

Quimby Oak School wrestlers win league championship for the 20th straight year
SEE PAGE 12



EVHS Grad Ceremony
First year back after pandemic allows seniors to celebrate
SEE PAGE 4

Valley Water settles with residents over 2017 flood damage
SEE PAGE 10



JUNE 17 – JUNE 30, 2022 ■ VOL. 39, NO. 13

EvergreenTimes

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St. Francis of Assisi of Evergreen to sponsor Stanford Blood Drive: June 25

St. Francis of Assisi of Evergreen will sponsor a Stanford Blood Drive on Saturday, June 25th, 2022 from 8:00 am until 2:00 pm at the St. Francis Community Center on 5111 San Felipe Rd, Evergreen Valley, San Jose.

The event is open to the public and any and all eligible donors are encouraged to come by that Saturday and become a blood donor. Due to the large number of companies shut down, there is a big shortage of blood types, so your donation will be impactful.

Residents are encouraged to sign-up in advance in order to minimize wait times.

To register, call Tom at (408) 476-6104 or visit: https://sbc-donor.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/10049 to learn more.

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Arenas and Khamis in race for Santa Clara County Supervisor District 1

By William Bellou
Publisher

San Jose City Councilmember Sylvia Arenas will face former San Jose City Councilmember Johnny Khamis in a runoff this November as neither candidate was able to get above the 50% threshold.

Arenas, a labor-backed candidate, represents portions of East San Jose including Evergreen and Silver Creek Valley. On the city council, she has focused on women and child care issues while voting with the Latino Caucus and butting heads with Mayor Sam Liccardo's pro-business proposals.

Arenas, who garnered 28.3% of the vote, considers herself the family-focused candidate with public sector experience and the added bonus of a master's degree in public administration from the University of San Francisco.

Khamis, who received 26.6% of the vote, served as San Jose District 10 City Councilmember until he termed out in 2020. He moved his home in order to stay in the



San Jose Councilmember **Sylvia Arenas** (center) on election night. Photo courtesy of Sylvia Arenas.

race after being drawn out in the redistricting process.

Khamis says he has plans to address homelessness, crime and budgetary issues. He has the support of San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, current District 1 Supervisor

Mike Wasserman, former Supervisor Don Gage and the Taxpayers Association of Silicon Valley to name a few.

Khamis faced several negative hit pieces paid for by the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council COPE

and Service Employees International Union (SEIU) totaling \$55,000, according to campaign finance filings.

The San Jose Mercury News described the hit pieces against
See DISTRICT 1, page 21

Evergreen School District selects Dr. Antoine Hawkins new superintendent effective July 1

By William Bellou
Publisher

The Evergreen School District (ESD) has a new superintendent effective July 1, 2022.

The ESD Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve Dr. Antoine Hawkins as the superintendent at the June 9, 2022, regular board meeting. The Board selected Dr. Hawkins from a total of 37 candidates.

A reception for Dr. Hawkins was held at Quimby Oak Middle School on Friday, June 10 attended by teachers, administrators,

board members, Mayoral candidate Matt Mahan and the media.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chris Corpus, Board President, stated, "The Board of Trustees enthusiastically presents Dr. Antoine Hawkins as our next leader because he fits the descriptors set forth by our stakeholders; strong communicator, inclusive leadership style, student-centered, equity-driven, proven educational leadership and focused on accountability. In addition, his past expertise in Human Resources and Business Services will help Evergreen School District navigate current and future challenges. We look forward to his long-term commitment to the Evergreen community."

Dr. Hawkins earned his bachelor's degree in Management and master's degree in Business Administration from Touro University International, which was originally founded in New York as a branch of the Touro University College System, and doctorate degree from Bakke Graduate University in Dallas,



The ESD Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve **Dr. Antoine Hawkins** as the superintendent.

TX. He also completed the Urban Superintendent program at the University of Southern California, Rossier School of Education.

Dr. Hawkins is a seasoned public administrator.
See HAWKINS, page 21

SEE OUR LISTINGS OF EVERGREEN AREA MEETINGS, PLACES OF WORSHIP AND CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER



★ **Matt Mahan**
— SAN JOSE CITY COUNCIL —
DISTRICT 10

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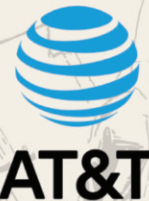
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1. The following items WILL NOT BE ALLOWED at Almaden Lake Park AT ANY TIME on July 4th.
 - a. Absolutely NO Alcohol, Weapons, Barbeques, Drones, Pets, Emotional support animals, riding bikes, or moving vehicles in the park.
2. NO Illegal Fireworks - Offenders risk being FINED a MINIMUM of \$500 or more.
3. Tents/Canopies MUST be secured/staked into the ground and MUST be taken down at or before 6:00 PM



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Arrests made in Hillview Public Library shooting

Police have made two arrests following a shooting and stabbing at Hillview Public Library in Evergreen Monday, June 6.

