

Nearly half of Silicon Valley children need supportive services to survive **SEE PAGE 4**



Narika to the rescue
Domestic violence agency combats increased abusive situations due to lockdowns – **SEE PAGE 11**

Kirigin Cellars – one of the oldest Wineries located in California
SEE PAGE 16



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Almaden Times

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MARCH 4 – MARCH 17, 2022 ■ VOL. 35, NO. 5



Pictured is Bronco's starting point guard **Eric John Wong** with first year Head Coach **Dan Matsuoka**.

Bret Harte 8th Grade Boys Basketball team captures San Jose Middle School Athletic League Championship

Bret Harte finishes the season with a perfect 8-0

By Zachary Green
Special to the Times

The Bret Harte 8th Grade Boys Basketball team held off Covid and opponents to capture the San Jose Middle School Athletic League Championship.

The Broncos knocked off rival Willow Glen 60-40 to capture the title Feb. 10.

Bret Harte finished the season a perfect 8-0.

First year Head Coach Dan Matsuoka was amazed at not just the basketball skill but the attitude the boys had throughout the season.

"I'm really proud of our
See **BRET HARTE**, page 7

Almaden Valley Women's Club announces 2nd Annual Virtual 5k Art & Wine Community Event

Almaden Art & Wine Festival will not take place this year

By William Bellou
Publisher

The Almaden Valley Women's Club announced that it will not be producing the annual Almaden Art & Wine Festival this year. Instead, the club announced the dates for its 2nd Annual Virtual 5k Art & Wine Community Event which will be held June 26 – July 3, 2022.

While facilities have opened this year, the announcement came too late for the club to fully commit to the event and apply for the necessary grants in order to support the festival.

"We understand the importance of the Festival as a community event," said President, Beth Swartz. "However, at the beginning of the year we were unsure of the feasibility of the event and decided to focus instead on a hybrid community event."

Virtual 5k a success

Last year the group hosted its first Virtual 5k along with two other community events. Those events raised more than \$40,000 which the club was able to give back to the San Jose and Almaden communities in the form of grants and scholarships.

Denise Myrick, VP of Fundraising, points out that while the Virtual 5k event is not on the scale of the Festival, it still speaks to the mission of the women's club. "The virtual 5k is an opportunity to bring the community together by getting outside and walking or running on one of our suggested routes," she says. "In addition, we continue to support our community through the grants and scholarships as well as involving the artists in our community to be part of our virtual art show and our young artists to submit artwork for our annual logo con-



Denise Myrick and Stephanie Christerson getting ready to participate in last year's Virtual 5k.

test."

The 2nd annual Virtual 5k Art & Wine Community event is being

kicked off now with the annual 2022 logo contest. One winner and two finalists' logos will be selected from

submissions by eligible students. The final logo will be featured on the club's yearly commemorative wine glass, the 5k t-shirt and swag bag, and all 2022 marketing materials. For more information on the logo contest, please visit www.almadenwomen.org/logo-contest.

The Virtual 5k is a fun family event that the entire community can participate in from June 26 – July 3. Suggested routes will be provided or participants can use their own route. Because it is virtual, the event will be open to everyone providing for a larger registration and funds to be raised for our community. As always, AVWC is committed to fundraising and community service, and 100% of our proceeds are awarded to local schools and charities.

For details about this 2022 community event or if you would like to donate, please visit www.almadenwomen.org or email: avwcmarketing@gmail.com.

Scholarship applications available for eligible high school seniors

Annual logo contest now open for submissions

By Beth Swartz
Special to the Times

The Almaden Valley Women's Club announces that the annual Academic and Service Scholarship application is now open to eligible high school seniors in the 95118, 95120 and 95123 zip codes.

The Almaden Valley Women's Club has a motto: "Friendship through Service." Community service is very important to the membership and is one of the criteria for the scholarship.

Students are asked to present an essay detailing projects or volunteer hours which helped



AVWC Scholarship 2021 recipients: **Trenton Jiang** and **Quinn Ruiz**. This year's scholarship applications must be received by March 31.



improve their communities. Eligible high school seniors in the 95118, 95120, and 95123 zip codes are invited to apply. The deadline to submit an application is March 31, 2022. The scholarship application can be found at www.almadenwomen.org/scholarships

