Mayor Liccardo apologizes for violating virus guidelines over holiday **SEE PAGE 4** 



**Killing prompts action** San Jose mayor and police chief push sanctuary policy changes following stabbing – **SEE PAGE 17** 

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Valley Transporation Authority employees raise more than \$20,000 for food bank **SEE PAGE 9** 



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**Dr. Sara Cody** breaks down an accelerated stay-at-home order for the Bay Area region.

### Santa Clara County issues COVID-19 stayat-home order

By Mauricio La Plante Contributing: Lorraine Gabbert and Madelyn Reese Article courtesy of San José Spotlight ealth officials around the Bay Area accelerated a stay-at-home order that started at 10 p.m. on Dec. 6 for most of the region, including Santa Clara County.

The new order, in effect until Jan. 4, enacts the same restrictions as the state order, requiring all nonessential operations to shut down with the exception of retail.

Santa Clara County Health Officer Dr. Sara Cody said none of the counties in the Bay Area is an island and that each must unite in a regional response.

"The surge and COVID-19 patients needing hospitalizations has struck Santa Clara County first," Cody said. "But we know that our region and surrounding jurisdictions are soon to follow and indeed are already experiencing the surge."

The move comes after Gov. Gavin Newsom announced the state would impose regional stayat-home orders for areas where intensive care unit (ICU) availability falls to 15%.

Despite Bay Area ICU capacity See ORDER, page 20

## Pat Dando Legacy Sculpture Dedication Ceremony to be held virtually via Zoom on December 19

Dando Endowment to provide on-going support to inspire our youth

By William Bellou Publisher he highly antici-

pated Pat Dando Legacy Sculpture Dedication Ceremony will be held virtually via Zoom on Saturday, December 19.

Dando, who passed away more than three years ago, served as

San Jose City vice Mayor and San Jose City Councilmember - District10. Her sculpture will be permanently located just outside the main entrance to the Almaden Library/Community Center at 6445 Camden Ave.

Since the passing of Dando, the Legacy Committee has dedicated

many hours working with the community and the city to come up with a concept that would remember, honor, and inspire Dando's service to Silicon Valley and especially Almaden Valley.

"We believe that this sculpture and the associated library endowment have accomplished all three of these goals," said Almaden resident, Rich Crowley who serves on the Legacy Committee.

"The sculpture and the website tell the story of an extraordinary person who made some amazing contributions as a teacher, a mother, an active PTA member, a soccer Mom, a community activist, a City Councilmember & Vice Mayor, a Chamber of Commerce CEO, and other *See LEGACY, page 5* 



An artist rendering of the Pat Dando Legacy Sculpture. The dedication ceremony will be held virtually via Zoom on December 19.



San Jose Councilmember **Johnny Khamis** will run for Santa Clara County Supervisor - District 1. *Courtesy photo.* 

## **Councilmember Johnny Khamis to run for county supervisor**

#### **By William Bellou** Publisher

an Jose Councilmember Johnny Khamis has announced he is running for Santa Clara County supervisor.

Khamis, who terms out from the council this month, is running for the District 1 seat held by Supervisor Mike Wasserman, who is terming out.

Khamis said he has currently raised more than \$32,000 for his supervisorial bid and hopes to raise and additional \$70,000 by December 31. He is expected to be a frontrunner in the 2022 race, according to a number of political insiders.

Khamis said he wants to ensure the county is fiscally responsible.

"I never felt the county was delivering everything it could, especially for the tax dollars being spent," Khamis said. "I want to find out how we're spending our money because it seems like we never have enough, and the county services are never adequate; I want to know why!

"Should I win a seat on the board, I would like to focus on the homeless community's battles with mental health and drug addiction," Khamis said.

Housing the homeless is also a priority for Khamis.

The District 10 councilmember said one of his priorities is having the county adopt Laura's Law, a policy that allows temporary courtordered mental health treatment for people with serious mental illnesses who have rejected receiving assistance.

Khamis said he will fight to help mentally ill or drug addicted homeless people in the county. Although the county has similar programs to Laura's Law, Khamis said the difference is its programs are voluntary.

"Someone suffering from a mental health breakdown is not in full control and not a good decision maker," Khamis said. "It's not being addressed in a way that brings the *See KHAMIS, page 5* 

lou service to



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### **Report: States** with most at-risk youth

www.ith about one in nine young Americans today neither working nor in school, exposing them to greater risk of poverty and violence, the personal-finance website WalletHub today released its report on 2020's States with the Most At-Risk Youth, as well as accompanying videos.

To determine where young Americans are not faring as well as others in their age group, especially in a year made extremely stressful by the COVID-19 pandemic, WalletHub compared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 16 key indicators of youth risk. The data set ranges from share of disconnected youth to labor force participation rate among youth to youth poverty rate.

**At-Risk Youth in California** (1=Most at Risk; 25=Avg.):

• 20th – % of Disconnected Youth

• 35th – % of Youth Without a High School Diploma

• 30th – % of Overweight & Obese Youth

• 16th – % of Youth Drug Users • 4th – Youth Labor Force Participation Rate

20th Vouth Dovorty D

38th – Youth Poverty Rate
1st – % of Homeless Youth

For the full report, please visit: https://wallethub.com/edu/st

ates-with-the-most-at-riskyouth/37280



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# Valley Currents

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

# Mayor Liccardo apologizes for violating COVID-19 guidelines at his family Thanksgiving dinner

**By William Bellou** *Publisher* 

an Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo apologized for violating state public health regulations by attending a Thanksgiving dinner at his parents' house alongside four other households.

A state requirement issued Nov.13 prohibits Californians from hosting private gatherings with more than three households.

Liccardo's family dinner was attended by eight individuals from five different households. The dinner was hosted outdoors on a back patio. Each of the three tables at the Thanksgiving dinner were also socially-distanced, according to Liccardo.



"I apologize for my decision to gather contrary to state rules by attending this Thanksgiving meal with my family," Liccardo said in a statement. "I understand my obligation as a public official to provide exemplary compliance with the public health orders, and certainly not to ignore them. I commit to do better."

The apology was issued after an NBC-Bay Area report looked into the mayor's Thanksgiving Day activities and discovered he went to his parents' house instead of staying home, which was previously started by his staff.

Pictured, left: "I commit to do better," **Mayor Sam Liccardo** said in reference to his Thanksgiving family gathering. Twitter photo.

### Christmas with the Beatles: Abbey Road – A Tribute to the Beatles, livestream Dec. 18

hristmas is coming, and nothing says joy and love like the Beatles, rocking live in your living room!

After ten consecutive years of holiday concerts, Abbey Road – A Tribute to the Beatles plan to deliver the joys of the season even if it means pivoting for the pandemic.

The award-winning band will bring their beloved Christmas with the Beatles show by way of a livestream event that you can tune into from the safety and comfort of your own home.

Live from the legendary Belly Up stage in San Diego, California; see the band perform on Friday, December 18, featuring mash-ups of Christmas classics and Beatles faves via a livestream. Tickets are only \$12. The show starts at 7:00 pm PST.

