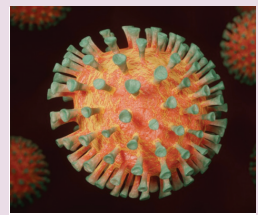


Local Republican women celebrate historic victories, head for the House  
**SEE PAGE 14**



**Standout students**  
High school students contribute to health of society with blog, podcast, app – **SEE PAGE 4**

Covid surge may result in students not returning to classroom until next year **SEE PAGE 16**



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# Times

NOV. 27 – DEC. 10, 2020 ■ VOL. 33, NO. 24

## USPS expands letter writing holiday tradition after 108 years

*'Dear Santa, I've been good all year!'*

Let's face it; this year has been a struggle for so many people in more ways than one.

Thoughts of kids, the holidays and wondering how to provide for them may also be weighing heavily on many. But take heart, Santa and the Postal Service are way ahead of you, and they are here to help.

The USPS Operation Santa program celebrates its 108th year in 2020 by opening up for nationwide participation. Now, more than ever, the program is needed to help less fortunate kids and families during the holidays.

The Postal Service established the USPS Operation Santa program to help those in need at the holidays experience the joy of opening presents — and to create special holiday memories.

Since it began, millions of less fortunate children and their families have been helped by the kindness of others. The program is for every person of every belief, or non-belief. The purpose is to help as many deserving families as

See **SANTA**, page 20



Sacred Heart had a goal to distribute 4,200 food boxes over five days leading up to Thanksgiving.

## Sacred Heart Community Service goal to distribute 4,200 Thanksgiving food boxes to families in need

Sacred Heart is continuing its long standing tradition of distributing holiday food boxes and a ham or turkey to families in need which began late last week.

The goal for this year is to distribute 4,200 food boxes over five days leading up to Thanksgiving. Each holiday food box contains non-perishable items, vegetables, fruit, bread, and a turkey — roughly 50 pounds of food which is the equivalent of \$100 worth of groceries.

Sacred Heart has made significant changes to this year's holiday food program to ensure families get the food they need while at the same time keeping our community safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. Distribution will encompass a five day period to decrease the number of people waiting in line. In addition, November 20th and 25th were drive-through only days where mem-

bers had holiday food boxes delivered directly to their cars. In accordance with the county public health regulations, Sacred Heart members, volunteers, and our staff are required to wear masks at all times, as well as community members who came to pick up food.

Sacred Heart's holiday program is made possible through the support of individuals in the community, and their corporate and foundation partners. There is still a need for donated hams and turkeys to meet the goal for both November and December. Those interested in supporting Sacred

Heart's holiday program can visit [www.sacred-heartcs.org/holidays](http://www.sacred-heartcs.org/holidays) to learn how to drop off, or to make an online donation.

It is Sacred Heart's belief that we need to come together as a community, now more than ever, to spread joy and show we care.

***Sacred Heart's holiday program is made possible through the support of individuals in the community, and their corporate and foundation partners.***



LiveMoves Chair **Joe Stockwell** said he is concerned not only about winter approaching, but about people who may become homeless following the end of the eviction moratorium.

## A new way to house the homeless

By **Lorraine Gabbert**  
Senior Staff Writer

With a goal of housing the homeless in Santa Clara County, LifeMoves is building a 100-unit interim housing community. LifeMoves shared its vision at the Nov. 9 Almaden Valley Community Association meeting.

Ending the cycle of homelessness and helping families and individuals get back on track is what LifeMoves is all about. Its new interim housing project, located at 2566 Leghorn Street in Mountain View, will begin occupancy by the end of December. It will provide private rooms for 88 individuals and 12 families.

Overall, the site can house up to 124 individuals for 90 to 180 days, while partnering them with intensive case management. It aims to serve more than 350 individuals each year.

The facility will enforce public safety community guidelines including curfew and quiet hours. It will be staffed 24 hours a day. The staff will handle resident services and site management. Clients will not be permitted to use drugs or alcohol on site. If a resident's behavior violates the community guidelines, this may result in being removed from the community. As admission will be by referral only, there won't be any groups of homeless people coming or going.

See **HOMELESSNESS**, page 21

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## San Jose launches 'Cash for Trash'

*City partners with Mastercard, Valley Water to engage homeless residents in battle against blight*

A pilot program, "Cash for Trash" under the BeautifySJ initiative has been launched that will battle blight in San Jose by incentivizing homeless residents to pick up trash at encampments in exchange for program-mable and reloadable cards from Mastercard.

"All too often, we hear people point at the homeless as 'the problem' as they look at the blight, trash, and encampments in our community. I have spoken with many homeless residents who have expressed a desire to be part of the solution. Through "Cash for Trash," we enlist our homeless neighbors in our battle against blight while paving a pathway for future interactions that will open many of our homeless residents to services and assistance," said Mayor Liccario. "Thanks to Mastercard and to Valley Water for their collaboration in this innovative venture to clean our creeks, streets, and neighborhoods."

"Cash for Trash" will now take place at 40 locations throughout San Jose. Site locations are determined with input from Valley Water. BeautifySJ crews will distribute Cash for Trash bags at each location, redeemable at \$4 per bag.

See CASH FOR TRASH, page 6

# Valley Currents

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

## Ishita Verma is shattering the mental health stigma

High school senior Ishita Verma founded "Shattering The Stigma" last year, a mental health awareness project seeking to demystify media representations of psychological conditions.

Originally starting as a personal blog, the project has now expanded to a weekly student-written informational article series, a podcast discussing media portrayals with experts, and a platform for students to share their stories. The project has a team of 60 international students and amassed over 500 readers.

Ishita, steering "Shattering The Stigma's" efforts, initially inspired to start a blog series after noticing the inaccuracy of mental health portrayals in media such as movies, television shows, and books. Connecting how these misrepresentations exacerbated misconceptions and stigma around mental health, she set out to do something about it. In July 2019, she launched a website where she'd post monthly articles that scientifically explained the conditions being represented and gave viewers a more complete understanding and several resources they could pursue for further learning.

With time, Ishita's blog gained a following. Many students even expressed interest in joining Ishita's pursuit. As Ishita welcomed new contributors, the project took on a larger meaning, transcending beyond her personal blog and becoming the international, student-led project "Shattering The Stigma."

"Shattering The Stigma" currently has three pillars. Its Misconceptions in the Media article series delves into media portrayals ranging from Bollywood to K-Dramas to Telenovelas to raise



Ishita Verma

mental health awareness. Some of their most popular features have discussed mental health in *Joker*, *Lizzie McGuire*, and *Never Have I Ever*. "Shattering The Stigma" also has a blog for student mental health stories, where teens are empowered to share their experiences (and can do so anonymously) and be inspired by fellow teens. Recently, Ishita also led her team to launch a Podcast series: "Demystifying Depictions." It discusses mental health in the media with experts such as psychiatrists, psychologists, advocates, and professors. They have collaborated with organizations (like the National Alliance on Mental Illness) and influencers (like Dr. Tina Ministry aka BrownPsychologist), to dissect media like "The Hate U Give" and "The Perks Of Being A Wallflower." They have several exciting episodes in the production process releasing soon.

