

Ida and Bill Highlander of Evergreen to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery  
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**At last**  
An alternative to Comcast in The Villages Golf and Country Club  
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Who's running for San Jose mayor and council in 2022?  
**SEE PAGE 12**



MARCH 25 – APRIL 7, 2022 ■ VOL. 39, NO. 7

# Evergreen Times

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## Health Fair at Grace Church slated for April 9th

Boy Scout Nyko Cabigas Anthonio is hosting a free community health fair in Evergreen on April 9th from 9-3 p.m. at Grace Church.

Tables at the event are being set up by many community organizations offering real-time health information such as blood pressure checks, glucose checks, mental health referrals, dental referrals and free prizes.

A jumper for the kids to promote positive community interactions and physical health is also being planned for the event.

Anthonio is a member of Troop 264 in Evergreen and is working toward his Eagle Scout rank.



Evergreen Valley High School Wind Ensemble with the West Valley College Symphonic Band led by conductor Dr. Tory Davis.

## Evergreen Valley High School Wind Ensemble performs *The Redwoods* with West Valley College Symphonic Band

By William Bellou  
Publisher

The Evergreen Valley High School Wind Ensemble joined the West Valley College Symphonic Band for a performance of *The Redwoods* composed by Rossano Galante on March 12.

The concert began with The Wind Ensemble, led by conductor Maritza Spieller, performing *Of Sailors and Whales* by W. Francis McBeth and

*Shine* by Julie Giroux, followed by the combined bands performing *The Redwoods*.

Following *The Redwoods* composition, the West Valley College Symphonic Band, led by conductor Dr. Troy Davis, presented *Into the Clouds!* by Richard Saucedo, *Rivers* by Tom O'Connor; *Seis Manuel* from "Islas y Montañas" by Shelley Hanson; and *Elements (Petite Symphony)* by Brian Balmages.

Davis said it was an honor working with Mar-

itza Spieller and the excellent Evergreen High School Wind Ensemble musicians. "Although both bands rehearsed *The Redwoods* separately, the performance tonight was the first time the bands performed together; and with great success!"

"I've known Dr. Troy Davis for my entire career, even a before I became a teacher, so it was just a lovely opportunity to share the stage with someone I respect," Spieller said.

## WRITING WHIZZES

### Twelfth annual Silver Creek Academy Winter Writing Contest a great success

Silver Creek Academy's 12th annual Winter Writing Contest was more popular than ever!

More than 160 students entered the writing contest which required students to submit an original short story. This year's topic asked students to create a story structured around a winter theme.

Teachers judged each entry and first, second, and third place winners were declared across each grade level division.

As a special thank you to all of the students who entered, Silver Creek Academy provided prizes, books, and goodie bags.

"We loved seeing the amazing effort that the students put into their short stories," said Silver Creek Academy owner Shelly Swircek. "The judges truly enjoyed reading all of the creative pieces."

For more information about Silver Creek Academy, call (408) 839-5905 or visit SCAA SanJose.com.

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2022 SCA Winter Writing Contest Winners!



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Times **Local News**

**Op-ed**

## An alternative to Comcast in The Villages Golf and Country Club at last

By Michael Clurman

**O**n Tuesday, March 15 I took delivery on my new T-Mobile 5G home internet receiver and wireless router.

In just a few hours on Thursday, I set it up and replaced my Coax cable-based Comcast broadband with broadband delivered by the 5G wireless signal broadcast from the recently upgraded Tower in the Villages Golf and Country Club Clubhouse parking lot.

I was blown away by the speed. Comcast had been delivering speeds that typically clocked at 120 MBPS download and 6 MBPS upload. When internet delivered by 5G wireless signal is measured on the same devices (a Mac Computer, an iPad, and an Android phone) the speeds are typically 550 MBPS down and 150 MBPS up. That's an improvement by a factor of at least 4.5 in download speed and 25 in upload speed. Though upload speed is rarely limiting in common web browsing, it may be important in video chats or live streaming video.

Since I use my TV almost exclusively for streaming movies and programs over the internet, I can easily do without Comcast cable TV. The live sports I watch on Comcast cable I can obtain with a short-term subscription to a specialized streaming service.

**Negotiated lower rate**

Even though I've negotiated my Comcast rate down by 40% and I purchase a relatively minimal package of optional services, the T-Mobile 5G home internet will cost only about 62% of what I'm currently paying for optional services.

In a few days I plan to return my XFINITY/Comcast box and say, "bye, bye Comcast."

**Caveats**

The 5G signals have a limited range and the broadcast tower in the Clubhouse parking lot is unlikely to provide service to the majority of Villages households. Still for a substantial number of Villager households in Montgomery, Del Lago, Fairway, and likely parts of Cribari, 5G home internet is worth checking out. In addition, the other two big cellular carriers have promised to bring 5G home internet to increasing numbers of bay area communities.

It is a shame that the Villages Club Board Of Directors (CBOD) and General Manager did not explore the feasibility of working with companies providing 5G wireless internet to see if they could be incentivized to increase the number of 5G broadcast points so more Village households would be able to take advantage of wireless internet.

The CBOD ignored the Villages rule (CPO 308) that mandates that for any procurement costing over \$25,000 the Club's "Procurement Policy" requires that bid invitations shall be solicited from no fewer than three qualified vendors. Instead, following the completion of 15 years during which Comcast has had a virtual monopoly on telecommunications services in the Villages, the CBOD considered no alternative to a new contract with Comcast.

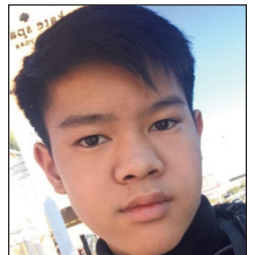
As a result, Comcast is on notice that this community has no alternatives to being locked into a new multi-year contract. Our leverage to obtain favorable terms in the follow-on contract is minimal. Villagers like me, who want no part of Comcast must still pay a substantial sum out of

our HOA to Comcast; and other Villagers have no idea what alternatives would have been available if the CBOD had followed its own rules and solicited proposals from multiple vendors.

## Lawrence Nguyen of Evergreen inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

**L**awrence Nguyen of Evergreen Valley was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Nguyen was initiated at Nova Southeastern University.

Nguyen is among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter.



Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

## Property tax levies increase 6% statewide

*Levies Total \$79.9 Billion for Fiscal Year 2020-21*

**T**he California State Board of Equalization (BOE) released its Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Annual Report, which reported that the total net statewide county-assessed property value was \$7.1 trillion, resulting in \$79.9 billion of local property tax levies.

The California State property tax levies contributed \$43 billion to schools and \$36.9 billion to local government. This is an additional \$4.5 billion, or a 6% increase, in property tax levies from FY 2019-20 of \$75.4 billion.

"The increase in property tax levies to almost \$80 billion is a clear reflection of California's vibrant real estate market," said Chair Malia M. Cohen. "As we transition away from the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic, I am heartened that these additional property tax revenues will provide significant funding for our schools and critical local government services."

The BOE is constitutionally and statutorily responsible for the oversight of California's property tax system. The FY 2020-21 Annual Report includes state- and county-assessed property values, aggregate qualifying property tax exemptions, and other statewide property tax data. New in this Annual Report are the highlights of BOE's accomplishments in fulfilling its statewide role in the implementation of Proposition 19, The Home Protection for Seniors, Severely Disabled, Families and Victims of Wildfire or Natural Disasters Act.

In November 2020, California voters approved Proposition 19, which made significant changes to certain property tax laws.

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LETTER  
TO THE  
EDITORAirport lead  
'crisis' questioned

Dear Editor,

To support closing Reid-Hillview Airport, Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez calls lead levels there a "crisis." She ignores data from the EPA and CDC as reported by San Jose Spotlight that show lead levels around the airport are at an acceptable level. Dr. Mark Cullen of Yale University School of Medicine reviewed the County's lead study and determined the same.

Nevertheless, Eastridge Little League teams can no longer play at their airport home fields, and Chavez proposes they be relocated at a cost to taxpayers of \$1.8 million. Meanwhile, other sources of lead such as legacy automotive fuel, lead pipes, lead pesticides and paint are ignored.