"COVID can't steal Christmas concerts," said Doug Couture, who plays "George" in Abbey Road. "We took this show online to hopefully help people put the ugliness of 2020 behind them."

This electrifying livestream will bring some much-needed rockin' Christmas spirit to Beatles fans everywhere. Featuring all the Fab Four's top hits along with some great holiday tunes, Abbey Road's holiday concert show promises to



be a night of reminiscent fun.

From the Beatles' early days as mop-topped leaders of the British Invasion through their psychedelic Sgt. Pepper era, Abbey Road recreates an authentic Beatles concert experience, complete with period-accurate costume changes and spot-on harmonizing.

The nationally touring tribute band, Abbey Road, will livestream Christmas with the Beatles from the Belly Up Tavern on December 18, featuring mash-ups of Christmas classics and Beatles faves.

Livestream tickets are only \$12 and may be purchased online at https://bellyuplive.com/abbeyroad.

About Abbey Road - A Tribute to the Beatles

With their tight harmonies, flawless note for note renditions of Beatles hits, custom-tailored costumes, vintage instruments, Liverpudlian dialect and precise attention to every detail, Abbey Road has honed their show to become one of the most musically and visually satisfying Beatle tribute acts in the The award-winning band will bring their beloved Christmas with the Beatles show by way of a livestream event.

world. Abbey Road recreates the magic, music, wit and charm of the Beatles, including the Fab Four's cheeky personalities, familiar onstage banter and patter between songs.

#### LET THE ALMADEN TIMES HEAR FROM YOU! Send your letters to editorial@timesmediainc.com or mail to: Almaden Times, Silicon Valley Business Center, 1900 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95124

### SERVING ALMADEN VALLEY **SINCE 1986** ONLINE: **Almadentimes.com**

#### Times Community News

### Legacy

*Continued from page 1* accomplishments," Crowley said.

Crowley explained that Dando would want the community to think well beyond remembrance and honor her.

"If we stopped there we would miss the soul of Pat Dando," Crowley said. "She was all about inspiring others to become involved in making our homes, our neighborhoods, our city, and our state better places to live. To perpetuate this part of her leagen the comm

part of her legacy the committee created an endowment to provide on-going support for enhanced children's programming at the Almaden Branch Library to inspire our youth."

The Legacy Committee goal was to raise \$100,000 as seed money for the endowment; however to the surprise of many, enthusiastic donors nearly doubled that amount.

To learn the endowment funding final total, join the Zoom call on the 19th. And if you'd like to donate to that endowment, you still can do so by visiting the "Endowment" page on the legacy website: www.PatDandoLegacy.org. But you'll also want to attend the Zoom meeting to see Pat's story and how we brought the community together to honor this very special person.



#### Khamis

Continued from page 1

number down," he said. "The county needs to build more housing for the homeless on county-owned property."

The District 1 seat covers Almaden Valley, Los Gatos and South County, includes part of Khamis' council district. Wasserman is a Republican as was his predecessor, Don Gage. Khamis is a former Republican who left the party due to not seeing eye-to-eye with President Donald Trump's immigration policies.

Khamis is endorsed by Mayor Sam Liccardo, former Mayor Chuck Reed and other elected officials from San Jose, Morgan Hill, and Monte Sereno, as well as former elected officials from Gilroy and Los Gatos.



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## **'Christmas Outdoor Spectacular' opens** as a drive-in event at **Cathedral of Faith**

athedral of Faith is hosting a free Christmas Outdoor Spectacular drive-in experience featuring an exciting animated presentation and lights.

Every Friday-Sunday in December, the Spectacular will also feature live performances, free hot chocolate, and more! Animated characters Snowball and Flurry star in this out-

door extravaganza as they prepare for the Prince's arrival. Cathedral of Faith's World of Arts ministry will perform a theatrical presentation to welcome the Prince. With a free animated show, live dance, and hot chocolate, this Spectac-

ular is a great experience for the entire family. The Spectacular event doesn't require a reservation; it is first-come first serve. In accordance with COVID protocol compliance, there will be limited viewing on-site which allows for approximately 50 cars per show.

Guests can listen to the show either by tuning into FM 93.1 on their radios or by listening to it through the outdoor speakers.

Monday-Thursday: 6pm, 6:30pm, 7pm, 7:30pm, 8pm, 8:30pm; Friday- Sunday: 6pm, 7pm, 8pm, includes live performances and free hot chocolate. For more information, visit www.cathedraloffaith.org or contact the Church Office at (408) 267-4691.



Cathedral of Faith is hosting a free Christmas Outdoor Spectacular drive-in experience featuring an exciting animated presentation and lights.

Editor's note: No Shows December 25, December 24 shows 6pm, 6:30pm, and 7pm. Show schedule subject to change due to weather.

Cathedral of Faith is located at 2315 Canoas Garden Avenue, San Jose (located at the corner of Highway 87 and Curtner Ave.) To experience the show, guests should enter at our second driveway on Masonic Avenue.

### **VTA operates essential service** during Stay-at-Home Order

During the stay-at-home order effective December 6th at 10 p.m., transit remains an essential service, and light rail, bus, and paratransit will continue to operate for essential trips.

While on transit, you must wear a mask and stay six-feet apart from others. If you are feeling sick, stay home.

Transit app

You can download the Transit app for real-time crowding information to see if your next bus is at capacity. VTA also offers limited masks and hand-sanitizer on board for vour safety.

Restrictions on travel and gatherings outside of your immediate household are believed to slow the surge and prevent hospitals from being overwhelmed. Please stay home for the sake of others who cannot.

The stay-at-home order is effective until January 4, 2021.



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## **New year, Same virus**

**By Marcel Gemme** Special to the Times

A sthe New Year approaches, it's an opportunity to reflect on the last 52 weeks and all our accomplishments and shortcomings. This also presents a chance to make a resolution or a promise to ourselves. Some do this loosely and never really bother to adhere while

really bother to adhere, while others take the process more seriously and set major goals they intend to accomplish. But this year might be a little different.

The COVID-19 pandemic is far from over. Instead, some experts are suggesting that it's just ramping up. COVID-19 hospitalizations have surpassed 90,000 for the first time,

a record for the seventeenth day in a row. We could be facing an "apocalypse" by Christmas because of what is happening with the growing number of hospitalizations. The concern of hospitals becoming overwhelmed was behind the plan of "flattening the curve," which emerged as the virus began spreading rapidly back in March.

Many considered that we'd accomplished the goal and that despite COVID continuing to spread, medical care was manageable. While this may have been the case in many areas, it's becoming a serious concern again.

Forty-six states are now considered hotspots where stay-at-home orders are necessary. To be designated as a hotspot, the positivity rate must exceed 25 cases per 100,000 people. States with the highest number of cases per 100,000 people are Montana, North Dakota, Wyoming, Wisconsin, and South Dakota.