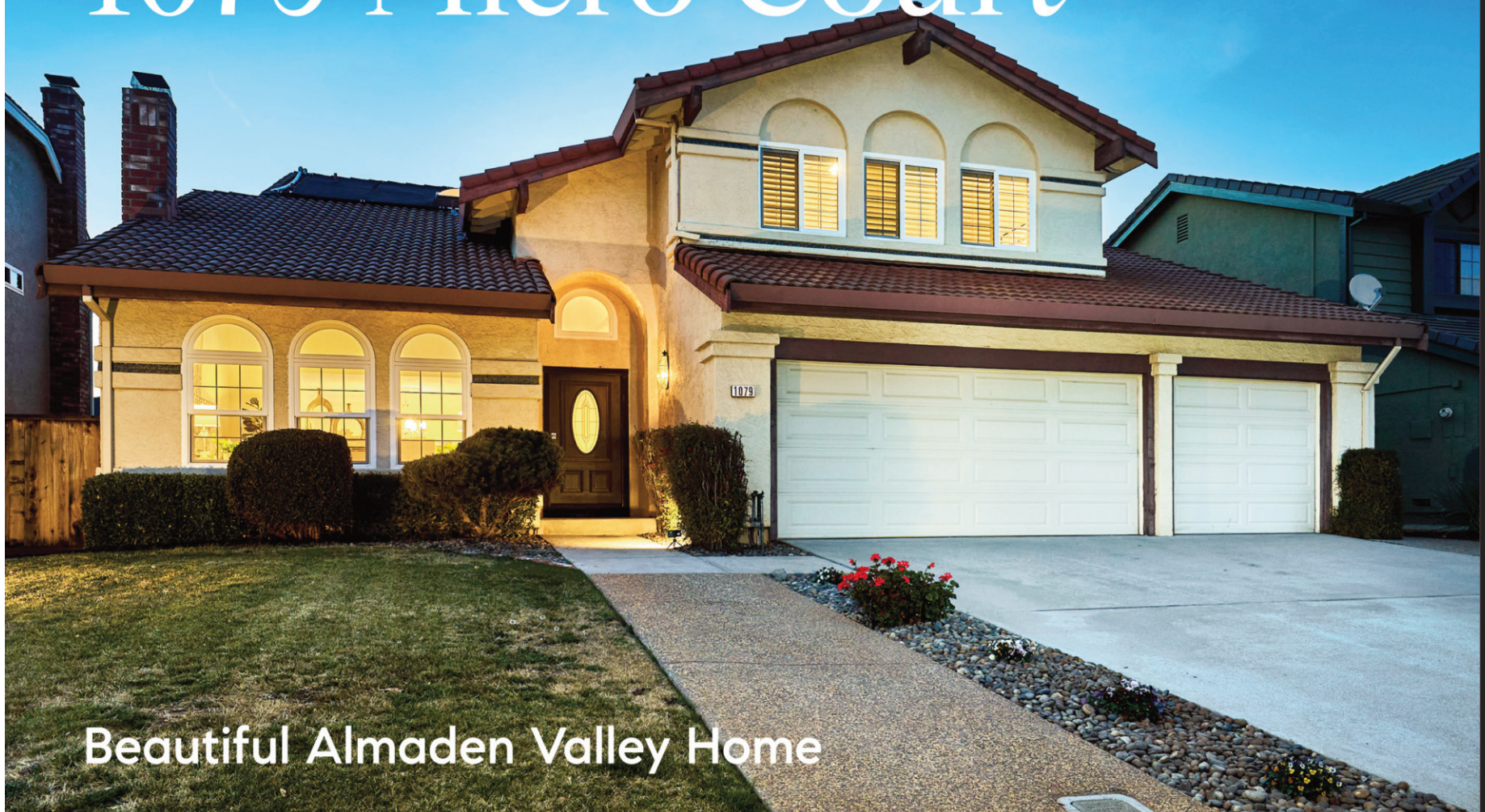
Annual logo contest open

The Almaden Valley Women's Club also sponsors a logo contest and would like to invite art students between the ages of 11-18 enrolled in a public, private, or home school program in the 95118, 95120 and 95123 zip codes to participate in the 2022 annual Logo Contest. The logo contest is happening now and the winning artwork will be used on t-shirts and other promotional materials for the club's community events in 2022.

The club will select one winner and two finalist logos from the submissions. For more information on the logo content, please visit: www.almadenwomen.org/logo-contest Entries are due on Thursday, March 31, 2022.

SEE OUR LISTINGS OF LOCAL REALTORS, CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING AND HOME IMPROVEMENT ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER

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The Swan has been the #1 Agent in Almaden Valley each year for the last 13 years as measured by Dollars per Agent Per Year. And 2021 was no exception. She is the only Almaden Valley specialist to have been nationally ranked and recognized twice by The Wall Street Journal/RealTrends for being in the Top 250 Agents in the US. Additionally, Swan is consistently among the Top 100 Agents in the SF Bay Area.

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N O T E B O O K

Driver dies in solo accident on Almaden Expressway

San Jose Police officers responded to the area of Almaden Expressway and Coleman Avenue for a solo vehicle traffic collision on Feb. 19 at 5:48 a.m.

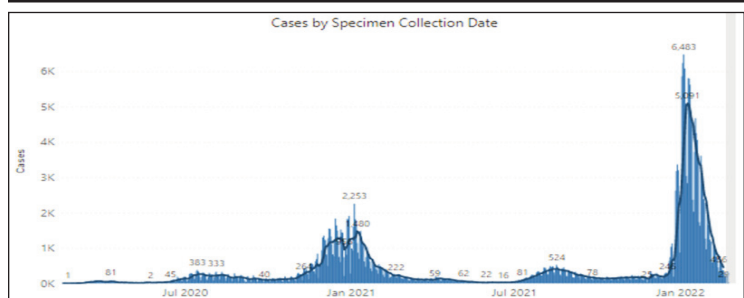
According to police, a 2014 Infiniti sedan was traveling southbound on Almaden Expressway at a high rate of speed when it left the roadway and traveled onto the center median of the expressway. The vehicle struck a tree

head on. The solo adult male driver was pronounced deceased at the scene.

This is the 15th fatal collision, and 16th victim of 2022.

Anyone with information on this investigation is urged to contact Detective Aldinger #4183 of the San José Police Department's Traffic Investigations Unit at 408-277-4654.

Submit crime tips and remain anonymous by using the P3TIPS mobile app, calling the tip line at (408) 947-STOP, or on www.svcrimestoppers.org. If the information you submit leads to an arrest, you are eligible for a cash reward from the Silicon Valley Crime Stoppers Program.



San José Mayor proposes changes to booster mandate for city-owned facilities

Booster mandate ebbs as Omicron case rates decrease

San José Mayor Sam Liccardo announced Feb. 24 a proposal to change the booster mandate for public entry on all city-owned facilities, including the SAP Center, Convention Center, and historic theaters, in response to the recent decline of Omicron variant COVID-19 cases.

Mayor Liccardo proposed an end

to the current booster mandate for the public entering city-owned facilities, while continuing existing testing requirements in compliance with state law. He also stipulated criteria should be established to provide the public and organizations advance notice of potential future health mandates based on public health guidance.

The Mayor states, "The booster mandate served its purpose during the Omicron surge, by encouraging attendees and visitors in public buildings to protect themselves and each other during the period when our ICU's faced the greatest stress of rising hospitalizations. While this surge has run its course, we must remain vigilant about the next one."

San José continues to have the highest vaccination rate of any major U.S. city with more than 90% of residents over five years old having received at least two doses.

The current booster mandate at city-owned buildings has served its purpose in dramatically reducing risk of hospitalizations, as evidence continues to show the efficacy of boosters reducing hospitalizations by 78% and substantial illness by 66%. However, according to the FDA, the effectiveness of boosters does diminish with time.

The City will continue to work with public health experts, venue operators and the community to establish objective thresholds and ensure clear expectations are provided about future mandates when necessary.

Valley Currents

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



Silicon Valley households with children are struggling to make ends meet. Photo courtesy of San Jose Unified School District.

Nearly half of Silicon Valley children need supportive services to survive

By Lorraine Gabbert

Article courtesy of San José Spotlight

Silicon Valley households with children are struggling to make ends meet, and the data is eye-opening.

Joint Venture Silicon Valley recently released its 2022 Silicon Valley Index, shedding light on the stark challenges these families face. In Santa Clara and San Mateo counties, approximately 46% of children live in households that don't earn enough money to cover basic needs, the study said.

Russell Hancock, CEO of Joint Venture Silicon Valley and president of the Silicon Valley Institute of Regional Studies, said these families wouldn't survive without assistance.

"It's staggering, he told San José Spotlight. "Here we are, in the world's most wealthy region, but almost half our children are living in households that aren't self-sufficient."

In Silicon Valley, Hancock said 244,000 of 534,000 children, or more than 45%, live in households below the standard of living. The majority of these children—51%—are Latino, while 25% are Asian Pacific Islander. Costs add up with needed additional housing, food, clothing, school and day care, he said.

Joint Venture defines Silicon Valley as Santa Clara, San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties, and part of Alameda County including Fremont. The report's data comes from a variety of sources, including the census and California's Employment Development Department.

Officials from Joint Venture Silicon Valley, which analyzes regional issues affecting the economy and quality of life, found wealth disparity is growing. While jobs are back to pre-pandemic levels in the region, income inequality has widened, inflation has skyrocketed and housing prices have soared.

Nearly 33% of all Silicon Valley households do not earn enough money to meet their most basic needs without assistance, according to the study, compared with 30% in San Francisco and 32% in the general Bay Area. Households with children headed by limited-English speakers face the greatest struggles, with an estimated nine out of 10 living below self-sufficiency levels. This includes 87% of Latina single mothers and 82% of families with four or more children. Hancock said in Silicon Valley, a

couple without children needs to make a minimum of \$18.54 per hour per adult to be self-sufficient, but it would barely cover a small apartment and basic needs.