Raul Hernandez, 20, of San Jose, and an unnamed 14-year-old San Jose resident, were arrested at a residence on the 2100 block of Lyons Drive and both were charged with attempted murder. Both will be facing gang enhancements; the 14-year-old was booked into Juvenile Hall.

Officers responded to a report of a shooting and stabbing inside the library at approximately 3:30



Suspect **Raul Hernandez** was arrested. p.m., according to police. When they arrived, officers found an adult male with “at least one gunshot wound and one stab wound, according to police.

Since it was determined to be a gang-related incident, Gang Investigations Unit and the Violent Crimes Enforcement Team detectives did the work of identifying suspects.

Supervisor Chavez, Councilmember Mahan advance to November San Jose mayor race

Close race anticipated to replace termed out Mayor Liccardo

By William Bellou
Publisher

County Supervisor Cindy Chavez and San Jose Councilmember Matt Mahan are



L-R: Chavez, Mahan

headed to a November runoff to replace San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo who terms out at the end of the year.

The city has not had a new mayor since the 2014 election.

The November runoff pits Chavez, who has the backing of labor groups, against councilmember Mahan, who has the backing of business.

According to the final vote totals, Chavez received 39.2 percent of the vote while Mahan garnered 32.5 percent. Councilmember Dev Davis’ total vote count was 10.5 percent.

Chavez served as president of the county Board of Supervisors in 2020 and has represented parts of San Jose on the board since 2013. She has served as vice mayor of San Jose from 2005 to 2006. She also served as head of the South Bay Labor Council, which represents more than 100,000 union members in the region.

Mahan was elected to the council in 2020 to represent southeastern parts of the city, including Almaden Valley. Before serving in office Mahan worked various roles at two civic engagement tech startups—Causes and Brigade. He was also on the executive board of Silicon Valley Leadership Group and a commissioner on the San Jose Clean Energy

See MAYORAL RACE, page 6

Valley Currents

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



Paypal park, the locale of the 2022 EVHS graduation ceremony. [Jason Lin/EVHS Newspaper]

2022 Senior EVHS graduation

After the first year back from the pandemic, Evergreen Valley High School’s 2022 seniors proudly celebrate their high school completion

By Jason Lin, transcription by Karen Chen

Confetti burst into the air as hundreds of caps came off simultaneously at this year’s Evergreen Valley High School’s senior graduation.

The black squares flew into the air with a mighty hurrah to the thunderous applause of crying parents. The band’s Pomp and Circumstance reverberated through the entire stadium as each senior graduate received their diploma and wreathed of achievements, the crowd roared with squeals of joy and appraisal. Then, with a shake of the hand from their principal and a wave to the camera, each senior was off towards a brave new world.

Yet, before the handshakes, the speeches, and the congratulations, the magnitude of 2022’s senior graduation had already been apparent. As the first in-person graduation since the beginning of the pandemic, it presented EVHS’s staff and seniors with a whole new range of possibilities and problems. Traditionally, graduation at EVHS would occur at the San Jose State Event Center, but a new outdoor venue was necessary due to COVID-19 restrictions and safety concerns.

“We were concerned about the guidance around mega-events, just because we would have over 5,000 people there. But ultimately, that guidance went away in March, so we could safely have graduation,” said Mr. Kleckner, principal of EVHS.

PayPal Park was chosen as the venue for the event, a massive stadium capable of housing eighteen thousand people. PayPal security employees worked round the clock to ensure the smooth entering, exiting, and transit within the establishment. Additionally, the EVHS administration took health measures to ensure the safety of both parents and students during the ceremony.

“We did put out hand sanitizer before students got onto the stage because it’s a lot of handshaking with the board members and me. We asked all the seniors to sanitize their hands coming on the stage and coming off just so we could be safe in that way,” said Mr. Kleck-

ner, “Masks were encouraged, but ultimately it was up to each student and each audience member to make their choice.”

Thus, despite the ceremony’s attendance reaching the thousands, no significant hiccup occurred, which would have taken away from the graduation. On the contrary, seniors overwhelming felt optimistic about the events proceeding, aside from the intense summer heat.

“The first thing that came to mind was how hot it was. We were sitting directly in the sun on the graduate’s side, but it felt really nice. I know a lot of the student speakers and administrators were talking about how monumental this graduation was since it was our first one back from COVID and it did really feel that special,” said Quynh, a graduating senior, “After all, was said and done, we went out to take pictures. Just seeing everyone embracing their family, and celebrating with friends - I think it’s a special moment, and it’s a special moment for any high school.”

