Almaden student Adarsh Ambati wins the 2020 International Young Eco-Hero Award

Local teen receives top honor for contributions in solving environmental problems

Adarsh Ambati (inset) of Almaden is one of seventeen young environmental activists from across the globe honored by Action for Nature (AFN) as a 2020 International Young Eco-Hero.

Awarded annually, the Y.E.H. award recognizes eco-conscious youth for their creative initiatives aimed at tackling critical environmental challenges.

Young environmental activists from across the globe are selected by a panel of independent judges, including experts in environmental science, biology, and education.

For the past 17 years, the International Young Eco-Hero Awards have honored global youth in two categories – 8 to 12 years old and 13 to 16 years old – who are taking important steps to solve tough environmental problems.

Since 2003, Action for Nature has recognized more than 275 young people from over 30 countries and 25 U.S. states.

15-year-old Adarsh received the Innovator Award for his project, Smart Community Sprinkler System.

About Adarsh Ambati’s Winning Project

Adarsh Ambati noticed that while harsh drought conditions have existed in his area for several years, many of his neighbors had automatic sprinklers dispersing precious and expensive water, regardless of weather conditions.

In response, he developed a smart, low-cost, community sprinkler alert system that would conserve water that is often wasted during general-purpose landscape irrigation.

Adarsh began working on his prototype in 2016, conducted a two-month pilot with 10 neighboring households, and found that these 10 homes had the potential to save 50,000 gallons of water over two months.

“Kids like Adarsh have shown that the next generation is refusing to simply stand on the sidelines and instead is turning its passion for helping the planet into projects that have tangible, positive impacts on the environment now,” said Beryl Kay, president of Action for Nature.

“This international non-profit organization encourages young people to nurture a love and respect for Earth’s natural resources and to take personal action to better their environments. Young activists like Adarsh are shaping the world around them and inspiring other young people to take action to protect our Earth.”

State ballot measures debated

By Lorraine Gabbert
Senior Staff Writer

State Ballot Measures, ranging from taxes to affirmative action, were strongly debated at a recent forum hosted by the Almaden Valley Community Association.

Prop. 15

California Proposition 15 would increase funding for public schools, community colleges and local governments. Local school districts, which would receive 40% of the generated revenue, would determine how to spend their funds. Local governments would receive the remaining 60%, which would go into their general funds.

If Prop. 15 passed, commercial and industrial properties valued at above $3 million would be reassessed every 5 years based upon current market values, rather than purchase price. Businesses with less than 50 employees would receive a $500,000 tax exemption on personal property.

Brian O’Neill, a prior senior appraiser in the Santa Clara County assessor’s office, spoke in favor of Prop. 15 as a funding source for local schools and governments.

Brian O’Neill said he supports Prop. 15 and encourages voters to educate themselves on Prop. 15 and other measures before voting.

Orange in the sky

The sun image is a bright orange object with an orange-gray sky at 12:15 p.m. Wednesday, September 9 due to multiple layers of smoke high in the atmosphere. Ground level pollution is moderate with a temperature of only 67 degrees as a result of the smoke blocking the heat of the sun’s rays. Photo by Lou Alexander
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For more photos and video go to SiliconValleySmartHome.com

Therese Swan
408.656.8240
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The Swan

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/Real Trends for being in the Top 250 Agents in the US. Additionally, Swan is consistently among the Top 100 Agents in the SF Bay Area.

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Temporary eviction moratorium extended

The San Jose City Council has extended the temporary eviction moratorium to October 17, 2020, to align with the Proclamation of Local Emergency. The moratorium prevents evictions based on non-payment of rent for tenants affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Affected tenants must pay at least 50 percent of unpaid rent that accrues during the moratorium within 6 months of the end of the eviction moratorium. The remaining 50 percent must be paid within one year of the end of the moratorium. Questions may be submitted to the Rent Stabilization Program at (408) 975-4480 or RSP@sanjoseca.gov.

City of San Jose hiring Senior Park Ranger

The City of San José is hiring a Senior Park Ranger. Senior Park Rangers direct and manage park operations, including planning, implementing and monitoring activities within the City of San Jose's parks system. The position requires a minimum of two years of experience in parks-related activities, including leadership and community engagement. Applications are due September 28, 2020. For more information, visit sanjose.ca.gov/jobs.

Local high school sophomore meets members of Congress in virtual leadership program

Congressional Hispanic Caucus makes experience possible

Paula Escobar, a high school sophomore from San Jose, was among 14 high school students from California to meet with members of Congress. The meeting with Congress was made possible by the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI), the nation’s premiere Latino leadership development organization for its 10th annual R2L NextGen program. Despite COVID-19 prohibiting students from traveling to Washington, D.C. for a weeklong program that focuses on civic engagement, leadership, and college readiness, CHCI was able to offer students a transformational experience virtually. Participants spent the month of July working with their personal and professional growth with a cohort of fellow young leaders. The virtual format allowed the inclusion of mentors, college recruiters, and speakers from across the country to share their stories and expertise with students. Participants also worked on a “census engagement” plan that will allow them to contribute to the census count in their community. “I am grateful to our partner State Farm for supporting CHCI’s mission to provide R2L NextGen participants with the tools, resources, and opportunities to help them attain their educational and leadership aspirations,” said Marco Davis, President and CEO of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. The program participants are eager, inspired, and excited to take on new challenges today that will help them create a better future for the nation.”

The R2L NextGen program was created in partnership with founding sponsor State Farm™ in 2011. Over the past 10 years, State Farm has helped CHCI train 633 young Latino leaders. Additional support is provided by Facebook, Bank of America; Edison International/Southern California Edison; Ford Motor Company Fund, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company; The California Endowment; Phillips 66; and GEAR UP LA.

Op Ed

Sixplexes coming to your neighborhood

The San Jose General Plan 2040 (GP2040) is the blueprint of how San Jose will grow in the future. One of the ambitious goals of GP2040 is to achieve financial solvency for the city by balancing job growth with housing growth.