In 2021, a family of four with two school-aged children would have to earn \$33.13 per hour per adult to meet its basic needs. In Santa Clara County, a single adult with an infant and preschooler would need to make \$76.75 per hour to survive, according to the study.

"Having a job isn't enough," Hancock said. "Just because you're employed doesn't mean you're making it. It's not the job that matters as much as the income."

Wendi Mahaney-Gurahoo, chief community impact officer for FIRST 5 Santa Clara County, which supports the healthy development of children through age five, said the pandemic exacerbated and highlighted existing problems.

"Families with children are doing worse than everybody else," she told San José Spotlight. "Parents are working, but can't afford to pay for basic essentials. They're having to access what the non-profit agencies provide or they're not doing things like taking their kids to the dentist."

FIRST 5 distributed 3 million diapers in two years during the pandemic, she said.

It also distributed 13,824 cans of baby formula.

Mahaney-Gurahoo said family child care providers, many who are women of color, don't earn much and that more than 300 day cares closed in Santa Clara County during the pandemic. According to FIRST 5's annual report from March 2020 to September 2021, the organization awarded \$5.28 million in stabilization funding to 528 child care providers. She said FIRST 5 also partnered with the city to provide \$11 million in child care scholarships to low-income families with children under age five.

Mahaney-Gurahoo said private infant care can cost almost \$20,000 a year. She said with young children, it's more cost effective to stay home and as a result, women left the workforce during the pandemic.

"It's a perfect storm," Mahaney-Gurahoo said. "It's all the things that have always been true and a tidal wave of increasing need."

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Times **Feature****Bret Harte***Continued from page 1*

team, how hard they worked and how well they competed as a team, but even more so to see how much they care about one another as teammates and as friends,” Matsuo-ka said. “There’s something special about competing for your school with the support of your classmates and family and to see our team come together through it all was wonderful to see.”

Despite the strict guidelines from San Jose Unified School District and Santa Clara County, the Broncos adhered to all the county’s health and safety measures. The team did not lose a single practice or game due to Covid restrictions.



Sixteen new VTA bus operators ready to begin their career

Sixteen new VTA bus operators will graduate from nine weeks of intense training and help fill a deficit of drivers in Santa Clara County.

The new operators will help the transportation agency fill the critical shortage, improving the frequency and reliability of VTA’s transit service.

VTA welcomes two new female drivers in this graduating class, as the agency is working to recruit more women into non-traditional transit jobs.

This class size is smaller than usual, as the agency seeks to train 30 new graduates every nine weeks. Unfortunately, fewer new drivers starting employment further exacerbate VTA’s ongoing operator shortage.

VTA is one of many transit agencies around the country struggling to hire and retain enough operators to provide the transportation service on which our communities depend.



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April 1 & 8, 2022 Friday (4-9 pm)

April 2 & 9, 2022 Saturday (all day)

The deadline for submitting the audition applications is:

Thursday, March 24, 2022

QUESTIONS? Reach out to sjys@sjys.org.

SJYS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (EIN 91-2166427) that has scholarships and financial aid offerings available based on a showing of need.

Times **Community News****Saxophone and More:
Free concert by Mission
Chamber Orchestra of
San Jose, April 9**

Mission Chamber Orchestra of San José (MCOSJ) will perform a free concert of classical music at San Jose's Hammer Theatre Center April 9.

The free concert presents works ranging from well-loved classics to new and less familiar works, offering something of interest for all starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Hammer Theatre Center in San Jose.

Saxophone soloist Ricardo Martinez joins the orchestra to perform the Rhapsody for Alto Saxophone and Orchestra by Belgian composer André Waignein.

Martinez, who has performed concerts in Scotland, France, and Japan as well as in the United States, says he was inspired to become a professional musician at a MCOSJ concert, where he heard saxophone soloist Ashu perform. Waignein's Rhapsody was composed for the 2010 International Adolphe Sax Competition in Dinant, Belgium – the birthplace of the inventor of the saxophone. The Rhapsody is a spontaneous and natural musical journey that explores the technical potential and expressive nature of the instrument.

Saxophone soloist **Ricardo Martinez**

Also on the program is Tico by Bay Area composer Nancy Bloomer Deussen, written specially for MCOSJ. Bloomer Deussen passed away in late 2019, and this concert is the group's first opportunity to perform a tribute to the long-time friend of the orchestra. Another less familiar piece on the program is Peter Boyer's Ghosts of Troy, a tone poem inspired by Homer's Iliad. Well known and loved by many, Bizet's Symphony in C and Barber's Adagio for Strings complete the evening's program.

Tickets

Tickets are free, but reservations are advised: <https://www.missionchamber.org/events-tickets> All attendees must wear appropriate facial coverings and show proof of COVID vaccination and photo ID. Children under 12 must provide proof of negative PCR COVID test within 72 hours of attendance.

**PremierOne Credit Union
celebrates new Gilroy
branch with mayor and
community**

PremierOne Credit Union recently celebrated the opening of its newest branch in Gilroy — a physical location demonstrating the credit union's commitment to serving the local community so all residents can benefit from financial education, resources, and the opportunity to become a member.

The credit union marked the new branch opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony attended by the PremierOne leadership team, staff, and members from the board of directors. Gilroy City Mayor Marie Blankley also attended and addressed the crowd,

congratulating the credit union and saying how happy she is that the Gilroy community now has another great resource for financial services.

"We are thrilled to be part of the Gilroy community," said Andrea Brewer, President/CEO PremierOne Credit Union. "We hope this new branch provides a viable banking option for those who wish to join a credit union, become a member owner, and be a part of something bigger."

The new state-of-the-art branch is conveniently located next to Starbucks and Brew City Burgers in the newly constructed Patio Retail Center near Highway 152 at 1415 1st Street, Suite 101, in Gilroy. The branch has a sleek new design with a 24-hour full-service ATM, convenient parking, and many other amenities with friendly personalized service.

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REPORT

2022's Hardest-Working Cities in America

With March 4 being Employee Appreciation Day and Americans working an average of 1,767 hours per year, much more than people in many other industrialized countries, the personal-finance website WalletHub released its report on 2022's Hardest-Working Cities in America.

In order to determine where Americans work the hardest, WalletHub compared the 116 largest cities across 11 key metrics. The data set ranges from employment rate to average hours worked per week to share of workers with multiple jobs.

Key Stats

- Irving, Texas, has the lowest share of households where no adults work, 11.18 percent, which is 3.6 times lower than in Detroit, the city with the highest at 40.79 percent.
- New York City has the longest average commute time, 41.50 minutes, which is 2.9 times longer than in Cheyenne, Wyoming, the city with the shortest at

14.30 minutes.

- Baltimore contributes the most annual volunteer hours per resident, 45.16, which is 5.6 times more than in Jacksonville, Florida, the city that contributes the fewest at 8.05.

- Boston has the lowest share of idle youth 16-24-years-old, 6.00 percent, which is 2.8 times lower than in Memphis, Tennessee, the city with the highest at 16.60 percent.