“It was very exhilarating, and it was a very joyous moment of celebration, and it felt like all the work that I’ve put in for the past four years, it all paid off. I was especially grateful to enjoy it in real life compared to the previous years and of course with my friends and my family. It was very fulfilling,” said Alexander, another

See GRADUATION, page 18

“I know a lot of the student speakers and admin were talking about how monumental this graduation was since it was our first one back from COVID and it did really feel that special,” said Quynh, a graduating senior.

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Times **Community News**

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Evergreen School District

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Evergreen Senior Citizen Property Owners Are Eligible for Measure EE Parcel Tax Exemption

Evergreen property owners age 65 by June 30, 2023 or older are eligible to file for exemption from the annual \$125 Evergreen School District parcel tax for parcels they occupy as their principal residence.

For joint owners of a principal residence, only one owner needs to be age 65.

More information regarding the parcel tax exemption, including a form to request exemption, can be found on our District website at www.eesd.org.

To complete the exemption, the form and supporting documents may be brought into the District Office located at 3188 Quimby Road, San Jose. Call Patty Maciel at (408) 270-6863 to make an appointment.

Residents must file for the exemption in person with documents to prove their home ownership, residency, and age eligibility.

Those who have previously been granted an exemption from the Measure H Parcel Tax, their exemption will continue to be automatically renewed each year as long as you remain eligible for the exemption.

Residents unable to submit the application in person or for additional information, contact Patty Maciel at (408) 270-6863.



Top 20 things parents should know when their child plays competitive sports

By Brian Presley

With the end of school comes the start of summer sports leagues and events and as a parent, you might as well buy yourself a chauffeur's cap since you'll be driving everywhere while your kid sits in the back watching a movie or playing a video game!

It is easy however to get wrapped up and involved in your kid's game. You want to cheer them on but some parents have been known to take it way too far.

What To Do With Kids website polled parents, coaches, players, referees and league organizers, asking them what they would like parents to know before their kids start playing a competitive sport or activity.

1. Coaching comes from the bench, not the bleachers.
2. Don't make your kid's sport your life. It's okay to have one of your own.
3. Despite what you think, there is no conspiracy by the referees to make calls against your kid or your team.
4. When it stops being fun for your kid, it's time to find another activity.
5. 99.99% of all organized sports do not hire bind refs so stop asking.
6. Referees and judges are human and make mistakes just like your kid has and will continue to do.
7. Never, ever, trash talk a kid. Yours or any other.
8. If YOU knew so much then YOU would be the coach.
9. Cheer darn it, CHEER!!!

10. Don't like the ref's call? Keep quiet!

11. Don't look for excuses. Don't blame the weather, the refs, the conditions, the coach, the parents or the other kids. Your kid isn't going to win every time.

12. The real purpose of competitive sports is for your kid to get better. Not just winning.

13. Recognize and accept that in some sports, some kids will play more or longer than others.

14. It's okay to let your kid try other sports or activities.

15. Don't compare your kid to others on the team. After all, some kids may have better parents.

16. Using guilt and fear to motivate kids is just wrong. If you do, seek help.

17. If YOU knew so much about sports, then YOU would be the ref.

18. Keep it in perspective. The world will still be around after they lose a game.

19. When your kid loses, show some dignity. When your kid wins, be gracious.

20. Losing is not bad. Not being able to handle losing is bad.

The way you act at your kid's games or event will have an influence on their decision to keep playing. They may also see a part of you that they won't like and that can be serious in your relationship with them.

Editor's note: Presley is a former coach, youth counselor, semi-retired stay-at-home dad and founder of What To Do With The Kids®. WTDWTK is now exclusively on social media and can be found at [facebook.com/San-Jose](https://www.facebook.com/San-Jose) or on Instagram and Twitter @WTDWTK.

Mayoral Race

Continued from page 4
Advisory Commission.

"People are excited about a new change. They want the city cleaned up, they want to address affordable housing, they want San Jose to be the safest big city in America again," Chavez said.

Mahan, a newcomer to politics, was busy planning for the fall runoff with his supporters.

"Our campaign has grown by leaps and bounds over the last few months. I think it's a testament to our message of common-sense

solutions to some of the big challenges we face, what we're doing on homelessness, crime and unaffordable housing. It just isn't working. I think voters are ready for change," Mahan said.

The race will likely tighten up in the coming months because of expected higher voter turnout in November, according to San Jose State political science professor Melinda Jackson.

Only about 24.21% of registered voters in the county cast their ballots on June 7, drastically lower than the estimated 35% officials expected.

Times **Community News**

'My Country tis of thee... sweet land of liberty!'

San Jose Gurdwara invites Evergreen community to an ice cream social for complimentary ice cream and refreshments on 4th of July

By Kirpal Atwal
Special to the Times

Evergreen residents are invited to attend the annual ice cream social on Monday, 4th of July.