Though Ishita hadn't ever thought that the project would grow so large, she's incredibly excited by their progress. She loves hearing from followers about how "Shattering The Stigma's" work has impacted them, whether it be helping students embrace their own mental illnesses or simply be more aware. Ishita aims to continue her progress with "Shattering The Stigma" and has several ideas for future pursuits. She's interested in collaborating with more organizations, translating their content into

See VERMA, next page



Allergy Diagnosis for All (ADFA) founder Grace Guo.

## High school student creates app that predicts allergens

*Making a positive impact for allergy sufferers*

By Daisy Zeng

*Special to the Times*

A local high school junior has created an app that takes input from users then corroborates data to find allergen patterns.

As the founder of "Allergy Diagnosis for All" (ADFA), Grace Guo has developed an iOS app called MyAllergy.

The app is dedicated to helping patients predict their possible allergens so they can discuss the results with professional allergists.

Users list the ingredients of all consumed food and drinks and select their symptom level (good, bad, or ok) for that day. MyAllergy compiles all this information, finds patterns, and presents you with a list of possible allergens.

The app has already had positive results in testing. One tester, who contributed the data she had collected for almost an entire year, received results that matched

those of her professional allergist.

Two other students, Aditya Murthy (vice-president) and Daisy Zeng (secretary/treasurer), have joined the effort to make a positive impact on allergy sufferers in our community.

This organization will be hosting a webinar on December 6, 2020, at 4 p.m. (PST). Anyone is welcome to join us by using the information provided below.

Here's the Zoom link:

<https://zoom.us/j/9492972609?pwd=eHpXeXRxbGF3WVpKZ0NGeGtjS0tPUT09>

You may also find the meeting invitation on our official website [allergydiagnosisforall.org](http://allergydiagnosisforall.org) on the events page.

All contributions made through [allergydiagnosisforall.org](http://allergydiagnosisforall.org) will go to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology (AAAAI). We appreciate your support. For more information please download the MyAllergy app or send us an email at [allergydiagnosisforall@gmail.com](mailto:allergydiagnosisforall@gmail.com).

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## Voters overwhelmingly approve 'Measure S' for renewal of safe clean water and natural flood protection

Voters in Santa Clara County overwhelmingly approved Measure S, making it clear that safe, clean water, natural flood protection and caring for the environment are priorities now and for future generations.

The measure needed 66% to pass and has garnered more than 75% of votes in an election that saw a record setting number of ballots cast.

"I am grateful for the trust voters have shown in Valley Water," Valley Water Board Chair Nai Hsueh said. "This program was built by the people, for the people. Tens of thousands of residents, community partners and stakeholders told Valley Water what they wanted to see in Measure S. Those priorities will guide us for years to come."

Thanks to the voters' support, the program will continue to provide \$45 million annually for local projects, which includes the Coyote Creek Flood Protection Project, the Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and pipeline upgrades.

### Homeless encampments addressed

The voters also made it clear they want Valley Water to move quickly on the encampment issue. Measure S provides \$38.7 million over the next 15 years to work with local cities and agencies to clean up the large creekside encampments that contaminate waterways and damage Valley Water facilities. We will also partner with local municipalities, social services, and nonprofit advocacy groups that will help provide housing alternatives to the unhoused population.

"With their votes the community has spoken, and we heard it loud and clear," Valley Water CEO Rick Callender said. "Measure S will provide much needed local funding to better meet the needs of all communities we serve, including our most vulnerable neighbors. We are proud to provide support to disadvantaged and underserved communities. The voters have given us the green light, and we are ready to go."

Measure S is a renewal of Valley Water's Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program that voters also overwhelmingly passed in 2012.

## City of San José Department of Transportation awarded grant for bicycle, pedestrian safety education

The City of San José Department of Transportation received a \$110,000 grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) that focuses on the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians.

"This grant supports several important components of our Vision Zero traffic safety program," said John Ristow, City of San José Director of Transportation. "With the OTS funding, we are able to better engage residents through neighborhood walk audits and Vision Zero workshops. This results in a stronger, community-focused safety effort."

"Our goal is that education will change poor behaviors and make our roads safer," OTS Director Barbara Rooney said. "This funding will help ensure the safety of those out biking or walking."

• Grant funds will be used for a variety of activities promoting bicyclist and pedestrian safety

• Education workshops geared toward youth and older adults

• Education on the importance of safety equipment that improves visibility such as reflective armbands, bicycle headlights and



### taillights

- Community walks and bicycle safety courses
- Bicycle helmet inspections
- Distribution of bicycle helmets to those in need following education presentations

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The grant program runs thru Sept. 30, 2021.

## Verma

*Continued from previous page*

multiple languages, and even creating a documentary capturing the impact of irresponsible media portrayals on youth.

Ishita's passion and dedication is truly

inspiring. Her efforts to eliminate the stigma around mental health are key to sparking conversations and raising awareness.

You can check out her project's website: [shatteringthestigma.wixsite.com/project](http://shatteringthestigma.wixsite.com/project).

The "Demystifying Depictions" Podcast is available on most Podcast streaming services.



## Corvette Car Club drops Thanksgiving meals to those in need in San Jose

The holiday spirit had some car club members using their prized Corvettes to deliver goodies to people in San Jose this past weekend.

The Vettered Corvette Club of Northern California cruised the streets of San Jose, dropping off Thanksgiving meals to 50 people, many of whom have disabilities and live in care homes.

Members of the club contributed cash to buy food to last beyond the holiday and got some local businesses to donate too, including Mesquite and Oak restaurant.

The Vettered club president, who is an essential worker for the city of San Jose, said this was the club's first Thanksgiving drive, "but it won't be its last."



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Times **OpEd**

# That deal on a game console may be a scam

By Steve McFarland  
President & CEO  
Better Business Bureau

With many people shopping for gifts on a budget this holiday season, scammers are taking advantage of the demand for pricey gaming consoles by promoting fake deals on Nintendo Switch, PlayStation 4 PRO, and the new PlayStation 5. Be sure to use caution when buying a console online.

## How the Scam Works

You find a popular gaming console for sale online at a reduced price. Hoping to save some money, you research the seller's website and find a few positive reviews. Convinced, you make your purchase via PayPal or another online payment method. You receive an email confirmation with shipping information and a tracking number.

If you receive a package at all from the company, it isn't a gaming console – instead, it is a valueless phone cover or similar small

object. Since you technically received a shipment, you will be unable to contest the purchase with the third-party who processed the payment.

Attempts to contact the company are useless. No one answers your phone calls or emails. One consumer who never received any package reported to BBB.org/Scam-Tracker: "I attempted to reach out to the email address on their website; however I received an email informing me that it was not a valid email address. I then attempted to call the phone number listed on the website, [which gave me] an automatic message informing me that the number was not valid."