For decades, San Jose has done the heavy lifting by building the majority of housing for the entire region, while neighboring cities enjoyed the benefits of this imbalance, and offered little in return. This created a significant inequity between San Jose and other cities in terms of tax dollars per resident, and produced a reality where San Jose struggles to provide basic city services while neighboring cities are able to provide superior services for their residents.

The current general plan has a smart growth strategy of locating new infill housing adjacent to transit and along major boulevards. San Jose consistently approves thousands of housing units, both market rate and low-income, designated for these strategic parcels. The other goal of the balanced equation, job creation, necessitates we reserve commercial and industrial parcels for future development, so San Jose has a sufficient tax base without having to constantly raise taxes every two years (or in the case of 2020, twice in the same year).

While GP2040 allows for higher density development in strategic locations, it also pledges to protect single-family home neighborhoods. When I served on the GP2040 task force for five years, I advocated for protecting established neighborhoods so higher density housing would be created where it most made sense, namely, along densely populated transit corridors. This policy was supported by the former planning director Joe Horwedel.

No community meetings or hearings are now required

The current GP2040 taskforce has decided to renege on this pledge, however, and voted on August 20 to start the process of converting single-family homes into fourplexes “by right,” meaning, no community meetings or hearings would be required, and a house could simply be demolished and a fourplex could be constructed in its place. This proposal would be citywide and encompass all San Jose neighborhoods. Taken a step further, allowing a four unit complex to replace a single-family home could have an even broader impact on neighborhoods, as the same property may also have two ADUs on site, creating six units instead of one. Access to these units will be car dependent, since the bus system will never reach far-flung cul-de-sacs. State law does not allow cities to limit the number of cars per dwelling, thus automobiles associated with these six units would be competing for available street parking. Density where it was not planned creates chaos and conflict. Once implemented, how will we fix it? Answer: the impact would be irreversible.

When a family saved up to buy a single-family home, there was a promise made by the city in the zoning that their block would remain intact, even if San Jose continued to grow around them. These buyers did their due diligence, prior to purchase, and should not be forced to swallow such a drastic change to their neighborhood. This policy would result in a family being oustied on a house by a profit-motivated buyer who would stand to make significantly more money with 4 or 6 units than with a single-family house.

Instead of flipping the bird to approximately 180,000 San Jose homeowners, we should stick with the existing GP2040 which will produce housing units at a lower per unit cost and not denigrate the unique character of single-family home neighborhoods. If proponents are confident that this is truly beneficial for a majority of city residents, then the issue should appear on a future ballot for a citywide vote.

Pierluigi Oliverio
San Jose Planning Commissioner
Former San Jose Councilmember
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Back-to-school tips to help parents prepare

Back-to-school season, usually a time of exciting new beginnings, is evoking many different feelings for families this year: anxiety, uncertainty, and chaos, to name a few.

As schools are struggling to safely reopen, successfully hold fully virtual classes, and balance in-person and remote learning, parents have a lot more to prep for this year than ever before.

Brinily, the world’s largest online learning and homework help community, has some back-to-school tips to help parents prepare for this unprecedented school year, regardless of their school or situation.

Back-to-school tips

1. Talk to your child about how this school year will be different. Be upfront about the situation and empower your child to make smart choices and do their part to help stop the spread. Things like handwashing, social distancing etiquette, and mask-wearing should be discussed. Having an open conversation and presenting all the facts will make both you and your child feel less anxious.

2. Create a learning command center. Spend some time creating a space in your home for your child to study or do homework. If you don’t have a spare room, or if you have multiple children who want to work together, create a way to store school supplies in a cart or container that’s portable and can be used at the kitchen table or anywhere.

3. Build excitement and inspire positivity. While getting mentally prepared for this back-to-school season may be a particularly tough assignment for many people, it still deserves to be celebrated. Consider having a back-to-school themed TV marathon, creating an end-of-summer countdown with construction paper loops, or planning out a special breakfast for the first day.

4. Make face masks fun (and familiar). For those returning to in-person classes, have a mask for every day for your child, and make sure they like the mask and feel comfortable wearing it for extended periods of time. Cloth face masks come in countless patterns and colors, and kids can use them to express their personal style while staying safe. Pro tip: it’s also smart to make sure kids have an extra mask (or plastic bag) every day just in case something happens to the first one.

5. Use tech tools to enhance learning. Students who are starting out the first part of their fall semester online may find themselves needing some extra help on assignments, and luckily there are plenty of safe online resources they can utilize. Brinily is a social online learning, and homework help community that brings all the benefits of in-person study groups into a digital format. Dictionary.com is perfect for students needing to look up definitions for vocabulary words, synonyms or antonyms, as well as wanting to expand their personal word bank with a word of the day. My Home study Planner app is a digital resource where students can input due dates of assignments, homework deadlines, and reminders for almost anything under the sun to help them stay on top of their work and feel confident in class.

6. Bake in time for social interactions and study breaks. Some students who are starting virtual classes may be feeling a little down about not getting to see their friends, but there are plenty of ways for them to still socialize with their friends. Encourage your kid to incorporate games into their Zoom calls. And during the school day at home, it’s important to schedule regular breaks every hour or so.

7. Meal prep healthy lunches and snacks. Getting organized ahead of schedule makes all the difference in the world. There are tons of online resources for quick, healthy snacks and lunch ideas for kids of all ages (and adults!) such as MealBoard, LaLa Lunchbox, or Gozzi. Make things easier on yourself by prepping for the coming week on Sundays and having everything conveniently stored and ready to-go in the fridge to help streamline school days.

8. Schedule the start of the school term. Some students may feel more prepared and ready to go for the first day.

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Santa Clara County was originally placed in the most restrictive Purple Tier along with most other counties when the State switched from the monitoring list system to its current color-coded tier framework on August 28. The move to the Red Tier was based on daily case rates and test positivity. The State framework gives counties credit toward their case rate if they test more people than the state average. Using this calculation, the high number of tests performed in our area gave Santa Clara County a significant credit, allowing the County to move to the Red Tier.

