

Second Harvest  
distributes food  
boxes via drive up  
in Evergreen  
**SEE PAGE 4**



**Back to School Aug. 19**  
Families can choose distance  
learning or new homeschool  
program from ESD – **SEE PAGE 6**

Father-daughter  
duo found career  
development company  
for young women in  
technology **SEE PAGE 8**



AUGUST 14 - 27, 2020 ■ VOL. 37, NO. 17

# EvergreenTimes

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## Home prices jump in June

*Low inventory and  
record low interest  
rates spur demand*

**S**anta Clara County home prices jumped in June due to super-scarce inventory which drove bidding wars and fast sales while home sales decreased.

The median price in June for existing homes in Santa Clara County rose 2.4% to \$1.28 million, according to real estate data firm DQNews. The median sale price in the Bay Area rose 3.4% from last year to \$925,000.

Selma Hepp, deputy chief economist at Core-Logic, said millennials, typically first-time homebuyers in their early 30s, were the quickest to move back into the real estate market.

From mid-May, Hepp said, "the rebound was across the board." Record low interest rates also expanded buyers' budgets and enticed more people into the market. Interest rates dipped below 3% for a 30-year fixed home loan, according to Freddie Mac.

Sellers backed off from listing homes over health and safety  
*See PRICES, page 2*

## Meena Kumar of Evergreen helps senior dogs find a forever home, just like she did

**M**eena Kumar of Evergreen Valley was featured in a CNN feature story which was picked up by news outlets worldwide, including the Today Show.

The story describes how 14-year-old Kumar raised \$14,000 for senior dogs who have been left behind with the goal of helping them find a forever home like she did when she was adopted.

When Meena was nine months old, she was found abandoned in a basket on a college campus in Pune, India. After spending a year in an orphanage, she was adopted by a couple in Mumbai and brought to Evergreen Valley where she graduated from Silver Oak Elementary School and Chaboya Middle School.

In Mumbai, Meena would watch over a litter of puppies at her home. When she came to the Unit-

## WHEN IT'S TOUGH TO BE A DOG



**Meena Kumar** raised \$14,000 for senior dogs. She attended Silver Oak Elementary School and Chaboya Middle School.  
*Photo courtesy of Jayashree Subrahmonia*

ed States, almost every weekend included a trip to the Humane Society or to Muttville Senior Dog Rescue.

Muttville is a cage-free dog res-

cue that gives senior dogs a "second chance at life," according to their website. The organization was founded by 2016 CNN Hero Sherri Franklin and rescues about

1,000 dogs per year and runs mostly with the help of volunteers.

Meena first heard of the rescue  
*See RESCUE, page 3*

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## East Side Union High School District superintendent Chris Funk to quit

**By Lorraine Gabbert**  
*Article courtesy of  
San José Spotlight*

**C**iting distance learning, equity and budget challenges, Chris Funk said this will be his last year as superintendent of East Side Union High School District.

"I can't lead in this environment anymore," Funk said. "I want to help us get through this pandemic and hopefully release some of the pressure allowing new thoughts for solving the deficit to come to fruition. That's the only reason



**Chris Funk**, East Side Union High School District Superintendent, said he is leaving to make way for new thoughts in leadership. Courtesy photo.

why I'm stepping down."

In an email sent to teachers, parents, students and staff Thursday, Funk said he will depart when the school year ends in June.

"Chris Funk will be greatly missed," said Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, who previously served on the ESUHSD board of trustees. "His visionary leadership helped pass a technology bond years ago which now has put the district in a great position to expand Wi-Fi for thousands of families on the East Side of San Jose and allows our stu-

dents to complete their distance learning.

Funk raised the bar for our students and our community."

Referring to COVID-19 and distance learning, Funk said "we're just in uncharted territory" with this pandemic. In his nearly nine years serving as Superintendent and 30 years in education, Funk said "never have we faced the challenges that we are facing this school year."

Funk said his focus for the school year is helping the district  
*See FUNK, page 2*

**SEE OUR LISTINGS OF EVERGREEN AREA MEETINGS, PLACES OF WORSHIP AND CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER**



Times **Community News****First youth-led Eastside Union High School District Black Lives Matter conference to be held Aug. 30**

In collaboration with Silver Creek High School Black Student Union Club, the Social Activism Club is hosting a youth-led Eastside Union High School District ESUHSD Black Lives Matter conference on Sunday, August 30 via Zoom from noon – 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the ESUHSD Black Lives Matter conference is to uplift

and empower the Black community in Eastside San Jose, creating space to share their experiences, stories, and struggles to the community.

The conference will feature Black-led organizers and leaders in San Jose that will present and educate our community on the Black Lives Matter Movement, allyship, systematic issues, internal bias/racism, and more.

For more information and to register, follow on Instagram: @esuhsd-blmm. Questions and comments should be directed to: [scsocialactivismclub@gmail.com](mailto:scsocialactivismclub@gmail.com), or to [blackstudentunion.schs@gmail.com](mailto:blackstudentunion.schs@gmail.com)

**Funk**

*Continued from page 1*

navigate COVID-19 concerns safely while providing “the very best educational platform.”

Although the district is planning a four-phase approach to returning to the classroom — all distance learning, in-person learning for the most vulnerable and specialty classes, a combination of distance and in-person learning and fully in-person instruction — Funk said phase four may not occur until a vaccine is widely accessible.

Regarding racial equality, Funk recognized the “systemic oppression baked into the public-school system” and the need for social equity. He said the educational system has become one of privilege rather than a right, especially for low-income students of color. “Every student should receive a

world-class education regardless of economic, gender or cultural background,” he said.

“We are at an inflection point in our nation’s history where the time to tear down the walls of oppression in our public school system is now,” Funk said, “...we will continue to knock down the wall of oppression brick by brick.” Funk applauded Gov. Gavin Newsom’s directive to include ethnic studies as a graduation requirement, adding any policy or practice that contributes to inequalities of ethnic groups leads to systemic racism.

“When you look at our black and brown kids suspended at a higher rate than other groups, when you see there’s a disproportionality of kids of color in special ed, or graduating,” he said, “that is systemic racism in the public school system.”

Funk said economic uncertainty has hurt the stability of the school district, eroding the trust needed to create more equitable communities in East Side. Fiscal insecurity like potential layoffs, reductions in salary and health benefits for district employees also pose a distraction from creating change, he said.

“The fiscal issue needs to get resolved in order to fully concentrate on the systemic racial issues,” he said. “I hope this announcement provides the opportunity for all stakeholders to come together to solve the fiscal constraints.”

Funk said the lack of agreement between unions and the school district has resulted in not only a structural deficit but ongoing issues with social equity, and led to his resignation.

“The bargaining units refuse to come to the table and use me as their excuse,” he said. “It’s been two, three years of battling this. It’s the elephant in the room regarding battling social injustice issues. Since we’re stuck around that deficit, by me removing myself, that excuse is now removed. I’m hoping that might help bring the unions to the table to solve this.”

Funk said he sees budget cuts as the only other solution, which would gut district safety nets.

He said he is proud of passing an equity policy during his first year and increasing performance measures. He said that under his leadership, district drop-out and suspension rates decreased while graduation rates increased. Students meeting college entrance requirements are the highest they’ve ever been, he said.

Creating an Eastside Alliance with seven feeder districts brought focus, partnership and collaboration, especially around math development, he said. He said he also is proud of helping create the Spartan East Side Promise, a collaboration between the district and San Jose State University, which offers guaranteed admission to qualified students.

Funk said he is excited about closing the digital divide on the East Side through a partnership with the city to expand WIFI to underserved schools, including Overfelt and James Lick high schools.

“I’m proud we have an ongoing revenue stream to support our teachers in imbedding technology in their curriculum,” he said. “Our kids should not have to go to McDonald’s or Starbucks to access Wi-Fi. That’s an infrastructure that is more of a civil right and cities should be offering.”

As Funk is seven years away from retirement, he said he announced his departure now to give him time to find the right fit with another district and the board ample time to find a new superintendent.

**Prices**

*Continued from page 1*

concerns, agents said. Pandemic restrictions limiting home tours also chilled transactions during a typically busy late spring and early summer buying season.

Sales of existing homes in the Bay Area dropped nearly 8% from the previous year, but existing home sales only fell 2.1% in Santa Clara County.