## How to avoid online shopping scams

- Research the company you plan to purchase from thoroughly. It's best to purchase items from sellers you already know and trust, but if you decide to purchase from an unfamiliar online store, do your homework first.

Read as many customer reviews as you can find, look up the business on org, and do an online search with the company's name followed by the word "scam" to see if you find any complaints. Make sure the company has legitimate customer service contact information (not just a form you have to fill out and hope for a response) and clear return and refund policies as well.



**BBB Report**  
By Steve McFarland  
President & CEO  
Better Business Bureau

- Avoid impulse buying. Scammers like to draw people in with "flash sales" and "limited time offers" in hopes you will hand over your money on impulse. Resist the urge.

- Don't believe prices that are too good to be true. Before you start shopping, find out the price of the gaming console at a major

retailer. You can check prices online to get a general idea of what the console is selling for. Keep that price in mind as you shop and be wary of sellers who offer the product at a steeply discounted price. You could end up spending money on a defective or counterfeit product, or no product at all!

## Cash for Trash

*Continued from page 4*

Participants can turn in up to five bags for a total of \$20 which will be loaded onto a Mastercard City Key card. These debit cards are program-specific cards that Mastercard has enabled maintenance-free, as part of this partnership. Funds can be used to pay for essential items with minor restrictions on items like alcohol and tobacco.

During the first week of the program at two sites, 27 homeless residents enrolled and collected over two tons of trash. San Jose is the first city in the country to launch a program like Cash for Trash, paying homeless residents per bag of trash to be a part of the solution. This innovative program engages with homeless residents, putting them in contact with city staff with the potential to lead to

further opportunities to offer needed resources. The program will also help to tackle the exacerbated blight accumulating on streets and in waterways near encampments.

Funding for Cash for Trash is made possible through an allocation of \$50,000 from the City of San Jose designated for trash clean up. In addition, Valley Water partnered to provide a \$180,000 grant (\$60K per year through the year 2023) to the program.





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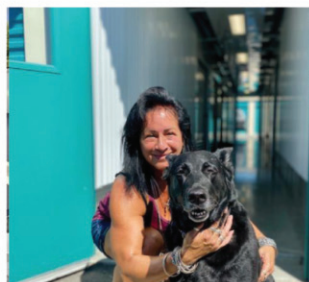
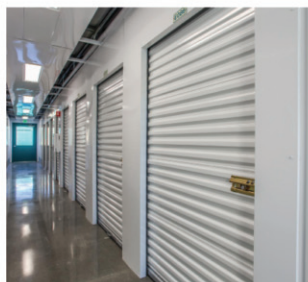


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# Reunited

Evidence of horses have been found in archeological digs that verify the four legged creatures were corralled long ago and ridden in times of war.

More than 5,000 years ago a girl put a clan back in the fight for utter survival of family. The wise leader of her group was an older woman who told her that decisions play out in time for the present rhymes with what happened in the past.

With her family group down to ten, with a scout running overland with key information, they understood dispassionately that soon they would be hunted by the four foot beast tribe. They knew of the large heavy creatures which carried metal warfare items and riders. The animals were honored and it was understood they were not the killers but instead tools of those who rode upon them with sword and skill. Their hunted clan decided to take refuge in an ancient stone structure.

The small tribe was on a defensive move. The leader instructed three men and two women go above the cliff and divert the stream. They fell three trees upon the bank and put the water above it. The slope allowed the icy blue liquid to flow toward the cliff but to give it direction they scored the ground to lead the puddled liquid to the edges. The leader told them to make holes, deep holes, three feet apart curving with cliff edge so that all water would flow into the cavities secretly dug so as to weaken the sand edge.

As one looked from the top edge of the cliff it was seen that there was an old house like structure of stone below. The cliff was not too high and it overlooked the ancient dwelling which had been abandoned long ago. This place, known as “Dark Home” was empty because people could not bear to stay there for unexplained mysterious unrestful things were said to occur.

Her tribe lit a large fire outside. Dark clouds informed them of rains soon to arrive. Several branches leaned over the fire so that they would become lasting fuel for nighttime flames. They also knew smoke would lead the killer tribe towards them in a day. As all began to take refuge inside the stone structure they said their prayer and swept the wood planked floor including chairs and table. It became dark outside and the fire rose strong outside. They moved into the structure to get rest from the elements of wind and cold outside as the sun slowly walked under the land.

Suddenly inside the structure their cat weaved back and forth in front of them as they walked. It criss crossed near the table. Then in the next few minutes a member of the family screamed as the chairs began to move by themselves and drag a few inches to and fro. All ran out that night except the young girl. Their lady leader explained that the spirits in the house wished to be set free and best for this evening to sleep outside so they could explore in the early morning light.

As the sun crept up they returned to the ancient home and knew that in a day the storm would visit along with those who were determined to stop their breathing. The leader called forth the young girl and whispered in her ear. The girl relayed the messages to all by motioning with her hands and stated. “move the table and pull up the floor.” Slowly one by one each plank lifted to reveal two skeletons of a man and woman who were never buried but instead lay there for unknown reasons after being murdered long ago. A metal sword was shoved through the chest of the man and another lay imbedded with the lady as she was seen to cradle his head. As lovers, following a battle, they had been killed and thrown on the ground.

The old woman once again whispered into the ear of the little girl and it was explained that a proper burial was needed outside near the fire. With great care and honor a curved place was dug in the ground so their feet faced the overhang of the cliff. Those that were helping with the grave said the sticks used to scrape the earth were unnaturally opposed to falling down and stood erect as they worked the soil. New forces of nature combined with the supernatural were working together. Special embroidered cloths were used to wrap each skeleton for all knew in some unexplained way that these were descendants of their tribe.

Without warning, the girl sang with special melody that emitted a harmonic resonance that shook the ground. It was midday and as the rain came lightning struck the ground in front of her. All knew it was a sign of protection and forewarned something to come.

As the ancient bodies were carefully lowered to grave, each was unfurled with three of the carriers pulling up on the cloth at the same time. As the bones spun in the air gravity and some other mystic force took hold of each bone and aligned all legs, arms, ribs and fingers. As their bodies fell together on the wet earthen grave the man's skeletal hand fell gently around her body and he turned to lay his palm so that hers clasped onto it for eternity. Witnesses said his arm slid lovingly around her spine with grace and comfort as the unthinkable happened in which the two skeletons fell together in an everlasting hug.

Someone whispered the word “Inseparable” and felt he was protecting her and she of course had given him the will to live forever. The girl decided on her own to drag the tips of the ancient swords which created two parallel lines behind her as she walked slowly to the grave. When she got close she tossed each sword and they flew into the grave so that they landed with handles at the ready between their white boned bodies. Several crowd onlookers wanted to keep the swords but could not find the strength to utter a word of protest. Some whispered that the girl was called upon to do this by some unknown power so that one day in centuries to come another girl her age would find the swords and pick it up once more. Scoops of dirt were quickly tossed by hand another scream was heard. Someone had noticed the man's hand finger bones began to slowly close like a door in the wind while holding lady skeleton's hand. They were now together in their forever dance of embrace. All pushed dirt onto the grave, ten hands pressed down to pat the dirt to match the contour of the flat ground. This action of the many was a way for all to bid fond goodbye to the ancient honored couple who loved each other forever. The grave became washed and being unmarked lost as it melted into the ground with each individual crying raindrop.