Thanksgiving Day marked the 24th day in a row that new COVID cases remained above

100,000, bringing the average 7-day case count to more than 163,000. That's up from a 7-day average of just over 69,000 a month ago.

As we can see, things are not going in the right direction. The US has so far recorded more than 4 million official coronavirus cases in November, representing roughly 30% of the country's pandemic total of 13.2 million official cases. December's holidays aren't bringing joy to those concerned with our nation's fate and its people.

Among the most concerning is the fate of America's seniors. Not only are they the most at-risk group when it comes to the virus, but they are also the least likely to have control over their environment. Many seniors are in

> assisted-living facilities or are dependent on family members for day-to-day help. As things get worse, each interaction can be a potential death sentence. They must either have full trust in those around them or surrender to the fact that they could become ill and die any day. If we continue to do things the same way that we have been, it will worsen. That's the takeaway. So, we have an opportuni-

ty to change the direction of this pandemic before it's too late. We can still learn something. Sure, we're all tired of hearing about the pandemic, but that doesn't negate its existence or the precautions necessary to control it. But there will be a cutoff point.

At some point, we won't be able to undo the damage. If hospitals become overwhelmed and patients cannot be treated adequately, the impact will worsen exponentially. We don't really know what this looks like, other than we know it isn't good.

So, as the New Year approaches, we have a choice. We look back on this last year, at what we've accomplished and how we've failed. We can examine our shortcomings honestly and choose to be different. We can change.

Or, we can shrug it off again and continue to hope it doesn't happen to us vaguely. After all, this whole thing is quite inconvenient for everyone involved.

The deaths aren't fake. The virus isn't imag-



ined. The election is over, and so is any political motivation from either side to blow this out of proportion. People are dying, and we don't want more of that. Not everyone is retired or can afford to live a life of quarantine.

But, we can each take a minute and honestly examine how seriously we're taking this and if our behavior matches our intentions. If you're less than satisfied, maybe the only work you need to do is change your mind.

Marcel Gemme has dedicated his life to helping others find help. He focuses his attention on helping individuals find long-term Senior Care, he does this through his journalism, community outreach, and his website, ECDOL.org. Excellent Care, Decency, and Optimal Living are what he aims to bring to individuals looking for care options for themselves or their aging loved ones.



## **Create a petfriendly home this holiday season**

his year, holiday gatherings may look different than celebrations in years past. With traditions and large gatherings up in the air, pet parents can take some comfort in knowing they can still celebrate with their pets.

Before the festivities begin, however, it's important for pet parents to ensure their homes are as pet-friendly as possible. Consider these tips from PetSmart's resident veterinarian Jennifer Freeman, DVM, and training expert Jodie Havens, CPDT-KSA, to keep pets happy and healthy this holiday season.

#### **Teach Good Table Manners**

Table manners aren't just for humans. Help prevent begging at the table by refraining from giving your pup food or attention. When you sit down for a meal, place your pet in a crate or pen, or encourage him or her to go to a special place like his or her bed or a comfortable chair.

"Divert your pup's attention from tempting treats on the holiday table by providing an activity, such as a long-lasting chew or a puzzle toy," Havens said.

If you don't crate your pet during your holiday meal, avoid sharing human food under the table.

"Table scraps such as gravy and stuffing may look harmless, but even small amounts can lead to serious health issues," Freeman said.

Instead, offer pet-friendly treats that look and taste like the holidays. For example, Simply Nourish Dog Treats come in turkey and cranberry flavors that are alternatives to the real things. If you choose to indulge your pup with a little bit of human food, you can serve small amounts of white-meat turkey breast, pumpkin, cranberries and yams. Keep your pet away from scallions or chives, onions, garlic, grapes or raisins, cooked bones and anything high in fat.

Create a Zen Space

The holidays can be hectic, and pets are prone to picking up on stress in the household. Even just one or two guests or stressed out pet parents can give a pet anxiety. Freeman recommends providing pets with a safe getaway.

"Stress and extra people in the home may cause your pet to act differently and even show signs of anxiety," Freeman said. "To set up your pet's retreat, use a crate or pen he or she is comfortable with, offer blankets or his or her favorite bed and place a few treats or chews inside."

**Exercise Caution When Decorating** While families may be brightening up their homes this holiday season, it's important to ensure decor such as candles and seasonal plants are placed out of your pet's reach. Flickering candles can be intriguing and seasonal plants like holly and poinsettia are poisonous to dogs and cats.

"Try providing a tall cat tree or scratcher near the holiday tree to redirect your kitty to an appropriate climbing apparatus," Havens said. "The Merry & Bright Holiday House Cat Scratcher can help satisfy your cat's instincts to scratch in fun, holiday fashion."

Extra decor sometimes means more electrical cords, which can be tempting "chew toys" for your pet. Freeman recommends pet parents take special care to ensure electrical cords for festive lighting are not accessible by taping them down or covering them to help prevent injuries. Also remember to keep glass ornaments, tinsel, pinecones and light stands out of reach of your furry friend.

For more pet-friendly tips for the holiday season, visit petsmart.com.

(Family Features) Photo courtesy of Getty Images

## VTA employees raise more than \$20,000 for food bank

hile the pandemic has been tough on everybody, there are certainly those who have been hit harder than others.

VTA employees dug deep to raise a whopping \$20,716 during its annual Thanksgiving drive to benefit Second Harvest of Silicon Valley! Of more than 300 teams in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties raising money during this campaign, VTA was among the top five fundraisers.

VTA has a longstanding tradition of raising awareness of poverty and hunger in Santa Clara County through employee donations. With the pandemic doubling the need for food and volunteer opportunities, many employees also pitched in their time to help Second Harvest sort and distribute food in the community.

"We are fortunate to work for a great company like VTA and are able to have what we need and also a few things we want, but we can't forget about those who don't even have what they need," said Lucas Perez, a customer service supervisor who has been instrumental in increasing VTA's participation over the years through friendly competition between departments.

Mimi Nguyen, who works in the Cerone Yard office is one of Perez's former customer service co-workers and now chief competitor who goes out of her way to make sure her division is well-represented. For Nguyen, it is personal, having come to the U.S. as a Vietnamese refugee.

"My family wasn't well off as a child and



### Going 'hybrid?' Five tips you need to know before embracing remote work

ight months into the "great remote work experiment" it is clear that we're never going back.

The COVID-19 pandemic may have forced the hand of companies around the world to implement remote work, but its viability long-term has never been more clear, or more studied.

For companies that decide there's no need (or benefit) to going back to the old way of working, but do not want to embrace a fully remote work environment, creating a successful, long term hybrid workforce will require changing the way we think of work in subtle and not so subtle ways.

Magdalena Ciszewska, Head of Marketing and Sales at ClickMeeting shares 5 tips companies should consider if they want to "go hybrid:"

1. Level the playing field between remote and in-person workers. Remote workers must be able to feel like they are an equal part of the team as the office denizens. This goes beyond simply making sure everyone is rowing in the same direction regarding production goals and includes equal footing for promotion tracks and other benefits.