Here's an opportunity to visit the Gurdwara and enjoy complimentary ice cream and fresh fruit and enjoy seeing the sky light up with fireworks in the valley below (no fireworks take place at the Gurdwara). Be sure to bring your binoculars!

"We are very proud as American citizens to walk hand in hand with everyone in celebrating our wonderful 4th of July celebration," said Bob Dhillon, president of the San Jose Sikh Gurdwara. "Like you, we too are patriotic!"

Dhillon continued, "Always know, in our heart we are so proud to be a part of America. The 4th of July is a very important day

"It's a great country and we stand side by side with our American brothers and sisters and we will be there for you and with you in any difficult situation."
—American Sikhs,
San Jose Gurdwara

for us and we cherish it. The United States of America is this wonderful place of freedom in our world! We know it and we respect it! You will see lots of American flags at our celebration! Our little tradition for you is, each year we set up our special ice cream and refreshments under the moonlit sky at the Gurdwara on the Hill for everyone to walk and joyfully look down at the valley. It's a time for all to take a break from using the cell phone and enjoy saying hi to others in person, while getting complimen-

tary ice cream, taking in nature and looking at the beautiful sunset."

Dhillon explained that in India, everyone says that America is the land of opportunity. "It's true that any person can truly bring themselves up from the ground to gather wealth and plan well for their future in America. That is not always the case in other countries. We believe in equality among all people with regard to cultures, race, religion, and as well as between men and women too. The Sikhs were one of the first cultures in history to honor and embrace equality between men and women. The truth is, America is such a grand place to live that all one has to do is just grasp the opportunities and figure out how to make things work for each unique situation. What is so wonderful about America is that it is a diverse country and a place where people accept one another regardless of race, creed, color or religion. And finally, a special thank you to the Evergreen Community and beyond for accepting the Sikh Americans as your brothers and sisters"

Message to the Evergreen Community from President Bob Dhillon

Dear Community,

We are inviting you all up to the Gurdwara to have an ice cream social this 4th of July (Monday from 7-10 p.m.). We love the community and there is no more beautiful

place for you to take a stroll than at the Gurdwara on the Hill. Bring the family!

Our Gurdwara is a community center as well as a place of worship. We have many events of this kind each year and want you to know you and your family are always welcome.

We have completed a beautiful children's playground open to the public and are in the process of designing a wonderful nature trail for the community to use in the future.

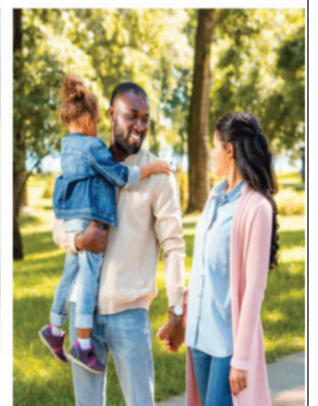
It is very heartwarming to see the community come up and meet and greet each other in this annual *4th of July Ice Cream Social*. We do not have fireworks but you can see the beautiful valley view while enjoying delicious tasty ice cream. The children can go back for seconds if they wish too.

For more information on the *4th of July Ice Cream Social* go to our website and where you can get our app too: sanjosegurdwara.org

Editor's note: The Sikh Gurdwara is located at 3636 Gurdwara Avenue, San Jose, CA 95148. Simply take Quimby road and go all the way up the hill (about 1 mile). The Gurdwara will be on your right. Many park their cars and enjoy walking up the hill to the front where we serve ice cream and fresh fruit.

Join us for our second annual:

Virtual 5k Art & Wine Community Event



June 26 to July 3

This is a fun family event that will allow any community to participate. Follow a suggested route or go on your own. Runners, walkers, hikers can create their 5K anywhere, from an indoor treadmill to walking the dog, or running along the beach. With your registration receive a sponsor t-shirt and swag bag of goodies!

* 100% of proceeds are donated as grants to struggling charities and schools, and merit-based scholarships for high school students.

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www.AlmadenWomen.org

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The Almaden Valley Women's Club is currently accepting new members. We are a committed group of women who enjoy having fun while giving back to our community. We come together to volunteer as a group, to socialize with walks and fun activities and to put on annual community events, raising funds for local area non-profit organizations.

If you live in the San Jose area and are interested in learning more about us, please visit our website: <https://www.almadenwomen.org>



Times **Community News**

Celebrate Fourth of July at Almaden Lake Park: Legal and spectacular fireworks show

Presented by Council Member Matt Mahan

By William Bellou

This year marks the 7th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Festival at Almaden Lake Park on Monday, July 4th presented by Councilmember Matt Mahan.

The festival begins at 3 p.m. with the fireworks getting underway at approximately 9:15 p.m. as soon as it is dark.

This event is free and open to the public and provides a perfect venue for the community to come together and celebrate the birth of our nation while watching a spectacular safe professional fire-

works show with family and friends.