The shimmering colorful glow of the lover's joined souls spun slowly as they became entwined and lifted in a white light to the heavens. Their spirits spoke a new language while dancing once again creating enchanting colors as they kissed in the sky. All knew some force had come upon them and what took place was done with some kind of secret power. Several bold thunder claps sounded along the hills with gleaming light and jagged electricity. Turning back, several workers pointed to the cliff for they saw their foes on horses at the edge formulating their plan of attack. All ran to take cover in the house and to wait silently. The old woman whispered once again in the ear of the little girl. She told all that the stream above had been diverted to allow for an ongoing run of water to the edge of the cliff. Also, five amongst them had dug deep holes all along the top of the cliff so that the water would collect there and saturate the soil. This particular earth was composed of sand and would crumble with moisture yet the riders of the four legged creatures would not know for the puddle on the cliff

hid the deeply dug holes and the strata of the overhang was a mere six feet.

The young girl began to sing loud just outside the house, her voice enchanting. The song held a secret frequency which jostled the sand on the cliff. The vibrations of her voice began the shake the ground with resonance. Suddenly as if to help her in her quest, there were two unbelievably loud thunderclaps and scattered strikes of electricity from clouds to the water holes on the cliff. The horses leaned back on their two legs and caused the cliff to give way where the riders positioned themselves on the edge peering down to better formulate their battle plans. The lip gave way along the holes like a cookie dipped in milk. Seven horses fell in slow motion so that their legs went upward. Their backs landed upon each warrior leader causing instant death but miraculously all the horses survived as they hit the piles of sand below and slowly got up being a bit dazed while walking towards the stone house.

## Epilogue

The next day as the sun earnestly arose; those in the stone house walked without fear outside to face the killing clan. Drawing the icy clean air into their lungs they all whispered, “Where are they?” “Why are the horses here?” Hours later the killing clan arrived but this time an older lady was elected to lead and had not the quest to kill. She walked with head held high with furs ornate beads and cap. She did not speak but instead bowed to the other leader while all yielded a nod back, including the young girl. This was considered a new statement of peace. As the small tribe began to give back the seven horses, the older lady in the killer tribe brought three back.

Just then the young girl spotted a young boy in the other group and smiled firmly. The boy was taken by her beauty and winked at her for he felt in his heart surely she could not be forgotten by him. He was drawn to her kindness and strength which spoke loudly in her smile. The two lady leaders looked at each other silently and nodded knowing that someday the two clans would join. Somehow they grasped that the girl and the boy with their pretty radiant faces were drawn to each other and could communicate more with a nod or a smile than any words could. They knew too that one day the boy and the girl would confess and someday call one another thieves for silently stealing each other's hearts without saying hello. The woman from the killer tribe motioned for the girl to come to her. She slowly walked forward and the lady leader took her favorite strand of beads and placed them slowly over her head. Both tribes went to one knee.

A day later a secret anomaly was seen in the side of the cliff. It was an ancient stone storage shelf where rough pieces of yellow metal and rare gems spilled out. The lady leader had the treasure split equally in two parts and sent scouts to the killer clan by horse to give them this gift of love and friendship so each clan could live well in the years to come. Upon arrival they handed the jewels and yellow metal to the lady leader wrapped in the same embroidered cloth which was used for the burial ceremony of the ancient ones. They also presented all clothing from the warriors dead with their swords, knives and belongings. Those from the killer clan nodded in appreciation and bowed their heads ever so slightly without making eye contact.

This sharing and new quest for kindness made it possible for the tribes to begin to work together and build a village for a better way to protect their ways of life.

With love, the young boy and girl were to see each other in time and softly kiss.

*(This story was written by local writer Kevin Larsen and published with grant from San José Coronavirus Relief Fund: Artists Grant/Center for Cultural Innovation)*



# Housing agency will allow private investment to preserve housing for middle class

By Johnny Khamis  
Special to the Times

What if I told you the City of San José has the opportunity to preserve and create workforce housing using NO new taxes or taxpayer dollars?

No, it's not too good to be true – it's a relatively new concept called the California Community Housing Agency, or CalCHA, and all the City Council needs to do is to authorize them to operate within San José. Once it does, it allows private investment to flow into San José to preserve and develop housing for the "Missing Middle" – workforce housing, and creates a win for taxpayers, a win for workers, and a win for the City.

## Breakthrough way to make workforce housing more affordable

I had been looking for ways to make workforce housing more affordable and was discussing it with Ahmad Thomas at the Silicon Valley Leadership Group. He, in turn, introduced me to the people who created this new vehicle for private investment in deed-restricted, affordable, workforce housing, and I, along with Councilmember Diep, introduced the concept at the October 28th meeting of the San Jose City Council's Rules & Open Government Committee.

By all measures, the City of San Jose is falling short in the production of workforce housing affordable to individuals earning in the 80%-120% of median household income. While the pace of construction on extremely-low, very-low, and low-income housing has

picked up with an influx of taxpayer dollars from tax-funded bonds, like Santa Clara County Measure A, fees (such as the Residential Impact Fee, Inclusive Housing In-Lieu Fee, and the Commercial Impact Fee), and from taxes like the Measure E property transfer tax, market rate units continue to outpace moderate and low income production. Because of this, housing for the "Missing Middle" has been missing from the equation.

The City's Housing Element Annual Report from 2019 showed ZERO units of deed-restricted moderate-income housing completed or in the pipeline for the 2015-2023 time horizon. We have an opportunity to begin to quickly change this – with ZERO taxpayer dollars and ZERO financial risk to the City of San Jose, by having the City become an Additional Member of the California Community Housing Agency, or CalCHA.

The CalCHA was formed in 2019 by Kings County and the Kings County Housing Agency in cooperation with Catalyst Housing specifically for the creation of buying or developing deed-restricted, workforce housing. The agency issues tax-exempt revenue bonds that Catalyst uses to purchase market-rate developments that they then convert to deed-restricted, affordable housing. After the bonds

are paid off – after 15 to 30 years – the property reverts to the City or a designated agent of the City, such as a housing non-profit. The City then has a housing asset and the deed restrictions continue to keep the units affordable. No one is displaced as the property shifts to moderate-income affordability, as the units are converted from market-rate to the deed-restricted moderate category through attrition.

Since its inception in January 2019, CalCHA has acquired four assets totaling 1,180 units and has another 300 units under contract, representing private investment of \$550 million. They are ready to begin investing in San Jose, but first the City Council must pass a resolution authorizing them to operate here. Much like the PACE program, the City's role is ministerial, so no City funds are expended to make these deals happen and the City has no financial risk. If the projects run into financial trouble, it is the private investors that absorb the losses.