If the manufactured "crisis" is all about the children, what about the 10 schools within two miles of the airport, especially Katherine R. Smith Elementary, which was built on the site of the former San Jose speedway site, a big source of legacy lead? Answer, politics.

— John Carr

Santa Clara County

Airport Commission San Jose

## Valley Currents

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



Ida Mae Highlander (nee Canterbury) and Richard William "Bill" Highlander.

## Ida and Bill Highlander of Evergreen to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery

*Ida was a member of the SCVCC Women's Club; Bill was executive editor of the Evergreen Times*

**I**da Mae Highlander (nee Canterbury) of San Jose, California, died February 23, 2021, just a month short of her 81st birthday.

A Celebration of Life for Ida and her husband, Bill Highlander, will be held on March 26th at the Silver Creek Valley Country Club at 1 pm. Ida and Bill will be buried together at a funeral service on June 7th at Arlington National Cemetery.

Ida Mae Canterbury was born March 19, 1940, in Beckley, West Virginia, to Othur Clarence and Ruby Canterbury. Ida had an older brother, O.C., and two older sisters, Betty Jane and Jo Ann.

Ida attended Woodrow Wilson High School and was engaged with many school activities. She played flute in the band, twirled school banners as a flag girl, and was crowned prom queen, Miss Flying Eagle. After high school graduation, Ida enrolled in Marshall University in Huntington, WV, to study medical technology. She was a member of the Alpha Chi Omega sorority and graduated in 1964.

She worked as a medical technologist and scientist for many years and later returned to school and earned a master's degree in Coun-

seling and Education from Old Dominion University.

Ida was married to Bill Highlander on June 26, 1965, and before her death, they celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary. She is survived by daughter Alison, son-in-law Jonathan Curtis, and two grandchildren, Rylee and William Curtis.

Ida had a passion for the arts and was a talented painter who filled her home with the art she created. She believed in the importance of art and theatre in a community and worked to support the San Jose Repertory Theatre and San Jose Symphony. She enjoyed playing bridge, golf, and was a member of the Silver Creek Valley Country Club Women's Club for many years.

**Richard William "Bill" Highlander** of Evergreen Valley, passed away January 23, 2022.

Bill was born on Feb 17, 1940, in Beckley, West Virginia, to Ronald and Lucille Highlander. A graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School, he was an all-state football player and graduated with high honors. After a year at the Greenbrier Military Academy, he accepted a scholarship to Rutgers University, where he was a brother of Chi Psi fraternity, a member of Rutgers 1961 undefeated football team, and cadet colonel of the ROTC.

As a Distinguished Military Graduate in

1963, he was commissioned as an army officer and served more than 21 years, retiring as a lieutenant colonel. His awards and decorations include Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Ranger Tab, and Airborne Wings. In 2016, he was inducted into the U.S. Army Public Affairs Hall of Fame.

Bill also graduated from the University of Georgia with a master's degree in journalism and was awarded a prize for his thesis, the first in the history of the Grady School of Journalism.

After retirement from the Army, he joined FMC Corp. and worked as the Vice President, Corporate Communications. He later joined Calpine Corp as the Vice President, Public Relations. He later became editor of the Evergreen Times newspaper, and authored three history books.

Bill was active in the community as a member of the Silicon Valley Ethics Group and the Knights Hospitaller/Order of St John. He was also a strong supporter of the San Jose Repertory Theatre and San Jose Symphony.

Bill was influential in gaining support and funds for the Sons of San Jose memorial honoring residents killed in action during the Vietnam War.

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Times In Memory

IN MEMORY

**David M. Tofte**

**February 10, 1950 -  
March 6, 2022**

*Resident of Evergreen Valley  
Founder of the Villages  
Real Estate Team*

David M. Tofte peacefully passed away surrounded by his loving family on Sunday, March 6, 2022.



Dave was born on February 10, 1950, in Bend, Oregon to Beverlee (Yeager) Tofte and Theodore Johnson. Dave was later adopted by Sandy Tofte, and lovingly raised by Beverlee and Sandy. Dave grew up in Oregon and Washington State, and he joined the US Army after high school. Dave served honorably in the service, and was very proud of his status of a veteran.

Dave, always seeking a new adventure, attended college at Chaminade University in Hawaii, where he attained a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in marketing.

Dave then took his education and travelled to Kansas City where he went to work for Hallmark, as a salesman.

Later, Dave travelled to California where he embarked on a long and highly successful career selling real estate. There, he met the love of his life, Suzanne (O'Connell) Combs, and they were soon married. Dave and Suzanne were married for 34 wonderful years. They joined forces with their real estate expertise, and became part owners of 3 Keller Williams offices and founded their own sales office in The Villages Real Estate Team in Evergreen. Dave and Suzanne fully retired in 2019 and moved to Butte, Montana to be closer to their kids and grandchildren.

Dave was truly a unique individual, full of life and love. He cared for everyone he met and had a very special way of making everyone feel important. He was always quick to compliment somebody or start a conversation with a perfect stranger. Dave was described as somebody who made the world a better place.

Dave had a very generous streak, freely giving his time and energy to all. He was a long-time member of the Shriners, and frequently visited children's hospital wards dressed as Popsy the Clown. He and Suzanne also spent 20+ years as Santa and Mrs. Claus for hospitals, schools, and Christmas functions.

Dave was particularly loved by his granddaughters Abigail, Katie, and Scottie Combs, all of whom absolutely adored him. Popsy always made time for them and made them a priority in his life.

Dave loved new adventures and travelled and bareboat sailed all over the world with his beloved Suzanne and many special friends and family. Cruises, catamaran sailing in the Caribbean, trips to Hayden Lake, Idaho, Santa Cruz beach and boardwalk, family reunions, weddings, funerals, volleyball games, softball games, and all too many other events to mention, all led to a very full and rich life for Dave.

Dave is survived by his wife Suzanne Tofte of Butte Montana, his children Scott and Eleanor, of Butte, MT, Gretchen Combs of Pine Grove, CA, granddaughters Abigail and Scottie Combs of Butte, and Katie Combs of Pine Grove, brothers Rick Tofte, Yuma, AZ, Richard

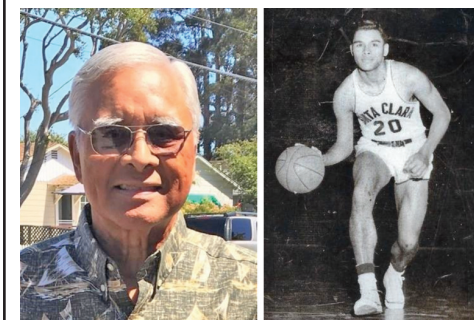
Tofte, Panama, and Brian Tofte, Longview, WA, sisters Meladee Smith, Federal Way, WA, and Kimberly Tighe, of Roy, WA, numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, and too many close friends to mention.

Dave was preceded in death by his parents, Beverlee and Sandy Tofte, and son Dan Combs.

A Celebration of Dave's life was held March 19 at the Finlen Hotel, Butte, MT.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the Butte Emergency Food Bank, or to another charity of the donor's choice.

Please visit [www.buttefuneralhome.com](http://www.buttefuneralhome.com) to offer the family a condolence or to share a memory of Dave.



**Lu Jenkins**

**January 15 1935 -  
December 29, 2021**

*Resident of Evergreen Valley  
Players' assistant at Silver  
Creek Valley Country Club*

Lucius (Lu) Jenkins, Jr., passed away December 29, 2021 of a long illness. Born in Honolulu on January 15, 1935, he emanated a Spirit of Aloha in his life.

A 1953 "Player of the Year" recipient (St. Louis HS, Honolulu) upon graduation was awarded a full basketball scholarship to Santa Clara University.

Active in the U.S. Army ROTC during high school and college, after graduation Lu was stationed at Fort Ord & commissioned Second Lieutenant. He then focused on building a 35-year professional life in education serving as a teacher & principal, ending service as Director of Administrative Services for Los Gatos Union School District retiring in 1998.