Top 20 Hardest-Working Cities in America

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Anchorage, AK | 11. Chesapeake, VA |
| 2. Washington, DC | 12. Sioux Falls, SD |
| 3. Virginia Beach, VA | 13. Corpus Christi, TX |
| 4. San Francisco, CA | 14. Omaha, NE |
| 5. Irving, TX | 15. Salt Lake City, UT |
| 6. Cheyenne, WY | 16. Fort Worth, TX |
| 7. Norfolk, VA | 17. Denver, CO |
| 8. Austin, TX | 18. Nashville, TN |
| 9. Plano, TX | 19. Chandler, AZ |
| 10. Dallas, TX | 20. Arlington, TX |

Hardest-Working Cities in the U.S. (top 100)

Rank	City	Total Score	Direct Work Factors	Indirect Work Factors
1	Anchorage, AK	75.86	6	13
2	Washington, DC	74.66	10	4
3	Virginia Beach, VA	74.62	5	15
4	San Francisco, CA	74.61	2	47
5	Irving, TX	74.25	3	55
6	Cheyenne, WY	73.85	1	110
7	Norfolk, VA	72.05	8	24
8	Austin, TX	71.85	4	74
9	Plano, TX	71.36	7	45
10	Dallas, TX	70.85	9	43
11	Chesapeake, VA	70.35	15	9
12	Sioux Falls, SD	70.32	16	30
13	Corpus Christi, TX	69.22	13	80
14	Omaha, NE	68.79	28	19
15	Salt Lake City, UT	68.75	36	1
16	Fort Worth, TX	68.67	14	42
17	Denver, CO	68.52	18	34
18	Nashville, TN	68.49	11	62
19	Chandler, AZ	68.40	17	38
20	Arlington, TX	68.20	19	40
21	Garland, TX	68.07	20	31
22	Billings, MT	67.56	29	37
23	Raleigh, NC	67.54	24	23
24	Durham, NC	67.30	27	64
25	Scottsdale, AZ	67.18	21	51
26	Tulsa, OK	66.97	22	102
27	Charlotte, NC	66.92	33	16
28	Aurora, CO	66.66	31	25
29	Oklahoma City, OK	66.61	12	83
30	Seattle, WA	66.53	34	17
31	Gilbert, AZ	66.42	32	29
32	Houston, TX	65.99	23	60
33	Little Rock, AR	65.99	25	104
34	Manchester, NH	65.20	37	46
35	Indianapolis, IN	64.21	46	10

Continued on page 13

Domestic violence agency Narika combating increased abusive situations due to lockdowns

By **Reya Yeddula**
Special to the Times

In this COVID-19 pandemic, another outbreak is occurring that may not be well known to most.

Though lockdowns have reduced virus-related outbreaks, they have created an ideal environment for abusive situations to develop.

Intimate partner violence seems to be at an all-time high as people are trapped inside, unable to escape to places that would normally be their haven.

Narika, a Bay Area based domestic violence agency, aims to combat this issue by providing advocacy, support, information, and referrals to women in need. Despite the Bay Area's welcoming of a multitude of immigrants, there is a gap that needs to be filled in terms of language and culture for survivors of abuse.

By providing assistance in several languages and understanding cultural stigmas between immigrant groups, Narika is truly guiding our community into a better future.

Today, I'm sitting down with Sonya Mital, who is the lead for marketing and fundraising at Narika, to talk more about the organization and the work she's done.

Reya: How did you become involved with Narika and get started working there?

Sonya: So, I joined kind of at the height of the pandemic. Around summer 2020, I mostly joined part-time to help the organization with our virtual gala. It's our biggest fundraiser every year and accounts for a significant portion of our annual budget. They needed someone to make videos and help with general marketing support because it was going to be an online event. All of the speeches need to be pre-recorded. We needed videos explaining what the organization does, services, financials, and powerful persuasive survivor testimonials, all of those things to help persuade people to get involved or donate. I only intended to support them until the Gala was over, but I actually ended up joining for the long term because I just felt a strong connection with the work. And I was very inspired by the survivors that we supported. It's over a year and a half later, and I'm still here.

Domestic violence, also referred to as "intimate partner violence" (IPV), "dating abuse", or "relationship abuse" is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship.

Reya: What drew you to work in a field that deals with domestic violence?

Sonya: I think it's just a super complicated issue. It's one of the hardest to address because it intersects with so many different issues: mental health aspects, economic aspects, legal aspects, immigration aspects, and, of course, there's just the emotional and social aspects.

Of course, every issue is very complicated, but this one really does involve many dif-



ferent layers of intervention and support. I felt that I could lend my storytelling and media abilities towards explaining that in a way that was easier for people to understand since a lot of what I do is in community engagement and outreach and awareness about domestic violence. Because I am South Asian and a woman, I just think it's very cruel the situations that a lot of these women find themselves in and how little culturally responsive support there is available to them, and how alone how many of these people feel in the world.

Reya: Can you tell me more about Narika and the work it does and about some of the programs it runs?

Sonya: Narika exists to support South Asian and immigrant survivors of domestic violence and other cultures because at the time that was founded and still to the present, there were not many culturally responsive organizations and certainly not many organizations that had advocates that spoke South Asian languages. So that's why we kind of fill that void, especially in the area where there are tons and tons of South Asian immigrants. It's kind of unbelievable that it took even that long to get an organization going that was specializing in that community. Narika provides 100% free and confidential case management for domestic violence survivors, as well as referrals for legal and housing support. We have our job program that helps survivors find some financial stability and therefore empowerment from that. We also have our Heal Wellness program to advocate for mental health in the community, which is something that is also a very serious issue. Survivors also struggle to navigate the immigration system

in addition to the family law system. And so it's a very complex and complicated issue for specifically that community, which is why we need organizations like Narika.

Reya: I know Narika does a lot of work with food drives and provides resources to help survivors. How do you see that expanding in the future or what is the future of Narika?

Sonya: That's been really crucial mainly because it's one of the things people forget about: basic needs. We always talk about housing and all those things that are really important for survivors but a lot of time food, hygiene, and taking care of your body is sacrificed because it's so hard to make ends meet and provide for your child. Food drives have been great because we've been able to gather survivors to collect whatever they want. For us, they always have a choice of what they want to take. That's really important because when you're a survivor you are so used to choice being taken away from you. It is a small act of empowerment to provide them with a choice on what to purchase and what food they want to eat. Those have been a great experience and really helpful for people, not just survivors but single mothers and other women in need throughout the pandemic. I hope to envision a world in which we have a strong base of survivors who are empowered and become strong advocates for other survivors. I hope to see an expanded version of Narika that's able to support even more survivors who need it. I also hope all the systemic issues, like immigration, will be resolved so it's easier for survivors to remain in this country and we can expand more into prevention so we can see fewer

and fewer cases happening until domestic violence is eliminated.

Reya: How do you think young people can advocate for domestic violence issues?

Sonya: There are lots of ways. I mean you can always volunteer for this organization or any other similar organization. You could run a drive at your school to raise funds or supplies for survivors. I think most importantly is the cultural shifts that need to happen so really speaking up when you see if you have yours. Because it starts in our first relationships. It's really important to call out behavior when you see it to understand and learn healthy boundaries of what kind of partner you are looking for and what kind of behavior is unacceptable to you. So a lot of that involves greater self-awareness, greater social awareness which starts from conversations. I'm hopeful that through more and more media produced about these issues and awareness raised from our organizations and others like it, more young people will have those conversions and be more upfront about who they are and who they are willing to be.

