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'Angels' help
distribute free
groceries
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Back in the classroom
Santa Clara County officials announce
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Almaden teen
coordinates effort
making thousands of
masks and protective
gear **SEE PAGE 9**



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JULY 10 – JULY 23, 2020 ■ VOL. 33, NO. 15



San Jose City Hall is pictured in this file photo. Photo by Ramona Giwargis

San Jose council approves drafting 'strong mayor' ballot measure

By Mauricio La Plante
Article courtesy of
San José Spotlight

San Jose councilmembers voted 6-5 Wednesday, July 1, 2020 to approve a November ballot measure to expand Mayor Sam Liccardo's power, extend his term until 2024, shift mayoral elections to presidential years and enact a slew of campaign finance reforms.

Liccardo, Vice Mayor Chappie Jones, Councilmembers Johnny Khamis, Pam Foley, Dev Davis and Lan Diep voted in favor of the measure, while Councilmembers Raul Peralez, Magdalena Carrasco, Sylvia Arenas, Maya Esparza and Sergio Jimenez voted against it.

The narrow decision followed 11 hours of heated debate, in which councilmembers against the measure charged Liccardo with rushing a back-room deal, pushing a "self-serving" measure and failing to gain adequate community feedback.

"This deal was already negotiated, and it was negotiated without any of us being at the table," Carrasco said. "... Individuals who have sworn that you're two degrees away from the title of Satan were (in) the room. Y'all

See MAYOR, page 17

Almaden residents continue protesting against racial inequality

By Lorraine Gabbert
Senior Staff Writer

Holding aloft signs saying, "Black Lives Matter!" "Respect Existence or Expect Resistance" and "Defund the Police," Almaden residents banded together in protest on June 28.

"It's our responsibility to keep the Black Lives Matter movement alive and help make change," said organizer Keshav Sethi (14). "A lot of people think if they do something once, it's over, but not a lot of change has happened. If people remain passionate about the cause, there's more chance for real change."

Led by Sethi, the movement by Leland students and alumni was aimed at raising awareness of racial inequality and evoking change.

People in cars passing by the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Blossom Hill Road, where the protestors gathered, honked their horns and raised their fists in support, although a few expressed their disagreement by raising a finger.

On June 13, a large group of Almaden Valley residents marched from Leland High School to express their solidarity with Black Lives Matter demonstrators nationwide. (See this Almaden Times article at: timesmedia.pageflip.site/publications/AlmadenTimes#page/1 (June 26 issue). The march attendance was fueled by the combined indignation of George Floyd's brutal death by a police officer and a story which appeared on Nextdoor about an Almaden

'IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY'



"Racism is integrated into our system. We don't think about it enough. We have to do better," said a Leland High School student.

mixed-race family facing racial harassment.

Sethi is considering organizing a protest every Sunday afternoon to keep the conversation going.

"I feel like it's necessary," he said. "People are going to vote in the election, and we need to

sway them. That's why I'm exercising my free speech."

Almaden resident Katie Bridges said that people need to realize that racial inequality is prevalent everywhere, including locally, and

See PROTEST, page 14

'Biodiversity Project' selected as finalist for 'WIN-WIN Gothenburg Sustainability Youth Award 2020'

Almaden's Adarsh Ambati's
only finalist in the U.S.

Adarsh Ambati of Almaden Valley has been informed that his project, "Amphibian Biodiversity Protection Project" is among the top five finalists for the "WIN-WIN Gothenburg Sustainability Youth Award 2020."

The WIN-WIN Youth Award 2020 is an international award based in Gothenburg, Sweden for applicants 13 to 29-years-old. This year's theme is Biodiversity.

Ambati, a junior at Archbishop Mitty High School, said his project was selected from hundreds of applicants throughout the world



Adarsh Ambati of Almaden Valley is a finalist for the international "WIN-WIN Gothenburg Sustainability Youth Award 2020."

by a seven-member jury and among the five nominees; he is the only finalist from the US.

The award aims to empower and reward young people who play an active role in the creation of a more sustainable future. It is for individuals, organizations, and movements from all over the world.

"I feel extremely happy to represent North America in the WIN-WIN Gothenburg Sustainability Youth Award 2020," Ambati said. "I'm also truly humbled by all the other great projects that have been shortlisted as finalists. This will inspire me to pursue my passion for the environment and to continue to run initiatives to increase

climate awareness and garner the attention of the next generation of climate activists."

Ambati's project

Ambati has designed a non-invasive, easy, in-field technique that is less expensive than the formerly used procedures used to detect the presence of the fungus *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, which is harmful for species of amphibians around the world. Ambati's invention makes it possible to effectively identify pathogens threatening endangered species, which is a fundamental aspect of species conservation in an easy and accessible way.

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Times **Community**



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Fans missing as Chestnut downs 75 hot dogs

San Jose native breaks own record by eating 75 hot dogs in 10 minutes

Joey Chestnut didn't need a crowd to cheer him on as he beat his competitor as he downed his 1,000th career hot dog and broke his own record by eating 75 hot dogs and buns in 10 minutes.

The event on July 4th was Chestnut's 13th victory in the Nathan's Famous Hot Dog Eating Contest. In the throng of the coronavirus era, there were no throngs of hot dog attire-clad fans packing the Coney Island Boardwalk for the annual contest, so everyone had to watch the live event on TV.

"The hot dogs were really fast," Chestnut said as he burped his way through a socially distanced post-contest interview on ESPN. The oddly quiet atmosphere kind of creeped me out; it was different; everything is different and I miss the crowd"

Chestnut beat second-place finisher Darron Breedon by 33 dogs.



Joey Chestnut of San Jose wins Nathan's famous July 4th hot dog eating contest on Saturday. Photo courtesy of Nathan's Famous Hot Dogs.

In the women's competition, Miki Sudo of Connecticut consumed 481/2 hot dogs and buns as she crushed the field for her seventh consecutive victory.



The suspension of California's single-use bag ban expired in June, and stores are eliminating their free-bag policies. Get ready to bag your own purchases.

Bring your own store bag is back

Experts say reusables pose little health risk

The suspension of the state's single-use bag ban expired last month and now stores are phasing out the free-bag policy which was introduced in April.

Environmentalists are now rejoicing the return of the single-use ban as many health experts agree that reusable bags pose little health risk, particularly if they're washed regularly and handled only by the shopper. The CDC has also issued an update noting there is currently no documentation of anyone contracting the coronavirus from reusable bags.

The most recent Cal-OSHA guidelines state that customers should leave their reusable bags in their carts until checkout and that employee should not touch the bags and that customers are responsible for bagging their own purchases.