We can move this program forward with minimal staff work, given that robust staff analysis has been completed by other cities, including Hayward, Livermore, and Mountain View. Further, the CalCHA Joint Powers Authority (JPA) is already established and both the model Resolution and model

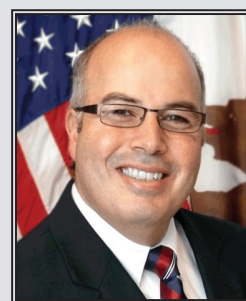
Purchase Agreement for the transfer of the property to the City once the bonds are paid off are already drafted and have been used by several other cities in our region. If the City wanted to join another JPA or form its own, there is nothing in the agreement with CalCHA that prevents that from happening. A distinct advantage to NOT controlling the JPA ourselves: we have zero liability and there is no recourse to the City if any particular investment fails to pan out.

The City can only benefit from making this program available in San José. Here are some of the major benefits:

- Prevents displacement
- Preserves housing affordability
- Requires no new taxes or fees
- It is available to us immediately
- No property management responsibilities for the life of the bonds
- City gains assets once bonds are paid off
- Excess proceeds go back to the City for housing the unhoused or other priorities

Membership in CalCHA is a win-win-win situation. A win for our workforce, who will gain access to affordable housing units, a win for taxpayers who won't be burdened with yet another tax or fee, and a win for the City who can focus our limited Housing dollars on helping the most vulnerable – the unhoused and people in need of housing in the extremely-low, very-low, and low-income categories. This also enhances the whole housing ecosystem, since the property

See KHAMIS, page 11



## District 10 Report

Johnny Khamis,  
City Councilmember



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Times **OpEd**

## Long awaited success for mental health care!

By Johnny Khamis

San Jose City Councilmember – District 10

It's rare that we receive good news out of Sacramento when it comes to mental health issues, but this legislative session brought a notable exception.

Governor Newsom signed AB 1976 into law – an update to, and enhancement of, the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project Act of 2002, commonly known as "Laura's Law". This is a major win for mental health access, public safety, community well-being, and plain sensible policy.

For those who are unfamiliar, Laura's Law was designed to enable judges to order mandatory mental health treatment for mentally ill persons 18 and above who have been clinically determined to be unable to survive safely in the community without supervision, present a threat to themselves/others, and have voluntarily rejected receiving assistance.

Under the current system, individual counties – through their elected Boards of Supervisors – must vote to join the program. Many of you know that I tirelessly spent the past five years advocating for the adoption of Laura's Law by Santa Clara County. With the help of my colleague, Councilmember Raul Peralez, this effort gained the support of the full City Council back in January. We called upon the County to adopt and implement the law, however, our appeal fell on deaf ears. Since then, the City of Milpitas has adopted a resolution of support and other cities are considering sending a similar message to the Board of Supervisors.

The consequence of not having this program in place is reflected by the unhoused, seriously mentally ill persons suffering on our streets without the wherewithal to provide for their basic needs or wellbeing. Unable to voluntarily submit themselves for help, or affirmatively commit to assistance, they are regularly placed on "5150" holds and then released and allowed to roam the streets where they are a risk to themselves and others. As another winter approaches, these are the most vulnerable of unhoused individuals – at high risk of serious injury or death.

***When AB 1976 takes effect starting July 1, Santa Clara County judges will finally have a tool to require severely mentally ill persons to obtain psychiatric care and assistance.***

When AB 1976 takes effect starting July 1, 2021, Laura's Law will become automatically applicable in all California counties. The Board of Supervisors will not have to vote to implement Laura's Law and Santa Clara County judges will finally have a tool to require severely mentally ill persons to obtain psychiatric care and assistance. While this is not a magic bullet to cure all homelessness, it will help the most severely impaired on the streets of San Jose.

While I will no longer be representing you on the City Council in the new year, you can be sure I will remain active to ensure that the County doesn't elect to actively opt out of a program that has proven its effectiveness in other counties in the Bay Area.

## Khamis

Continued from page 9

owners who sell to a CalCHA-funded project will have funds to re-invest in developing new housing to help alleviate the overall undersupply of housing in the region.

This item comes back to the Rules Committee in early December. It's supported by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, Eden Housing, SV@Home, The Bay Area Council,

Stronger Foundations, LLC, the Santa Clara County Association of REALTORS®, and the California Apartment Association.

I'll need your support to help get this across the goal line before year-end, so please send your messages of support to me at: [district10@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:district10@sanjoseca.gov). I've started a message for you to which you may add your own text. I'll be passing along these messages to our Housing Department to let them know the community supports this important initiative!



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# Times Community News

## Adopt a youth or family for 'Winter Wonderland'

Each year, United Way Bay Area's community and their Emerging Leaders group host the Winter Wonderland event to bring together local families.

UWBA is working with Emergency Food and Shelter agencies, as well as SparkPoint

Centers to make this a brighter holiday for many families.

Families will come from SparkPoint Napa, SparkPoint Solano, Family Supportive Housing of San Jose, and SparkPoint Fremont (Union City Family Center).

This year's Winter Wonderland will provide over 80 families and 100 youth with gifts from their Wish and Need Lists. Attendees typically experience a magical night filled with music, dinner, gift-giv-



ing, and other fun activities, however, due to the current circumstances, Winter Wonderland 2020 will happen remotely. Please help us provide each youth with \$100 worth of gifts and a basket of food for their fami-

ly's holiday celebration.

Learn more about the needs of specific families and children you may wish to sponsor. Registration ends November 27. Learn more by visiting: [www.roonga.com/uwbawinterwonderland20](http://www.roonga.com/uwbawinterwonderland20)

Editor's note: Gifts should be dropped off or mailed by or on

December 1st, so there is time for volunteers to wrap the gifts. If you purchase your gifts after December 1st, they ask that you wrap the gift.

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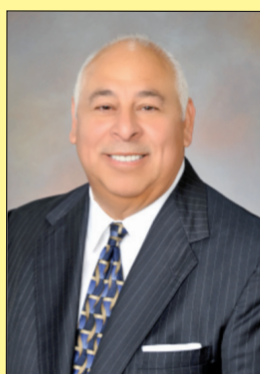


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**PROPERTY TAX QUESTIONS****Proposition 19: Older homeowners can now transfer their tax assessment**

**P**roposition 19, which was passed by California voters on Nov. 3, is a measure expected to significantly change property tax rules for older homeowners selling their houses and family members inheriting homes and rental properties.

The complex measure has tax winners (longtime homeowners looking to move within California), losers (some families inheriting properties) and still many unknowns. In Santa Clara County, 6 in 10 homes have not changed ownership in the last 10 years — a strong indication that homeowners are unwilling or unable to pull up roots.

Santa Clara County Assessor Larry Stone said, “We can answer most of the questions,” Stone said about Prop. 19, “but not all of them.”

Here’s a look at what the measure might mean for you. An estate attorney or accountant can address more specific issues.