Reya: In my community, I do notice some shifts when speaking about domestic violence in that there is less stigma culturally. Do you notice this change as well?

Sonya: I think shifts have been slower in the South Asian community but I have definitely noticed that there has been more awareness. Even from adults and people who may not be on social media all the time or know all the latest drama. Part of that is from the #MeToo movement which had a really big impact and the greater translation of social and political issues in general to a greater depth of awareness. I think it is definitely getting better but there is a lot more to go and a lot of behavior to be unlearned. There was the Gabby Petito case that just happened and it's important to not forget that it's still happening and that no matter how much it's getting for the average person, it's always going to still be worse for people who are traditionally ignored: Immigrants, People of Color, LGBTQ Folks. That's where the change will be slowest and we need advocates for those people.

Editor's Note: Wikipedia states "Narika is a Fremont, California organization that confronts domestic violence in South Asian American communities."

Narika was founded in 1991 as the Bay Area Indian Women's Support Group and later as the South Asian Women's Support Group. Founders launched a crisis helpline, and established the organization in 1992.

This group works with a variety of community partners and offers services to women and children in abusive situations in English, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Konkani, Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Punjabi, Sinhala, Tamil, Telugu, Tibetan, and Urdu."

To learn more about NARIKA go to their website at narika.org

Times **Community News**

ASK THE DMV

Renew your car registration and more through the CA DMV's online services

By Frankie Wenson

Special to the Times

Did you know that car sales commonly peak between the months of February and April? That means there is an increase in registration renewals during those months.

To avoid crowds in the DMV offices, DMV online services

are a convenient option. From renewing vehicle registration to changing your address, or driver's license renewal (and much more), skip the line and conduct your business online or at a DMV kiosk.

How can I renew my expiring vehicle registration?

In an effort to keep customers safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic, the California Department of Motor Vehicles is encouraging Californians to use online services for all vehicle registration renewals. Online registration is convenient and easy, just visit: <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/vehicle-registration/vehicle-registration-renewal/>

I saw a DMV kiosk at my local grocery store. What is that, and can I use it to renew my vehicle registration?

There are hundreds of DMV kiosks located throughout the state to help customers with transactions such as vehicle registration renewal, submitting proof of insurance,

receiving a driver or vehicle record, and more. DMV kiosks are convenient and allow customers to conduct transactions quickly and efficiently. Customers simply scan their document, pay the fees using a card or cash (where available) and then print their registration card and sticker, planned non-operation acknowledgment, and more, right on the spot.

To locate the DMV kiosk nearest you, please visit: <https://cadmvnowkiosk.com/kiosks/>. Customers can also find DMV business partners to complete selected transactions by visiting <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/locations/business-partners/>. <https://www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/driver-licenses-identification-cards/real-id/>

Learn more about online registration renewals at www.dmv.ca.gov/portal/dmv-online.

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Times **Feature**

Hardest-Working Cities in the U.S. (top 100)

Continued from page 10

36	Atlanta, GA	63.86	26	91
37	Laredo, TX	63.27	39	72
38	Fremont, CA	63.08	42	41
39	Tampa, FL	62.97	30	98
40	Phoenix, AZ	62.80	45	33
41	Kansas City, MO	62.31	49	27
42	Colorado Springs, CO	62.17	53	32
43	Portland, ME	62.07	50	50
44	Fargo, ND	61.95	38	111
45	Honolulu, HI	61.80	61	14
46	San Jose, CA	61.59	41	66
47	Lincoln, NE	61.57	60	22
48	San Antonio, TX	60.99	43	82
49	Boston, MA	60.67	68	11
50	Minneapolis, MN	60.51	70	8
51	Portland, OR	60.43	76	2
52	Oakland, CA	60.39	52	48
53	Lexington-Fayette, KY	60.38	47	108
54	Jacksonville, FL	60.08	35	107
55	Fort Wayne, IN	60.03	59	67
56	St. Petersburg, FL	59.81	44	100
57	Glendale, AZ	59.62	67	28
58	El Paso, TX	59.51	66	58
59	Lubbock, TX	59.41	54	99
60	Louisville, KY	59.29	57	54
61	Irvine, CA	59.22	48	92
62	Orlando, FL	59.19	40	109
63	Jersey City, NJ	59.07	62	52
64	San Diego, CA	58.57	51	85
65	Wichita, KS	58.02	69	77
66	Boise, ID	57.79	71	70
67	Santa Ana, CA	57.34	58	92
68	Anaheim, CA	57.08	65	81
69	Mesa, AZ	56.89	74	36
70	Des Moines, IA	56.87	81	18
71	Baltimore, MD	56.81	88	5
72	St. Louis, MO	56.59	80	20
73	St. Paul, MN	56.57	85	7
74	Charleston, WV	56.55	56	115
75	Reno, NV	56.42	63	114
76	Miami, FL	56.05	55	112
77	Wilmington, DE	56.04	72	69
78	Columbus, OH	55.90	64	96
79	Winston-Salem, NC	55.51	77	76
80	Chula Vista, CA	55.21	75	68
81	Greensboro, NC	55.21	79	73
82	Milwaukee, WI	55.01	97	3
83	Henderson, NV	53.54	73	103
84	Birmingham, AL	53.51	78	78
85	Long Beach, CA	53.29	82	75
86	Jackson, MS	53.20	84	86
87	Madison, WI	53.19	89	44
88	Los Angeles, CA	52.98	83	71
89	Bakersfield, CA	52.26	87	90
90	Chicago, IL	52.04	90	56
91	Albuquerque, NM	51.24	94	59
92	Philadelphia, PA	50.87	103	12
93	Memphis, TN	50.49	91	65
94	New York, NY	50.07	101	35
95	Pittsburgh, PA	49.55	105	26
96	North Las Vegas, NV	49.09	92	87
97	Cincinnati, OH	49.07	100	61
98	Hialeah, FL	48.92	86	113
99	Las Vegas, NV	48.50	95	94
100	Tucson, AZ	48.45	104	57

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<https://wallethub.com/edu/hardest-working-cities-in-america/10424>

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Times **Community News**

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Safe At Home

Safe at Home program addresses home repair and maintenance issues that may otherwise present a safety risk or that limit access to or within the home.

Ways to get involved

Volunteers Join us, safely, for Rebuilding Day, April 17 & 24, 2021, as an individual volunteer or with your corporate or community group.

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Women authors features in Silicon Valley Reads books

By **Mary Ann Dewan, Ph.D.**

County Superintendent of Schools

Many of the youth books for Silicon Valley Reads are written and/or illustrated by women, with inspirational messages about acceptance, providing care, and honoring history.

The books chosen for this year's theme, "The Power of Kindness, Resilience and Hope," pay tribute to the compassion of community members who provided care during the pandemic. To learn more and find events and activities, visit SVReads.org.