If these metrics continue to improve, the County would be eligible to move forward in the framework to a less restrictive tier after three weeks. If these metrics worsen, the County would revert into a more restrictive tier as soon as two weeks from now. For more information about the State framework, visit covid19.ca.gov.

For more information on the local public health order and directives, visit www.sccgov.org/coronavirus.

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Wildfire relief: how you can help

San José Fire Department has received many generous offers of donations for firefighters combating the wildland fires and they are extremely grateful.

A friendly wave, smile, and thank you are great ways to show your support for our hardworking firefighters.

Firefighters recommend that residents consider donating to the victims of the fires.

**Red Cross Donations**

You can help fire victims through a monetary donation to the Red Cross. [www.redcross.org/donate](http://www.redcross.org/donate). The Red Cross cannot accept unsolicited material donations. Businesses wishing to make an in-kind donation of materials should go to: [www.redcross.org/contact-us/in-kind-form.html](http://www.redcross.org/contact-us/in-kind-form.html)

**Red Cross Volunteer Opportunities:** For those who wish to donate their time, visit the Red Cross website for information on how to become a volunteer: [www.redcross.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer.html](http://www.redcross.org/volunteer/become-a-volunteer.html).

**San Mateo & Santa Clara County Fire Relief Fund**

The Silicon Valley Community Foundation San Mateo & Santa Clara County Fire Relief Fund is another effort you may consider supporting. Donations to this fund will support nonprofit organizations based in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties that are working directly with individuals and families who have been harmed by this disaster.

For more information, visit: [www.siliconvalleycf.org/san-mateo-santa-clara-fire-relief](http://www.siliconvalleycf.org/san-mateo-santa-clara-fire-relief)
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*Using U.S. and imported parts.
South Bay student pivots non-profit to assist local communities

Arun Mommileti harnesses flexibility and creativity to help save lives

By William Bellou
Publisher

Arun Mommileti, a rising senior at The King’s Academy, is passionate about neuroscience, the medical field, and public health education as well as entrepreneurship.

In 2017, he launched a nonprofit known as United2Care to help spread hand sanitation awareness to rural communities around the world.

Over 60 United2Care has spearheaded several projects in India and Kenya, spreading their message to more than 30 schools and has grown to be a 501(c)3 nonprofit.

Arun and his team were planning many hand sanitation projects through several schools with service trips this spring, but most of their plans were canceled due to COVID-19.

All of Arun’s organizations’ hard work fundraising, planning, and organizing their summer projects were all down the drain.

That got Arun thinking, “Is there any way I can change the focus of our projects this year and address the ongoing pandemic?”

Arun pivots non-profit to help local communities during pandemic

After careful research and planning, Arun decided to launch the STOP COVID19 AT HOME project (partnering with another local nonprofit, MiOrA) and an array of other projects this summer that have made a substantial impact in the bay area.

United2Care’s STOP COVID19 AT HOME project revolves around building and distributing COVID-19 prevention kits across the Bay area’s testing sites. Each kit includes the following:

- Two adjustable clear face shields
- 10 FDA surgical masks
- a portable curtain
- a fillable contact tracer sheet with a link to the Department of Health contact tracing resources
- a multi-language COVID-19 infographic for home display
- CPR kits

So far, Arun and his team have distributed over 60 kits, with more than 1,000 contents packaged at around $2,500, to Oakland at Risk and Valley Medical Foundation, impacting more than 1,500 people.

Arun plans on expanding the project with MiOrA this school year and hopes to launch it on a national level.

“So far, we have fundraised over $5,000 through Givefu and, we are currently looking for company sponsorships to fund our second wave of COVID-19 prevention kits,” Arun said.

Also, this summer, United2Care launched two more COVID-19 and hand sanitation awareness projects.

1) United2Care partnered with The Literacy Initiative, a 501(c)3 nonprofit, to host an e-camp course to younger children explaining the global importance of hand-washing to slow the spread of COVID-19.

2) United2Care launched a webinar series on their Instagram where the organization talks in-depth to healthcare professionals about the growing COVID-19 pandemic for the high school audience. Recently, Arun interviewed Dr. Jacob Glannville, a world-renowned researcher who potentially has discovered the world’s first COVID-19 vaccine.

Dr. Katharine Miller, Dr. Ozlem Equils, Dr. Enoch Chol, and Dr. Maya Adam were also interviewed.

Kenya trip

Arun made a trip to Kenya in 2019 where he went with Jordan International Aid to a medical relief camp and spoke with residents about the importance of handwashing and distributed more than a thousand bars of soap.

“When I gave a soap bar to each of the children, seeing their faces delight in joy and take so much appreciation in it, it really spoke volumes to me and inspired me to try to make United2Care bigger,” Arun said. “I know who I’m impacting now.”

Early beginnings

Arun’s global campaign began as a middle-school project when his science teacher asked students to choose a social problem in the world to write about. At first Arun struggled with what to pick, but his research led him to a few places that mentioned the importance of hand-sanitization which piqued his interest.

Arun’s dad also related several accounts of unsanitary conditions in parts of India. Arun’s plan was to launch a few different categories based on their physical condition and how maintenance for specific areas are funded. The source of funding determines maintenance frequency and expectations.

In 2017, DOT, along with many jurisdictions, discontinued the use of glyphosate (the chemical found in Roundup brand weed control) due to published health and safety concerns. Glyphosate is a cost-effective pre-emergent (a substance which inhibits the growth of weeds) and alternative products have not yet proven to be as effective, although DOT continues to research and investigate new products and methods.

The global pandemic and corresponding regional shelter-in-place (SIP) orders added further hurdles to the City’s maintenance routine. In order to comply with the order, DOT’s in-house landscaping team and landscape contractors shifted from providing routine maintenance to only focusing on high priority and emergency service requests. While staff and contractors have returned to performing routine maintenance, they will need time to address backlogs. If you would like an update about a specific location, please contact Manuel Cota, Principal Construction Inspector with DOT, at Manuel.Cota@sanjose.gov.