"It's projected that as many as 1 billion

single use bags were distributed in California in April and May alone, costing consumers more than \$ 20 million in higher grocery costs," said Mark Murray, executive director of Californians Against Waste.

Almaden residents Hebbar and Lucid named to Rochester Institute of Tech Dean's List

Almaden Valley residents Sam Hebbar and Connie Lucid have been named to Rochester Institute of Technology Dean's List 2020 Spring Semester.

Degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of "Incomplete", "D" or "F"; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Hebbar is in the biomedical engineering program, and Lucid is in the industrial design program.

Rochester Institute of Technology is home to leading creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers.

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Hebbar



Lucid



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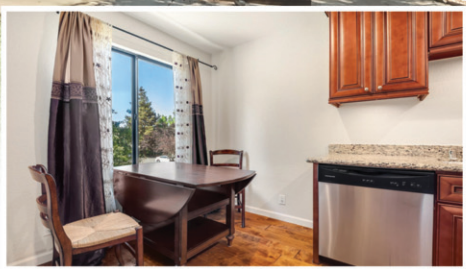
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EDUCATION

Santa Clara County officials announce guidelines to safely reopen schools

Santa Clara County officials announced Tuesday afternoon, June 30 new guidelines to safely reopen local public and private schools for the 2020-2021 school year.

While no exact date was provided for reopening, the date will depend on the containment of the virus in the coming weeks.

The new guidelines were developed by the Santa Clara Public Health Department and the County Office of Education and it focuses on in-class instruction, school arrival and departure, bus transportation, face coverings, hand-washing, school cleaning, food service and extracurricular activities among other topics.

"Schools and other institutions in our community can operate safely if they carefully follow all recommended public health practices," County Health Officer Dr. Sara Cody said, "and they must move forward with their preparations now to ensure they have all the measures in place."

The 23 pages of guidelines acknowledge things will need to work differently for kindergarten students than they will for high schoolers.

Elementary school students

The rules for younger elementary school students will focus more on establishing stable cohorts of students that don't intermix, since there is a greater need for in-person instruction and it's harder to enforce social distancing.

Middle school students

For middle school and high
See RE-OPENING, page 11

Valley Currents

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

Almaden Valley residents Marilu and Tom Sisto help distribute free groceries with the help of 'Food Angels'

Almaden Valley residents **Marilu and Tom Sisto** (pictured below) with the help of several dozen "Food Angels," have distributed free groceries to San José seniors and families affected by COVID-19.



Their effort, called "Bags of Hope," has helped feed more than 250 families and filled more than 750 bags of food.

Marilu posts an updated pantry list every morning on neighborhood social networking site Nextdoor, and people select items and schedule a delivery or pickup.

Marilu and Tom prepare food bags with donations from neighbors and distribute them to those in need. They wear masks and take other safety precautions when preparing and delivering the bags.

The program has grown because of generous donations from 33 "Food Angels." Since April, they have helped about 250 families and filled more than 750 bags of food.

"We are so grateful to our food angels who

Since April, the Sisto's have helped more than 250 families and filled more than 750 bags of food.

have gone out of their way to help people with heartbreaking stories who simply wanted to feed their families," said Marilu.

The City of San José is featuring Marilu and Tom in "Stories of Hope," a series of videos highlighting acts of kindness and creativity by members of our community during COVID-19.

"Thank you, Marilu, Tom, and all of the 'Food Angels' for your generosity," said Councilmember Johnny Khamis.

San José Unified to continue offering free and reduced-price meals school year 2020-2021

San Jose Unified School District will continue to serve nutritious meals every school day under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and CACFP Afterschool Supper and Snack Program.

Effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals if the household income is less than or equal to the federal guidelines.

Households do not need to turn in an application when the household receives a notification letter saying that all children automatically qualify for free meals when any household member receives benefits from CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDPIR.



Children who meet the definition of foster, homeless, migrant, or runaway, and children enrolled in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.

Contact school officials if any child in the household is not on the notification letter. The household must let school officials know if they do not want to receive free or reduced-

price meals.

Applications will be sent to the household with a letter about the free and reduced-price meal program. Households that want to apply for meal benefits, must fill out one application for all children in the household and give it to the nutrition office at 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126. For a simple and secure method to apply, use the online application at <https://nutrition.sjUSD.org/fma>

Contact Student Nutrition at 408-535-6021 for help filling out the application. The school will let the family know if the application is approved or denied for free or reduced-price meals.

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Local government reforms to be on November ballot

By Johnny Khamis
Special to the Times

I hope you all enjoyed a very Happy Independence Day 2020!

As an immigrant to the United States and naturalized citizen, July 4th is my favorite holiday – a time when we all come together and celebrate the founding of our Republic – a nation committed to liberty and opportunity for all, where all are to be considered equal under the law.

At the nation's founding, many were excluded from accessing the American dream, and over the years we have worked to live more truly the values espoused in the Declaration of Independence and our Constitution.

As we've seen from recent protests – the struggle to fully realize liberty, opportunity, and equality

for all continues. This year, I'm sad that we couldn't physically come together to celebrate at Almaden Lake for what would have been the 7th Annual July 4th Family Fun Festival and Fireworks Show. Instead, many of us were sheltered in place, celebrating at home with our family and close-knit friend groups, and I hope you enjoyed a safe and celebratory July 4th!

Last week at City Council, we had four City Council meetings in three days, beginning with a joint City-County meeting about COVID-19 that you may want to take the time to view online. There I continued to advocate that the County adopt Laura's Law in order to help the most severely mentally ill among the unhoused population who have had several contacts with law enforcement.

We then interviewed candidates for the Planning Commission and appointed four new commissioners and reappointed a fifth. We also spent two days discussing government reforms that you, the voters, will have the opportunity to consider on your November General Election ballot. Many ideas were discussed and I put forward a motion that was supported by five of my colleagues. We'll return to City Council for a Special City Council Meeting on July 28 beginning at 9 AM to discuss and vote on the proposed ballot measure, so mark your calendar if you wish to participate in public comment. You may view all of the documents – including my memo that was adopted – here: <https://sanjose.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4579037&GUID=DB6C441F-2579-4B71-BFE5-F0C6153D3755&Options=&Search=>. Visit the City Clerk's web page to view past Council and Committee meetings: www.sanjoseca.gov/news-stories/watch-a-meeting.

City Council will be in recess from now

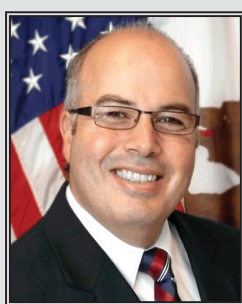
until we return July 28 and my Community Office Hours will resume in August. My staff and I will continue to serve you throughout the recess, however, so email us at district10@sanjoseca.gov or call 408-535-4910.