A proud SCU alumnus, he served on SCU Bronco Bench Foundation and Athletic Advisory Committee for many years. A long-time basketball season ticket holder, Lu also avidly supported the SCU soccer & baseball programs. Concurrently, he was a faithful fan of the 49ers, Golden State Warriors, and San Francisco Giants. An enthusiastic golfer, he "shot his age" on several occasions.

He became a players' assistant at Silver Creek Valley Country Club and enjoyed weekly golf outings with his golfing buddies.

He is survived by his wife Phyllis; children, LuAnn Walden (Randy), Jeffrey, & Jonathan; stepchildren Page & Russell Galloway; grandchildren Benjamin, Logan, Ronan, & Noa. He is survived by siblings Regina Mary Jenkins, SSCC, Clarissa Moku, Leonard Jenkins of Honolulu, & Luella Malkin of Granada Hills as well as numerous nieces, nephews, & cousins, & beloved friends. He was predeceased by his father, Lucius Jenkins, Sr.; mother, Rose Sun Moi Jenkins; sister Carolynne Teves; brother, Warren Jenkins & ex-wife JoAnn King.

Those choosing to honor Lu's life may make a donation to the UCSF Liver Transplant Program, Alzheimer's Association, Martha's Kitchen of San Jose, or the Santa Clara University Bronco Bench Foundation.

**SATURDAY, April 9, 2022**

**9 AM - 3 PM**

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Times **Newsbriefs**

**Mahan Introduces government proposal linking progress on key issues to future pay raises for politicians and department heads**

Mayor candidate Matt Mahan called upon the San Jose City Council this week to evaluate his plan to hold elected officials and top department heads accountable for results on key priorities like homelessness, crime and dirty streets.

The Mahan Accountability Proposal would end automatic raises for politicians and department heads and require top officials to make progress on key problems before earning future raises.

“You don’t get a raise at work if you don’t make progress. Neither should politicians and top department heads,” Mahan said.

Mahan’s proposal would lay out key performance metrics for each of the six priorities outlined in the Mayor’s 2022 Budget Message and establish clear benchmarks like lower crime rates, fewer people living on our streets and cleaner streets, and then hold top officials accountable to meeting those goals.

Mahan pointed out that this type of accountability proposal is nearly universal in most businesses and non-profit organizations and is not unique to government.

“A few years ago, we passed a law that re-

quired California legislators to pass a budget on time or forfeit their paychecks for every day they could not accomplish this key goal. Since then, every budget has been on time,” said Mahan.

“It is just common sense that if we want our government to work better, we need to stop rewarding failure,” said Mahan.

**Non-profit files lawsuit against the City of San Jose challenging ‘Gun harm reduction fee’**

*Complaint: Fee violates gun owners’ constitutional rights of free speech*

A San Jose ordinance requiring gun owners to pay a fee to a private non-profit organization is unconstitutional, according to a new lawsuit filed against the city.

The non-profit Silicon Valley Public Accountability Foundation joined forces with Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, the Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association and others to bring a court challenge against San Jose Ordinance No. 30716.

The Ordinance imposes an annual “gun harm reduction fee” that gun owners must pay once a year to a private, nonprofit organization to be designated by San Jose’s City Manager. Failure to pay the fee is punishable by a fine and confiscation of the gun owner’s firearms.

The challengers filed their complaint in

Santa Clara Superior Court. According to the complaint, the new fee violates gun owners’ constitutional rights of free speech and association, places an unconstitutional condition on the right to bear arms, is a special tax which needed 2/3 voter approval, unlawfully delegates governmental taxing power to a private organization, and for these reasons is invalid.

“The City Council was warned in correspondence that this fee would be unconstitutional,” said Jon Coupal, President of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. “Prior to the Ordinance being passed, SVPAF met with city staff, the city attorney, and almost every council office to avoid litigation,” added Jonathan Fleming, Executive Director of the Silicon Valley Public Accountability Foundation. “Now it’s time to hold the City accountable for blatantly violating the law and trampling the liberties and rights of San Jose residents.”

No nonprofit organization has been designated yet to collect the fees. Under the Ordinance, the nonprofit will be solely responsible for how revenue from the fee gets spent.

The Ordinance also requires gun owners to maintain liability insurance covering gun-related injuries. The associations are not challenging this aspect of the Ordinance, but other groups object to it.

Although not addressed in their lawsuit, the Silicon Valley Public Accountability Foundation argues that the fee is regressive because lower-income gun owners are least able to afford the insurance and the

annual fee that the Ordinance requires. Ironically, the Foundation argues, criminals who own unregistered guns will never be called upon to pay the fee or buy the insurance.

**Possible \$400 rebate for every Californian  
Assembly Budget Vice Chair says Californians are overtaxed**

*‘Time to permanently reduce income tax rates’ – Vince Fong*

Sacramento Democrats held a press conference March 17 to announce a plan to give a \$400 rebate for every Californian.

Vice Chair of the Assembly Budget Committee Vince Fong (R-Kern County) issued the following statement:

“Sacramento Democrats now agree with Republicans that every day Californians are overtaxed and can’t afford to live in California. The affordability crisis is crushing Californians above and beyond \$400 and costs continue to grow with each passing day. Let’s have a real public debate on reducing income tax rates on families and small businesses to give them permanent tax relief. “The multi-billion state budget surplus is the clearest evidence that Californians are overtaxed, and it doesn’t belong to Sacramento Democrats with their one-party rule. Californians should keep more of their hard earned money.”

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Times **Travel**

**REBATE ON THE AGENDA**  
**How would Newsom's gas price relief promise work?**

By Dan Walters

It's time once again for some fun with numbers, in this case data surrounding the sharp spike in gas prices.

Although the recent uptick in fuel prices varies from community to community and even station to station, a good estimate of the increase, perhaps a bit conservative, is \$1 per gallon. It's mostly due to global oil markets reacting to the Russian invasion of Ukraine and efforts to punish Russian President Vladimir Putin with economic sanctions.

Last week in his State of the State address, Gov. Gavin Newsom dropped his previous proposal to offset the gas price increase with a very small "pause" in a scheduled state gas tax increase.

"Now, it's clear we must go further," Newsom said. "That's why, working with legislative leadership, I'll be submitting a proposal to put money back in the pockets of Californians to address rising gas prices."

That was it — no details, just a vague promise. While we await some indication of what Newsom intends, let's put a buck-a-gallon price increase in numerical perspective:

- Californians own and drive 29 million automobiles and light trucks, such as pickups and SUVs.

- Each year, they rack up 330 billion miles of automotive travel, an average of about 11,000 miles per vehicle.

- Motorists burn 15 billion gallons of gasoline each year, which averages out to 517 gallons of fuel for each vehicle (43 gallons per month) and an average of 21 miles to the gallon.

- Therefore, on average Californians are paying an extra \$43 per month to drive, if one assumes the price increase has been \$1 per gallon.

Higher costs for refueling their cars can certainly be painful to those in lower income brackets or those, such as long-distance commuters, who are running up high mileage counts. But unto itself, \$43 a month shouldn't be a critical issue for many Californians.

That said, we tend to focus on sharp price increases in everyday commodities, such as gasoline, as an indicator of high inflation. It's a squeaky wheel in political terms — and politicians feel compelled to grease the wheel or face a popular backlash.

So what can Newsom and legislators do to offset higher gas prices in this election year?

The tax increase pause Newsom originally proposed would have cost about \$500 million or a \$17 annual savings per vehicle, hardly worth doing.

However, fully offsetting the jump could be a major hit on the state budget. At \$1 per gallon, it would require the state to rebate about \$15 billion to motorists for a full year — almost exactly what the prison system costs — or just over \$500 per vehicle.

The trick will be to make rebates large enough to have some positive psychological response from California motorists but small enough to avoid a major budget impact.

Would \$100 per car — enough, perhaps for one 20-gallon fill-up — sufficiently impress Californians that their politicians' hearts are in the right place? Even that relatively small amount would cost the state budget about \$3 billion.

Rebates of any size would be relatively

easy to distribute if done on a per-vehicle basis, since the state already has data on vehicle ownership.

It would become infinitely more complex to focus relief for those who are feeling price increases most keenly, such as low-income motorists or super commuters. That could become a bureaucratic nightmare on a par with the dysfunctional Employment Development Department.