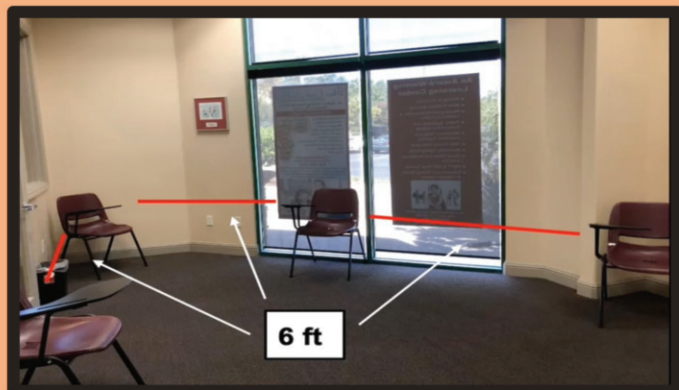


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Times **Community News****EDUCATION****ESUHSD Board of Trustees issues statement regarding Superintendent Funk resignation**

The Eastside Union High School District Board of Trustees has issued a statement following Superintendent Chris Funk's announced resignation.

"The Board of Trustees expresses its gratitude to Mr. Funk. During his tenure, Mr. Funk successfully spearheaded several important District initiatives, especially in the areas of equity and addressing education and opportunity gaps. His accomplishments include:

Championing the call for equity across all District programs, including leading the effort to develop the District's Equity Policy and developing and implementing processes to address and eliminate disproportionality of outcomes and adverse responses across all student groups.

- Confronting implicit bias in the delivery of District education programs and developing and overseeing professional development programs and trainings to engage staff and students in recognizing and preventing implicit bias.

- Leading the efforts to build community support leading to the passage of three of the District's bond programs totaling more than \$740 million -- Measure I, Measure I Tech, and Measure Z - to build and upgrade District facilities and to increase student computer access and connectivity and upgrade educational software to keep pace with 21st century technological innovations.

- Successfully managing the District's nearly \$1 billion capital bonds facilities construction pro-

gram over the last eight years.

- Helping create the Spartan East Side Promise; a collaboration between the District and San Jose State University, which offers guaranteed admission to qualified District students.

- Working to establish the "Community Wireless Project" in partnership with the City of San Jose to expand WIFI access to thousands of families in the East Side community.

- Increasing the rate of students meeting A-G requirements at graduation.

These initiatives and accomplishments have sustained the District in executing its mission to create safe, dynamic and relevant learning environments that inspire critical thinking, problem solving and innovation. The Board is committed to continuing these efforts and building on these accomplishments and successes. We thank Mr. Funk for his service and his willingness to assist the District as the Board begins this period of transition to new executive leadership."



**Meena Kumar** pet sits in her home to raise money for Muttville Senior Dog Rescue. Photo courtesy of Jayashree Subrahmonia

**Rescue**

*Continued from page 1*

from a neighbor whose dog had been adopted from Muttville. The neighbor shared stories of how senior dogs are often left behind in shelters. With tender love and care, those dogs can make great companions.

"More people should adopt senior dogs," Meena told CNN. "They give you the same unconditional love as any other dog."

Meena understood what it felt like to be left behind, and wanted to help the senior dogs find

the loving homes they deserve, just like she did. The problem was, Meena had to be 17-years-old to volunteer at Muttville, and she was only 12.

She wanted to find a way to support Muttville and came up with an idea. She advertised on Nextdoor offering pet sitting and Pet Fairy Services was born.

Meena began pet sitting in her own home for her neighbors and school friends with the goal of supporting Muttville. "You are never too young to start a business," says Meena.



*Greetings Evergreen!*

We're excited for Election Day, and we hope you and your families are staying safe and healthy.

It's an honor to share that we are your **UNITY CANDIDATE** for Supervisor! We have earned support from across the community including two Medal of Freedom recipients Dolores Huerta & Norm Mineta.

I hope to earn your vote and continue my service to our community. Let's connect online at [OttoLee.org](http://OttoLee.org), thank you.

Be well,

— Otto



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## Board moves toward recognizing 'Juneteenth' as a countywide holiday

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors moved forward on Tuesday, August 11, to declaring Juneteenth as a Countywide holiday starting next year, joining just a handful of counties across the country to recognize this day.

Supervisor Dave Cortese's proposal was approved unanimously by the Board to commemorate the ending of slavery in the United States 30 months and 19 days after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863.

It wasn't until June 19, 1865, that Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger landed at Galveston, Texas, with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free.

The vote followed dozens of speakers who asked the Board to approve the proposal and recognize the legacy of injustice against people of color. Supervisors also received many letters and other voices of support from the community.

"Designating Juneteenth as a County holiday will be one of the ways to further correct the inequities of the past and our move toward ending systemic racism," Cortese said. "It is significant that this day be added to the County's holiday observances that include honoring Cesar Chavez, Dr. Martin Luther King, among others."

EvergreenTimes

Times Media, Inc. / (408) 494-7000

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# Valley Currents

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

## Second Harvest distributes food boxes in Evergreen

*Car drive up for needed food at Evergreen Community Center 1st and 3rd Monday of each month*

By William Bellou  
Publisher

Second Harvest of Silicon Valley is one of the largest food banks in the nation. They provide food to more than a quarter of a million people in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties every month. More than half of the people served are kids and seniors.

Their website states their mission is, "To lead our community to ensure that anyone who needs a healthy meal can get one."

Founded in 1974, they have expertly used their skills of distribution to strongly network with the City of San Jose and all other agencies to step up and provide well during this pandemic.

In the Evergreen Community Second Harvest outreaches two times a month at the Evergreen Community Center (1st and 3rd Monday of the month). The Evergreen Community Center address is: 4830 San Felipe Road San Jose, California 95135.

Second Harvest succeeds with its emergency response TEAM to work hard to implement policies and take action to keep the community safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Other agencies also TEAM UP with Second Harvest, to make food distribution possible in many communities during this national emergency. Their website lists and thanks over 100 businesses that contribute as well as over 100 major donors who donate to this special nonprofit.

Wonderful helpers from the City who also work the daily Senior Nutrition Program also



contribute in distribution with Second Harvest at the Evergreen Community Center. They all TEAM UP to work together to make it all happen smoothly.

All workers have a very positive and upbeat way of greeting anyone who comes for much needed fresh food and produce.

**Touchless delivery of food in boxes to each car that pulls into Evergreen Community Center**

Cars pull up about 8 a.m. The line begins moving at about 8:30 and the service continues for about two hours or until all boxes are given out.

As each car pulls up the information asked for is the person's name, date of birth, address and how many people live in the occupancy. Once this information is given, upon next food pick up one only has to state their name and it is checked on a list for fast processing of deliv-

ering food to car.

On some days of the month the food distributed changes so sometimes chicken and eggs and milk will also be given out with a box of produce from a local farmer and a box of pre-packaged goods with packaged meat.

During this COVID-19 pandemic national disaster, if you know anyone in need please let them know of this valuable service which takes place two times a month at Evergreen Community Center.

Eating fresh fruit and vegetables helps to improve one's well-being in fighting off any kind of health challenges. By their actions, Second Harvest and the many support companies that participate in ramping up help during this national emergency let all know that people are cared for and loved.

*Editor's Note: To learn more go to their website at Second Harvest of Silicon Valley.*

### LETTER

## Garage excavation could prove disruptive to Evergreen locals

Dear Editor,

We are strongly urging neighbors to join the community meeting on Wednesday August 19th @ 6:00pm concerning the temple development at 2740 Ruby Avenue. This will be an online Zoom meeting (<https://sanjoseca.zoom.us/j/97342330810>) hosted by the city planning department. The meeting details are available at [https://](https://bit.ly/3kyLc9W)

[bit.ly/3kyLc9W](https://bit.ly/3kyLc9W).

The new development application asks for rezoning from R-1-5 single-family residential to the PQP public/quasi-public zoning district at the intersection of Ruby/Norwood, and includes an acre of underground parking for 90+ vehicles. Among other changes, PQP zoning also increases the building height allowance from 35ft to 65ft and reduces setbacks significantly.