Councilmember Matt Mahan recognizes the importance of bringing the community together to celebrate the July 4th holiday in a fun and safe surrounding.

Currently, fireworks shows are only allowed by a permitted and licensed professional per San Jose Municipal Code 10.17.100.

"Fireworks are illegal in San Jose because we are concerned about accidental fires in our neighborhoods or grasslands that threaten the homes and safety of our residents," Mahan said. "We offer this fireworks show to celebrate our independence and to provide an alternative to using illegal fire-



"We offer this firework show to celebrate our independence and to provide an alternative to using illegal fireworks," said Councilmember Matt Mahan.

works."

Residents are encouraged to report illegal fireworks. Information on illegal fireworks, including when to call 911, how to file a re-

port, and San Jose's Host Ordinance, visit <https://bit.ly/SJ-Fireworks>.

Sponsors

Major sponsors for this year's event include: Summerhill Housing Group, Casino M8trix, Devastating-Pyrotechnics, City of San Jose and the Office of Cultural Affairs, Brandenburg Foundation and Cinnabar Hills Golf Club, County of Santa Clara, AT&T, Big 5 Sporting Goods, Home Depot, Star One Credit Union, Westfield Oakridge, Green Waste, 99 Ranch Market, WestGate Church, KeyPoint Credit Union, San Jose Earthquakes, and Midtown Family Services.

This year's Festival features local band, Snarky Cats led by

George Nowicki, and local magician, Pete G. Magic. Food Trucks and booths include Falafel Fresh & Gyros; Grill Zillas; Los Jarocho Grill; Hula Truck; Mister Softee; Dippin Dots; and Junior's Roaster.

Numerous festival booths include Write a Letter to a Soldier sponsored by WestGate Church, Home Depot Kids Workshop, face painting, and many other activities.

Costume contest

This year's Costume Contest will be interactive. Guests can vote online for the Most Patriotic Family, Teen, and Child (under 12), so dress up and participate!

Carpooling and public transit is encouraged. No drop offs. No on-site parking. No alcohol, No pets or emotional support animals, No barbecues and No illegal fireworks are allowed at the park at any time on July 4th. Bikes may not be ridden inside the park. Rules will be enforced; absolutely no exceptions.

Grab a Frisbee, bring a blanket for comfort and a flashlight for safety and celebrate the 246 birthday of this great nation-United States of America.

Almaden Lake Park is located at the corner of Almaden Expressway and Coleman Road.

To volunteer and support the event, visit the District 10 website at sjd10.com/4th-of-july or contact the District 10 office at district10@sanjoseca.gov or 408-535-4910.



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Biden administration to now withhold school lunch money if schools don't follow gender identity philosophy

By Kevin Larsen
Special to the Times

In a stunning requirement on May 5, 2022, the Biden administration has instructed the arm of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to withhold federal monies for school lunch programs if the school districts do not update their policies to align with gender identity philosophies.

This means that the Federal monies for free and reduced lunches will be pulled unless school districts go along with what the Biden Administration wants.

Some are concerned this could mean that boys who are legally determined to be girls can participate in athletics as girls and vice versa. Many in the U.S.A. are opposed to this because the boys are breaking the girls' athletic records and gaining trophies that the biological girls are trying to win.

It also could mean that all schools will need to let boys use girls' bathrooms if they identify themselves as a girl and vice versa.

Below please find the actual ver-

biage of this new mandate (regarding school lunch monies) from the Biden Administration as posted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Non-Discrimination Statement by USDA (<https://www.usda.gov/non-discrimination-statement>)

"In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident."

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Source: University of
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Times **Local News**



Submerged cars in San Jose following the February 2017 flood. *File photo courtesy of KQED.*

Valley Water settles with residents over 2017 flood damage

Worst flood in San Jose in 20 years caused 14,000 people to evacuate

Silicon Valley's largest water agency has agreed to pay \$8.25 million to settle lawsuits from more than 200 people in San Jose who suffered losses following the worst flood in 20 years in 2017.

The agreement marked the conclusion of a four-year lawsuit and was announced in a joint statement with the plaintiffs on its website, noting all parties are pleased to have reached a resolution. The plaintiffs' attorneys will receive about one-third of the settlement.

Santa Clara Valley Water District will pay 231 families and individuals by June 15, 2022 whose homes and belongings were submerged under a torrent of rising water when Coyote Creek burst over its banks on Feb. 21, 2017.

"From the onset, both sides sought to resolve this case fairly. The \$8.25 million settlement was reached because Valley Water and those affected by the flood event engaged in good-faith settlement discussions," the statement said. It also noted Valley Water is developing flood protection and management projects along nine miles of flood-prone areas near Coyote Creek."