If you want to get to know our Councilmember-elect, Matt Mahan a bit better, and you have some time to catch up on some reading in July, I encourage you to check

out his blog on Medium.com. There he has been writing about issues of importance to our City and region as he prepares to take office as of January 1, 2021.

Be sure to get outside, enjoy the beautiful San Jose weather, and take advantage of outdoor dining opportunities or restaurant-to-go menus to support our small businesses throughout District 10!

"Last week at City Council, we had four City Council meetings in three days, beginning with a joint City-County meeting about COVID-19 that you may want to take the time to view online."



**District 10
Report**
Johnny Khamis,
City Councilmember

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Times **Community**

Career Column

BLM in the workplace

By **Angela Copeland**
Special to the Times

The last three months have been heavy, really heavy. And now, here we are. Things are heavier. But, unlike COVID-19, racial issues have been there all along. They aren't new. But, some of us have had the luxury not to think about them every day. I saw a notable quote this week by Angela Davis. It said, "In a racist society, it is not enough to be non-racist, we must be antiracist."

If you haven't experienced racism firsthand, there are a few things you can do to help at work. The first is to listen -- and to believe. Having friends from different cultures and backgrounds allows us to learn about things we wouldn't otherwise know. But, sometimes, for reasons that are often not conscious, we end up with a lot of friends who are very similar to us. When that happens, we miss out on those personal stories that help us to better understand the experiences of others.

If there's one thing I would wish for, it's that people would share their experiences more. Do you remember when the Me Too movement started? Many women shared their personal stories. The stories made things real for our male loved ones. But, trauma is hard to talk about. It's not something we want to put on display. When it's over, we put it away. There's a lot we could learn from each other in the BLM movement if we heard more personal stories

from people we know. With that said, try not to overload your African American colleagues with questions. Not everyone wants to be the poster child for every issue. And honestly, each person is dealing with their own feelings, hurt, and grief in a way that is unimaginable.

If you observe racist behavior at work, speak up. As a white person, I've heard racist things said behind closed doors that someone else would never know about. Don't let that continue. If you have the privilege of hearing these types of awful comments, you have a responsibility to say something. Being quiet and hoping the issue will go away is no longer enough. It never was.

I wish I had more impactful words to share today. This issue is so big that there aren't enough words on the page to address it. I'll leave you with this. This is not a new issue. And, it's not yet an old one (as it's not yet in our past). Soon, we'll be going back to school and work. We'll have less time on our hands to think about BLM. But, just because we're distracted again won't mean the issue is solved. And, just because we may no longer see it won't mean that it's gone or that it's no longer time to speak up. If BLM is important to you today, it should remain important in one week and one month and one year and five years.

Angela Copeland, a career expert and founder of Copeland Coaching, can be reached at copelandcoaching.com.

Sacred Heart Community Service adapts, innovates in the face of ongoing coronavirus pandemic

School backpack program to continue
Sacred Heart Community Service in San Jose has begun its annual online Pack A Back registration.

Parents can now register for appointments to come to Sacred Heart and choose new backpacks and school supplies for their children.

Sacred Heart will have appointments available for 3,800 children in the community -- 500 more than last year. This increase will meet the anticipated need as coronavirus created a 12 percent unemployment rate in Santa Clara County in April with job losses concentrated in retail, restaurant, and construction industries.

When coronavirus shut down nearly everything in March, Sacred Heart had to redesign all of its programs to ensure health and safety while remaining open for the most vulnerable neighbors. The Pack A Back program, which typically gathers over 2,000 community members to distribute and receive back packs and school supplies in a single day had to change too. This year community members that have never been to SHCS can sign up online. They can also register for Pack A Back online. Both of these processes significantly reduce the in-person contact that can spread coronavirus.

Additionally, SHCS has added three distribution days, four in total, so that parents spend less time in line and can spread out as they pick out children's backpacks. Distribution will take place August 7, 10, 11, and 12.

SHCS will continue the Teacher Kit program supplying 300 teachers in low-income schools with hand sanitizer, post-it notes and other classroom supplies as they adapt to new schedules and teaching methods. Studies show that teachers in the US spend an average of \$500 a year on supplies. In Silicon Valley, this added expense can be stressful since their wages are not keeping up with the rising cost of housing.

Pack A Back is made possible thanks to Sacred Heart Community Service's generous community who understand that learning never stops. There are many ways people can support this campaign including making a financial donation, volunteering, organizing a school supplies drive, or purchasing items on the organization's Amazon Wish-list.

You can learn more information by visiting: www.sacredheartcs.org/pab.

Editor's note: Sacred Heart Community Service is located at, 1381 S. First Street, San Jose, CA 95110.

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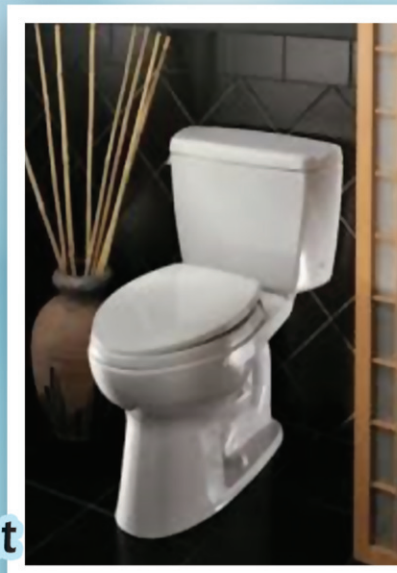
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Impact your world through letter writing

By Denise Boiko
Special to the Times

One of my priceless treasures is neither a piece of jewelry nor a valuable antique. It's a packet of dozens of letters from my grandmother, collected throughout our correspondence from my early teens until her passing at age 100. That multi-decade legacy inspired me to see letter writing as a key ingredient in compassion and understanding: something we all desire in our turbulent times.

Though many suggest that the art of letter writing is all but dead, I firmly believe that it's worth reviving. Whether it involves a four-year-old dictating a note, or a teen writing a tribute letter to a valued mentor, the powerful impact of letter writing can transform hearts—and perhaps even our world.

From a journalistic perspective, we can examine "5 W's" about letter writing: Who, What, When, Where, and Why?

Who?

Everyone appreciates a handwritten letter. However, some obvious recipients are grandparents, aunts, and uncles. Cousins or friends who live at a distance make engaging pen pals as well. And how about friends we haven't seen because of SIP? Kids can also write notes of gratitude to first responders or those in the military.



What?

If writer's block strikes, relax and realize that the topics are endless. Consider daily activities: what's the funniest thing that happened this week? The most surprising? What did your pet do that was silly, disgusting, or human-like? People love to laugh, so play up the humor.