The rebate promise is now on the agenda and it will be a very interesting situation to monitor.

*Dan Walters is a CalMatters columnist.*

**Ask the DMV**  
**New federal regulations will affect air travel in spring 2023**

*Get prepared now with a REAL ID*

If you have not yet applied for your REAL ID, be aware that federal requirements for travel will soon go into effect, making this the last spring break you can travel without one! Starting May 2023, you will need to show a REAL ID driver's license or identification card, or other federally approved identification — like a passport — at TSA airport checkpoints nationwide or to visit secure federal facilities.

**Q1: What is a REAL ID?**

A1: A REAL ID is a driver's license or identification card that is also a federally accepted form of identification. And soon, the federal REAL ID Act places new rules on which forms of identification may be used to board flights within the U.S. and to enter secure federal facilities, such as military bases and federal courthouses. A California issued REAL ID driver's license or identification card meets these new requirements and is marked with a gold bear and star in the top right corner.

Applying for a REAL ID requires one proof of identity document (like a birth certificate or passport), two California residency documents (like a bank statement or utility bill), your social security number and a trip to a DMV office. Your office visit will be quick if before you go you fill out the online application and upload your documents. U.S. citizens and all legal residents of the United States can apply for a REAL ID driver's license or identification card. Individuals applying for or renewing an AB 60 driver's license are not eligible to receive a REAL ID driver's license or identification card.

**Q2: I just received a renewal notice for my driver's license and am eligible to renew by mail. Can I obtain my REAL ID by mail also?**

A2: Since the REAL ID is a form of federal identification, you are required to visit a DMV office in person when applying for one for the first time. However, you will be able to renew your REAL ID online when the time comes.

Take advantage of the online options to speed up your DMV visit to get your REAL ID. Go to REALID.dmv.ca.gov to start your application online and upload documents using the online services portal. Then take your uploaded documents with you when you visit your local DMV office and bring applicable fees. You can speed things up by scheduling an appointment in advance or check local wait times and head right into the DMV office of your choice to finish your application.

For more information or answers to questions not listed here, please visit [www.dmv.ca.gov](http://www.dmv.ca.gov).

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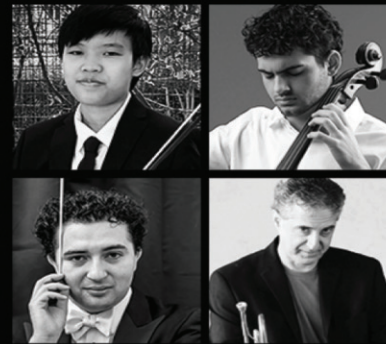


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A San Jose resident drops off her ballot in the 2020 election. File photo.

## Who's running for San Jose mayor and council in 2022?

By **Tran Nguyen**

Article courtesy of *San José Spotlight*

More than 30 candidates have jumped into contests for San Jose mayor and City Council, with at least one frontrunner dropping out following Friday's deadline to compete in the June primary election.

In about three months, San Jose residents will narrow the fields for a new San Jose Mayor and five San Jose City Councilmembers. Districts 1, 3 and 5 are open seats with the current officeholders terming out, while incumbents in Districts 7 and 9 are seeking reelection.

Several politicians previously said they'd run to lead San Jose, but not everyone qualified—or even submitted their paperwork—to continue their bids. The biggest surprise came from the District 1 council race, with San Jose Planning Commissioner Justin Lardinois dropping out of the running over the weekend.

"While I'm proud of the campaign that I ran, it became increasingly clear to me that personal circumstances unrelated to the campaign necessitated my exit from the race," Lardinois said in a statement, one day after telling San José Spotlight his campaign would file nomination paperwork.

Lardinois, who raised at least \$25,400 at the end of 2021, did not respond to inquiries about his decision.

Jonathan Esteban, a former congressional candidate with eyes on the Mayor's seat, also dropped out of the race after failing to collect enough signatures for his nomination. A qualified candidate must have a nomination petition with at least 50 valid signatures. Esteban is now throwing his support behind Councilmember Raul Perez.

"We were sadly two valid signatures short of qualifying to be on the ballot this year," Esteban told San José Spotlight. "I believe that (Councilmember Perez) is the last remaining candidate who is brave enough to stand up for the working families of our city."

They both want to increase public safety and address the homelessness crisis with

more housing, among other issues.

Several other lesser known candidates, including mayoral candidate Tyrone Wade, Dennis Kyne and Miles Linden in District 3, Phil Dolan in District 5 and Thomas Davis in District 7, also did not qualify for the election.

The top two vote-getters in each race will head to a runoff in November unless one candidate wins with more than 50% in June.

Here's the current list of San Jose candidates running in the June 7 primary election:

With Mayor Sam Liccardo terming out after eight years, the city's top seat is up for grabs—with at least eight candidates on the ballot in June.

Four frontrunners—Councilmembers Perez, Dev Davis and Matt Mahan and Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez—have all qualified for the race.

Retired San Jose police officer Jim Spence, college student Marshall Allen Woodmansee and student Travis Nicholas Hill also qualified for the race recently.

Spence wants the city to stop spending money on housing for the homeless. He also said he wants to stand up against Santa Clara County Public Health Officer Dr. Sara Cody for closing down businesses and imposing strict COVID-19 rules during the pandemic.

"For the last two years, our City Council or Board of Supervisors didn't stand up for the residents of San Jose and let one unelected individual close down our city and tell people how they had to live their lives," Spence told San José Spotlight.

"Leadership is really the key factor in this, and a leader needs to stand up when things aren't right."

Hill, who claims to be a student, wants to address the homeless, housing and climate change crises, his website says. He did not submit a candidate statement.

Woodmansee, a San Jose State University student, hopes to improve San Jose by addressing challenges in transportation, food production and social connectivity, his website reads.

Times **Community News**



## sjDANCEco Spring DANCE Fest & Free Dance Classes April 23-24 Eastridge Center

More than 60 Bay Area dance organizations (from young children to professional companies and everything in between) present many styles of dance on the Eastridge festival stage during a free non-stop 7-hour program each day April 23-24.

"The professional dance portions of the show are from noon to 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Free dance classes will be offered at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

"The celebration is part of Bay Area Dance Week and National Dance Week (April 15-24, 2022) and showcases the diversity of the Bay Area dance community.

sjDANCEco is a year-round contemporary dance company based in San Jose, California that produces world premieres by its core and guest choreographers, and presents the very best of Contemporary and Classic Modern Dance and Masterpieces of the American Modern Dance Repertory. In addition to a full season of dance concerts, sjDANCEco also is a major participant each Spring in free dance presentations during National Dance Week, regularly participates in international dance festivals, and has a full schedule of contemporary dance classes for the advanced and professional dancer. sjDANCEco ignites the spirit of dance.

sjDANCEco's Spring DANCE Festival is made possible through the support of: California Arts Council, Leo M. Shortino Family Founda-

tion, Applied Materials Foundation, Heritage Bank of Commerce, Mission City Community Fund, City of San Jose, SVCcreates, Portner Charitable Trust and generous individual donors.

*Photos by Fred Corpuz/Courtesy of sjDANCEco*

## Phillip Ho named to Rochester Institute of Technology Dean's List

Evergreen Valley residents Hannah Halde-man and **Phillip Ho** (inset) have been named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the Fall 2021 Semester.

Ho is in the civil engineering technology program.

Full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.4; they do not have any grades of "Incomplete", "D" or "F"; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Rochester Institute of Technology is home to leading creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers. Founded in 1829, RIT enrolls about 18,600 students in more than 200 career-oriented and professional programs, making it among the largest private universities in the U.S.



## Smash-and-grab robbery reported at Eastridge Center

San Jose Police were investigating a smash-and-grab robbery at a jewelry store located at Eastridge Center on Monday, March 14

The robbery was reported at 11:50 a.m. as many as nine people used hammers and other tools to smash display cases and robbed the store of several thousands of dollars worth of merchandise, said San Jose police Sgt. Christian Camarillo.



"The suspects fled the scene and remain at large," Camarillo said.

The case remains under investigation. Anyone with information can contact Silicon Valley Crime Stoppers at 408-947-7867 or at [svcrimestoppers.org](http://svcrimestoppers.org).