2. Understand how your internal communications process actually works. Take a good look at how your company really communicates with one another. If your company relies on the informal communication found around the watercooler to make progress remote employees are going to be at a disadvantage.

3. Avoid backsliding into siloes. Necessity is the mother of all invention and the COVID-19 crisis has forced companies to operate with a new level of ingenuity. For many companies, this has resulted in a breaking out of siloed operations and led to more and better collaboration across teams in order to overcome the hurdles the entire company has faced.

4. Prepare for real world office needs. Create an environment that allows for the right amount of distraction-free privacy for those who are working in-office and is prepared for the occasional remote worker visiting the office on occasion for important meetings or other team-building opportunities.

5. Tap into the remote talent pool. This tip isn't exclusive to hybrid workforces but could be one of the most powerful things a company can do to excel in a remote work world. Having a remote or hybrid workforce opens your company up to talent pools that were geographically off limits just eight months ago.



This year's successful VTA Food Drive raised more than \$20,000 in online cash donations, since canned foods couldn't be collected due to Covid-19. Above, VTA employees are shown with containers of donated food at last year's event.

there were times when I was in need of food," said Nguyen. "If it wasn't for programs like these, I probably would have been home-less."

"This is my way of giving back to the community. I've told my co-workers my story, this is why I push it. I also came to find out that other people had similar experiences and knew where I was coming from," she said.

Nguyen says creating intradepartmental competition among the different segments of workers at her yard is key to making Cerone competitive with the other VTA sites. She even collected funds from coworkers and then donated online for them because she said a lot of people either don't like to give online or might not get to it. But she is quick to deflect credit to herself, saying it is more about "Team Cerone" and the willingness of her colleagues to donate.

This year, in lieu of barrels around VTA's five campuses to collect nonperishable food items, Second Harvest provided a donation portal for online giving. VTA set an internal VTA has a longstanding tradition of raising awareness of poverty and hunger in Santa Clara County through employee donations.

goal to raise \$10,000 among our 2,100 employees, and the goal was exceeded by more than double. VTA's contributions will help Second Harvest provide 41,432 meals this holiday season.

Second Harvest has seen the demand for food assistance double to 500,000 people a month since the start of the pandemic. Their donation collection does not end with the holidays, as the need exists all year round.



### Support Your Community!

Join the Almaden Valley Women's Club Fundraising Drive as we work to raise funds for community organizations.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Art & Wine Festival had to be cancelled. For 44 years the women's club has produced the festival and donated all proceeds to local area charities and scholarships.



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Times **OpEd** 

## **Op Ed County Supervisors want to close Reid-Hillview. At what cost?**

ast San Jose's housing crisis, racism, social injustice, and environmental ills are all important issues. According to activists, closing San Jose's only general aviation airport will solve all of these and more - after 2031. It won't. Closing Reid-Hillview will only fill campaign coffers and developer's pockets and displace the same people who the county says they will help. At what cost?

We Need Affordable Housing! Airport opponents say Reid-Hillview property should be used

for affordable housing. If the issue is affordable housing why don't we see unused and unencumbered Santa Clara County and City of San Jose properties like the Fairgrounds and Pleasant Hills Golf Course turned into affordable housing now, not hinting to use airport property 11 years from now.

Not one County Supervisor has committed to use the property for affordable housing after 2031. They have already spent taxpayer money to study alternate uses. If affordable housing is the goal, why waste additional taxpayer money on further study? The most likely reason is there is no commitment or intent to use the property for affordable housing.

#### What About Lead?

Supervisor Chavez's office misled residents about lead poisoning by misrepresenting a

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2020 EPA report modeling potential airborne lead emissions at airports. She wrote, "Reid-Hillview is one of the few US airports where lead emissions from piston aircraft exceed National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for lead."

This is thrice false. One, the study was modeling worse case lead concentrations on the airport property. The study went on to point out the modeled lead levels fell well below EPA standards by 50m from the point of maximum potential concentration. Second, the authors of the report say specifically this modeling study is not to be used to determine if an airport is exceeding emission standards. Lastly, a check with the EPA in November confirmed the measured emissions at Reid-Hillview have not once exceeded the EPA standards for lead.

The county makes no effort to address the real cause of lead poisoning in these children; the lead paint and plumbing commonly used in houses in East San Jose. The county won a \$305 million settlement against paint manufacturers for selling leaded paint after they knew the risks. Not one penny of that settlement is earmarked to help this community. Closing Reid-Hillview will not help the chil-

dren of East San Jose. It won't even make a difference.

#### **Airports Are Essential**

Reid-Hillview is essential for the city and county. In 1996 the San Jose City Council adopted a resolution stating, "the Airport is an irreplaceable asset to the public transportation system of the County of Santa Clara, City of San Jose, and the surrounding region."

Mayor Sam Liccardo wrote in November 2020, "As the County embarks on further study about the future of the Reid-Hillview Airport, the San Jose City Council has expressed its desire to ensure that the following items are fully addressed in the process

• Relocation of existing businesses and services, including emergency operations such as CalFire and the Civil Air Patrol, SJSU's aviation program, and other associated commercial activity.

• Planning and funding for the San Martin Airport to ensure that General Aviation has a viable and more appropriate alternative to Mineta San José."

To do this Santa Clara County would spend millions to acquire additional land, construct a second runway, expand facilities, build a control tower, and work with the FAA to build out additional infrastructure and services What part of the county budget will be cut to fund replicate essential services that exist at **Reid-Hillview?** 

Is the Community Being Heard or Used?

Supervisor Chavez said, "After decades, the community is finally being heard," as she moved to continue with the process to close Reid-Hillview. Is the community being heard? Or will Reid-Hillview become another Santana Row, forcing the people demanding justice out of their homes. Is the community being heard? Or is the community being used as an excuse to hand developers 180-acres of prime real estate at the cost of the county taxpayer?

Closing Reid-Hillview will not solve the social-economic issues in San Jose. It will not spare the children of East San Jose the health impacts of lead poisoning. It will not resolve affordable housing challenges. It will cost the county taxpayer millions of dollars for the benefit of a very select few at the loss of an irreplaceable strategic regional asset.

John Carr, Vice Chairman of Santa Clara County Airports Commission

Anissa Mohler, Instructor and Pilot at Reid-Hillview Airport



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### IN MEMORY **Mary Lee Baiocchi** January 6, 1934 - November 21, 2020 Resident of Almaden Valley

Served as history docent for New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum and served on the board of the New Almaden Quicksilver County Park Association

ary Lee Baiocchi, "Cookie" to her family and friends, passed away peacefully Saturday, November 21, 2020. She was a loving wife, mother, sister, aunt and godmother. She is survived by her two sons Greg (Josie) and Ken (Stephanie), sister Barbara and niece Stacia. She is together now in heaven with her devoted husband Jerry Baiocchi, daughter-in-law Sharon Baiocchi, and sisters Georgia Lumley and Bea Lumley.