You can also write thank you notes—not just for gifts, but for the treat of a fun outing or event. Don't overlook the "thank you for

being you" note, where you simply express appreciation to a person you love. Get-well notes and letters of encouragement are also tremendous gifts to their recipients.

If you're really stuck, use your creative juices to start an original story. Challenge your friend to add on to the story, or send it "round robin" to a couple of others who will add on before returning it to you. (Parents: This is a sneaky but fun way to develop writing skills and creativity.)

Teens, consider chiming in on your views of current events. Or go even deeper, sharing your thoughts, dreams, victories, and disappointments if you are writing to a person you trust with your feelings.

For fun, include a photo, a drawing, a joke, or a humorous clipping from a newspaper, magazine, or website. Add your own witty caption.

Letters do not have to be long. Grandparents will be thrilled with short but frequent notes. And if drafting a letter seems overwhelming, buy a collection of funny cards and simply add a few lines of your own. Expressing yourself will soon become habit-forming.

When?

Though we're all convinced that we don't

have time for letter writing, we actually do. Take those odd moments of time and at least start a letter, returning to it the next time you have ten minutes. Challenge yourself to make the time to write a letter once a week. Next, aim to write to the same person at least once every six weeks. If they answer back, you'll establish a letter writing habit and begin your own treasury.

Where?

You can write almost anywhere—out on the patio, in front of the TV, propped up in bed, or at the kitchen table. You can write by hand or on the computer. Bring a handy pack of notepaper, cards, and a pen with you when you'll have some time to kill, such as while waiting for a dental appointment.

Why?

Far superior to emails, handwritten notes and letters are likely to be saved and reread rather than being discarded or forgotten. A long legacy of letters can display a tangible progression of development of handwriting skills, vocabulary, deep thought, and insights—and one's unique stationery choices reflect personality and individuality. Most importantly, letters are a powerful vehicle to show appreciation, to communicate about things that matter, and to share our common bond as humans.

Start your own treasury by contributing to someone else's. You won't regret it.

Denise Boiko is the author of *Homeschooled & Headed for College: Your Road Map for a Successful Journey*, available at Home-schoolRoadMap.com and on Amazon.com.



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Times **Community**

Almaden teen coordinates relief effort making thousands of masks and protective gear for California medical facilities

By Kannan Srinivasan
Special to the Times

In May 2020, 15-year old sophomore Nethra Srinivasan from Leland High School launched a make-a-mask effort, challenging families in local Scout Troops and Explorers programs to make 1,000 face masks.

Communities across the nation were able to come together to bond with their families by making masks to serve our healthcare soldiers at the frontlines of this pandemic.

Nethra's Make-A-Mask Challenge ran through June 5th. Each family was challenged to make at least 5 masks, take a family picture and post on social media with hashtags #SVMBC and #ScoutingAtHome.

Nethra tells Almaden Times she had no hesitations about jumping into action when she saw the announcement from the CDC regarding a shortage of PPE in hospitals across the US.

"In the fight against the coronavirus, doctors and nurses are most susceptible to being infected. They are in need of personal protective equipment to serve their patients. I saw in the news that there was a major shortage in N-95 masks at the local hospitals and that the masks had to be repeatedly worn, to my dismay, to increase their lifespan.

With the support of SVMBC Boy Scouts of America, Nethra started the Make-a-Mask Challenge to collect and donate homemade masks to local hospitals to wear over N-95 masks, which will in turn extend the life of the N-95 masks and help medical professionals treat more patients to continue their quick response and save as many lives as possible.

"I feel that we adolescents, especially during a time of need, have an obligation to serve our nation and our superheroes, the health care professionals. It is the least we can do while staying at home."

Within a week of the launch, scouting connections across the country rose to her Make-A-Mask Challenge, from Texas to California in this multi-state effort.

She never expected that her goal of 1K masks resulted in collecting 3,072 cloth masks, 1,000 face shields, 600 mask extenders and 100 fabric kits, totaling 4,772 pieces of personal protective equipment in just a few weeks.

"I can't believe how far we have come! However, I had full faith that when there is a time in need, citizens in our community will step up and rise up to the challenge. I am very thankful to Ms. Vinh and Mr. Denise from the SVMBC board, OC Mask Masters, and scouts/explorer families that made this large donation possible."

On May 21, practicing social distancing, Nethra, Susan, and board member George Denise delivered the equipment to 5 San Jose medical facilities. On June 5, equipment



was delivered at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital and on June 12, masks were delivered to the Valley Medical Center Foundation, serving hospitals all over Santa Clara County.

The list of recipients is as follows:

- 1,000 masks and 300 extenders to Community Health Partnership
- 100 masks to Dr. Anagnos, Sleep Medicine and Neurology PC
- 4 boxes of extenders filaments to scouter Gary Pham
- 1,000 masks, 1,000 face shields, 700 frames and 300 mask extenders to Dr. Khoo and Dr. Xu - American Medical Women's Association
- 150 masks and 100 fabric kits to Dr. Gia Hung Pham @ Kaiser Hospital
- 372 masks, 300 face shields and 300 frames to Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital
- 450 masks to Santa Clara County Public Health, Valley Medical Center Foundation (distributed to hospitals in the Santa Clara County)

Susan Vinh, Exploring Executive with the Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council, Boy Scouts of America said, "When we do our good turn daily, as a group we accomplish great things!"

In memorium

Patricia C. Fox

May 14, 1935 - June 23, 2020

Patricia C. Fox, long-time resident of the Almaden Valley, passed away on June 23, 2020.

Fox was born on May 14, 1935 to Hilda Thompson Clarey and James Patrick Clarey of Burlington, Vermont. Pat was an active member of The Episcopal Church in Almaden, and worked for many years on Cursillo weekend retreats.

She is survived by her sons Christopher T. Fox of San Jose, and Stephen C. Fox and his wife Laura of North Plains, Oregon.

Due to Covid 19 restrictions, there will not be a memorial service. Interment will be private. Donations may be made in memory of Pat to The Episcopal Church in Almaden, 6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, 95120.

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Volunteers for Community Seva cook a nutritious meal.

SERVING OTHERS

Feeding the hungry and helping the unhoused

Community Seva nonprofit reaches further out

By Nathan Ganeshan
*Founder & President of
Community Seva Inc.*

Community Seva's mission is to "Feed the Hungry & Serve the Homeless."

Since 2013, Community Seva Inc. has served over 150,000 meals, distributed over 7,000 backpacks filled with winter essentials, delivered 6,000 hygiene kits, and given over 1,000 showers to the homeless population in the Bay Area.