The city should not set the disruptive precedent of allowing large underground parking garages in Evergreen and other suburban residential neighborhoods. The excavation and subsequent construction will be intense and disruptive for years for the surrounding com-

munity. It also allows substantially larger above-ground development that would be grossly incompatible and out-of-scale in this quiet, peaceful, and mature neighborhood, and opens the door for similar future developments in other areas of San Jose. We would welcome an open focus-group dialog with the city and developers about a modest-sized temple and a fully above-ground development.

Since this meeting will be held virtually, the general public beyond Evergreen can also weigh in on the proposal. We need those Evergreen neighbors from the surrounding community who are concerned or will be directly impacted to speak up at this August 19th community

meeting. Our safety and quality of life as we know it today are at stake.

For those who cannot attend, we encourage them to submit comments by email to the city planning staff and the developer. For more information about submitting written comments, our EV-Ruby Temple core neighborhood group concerns, our engagements with the developer and the city, including Councilmember Arenas' office, please reach out to us at [2740RubyConcerns@gmail.com](mailto:2740RubyConcerns@gmail.com). Working together, we hope to achieve a win-win solution for all stakeholders involved.

**Janet Holt**  
EV-Ruby Temple Core  
Neighbors Group

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Times **Community News**

## Evergreen School District prepares to start school on August 19th

*Families can choose distance learning or new virtual pathways homeschool program*

By Johanna Villareal

ESD Director, Administrative & Board Services

The Evergreen School District has been hard at work this past summer preparing for the upcoming school year.

Starting off the year in Distance Learning will be different for staff and families, and the district is dedicated and committed to providing students the best education possible. The following are some important updates as the district heads into beginning school on August 19th.

### Distance Learning Updates

In the coming days, Evergreen families will receive communication from their schools regarding teacher assignments, school schedules, technology device needs, iPad/Chromebook and school materials distribution dates, Grab and Go meals, and other back to school activities. Families that need to complete the free and reduced lunch program application can do so online at: <http://evergreen.school-lunchapp.com>.

The schools' websites now have a Distance Learning tab that will have more information about Distance Learning and specific information from each school. Schools will stay in contact with families this school year through frequent and consistent communication via email, social media, phone calls and texts. More information about Distance Learning can be found on the district's Safe Together website at [eesd.org/safetogether](http://eesd.org/safetogether), including Frequently Asked Questions.

### New Virtual Pathways, Pods4Learning Homeschool Programs

The Evergreen School District believes in offering choices to the parents. This coming year, the district is proud to offer a brand-new program for TK-8th grade families. Virtual Pathways, Evergreen School District's homeschool program, is intended for families who are interested in the homeschooling concept, where the parents are involved in most aspects of the student's learning and schooling process, and who also want the support of a credentialed teacher for goal-setting, one on one meeting and guidance.

As part of Virtual Pathways, the district is offering Pods4Learning, a new parent-led and district-supported homeschooling experience for TK and kindergarten students. Students learn standards-based curriculum with a group of up to five students in a virtual environment- ensuring social and emotional engagement with their peers. Two hours each week, parents and students receive personalized coaching from a credentialed teacher. Weekly learning success packets, supporting materials, along with an iPad, are also included in this program. More information will be posted on the district's website in the coming days.

This program is limited to 25 TK students and 25 Kindergarten students. The district is currently taking an interest list for this program, and those interested in registering a TK or

kindergartener in Pods4Learning are advised to send an email to [pod4learning@eesd.org](mailto:pod4learning@eesd.org).

The Evergreen School District is also continuing to promote the district's traditional TK and kindergarten programs. Through the traditional TK and kindergarten experiences, students will grow as learners and classmates. Each day, teachers will use online and individual learning approaches to help students gain reading, math, social and life skills, so they are prepared for the next grade level. Students enrolled in these programs will start the school year in distance learning, and will be provided a personalized device, if needed. Those interested in registering a TK or kindergartener in the traditional program can visit the Enrollment and Registration page at <https://www.eesd.org/page.cfm?p=2612>.

### Combination Classes

In planning for distance learning, input and feedback from parents and teachers shows increasing concerns about combination classes, due to the dual curriculum that needs to be taught by the teacher. In the best interest of students, during distance learning, Evergreen is eliminating combo classes, and will be filling the need for the additional required teachers with additional teachers, including Evergreen's own art teachers, who are fully credentialed, experienced, and qualified teachers, and who are already familiar with Evergreen schools and students. This is a temporary solution as the district addresses the distinct needs that students and teachers have in distance learning. The district's traditional art program will resume once all students return to in-school learning. The district recognizes the value of arts education for students, and plans on offering a multitude of art classes during after school enrichment hours.

### Student Wellness

The social, mental and emotional health of Evergreen students is important to the district, and in addition to daily wellness check-ins with students during distance learning, the district is also providing the district's social emotional learning curriculum, First Step, in addition to many social emotional resources provided by the district's mental health team of social workers and counselors throughout the school year. The district will soon be launching a Wellness website, which will provide social, mental and emotional wellness resources for district students, staff and families.

### Equity and Justice

At the June 13th board meeting, the Evergreen School District Board of Trustees began the first step in taking an official position on the importance of equity and justice through the first reading of its Black Lives Matter resolution, which formally declares the district's commitments to join the movement to fight for freedom, liberation, and justice; creating an Equity Policy that will include restorative justice practices, implicit bias training, counseling, and other resources that foster dialogue and action that promotes racial and social justice for all; and to work tirelessly and collaboratively with staff, students, and families to dismantle institutionalized societal racism.

Evergreen would like to thank the parents, staff and community members who have taken the time to email, call, attend Community Information Meetings, Board meetings, and Community Input Sessions over the past three months. This input is valuable to the district, and has shaped the district's plans during this dynamic time.



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# Father-daughter duo create career development company for young women in technology

*'Everyone is born to do something great.'*

By Sandhya Iyer  
Special to the Times

When Sundar Vanchinathan started his online career development startup, Geek Girl Careers, in 2016, he had, among a ton of research and industry insight, one quote driving him forward: "Everyone is born to do something great. The only question is, what is it?" At the time, his daughter — me, the author — was about to start college, slowly figuring out what kind of career path she wanted to carve out for herself.

But how does any young person figure out what they're meant to do or what kind of career they want to build? It's daunting, and nearly impossible without the help of mentors and experience. If students are at a lack for these, they often box themselves into pursuits that society or their parents consider conventionally successful.

It's hard to define a successful career, but those where people can gain and contribute the most value often lie at the intersection of their passions, personality and skills, so

Vanchinathan built a platform that helped young women find careers in tech that aligned with those traits. He targeted the tech industry specifically because while it's rapidly growing and undeniably trendy, it has a prominent gender gap and desperately lacks the voices and talents of young women.

Geek Girl Careers is a one-of-a-kind platform that uses a personality assessment — developed by psychologists at Columbia University — network of professional experts, opportunity listings and skill development tools to help young women who are in high school and college discover their ideal career in tech and break down the industry's gender gap.

**The personality assessment takes just two minutes to complete**

The personality assessment is deceptively simple, as it only takes two minutes to complete, but is extremely accurate. When I took the assessment as an incoming freshman at Syracuse University, the top two careers the system suggested were public relations and marketing — and that's the degree I ended up graduating with four years later.



Geek Girls Careers entrepreneurs **Sundar Vanchinathan** and **Sandhya Iyer**.

I'd always been passionate about writing and meeting new people, but before exploring Geek Girl Careers and talking to mentors in the field, I didn't realize I could translate those passions to a career beyond journalism. With a degree in PR and marketing, I can work in nearly any industry, even tech — something that's often overlooked by or not made clear to those students who are in high school or starting college.

Since graduating in May, I've taken over Geek Girl Careers as CEO, working to build partnerships and recruit new users and experts to the platform. Our mission — helping young women discover their dream careers in tech — is always relevant, but the platform is especially valuable in the cur-

rent state of things, when job opportunities are scarcer and it's difficult to meet new people and build personal mentoring relationships.

**Helping young women find careers where they'll truly be both happy and successful**

Despite the circumstances, we have 300 users and nearly 150 experts on our rapidly growing site, who are all ready to advise our Geek Girls. With every new user, we're on our way to increasing the diversity and representation in tech, and more importantly, helping young women find careers

where they'll truly be both happy and successful. Everyone has something great to offer — our role here at Geek Girl Careers is to help young women figure out exactly what that is for them, and how they can make their professional dreams a reality.