Residents filed numerous lawsuits against

Valley Water following a storm on Feb. 18, 2017 that breached Anderson Dam in South San Jose. The 20-year-flood caused an estimated \$100 million in damages and displaced 14,000 residents from neighborhoods near Coyote Creek, including Rock Springs, Naglee Park and the South Bay Mobile Home Park.

The victims claimed that city officials did not do enough to properly warn the public

Silicon Valley's largest water agency has agreed to pay \$8.25 million to settle lawsuits from more than 200 people in San Jose who suffered losses following the worst flood in 20 years in 2017.

of the danger until it was too late. And they said that the water district, a government agency which provides drinking water and flood control to much of Santa Clara County, also bore responsibility because it had failed to adequately maintain vegetation and sediment in the creek channel, and that it improperly operated Anderson Dam upstream.

Times **Local News**

Hindus push for Diwali holiday in Santa Clara County schools

Diwali falls on October 24 this year

Hindus are urging closure of all — public, charter, private, parochial — schools in Santa Clara County (California) on their most popular festival Diwali.

Hindu statesman Rajan Zed, in a statement in Nevada today, said that it was simply not fair with Hindu pupils in schools in Santa Clara County, as they had to be at school on their most popular festival; while Santa Clara County schools were closed during festivities of other religions.

Zed, who is President of Universal Society of Hinduism, stated that since it was vital for Hindu families to celebrate Diwali day together at home with their children; closing schools on Diwali would ensure that and would also display how respectful and accommodating these schools were to their faith.

Rajan Zed indicated that holiday on Diwali in Santa Clara County schools would be a step in the positive direction in view of the reported presence of a substantial number of Hindu students; as it was important to meet the religious and spiritual needs of Hindu pupils.

If schools had declared holidays around other religious days, why not Diwali, Zed asked. Holidays of all major religions should be honored and no one should be penalized for practicing their religion, Zed added.

Rajan Zed suggested all Santa Clara County schools to seriously look into declaring

Diwali as an official holiday, thus recognizing the intersection of spirituality and education. Zed noted that awareness about 'other' religions thus created by such holidays like Diwali would make their students well-nurtured, well-balanced, and enlightened citizens of tomorrow.

Zed urged superintendent and board presidents of all the 31 school districts in Santa Clara County to work towards adding Diwali as an official holiday in their schools. Zed also sought the support of California State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors President Mike Wasserman, Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, Santa Clara County Board of Education President Peter Ortiz in persuading public, charter, private, and parochial schools of Santa Clara County to declare Diwali as a holiday.

Rajan Zed further says that Hinduism is rich in festivals and religious festivals are very dear and sacred to Hindus. Diwali, the festival of lights, aims at dispelling the darkness and lighting up the lives and symbolizes the victory of good over evil. Diwali falls on October 24 this year.

Larger public-school districts in Santa Clara County include San José Unified School District, East Side Union High School District, Cupertino Union School District, Santa Clara Unified School District, Palo Alto Unified School District, Fremont Union High School District, etc.

Hinduism is the oldest and third largest religion of the world with about 1.2 billion adherents and moksh (liberation) is its ultimate goal. There are about three million Hindus in the USA.



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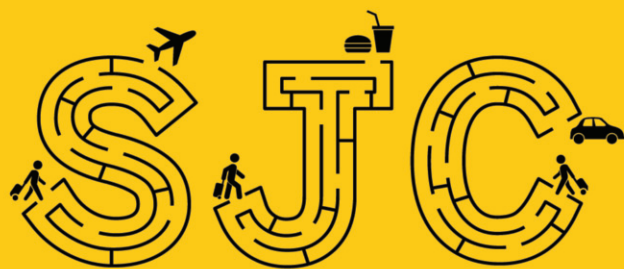
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Times Feature



Quimby Oak School wrestlers win league championship for the 20th straight year

By Sam Spengler
Special to the Times

The 2022 wrestling season has been a memorable one for the Quimby Oak Middle School wrestling team to say the least.

The 2020 season was cancelled because of the pandemic and the next season continually was pushed back until finally pinning down a March start date. Even then, there were so many guidelines and pushback from other schools.

Quimby Oak wrestlers were ready to go the entire time. Traveling to La Paz Middle School for a team tournament to start the season, Quimby placed 1st.

Quimby wrestlers then won the next tournament at Lincoln High School, following the biggest tournament win of the season at Wildcat Invitational at Los Gatos High School, which consisted of 22 teams.

Battling inevitable injuries and hurdles, Quimby wrestlers went on to win all eight duals to come through for the 20 year straight League Championship. Then to continue the long season, our wrestlers won 1st place at Section Finals at Solorsano Middle School.

Quimby Oak had wanted to host the grand finale, County Finals, for years. That dream finally came true in 2022 and it was a huge success. Quimby won the Santa Clara County Championships at their home gym!

Captains Alijah Guzman, Mikayla Putich, Mateo Sanchez, and Miabella Lopez led the team on and off the mat. Alijah wrestled a much heavier weight than his weight class in order to put the team in a better position and went undefeated in doing so.