During the 12 weeks since the COVID-19 pandemic began alone, our organization has served more than 12,000 healthy, nutritious, and freshly-cooked meals to the people living in 7 different shelters, 5 encampments, and even to individuals who have been forced to live in their cars or RVs. The challenges faced by the homeless community are growing, but we believe that "Together we can, and we are, making a difference!"

The homelessness problem is increasing dramatically now that many more people are losing their jobs, and hundreds have been recently forced out of their homes and onto the street. These are people who are the same as you or I. Community Seva Inc., is a non-profit organization I started with others and we are based in the Evergreen area of San Jose. Together with the entire community we aim to alleviate some of the struggles that these individuals face.

Community Seva helps with the little things for those who face challenges

"I just wanted to say thank you again for the portable charger. I need to keep my phone charged in case my kids need me... You really have no idea how much this helps me out," says Angel, as a Community Seva Inc. volunteer gives her a mobile solar charger to keep at a homeless encampment.

To most of us, a dying phone battery is a minor inconvenience with an easy solution- we can just plug it in at home and go

about our day. That simple act is an impossibility for nearly ten thousand unhoused individuals living in the Bay Area.

The number of difficulties that they face every day is nearly impossible to comprehend and the COVID-19 pandemic has only exacerbated these issues. With no access to news media or health guidelines, many unhoused people weren't even aware of the pandemic for a long time.

Already lacking proper healthcare, nutrition, water and fresh food, the pandemic has exponentially worsened the lack of access to sanitation (toilets) too. Beyond the direct risk of infection, which is already much higher for unhoused individuals, they have no shelter to 'shelter-in-place', and are left with no ability to even maintain basic hygiene.

Our organization, Community Seva has launched a new set of initiatives to respond to the recent needs of the homeless community. As members of the homeless community have lost access to places where they could charge their phones due to the shelter-in-place order, we worked with others to raise funds to purchase and distribute solar power chargers which gave unsheltered individuals the ability to call 911, use flashlights and thus better protect themselves. Further, Community Seva Inc. began our new program to help women in these difficult times.

We packed and delivered female care hygiene kits to the nearly 3,600 vulnerable homeless women living in the Bay Area. Together with volunteers and joining with other nonprofits, we entered homeless encampments in an effort to clean up living spaces, threw out trash and distributed food, hygiene kits, backpacks with essentials such as blankets, towels, beanies, socks, rain ponchos and more. Our Community Seva TEAM also continues

See COMMUNITY SEVA, next page

Times **Community****Community Seva**

Continued from previous page
to give out Personal Protective Equipment: 400 gloves, masks, and face shields to homeless individuals and homeless advocates heroes

working the frontlines.

None of these achievements would have been possible without the generosity of Community Seva's supporters. Bay Area businesses such as 8Elements Perfect Indian Cuisine, Jalsa Catering and Events,

Bella's Bar and Grill, Shastha Foods, Biryani Bowl and others who have been so generous in donating their time and resources to help provide daily breakfasts lunches and more.

Talented musicians, a youth group, comedians and others par-

ticipated in fundraisers to help with Community Seva's COVID-19 alleviation efforts. There has been an outpouring of support from the Bay Area community, whether through individual donations from families or corporate grants and sponsor-

ships from Silicon Valley tech giants and other companies.

As founder and president I want to thank all who help us in all we do. This is Community Seva's 7th anniversary and we wouldn't be here without you. We'll continue to work tirelessly to serve the homeless and feed the hungry during the COVID-19 pandemic and it's an honor to do so. We thank the City and County for involving us in the innovative successful plan to work with Community Seva and other organizations to step up our help to the less fortunate during this time of need. We are inspired by who came before us such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. who said, "The time is always right to do what is right."

Editor's Note; This top rated non-profit (Community Seva Inc.) invites everyone, all people from all backgrounds and religions to help them on their quest. In the past seven years they have been honored with many distinguished awards and are a registered 501(c)(3) organization. Why not consider suggesting that your company also team up with this groundbreaking local non-profit.

Community Seva's website welcomes individual PayPal donations and states, "Your donations are 100 percent tax deductible and every penny is used to serve the homeless and feed the hungry." To learn more visit: www.communityseva.org

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Re-opening

Continued from page 4
school students, there will be a bigger emphasis on wearing face coverings, keeping physical distance and may utilize more online learning.

The guidelines provided vary according to age group, but overall, the prevention measures focus on the following:

- Minimizing the number of people who come into contact with each other.
- Maximizing physical distance between people.
- Reducing the time people spend in close proximity to others.
- Measures to minimize the dispersion of droplets and aerosols.

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County health order requires approval from the state before becoming effective

By Dave Cortese
County Supervisor

The new health order that County Health Officer Dr. Sara Cody announced on July 2, which will allow new businesses such as hair salons and gyms to reopen, requires approval from the State before becoming effective. The County hopes for that to happen soon.



The County is among 19 that are on a State monitoring list, which means the state public health department is looking at our data to help the County plan the next steps.

The details about the order issued on July 2 are on my web-site, supervisorcortese.org.

Pop-up Testing Locations Opening This Week

The pop-up testing program operated by Santa Clara Valley Medical Center continues to provide free diagnostic COVID-19 testing around the County. Nasal swab testing is free for everyone—no health insurance or doctor's note is required. No appointment is needed; anyone can simply stop by to get tested.

- Independence High School, C Commons: 617 North Jackson Avenue, San Jose -- Tuesday, July 7, through Friday, July 10

from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, July 11, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- Campbell Community Center Orchard City Banquet Hall: 1 W Campbell Avenue, Campbell -- Tuesday, July 7, through Friday, July 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- South County Annex (formerly Del Buono Elementary): 9300 Wren Avenue, Gilroy -- Tuesday, July 7, through Friday, July 10, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

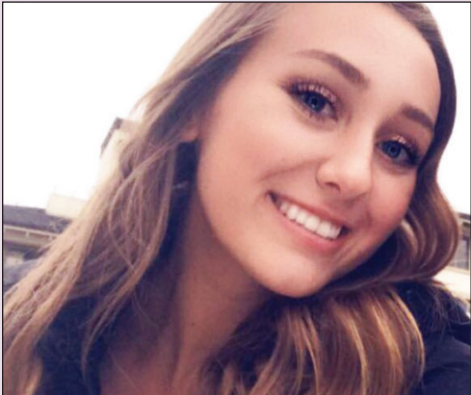
Over the weekend, the State denied the County's approval of a variance, which is what counties need to have to allow new activities to resume under the state's stay-at-home order. But the County will keep working with the state and reapply for the variance, so stay tuned.