**About Sandhya Iyer**

Sandhya Iyer was born and raised in Evergreen and graduated from Evergreen Valley High School in 2016. She graduated from Syracuse University in May 2020.

*Editor's note: If you're interested in signing up as a Geek Girl or an expert on the platform, go to [geekgirlcareers.com](http://geekgirlcareers.com). To stay updated on their events and growth, follow them on Instagram @GeekGirlCareer and LinkedIn @Geek Girl Careers*



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Times **News**

## Alaska Airlines announces new service to Washington, Oregon & Montana

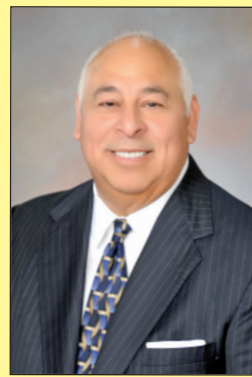
Alaska Airlines announced new service to Spokane, Washington, Redmond, Oregon and Missoula, Montana from Mineta San Jose International Airport (SJC) beginning September 2020 and March 2021, respectively.

These daily flights are in addition to Alaska's nonstop service to many non-stop destinations from SJC.

These short haul flights will be operated by Horizon Air utilizing an Embraer E175 aircraft, which seats 76 passengers.

To book a flight to these new destinations from SJC, visit Alaska Airlines.

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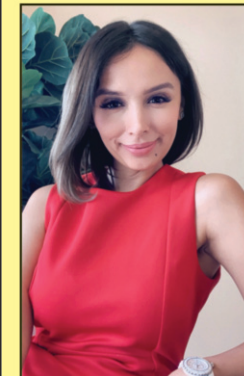


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June 15 thru July 30 – Lunch: 11:00am-1:00pm – M-TH  
**\*\*Ocala STEAM Academy - 2800 Ocala Ave.**

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**\*\*Linda Vista Elementary - 100 Kirk Ave.**

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**\*\* On Thursdays - Meals for Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday will be available at Ocala, Linda Vista and Dorsa**

\* All Sites Closed on July 3, 2020

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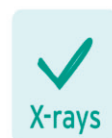
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Times **Community News****Ann Ravel calls on Cortese to return contributions from donor indicted in pay-to-play scheme**

State Senate candidate Ann Ravel has called on her opponent, Santa Clara County Supervisor Dave Cortese, to return more than \$4,000 in political donations he has received from attorney Christopher Schumb.

Schumb was among those indicted last week in a corruption probe connected to concealed weapons permits issued by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's office.

According to the indictment announced

by District Attorney Jeff Rosen, Schumb faces felony charges including bribery and conspiracy to commit bribery and faces up to four years in prison.

**Food-soiled containers go in the garbage**

With a lot of our favorite restaurants open for takeout only, many of us are disposing of more containers than usual.

While we may be changing how we eat out, how we dispose of these containers remains the same: Food and liquid-soiled containers contaminate recycling carts or bins.

It is important to empty and scrape plastic takeout containers and other containers

such as pasta jars and yogurt tubs.

If your container is still soiled with food, liquid, or grease after emptying and scraping, place it in the garbage cart or bin.

**Free 'Drive-Thru Shred Day' slated Aug. 15 at Common Wealth Credit Union**

Common Wealth Credit Union is hosting its free "Drive-Thru Shred Day" August 15 from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. located at 5890 Silver Creek Valley Rd. in San Jose.

Bring your pile of old receipts, statements, and other personal documents you no longer need. Now is the time to get rid of

it all, safely and securely, but come early as the shred truck fills up fast!

Organizers said that safety is a top priority and personnel will be practicing social distancing protocols and asking attendees to stay in their vehicles until directed to dump their shred items. All attendees and staff will be required to wear a face mask.

**Gursimran Mavi has been named to the Dean's List at Purchase College for the spring 2020 semester**

**Gursimran Mavi** of Evergreen Valley (inset below) has been named to Purchase College's Dean's List for the spring 2020 semester. Mavi is studying Chemistry.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must carry a semester GPA of 3.5 for Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science programs and 3.75 for Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Music Performance programs. They must take a minimum of 12 credits.

Purchase College, part of the State University of New York (SUNY) network of 64 universities and colleges, was founded in 1967 by Governor Nelson Rockefeller. His aspiration for Purchase was to create a dynamic campus that combined conservatory training in the visual and performing arts with programs in the liberal arts and sciences, in order to inspire an appreciation for both intellectual and artistic talents in all students.

**San Jose Fire Dept. recruitment test deadline Sept. 6**

*Department seeking men and women exhibiting leadership and action in crisis situations*

The San José Fire Department is currently recruiting firefighters EMTs and firefighter paramedics for the 2021 Firefighter Recruit Academy.

The department is seeking individuals who wish to serve the San José community by taking leadership and action in crisis situations.

Interested applicants should have a high school diploma or equivalent, valid EMT certificate (or be in the process), valid CPAT card/letter (within 6 months of application deadline), and take a written exam through the National Testing Network (NTN) website at [www.nationaltestingnetwork.com](http://www.nationaltestingnetwork.com).

The application deadline is September 6, 2020.

For more information, visit [www.sjfd.org](http://www.sjfd.org).

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Times **Community News**

# Silver Creek Academy launches distance learning support program this Fall

Silver Creek Academy is launching their inaugural distance learning support program this month, to help students in grades 2-8 stay on top of school work and improve their academics this fall.

Credentialed teachers will help students stay on task with required school work, provide homework support, and offer additional academic enrichment courses to maximize each student's experience. The

program, which will be held in person at SCA's Canyon Creek Plaza location, will be in compliance with government regulations for social distancing with desks six feet apart and vigorous sanitization.

"Our program offers credentialed teacher support for a consistent cohort of students in a small-group classroom setting with individual desks at the proper social distance," Shelley Swircek, owner of Silver Creek Academy, said.

The program will be held five days per week, and will continue until students are allowed to safely return to their normal school schedule.

"Our goal is to ensure that our students thrive in this challenging and new educational environment," Swircek said. "Having the support of an on-site, credentialed educator will maximize learning and provide students' additional opportunities to

strengthen their academic skill set."

For more information, call (408) 839-5905 or email: FunLearning@mac.com



## San Jose Police Chief to retire in December

San Jose Police Chief **Eddie Garcia** (inset) says his "fantastic ride" is coming to a close.

Garcia announced Monday, August 3 that he will retire in December, ending a nearly 30-year career at the department. Garcia was confirmed as the chief on March 1, 2016.

Garcia said the decision had nothing to do with the recent civil unrest or the coronavirus pandemic. "My decision to retire has been in the works for several months."

"I came to San Jose as a young boy from Puerto Rico, learned how to speak English here and ultimately became chief of the 10th largest city in the country," Garcia said in a statement. "I will forever be grateful to this City and this Department and privileged to have had a front row seat to watch the amazing work of the men and women of this department. These nearly 30 years have been a fantastic ride."

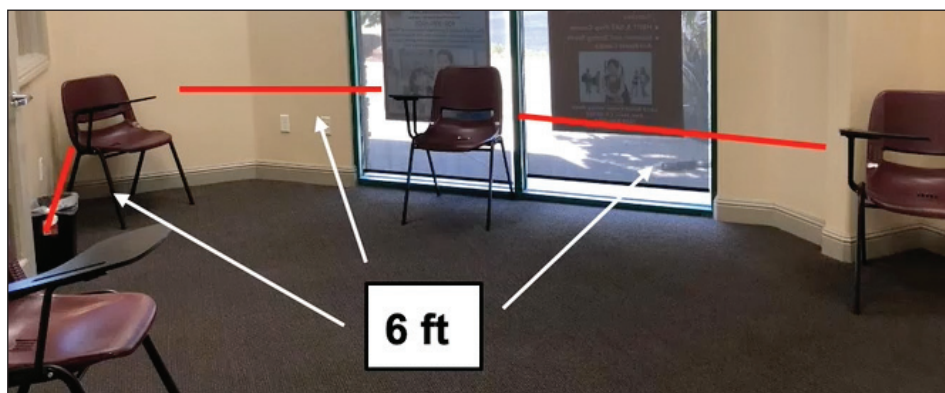


"History will remember Chief Eddie Garcia in the same way I've seen him embraced at countless community meetings: as a dynamic, exuberant leader who gave

his heart and soul to his hometown," said San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo. "He brought this police department back from the brink, rebuilding our officers' ranks, their morale, and most importantly, their faith in themselves and their mission. I wish him all the best as he moves into this next chapter of his life."