Landscape services have traditionally faced budget challenges, which will be exacerbated due to COVID-19 and the accompanying economic turmoil and its impact on City tax revenues. DOT is committed to continuing to provide efficient and effective services given the resources available, and seeks opportunities to expand its services wherever possible.

What's up with all the weeds?

By Johnny Khamis
City Councilmember

Many of you have written to our office asking about the landscape conditions as there is noticeable weed growth in many areas—‘why do we have so many overgrown parcels of City land, and why is it taking so long for the City to address it? Is it ever going to be taken care of?’ is the gist of the questions.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) maintains nearly 40 million square feet of landscape City-wide. These parcels are divided into different categories based on their physical condition and how maintenance for specific areas are funded. The source of funding determines maintenance frequency and expectations.

In 2017, DOT, along with many jurisdictions, discontinued the use of glyphosate (the chemical found in Roundup brand weed control) due to published health and safety concerns.

Glyphosate is a cost-effective pre-emergent (a substance which inhibits the growth of weeds) and alternative products have not yet proven to be as effective, although DOT continues to research and investigate new products and methods.

The global pandemic and corresponding regional shelter-in-place (SIP) orders added further hurdles to the City’s maintenance routine. In order to comply with the order, DOT’s in-house landscape team and landscape contractors shifted from providing routine maintenance to only focusing on high priority and emergency service requests. While staff and contractors have returned to performing routine maintenance, they will need time to address backlogs. If you would like an update about a specific location, please contact Manuel Cota, Principal Construction Inspector with DOT, at Manuel.Cota@sanjose.gov.

Landscape services have traditionally faced budget challenges, which will be exacerbated due to COVID-19 and the accompanying economic turmoil and its impact on City tax revenues. DOT is committed to continuing to provide efficient and effective services given the resources available, and seeks opportunities to expand its services wherever possible.

If you want you can help Arun and United2Care’s STOP COVID19 AT HOME PROJECT through company partnerships and corporate sponsorships for a second wave of kit funding.

To check out United2Care’s work follow their Instagram @united2care or check out their website united2care.org.
Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley names Wymer President and CEO

Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley (BGCSV) will soon have a new CEO.

The organization conducted their search process with the assistance of Boys & Girls Clubs of America’s CEO Search Team and following their work the BGCSV Board of Directors unanimously named Steve Wymer as the next President & CEO effective September 21.

As President & CEO, Steve will serve as the organization’s primary ambassador, leading strategic direction, overseeing organizational operations, financials, programming, brand reputation, talent recruitment, resource development, and stakeholder relationships. In partnership with his team, Steve will oversee the organization’s 14 locations and report to BGCSV Board Chair, Kathy Hevland.

“In the midst of unprecedented and challenging times, the programs and services the Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley offer are needed more than ever,” said Kathy Hevland, Board Chair, Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley. “After several months partaking in the wonderful work the BGCSV Board of Directors and I have been proud to work as partners with the incredible BGCSV team, and lead Boys & Girls Clubs as a powerful force for good.”

Wymer brings a diverse array of experiences to Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley. Prior to his tenure in technology, he served as a senior advisor to three Senators in the United States Senate in Washington, D.C., as well as time as an advisor on the staff of the Senate’s Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions committee. Steve was elected President of the bipartisan U.S. Senate Press Secretaries Association in 2010. During his time in Washington, he also served the U.S. Department of State on multiple occasions as a delegate to Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Sierra Leone, and Albania where he spoke at universities, conducted workshops, and led training for political activists and journalists throughout each country.

In 2011, Steve left Washington, D.C. for Silicon Valley where he rejoined TiVo Inc. Throughout his five years at TiVo, Steve lead corporate affairs and communications and immersed himself in the South Bay community. Upon leaving TiVo, Steve served in executive roles at Nextdoor.com where he led communications and policy, and eBay, where he led global communications and chaired the company’s corporate foundation.

Steve graduated Washington State University’s Edward R. Murrow College of Communication where he was a Thomas S. Foley Scholar. As an undergraduate, Steve served an unprecedented three terms as student body president from 1998-2001, leveraging his tenure to drive a cadre of policy reforms and facility and service improvements that continue to benefit students to this day. In 2008, he completed graduate studies in business and political negotiations at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government.

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo said, “I am thrilled to have the opportunity for my job to meet my purpose. As a father of four young children, my commitment to helping shape responsible, kind, community leaders in my own home is the most important job I will ever have,” Wymer said. “Unfortunately, hundreds of thousands of young people in Silicon Valley face increasingly daunting challenges navigating access to equal opportunity, affordable housing, food insecurity, and more. I could not be more inspired to serve in this capacity, work with the incredible BGCSV team, and lead the charge in our Valley to serve our young people. I plan to humbly challenge our community leaders, my friends and colleagues in the business community, and myself on a daily basis to play an even bigger role in supporting BGCSV’s mission to empower and equip young people in need. I’ve never been more fired up to make an impact.”

Steve Wymer
Councilmember Khamis organizing multiple opportunities for residents to help clean up problem areas in District 10

District 10 Councilmember Johnny Khamis is organizing multiple opportunities for residents to help clean up problem areas in the district.

Khamis’ office is focusing on the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Highway 85, as well as other spots where illegal dumping is prevalent. He plans to announce details of the cleanups on his social media channels and via Nextdoor.

Refresher training available for Community Emergency Response Team graduates

The Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is reaching out to Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) graduates to sign up for the upcoming virtual refresher training.

The 4-hour series CERT Refresher training will review Light Search and Rescue, CERT Organization, and Disaster Psychology. The training will generally run 1.5 hours long, that will include utilization of our virtual training platform ZOOM and interactive Q&A.

1. Light Search and Rescue Wednesday, September 30 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
2. CERT Organization Saturday, October 3 from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
3. Disaster Psychology Wednesday, October 7 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Those participating must register to participate in the CERT training and must receive an email confirmation with the virtual training instructions in order to attend classes.