**Who benefits from Prop. 19?**

Homeowners over the age of 55, severely disabled residents and people whose properties have been damaged by wildfires or contamination. Family trusts are generally treated the same as individual owners. The measure also creates funds dedicated to preventing and fighting wildfires.

**When does it take effect?**

There are two main parts to the law and two major deadlines. New rules for transfers of inherited property will begin Feb. 16. New rules for taking a favorable assessment on a home purchase start April 1. The measure does not apply retroactively to properties that have already transferred between family members.

**What does Property 19 mean for homeowners over 55 years old with a single property looking to downsize?**

Next year, most older homeowners will be able to move anywhere in the state of California without seeing significant property tax hikes if they buy a property of equal or lesser value, but cannot be used more than three times for all eligible homeowners. Prior to the passage of Prop. 19, homeowners could sell their home and move within their own county or to just 10 other counties and preserve their low tax assessment.

**Can an older homeowner buy a more expensive property and keep an advantageous assessment?**

Yes, homeowners can now trade up according to Stone. “Under old rules, families had to downsize to preserve their status, you can now trade up. The new, pricier home will come with a higher assessment, but not at market value.”

For example, a longtime homeowner selling a \$1 million home with a \$200,000 tax assessment to move into a \$1.5 million home will see a higher tax bill; but the new assessment will be based on the difference between the purchase price of the new home and the sale price of their old home

(\$500,000), plus their original assessment (\$200,000) for a new tax base of \$700,000.

**What happens to taxes on inherited property?**

There are several interpretations of Prop. 19 and state and local officials are work-

ing on the details now, but inherited homes will have higher assessments. For example, offspring moving into the family home after their parents have transferred can expect higher tax bills, depending on the market value compared to its assessed value and the exemption for inherited vacation and rental properties goes away.

It is currently unknown about the estimated amount of homeowners that will take advantage of the new tax assessment program.

*In Santa Clara County, 6 in 10 homes have not changed ownership in the last 10 years — a strong indication that homeowners are unwilling or unable to pull up roots.*

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Times **Community News**


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New Republican representatives **Young Kim** and **Michelle Steel**. Photo courtesy of Michelle Steel

## South Bay Republican women celebrate historic victories

By **Katie King**

Article courtesy of *San José Spotlight*

**L**ocal conservatives are celebrating as a record number of Republican women prepare to head to the House of Representatives in January.

"I am proud that our members reflect who we are," said Megan Range, the executive director of the Lincoln Club of Northern California. "(Republicans are) not all old white men, contrary to popular belief. I'm hopeful that women's influence in local, state and federal politics will only be growing from here, with such great role models paving the way."

Seventeen new GOP women were elected to the House earlier this month, leading Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-California) to proclaim 2020 "the year of the Republican women."

Range said she is confident the new leaders will be a positive addition to Congress.

"Have you ever heard the saying, 'if you want something done, give it to a busy woman to do?'" she asked. "It's a favorite motto of mine, and it couldn't be more true. These women have the passion and the ability to really affect change in their districts."

The Silicon Valley Association of Republican Women also celebrated the historic wins at its last meeting, according to club president Jan Soule. Club members were excited, but not surprised, she said.

Soule said President Donald Trump has inspired many Republican women to stand up for their beliefs.

"Trump keeps this covered up, but he has a really good heart," Soule said. "I think women see that and they trust him, and he has taught us to fight."

She added many conservative women are drawn to Trump in part for his firm anti-abortion stance.

"It has been misconstrued that if you are a woman you are obviously pro-choice," Soule said. "But I have a whole group of women members and we are all pro-life."

Two of the new representatives, Young Kim and Michelle Steel, hail from California. Both congresswomen are immigrants from South Korea.

In a video she released on Twitter, Steel thanked all of her supporters.

"You weren't voting for a person, but for

the idea that the American dream is alive and well in Orange County," she said. "...That's what I will be taking with me to Washington. The notion that conservative ideas transcend gender, race and religion, and that smart people can and will elect the right conservative, no matter where they came from or what they look like."

***Seventeen new GOP women were elected to the House earlier this month, leading Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-California) to proclaim 2020 "the year of the Republican women."***

Steel, who will be representing the 48th District, further vowed to fight for smaller government and lower taxes.

Kim also addressed her supporters on social media. The congresswoman will be representing the 39th District.

"Now that the election is over, I hope we can unite and move forward to address the issues that our nation faces," she said. "...As an immigrant to America, I know that the promise of America is alive. America is a country where an immigrant girl from South Korea can rise to be a representative in the United States Congress."

The other new representatives include: Stephanie Bice of Oklahoma, Lauren Boebert of Colorado, Michelle Fischbach of Minnesota, Diana Harshbarger of Tennessee, Yvette Herrell of New Mexico, Ashley Hinson of Iowa, Nancy Mace of South Carolina, Nicole Malliotakis of New York, Lisa McClain of Michigan, Mary Miller of Illinois, Victoria Spartz of Indiana, Marjorie Taylor Greene of Georgia, Beth Van Duyne of Texas, and Kat Cammack and Maria Elvira Salazar, both of Florida.

Contact Katie King at [KatieKingSJS@gmail.com](mailto:KatieKingSJS@gmail.com) or follow @KatieKingCST on Twitter.



Times **Community News**

## Silicon Valley Turkey Trot goes virtual for 16th annual race

By Grace Stetson

*Article courtesy of San José Spotlight*

Thanksgiving Day in Silicon Valley means more than family dinners, touch football and volunteering. For the past 15 years, families across the Bay Area have flocked to downtown San Jose to participate in the Applied Materials Silicon Valley Turkey Trot.

This year, the race is taking another page from 2020: it's going virtual.

Since its inception, the 5K and 10K races have drawn up to 25,000 runners, joggers and walkers to the streets to not only join in on healthy activities, but also contribute to those in need by supporting five charitable organizations — Healthier Kids Foundation, Housing Trust Silicon Valley, Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, Second Harvest Santa Cruz County and The Health Trust.

This year, participants will track their personal races over the course of seven days via the app RaceJoy, where they can submit photos, send encouragement to friends and see real-time records for others.

Race Director Chris Weiler of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group Foundation has worked behind-the-scenes for the event since 2016. The nonprofit organization — consisting of business and community leaders — founded the event in 2004. It has grown to become the largest Thanksgiving Day race nationwide, according to organizers.

When news of COVID-19 began making waves in the Bay Area in early February, Weiler and the foundation team were preparing for the Lam Research Heart and Soles Run at the end of March. Three weeks before the event, as Santa Clara County announced a mandatory shelter in place on March 16, the race went virtual.

In the following months, as COVID-19 case numbers and deaths continued to rise, foundation officials questioned what the 2020 Turkey Trot would be.

"We knew that the reality was we were likely going to have to go virtual," Weiler said. "We did the necessary steps for permitting, in case (of) a miracle vaccine — but 90% of the work we were doing was, what is a virtual event going to look like?"

Weiler and the team connected with event coordinators nationwide to see how other big events went virtual, and the lessons learned in transitioning online. The group also talked to sponsors and beneficiaries to determine how to stay true to the Turkey Trot mission.