San Jose City Councilmember Johnny Khamis said Garcia was a fantastic chief and is sad to see him leave, calling him a trusted and respected leader. "He came into a department that needed a lot of help and a lot of reforms, and he was able to be that person," Khamis said. "He was in charge of a lot of change at the city - things that we could be proud of."

Liccardo said the city will conduct a nationwide search for a new police chief.



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## New provisions expand opportunity for claiming California unemployment benefits

*Pandemic Unemployment Assistance expanded in March but many may not have applied nor understand they qualify*

You may currently be qualified to receive back monies for unemployment.

Take heed and tell others.

If you are out of work or your hours have been cut back, go to [edd.ca.gov](http://edd.ca.gov).

The pandemic has opened up new additional opportunities for Californians to apply and receive unemployment benefits and extra PANDEMIC MONIES are now included in addition to whatever unemployment benefits one may be getting.

Even if you have not worked for a long time you might find you can now qualify to receive unemployment.

Key oversight people express it is best not to assume and instead apply for unemployment the worst that can happen is you might be denied but also you might be approved.

You might be surprised to find out that after taking a short amount of time in applying on line, you qualify! Don't assume you do not qualify.

Often people are hesitant to apply but new laws due to the Covid-19 virus have created more opportunity to help those in need. You may be entitled to back benefits too.

California's Employment Development

Department states: The sudden and immense impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is unprecedented. EDD program benefits are available to workers and employers whose earnings are impacted.

The federal CARES Act has added these provisions to expand unemployment benefits so we can help more Californians impacted by COVID-19:

- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance – New program to provide unemployment benefits for people who don't usually qualify for regular Unemployment Insurance.

- Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation – A 13-week benefit extension for people who have used all benefits available in their regular Unemployment Insurance claim.

- Pandemic Additional Compensation – An additional \$600 federal stimulus payment automatically added to each week of benefits received between March 29 and July 25, 2020. Any unemployment benefits through July 25 will still be eligible for the extra \$600, even if you are paid later.

If you use all your Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits, you may qualify for a FED-ED extension too.

Remember, if you are out of work for any reason and if you do gigs or are also self-employed, you might consider web searching California Unemployment Benefits or go to: [edd.ca.gov](http://edd.ca.gov)

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Times **Community News****Reaching out to vulnerable populations hard hit by Coronavirus**By **Dave Cortese***Special to the Times*

Successfully fighting COVID-19 relies on strong communication with residents about the disease and how to avoid becoming infected or infecting others.

In Santa Clara County, strong communication heavily relies on the Internet connecting to our devices so that we receive emails, texts and links to websites that provide information and even allow us to raise our voices at government meetings.

That powerful connection is missing in some areas of our County, where residents not only face a digital divide but also are most likely to become infected with COVID-19.

On July 21, the Board of Supervisors approved my call for fixing this disparity with a new COVID-19 Outreach and Education Initiative, which employs community-based organizations that are already trusted messengers in these areas.

According to the County Public Health Department data, Latinos make up 25.8% of the County population and nearly half, 48.1%, of the COVID-19 cases. Zip codes with the highest rate of cases per 100,000 residents are in East San Jose: 95116 and 95127, and Evergreen: 85122 and 95148.

While we work to bridge the digital divide, the County will invest \$500,000 to contract with 25 to 30 organizations that will be able to use their networks in hard-to-reach communi-

ties. The contracts will be from three to six months, and will range from \$5,000 to \$10,000 each.

The Emergency Operations Center Public Information Officer will provide the organizations with weekly communications toolkits containing infographics, digital designs, newsletter templates and talking points.

It just makes sense to take advantage of networks that are already working among the County's diverse populations.

The County is also developing three other outreach components:

- Community Health and Business Engagement Team: 67 trained community health workers will be deployed to neighborhoods to engage with residents and businesses to provide information about face coverings and hygiene, testing site locations and other tools to stop the spread of COVID-19. They will also use phone calls, text messages and social media to engage with community members.

- A Unified County COVID-19 Branding Campaign: The County will select a vendor to provide consultation and design services about a new branding campaign that will be developed with community input.
- Multicultural Arts Campaign: Multicultural and multimedia artists will be hired to develop, market, communicate and disseminate culturally relevant messaging about COVID-19, including documentaries and digital art to communicate the impact COVID-19 has had on their families and community. The campaign will also document residents' experiences to from prevention through recovery.

For more information, please contact my office at 408-299-5030 or email me at [dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org](mailto:dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org).

**County Report**By **Dave Cortese**  
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## Times Local News

### Former San Jose Vice Mayor Rose Herrera endorses Ann Ravel for State Senate

Former San Jose Vice Mayor Rose Herrera announced her endorsement of Ann Ravel's campaign to become the next State Senator of District 15.

Herrera previously served as Councilmember for District 8 and Vice Mayor of the Bay Area's largest city, founded the League of California Cities Women's Caucus and is a veteran of the United States Air Force.

Herrera joins a growing coalition of distinguished leaders and organizations who are supporting Ravel's bid for State Senate.

"I have known and respected Ann for many years and she is the representative San Jose needs in the State Senate. California must have politically independent and inclusive leaders to lead the fight on critical issues like the economy, healthcare and housing and homelessness," said Herrera. "If we want a state government that works for all of us, we need Ann Ravel fighting for us in Sacramento."

"I'm incredibly honored and grateful to be endorsed by Rose, a longtime leader from San Jose's Evergreen community and outspoken advocate for Evergreen and East San Jose," said Ravel. "Rose has



Herrera (above) and Ravel (below)



always worked to be a collaborative leader — building coalitions to get things done — and I look forward to bringing that same spirit to the California legislature."

California's State Senate District 15 includes San Jose, Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno and Saratoga. This is an open seat — current State Senator Jim Beall is termed out in 2020.

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Times **Local News**

## Tech Jargon of the Week

### Internet of Things (IoT)

By Shubhi Asthana  
Special to the Times

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:

#### Internet of Things (IoT)

The Internet today is evolving at a fast pace. With the broadband internet becoming widely available, more devices are being created with Wi-Fi capabilities and sensors built into them. Technology costs are coming down and smartphone apps penetration is increasing, all creating the perfect scenario for the Internet of Things or simply, “IoT”.

The concept behind IoT is to basically connect any device which performs a function, to the Internet. The device can be any of the household appliances like the coffee maker, fridge, microwave, lamps, or wearable devices, or can even be machines at a factory. IoT build a giant network of these connected devices and forms a relationship using the data that is generated from these devices. Then it uses this relationship to make important decisions or provide recommendations.

So how do you use IoT in your everyday life?

Say, you kept an alarm for 6 AM in the morning. A voice controlled speaker like Amazon Echo wakes you up and tells you the temperature of the day, so you can dress for the office accordingly. Your coffee maker gets the notification that you are getting ready and starts brewing coffee for you. The lamps in your kitchen automatically switch on after sensing your presence. The fridge sensor detects that there is less milk at home, so Amazon Echo automatically orders milk for you and notifies this action to you. While you are leaving for the office, your mobile assistant detects the traffic in the vicinity and tells you the shortest way to reach the office. Wearable devices like Fitbit accumulate your data and tell you how active you have been and how fit you are keeping yourself. It can share this weekly report with you and/or your doctor as you choose.

As we speak, there are thousands of people helping build the world of IoT, as more and more devices are joining the environment. Of all the technology trends in the market, IoT is the one that’s going to give us the most disruption as well as the most opportunity to grow over the next five years.

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



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**Temple developer applies for rezoning at 2740 Ruby Avenue****City Planning Dept. schedules Aug 19th community meeting**

The San Jose Planning Department has scheduled the first of two meetings for neighborhood comment on a proposed

Temple following the recent submission of a new application for rezoning at 2740 Ruby Avenue.

The project proposes rezoning (File No. C20-012) the property from the R-1-5 Single-Family Residence zoning district to the PQP Public/Quasi-Public zoning district. It also requests a Special Use Permit (File No. SP20-024) to allow an approximately 17,749-square foot private gathering facility on the approximately 1.86-gross acre site.