For more information about the virtual refresher training, contact: SJCERT@sanjoseca.gov.

Bureau of Automotive Repair adopts emergency regulations to increase assistance to consumers impacted by Covid-19

Eligible consumers may receive up to $1,200 in emissions-related repairs

The Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) has adopted emergency regulations updating the Consumer Assistance Program (CAP) to increase assistance contributions available to consumers during the ongoing state of emergency in California.

The regulations increase the state’s contribution toward emissions-related repairs from a maximum of $500 to $1,200 for eligible consumers.

“The effects of COVID-19 have created many challenges for consumers that may negatively impact their ability to pay for emissions-related repairs required to pass Smog Check and complete the Department of Motor Vehicles’ registration renewal process,” said BAR Chief Patrick Dorais. “BAR sought the emergency regulatory action to improve access to required repairs and ensure critical workers and individuals reentering the workforce have reliable and safe transportation.”

CAP offers eligible consumers repair assistance and vehicle retirement options to help improve California’s air quality. The repair assistance option offers in-some-eligible-consumers assistance towards emissions-related repairs at a STAR test-and-repair station if their vehicle fails its Smog Check inspection.

In addition to the increased state contribution, the regulations modify the consumer copay structure and relax some vehicle registration related eligibility requirements.

For more information, visit the Consumer Assistance Program page at www.bara.ca.gov.
DAR Constitution Hall welcomes more than a half a million patrons each year. The Hall was designated a National Historic Landmark Building in 1985.

**CELEBRATE THE FOUNDATION OF AMERICA**

DAR promotes Constitution Week: Sept. 17-23

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution urges Americans to reflect on the United States Constitution during this month’s annual observance in honor of this foundational document of national governance.

“There are two documents of paramount importance to American history: the Declaration of Independence, which forged our national identity, and the United States Constitution, which set forth the framework for the federal government that functions to this day,” said DAR President General Denise Dorling Van Buren. “While Independence Day is a well-recognized and beloved national holiday, fewer people know about Constitution Week, an annual commemoration of the living document that upholds and protects the freedoms central to our American way of life.”

The DAR initiated the observance in 1955, when the service organization petitioned the U.S. Congress to dedicate September 17-23 of each year to the commemoration of Constitution Week. Congress adopted the resolution, and on August 2, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed it into Public Law #915. The celebration’s goals are threefold: to encourage the study of the historical events that led to the framing of the Constitution in September 1787; to remind the public that the Constitution is the basis of America’s great heritage and the foundation for its way of life; and to emphasize U.S. citizens’ responsibility to protect, defend and preserve the U.S. Constitution.

DAR has been the foremost advocate for the awareness, promotion and celebration of Constitution Week. The annual observance provides innumerable opportunities for educational initiatives and community outreach, two mission areas of crucial importance to educational initiatives and community outreach, two mission areas of crucial importance to American history: the Declaration of Independence, which forged our national identity, and the United States Constitution, which set forth the framework for the federal government that functions to this day,” said DAR President General Denise Dorling Van Buren. “While Independence Day is a well-recognized and beloved national holiday, fewer people know about Constitution Week, an annual commemoration of the living document that upholds and protects the freedoms central to our American way of life.”

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“In communities across America, Daughters will erect hundreds of community displays, sponsor municipal proclamations, ring bells and stage programs to raise awareness of the Constitution’s tenets and importance.

We invite everyone to join us in celebrating this powerful document, which has enabled our democracy within a republic for more than two centuries. We hope that all Americans will learn more about the Constitution and its immense impact on our nation,” Van Buren said.

One of the largest patriotic women’s organizations in the world, DAR has more than 185,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters across the country and several foreign countries. DAR members promote historic preservation, education and patriotism via commemorative events, scholarships and educational initiatives, citizenship programs, service to veterans, meaningful community service and more.

For additional information about DAR and its relevant mission, visit www.dar.org.

**EVC, SJCC faculty among most diverse in nation**

Students returning to virtual classrooms at Evergreen Valley College (EVC) and San José City College (SJCC) are being taught by some of the most diverse faculty in the nation, according to new data from the Chronicle of Higher Education. Chronicle’s “Diversity Index,” which was published recently, ranks “colleges with the greatest racial and ethnic diversity among faculty members.” EVC ranks No. 4 and SJCC No. 5 nationally among all two-year public institutions. This marks the second straight year that both colleges ranked among the top seven.

“While we certainly benefit from being located in one of the most diverse regions in the country, we have also been very intentional with our faculty recruitment process in order to ensure that we are identifying the most highly qualified and talented faculty possible to fill our available positions,” said Dr. Byron D. Clink Breland, San José – Evergreen Community College District chancellor. “By taking steps to ensure we recruit from diverse applicant pools, we are able to hire the best and brightest faculty from throughout the nation and world.”

According to research, having a faculty comprised of instructors who reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the students they teach is beneficial for multiple reasons. One study of more than 1,000 college students conducted for the PhD Project found that more than 90 percent of minority students indicated that studying under a minority professor had a positive impact on their education. A more recent study published in 2018 concluded that graduation rates for minority students are positively affected by increased diversity of their faculty.

“Representation matters,” Chancellor Breland said. “It’s important that our students have educational role models and an opportunity to learn from faculty of a variety of backgrounds.”

The Chronicle of Higher Education’s Diversity Index measures “the probability that any two full-time instructional faculty members at an institution are from different racial or ethnic groups.”

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**TIMES Community News**

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World Central Kitchen (WCK) uses the power of food to heal communities and strengthen economies in times of crisis and beyond, including providing food for frontline firefighters battling local wildfires.

“It’s truly an honor to be able to serve firefighters during this difficult time. Being able to provide hot and ready meals to folks who have been working 24 hours a day to battle wildfires makes me happy to be doing my part” says Sam Chapple-Sokol, who has been activated to help serve meals through World Central Kitchens (WCK) disaster relief work in California.