The new order, which we hope will still go into effect on July 13, was focused on a risk reduction strategy with precautionary measures required for businesses, including density restrictions, face covering and physical distancing requirements, and indoor and outdoor gathering limits.

Alspach named to University of Delaware Dean's List

Dakota Alspach (pictured) of Almaden Valley has been named to the University of Delaware Dean's List for the Spring 2020 semester.

Alspach is enrolled in the Bachelor of Education program – Early Childhood Education and Teaching.



Alspach graduated from Leland High School in 2017 and was captain of the JV Lacrosse Team.

To meet eligibility requirements for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled full-time and earn a GPA of 3.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for the semester.

The University of Delaware is a private-public research university located in Newark, Delaware, offering three associate's programs, 148 bachelor's programs, 121 master's programs, and 55 doctoral programs across its eight colleges.

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Times **Education**

Students: How to demonstrate leadership when traditional opportunities are on hold

By Denise Boiko

Special to the Times

Summers are strategic times for teens to explore budding interests or full-fledged passions. However, particularly for students applying to college this fall, COVID-19-related uncertainties extend past the initial worries, “What about junior year grades and SAT scores?” Now the question becomes, “How can I show one more summer of leadership experience when programs have been canceled and so many organizations are closed or extremely limited?”

Certainly, specialized residential programs, science summer schools at universities, travel-based volunteer projects, and even scientific research have become popular—maybe even idolized—in recent years. Perhaps it’s time for a reset. Perhaps it’s time to take a new look at summer, centered on genuine passions and bona fide initiative.

Why not create your own summer opportunities? In so doing, you can demonstrate leadership and contribute community service—but most importantly, you can use this atypical summer to follow your passions. Rather than robotically adding an activity to your resume, do some soul-searching to gauge what you would truly like to do. Then take steps to make it happen.

General Tips

Run your ideas by an adult or two to make sure you’ve considered safety, health, and liability issues.

Follow city/county/state regulations on group size, social distancing, mask use, and other guidelines if you’ll be meeting in person with helpers or with those you are serving.

Use your imagination! Show true initiative by launching a small grassroots organization yourself. Then get others involved and spread the word far and wide so that your efforts will be magnified.

Practical Ideas

STEM: Seek out (or create) virtual competitions; tutor a younger student via Zoom; create a virtual science camp by demonstrating simple experiments that kids can follow along with; run kids’ experiments in your backyard (if local regulations allow); create videos explaining more complex concepts for middle schoolers and high schoolers; design an app; produce math problem-solving videos.

Arts: Create online music lessons; sponsor a virtual art gallery or art contest with prizes (for young kids, special ed students, or serious teen artists); launch a comic strip or a dramatic video series; create online dance or exercise classes.

Community service: Express a heart for the homeless by collecting food, water bottles (important since public water fountains and restrooms have been closed), clothing, and donations to an organization that helps the homeless. Be creative with your fundraisers, too!

Writing: Start a newsletter, online magazine, or blog; collect poetry and short stories from your peers—or your own work—and assemble into a well-designed literary



Denise Boiko

anthology; offer online language arts tutoring for younger kids who are struggling. Start a virtual story time for kids, maybe even dressing up in costume and dramatizing the story you’re reading.

Advocacy: Spend serious time delving into anti-racism books, articles, videos, and other materials; brainstorm fundraising ideas and donate to groups whose work you admire; ponder how you could speak out, write, podcast, or volunteer with an existing organism to combat racism and sexism. Likewise, brainstorm how you could advocate for the physically or mentally challenged.

Children: Think ahead to the school year and the holidays. With job losses and economic setbacks due to the pandemic, more of our families than ever are struggling economically. Start a drive to collect school supplies: backpacks, pencils, paper, inexpensive calculators, notebooks, and other essentials. Or get a head start on the holiday season by spearheading a drive for toys or food.

Teens: Link up with a local organization called Gifts for Teens that gathers gifts especially for low-income teens, who are often left out of donation programs because they are too old for the donated toys. This organization collects gift cards, clothing, sports equipment, and other items that teens love. See sanjose-ca.aauw.net/community-action-projects/gifts-for-teens

Seniors: Create either a low-tech or a high tech way of checking on seniors to make sure they are feeling healthy and have food and other necessities; start a letter writing or phone calling campaign to bring a human touch to their day; organize other teens to bring flowers, small gifts, or even a “sneak peek” of a furry pet to their doorsteps.

Above all, be creative, be passionate, and be uniquely you!

Denise Boiko is the author of Homeschooled & Headed for College: Your Road Map for a Successful Journey, available at HomeschoolRoadMap.com and on Amazon.com.

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Tech Jargon of the week **Bitcoin**

Have you ever stumbled into a conversation where everyone is speaking around this “techie” word – and even after you’ve broken in, it is difficult to understand the unfamiliar jargon and acronyms? Well, there’s no need to sweat it. Let us teach you the meaning of some commonly used tech words:

Bitcoin

You may have heard of the word “Bitcoin” more than the word “Block chain”. It’s true that today many people are aware of the digital currency bitcoin while it is merely one of the seven hundred applications that use the “Block chain” technology.

Bitcoin first appeared in a 2008 white paper authored under the pseudonym Satoshi Nakamoto. The white paper detailed an innovative peer to peer electronic cash system called Bitcoin that enabled online payments to be transferred directly, without an intermediary.

So what exactly is a Bitcoin?

Bitcoin is basically a form of virtual currency. It allows you to purchase electronically

through merchants and also can be transferred between friends. Every single purchase or transaction is logged digitally on a transaction track that tracks the time of purchase and updates who owns how many bitcoins. This digital transaction log is called blockchain.

The blockchain records every single transaction - of present and past - and the ownership of every single bitcoin in circulation. The people who are constantly verifying the blockchain, ensuring that all the information is correct and updating it each time a transaction is made, are called ‘miners’. Their job is to ensure that the transaction is secure and processed properly and safely. In return for their services, miners are paid fees by the merchants of each transaction.

More than \$1.5 billion worth of bitcoins are currently in circulation around the world, with millions of transactions occurring daily. Needless to say, the popularity and usage of Bitcoin is picking up very quickly as more and more businesses and individuals are becoming aware of its benefits and advantages over traditional currencies.

About the Author: Do you enjoy reading this column? Send in your comments or feedback to the author at shub.saxen@gmail.com. Shubhi Asthana works as a Research Senior Software Engineer at the IBM Almaden Research Center, San Jose.



BLM PROTEST - (l to r): **Keshav Sethi, Amupma Sethi and Pallavi Sethi** protest racial inequality at the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Blossom Hill Road.

Protest

Continued from page 1

everyone needs to make an effort to level the playing field.