This project has been designated as a project of high interest by the city, and the developer application is available for public review on the city planning website. It shows a 42,410-square foot underground parking garage, classroom, & administrative and maintenance facilities. At grade, the buildings in the application include a 4,258-square foot temple, a 5,035-square foot community room, a 2,765-square foot monks' residence, a 910-square foot kitchen, a 710-square foot library, and over 3,000 square feet of additional facilities.

According to the city planning department, the purpose of the August 19th community meeting is to describe the applicant's proposed project, the city's review process, and to obtain community input on the project. The city states that comments, concerns, and questions raised at this meeting will become part of the public record and will help inform the project's design as it moves forward in

the review process. Additionally, there are continued opportunities throughout the permit process to publicly comment on the project.

**Virtual Zoom meeting details**

Wednesday, August 19, 2020 6:00 p.m. -



7:00 pm [www.sanjoseca.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/2433/5235](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/2433/5235) or <https://bit.ly/3kyLc9W>

For participants who would like to join electronically from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device, please click or enter this URL:

<https://sanjoseca.zoom.us/j/97342330810> or <https://bit.ly/3kwPVcw>

The PQP Public/Quasi-Public Zoning District is intended to provide for publicly serving uses on lots that are designated Public/Quasi-Public on the General Plan Land Use. The appropriate intensity of development can vary considerably depending on potential impacts on surrounding uses and the particular Public/Quasi-Public use developed on a site.

For more information about this project on the city planning website with this link: <https://bit.ly/30JLfbp>

**PANDEMIC CASUALTY:  
Great America  
to stay closed  
for rest of year****Official says people with season passes can use them in 2021**

Great America management has announced the popular theme park will remain shuttered for the rest of the year. But those who bought season passes will be able to use them next year as well.

"Today, California's Great America announced that it would remain closed for the rest of 2020 due to the ongoing challenges related to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic," Manny Gonzalez, the park's vice president and general manager, posted on the company's website:

[www.cagreatamerica.com](http://www.cagreatamerica.com). "The safety of our guests and associates is always our top priority. Although we have done our due diligence in developing a comprehensive safety plan in accordance with industry and public health standards, the continued uncertainty in our region surrounding COVID-19 as well as the diminishing number of calendar days left in the 2020 operating season, has brought us to the difficult decision to keep the park closed for the rest of the year."

"To further show our commitment and appreciation, all 2020 Season passholders will now also receive a Pass Perks Loyalty Reward valid for purchases within the park next season," Gonzalez said. "Day tickets sold for the 2020 season will be valid through September 6, 2021 and any Pre-K Passes that were registered or activated in 2020 will be valid through 2021. Affected guests will be receiving an email with relevant details."

The 2021 season passes will be available to purchase beginning on Sept. 8, 2020.

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Chuck McDowell,  
Founder & CEO

## Times Local News

# Evergreen School District announces Assistant Principal Appointments

Evergreen School District Superintendent Emy Flores has announced the appointment of Mrs. Gina Ornellas as the new full-time Assistant Principal of Chaboya Middle School, and Mrs. Jaime Hammond as Assistant Principal of Quimby Oak Middle School and ESD Teachers Support Programs Coordinator.

### Gina Ornellas new full-time Assistant Principal of Chaboya Middle School

Ornellas began her career in Evergreen in 2006 and has taught at Montgomery, James Franklin Smith, Cadwallader, and Cedar Grove.

“Mrs. Ornellas has always found ways to contribute to her schools, participating in many committees, and becoming highly involved in school events and activities,” Flores said. “In her role as Cedar Grove’s instructional coach, she collaborated with other teachers, facilitated learning circles, and scheduled school-wide events for the community. She is driven by a passion for serving all students and a desire to ensure that struggling students are fully supported. As the mother of a daughter with special needs, her heart is fully vested in making sure students have what they need to be suc-

cessful. As a product of the Evergreen School District, she is proud of the Evergreen community and honored to be part of it.”

### Jaime Hammond new Assistant Principal at Quimby Oak Middle School and Teacher Support Programs Coordinator

Hammond began her educational career in the Evergreen School District in 2000 when she joined the teaching staff of Quimby Oak Middle School where she taught sixth and seventh grade. At that time, she served as History Department Chair, New Teacher Mentor, and Athletic Director. In 2012, she joined the staff of Chaboya Middle School as an Assistant Principal.

“During her tenure as Assistant Principal at Chaboya Middle School she has made many contributions to site and district safety, and the instruction of English Language Learners,” Flores said. “Mrs. Hammond has dedicated her career to supporting student academics, mental wellness, and takes pride in her student-centered approach. She is a life-long learner, always finding ways to increase her knowledge and expertise while building positive relationships with students, families, and staff.”



Gina Ornellas



Jaime Hammond

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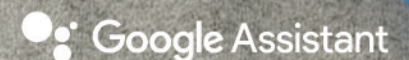
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Times **Feature**

Board of Supervisors President **Cindy Chavez** killed the vote on the special tax citing concerns about garnering two-thirds support from voters. *Photo by Luke Johnson*

# Santa Clara County COVID-19 tax plan fails

## Staff Report

*Article courtesy of San José Spotlight*

**S**anta Clara County's effort to tax residents to pay for COVID-19 relief measures failed after a short debate Tuesday, August 4.

County leaders proposed two options for asking voters in November to approve a 5/8-cent sales tax to help close the county's estimated \$300 to \$600 million budget deficit. The county has spent \$165.4 million so far on its COVID-19 response, officials said.

The first option — which required a “yes” vote from four of the five Board of Supervisors — was a general sales tax for five years. The second option, which would also tax residents for five years, was a special tax allocated for specific purposes. A special tax is harder to pass at the ballot box because it requires a two-thirds vote from the public.

But on Tuesday, supervisors failed to garner enough support for the general tax. Board President Cindy Chavez and Supervisors Susan Ellenberg and Dave Cortese voted in favor, while Supervisors Joe Simitian and Mike Wasserman opposed.

Ellenberg initially had expressed concern with the tax measure last month, but shifted her stance Tuesday.

Simitian said a general sales tax hike is regressive and it's uncertain how the money will be spent. He said the county's budget has ballooned 84% in the past seven years, indicating out-of-control spending as it continues to ask residents to pay more.

“It's important that folks understand that there is no guarantee that any of those funds in a general tax would ever be used to benefit the purposes that people spoke to,” Simitian said. “That's the nature of a general tax, for better or for worse.”

Wasserman said the tax would further burden struggling residents, adding it would make Santa Clara County the high-

est-taxed county in the state. “The idea of adding more to the cost-of-living in Santa Clara County is not something I want to support,” he said.

After the failure of general sales tax, Chavez killed the vote on the special tax citing concerns about garnering two-thirds support from voters.

Chavez criticized the board for supporting a tax to keep Caltrain alive — which has a majority of riders who earn more than \$100,000 a year, she said — while failing to help poor people and people of color struggling amid the pandemic.

“The people who rebound the least are the communities who need us the most,” Chavez said. “... I'd like to head off as much of the suffering as we possibly can... I don't think the cavalry is coming. I think we are the cavalry.”

Many spoke in favor of letting voters decide if they should tax themselves to help patch up the deficit.

“I don't really like sales taxes, but we don't have a lot of choices,” said Steve Eckert, CEO of the Alum Rock Counseling Center. “These extraordinary times cause us to consider every measure possible... right now, we can't afford to take any revenue options off the table.”

County Executive Jeff Smith warned supervisors that layoffs are on the horizon without an additional revenue stream.

“We're fronting a lot of these (COVID-19) costs with general fund revenue,” Smith said.

Despite the failed general tax measure, Cortese made a last-minute effort to revive talks for the special tax to no avail.

“I feel like we need to do something because we know what's coming,” Cortese said. “What's being put out there in terms of the time limitation is very reasonable. I think the public would want the opportunity to do something about (the recession) themselves.”



## FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

The Evergreen Valley Rotary Club hosted an informative presentation on Monday, August 10 about building healthy & resilient communities by practicing food sovereignty amid the Covid pandemic and beyond by Raul Lozano, Founder of Valley Verde. Valley Verde is dedicated to providing low-income families educational programs, edible gardens, and micro-entrepreneurship opportunities that create food security and lead to self-sufficiency. Valley Verde gives away free seedlings including tomatoes, cucumbers, and zucchinis so local residents can grow food in their backyards partnering with Master Gardeners and Stanford University.