As I reflect on the kindness and resilience our community continues to exhibit, I think

about the women locally and globally who support and empower their communities during challenging times.

During Women's History Month, I encourage you to think about how you can support, uplift, and empower the women in your lives. As you reflect on the herstory-makers in your lives, take time to honor those who have



From the Superintendent
Mary Ann Dewan, Ph. D.

paved the way for future generations. I am reminded of the following quote from the late poet Maya Angelou, "How important it is for us to recognize and celebrate our heroes and she-ros!"

Universal masking, vaccinations and boosters, testing, and staying home when feeling ill have made a great impact in our ability to maintain in-person instruction. COVID-19 tests, vaccines, and boosters are available at no cost. To schedule a test, visit sccfreetest.org. To schedule a vaccination or booster, visit sccfreevax.org.

Barker, Boothe, Maloblocki and Steegman of Almaden named to University of Utah Fall 2021 Dean's List

The University of Utah announced that four Almaden residents have been named to the Fall 2021 Dean's List.

The four residents include Andrew Barker, majoring in Mechanical Engg BME; Joe Boothe, undeclared major; Blake Maloblocki, majoring in Pre Nursing BS; and Nick Steegmans, majoring in Business Administration BS.

The University of Utah is the flagship institution of higher learning in Utah. Founded in 1850, it serves over 32,000 students from across the U.S. and the world with more than 100 major subjects at the undergraduate level and more than 90 major fields of study at the graduate level, including law and medicine, the university prepares students to live and compete in the global workplace.



Andrew Barker (left) and **Blake Maloblocki** (right)

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Times **Feature****TENNIS TIPS****Coaching yourself after a loss**

By Ken DeHart

*PTR International
Master Professional &
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sional*

Coming off the court after a loss can be devastating!

I don't particularly want to hear from my family, friends, or teammates that it is OK or I played well.

I need a little private downtime to look at the experience with an objective point of view.

I need to come down out of my "competitive zone" and enter my "real-life zone." That usually takes about 15-30 minutes depending upon who I lost to and how important the match was to my team.

Immediately coming off the court is not a time to go into analyzing your performance.

You will most likely find it quite negative and unrealistic.

Coach Wayne Bryan of the world's #1 ranked doubles team always said his first question for the boys was, "where do you want to go eat?" The critical part was to get away from the emotional evaluation, realize life will go on.

Later after experiencing a more realistic view of your performance and that of your opponents, you can create a game plan to rebuild your confidence or shore up your weaknesses with your coach.

Here are the five questions I would typically ask myself as I began to evaluate my match performance:

1. What did you do the best today? Best shots, best adjustment, the best way you won points, or even what you liked about the way you played? A typical response would be, "nothing, I couldn't do anything well."

2. What did your opponent do well? Their best weapons, challenging parts of their game, and the adjustment they made against you? A typical response would be, "everything, they were so lucky."

3. What was the weakest part of your game today? Was, it a specific shot, strategy, movement, mental or physical? A typical response would be, "everything, I tried all kinds of changes, and nothing worked today."

4. What was the weakest part of your opponent's game? Was it their strategy, a particular shot, movement, 2nd serve, placement? What did they do that allowed you to play well against them? A frustrated response would be, "nothing, they were so lucky, they made every shot and ran down every ball and got every let cord for a winner."

5. Finally, if you could go out there right now and replay the match, what would you change and why?

The first four questions are usually an emotional response, especially if players are not given time to "come down" or have not been trained to look at the match objectively by their coach or parents before this time.



Think about how you would like to be coached by someone else and how you would want them to talk to you - then treat yourself that same way with your self-talk and assessment. Each one of us is different and has specific ways we like to communicate after a positive or negative competition.

These guided questions are more productive than general open-ended questions like; what happened, why didn't you, did you forget to, and non-specific questions.

Now focus on a couple of simple skills to work on and achieve positive results quickly to rebuild your confidence. Focus on the positives you saw in the match or progress made toward new skills you have been working on in the past few weeks. An example would be to mention that you got 75% of your first serves in play or managed time between points well.

Ask a friend or your coach's opinion about what they think you should work on based upon the last performance. Be specific with skills like footwork, technique, or strategy that need work.

Remember that those watching you play experienced the same emotions that you were going through on the court. They know you could have and wanted to perform better. When you come off the court, they want you to know they love you and search for ways to say it is OK. That is a challenge for them to understand how best to communicate with you positively. You might even tell them how you prefer to communicate following a win or loss. They are learning along with you.

Remember, only one player or team wins in a tournament if that is how you choose to look at winning and losing. But, if you met some of your performance goals - you won too. That last match was not the end but one more step on their journey. It is better to build yourself up than tear yourself down following a loss.

We learn more from a loss than a win in that we try to change what caused the loss and unpleasant experience. It is also essential to recall how it felt to win and study why you won so you can repeat the performance.

Ken DeHart, USA High Performance Coach, serves as Director of Racquets, Alpine Hills Tennis & Swimming Club. He is a PTR Hall of Fame, PTR International Master Professional, and USPTA Master Professional. You may contact Ken at 408.892.3806; or email: kende-hart@aol.com; ken@alpinehills.us

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Times **Feature**

Kirigin Cellars – one of the oldest Wineries in CA

By Denelle Fedor

Special to the Times

Times Media is introducing a new Wine column featuring all things wine and those delightful wineries we celebrate in our community.

We begin by focusing on local wineries that are part of the Santa Clara Valley Wine Trail (SCVW). Did you know that SCVW is home to over 25 locally owned wineries and within 30 minutes of San Jose? We are excited to bring you an up close and personal look at each of these wineries as we begin our column to bring our readers a glimpse into local wineries and all things wine.

We start with Kirigin Cellars – one of the oldest wineries in California— located in Gilroy.

“Kirigin Cellars is old world-down to earth charm with modern amenities,” shared Perri Johnson, Manager of Operations for Kirigin Cellars. “Our goal here at Kirigin is to provide great customer service so people want to come back again and again.” They are definitely meeting and exceeding their goal as many guests return for tasting, picnicking and are part of their wine club.

Originally founded by Italian immigrant, Mr. Pietro Bonesio, Kirigin was originally named Uvas Winery. Uvas means grape, so the name was fitting. Mr. Bonesio was taught how to make wine from his father and brought his skills to the USA. Mr. Pietro and his wife, Massimina, settled the 500-acre



ranch that sat along the Rancho de Solis in Gilroy. Uvas winery continued for 60+ years and then was given to Pietro and Massimina sons Louis, Charlie and Victor.

The brothers renamed Uvas winery to “Bonesio Brothers Winery.” They produced varieties that included Zinfandel, Grignolino and French Colombard. The Bonesio brothers sold the winery to Mr. Nikola Kirigin-Chargin before they retired in 1976. There is a historic plaque located on site in honor of the Bonesio Family. It is on the left side as you drive into the winery parking area.

Mr. Kirigin, a Croatian immigrant, was already a professional and distinguished winemaker with degrees in enology and chemistry when he bought the winery and renamed it Kirigin Cellars. Mr. Kirigin and his wife continued to live on the property and produced higher quality wines using his old-world wine making techniques. Mr. Kirigin felt that good wine should be affordable and available to everyone and loathed arrogant wine enthusiasts. Kirigin Winery continues this tradition by offering much sought-after wines at affordable prices.