“Especially in this neighborhood, which is predominately white and wealthy, we need to wake people up to realize the problems that are here,” Bridges said. “People can’t just ignore it any longer. Black lives matter.”

“Racism is integrated into our system,” said another Leland student (name withheld by request). “We don’t think about it enough. We need to do better.”

Sethi’s sister, Pallavi, said that she is proud of her brother for being so self-aware and proactive.

“I think it’s important to stand up for what we believe is right,” Pallavi said. “There’s so much injustice. It’s important to take action and lead the initiative. The people who live here don’t realize they’re complicit in racism.”

Sethi said that he’d like to see police reform, from racial targeting to imprisonment.

“The prison system and police target minorities, especially Black people,” Sethi

said. “We need equality for everyone.”

On Nextdoor, local reactions to an invitation by Sethi to join the protest varied. Some Almaden residents appreciated his taking a stand.

“Thank you to everyone who truly looks past themselves and see that this is for humanity,” said one resident. “There’s much work to do.”

“Keep us focused on removing racial inequities and differences that impact so many lives,” said another.

Others expressed opposing views.

“Police do not just go around and shoot people for their skin color,” said a resident. “If you are basing your opinions on the news presented to you by major outlets, you are not seeing the whole picture.”

Sethi would like to see more people standing up against racism. Regardless, he is resolved to do his part to educate the community and work towards racial equality.

“...there is plenty of evidence of the physical or verbal attacks on Black people for no fault of their own,” Sethi said. “Please be a little empathetic going forward.”

Times News

San José Unified to continue offering free and reduced-price meals school year 2020-2021

San Jose Unified School District will continue to serve nutritious meals every school day under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and CACFP Afterschool Supper and Snack Program.

Effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals if the household income is less than or equal to the federal guidelines.

Households do not need to turn in an application when the household receives a notification letter saying that all children automatically qualify for free meals when any household member receives benefits from CalFresh, CalWORKs, or FDIPIR.

Children who meet the definition of foster, homeless, migrant, or runaway, and children enrolled in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals. Contact school officials if any child in the household is not on the notification letter. The household must let school officials know if they do not want to receive free or reduced-price meals.

Applications will be sent to the household with a letter about the free and reduced-price meal program. Households that want to apply for meal benefits, must fill out one application for all children in the household and give it to the nutrition office at 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126. For a simple and secure method to apply, use the online application at www.nutrition.sjUSD.org/fma

Contact Student Nutrition at 408-535-6021 for help filling out the application. The school will let the family know if the application is approved or denied for free or reduced-price meals.

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COVID-19 UPDATE

Santa Clara County can reopen with approval of the State of California

Hair and nail salons and gyms to open soon

State officials approved Santa Clara County's request to reopen more businesses under a new health order set to take effect Monday, July 13, 2020.

The county's application to verify it met certain criteria added onto the California Department of Public Health's list of counties with approval which means outdoor dining in Santa Clara County can continue as well.

Personal care services, such as hair and nail salons and gyms are scheduled to get the go ahead to reopen on July 13.

On July 4, the state had initially rejected Santa Clara County's application,

despite the county days later being removed from a watchlist for a high rate of hospitalizations. Santa Clara, Alameda and Imperial counties were previously the only regions that had not received approval for further reopening.

Health Officer Dr. Sara Cody said state approval allows the county to have flexibility by reducing risk for businesses that can open. But COVID-19 cases are still increasing, Cody warned, citing a two-day span of 450 new cases over the Independence Day weekend — the highest reporting period to date.

"What this order means is we need to do our lives differently," Cody told reporters. "We have to conduct ourselves differently. We know that we can't be one hundred percent in our

homes, sheltered all the time. But when we go out to engage in business or to engage in activity, we must do it differently."

Executive Jeff Smith said residents must protect themselves by physical distancing, wearing face coverings and isolating if they show symptoms. Officials noted the largest source of transmission comes from larger gatherings, such as Memorial Day weekend, often with family.

Much of the onus to enforce the new order falls on businesses and residents. While hoping people are peer-pressured to do the right thing, Supervisor Dave Cortese last Thursday described enforcing the rules as somewhat of an "honor" system.

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• 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
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• Lincoln—555 Dana Ave
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✓ FOCUS ON YOUR HOBBIES



✓ EXERCISE REGULARLY

✓ CALL FRIENDS AND FAMILY



✓ GET PLENTY OF SLEEP

✓ CHOOSE HEALTHY FOODS



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Crisis Text Line: Text RENEW to 741741

Report: Best states for first time homebuyers

With mortgage interest rates hitting record lows but many Americans struggling financially due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the personal-finance website WalletHub today released its report on 2020's Best & Worst Cities for First-Time Home Buyers.

To determine the most favorable housing markets for first-time buyers, WalletHub took the pulse of real estate in 300 cities of varying sizes using 26 key metrics. The data set ranges from housing affordability to real-estate tax rate to property-crime rate.

Best Cities for First-Time Home Buyers

1. Henderson, NV
2. Boise, ID
3. Thornton, CO
4. Chesapeake, VA
5. Gilbert, AZ
6. Tampa, FL
7. Las Vegas, NV
8. North Las Vegas, NV
9. Peoria, AZ
10. Lincoln, NE

Worst Cities for First-Time Home Buyers

291. San Mateo, CA
292. Miami Beach, FL
293. Daly City, CA
294. Los Angeles, CA
295. Oakland, CA
296. New York, NY
297. Detroit, MI
298. Santa Barbara, CA
299. San Francisco, CA
300. Berkeley, CA

Best vs. Worst

• Akron, Ohio, has the most affordable housing (median house price divided by median annual household income), with a ratio of 1.90, which is 7.8 times cheaper than in Berkeley, California, the city with the least affordable housing, with a ratio of 14.82.

• Honolulu has the lowest real-estate tax rate, 0.29 percent, which is 13.1 times lower than in Waterbury, Connecticut, the city with the highest at 3.79 percent.

• Rochester, New York, has the highest rent-to-price ratio, 15.88 percent, which is 4.7 times higher than in Sunnyvale, California, the city with the lowest at 3.38 percent.

• Westminster, Colorado, has the lowest total home-energy cost per month, \$99.29, which is 3.9 times lower than in Honolulu, the city with the highest at \$388.18.

To view the full report and your city's rank, please visit: wallethub.com/edu/best-and-worst-cities-for-first-time-home-buyers/5564

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Times **Cover Story****Mayor***Continued from page 1*

made a pact. You didn't take the Latino Caucus into account, who represent half the city to ask us, "do you think this is a good direction for your residents?"

Liccardo was expected to term out in 2022. The plan – dubbed the "strong mayor" initiative – will extend Liccardo's term by two additional years after Jones made a last-minute decision to eliminate alternatives to voters, such as electing a new mayor in 2022 for six years or electing a new mayor in 2022 who would seek re-election in two years.