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### Rebuilding Days

Our Rebuilding Day program provides major and minor repairs and renovations resulting in life-changing improvements for the homeowners and organizations served.

### 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.

**Contractors** We work with contractors that possess CA contractor specialty (Class C) in painting, plumbing, HVAC, roofing or electrical.

**Donate** Sign up to sponsor an upcoming neighbor in need build or donate at [www.rtsv.org](http://www.rtsv.org) today.



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Disclaimer: Etching the catalytic converter does not guarantee it will not be stolen, nor is it guarantee of recovery...but it could help!

Times News

### California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls announces \$5M in grants March 15

*Funding for women's pandemic recovery response on Equal Pay Day*

The California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls (CCSWG) announced the recipients of a \$5 million grant program to fund organizations serving women and girls.

The fund was established for those disproportionately affected economically by the ongoing pandemic.

Grantees, announced on Equal Pay Day, March 15 include organizations serving low-income, unemployed, or underemployed, AIAN, BIPOC, LGBTQIA, unhoused, rural, disabled, senior, and veteran populations.

Grants were awarded in five areas to direct service providers, local women's commissions, and government entities seeking to establish and expand local women's commissions, and nonprofits serving primarily women and girls. Equal Pay Day is a date that symbolizes how far into the year women must work to earn what men earned in the previous year – a disparity that is even greater for women of color, mothers, and members of the LGTBQ community.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated these challenges for women across the state, and the world. That's why we are proud to administer the state's first-of-its-kind grant opportunity dedicated to Women's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic," said CCSWG Executive Director Holly Martinez. "We had an incredible response for the \$5 million in funding we have available to grant, demonstrating significant need around the state. We received and evaluated more than 630 proposals to support women and girls across all five funding categories, totaling over \$62 million in requests. At this time, we are able to award 20% of all applications received."

"The Golden State is a national and global leader – showing an unyielding dedication to progress and equity through not just words, but decisive action," said First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom. "We have upheld and enforced California's nation-leading equal pay laws while advancing progressive policies that help all working women realize their fullest potential."

A number of grantees joined the Commission in Tuesday's press conference, including:

**Impact Foundry:** The Sacramento-based nonprofit will receive \$50,000 to provide Certified Sustainable programming to 10 Northern California based organizations whose mission is to increase services to women. The funds will support existing programming and direct services while enabling them to increase services and improve economic opportunity and security for women and girls.

**Pacific Coast Regional:** This grant of \$50,000 will support the inaugural cohort of Black female business owners in the SELF (Sister Entrepreneur Loan Fund) program that seeks to help these underserved business owners recover from the pandemic and to thrive in the future. The cohort launches on March 7, 2022 with thirty women. The women will participate in workshops and

one-on-one business advising to be eligible for the grant funding for general business expenses.

**San Francisco Department on the Status of Women (SFDOSW):** The Department was funded \$50,000 to provide support for two guaranteed income pilot programs. These programs will include direct cash assistance to two populations: Native American/Indigenous survivors of domestic violence, and single, pregnant and/or parenting justice-involved homeless women with children ages 0-12 years old. In addition, SFDOSW will administer a grant to Double Denim to produce a digital campaign on civic engagement and political empowerment.

**Hospitality Training and Education Fund:** The fund will receive \$25,000 to deploy a four-part communications strategy targeting women disproportionately affected by the pandemic, particularly women of color and those facing multiple barriers to employment, offering access to high quality jobs and a road to economic security. HTA has been working with its partner employers, UNITE HERE Local 11 and other allies to address this issue proactively by creating formal apprenticeship programs that help women advance into these higher-level positions while providing mentoring and other support.

*Editor's note: A complete list of grant recipients can be found at <https://women.ca.gov/womens-recovery-response>*

### PLANNING YOUR RETIREMENT

#### Are you eligible to claim the IRS Saver's Credit?

*Learn about a way to save on taxes when you save for retirement*

(NAPSI)—Here's good news, for a change, from the IRS: It offers an incentive to lower your tax bill when you save for retirement. With pandemic-related employment disruptions last year, more taxpayers may be eligible to claim the Saver's Credit but may not even know this tax credit exists.

Also referred to as the Retirement Savings Contributions Credit, the IRS Saver's Credit can reduce federal income taxes for eligible taxpayers who save for retirement through a qualified retirement plan, such as a 401(k) or an Individual Retirement Account (IRA).

The 22nd Annual Transamerica Retirement Survey finds that fewer than half (48 percent) of workers are aware of the Saver's Credit.

"People who are saving for retirement may be able to claim the IRS Saver's Credit and reduce their federal taxes," says Catherine Collinson, CEO and president of nonprofit Transamerica Institute and its Center for Retirement Studies. "Perhaps people are confusing the tax credit with the tax-advantage treatment of retirement accounts. The idea of a double tax benefit may sound too good to be true but both are available to retirement savers."

#### What Is the Saver's Credit?

The Retirement Savings Contributions Credit is a non-refundable tax credit for contributions an eligible taxpayer makes to a 401(k), 403(b) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan, a traditional or Roth IRA or an ABL account. In this context, "non-refundable" means the credit cannot exceed a person's federal income tax for the year.

*See REITIREMENT, page 19*

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Times **Feature****CAREER CORNER****Work from home (WFH) lessons**By **Angela Copeland**

It's been two years since we were sent home from work for two weeks.

We were collectively wrong about the two weeks, but many workers have been relieved. We learned so much about work over the last two years.

We found that working remotely is not only possible, it's preferred. Workers are more productive, and overall, they're happier. We can create customized work environments that work best for us. Commuting is no longer required. And, it's cheaper for employers. One of the only good things to come from the pandemic has been the flexibility and work life balance introduced with work from home.

So, why are employers now trying to drag their employees back to the office?

Many companies say they need people to be in person in order to form better relationships. Some say it will make us more productive. Others say we need to be in "the building" in order to get real work done. But, what is really going on here? If a company is still in business after two years of work from home, it has been more than proven that work from home is possible.

Returning to the office appears to be driven from two places. Within the organization, older managers struggle with the remote transition more than anyone else. Outside of the or-



ganization, cities are struggling to keep their downtowns thriving without business commuters.

This is the problem with both. Neither takes into account the needs and wants of the individual worker. And, both deny the fact that it has now been proven that working from home is possible. Both companies and cities need to become more creative in their problem solving. Rather than chase the past, what exists in the future?

If a company feels that employees are disconnected, that company should look for new ways to connect folks. Perhaps they could schedule more teambuilding activities via video. Or, maybe they could bring everyone together once a month for an in-person event.

For struggling downtown areas, what other options exist to revive the economy? Housing is certainly expensive. Perhaps empty office buildings could be repurposed as less expensive apartments. Maybe there are other ways to revitalize downtowns.

We can no longer live in the past. Fighting with employees who prefer to work from home only serves one purpose. It will be the reason those employees apply for jobs at other companies. There are too many options to settle for something that's not what the employee prefers. And, it's too late to convince anyone that we need to be together to be productive. That is just not true.

For many organizations, this will be a difficult learning process. They will force employees to come back to work. Those employees will leave. Then, the same organizations will struggle to find anyone who wants to sit in their seats at work.

Listen to your people and learn the lesson.

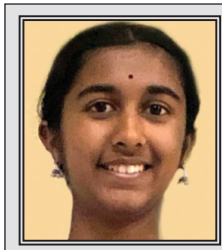
*Angela Copeland, a career expert and founder of Copeland Coaching, can be reached at [copelandcoaching.com](http://copelandcoaching.com).*

**Purandara Dasa, Forefather of Carnatic Music**By **Veena Krishnan**

**P**urandara Dasa (inset), the great Carnatic composer, is known as the San-geetha Pitamaha (Forefather/Grandfather of Carnatic Music) for a reason.

Purandara Dasa was born in the Indian state of Karnataka in the 15th century and was said to have lived for about 80 years. Originally a greedy, wealthy merchant by the name of Srinivasa Nayaka, he became a disciple of the great saint Vyasaraaja after a life-changing event and settled in Hampi. He was given the title Purandara Vittala and lived the humble life of a mendicant who had to beg for his food but stayed with his family. He is said to have composed around 475,000 unique krithis with pure devotion (although only about 200 are available in the present day), and many are in praise of the Hindu god Vishnu.