In 2000, Dhruv Khannaa, then a member of the Stanford Cricket Team, was looking for land where he could play the game of Cricket. Instead, he found the best of both worlds; a historic winery called Kirigin Cellars that was for sale which included more than 30 acres of land. He purchased the entire property and over the course of the past 22 years has made numerous updates,

See WINERY, next page



A view from Kirigin Cellars

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Grants & Partnerships Program



Grassroots Ecology is among the grant recipients under Valley Water's Grants & Partnerships Program and their staff are engaging participants with a hands-on educational opportunity to monitor the water at Stevens Creek Watershed.

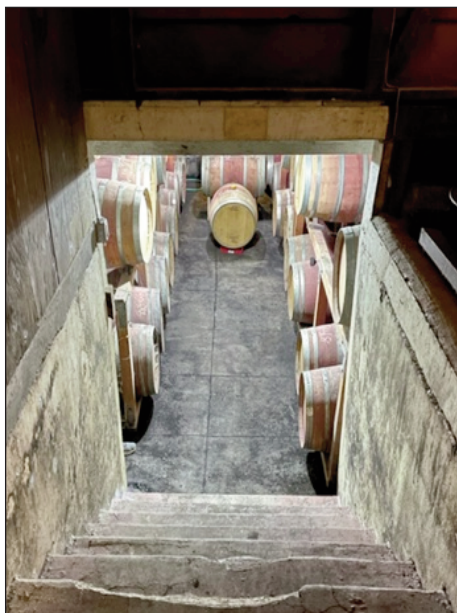
Times **Feature****Winery***Continued*

improvements, and additions – including creating two cricket fields, four soccer fields (which Dhruv donates the use to Gilroy and Morgan Hill youth soccer) and in 2013 constructed a 7,000 sq. ft. event center where weddings and other corporate events take place. Mr. Khanna accomplished this while protecting and keeping the historic quality of the winery intact.

Kirigin's historic nature is not just its age. The main home is one of the oldest wooden structures in the county. The 1916 Tasting Room requires you to walk through a historic Vat and the Tasting Wine Bar is made of original redwood vats. Kirigin still has the original working cellar, below ground, which naturally keeps the wine at just the right temperature in their specially made oak barrels. The stairs leading down to the cellar are original and have divots showing their wear during the more than 100 years of use.

In addition to Kirigin's bestselling wines like, Estate White, Malvasia Bianca and Grand Cuvee Champagne; Kirigin Cellars is well known for its unique dessert wine called Vin de Mocca. This wine was invented by Mr. Kirigin for his wife when he still owned the winery. Mr. Kirigin added coffee, chocolate, orange, and fortified brandy to his red wine to create the incredible taste. Vin de Mocca is something everyone 21 and over should try when wine tasting at Kirigin's Cellars—it won't disappoint, and it also pairs well over ice cream. Vin de Mocca is affectionally called, "The Kissing Wine," shared Ms. Johnson. Vin de Mocca as well as all Kirigin wines are only available on-site and through their website.

Kirigin Cellars invites you to stop by if you haven't already. They welcome you to take



Original staircase to the cellar.

in the healthy atmosphere and to explore the wines. It's one of the truly unique wineries in Santa Clara County – with its historic history, more than 30 acres of lawn and gardens, redwood trees; providing a vast landscape. Kirigin is open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and can be reserved for weddings and corporate events. Call ahead to schedule a tour of the cellar. Picnicking on the grounds is free with a purchase of wine.

Mr. Kirigin passed on in 2011; but his legacy continues through Mr. Dhruv Khanna's commitment to the location and tradition of good wine making accessible to everyone.

For more information and directions go to kirigincellars.com and read about their wine store, events, gallery, wine club and more.

For more information, visit Kirigincellars.com. Address: 11550 Watsonville Road, Gilroy, CA 95020. 408-847-8827

Tech Jargon of the week
Deepfake

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

Deepfake

The deepfake technology has been on the US government's radar for past few years. The Pentagon, through the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), is working with several of the country's biggest research institutions to get ahead of deepfakes.

What is the deepfake technology and why are the nation's best minds trying to solve it?

Deepfake is an AI-based technology used to produce or alter video content so that it presents something that didn't, in fact, occur. The word, which applies to both the technologies and the videos created with it, is a blend of the work 'deep learning' and 'fake'.

Face swapping has been done in films for years, but it required skilled video editors and CGI experts to spend many hours to

achieve decent results. The new breakthrough is that, using deep learning techniques, anybody with a powerful GPU, and training data, can create believable fake videos.

This is so remarkable that anyone with hundreds of sample images, of person A and person B can feed them into an algorithm and produce high quality face swaps—video editing skills are not needed. This also means that it can be done at scale and given that so many of us have our faces online, it's trivially easy to insert almost anyone into fake videos.

What happens if we can no longer trust our eyes or our ears?

For more than a century, audio and video have functioned as a bedrock of truth. Not only have sound and images recorded our history, but they have also informed and shaped our perception of reality.

Some people already question the facts around events that unquestionably happened, like the Holocaust, the moon landing and 9/11, despite video proof. If deepfakes make people believe they can't trust video, the problems of misinformation and conspiracy theories could get worse. While experts say that deepfake technology is not yet sophisticated enough to fake large-scale historical events or conflicts, they worry that the doubt sown by a single convincing

See DEEPFAKE, next page

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Times **Local News**

San Jose Unified School District to pay \$2 million to sexual abuse victim

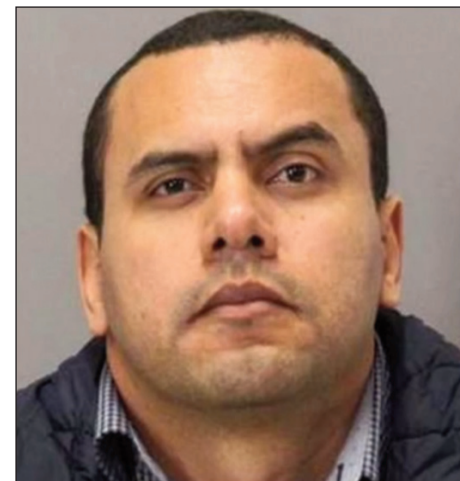
The San Jose Unified School District has agreed to pay \$2 million to settle a sexual abuse lawsuit Feb. 10.

The woman was sexually abused by her Spanish teacher, **Ricardo Chavarria** (inset), when she was a 17-year-old student in his classroom at Pioneer High School in Almaden Valley.

Chavarria was arrested three years ago by San Jose police officers and later convicted on six counts of sexually assaulting a minor. He was hired by the San Jose Unified School District in August 2001.

The attorneys who represented the woman, called the settlement a vindication of the harm done to her client and the failure of school officials to protect her.

The former student, who first met Chavarria as a sophomore student in his



Spanish class, became Chavarria's teacher's assistant for her junior and senior years. He began grooming the woman and ultimately sexually abusing her inside his classroom both during and after school hours over a span of four months, according to the lawsuit.