When disaster strikes, WCK’s Chef Relief Team mobilizes to the frontlines with the urgency of now to start cooking and provide meals to people in need. Through different partnerships, WCK has developed across the nation; their teams have been able to jump into action to respond to multiple disasters at once. Currently, WCK is providing support to California’s wildfires while preparing to shift their disaster relief workers to aid the Texas/Louisiana areas with hurricane relief.

However, their presence helping others in this area isn’t ending. WCK also provides foods to our local vulnerable communities through the Great Plates Delivered (GPD) program. GPD provides meals to those in need with the coordination of local restaurants. Through this program, Santa Clara County has helped vulnerable populations and introduced new economic opportunities to local establishments.

Founded in 2010 by Chef José Andrés, World Central Kitchen (WCK) uses food to connect and help communities during times of need. Founded in 2010 by Chef José Andrés, World Central Kitchen uses food to connect and help communities during times of need. WCK is currently providing food for frontline firefighters battling local wildfires. Founded in 2010 by Chef José Andrés, World Central Kitchen uses food to connect and help communities during times of need. "With food, our team is providing hope and comfort to people in times of crisis. We will continue to support communities throughout the nation with much-needed meals,” Chapple-Sokol said.

Additional information about World Central Kitchen, can be found at wck.org/programs, or email info@wck.org.

For information on how you can access and find food resources in your neighborhood, visit bit.ly/SCCFoodMap. You can also visit siliconvalleystrong.org, call 2-1-1, a 24-hour multilingual service or text your zip code to 898211.
Daily Scouter' app created for Scouts by Scout

Dhruv Agarwal, a Life Scout from Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council’s Troop 296, has developed an app called the Daily Scouter.

The new app can be used by Scouts and their parents for scheduling and registering for events such as campouts, service projects, troop meetings, and making announcements to the troop. Additionally, it tracks merit badges, ranks, meeting attendance, service hours, and camping nights. Dhruv decided to create this app as the troop had traditionally used paper sheets to sign up for events, making it challenging to track event signups in real-time. Furthermore, the scouts had no easy way to track their service hours or camping nights. Working with his Scoutmaster Mr. Richard Sanow, Dhruv brainstormed the key features that would help the scouts and parents in the troop, and then implemented those requirements into the app.

Troop 296 has been using this app over the past few months, and helped further fine-tune the app’s interface and implementation. The troop has been very pleased with the benefits of having an app for tracking their events, signups and progress. With the successful use of the app by Troop 296, the app is now available for wider use by all Troops.

The app is developed using enhanced security provided by Google’s Flutter and Firebase platforms along with Amazon Web Services (AWS) for sending emails. It is available for both iOS and Android platforms.

To download the app, search for “Daily Scouter” on Apple’s App Store or Google’s Play Store.

The app can be seen in action at dailyscouter.com. To get your troop added to the app, send an email to dailyscouter@gmail.com with your council name, troop # and scoutmaster’s email.

Tech Jargon of the week

Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR)

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: Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR).

Let’s start with understanding Virtual Reality (VR). There are high chances that you will probably never be able to go to the Moon, run with the cheetahs, witness all the Seven Wonders of the World etc. What if I told you that you shall be able to do all these things plus visit some impossible places without leaving your home! Surprised? That’s the beauty of Virtual Reality or simply VR. VR is a way to immerse users in an entirely virtual world. The new technology in VR uses closed worlds or goggles to block out the room and put your presence somewhere else, either in a place in the real world or some imaginary computer-created world. Putting a VR headset over your eyes will leave you blind to the current world, but will expand your senses with experiences within. The immersion is actually quite dramatic, with some users reporting feelings of movement as they ascend a staircase or ride a rollercoaster within the virtual environment.

Oculus Rift, Samsung Gear VR, Google cardboard etc. are some of the common examples of VR these days.

So what is Augmented Reality then? Augmented Reality or simple AR is a live, direct view of your own physical environment with elements augmented by computer-generated sensory input such as sound, video, graphics or GPS data. A real life example is a table being developed by IKEA that would suggest recipes based on the ingredients kept on the table. Augmented reality takes our current reality and adds something to it. It does not move us elsewhere. It simply “augments” our current state of presence, often with clear visors.

Augmented and virtual reality have one big thing in common. They both have the remarkable ability to alter our perception of the world. Where they differ, is the perception of our presence. For example, with VR you can swim with the sharks. And with AR, you can watch a shark pop out of your business card.

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.
First U.S. study of COVID-19

New research from Houston Methodist has concluded that plasma transfusions from recovered COVID-19 patients are a safe and somewhat effective treatment option for people dealing with coronavirus symptoms.

The study, published in The American Journal of Pathology, shows that out of 25 patients given a transfusion, 19 saw their condition improve and 11 were discharged.

This was the first U.S. convalescent plasma transfusion trial, and participating patients saw no negative or adverse side effects after receiving plasma. Some smaller studies conducted on blood plasma transfusions for COVID-19 patients have all come to similar conclusions.

This treatment approach for viral diseases certainly isn’t new; blood transfusions were used in the same way during the Spanish Flu outbreak of 1918, and more recently during the 2003 SARS pandemic, the 2009 influenza H1N1 outbreak, and the 2015 Ebola outbreak in Africa.

All of the plasma transfusions given for this trial were done on an emergency basis for patients in critical condition. With that in mind, the study’s authors say much more research is needed before the therapeutic effects of convalescent serum therapy can be determined.
MOVIE REVIEW

By Joshua Kim

**Bill and Ted’s Excellent Adventure**

These immortal words from 1989’s Bill and Ted’s Excellent Adventure seem as relevant as ever in the troubled times we are living in.

Since its release 30 years ago Bill and Ted’s Excellent Adventure has continued to be watched and re-watched by old and new fans alike because of its magical blend of wackiness, absurd humor, and eminently quotable dialogue.