Every day, Purandara Dasa would wear a tulasi mala and anklets and carry his tamboori into town to sing his devotional songs. The people would admire his many krithis. Purandara Dasa's krithis are known to be in a very colloquial language style and he composed in many folk ragams so that even a common man could learn and sing his compositions. His



**About Carnatic Music**

By **Veena Krishnan**

lyrics often contain comments on daily life and activities and address some social issues of his time such as casteism, gender equality, and untouchability.

Another great contribution by Purandara Dasa for Carnatic music is the learning scheme beginners follow. He introduced a systematized method to teach the fundamentals of Carnatic music by creating exercises to be learned and practiced in the ragam Mayamalavagowlai. Beginners start with a systematic progression with the first few exercises being sarali, jantai, dhatu, and melsthai varisais along with alankarams. Short compositions (geethams) are also introduced in various ragams.

Purandara Dasa's legacy still carries on. Many Carnatic musicians of the modern times have popularized his compositions (some being Bidaram Krishnappa and Madras Lalithangi and her daughter, M. L. Vasanthakumari). Beginners are still taught using the structured learning method (including me). There are many memorials and monuments of Purandara Dasa all over India. Purandara Dasa's aradhana day (anniversary of the completion of their earthly lives) is held every year on a new-moon day around Feb-March in Karnataka, India. Here is a link of M. L. Vasanthakumari singing one of Purandara Dasa's famous compositions, Venkatachala Nilayam, in the ragam Sindhubhairavi: <https://youtu.be/UK5q7iU-uRM>

The contribution Purandara Dasa has made towards Carnatic music is treasured and his legacy will carry on forever.

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Times Feature

# Rich and poor California taxpayers get rebates of \$400 to defray gas costs under new proposal

By Times staff writers

A group of Democratic state lawmakers on Wednesday, March 16 called for sending a \$400 rebate to every California taxpayer to help soften the blow of the recent surge in gasoline prices.

Republican lawmakers have been pushing to temporarily suspend the state's high 51 cents per gallon gas tax, but Democrats are opposing the plan, and instead have come up with a rebate plan for everyone living in California including the rich. More than 1.4 million taxpayers earning more than \$200,000 a year — would be eligible

for rebates under the plan at a cost of more than \$500 million.

The rebate proposal comes as pressure mounts to help Californians struggling with prices at the pump, which has caused an increase in the costs of food, rent and other daily essentials

"This proposed \$400 rebate would cover the current 51 cents-per-gallon gas tax for one full year, 52 trips to the pump for most vehicles," the lawmakers wrote in a letter



to Gov. Gavin Newsom, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood) and Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins (D-San Diego).

"Notably, we believe a rebate is a better approach than suspending the gas tax — which would severely impact funding for important transportation projects and offers no guarantee that oil companies would pass on the savings to consumers," said the letter.

The governor has been working with the Legislature to craft a tax relief package to put money "back in the pockets" of Californians who have been stung financially by the sharp rise in gas prices.

Reducing or suspending the state gas tax does not seem likely as it could negatively affect ongoing highway projects according to Newsom administration officials.

Republican leaders are throwing their support behind the measure, though they still want to keep the gas tax suspension idea on the table.

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Times **Local News**

## Mayor, SJPD, Councilmembers address rising trend of traffic fatalities with push for safer streets, slower traffic

San José Mayor Sam Liccardo, San José Police Department Chief Anthony Mata, Councilmembers Maya Esparza (D7) and Dev Davis (D6), and San José's Department of Transportation (DOT) Director, John Ristow, recognized the 20 traffic fatalities that have occurred since the start of 2022, and the alarming rise of collisions on San José streets.

Mayor Liccardo underscored updates to safety projects and enforcement measures coming this year and future efforts to slow vehicle speeds and prevent accidents.

"The tragedy of fatal accidents on our streets is a preventable consequence of high speeds that the City of San José is meeting with quick-build safety improvements and enforcement measures that will keep us all safe," said Mayor Sam Liccardo. "These projects and measures will equalize the road for everyone. However, it's on each of us to consider and control our own behavior on the street."

In San José over the past five years, 57% of all traffic fatalities happened during the dark hours of the day, with over 30% of those incidents caused by speeding. In 2021, on average, 10 to 12 collisions happened every day, amounting to nearly 345 crashes per month. 21 crashes resulted in victims who were killed or suffered serious injuries. From data compiled by the federal Department of Transportation, 40,000 Americans die annually from traffic fatalities.

San José's DOT identified, with community input, dangerous intersections and corridors on 17 roadways throughout San José where over fifty-five percent of traffic fatalities and severe injuries happen, representing only three percent of the city's entire road network. DOT will focus safety improvement projects in these priority areas by spending \$6 million towards lighting enhancements, new lane and crosswalk markings, bollards and soft-hit post barriers, and lane width changes. Since 2012, the City converted 50,000 streetlights to LED, out of the City's total 64,000, in partnership with PG&E. Ongoing improvement projects have recently been built or will soon be completed along White Road, Hillsdale Avenue, King Road, and Tully Road. The Senter Road project was completed in 2021.

### Mayor Liccardo's March Budget Message

Liccardo prioritized funding for safety improvement projects in his budget message, including automated speed enforcement, and the creation of a safe driver incentive app. Out of 17 priority corridors, marked by DOT for quick-build safety projects, Mayor Liccardo called for deploying two, more expansive safety improvements, immediately on Senter Road and Monterey Road and two more along other high concern corridors and intersections.

With the help of the DMV, Mayor Liccardo supports using license plate reader cameras to identify speeding cars and send their owners, in the mail, notices about their

speeding habits to encourage reduced speeds. The City will also put \$50,000 towards piloting a phone app that would monitor participants' driving habits and show ways to improve the safety of their driving.

"Senter Road was one of the most dangerous corridors in the City and when we, as a City, committed to improving safety on our roadways, Senter Road was on the top

of the list to address," said Councilmember Maya Esparza. "Through low-cost quick build projects implemented last year, Senter Road is much safer and traffic flows more calmly, and I am excited to fully implement the East San José Corridor Safety Improvement Project to further safety improvements for our communities along Senter Road."

"As chair of the Council Transportation and Environment Committee, I'm all too familiar with the litany of tragic, fatal collisions we've experienced this year. I am alarmed that the level of traffic fatalities continues to rise in San José," said Councilmember and Chair of the San José City Council Transportation and Environment

Committee Dev Davis. "Just three months into 2022 we have already seen 20 fatalities, about half of whom were people just trying to cross our streets safely. This is unacceptable and we need to work together - through engineering, education, enforcement, and personal accountability - to make our streets safe for all."

***"The tragedy of fatal accidents on our streets is a preventable consequence of high speeds that the City of San José is meeting with quick-build safety improvements and enforcement measures that will keep us all safe." —Mayor Sam Liccardo***

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Times **Feature**

Rachel Lee Priday



**Symphony San Jose presents Beethoven's Emperor Piano Concerto May 7 and 8**

*Conducted by Tatsuya Shimono with soloist Jon Nakamatsu*

**S**ymphony San Jose presents Beethoven's Emperor Piano Concerto Saturday, May 7 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 8 at 2:30 p.m. at the California Theater, 345 South First Street in downtown San Jose.

Jon Nakamatsu is back to the beautiful California Theater to perform Beethoven's Piano Concerto No 5. Often considered the "most important piano concerto ever written" the Emperor is filled with innovation, looking forward to 19th century pianos not yet conceived, it was to be Beethoven's last.

The program opens in a mood of enchantment, with Ravel's elegance, delicacy, shimmering colors and expressive melodies on full display with his Mother Goose Suite and Pavane Pur Une Infante Défunte (Pavane for a Dead Princess). The mood shifts dramatically with Stravinsky's brief, brilliant Symphony. Written just after WWII, it has the intensity of a newsreel.