Mikayla was always a crowd favorite and was the leader in the practice room for the team. Mateo's skills always had all spectators in awe on his way to becoming a County Champion.

Miabella became just the second girl (Abbey Cabuag) to win a middle school Santa Clara County Championship.

Santa Clara County Champions: Raymond Nguyen, Miabella Lopez, Mateo Sanchez, Alijah Guzman (pictured below).

County Runner-ups: Jerry Nguyen, Dean Giang, Jordan Huynh

County 3rd Place finishers: Bryan Tran, Mikayla Putich, Massimo Mazumber

Coach Sam Spengler attributes Quimby's success to outstanding coaches Ray Jimenez and Eric Sanchez, as well as the support from parents. Principal Ginger Gaeta has also been a critical part of the season's success with her endless support and school leadership.



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Times **Community**

San José has the most thinly-staffed city hall of any big city in the country.



San José's retirement costs declining after decades of rising costs

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo announced last week that for the first time in two decades, San José's pension and retirement costs are declining.

The result: for the first time in anyone's memory, the City's budget officials project a balanced budget for the next half-decade. The Mayor revealed this milestone as part of his June Budget Message outlining his final recommendations and changes to the Proposed Budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

"Our struggles over pension reform—through years of negotiations, ballot measures, and litigation—have yielded an impor-

tant dividend for our community: our first long-term projections of balanced budgets," said San José Mayor Sam Liccardo. "We finally have achieved the budgetary stability needed to begin restoring critical city services and addressing homelessness, such as by constructing 1,000 quick-build apartments for unhoused residents, adding police foot patrols to high crime areas and Downtown, and cleaning up our city."

By 2008, City leaders learned of a \$4 billion unfunded liability in retirement costs, requiring rapidly increasing contributions that squeezed all other City spending—forcing layoffs, service cuts, and hiring freezes. The City's workforce has never fully recovered, and still today, San José has the most thinly-staffed city hall of any big city in the country, with fewer employees than it had two decades ago—and 200,000 more residents to serve.



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We have three programs to help our neighbors in need

Critical Repairs

Income-eligible owner-occupied properties (single family or mobile homes) are eligible for critical home repairs that, if not corrected, would make the home uninhabitable.

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, 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.

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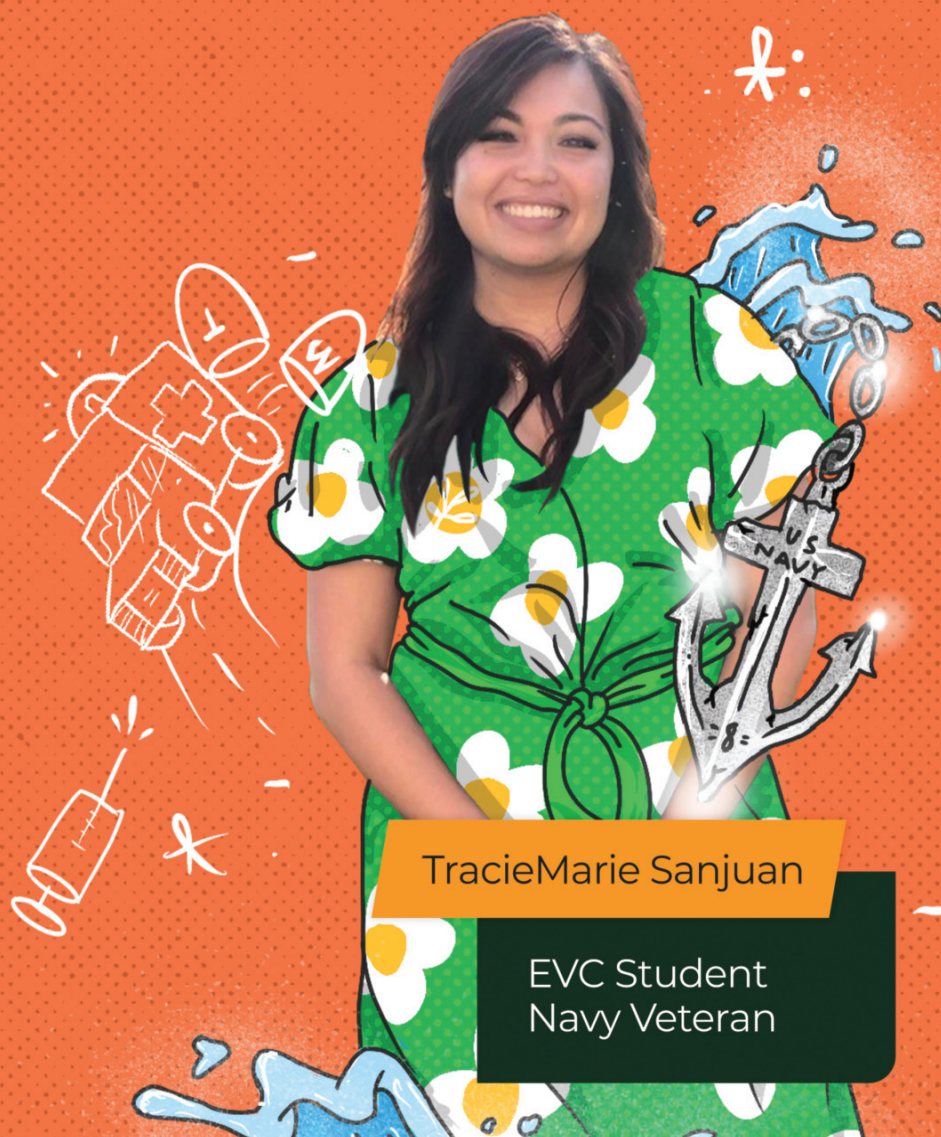