The newest addition to the franchise, Bill and Ted Face the Music successfully recaptures the magic of the first film, while bringing to the table a host of fresh and interesting concepts.

Bill and Ted Face the Music introduces us to a much older Bill (Alex Winters) and Ted (Keanu Reeves), who have settled down with the Princesses (Jayma Mays and Erinn Hayes) and have two adult daughters, Thea (Samara Weaving) and Billie (Brigette Lundy-Paine).

In the intervening time since the last film, Bill and Ted’s band Wyld Stallyns has fizzled out despite their constant efforts, the pair is on the verge of rethinking the future of their band and lives. They soon learn however, that the world is in danger if they are unable to produce their destined song that will bring the world together. Unconfident in their ability to produce this song by the deadline, Bill and Ted decide to travel through time in order to locate the song. In addition, Thea and Billie also travel through time to recruit famous musicians such as Louis Armstrong and Mozart who they hope can assist both their dads in producing the song.

The new aspect of Bill and Ted Face the Music that I loved the most are the daughters, Thea and Billie. With the formerly young and naive Bill and Ted grown up, Thea and Billie effortlessly slide in effortlessly to fill the gap. From their speech to their body movements, Samara Weaving and Brigette Lundy-Paine portray perfectly what one would expect the daughters of Bill and Ted to be. Lundy-Paine deserves recognition for her great performance. In addition, the daughters allow for some genuinely heartfelt moments with their dads and bring a sense of closure to Bill and Ted’s story, in what is expected to be the final film of the franchise.

Bill and Ted Face The Music also contains many Easter eggs and the return of characters from the franchise, many of which pleasantly surprised me. Fans of the franchise will undoubtedly appreciate the winks and nods the film makes to past films, which are incorporated in creative ways.

Overall, Bill and Ted Face the Music is a worthy addition to the Bill and Ted franchise which I highly recommend to any fan of the previous films. It is also the perfect opportunity for new fans to be introduced to the franchise.

Bill and Ted Face The Music is available for purchase and rental on all major video platforms and is the perfect film to watch at home for those weary of visiting a theatre.
Anonymous man gives words of advice as he faces last days in hospital

He believed strongly in honoring all people of all races and religions

By Kevin Larsen
Special to the Times

The following was stated by a brilliant individual who recently passed in an effort to help others. This person led a private life and thus the name is kept anonymous.

Words of wisdom spoken as a gift
"When a person goes into the hospital, he will realize that there is one book that he has yet to finish reading: The Book of LIFE. Whichever stage in life we are at right now, at a certain time, we face the day when the curtain comes down.

I treasure my love for my children, my love for my spouse, and my love for my good friends. Here are some important words to uplift those who wish to read and reflect upon them.

Remove all forms of hatred and fear, even if it means loving those that hate you. Treat yourself well, Cherish others for as we grow older and hence wiser, we slowly realize that wearing a $300 or $30 watch, well, they both tell the same time.

You will realize your true inner happiness does not come from the material things of this world. Whether we fly first or economy class, if the plane goes down – we all go down. Where we go one, we go all.

As I lie on this hospital bed facing my last days, I say to you to humbly consider these words. When you have mates, buddies and old friends, brothers and sisters who you chat with, laugh with, talk with, sing songs with, share poems, dreams and visions with, talk about the East and the West or heaven and earth with that is the true happiness!!!

Six Undeniable Facts of Life:
1. Don’t educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy, so when they grow up, they will know the value of things, not the price.
2. Teach your children to always think of others better than yourself. Love your enemies and be willing to die for them. This is True Power!
3. Best awarded words in China...’Eat your food as your medicines. Otherwise, you have to eat medicines as your food.’
4. The Ones who love you will never leave you for another because even if there are 100 reasons to give up, he or she will find one reason to hold on.
5. There is a big difference between a human being and being human. Only a few really understand it.
6. You are loved when you are born. You will be loved when you die. In between, you have to manage!

NOTE: If you just want to Walk Fast, Walk Alone! But if you want to Walk Far, Walk Together!

Six Best Doctors in the World:
These are the six best doctors in the world. Sunlight. Rest. Exercise. Diet. Self-Confidence. Friends. Maintain them in all stages of life and enjoy a healthy life.”

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Measures

Continued from page 1 of Prop. 15. He was contested by Dan Kostenbauder, vice president of tax policy for the Silicon Valley Leadership Group.

O’Neill said large corporations "not paying their fair share" have left California schools behind with overcrowded classrooms and a lack of counselors, librarians and nurses.

"Prop 15 closes a four-decade-old commercial property tax loophole, which a handful of large corporations and wealthy investors have taken advantage of," O’Neill said. "We can address a lot of problems by just changing this loophole that will only affect about 10% of properties."

Kostenbauder said raising taxes would hurt small businesses which rent their premises, and will be hurt by Prop 15 as tenants with triple net leases are responsible for tax increases.

"Minority owned businesses especially...won’t be able to afford a tax increase," Kostenbauder said.

He said raising taxes would result in businesses leaving rather than investing in California.

"We have among the highest personal income tax, corporate tax and sales tax rates in the country," Kostenbauder said, "and adding Prop. 15...will only make it more difficult."

Prop. 16

California Proposition 16 would permit diversity to enter into decision-making policies for public employment, education and contracting. Factors such as sex, color, ethnicity and national origin could be considered. Prop. 16 would repeal Prop. 209 and the ban on Affirmative Action. Prop. 209 said government and public institutions could not discriminate based upon race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin.

Vijay Ingam, a diversity recruiter for underprivileged minority students, spoke against Prop. 16. Unfortunately, there was not a representative available to speak in favor of the proposition.

A pro argument presented in the official voter information guide by the California Secretary of State said Prop. 16 expands equal opportunity, increasing access to fair wages, good jobs, and quality schools.

"Prop. 16 fights wage discrimination and systemic racism, opening up opportunities for women and people of color," the pro argument said. Prop. 16 is supported by the League of Women Voters of California, California Federation of Teachers and Minority Business Consortium.