"This is a power grab, and I think the nuances, how the mayor added the strong mayor as a part of the election, those two things shouldn't be together," said Andrew Bigelow, an organizer with Silicon Valley De-Bug. "It was sneaky. It's unethical."

But supporters of the plan said it would align authority and accountability.

"This modest reform will create an electable, accountable mayor who will be directly responsible for the city and to the residents of San Jose who elect him or her," said Matt Mahood, CEO of the Silicon Valley Organization.

If the ballot measure is approved by voters in November, Liccardo would have the power to hire and fire the city manager, which would usually have to be approved by the City Council. The mayor would additionally be able to direct city staff and other department heads. Right now, the unelected city manager has those responsibilities.

The measure would also require councilmembers to recuse themselves from votes dealing with special interest groups that contributed to their campaigns. Khamis recommended approving language from Jones' proposal that bars the mayor, councilmembers and top city leaders from accepting gifts from lobbyists, city contractors or direct beneficiaries of city contractors.

Davis amended the measure so that councilmembers would disclose campaign contributions more frequently for the city attorney to review.

"We don't know what's happened in February or March until the next filing," City Attorney Rick Doyle said.

But lawmakers and residents criticized the "strong mayor" initiative Tuesday, criticizing the lack of public input and community engagement.

The mayor argued the COVID-19 pandemic and protests over the police killing of George Floyd and systemic racism prompted the push to expand his office's powers.

"In a crisis, basically my authority is constrained by a multi-month process of proposals, hearings, meetings and council votes," Liccardo said.

Liccardo referring to COVID-19 to expand his authority sparked outcry from other councilmembers.

"I think it's reprehensible to use the pandemic as an excuse for this," Esparza said.

Esparza and the other dissenters also said the proposal was too last-minute for sufficient review and included campaign finance reform to make it more appealing to voters. Arenas compared it to sneaking vegetables in her kids' lasagna.

"I had to chop up my zucchini so fine, so that my kids don't know that I'm feeding them vegetables, and that is exactly what you have done here by marrying this, you know,

Kamikaze of initiatives together," Arenas said.

Esparza suggested approving the campaign finance reforms without a ballot measure. By removing that from the measure, voters would only decide on giving Liccardo more powers, extending his term to 2024 and moving mayoral elections.

Perez, who penned an op-ed for this news organization denouncing the measure, also said the city would have to scrape up \$1.7 million to print ballots, as it plunges into a \$100 million deficit.

"My main concern is that it did not get vetted through our community in the process that it deserves," Perez said.

After the demise of the Fair Elections Initiative, which would have prohibited campaign contributions from businesses and shifted mayoral elections to presidential election years, Liccardo unexpectedly suggested a compromise. He had previously opposed moving mayoral elections and extending his term.

When questioned by Perez, who is eyeing a run for mayor, Liccardo said he didn't support extending his term then but that "it makes more sense now" under the current circumstances.

"But I can tell you I'm not going to die on that sword," Liccardo said. "I'm not in this to get an extra two years."

Liccardo refused to abstain from the vote, as demanded by Arenas, who said he would benefit from the measure. Doyle said Liccardo was not legally required to abstain.

Supporters such as Diep said the current form of government limits the city's top elected leader.

"We have a situation where a mayoral candidate can win, but he or she will be constrained from implementing the platform that was promised to voters because of the anachronistic system that we have in San Jose," Diep said.

Under the current system, most executive authority is under City Manager Dave Sykes. The mayor has only slightly more authority than a councilmember by creating budgets and making council committee appointments — but he cannot veto council decisions nor can he hire, fire or direct staff or department heads, including the police chief who recently came under fire for use of force and aggressive tactics during George Floyd protests.

Liccardo dubbed the changes as "low-hanging fruit" and ultimately necessary to run San Jose more efficiently.

He said a large city such as San Jose should model itself after other metropolitan areas in California such as San Francisco, Oakland and Los Angeles where the mayor has more power.

A slew of council memos were released prior to Tuesday's meeting, staking each lawmaker's position on the controversial measure.

Carrasco and Esparza unsuccessfully sought to create a charter review committee for public discussion on the initiative. Jimenez agreed with the additional campaign finance rules, and proposed the creation of a Blue Ribbon Task Force to assess the effects of the changes and recommend charter revisions for the future.

However, Perez said creating a task force after an initiative is passed would fail to prevent any actions that run counter to the community's interests.

The City Council will approve the language for the measure during a special meeting July 28. The ballot language must be submitted to the county Registrar of Voters office by Aug. 7.

Contact *Mauricio La Plante* at mslaplante19@gmail.com or follow *@mslaplante* - news on Twitter.

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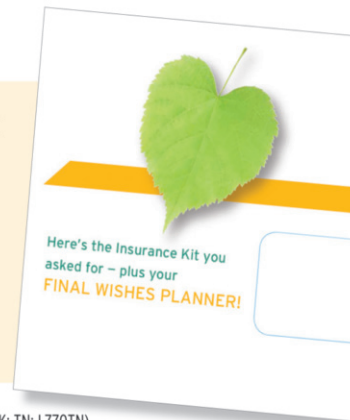
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nity, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday through Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www.churchstanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.



God is One
ੴ ਸਿਕ ਹੈ
Rab Ik Hai

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

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

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH
5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135
408-223-1562.
www.stfrancisofassisi.com or www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org
We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr. High, IGNITE - High School and North Star - Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations:
St. Francis of Assisi Chapel: Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass
St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall
Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM
Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road
Sunday 9:30 AM
The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium) Sunday 8:15 AM
For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

For Worship listing ads, call 408.483-5458

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**



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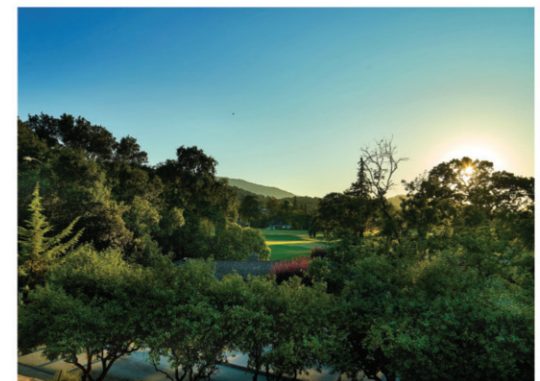
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The Swan has been the #1 Agent in Almaden Valley each year for the last 11 years as measured by Dollars per Agent Per Year. And 2019 was no exception. She is the only Almaden Valley specialist to have been nationally ranked and recognized twice by 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

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