**The Program**

Rafel: Mother Goose Suite

Ravel: Pavane Pur Une Infante Défunte (Pavane for a Dead Princess)

Stravinsky: Symphony In Three Movements

Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 5 - Emperor

BOX OFFICE: 408.286.2600 or visit: [www.symphonysanjose.org](http://www.symphonysanjose.org); or visit the Box Office between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 325 South First Street in downtown San Jose, between San Carlos and San Salvador Streets just one-half block from the California Theatre.

*Photo courtesy of the artist and Symphony San Jose*

**Symphony San Jose presents Feste Romane**

**S**ymphony San Jose presents Feste Romane on Sat, Mar 26 at 8:00 p.m. and Sun. March 27 at 2:30 p.m. at the California Theatre in downtown San Jose.

This multifaceted concert features Respighi's Feste Romane. The program also includes two pieces by Brahms and a new lyrical double concerto performed by renowned classical violinist Rachel Lee Priday together with its composer, Juan Pablo Jofre, playing the haunting bandoneon.

**The program**

Johannes Brahms: Schicksalslied (Song of Destiny)

Juan Pablo Jofre: Bandoneon Violin Double Concerto No. 1 (with Juan Pablo Jofre and Rachel Lee as soloists)

Johannes Brahms: Nanie

Ottorino Respighi: Feste romane

Conductor: Maestro Carlos Vieu"

Box Office: 408.286.2600 or [www.symphonysanjose.org](http://www.symphonysanjose.org) Or visit the Box Office between 10 a.m. 5 p.m., Monday through Friday at 325 South First Street in downtown San Jose, between San Carlos and San Salvador Streets just one-half block from the California Theatre.

The California Theatre is located at: 345 South First St., San Jose, CA.

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Times **Feature**

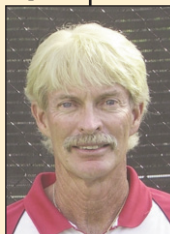


**TENNIS TIPS**

**Erase your mistakes; improve your results**

By Ken DeHart

Tennis is an exciting and inspirational game. It can also be quite exasperating when mistakes creep into your game. By nature we are more aware of how poorly we are playing than how to correct mistakes to play well. We are usually meaner to ourselves than to others. Be kind to yourself - erase your mistakes



Mistakes happen in tennis.

- At the top level of the game, the pros may win 50-54% of the point they play - that means they are losing 46-50% of the points they play.
- The sports psychologist remind us to "let it go", "focus on the positive" and several other cliches we have all heard.
- What is a practical approach that works in the middle of a match for us club players? How do I erase my mistakes instead of accumulating them and affecting my results?

**Step 1**

- Your mind has a tendency to remember the last thing that happened. So instead of having the feel of your last miss shot stored in your body, take

a practice swing - with no ball, just a free and relaxed swing. Make it like you would have liked to have made the perfect shot - forehand, backhand, serve or volley.

- Your body and mind will record the positive motion. You will replace the memory of the miss with the feel of what you wanted the swing to feel like.

**Step 2 - Practice**

- When returning a ball to your opponent to serve to you, do a perfect drop and hit. Make it be the best shot ever, replace the feel of the miss with the feel of the shot you wanted to hit.

- In a match, you will return about 80 balls to your opponent so they can serve to you.

That is 80 chances to feel the perfect shot, erase the feeling of the miss and store a positive feel for the ball.

Keep your game positive - keep feeling the way you want to play - ERASE YOUR MISTAKES!

I am always glad to answer any questions you may have regarding your personal racquet. Please email me at: [kendehart@aol.com](mailto:kendehart@aol.com); or visit us on Facebook - Ken DeHart Tennis

**About Ken DeHart**

Ken Dehart is Director of Racquets, Alpine Hills Tennis & Swimming Club. He is a PTR International Master Professional, USPTA Master Professional, and a USA High Performance Coach. You may reach Ken at: 408-892-3806; [ken.dehart@scvcc.com](mailto:ken.dehart@scvcc.com); [kendehart@aol.com](mailto:kendehart@aol.com)

**Retirement**

Continued from page 14

The maximum credit is \$1,000 for single filers or individuals and \$2,000 for married couples filing jointly.

**Tips for claiming the Saver's Credit**

**1. Check Your Eligibility**

To be eligible, the maximum Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) for single filers is \$33,000 in 2021 and \$34,000 in 2022. For the head of a household, the AGI maximum is \$49,500 in 2021 and \$51,000 in 2022. For those who are married filing jointly, the AGI maximum is \$66,000 in 2021 and \$68,000 in 2022.

You must be 18 years or older by January 1 and cannot be a full-time student or be claimed as a dependent on another person's tax return. Consider using the IRS's online tool to help determine if you are eligible for the Saver's Credit.

**2. Save for Retirement**

To claim the IRS Saver's Credit for 2021, you must have contributed to a 401(k), a 403(b), a similar employer-sponsored retirement plan or an ABL account during 2021. Contributions to traditional or Roth IRAs are also eligible and you have until April 18, 2022 to make an IRA contribution for tax year 2021. Roll-over contributions are not eligible

See RETIREMENT, page 21

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# Places of Worship



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

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

Our ministries/activities include:

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

tions, informative lectures, and even an occasional karaoke night--all in a wholesome environment. Our activities flow from our core values:

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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



**GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN**  
[www.GraceChurchSJ.net](http://www.GraceChurchSJ.net)  
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**1**  
[thepoint.church](http://thepoint.church)

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

**SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
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God is One  
ਰਬ ਇਕ ਹੈ  
**Rab Ik Hai**

**SAN JOSE GURDWARA**  
3636 Gurdwara Ave. San Jose, CA 95148 The word Sikh (see-kh) means "disciple" or "student." A Sikh is a practitioner of the faith founded in the 15th century by Guru Nanak in Punjab of old British India. A Guru who is a "teacher" or "enlightener" completes the relationship of teaching and learning. Sikhism is monotheistic and stresses the equality of all men and women. Sikhs believe in three basic principles; meditating on the name of God (praying), earning a living by honest means and sharing the fruits of one's labor with others. Currently there are close to one million Sikhs living in the USA and Canada and 25 million Sikhs living around the world. Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world. At the Gurdwara (House of God) in San Jose we welcome all. We pray daily for peace and prosperity for everybody in the world. Come to visit and enjoy Langer (food) in our kitchen which is open 365 days of the year and serves complementary vegetarian meals. We also encourage you to enter our history room on site and walk the beautiful

grounds. Learn more about us and community events we sponsor by visiting our website; <http://www.SanJoseGurdwara.org>

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5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135 408-223-1562. [www.stfrancisofassisi.com](http://www.stfrancisofassisi.com) or [www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org](http://www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org)  
We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O. - Jr. High, IGNITE - High School and North Star - Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations:

St. Francis of Assisi Chapel: Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass  
St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall  
Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM  
Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road  
Sunday 9:30 AM  
The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium) Sunday 8:15 AM  
For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

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

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Times **Community News****Op-ed****21st century Emperor, Czar, and Bullies!**

By Pastor John Goldstein  
Grace Church

The 21st Century version of an over confident Chinese Emperor Xi Jinping and a Russian Czar Putin jointly 'take the platform' at the Olympic Opening Ceremony.

They pronounce that the autocratic power brokers have the right to determine the definition of human rights, democracy and the correct view of the world and its people.

In other words, you can thank the autocrats for letting you play your sport in their stadium. The 'stadium' referring to 'the world' that you live in.

It was an ominous commentary made to a powerless audience gathered to celebrate sport. But that is how Dictators and autocrats function. They own the world view. They pronounce their version of reality and demand all to acknowledge and eventually submit to their views.

Yes, these are two powerful national leaders. One who cannot field a national team at the Olympics because of his State sponsored doping of athletes. Two powerful leaders who persecute minorities, suppress information, poison or disappear political adversaries, drop barrel bombs on civilians and destroy

hospitals. They terrorize civilian populations until they acquiesce to the demands of cowardly bullies. The Russian invasion of Ukraine was a logical next step.

Autocrats, dictators, emperors, czars all fall into the cesspool filled with the drugs of power and control. They love it. They want it. They can't get enough of it. You don't need to be at the supreme level of governance to have this addiction to power and control. But the power and control obsession is extremely dangerous at the supreme level of governance. These dictators make war and kill at will and use others to do it for them. And they plead innocence.