Mary Lee was the daughter of George and Irene Smoot. She was a San Jose native and proud graduate of Notre Dame High School Class of '51 and San Jose City College. She worked as an instructor for Pacific Bell, becoming one of the first female supervisors and trainers in the San Jose area. After taking time off to raise her boys, she returned to the phone company, working in various roles until retirement in 1988.

Mary Lee had a vibrant "second act" after retirement. As

the granddaughter and daughter of New Almaden Quicksilver mine workers, she had a strong connection to the rich history of the area. She served as a history docent for more than 30 years at the New Almaden Quicksilver Mining Museum and served on the board of the New Almaden Quicksilver County Park Association, activities that she shared with her lifelong

friend Kitty Monahan. She was recognized as the Santa Clara County Parks Volunteer of the Year in 2006.

Mary Lee was involved with many other groups and activities, including the San Jose Women's Club, Almaden Valley Rotary Club, Transfiguration Catholic Church, Santa Theresa Women's Golf Club, and numerous book clubs. Mary Lee also acted and sang with the Almaden Senior Players acting troupe.

Mary Lee had an inquisitive mind, a faith-filled heart and a thirst for knowledge. Her library is full of books that range in topics near and far. She loved all animals and enjoyed art classes and piano lessons. She loved to travel, explore cultures and meet people. Her favorite spot was Hawaii by far.

Due to pandemic restrictions, Mary Lee was laid to rest in a private family service. A memorial mass will follow

#### College HUNKS offers free moving services to anyone fleeing domestic violence

Rapidly accumulating data is showing a disturbing trend during COVID-19 quarantine life—an uptick in domestic violence incidents.

With families sheltering in place, it's become increasingly difficult for domestic violence victims to escape from their situations and seek help. As such, College HUNKS Moving Company (HUNKS) is offering free moving services to anyone fleeing domestic violence.

Here's how it works. A certified domestic violence shelter needs to approve any victims requesting a free move to ensure that the victim is supported throughout the transition as well as for the safety of the moving team and victim. Anyone in a domestic violence situation should first contact the police or a domestic violence shelter immediately. The shelter will contact HUNKS at NationalAccounts@CHHJ.com and the movers will make themselves available and help coordinate the move.

For more information, please visit www.collegehunkshaulingjunk.com.

when it's safe to gather.

In honor of Mary Lee, you may light a candle or make a donation in her memory at San Jose's Notre Dame High School or Transfiguration Catholic Church.



#### It has been an honor to serve our commun **itv**

By Johnny Khamis Special to the Times

s my term on city council comes to an end, I feel grateful to my constituents for having voted me in for two terms to represent them.

It has been an honor to serve our community and I would like to continue to do so. I, along with my family, have chosen to continue serving our

community. I am running to be

the next Santa Clara **County Supervisor** for District 1, currently held by Mike Wasserman, who is termed out.

I am delighted to have earned the support of San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and former San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed



**District 10** Report

as well as several other elected officials and community leaders from San Jose, Morgan Hill, Gilroy, Monte Sereno, and Los Gatos.

As a council member, I have always worked to bring value for our tax dollars and I want to work to bring fiscal responsibility and transparency at the county level.

Our county is responsible for public health decisions, helping the mentally ill, individuals with substance abuse issues, and the homeless. In addition, the county is respon-



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can do better. With your help, I want to work to find solutions and make sure we spend our money effectively and wisely to benefit

our residents and their needs. Our campaign is off to a good start. We are currently at \$32,000 and working hard. Our goal is to raise \$100,000 by December 31, 2020. Any contribution you could make will

Like many of you, I feel that our county

sible for our jails, courts, and parole system. help us reach our goal.

Please join our effort to ensure county fiscal responsibility, improve public safety, and provide results for all of our residents. Online donations can be made at

www.johnnykhamis.com Checks can be made payable to Johnny

Khamis for Supervisor 2022. Please mail the check to 1308 Addiewell Place, San Jose, CA 95120.

As a council member. I have always worked to bring value for our tax dollars and I want to work to bring fiscal responsibility and transparency at the county level.



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Times Community News

Jerry Lloyd as the Announcer (left) and Eduardo Soria as the George Bailey in "It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play." Photo credit: Stephanie Whigham

## 'It's A Wonderful Life: Live Radio **Play' livestream Dec. 10**

he Tabard Theatre Company will livestream It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play, and added new performances to the remaining schedule, including a 12 p.m. matinee on Christmas Eve day.

The show's livestream will take place from December 10 through 24. Single tickets for the play are \$15 to \$50 as part of Tabard's inclusive pricing that allows buyers to choose their own pricing according to their capacity.

In order to keep the performers and creative team safe and follow State and County COVID regulations, each actor has performed their part solo for the theatre's threecamera livestream set-up, with the technical team remaining in mask behind plastic barriers. The various parts are then being edited together to create the finished show.

While it is somewhat similar to the process of making a film, the goal was to create a product that gives the same look and feel of the company's previously successful live streamed performances. Although the main presentation is now pre-recorded, each show will still be live. For each performance, Tabard Artistic Director Jonathan Rhys Williams will be hosting a live pre-show with trivia and socializing in the chat area.

Directed by Jonathan Rhys Williams, It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play features Chris Fernandez, Robert Lewis, Jerry Lloyd, Eduardo Soria, Jaime Wolf, and Irene Trapp, with music by Gregg Coffin.

Long before COVID necessitated the reinvention of live theatre for the livestream medium. It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play was hailed as "magical" by The Boston Globe and "fresh and inventive" by the Chicago Sun-Times for staging the holiday movie classic as a live radio broadcast being performed in-studio. In this radio play version, a small ensemble of actors perform the voices of dozens of characters while creating foley sound effects live. Tabard has also commissioned a brand-new all-original score by composer Gregg Coffin for this production.

It's a Wonderful Life the movie was nominated for five Academy Awards—including Best Picture— and is for many a winter holiday tradition. In the radio play version, just like in the movie, we start on Christmas Eve 1945, as Angel 2nd Class Clarence Obody is assigned to save George Bailey from suicide. We go on a journey with Clarence to learn about George's kind and generous life, and how he came to be on that bridge on Christmas Eve wishing he had never been born and ready to end it all. By granting his wish, Clarence shows George how important his life has been, and we leave with a touching reminder that "no man is a failure who has friends" (angelic or otherwise).

Chris Jones at The Chicago Tribune called this family-friendly adaptation "A fresh theatrical context that creates just the right kind of retro warmth." It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play will surely ignite the holiday spirit in audiences of all ages, and offers a nostalgic reminder of what the season is all about.

In order to make theatre more accessible to those financially impacted by the crisis, Tabard is offering three tiers of pricing and leaving it up to the customer to pay according to their situation. The lowest price is offered for anyone who needs a little help in order to afford a ticket, whether due to the COVID crisis or for any other reason. The middle price is for patrons who are comfortable paying for a standard theatre ticket, and the highest price point is available for those who have the capacity and wish to support access to the arts for someone else in need.

