden Times will continue its sponsorship of the club helping with promotion of the events.

Scholarship and Logo Contests Continue

The club had already started a logo contest for this year's Festival as well as managing a scholarship application process for graduating high school seniors. Logo submissions were due last week and the

See FESTIVAL, next page

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The Almaden Senior Association members are a diverse group of enthusiastic, active, 50+ adults who enjoy new learning opportunities, new experiences, and new adventures.

Membership in the Almaden Senior Association offers discounts and opportunities to enjoy . . .

- exercise classes for all levels of ability;
- lunches and other social programs organized and run by members of the Association;
- book clubs, cooking, computer and photography classes;
- trips to local and not so local places of interest such as the Steinbeck Museum in Salinas, Whale Watching in Monterey, casino trips and more.

As a member you're encouraged to help plan these activities and suggest new ones to enjoy. The Senior Association Philanthropy Program set up a process to donate funds to other non-profit organizations that reflect our mission.

Connected

We enjoy meeting new people, making new connections and getting involved. All volunteer opportunities are based on your time and energy commitment. Fees for classes, trips and social events are kept low because of senior volunteer participation and membership strength.

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

Join us today, meet new people and get involved with classes and programs that will enhance your life and open new doors.

**For more information, go to www.almadenseniors.org
Contact via email: alamadenseniors1@gmail.com**



Times **Community News****Supermarkets***Continued from page 15*

bilities throughout the day.

"We've always had stringent standards as it relates to food safety," Minor said. "It's always been very important to us. We all have a responsibility to keep ourselves and our families safe, but for those who do choose to go into stores, we are doing everything we can to keep our environment as clean and safe as possible."

Raley's/Nob Hill Foods doesn't offer special hours for seniors, instead recommending seniors take advantage of their e-commerce service or have others shop for them.

"There are some situations where it's better to ask a neighbor, parents or grandparents, 'What can I pick up for you today?'" Minor said.

Customer Lisa Schenberg, who was shopping for her elderly dad and cousin at Nob Hill on Snell Avenue, takes that advice to heart. Schenberg, who limits her grocery shopping to once a week because it makes her nervous to be out in public, said the safety measures are essential.

"Everything they do I really appreciate because we still have to come here," she said.

Rafael Flores, a manager at Nob Hill, said his employees wipe down the check stands, dairy and freezer doors and "everything that gets touched" regularly.

"It's been rough," said cashier Kery Santana, who says a little prayer before she

starts work each day. "You have to find the positive. I have a job, and luckily, we're all working as a team here. That's the most important thing. I'm glad I'm here serving the community, but it's also a challenge."

Festival*Continued from previous page*

winner will be announced in May. The Scholarship program will also continue as planned as funds for the scholarships were raised during the 2019 Festival. The deadline for the scholarship application is May 20. Scholarship winners will be announced in June. Details for both programs can be found on the women's club website at: www.almadenwomen.org

The Almaden Valley Women's Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. The club continues to accept donations for the scholarship program as well as for all grant recipients. For information on donating to the organization, please visit the website.

Details on the fundraising activities will also be located on the website. In addition, the club encourages the community to follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook for updated announcements.

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/almadenwine](https://twitter.com/almadenwine)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlmadenValley-WomensClub

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day of every month, at
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tions, informative lec-

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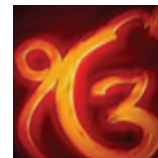
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stresses the equality of all
men and women. Sikhs
believe in three basic prin-
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✓ GET PLENTY OF SLEEP

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5 Bed

3 Bath

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Almaden Valley remodel with gleaming hardwood floors downstairs, high ceilings, skylights and lots of LED recessed lighting. Two downstairs bedrooms could make a perfect guest suite. Kitchen has a butcher-block island/breakfast bar and granite slab countertops. Private backyard with stamped concrete patio, pergola, storage shed and raised garden beds. Graystone Elementary, Bret Harte Middle and Leland High Schools.

Also Available! 7158 Cahen Drive, 6555 Timberview Drive, 1159 Quail Ridge Court
Just Closed! 7121 Echo Loop, 1069 Queensbridge Court, 6933 Castlerock Drive, 6824 Hampton Drive,
6501 Hidden Creek, 1127 Calle Almaden, and 6532 Camelia Drive

**In support of the Coronavirus "Shelter in Place," we will not have open houses until further notice.
However, this home is able to be shown right now compliant with County Covid guidelines.**



The Swan has been the #1 Agent in Almaden Valley each year for the last 11 years as measured by Dollars per Agent Per Year. And 2019 was no exception. She is the only Almaden Valley specialist to have been nationally ranked and recognized twice by The Wall Street Journal/RealTrends for being in the Top 250 Agents in the US. Additionally, Swan is consistently among the Top 100 Agents in the SF Bay Area.

If you are thinking of selling your home in 2020, now is the time to start planning. Call me as soon as possible.

Therese Swan

408.656.8240

tswan@tswan.com

AlmadenValleyRealEstate.com

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