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Times **Community News**

# Sacred Heart seeks support in effort to meet unprecedented need for its annual school supply giveaway program

On Friday, August 7th at 8:30 a.m. Sacred Heart Community Service in San Jose began distributing thousands of backpacks filled with school supplies to local families as part of their annual 'Pack A Back' campaign.

The economic downturn related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the shift to distance learning this fall has created an unprecedented need for these supplies. This year Sacred Heart has registered more than 3,800 children to receive free backpacks and school supplies which is 500 more than last year.

'Pack-A-Back' is made possible thanks to Sacred Heart's generous community members. Hundreds of local community

members, several schools, businesses, and churches have already started sharing, but Sacred Heart needs to raise an additional \$95,000.00 to ensure every child can get the supplies they need this fall.

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 "Wishlist."

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 their most vulnerable neighbors. Sa-

cred Heart is pivoting to multiple distribution days (August 7th, 10th, 11th, 12th) from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and "no contact" (touchless) home deliveries for families who cannot come to the distribution days for health reasons.

In addition to donations, Sacred Heart is also looking for volunteers to help with backpack distribution.

Those interested in volunteering can get involved by emailing: [volunteers@sacredheartcs.org](mailto:volunteers@sacredheartcs.org). For more information regarding Pack A Back 2020, visit: [www.sacredheartcs.org/pab](http://www.sacredheartcs.org/pab)

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



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 "Wishlist."

## Mayor Sam Liccardo endorses Ann Ravel for State Senate

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo is endorsing Ann Ravel's campaign to become the next State Senator of District 15.

"As mayor of San Jose, I know that our city needs a proven leader in Sacramento who will work every day to make government more accountable, transparent and effective for every member of our diverse community. That's why I am so proud to give my endorsement to Ann Ravel for State Senate," said Liccardo. "Ann Ravel's groundbreaking career is a demonstration of her tenacity, independence and commitment to serving the people. In these tough times we need strong and independent representatives like Ann Ravel."



"I'm honored to have the support of Mayor Liccardo, a leader who has shown that the innovation and economic growth represented by Silicon Valley's future is brightest when everyone can share in the prosperity," said Ravel.

In recent months, Ravel has announced endorsements from Congresswoman Katie Porter, ten incumbent members of the California legislature, members of the San Jose City Council, the Silicon Valley Organization, Latinas Lead California and EMILY's List.

The Mercury News has also endorsed Ravel calling her a "standout" candidate.

Ravel was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve in his administration – first serving at the Department of Justice, then working as head of the Federal Election Commission. Ravel was also appointed by Governor Jerry Brown as Chair of California's Fair Political Practices Commission.

California's State Senate District 15 includes San Jose, Campbell, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno and Saratoga. This is an open seat — current State Senator Jim Beall is termed out in 2020.

## Four tips for working from home with your pet

One of the perks of working from home is more time with your pets. While it can be exciting to have your furry friends by your side all day, it's important to know how to make the day as productive and pleasant as possible for you and your pet.

Mindfully incorporating your pet and his needs into your routine can allow for an efficient and successful workday with your four-legged coworker. "Working from home is a new reality that so many people across the country are adjusting to," said Dave Bradey, vice president of people and organization at Mars Pet-care.

"Having the opportunity to spend more time with our pets allows us to strengthen our bonds and enjoy all the mood-boosting, stress-reducing benefits they bring," Bradey said. "Through our Better Cities for Pets™ program, it's our goal to help people enjoy the benefits of a life with pets, even when they're adorably interrupting our work calls."

Consider these tips to help make working from home with your pets as smooth as possible, and visit [BetterCitiesForPets.com](http://BetterCitiesForPets.com) for more information on keeping pets happy and healthy.

1. Feed and play with your pet before you start your workday. Keeping a schedule is an important step to help ensure the day goes smoothly for both you and your furry friend. Before you start your workday, make sure to find time to feed and play with your pet. Doing these things before you start working can help tire out Fido or Fluffy and should keep him happy and satisfied, making it less likely that your important call is interrupted.

2. Provide distractions during calls and meetings. It's important to be proac-



tive with your pet's needs during the day, rather than reacting to an interruption, like your pet needing to go outside or have his water bowl refilled. If you have a call or video conference that can't be interrupted, be sure to take care of your pet's needs ahead of time. It also helps to provide some distractions for your pet in advance of the call. Hide treats around your home to create a scavenger hunt or bring out an interactive toy to keep him preoccupied.

3. Reward good behavior. Positive reinforcement is a way to teach your pet good behaviors. It's important to give your pet regular performance reviews

by rewarding good behavior and discouraging the bad during the workday. Make sure to let your pet know when he's doing the right thing by giving extra love and treats to encourage him to continue being the good boy that he is.

4. Schedule quality time during the day. Your pet will likely be just as excited as you to spend some extra time together. Make sure to schedule breaks during the day to give your pet all your attention. Whether it's a quick walk, some designated play time or fetch in the yard, quality time can be a mood booster for both you and your pet and will make sure he feels the love. (Family Features)



# SJ Mayor Sam Liccardo sues to count undocumented immigrants in census

In an unusual move, San Jose Mayor Liccardo is a named plaintiff in a lawsuit against President Trump.

Liccardo said he has personally joined the City of San José and other concerned jurisdictions and individuals to stop President Donald Trump from excluding undocumented residents from being counted in the 2020 census — a violation of the Constitution.

“In San José, and under the U.S. Constitution, everyone counts,” Mayor Liccardo said. “The explicit promise of the 14th Amendment that apportionment rely upon the ‘counting of the whole number of persons in each State’ does not countenance or allow the disregard of any one ‘person,’ as the White House seeks. It is astounding that 132 years after we wiped the abhorrent “three-fifths” clause from Article I of our U.S. Constitution, and as our nation yearns for racial equity, we have a Presidential Administration seeking to return to the days prior to the passage of the 14th Amendment.”

On July 21, 2020 President Trump directed the secretary of commerce to statistically manipulate the completed 2020 census count to exclude undocumented immigrants living in the country from being considered for purposes of calculating the number of representatives to Congress from the various states.

The lawsuit was filed Wednesday, July 29, 2020 in San José by the City of San José, the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), King County (Washington), Arlington County (Virginia), and individual plaintiffs Sam Liccardo, Zerihoun Yilma, and Lovette Kargbo-Thompson—alleges that the president’s memorandum violates the Census Act, the Enumeration Clause of Article 1 of the U.S. Constitution, and the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution.

# Receive 10 free trees by joining Arbor Day Foundation in August

Spruce up your landscape by joining the Arbor Day Foundation in August.

Everyone who joins the Arbor Day Foundation with a \$10 donation will receive 10 free Norway spruce trees or 10 white flowering dogwood trees through the Foundation’s Trees for America campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid between October 15 and December 10, depending on the right time for planting in each member’s area. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

“Norway spruce trees truly provide year-round beauty for any landscape,” said Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “White flowering dogwood trees will add color and beauty to your yard throughout the year, with their showy spring flowers, scarlet autumn foliage, and red berries that attract songbirds in the winter.”

New members of the Arbor Day Foundation will also receive The Tree Book, which includes information about tree planting and care, and a subscription to Arbor Day, the Foundation’s bimonthly publication.

To receive the free Norway spruce trees, join online at [arborday.org/august](http://arborday.org/august) or send a \$10 membership contribution by August 31 to: Ten Free Norway Spruces, or Ten Free White Dogwood, Arbor Day Foundation, 211 N 12th St., Lincoln, NE 68508.

# County Supervisors approve placing Caltrain sales tax on November ballot

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, August 4 unanimously voted to approve putting an eighth-cent sales tax on the November 3 ballot to fund Caltrain.

Supporters believe the tax is crucial for the rail agency to survive its current financial downfall due to the Covid pandemic. Caltrain normally receives 70 percent of its operating funds from passenger fares.

The tax measure must win two-thirds approval at the ballot box. The proposed sales tax ballot measure is estimated to yield more than \$100 million a year for Caltrain.

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors president Cindy Chavez said it is essential to fund Caltrain for climate protection and traffic mitigation.