Online multi-camera livestream, accessed via your computer, phone, tablet or TV.

Tickets: \$15-\$50.www.tabardtheatre.org or Call (408) 679-2330

Performances: Thursday, December 10 at 8pm (Opening Night)

Friday, December 11 at 8pm

Saturday, December 12 at 2:30pm (Free pre-show presentation for visually impaired; everyone is welcome.)

Saturday, December 12 at 3pm Saturday, December 12 at 8pm Sunday, December 13 at 2pm Thursday, December 17 at 12pm Friday, December 18 at 8pm Saturday, December 19 at 3pm Sunday, December 20 at 2pm Wednesday, December 23 at 7pm Thursday, December 24 at 12pm



Irene Trapp sings a 1940s radio commercial jingle. Photo credit: Stephanie Whigham



Call now 650-383-1980

### Watch out for the signs of a locksmith scam when you have an emergency

Times **Community News** 

ost people only call a locksmith when they are desperate for help. That means it's easy to overlook red flags and fall prey to a scammer. By getting to know the signs of a locksmith scam ahead of time, you can avoid cons if an emergency does arise.

#### How the Scam Works

You've locked yourself out of your home or car! You take out your phone and do a quick search for locksmiths in your area. This is where the scam begins. Many locksmith scams use the name and logo of a reputable locksmith to advertise their business. When you call these imitators, they may answer with a generic "Hello, locksmith services," rather than a specific business name.

In one common version of this scam, the person on the phone offers you an extremely cheap quote – as low as \$15. However, once the locksmith arrives on-site, they find a number of "reasons" to raise the price. Scammers prey on consumers' feelings of desperation, and victims often end up paying hundreds more than what they were initially quoted.

In other cases, scammers may also claim that opening your door is impossible. They insist you need to drill the old lock and replace it with a new, expensive lock. This, too, is most likely a deception; a skilled locksmith can open just about any lock. In addition,



scammers like to sell "extra-secure" locks that, in reality, are cheap and anything but secure. What's even more disturbing is that a scam locksmith now knows where you live or work and how to gain reentry later on. **Tips to protect yourself from locksmith** 

scams

Critique their advertising. Look closely

at the business's advertisements. Is the spe-

cific name of the business clearly identified? Does the ad look similar to other ads but have a different name? Does it appear that the dealer actually operates under several names?

• Ask plenty of questions. Most consumer complaints concern fees that were not disclosed when they called the locksmith. Ask about the cost of a service call, mileage, and parts before you agree to have the work performed. Get an estimate before any work begins, including emergency service. If the on-site estimate doesn't match the price quoted on the telephone, have the job done by someone else.

• Check identification. Most legitimate locksmiths will arrive in a clearly marked vehicle and provide identification. Remember that you will be allowing a stranger into your home.

• Be wary of "necessary" drilling. Understand that it isn't routine for a locksmith to insist on drilling the lock to open it. Most locksmiths have the skills to open almost any lock.

• Demand an invoice. You can't dispute a charge without proof of how much you paid and what you paid for. Insist on an itemized invoice that includes parts, labor, mileage and service charges. The invoice should also include the business name and address. Use your credit card to pay for locksmith services for added security.

Find BBB Accredited locksmiths before you have an emergency. Keep their number in your wallet or phone, in case you find yourself in need of services later on. Find out more about BBB Accreditation Standards. If you've been the victim of a locksmith scam, be sure to report it at BBB.org/ScamTracker. Your report can help expose scammers and protect other consumers.

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#### PAGE 16 ■ ALMADEN TIMES ■ DEC. 11 – DEC. 24, 2020

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Times News



World-renowned mezzo-soprano Susan Graham appears as famed actress "Madeline Mitchell" in Opera San José's new fully staged production of Jake Heggie's chamber opera ""Three Decembers." Offered via on-demand streaming beginning December 3, 2020, this world-class digital production will be available at operasj.org. Photo Credit: Mark Leialoha

## **Opera San José now streaming** new virtual performance of **Jake Heggie's 'Three Decembers'**

What an enchanting way to support the arts!

pera San José has begun streaming its new fully staged production of Jake Heggie's chamber opera, "Three Decembers"

Met with critical acclaim, "Three Decembers" has been hailed by Opera Today as "a modern masterpiece" with "a score filled with pleasures" that "provokes feeling and demands emotional reaction." Declared "an engaging crowd pleaser" by the Chicago Tribune, this lustrous one act, 90-minute foray into one riveting family is composed for three singers (soprano, mezzo-soprano, and baritone), is sung in English, and offers a thrilling experience for theatergoers and opera lovers alike.

The new production features worldrenowned mezzo-soprano Susan Graham in the central role, alongside celebrated Opera San José Resident Artists soprano Maya Kherani and baritone Efraín Solís, in a world-class digital production offered via on-demand streaming.

Based on the unpublished play "Some Christmas Letters" by Tony Award winning playwright Terrance McNally, "Three Decembers" follows the captivating story of a famous actress, Madeline Mitchell, and her two adult children, Beatrice and Charlie over three decades (1986, 1996, and 2006), bringing to mesmerizing life a family struggling to connect, as long-held secrets come to light.

With a brilliant, witty libretto by Gene Scheer and a soaring musical score by Jake Heggie, "Three Decembers" is a 90-minute fullhearted American opera about family - the ones we are born into and those we create.

An intimate, dual-piano arrangement was created and conducted by Opera San José Resident Artist conductor Christopher James Ray specifically for this vibrant production, which was captured in Opera San José's new Fred Heiman Digital Media Studio and directed by Tara Branham.

Tickets are \$40 per household (includes on-demand streaming access only) or \$50 per household. For more information or to purchase tickets, the public can visit operasj.org or call (408) 437-4450 (open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.).



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Times Feature

## San Jose mayor and police chief push sanctuary policy changes following fatal stabbing

By Mauricio La Plante Article courtesy of San José Spotlight an Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and Police Chief Eddie Garcia are demanding Santa Clara County change its sanctuary city policy — for the second time in a little more than a year — after discovering the suspect arrested for a fatal stabbing spree at Grace Baptist Church is undocumented.

The suspect, Fernando Lopez, allegedly stabbed five people at the church and homeless shelter on Nov. 22, injuring three and killing two. Four of the victims were homeless and one was a city employee and volunteer, Garcia said.

"Currently, the Santa Clara County policy prohibits responding to immigration detainers, which allowed the suspect to be released," Garcia said in a news conference. "I received the question, 'What could have prevented this tragedy?' I won't point to a single thing, but rather a multitude of tools and opportunities that were not utilized or failed."

However, County Executive Jeff Smith told San José Spotlight that Garcia's and Liccardo's judgement of the situation is premature and chastised them for using the tragedy to advance their political agenda of making drastic changes to county's immigration policies.

He called the mayor and police chief "unprofessional."