"It's a run, but it really has a bigger purpose of bringing people together and providing for those who aren't as fortunate during the holidays," Weiler said.

In preparation for the event, the group aimed to have 40% registration in comparison to previous years, with a reach goal of 50%. As of Nov. 19, Weiler believed the run would be completely sold out with approximately 12,500 participants by Nov. 21. Participants can also register their furry family members for the Virtual Doggie Dash.

Alongside race registration, participants

are automatically enrolled in a virtual "Home-town Hero" challenge, with a goal to do more in the community via 25 not-so-random acts of kindness. With each completed good deed on the web platform, participants receive additional rewards, such as stickers and iron-on badges.

"We thought that — rather than an additional running component — it was truer to who we were, and it's been incredibly well-received," Weiler said.

CEO Leslie Bacho of Second Harvest Silicon Valley first worked with Weiler and foundation in 2017, shortly after joining Second Harvest, one of the largest food banks in the

*See TROT, page 17*



Participants take part in the 2019 Turkey Trot, which garnered over 25,000 participants. File photo

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Times News

## School re-openings in jeopardy due to Covid surge

*Covid surge may result in students not returning to classroom until next year*

As Santa Clara County moves to a more restrictive purple tier due to a Covid surge, students not already enrolled with in-class instruction, may not return to a classroom setting until next school year.

Many parents, anxious about their kids' struggles with online distance learning at home, find the move to the more restrictive tier disheartening, while some parents are content to stick with distance learning indefinitely until the virus outbreaks subside. However, California health officials admit they have seen very few cases arising in schools this fall.

Educators agree that while online instruction has improved since the spring, kids learn better in classrooms.

Some school districts are suggesting that if they are unable to bring older students back to classrooms in January, they may have to wait until next summer or fall. School officials are scrambling to reexamine their plans after Gov. Gavin Newsom's announcement that the state was hitting the "emergency brake" on reopening.

Some parents are dismayed by the delay in reopening classrooms in the San Jose Unified School District, knowing that those classrooms at mostly private and some public and charter schools are open to students and

have been operating without outbreaks.

"When 'for-profit' schools are safely allowing returning to school, it's very hard for the parents to wrap their heads around why the Unified School District isn't," said an Almaden Valley parent.



## Flu shot

Mayor Sam Liccardo will cruise the Flu Shot Drive-Thru at Kaiser Permanente to get this year's vaccine, and encourage residents to also get one. Residents who receive a flu shot this year will help keep hospital beds open as we see an increase in COVID-19 related cases.

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Click on the Holiday Market Page to see all of the exciting events scheduled.

We are featuring a *Special Raffle* with over 30 amazing prizes, check the list of prizes on the Market page. All proceeds to benefit the IAHF.

To secure your tickets call the IAHF office 408-923-7122. A book of 15 tickets is \$20. The Raffle will be held on December 18, 2020; last day to purchase tickets is December 16, 2020.

Enjoy your winnings before the holidays! *Buona Fortuna!*

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Times **Feature**

## Steinway Society Home Concert Hall Series features Gryaznov

Steinway Society's 26th season features Vyacheslav Gryaznov, December 19-21, who will perform in December and American pianist Andrew Li is who is slated to appear January 22-25, 2021.

The series will consist of recordings produced specifically for Steinway Society – The Bay Area that will not be available elsewhere on the Internet.

Each artist has been invited to give a short talk before the performance about their choice of pieces, their musical lives, and how the pandemic has impacted them. A recorded pre-concert lecture by Bay Area classical music expert Dr. Gary Lemco will be available for download as well.

Prices Set Low to Allow Greater Participation. Home Concert Hall virtual tickets are priced at \$20 per household per concert.

### Artists:

- Vyacheslav Gryaznov - December 19-21, 2020

- Andrew Li - January 22-25, 2021

**Vyacheslav Gryaznov – Dec. 18-21, 2020**

Vyacheslav (called Slava by his friends)

thrilled the audience in his West Coast debut with the Steinway Society in 2016, receiving three encores. He has performed to great acclaim throughout the U.S., Russia and Europe, including Carnegie Hall and the Berlin Philharmonie. Gryaznov studied at the Moscow State Conservatory for his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees and he earned the Yale School of Music's Artist Diploma in 2018.

### Andrew Li - January 22-25, 2021

Andrew Li has shown his gift for and love of music since early childhood. He won first prize in the Bay State Piano Competition for five consecutive years from the ages of 7-12 year, and first prize for two consecutive

years at the Steinway Competition in Boston. Andrew has won prizes in multiple piano competitions, including first prize at the Boston Symphony Orchestra youth concerto competition, second prize at the Hilton Head International Piano Competition, and third prize at the Minnesota Piano-e-Competition.

### Tickets Available Now

Tickets for the performances may be purchased in advance by going To: [www.steinwaysociety.com/tickets](http://www.steinwaysociety.com/tickets) or by contacting the Steinway Society box office at: 408-300-5635. Tickets: \$20 per concert. For more information, visit: [www.steinwaysociety.com](http://www.steinwaysociety.com).



**Vyacheslav Gryaznov** will perform Dec. 19-21, 2020. Photo courtesy of Steinway Society

## Trot

*Continued from page 15*

country with more than 75 million meals distributed annually. During the pandemic, Bacho has seen the numbers double for meals and people served.

"The Turkey Trot alone has raised enough money to provide 5.8 million meals," she said. "It just has an incredible impact in the community."

In addition to being one of the five event beneficiaries, Second Harvest Silicon Valley provides more than 2,000 volunteers on race day. This year, many volunteers continue their work in volunteering at the food banks or packing race materials.

"The Silicon Valley team (does) such an excellent job putting together an amazing event, and they've been really creative in how to still make this a really fun event and get community participation even when we can't come together," Bacho said.

The annual event holds a special place for many, whether they live in Silicon Valley or have moved elsewhere. One participant told Weiler that her 32 family members — and a dog — would be participating in the Turkey Trot across North America this year.

"Our race is not Boston, it's not New York — but we've discovered that there are now people all over the country doing our virtual Turkey Trot," Weiler said.

In addition, personal donations this year have hit new records. As of Nov. 19, Weiler said the organization had seen \$81,391 in personal donations on top of registration contributions. Over the past 15 years, the race has raised \$9.6 million.

The full week of the virtual Turkey Trot takes place Nov. 21 to Nov. 29. Learn more here.

Contact Grace Stetson at [grace.stetson@gmail.com](mailto:grace.stetson@gmail.com) and follow her @[@grace\\_m\\_stetson](https://twitter.com/grace_m_stetson) on Twitter.

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Times **Feature**



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Love Jamie

## Santa

*Continued from page 1*

possible. And that can only be done if good-hearted adopters step forward.

To participate in the USPS Operation Santa program as a possible recipient of holiday gifts, all you have to do is write a letter, put it in a stamped envelope with a return address, and send it to Santa's official workshop address as seen on the example envelope above. Letters will be accepted Nov. 16 – Dec. 15.