# YMCA of Silicon Valley sponsored summer meals at branches, community program locations and libraries

Summertime means a vacation from school, but for one in four kids in Santa Clara County, a school break can also mean going hungry. Many families rely on free or low-cost school lunch programs. The need is greater than ever.

The YMCA of Silicon Valley’s Summer Meal Program served free, healthy meals to children who may not have access to healthy food during the summer months. The program ended on August 7. In partnership with the USDA’s Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) serving youth 18 and under and Second Harvest Food Bank providing funding to serve adults, the YMCA helped the community make ends meet during this time of crisis.

The Y in partnership with the San Jose Public Library and the Santa Clara County Library District operated summer meal sites at a total of 9 libraries, where whole families received free and nutritious meals all summer long.

Revolution Foods, known for fresh, healthy meals and kid-friendly dishes prepared the food served at all of our meal program sites.

Serving meals at local libraries, as well as at YMCAs and schools, means that we can bring free, healthy food to a variety of places most easily accessible to the community.

A parent participant from San Jose shared, “The YMCA meal program has helped our family make ends meet. Without this program I am not sure where we would be. The program gives me hope and the help I need to have a better life for my family. I know we can spend the afternoons at the library and my children can learn and nourish their minds and bodies.”



From left, **Nayeli Grano** and **Dave Cortese** spoke recently about Santa Clara County’s basic income program, which will provide monthly payments to young adults transitioning out of the foster care system. *Photo by Katie Lauer*

# Santa Clara County foster youth begin receiving universal basic income at \$1,000 monthly

By Katie Lauer

Article courtesy of San José Spotlight

**P**aid rent, a full stomach and freedom to pursue her dreams: that’s what Santa Clara County’s new Basic Income Program means for Nayeli Grano, one of the 72 foster youth who have already started receiving funds.

As a 23-year-old sociology student transitioning out of the foster care system, Grano said she can now breathe easier knowing the money will not only help her survive and stay off the streets – especially in the increasingly expensive Bay Area – but also enjoy life.

“UBI (Universal Basic Income) is the least that we can do for our community to survive,” Grano said Monday. “UBI represents the happiness and stress-free mindset that people can have, because after paying for their basic needs, they finally have some cents left over to go out and have fun – you know, live a little.”

Santa Clara County’s program is the first in the nation to provide unconditional \$1,000 monthly payments to foster youth between 21 to 24 years old who are struggling to find housing and jobs. The program runs from June 2020 to May 2021.

The payments were unanimously approved in May, after being fast-tracked from a committee in December. Supervisor Dave Cortese, who first introduced the proposal, said the timing couldn’t be better with the ongoing pandemic, which has exacerbated issues of homelessness, immigration and child welfare.

But the veteran lawmaker and state Senate candidate said the program isn’t a hand-out, especially as these “children of the

county” will maintain the autonomy on how to spend the money.

“They’re not a charity case. It’s our obligation to (help),” Cortese said. “That is the beauty of the UBI program: we are saying be empowered, make your decisions, invest in your life.”

Dr. Sandhya Hermon, a deputy director in the county’s Social Services Agency, said this population often has limited access to support systems, which can lead to lower educational achievements and unstable finances in the future.

According to Talk Poverty, 150 young people age out of the foster care system in Santa Clara County annually and 90% of foster youth across California don’t have any source of income when they transition out. San Jose nonprofit Razing the Bar, which provides mentorship and housing support services to foster youth, said 45% of the homeless population under the age of 25 spent time in the foster system.

Cortese said the year-long program is a much-needed investment into the local community. He said the UBI program’s funds will most likely go directly into schools and cash registers across the county — helping others prosper, too.

“Most of the time if you want to do fundamental change, you are challenged by the fact that the status quo is almost unmovable, but when it fails so drastically as it’s failing before our eyes, you’re way ahead of the game,” stated Gisèle Huff, president of The Gerald Huff Fund for Humanity. “Every single instance of (universal basic income) is just another tile, and it’s worth investing in or participating in, because it’s part of the bigger picture.”





### CAMPBELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

400 W. Campbell Ave.  
Campbell, CA 95008  
(408) 378-4418  
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No Matter Where You Are On Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here!  
We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, and celebrate members of the LGBTQ+ Community.  
Joy-filled worship every Sunday at 10:00 AM, with communion open to all.

Join Pastor Naomi for tea/coffee at Orchard Valley cafe in Campbell during community drop-in office hours from 11 AM to 1 PM on most Tuesdays.

Our ministries/activities include:

- Bible study on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6PM.
- A Food Pantry serving anyone in need—open Tu/Th/Sa 10:00 AM to Noon.
- Lighted Window Productions featuring uplifting concerts, thought-provoking theater produc-

tions, informative lectures, and even an occasional karaoke night—all in a wholesome environment.

Our activities flow from our core values:

- Extravagant Joy
- Passionate Faith
- Loving Respect
- Deep Connectedness
- Intentional Growth
- Shared Laughter

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

### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC

6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120. Pastor, Rev. Marty Williams, 408 268 0243.  
www.ccavucc.org.  
We are a welcoming church with a progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and Affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local LifeMoves (formerly InnVision) Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco

Night Ministry, Second Harvest Food Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End Poverty.  
Worship Sunday, 9:00 AM followed by fellowship and refreshments.  
1st Sunday in Worship: Holy Communion  
2nd Sunday in Worship: Folks Choir and Potluck Sunday.  
Tuesdays, AA Meetings, 8:15 - 9:15 PM.  
Wednesdays, 9:30 AM, Women's Study Group.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

5351 Carter Ave., San Jose 95118  
408.265.5837  
www.bibleroad.org  
We strive to be a group of Christians that love and honor God and Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We assemble each Sunday to encourage each other through singing, studying, praying and sharing in the Lord's supper. Simple—just like what one reads about in the New Testament.  
Bible class at 9:30 AM  
Worship at 10:30 AM  
Located in south San Jose near Kooser Rd. and Camden Ave. (behind the Almaden Valley Athletic Club). Come make new Christian friends!

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector Phone: 408-268-0243  
Web: www.eca-sj.org  
At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, loved, valued and empowered to serve. Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family. All junior high and senior high students are welcome to participate in our Youth Groups. During the school year we have joint Sunday School with our sister church, the Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, UCC. The Episcopal Church in Almaden offers the following regular opportunities for worship: Sunday at 7:30AM and 10:45AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.



### EVERGREEN ISLAMIC CENTER (EIC)

http://www.eicsanjosel.org  
2486 Ruby Ave, San Jose, CA 95148.  
(408) 239-6668  
"As-Salaamu-Alaikum" the English meaning is "Peace be upon you".  
Q) What is Islam, who are Muslims, and what is the Quran?  
A) Islam is a faith and way of life. Islam began in the 7th century. People who follow Islam are known as Muslims. The Quran is the Divine holy book that guides Muslims to practice Islam.  
Please visit our website to learn more.  
Jazāk Allāhu Khayran!

### FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN

Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.com  
Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a message that is relevant to real life, based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips. Come, Make a Difference and feel the difference God can make in your life!



### GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN

www.GraceChurchSJ.net  
See you on Facebook  
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Christian Worship every Sunday at 11:00 am

Together let us build lives toward excellence!  
Music Institute (408) 791-7772  
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### HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Faith. Knowledge. Community - this is our promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office. Information on Faith Formation for children and adults can be obtained by calling our Catechetical Office at 408-997-5115. Get in the loop with our Sixty High School Youth Ministry by calling 408-997-5106. Holy Spirit School serves grades Pre-K through 8th, and is located at 1198 Redmond Avenue. You can reach the school office at 408-268-0794.



thepoint.church

### THE POINT CHURCH

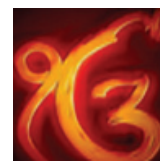
3695 Rose Terrace Cir San Jose, CA 95148  
(408) 270-7646  
English Service: Sundays at 9:30 & 11:00 AM  
Spanish Service: 11:00 AM  
Cambodian Service: 11:00 AM  
Cantonese Service: 11:00 AM  
Mandarin Service: 11:00AM  
Youth Extreme Point (7th-12th grade): Every Saturday at 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

### SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual

**NOTE: Due to the coronavirus, many religious institutions have services online.**

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 thru 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!

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