"This sort of popped up out of the blue with them — basically trying to take advantage of a horrific double-murder, trying to promote their political agenda, which has been talked about, numerous, numerous, numerous times," Smith said. "I think it's extremely unprofessional. Obviously, with a murder like this, there are many factors that contributed to it. It's not just the immigrant status. It's not just methamphetamine use. It's not just homelessness."

Lopez was staying in Grace Baptist Church for shelter and Garcia speculated he may have been under the influence of drugs based on witness reports.

Liccardo insisted Santa Clara County should alter its sanctuary city policy to allow county jailers to call ICE agents before releasing undocumented immigrants with a history of convictions for violent crimes.

"As I publicly advocated in 2015, and again in 2019, in those very rare circumstances where an undocumented offender has a record of violent or serious prior convictions, the county should be acting in accordance with the state's Values Act and notifying ICE that a person will be released out into the community," Liccardo said.

No changes to the county's sanctuary city policy are being made, Smith said, and it is illegal for local law enforcement to detain someone based on their immigration status.

The county ultimately voted against chang-



San Jose Police Chief Eddie Garcia briefs reporters on latest details surrounding Grace Baptist Church killings. Screenshot from SJPD livestream.

ing the policy in 2019 after the high-profile killing of Bambi Larson prompted outcry and a proposed amendment. As of now, the county bars law enforcement from alerting immigration authorities to the release of an undocumented immigrant.

The mayor said these changes would align with the California Values Act or Senate Bill 54, which permits local agencies to contact federal authorities about undocumented immigrants charged with violent felonies.

"The state has set out a balanced approach to both protect our immigrant community and public safety," Liccardo said. "The county should do the same. The county has had several opportunities to do so, including recently last year after a horrible murder."

Lopez was released from jail by a judge after facing a misdemeanor charge in Santa Clara County prior to the stabbings, Garcia said. The chief said the suspect was also on probation for a domestic violence felony conviction in San Joaquin County.

Garcia said Lopez was previously deported three times, but had re-entered the country.

The police chief added Lopez had a "violent history" and missed a required court appearance under the release program he entered under the Santa Clara County judge's decision.

Garcia and Liccardo last year faced a barrage of criticism from immigration advocates for their support of altering the sanctuary city policy.

Advocates for the unhoused said they feared the violence would increase stigma toward people seeking shelter.

Housing advocate Shaunn Cartwright told San José Spotlight that people against building affordable housing and shelters would use this as "Bambi Larson part two" and stigmatize unhoused people.

However, Liccardo and Garcia said the crime was not representative of all immigrants and unhoused people of San Jose.

Despite efforts to not tie the violence to stereotypes of either community, Cartwright said investing in more mental health and shelter resources for the unhoused would be the best prevention measure authorities can make.

"Police are doing all these warrant checks all the time and things like that keep people on the run, even when they're not wanted by police," Cartwright said.

"You just constantly feel like you're being harassed, which exacerbates mental health issues. If you're somebody who's prone to paranoia, schizophrenia, constantly having police show up just exacerbates your issue." Providing more housing could have been

See SANCTUARY, page 21

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#### The San Jose Nutcracker: Home for the Holidays will begin streaming Saturday, Dec.12

Visions of sugarplums and Silicon Valley landmarks will dance across the screen this holiday season when New Ballet presents The San Jose Nutcracker: Home for the Holidays, a festive yuletide treat streamed in partnership with Hammer .....

Theatre Center.mer. THA twist on the classic Nutcracker tale, thisHolidayjoyful holiday production called "delight-urday,ful...as imaginative as it is captivating" bythrougMetro Silicon Valley tells the well-loved storyFor theof Clara and the Nutcracker while incorporating historical references to the heritageAt rigHat has made Santa Clara the center of inno-Home for

Times Feature

vation it is today. The stream presented is a recording from a past production of The San Jose Nutcracker, danced live to a full orchestra, at the Hammer. The San Jose Nutcracker: Home for the Holidays will begin streaming 7:00 p.m., Saturday, December 12 (with on-demand access through December 31).

For tickets (pay-what-you-can), the public may visit www.hammertheatre.com.

At right: New Ballet's The San Jose Nutcracker: Home for the Holidays will be presented virtually in partnership with Hammer Theatre Center December 12-31. Pictured: Clara (**Mesa Burdick**) climbs into the swan boat as the flower fairies (New Ballet company artists) look on. *Photo credit: Bari Lee* 





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#### Times Cover Story

## Order

#### Continued from page 1

not dropping to 15%, local health officials said they are taking action before COVID-19 overburdens hospitals.

"We cannot wait until after we have driven off the cliff to pull the emergency brake," said Cody. "We understand that the closures under the state order will have a profound impact on our local businesses. However, if we act quickly, we can both save lives and reduce the amount of time these restrictions have to stay in place, allowing businesses and activities to reopen sooner."

Under the order, barbershops, nail salons, personal care services, movie theaters, museums, bars and wineries must close.

Schools already holding in-person classes with waivers and critical infrastructure can remain open.

Retail can continue doing business at 20% capacity and restaurants can only serve takeout and delivery — shuttering outdoor and indoor dining. Santa Clara County has already closed indoor dining and had limited nonessential retail to 10% capacity, but officials said the county will align with the state in allowing 20% capacity inside retail shops. People who travel into the county from

150 miles away must quarantine for 14 days. "I and other health officers in the Bay Area

don't think we can wait," said Contra Costa County Public Health Officer Dr. Chris Farnitano. "We must act swiftly."

Santa Clara County joined San Francisco, Marin, Alameda and Contra Costa to act in unison to push ahead with the order.

State health officials project ICU capacity in the Bay Area will fall below 15% in midto-late December, unlike other regions which will drop below 15% within the next few days.

But local health officers said hospitals must avoid reaching those levels or otherwise risk overwhelming and infecting their own health care workers.

"The critical resource is staffing, in particular, staff that are trained in critical-care settings," Cody said. "So, that is one of the many reasons why prevention is the best solution, and to the extent that we can prevent our residents from needing care."

Reaction in the business community was mixed.

Blossom Nail Spa owner Linda Do said she understands the need for closures but with no government assistance, small businesses will soon close indefinitely.

"They want to shut us down, which is fine for health reasons for the community, but we're not being helped financially," Do said. "And we don't know how much is enough. We don't know because how long is it going to go on for? They say three weeks but it might go on longer. Who knows?"

She said her employees will be hit the hardest.

"My staff depends on their job ... I don't have answers for them and they're just devastated because they want to go to work to provide for their family," she said.

Tina Le, the owner of Nail Elegance in San Jose, said local leaders pulled the brakes too late and put an abrupt burden on local businesses.

"This whole thing is a joke," she said. "I



State health officials project ICU capacity in the Bay Area will fall below 15% in mid-to-late December, unlike other regions which will drop below 15% within the next few days.

have no trust in our government right now and I am very angry."