The biblical stories are filled with examples of individuals who became great leaders and squandered leadership through their abuse of power and control. King David, granted great prominence in contemporary conservative Christian narratives, leaves much to be desired as a leader and community builder. He ensures that the husband of the woman that he desired was killed in battle so he could add her to his harem. And much of his great accomplishments as a leader were lost in the mire of his immersion into the cesspool of power and control. The Bible contains these stories to remind us of the fragility of our capacity to lead well. There is constant threat to efforts to enhance integrity and honor in our world views.

The autocrats and wanna-be autocrats of our world need to learn that only like minded monsters share their personal thirst for power and control. We don't want to help make them richer, more powerful, more elitist. The main stumbling block for autocrats is that they believe their own deceptions and there is

no one voice strong enough to convince them differently. The Biblical voice suggests how to eventually collapse and destroy these corrupt ways of thinking and living.

In contrast, most want to share in the freedom of learning how to grow themselves, be creative and love and serve each other. When we are at our best too we want all to have freedom to live magnificently different lives.

I prefer to learn these truths from the biblical examples than to have to live the sordid tragedies again in our time. And the Bible

witness helps us to envision a different world without experiencing the holocaustic tragedies of the past. Making people suffer, destroying others, causing pain and death is godless human absurdity.

The belief in God challenges us to a higher calling in life. We are not here just for ourselves but for all generations, past, present and future. And the Bible shows us so we may learn about this higher calling from each other and the goodness of life as gifts from God.

**Retirement**

*Continued from page 19*  
for the credit.

**3. File Your Tax Return and Claim the Saver's Credit**

Let the IRS help you file your federal taxes with its Free File program. The program's eight partners offer online tax preparation tools free to taxpayers with an AGI of \$73,000 or less. Learn more at: [www.irs.gov/FreeFile](http://www.irs.gov/FreeFile).

- When using an online tax preparation tool, be sure to answer questions about the IRS Saver's Credit, also referred to by the IRS as the Retirement Savings Contributions Credit and Credit for Qualified Retirement Savings Contributions.

- If you prepare your tax return manually, complete Form 8880, Credit for Qualified Retirement Savings Contributions, to determine your exact credit rate and amount. Then transfer the amount to line 4 on Schedule 3, which is used with Forms 1040, 1040-SR, and 1040-NR.

- If you use a professional tax preparer, be sure to ask about the Saver's Credit.

"Consistently saving for retirement is fundamental to helping achieve financial security in retirement," says Collinson. "Another way to help boost your retirement savings is to directly deposit any tax refund into an IRA. Saving more now could help you reap more later."

Remember, this important tax credit may help reduce what you owe in federal taxes or increase your refund. Check your eligibility, particularly if you had pandemic-related employment impacts in 2021. Help spread the word about the Saver's Credit by telling family, friends, and colleagues.

**Learn More**

For more details and resources on the Saver's Credit in English and Spanish, visit Transamerica Institute at [www.transamericainstitute.org/SaversCredit](http://www.transamericainstitute.org/SaversCredit) or the IRS at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

*Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies is an operating division of Transamerica Institute, a nonprofit, private foundation.*

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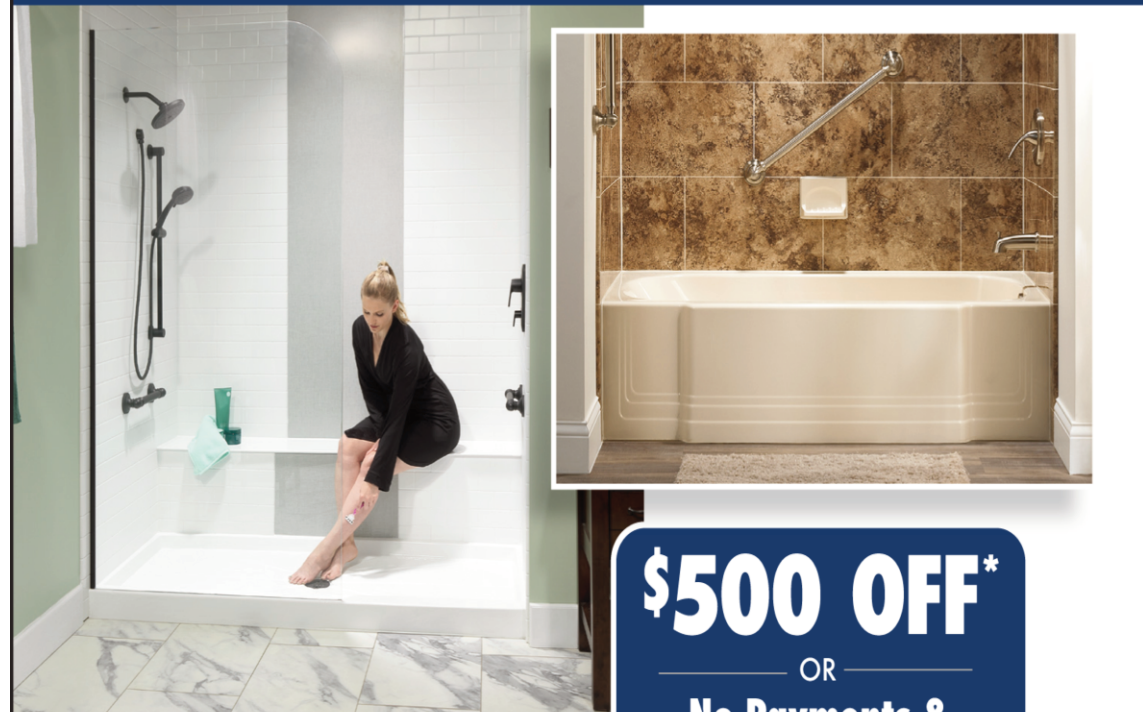
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## 1001 Laurie Avenue | Offered at \$2,448,000

Nestled in the heart of iconic Willow Glen, this utterly gorgeous home is a seamless blend of 1940s charm and 2020s state-of-the-art amenities. Completely updated inside and out with high-end comforts and expert landscaping, this home has world-class charm and unrivaled curb appeal, making it a showpiece in every sense of the word.

**HOME SUMMARY** • 3 bedrooms • 2 full bathrooms and 1 half bathroom • 2,156 square feet of living space • Situated on a 6,770 square foot corner lot



## 1570 Monteval Lane | Offered at \$1,750,000

Pride of ownership is apparent in this gorgeous Almaden home, which has been meticulously updated! Inside, its open concept floorplan and bright, airy atmosphere make for comfortable home living and remote work. With multiple bedrooms and a home office, it can easily accommodate guests. A large gated front courtyard and intimate rear grounds patio provide numerous settings for entertaining guests amidst the property's mature foliage. Part of the peaceful Montevideo community, the home is away from the hustle and bustle of Silicon Valley, while still close enough to allow you to take advantage of all that the South Bay has to offer.

**HOME SUMMARY** • Four bedrooms and two full bathrooms • 1,770 square feet of living space • Situated on a roomy 7,949 square foot lot



## 46 Raindance Court | Offered at \$898,000

This gorgeous modern townhome features an open concept floorplan and bright, airy atmosphere that makes for comfortable home living and family gatherings. An intimate patio in the back is the perfect spot for entertaining guests on a warm summer's evening. Part of a peaceful Deer Run II community in San Jose. Its central location makes commuting a breeze, while also giving you the ability to take advantage of the area's spectacular dining, parks, and entertainment options.

**HOME SUMMARY** • Three bedrooms, two full bathrooms, and one-half bathroom • 1,452 square feet of living space



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Single-level home in the Glencrest area of Almaden Valley. Enter through an iron privacy gate which opens to a park-like front yard. Living room with corner fireplace. Kitchen has quartz slab counters and plenty of cabinetry. Dual pane windows, central air conditioning, newer water heater, 3-year new HVAC system, and more. Close to Glenview Park, Almaden Quicksilver County Park, Almaden Golf and Country Club, Almaden Lake Park, trails, restaurants, shops, schools, library and more. Williams Elementary School, Bret Harte Middle School and Leland High School.

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