Although the district immediately placed Chavarria on unpaid leave following his arrest, the lawsuit claimed that school officials ignored "multiple red flags" that could have prevented the abuse.

Deepfake

Continued from previous page
deepfake could alter our trust in audio and video for good.

Researchers at academic institutions like Carnegie Mellon, the University of Washington, Stanford University, and The Max Planck Institute for Informatics are also experimenting with deepfake technology.

While not a part of DARPA's program, their work highlights different techniques with which artificial intelligence can be used to manipulate video.

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

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Feature



“Holy”

A message of hope and restoration just in time

Drawing closer to God after suffering the trauma of losing a daughter

By Justyn Time

Special to the Times

This is a story of a man, an artist and photographer that 17 years ago held his 26 day old daughter in his arms after she took her last breath.

It broke his heart and changed him slowly but surely into a different man, as he slipped deeper and deeper into depression.

You see he and his wife had been told for months that his daughter would die in utero or at birth; so all of the experts told them to abort her. The man and his wife stood in faith stating they would accept whatever God gives them. This statement is much easier said than it was to keep.

After all of the negative and destructive words from all of the doctors and experts, Linnea was born June 14, 2004. She did not die in utero or at birth, in fact she survived surgery the day she was born. All of the doctors were amazed by how strong she was.

Two days after the surgery the doctor informed us that they were going to take Linnea off of oxygen. She stated that she would then die immediately upon being removed from the oxygen. Upon which this man, John Pratt, a well-known photographer in San Jose, told the doctor that she is

not God and that there is the power of life and death in the tongue. He stated that she surely would not die and for her to never speak to him again. Later that day she was taken off of the oxygen and again defied the odds of the doctor and lived on.

After eight days in the ICU on Father's Day she was able to be taken home by mom and dad. They loved and cherished her at home for 16 days. She then had a seizure and was once again back in Good Samaritan Hospital. On the second day as they were once again weaning her off of oxygen her stats fell and she took her last breath. As the couple sobbed and sobbed they were consoled by grandparents and their Pastor and his wife. For six months the couple did not get out of bed until 12 noon. They were traumatized by their loss and each grieved in their own way.

Fast forward three years, they now have an 18 month old healthy boy and are expecting their second son in one month. They were driving twice a week to Hollister to assist the same Pastor with a church plant (church startup). Upon receiving a suggestion from the couple to operate in his own gifts the Pastor demands they never return to the church. This was all John could take and from that point on he turned his back on God and the church. He truly had never healed from the death of his daughter and now was rejected by his Pastor whom he loved.

See HOPE, page 21

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Times Feature

Hope

Continued from page 19

Slowly but surely he walked further and further away from God and remembers mocking God in 2019, he stated, look at the life I am living and you are still blessing me with a solid business. He had taken his eyes off of God, then his wife, and next he began spending less and less time with his three boys. His actions had caused pain, anger and resentment within his family. He stayed away to avoid the pain and the conflict.

Then Covid 19 hits and he is forced to lay off his staff of six people and become a teacher's aide for his three boys as they are taught remotely. To encourage himself he listened to the song High Hopes on repeat for hours at a time. He then fully immersed himself in the turmoil that his actions had created. By December of 2020 he began to come to his senses. The bible says "Draw close to God and He will draw close to you." It also says "When one sinner repents, all of heaven rejoices."

In 2021 while healing and awakening from the depression he began seeing unique clouds and visions all around him. He began photographing the clouds, then the earth and fire and ether. He now has thousands upon thousands of images that have encouraged him and by his own words are evidence of the existence of God. One image spells the word "Holy," while others have faces and images as well as numbers and letters. As this was all unfolding he had taken on the comedy character of Justyn Time, which is an Austin Powers impersonation. He would randomly show up at the Downtown San Jose Farmers Market and pay it forward for a few customers here and there. He would dance around and make patrons smile and laugh.

Emerging from his depression he was convinced that we all should be looking to the skies to see what God is doing. He ran around downtown in costume yelling just in time to look at the skies. He even shouted it out inside Calvary San Jose church. "Just in time, just in time, look to the skies," he said. He was politely ushered out of the church and was never asked if he needed support. Just leave the premises, rejection once again, but this time he expected it. Now he draws closer to God instead of turning his back on him.

Unwavering in his faith and belief he has now legally changed his name, from John Pratt to Justyn Time to honor his Jesus that saved him by grace from the wretched man that he had become. He now teaches his boys the bible and prays and believes that God has begun a new thing. He has also reconciled with the Pastor from 14 years ago. He believes that the spirit world is filled with magic; we just need to pay attention to it. Magic that he has photographic and video evidence of. The cloud images once very subtle are now much more obvious and miraculously created in the skies for all to see. The Bible says in Acts 2:19 "And I will grant Wonders in the sky and signs on the earth beneath." A previous verse states "In the last days your young men will have visions and your old men will dream dreams." Are these the wonders in the sky and on the earth below that are mentioned in the Bible? That is for you to decide for yourself when you come and visit the studio in downtown San

Jose. Unfortunately it is difficult to get the people's attention with all of the noise of life in Silicon Valley, the electronics not to mention the fear created from the pandemic. If you do not believe him, remember that seeing is believing. The studio known as JP Impressions, for 32 years is now under the umbrella of Justyn Time LLC.

Editor's note: The Open House of Justyn's new studio and Fine Art Gallery is Friday, March 12, 2022, hours are 4-7. To preview the images digitally please go to www.justyntime.net. The studio will also launch new product lines of Children's books, posters, and limited edition fine art images, as well as card and board games.



"The War of Two Worlds" by Justyn Time

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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 Waeayi-
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bers are a diverse group of enthusiastic,
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- 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.

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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.

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1079 Micro Court

Beautiful Almaden Valley Home

Price Upon Request | 5 Bed | 3 Bath | 3113 Sq Ft | 8543 Sq Ft Lot

Downstairs bedroom with adjacent full bath. Soaring ceiling. Living room has a vaulted ceiling, fireplace with stone surround and hearth, and three windows with transoms that provide plenty of natural light. Step down to a separate formal dining room with crown molding and a large window for natural light. Kitchen, dine-in area, and family room with new flooring. Newly updated kitchen has beautiful slab counters and backsplash, plenty of soft-close white cabinetry including a pantry with bottom pull-outs, crown molding, recessed lights, and a large stainless sink with a garden window for views of the backyard. Stainless appliances include a Midea dishwasher, free-standing range and a premier Hauslane range hood. The 5th bedroom is super large (no closets) and would serve as a great bonus room. Backyard is fenced for privacy and has outdoor spaces for entertaining. In-ground pool area and large yard. Graystone Elementary School, Bret Harte Middle School and Leland High School.



The Swan has been the #1 Agent in Almaden Valley each year for the last 13 years as measured by Dollars per Agent Per Year. And 2021 was no exception. She is the only Almaden Valley specialist to have been nationally ranked and recognized twice by The Wall Street Journal/RealTrends for being in the Top 250 Agents in the US. Additionally, Swan is consistently among the Top 100 Agents in the SF Bay Area.

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Therese Swan

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