Juan Castillo, owner of Dapper barbershop near Kelley Park in San Jose, said his business was closed for six months during the first shutdown. After opening in September, he said COVID-19 cases were low for a month but then everything started skyrocketing as people went to restaurants and gyms.

Barbers are trained in sanitation and how to avoid cross-contamination, he said. They do temperature checks and clean stations after every client.

"It's not fair that barbershops are doing their best but are being closed," he said.

"A client is safer at a barbershop than Costco or Target. We are the ones hurting and we are the ones keeping our businesses clean and hygienic."

Castillo said if he has to close he won't be able to pay his rent and might lose the business.

"We have families to feed and this is our only source of income," he said.

Denise Russell, a hair stylist and owner of Special FX Salon & Day Spa in San Jose, said the ever-changing rules for businesses have been difficult but she understands the need for safety.

"We don't want people to die," she said. "If the hospitals are overrun, then I'm all for shutting down."

Now, nearly 10 months into the pandemic, Russell said her initial shutdown anxieties have been replaced by a sense of calm.

"When this first started I wanted to control it. Now I'm past that and accepting this is where we are," Russell said. "I am confident my business will survive. I don't know why I feel like that, I just do."

Business closures and restrictions under the state's regional stay-at-home order are described at www.sccgov.org/sites/ covid19/Pages/public-health-orders.aspx



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MKT-P0108







A digital rendering of the pixel light Christmas tree. Photo courtesy of Christmas in the Park.

## **Drive-thru Christmas in the Park is now open**

#### **By William Bellou** Publisher

an Jose's beloved holiday tradition, Christmas in the Park, is now open at its new venue.

Instead of a stroll through downtown's Plaza de Cesar Chavez, Christmas in the Park will instead be a drive-through event at History Park on Senter Road. And — like the annual Fantasy of Lights show at Vasona Park — you have to reserve a day and time to visit in advance.

A change in venue for Christmas in the Park, the first time in its 41-year history, was required because a loss of sponsorship revenue due to the pandemic, not to mention the lost vendor and ride income normally taken in during a normal year.

"People are going to expect to see Christmas in the Park from a car, and I think they're going to be blown away," he said. "They're going to be overwhelmed by how much more there is to see," Minsky said.

As a bonus, the regular Christmas in the Park displays, the historic and replica buildings at History Park also will be decorated, along with the illuminated replica of the San Jose Light Tower.

"There will be light tunnels, giant snow-

flakes and hundreds of decorated trees, with the whole visit choreographed to music. Santa Claus will be around, too," said Minsky.

#### Drive-thru pricing

The pricing for Christmas in the Park drive-thru is \$20 per vehicle for standardsized and trucks up to 8 ft. high (no buses or limos)— from 5 to 10 p.m., and \$10 during "twilight hour" between 4 and 5 p.m. Reservations are in 15-minute windows, with hundreds of cars able to visit in a single day.

There's no option to visit during the day due to the emphasis on illuminated displays.

Understanding not all families can afford the admission; Minsky said tickets also are being distributed through nonprofit partners including Somos Mayfair and Catholic Charities. You can donate to sponsor another car when purchasing a ticket.

Editor's Note: Do not buy tickets to the event from individuals. Some have discovered they purchased duplicate tickets. Be sure to buy them directly from the official website. Once tickets are purchased, they may not be resold. Visit: www.christmasinthepark.com/p/buytickets

### Sanctuary

Continued from page 19

a preventative measure, Cartwright added. "Fernando is a victim as well. He is a victim of this system that does not provide enough low-income housing, enough mental health treatment, enough detox beds, enough rehab facilities," she said. "He is a victim of this entire system."

Organizers for predominantly immigrant communities said linking crime with the county's sanctuary city policy would stir fear and paint a "broad-brush" stigma toward immigrants.

Maritza Maldonado, founding executive director of Amigos de Guadalupe Center for Justice and Empowerment, likened the proposal by the mayor and police chief to something President Donald Trump would say.

"That's what the president said. He just wanted to get rid of the bad hombres," Maldonado said. "It gets into people's due process. Who categorizes them? Who's going to say they're fit to live in this country or not?"

She said such an abrupt announcement may threaten immigrants' trust in the government and discourage them from seeking COVID-19 testing and vaccines.

Other advocates demanded the mayor and police chief focus on the need for more shelters and greater services for addiction.

"Those are the tools we need in greater supply for public safety, acutely during this COVID pandemic, and permanently," said Serena Alvarez, president of the League of United Latin American Citizens in San Jose.

Fundraisers have been set up to help the victims of the Grace Baptist Church stabbing, including Nguyen Pham, a city employee who is hospitalized but is reportedly in stable condition. www.paypal.com/pools/c/8uBX1EltpG *Contact Mauricio La Plante at msla* 

plante19@gmail.com or follow @mslaplantenews on Twitter.

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days. Our ministries/activities include:

· Bible study on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6PM

· A Food Pantry serving anyone in need--open Tu/ Th/ Sa 10:00 AM to Noon

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tures, and even an occasional karaoke night--all in

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· Passionate Faith · Loving Respect Deep Connectedness Intentional Growth · Shared Laughter Visit us at our web site at:

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

#### CONGREGATIONAL

408.265.5837 CHURCH OF ALMADEN www.bibleroad.org VALLEY, UCC We strive to be a group of 6581 Camden Ave., San Christians that love and Jose, CA 95120, Pastor honor God and Jesus Rev. Marty Williams, 408 Christ in our daily lives 268 0243. We assemble each Sunwww.ccavucc.org. day to encourage each We are a welcoming other through singing, church with a progressive studving, praving and approach to faith, worship sharing in the Lord's supand giving to our local per. Simple-just like community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and what one reads about in the New Testament. Affirming (0&A) and wel-Bible class at 9:30 AM come members of the Worship at 10:30 AM LGBT community. We Located in south San support local LifeMoves Jose near Kooser Rd. and (formerly InnVision) Shel-Camden Ave. (behind the ter Feedings once a Almaden Valley Athletic month, San Francisco Club). Come make new Night Ministry, Second Christian friends!

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Communion

Sunday.

Sunday in Worship: Holy

2nd Sunday in Worship:

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and Communities

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



**CENTER (EIC)** http://www.eicsanjose.org 2486 Ruby Ave, San Jose CA 95148. (408) 239-6668 As-Śalaamu-Alaikum" the English meaning is "Peace be upon you". 0) 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. latak"" the English mean-

"Hufazik Allah Waeayiing is " May Allah (swt) protect you and your family". Please visit our website to learn more.

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#### HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

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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 3sixty 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

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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

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nity, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and whereyou get to know peopleby name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); 5111 San Felipe Rd. Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m.,10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location

Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www. churchstanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor



#### ਰੱਬ ਇਕ ਹੈ Rab lk Hai

God ís One

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 encour-

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San Jose, CA 95135 408-223-1562. www.stfrancisofassisi.com 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 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, Sunday11:00AM, 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 Auditori 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 vour presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help

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ation;

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