Ingam said Prop. 16 would allow different rules for different races in determining who gets into state colleges and universities and hired for state and government jobs.

"It’s simply unfair because it doesn’t treat people equally based upon their race, gender or ethnic background," Ingam said.

Ingam, who is of Indian descent, said he was accepted into medical schools in 1988 despite his poor GPA because he posed as an African American. He said in 2016, the American Association of Medical Colleges showed acceptance rates varied greatly by race and were made up of 18% Asian American, 28% White, 46% Hispanic and 76% African American students.

"We cannot allow this type of racial discrimination in California’s schools and universities," Ingam said. "Prop. 16 isn’t required in order to have diversity."

Prop. 19

California Proposition 19 would adjust property tax rules for homeowners who are older than 55, disabled or victims of natural disaster. Prop. 19 would permit eligible homeown-
Enjoying lilies for as long as possible

Thanks to their beautiful flowers, lilies are one of the most graceful flowers. But how can you enjoy these beauties for as long as possible?

In the Middle Ages, the lily was a symbol of the Virgin Mary and, therefore, also of purity and innocence. Women who wore lilies were put on a pedestal. Nowadays, lilies are still associated with the same symbolism, but these flowers actually deserve a pedestal of their own.

Striking appearance

With their impressive flowers with a diameter of 3 to 10 inches, lilies cut a striking figure. There are lilies to suit everyone’s taste: you can choose from a variety of colors as well as odorless, lightly scented or strongly scented varieties. Many lilies have colored stripes, edges or spots. And did you know that there are also lilies without pollen?

Care

Once you’ve bought your lilies, you will want to enjoy them for as long as possible. With proper care, they will brighten up your home for ten days or even longer.

1. Choose lilies with flower buds that are just starting to open.
2. Remove the lower leaves from the part of the stem that will be under water. Submerged leaves will start to rot, which causes unpleasant smells and will make your lilies last less long.
3. Use a sharp knife to cut the stems as diagonally as possible. The shorter the stem, the longer the lily will last.
4. Put the lilies in a vase with lukewarm water and cut flower food immediately after cutting. Make sure the vase is clean by cleaning it with bleach or washing-up liquid.
5. Change the water every now and then so that mold does not have a chance to grow and the water stays clean.
6. Place your bouquet well away from ripe fruit like bananas. Fruits emit ethylene gas, which causes flowers to wilt faster.
7. If you have a pollen stain, you can easily remove it with a piece of tape.

For more information about bulb flowers, visit www.ilysays.com.
ALMADEN TIMES

Our ministries/activities include:
- Bible study on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6 PM.
- A Food Pantry serving anyone in-need/open Tu/Th 9a to 10a AM.
- Lighted Window Productions featuring uplifting concerts, thought-provoking theater productions, informative lectures, and even an occasional karaoke night—all in a wholesome environment.
- Our activities flow from our core values:
  - Extraordinary Joy
  - Passionate Faith
  - Loving Respect
  - Open Connectedness
  - Intentional Growth
  - Shared Laughter
- Volunteering at the church@campbellucc.org or better, 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
408-236-3873

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 Kosser Rd. and Camden Ave. (behind the Almaden Valley Athletic Club).
- Come make new Christian friends!

The EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN
Web: www.episcopal.org

At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, 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 provides the following regular opportunities for worship:
- Sunday 9:30 AM and 10:45 AM Holy Communion service.
- Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.
- Sunday at 11:00 AM Together let us build lives toward excellence!

EVERGREEN ISLAMIC CENTER (EIC)
2486 Ruby Ave., San Jose CA 95148.
(408) 239-6668
“As-Salamu-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 English book that guides Muslims to practice Islam. “Hufazik Allah Waeayii latakal”” the English meaning is “May Allah (swt) protect you and your family”. Please visit our website to learn more.

FIRST CHURCH ST. ANTHONY Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.com
Telephone: (408) 234-7243 X101. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the city, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshiping, 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 today, based on 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 help with food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children’s & families’ ministries include Sunday School 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

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 Road, San Jose, CA 95135
408-223-1562
www.sfassisfoassisi.org or www.stfrancis ofassisipreschool.org We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children’s liturgies, dynamic E.C.D.H. - Jr. School - High School and North Star -Young Adult Min- istries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized in San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Pre- school offering a small 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. 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, 5:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese). 6:00 PM Youth Mass
- St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall Sunday 9:00 AM, Saturday 11:00AM, Igba Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30PM Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2340 Amon Road Sunday 9:30 AM
- The Villages Gated Community (Catholic Auditor- um) 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 in God’s grace and share our gifts to help build God’s Kingdom!

For Worship listing ads, call 408-483-3549

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 $1 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: almadenseniors1@gmail.com

The Episcopal Church...
**Advantage Driving School**

Advantage Driving School is the premier driving school in Northern California. Advantage Driving School has trained more than 300,000 students to drive safely since 1994. We offer complete programs for both traditional classroom and online courses.

Driver Training is the behind the wheel training which prepares your child to pass the driving test at the DMV. We also offer complete programs for adults and senior citizens. If you have never driven or just need some supplemental instruction to improve your driving skills, we are just the school for you! We believe Advantage Driving School offers a great combination of experienced driving instructors and affordable prices!

Location: 5440 Thornwood Drive, Suite F; Hours: 9 am-5 pm M-F 9 am–12 noon S-S; Phone: 408.363.4182; Email: info@advantagedriversed.com | Website: advantagedriversed.com

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**Almaden Valley (Senior) Singles**

The organization that brings single residents of Almaden Valley (95120) over 65 to enjoy a social life close to home and take part in community service.

Come and join us for our monthly breakfast which is held at 9 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at Cup and Saucer, Princeton Plaza Mall, 1375 Blossom Hill Road.

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For more photos and video go to SiliconValleySmartHome.com

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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. Swan is the only Almaden Valley specialist to have been nationally ranked and recognized twice by The Wall Street Journal/Real Trends 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.