### Program Details

Hundreds of thousands of letters are written to the USPS Operation Santa program every year in hopes of being adopted by kind and generous people across the country. These letters are opened by Santa's Elves and, for safety reasons, all personally identifiable information of the letter writer is removed (i.e. last names, addresses, ZIP Codes) and uploaded to [USPSOperationSanta.com](http://USPSOperationSanta.com) for adoption.

Beginning Dec. 4, letters will be available for nationwide adoption by visiting [USPSOperationSanta.com](http://USPSOperationSanta.com) — all from the socially distant safety of your own home. Potential adopters can read the letters and pick one, or more, that they'd like to fulfill. For security reasons, potential adopters must be vetted by going through a short registration and ID verification process before they are allowed to adopt any letter.

Companies also help adopt letters. Every year many companies create teams and adopt several letters; all the better to help

grant that special wish to deserving families and kids.

### How to Write a Letter

Sending a letter to Santa is easy if you know how. The Postal Service is here to help with guides and tips to help kids write and send their best letters ever. All the information you could possibly need to write a letter, address an envelope, put on a stamp and send it on its way can be found on [USPSOperationSanta.com](http://USPSOperationSanta.com).

The only thing the Postal Service can't help with is to tell kids what to ask for. That is up to their imagination. These tips are also good all year-round for sending thank-you cards, birthday cards, or letters to Grandma and Grandpa just to say, "Hi."

### USPS Operation Santa History

While the Postal Service began receiving letters to Santa more than 108 years ago, it wasn't until 1912 that Postmaster General Frank Hitchcock authorized local Postmasters to allow postal employees and citizens to respond to them. This became known as Operation Santa.

The complete history can be found online at the Postal Service Holiday Newsroom, which can be found at <https://about.usps.com/holidaynews>, along with additional news and information, including all domestic, international and military mailing and shipping deadlines.

*Editor's note: The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.*




**Want to submit a news item for the Almaden Times?**

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**Almaden Times**



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

LifeMoves is funded through a public/private partnership. About 60% of its funding comes from government agencies and 40% from philanthropies.

According to Joanne Price, LifeMoves' vice president of real estate and operations, each unit will cost \$70K, compared with \$250,000 for hotel rooms or \$500K to \$750K for affordable housing.

The cost-effective, rapidly deployed, modular housing units are modern and lovely, though small, said LifeMoves Chair Joe Stockwell.

"In a COVID environment, we need to be able to isolate people," Stockwell said.

Each family has their own unit with cooling and heating and their own entrance and storage. There are covered decks in the common areas and room for programs, gardening and recreation. As having a dog can be a barrier to homeless people going into a shelter, it includes dog kennels.

Stockwell said he is concerned not only about winter approaching, but about people who may become homeless following the end of the eviction moratorium.

"Those of us who are focused on the issue of homelessness are anxious and feeling a sense of urgency," Stockwell said.

LifeMoves residents are referred by service providers with priority given to seniors, veterans and families. Within its first year, Stockwell said the site plans to serve more than half of Mountain View's current homeless population of 606 individuals. And after tackling homelessness in one area for a few years, LifeMoves can relocate the modular units to wherever they're needed.

LifeMoves is looking for additional sites near public transit and jobs in areas zoned industrial/commercial, such as unused VTA parking lots, Price said.

"The goal is to expand into communities to help solve the crisis," Price said. "An acre is ideal for 100 beds."

According to the "Eviction Timebomb Study" by the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley, shelter capacity was lacking even pre-COVID-19. Although there were 9.3K homeless individuals in Santa Clara County in 2019, the county only had the capacity to house 1.6K of them.

In addition, an estimated 3K to 4K more people may become homeless in the county following the end of the eviction moratorium.



**Joanne Price**, LifeMoves' vice president of real estate and operations, said the root causes of addiction have to be solved to help people maintain long-term stability in housing.

Homeless people who have frequent emergency room and police visits can cost the public \$63K a year, Stockwell said.

"Each bed will cost about \$17K a year at our Mountain View site as opposed to \$63K," he said.

"If we can get two of those three people sent back to their families or into permanent housing with employment...they don't cycle back in and become part of that ongoing cost structure."

LifeMoves integrates addiction recovery and mental health services into its programs.

"The root causes of addiction do need to be solved in order to help people maintain long-term stability in housing," Price said.

According to LifeMoves' website, with appropriate medication (when needed) and a wide range of services tailored to meet their needs, most people who live with mental health challenges can significantly reduce the negative impacts of their condition, secure permanent housing, and achieve a satisfying measure of independence.

"We're focused on serving those people who are looking for a hand up," Stockwell said, "and that's why I believe we're so successful."



The cost-effective, rapidly deployed, modular housing units are modern and lovely, though small, said LifeMoves Chair Joe Stockwell.

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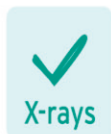
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At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, 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.



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"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 book that guides Muslims to practice Islam. "Hufazik Allah Waeayilatakm" the English meaning is "May Allah (swt) protect you and your family". Please visit our website to learn more.

**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](http://www.GraceChurchSJ.net)  
See you on Facebook  
2650 ABORN ROAD at Kettmann, across from Evergreen Public Library. Serving Evergreen for over 50 Years. John S Goldstein, Pastor  
Christian Worship every

Sunday at 11:00 am  
Together let us build lives toward excellence!  
Music Institute  
(408) 791-7772  
After School lessons on Piano, Violin, Viola, Flute  
PreSchool, Age 2-6 years. Caring for your child with God's love and affection.

**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 Terrasse 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 commu-

nity, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and wherever 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](http://www.churchstanthony.com). Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.



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

**For Worship listing ads, call 408.483-5458**

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

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

- exercise classes for all levels of ability;
- lunches and other social programs

organized and run by members of the Association;

- book clubs, cooking, computer and photography classes;
- trips to local and not so local places of interest such as the Steinbeck Museum in Salinas, Whale Watching in Monterey, casino trips and more.

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

### Connected

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

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

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

**For more information, go to [www.almadenseniors.org](http://www.almadenseniors.org)  
Contact via email: [alamadenseniors1@gmail.com](mailto:alamadenseniors1@gmail.com)**





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**408.279.5531**

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Please give us a call today and we'll be happy to  
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**(408) 270-6080**

## Singles

**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.

# TimesClassifieds

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Eyelash extensions**



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By appointment only during Covid

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Hours: 9 am-5 pm M-F 9 am-12 noon S-S; Phone: 408.363.4182; Email:  
[info@advantagedriversed.com](mailto:info@advantagedriversed.com) | Website: [advantagedriversed.com](http://advantagedriversed.com)

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*If you are thinking of selling your home or need help understanding how to benefit from Proposition 19, please call me immediately!*

*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. Additionally, she has already closed a total of 40 sales in 2020, so has the demonstrated ability to navigate the Covid 19 challenges.*

**Therese Swan**

408.656.8240

tswan@tswan.com

AlmadenValleyRealEstate.com

DRE 01355719



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