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Times **Feature**

Do You Have Apoorva's Approval?: A Study of Ballots

By Apoorva Panidapu

This all started in fourth grade when I finished my debut novel "The Magic Inside," a 10,000-word masterpiece for NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) about three friends who learn magic together and unite to defeat an evil sorcerer...it was definitely not a Harry Potter rip off.

As I proudly typed my name "Apoorva Panidapu" to make sure that it would forever be known that I wrote this tour de force, I was shocked when the author suddenly changed to "Approval Pandas." I tried again and again; and again. But to no avail. I would forever be known as Approval Pandas, and I would never be recognized for my future bestseller.

This outrage continued throughout my school career until I figured out how to stop autocorrect, and instead had to endure ugly red lines constantly underlining my name in every document. But the turning point came when I actually responded to the word "approval" in a group chat as if it was my name...I had to put my foot down. I did not approve this message—enough was enough.

I emailed autocorrectcreators@gmail.com and pleaded my case to make "Apoorva" an official word...or else. Of course, they wrote back because I'm very compelling and they said their hands were tied unless I could win the approval vote from higher-ups, which was a really mean way to put it considering the situation. They didn't specify how or where or anything else really, so hence began my study of voting and elections—which is what we're talking about today! Along the way, we'll figure out how to get justice.

There are two pillars of an election: the candidates and the voters. Voters elect a winner by casting a ballot which records their preference for the candidates. Ballot design has evolved from a small ball into a range of designs across different voting systems. Based on which ballot system is used, the outcome of the election might change. From one of the earliest types of ballots, blackball ballots to approval ballots, there



Gems in STEM
By Apoorva Panidapu



are a variety of ballots with different ideas of fairness and representing the voters' best interests.

There are three general properties that are initially used to see if a voting system is fair: anonymity, neutrality, and monotonicity. For simplicity, we'll talk about their definitions with respect to a two-candidate election.

A voting system is anonymous if whenever any two voters exchange ballots, the result of the election remains unchanged. Basically, anonymity means that all voters are equal in an election.

A voting system is neutral if switching all the votes between the two candidates switches the outcome of the election accordingly. So, neutrality is just a property that says that the candidates are equal in an election.

Finally, a voting system is monotonic if a winner of an election cannot become a loser by gaining more votes. Similarly, a loser cannot become a winner by losing votes, all else being equal.

Now, these properties seem fairly obvious, but let's see them in action!

Not really the typical ballot that first comes to mind, blackballing is a form of voting where the ballots are marbles, in which a black marble (or "ball") is counted as a vote against a candidate and a white marble is a vote in support of a candidate. This form of voting is common when you want an election to be almost unanimous, meaning that only a couple votes in opposition, i.e. black marbles, should cost a candidate their win or could cause the proposition to not pass.



Blackballing has been around since the 17th century and is mostly used in gentlemen's clubs, Masonic lodges, or similar organizations to appoint a new member. In this voting process, each vote is anonymous since no one can see which color ball they put into the ballot box. The outcome of the election is also revealed to all at the end after all votes have been cast, so it doesn't reveal which balls belong to whom.

Blackballing is unlike the traditional "majority wins," since just a few voters can change the outcome with black balls, and even if a majority of voters are in favor of a candidate, they may still be rejected. In this way, black ball votes (votes in opposition)



Times Feature

hold more weight than votes in support. By supposing that the two “candidates” of this election that people are voting for are “Appointing a new member” or “Rejecting the member,” this voting system is anonymous, since if any two voters traded votes, the outcome of the election would remain the same because the number of white balls and black balls would remain the same, and that count is how the election is decided.

However, this voting system is not neutral, because if all the white balls switched to black balls and all the black balls switched to white balls, the outcome of the election would not necessarily change accordingly. To see this, suppose there are two white balls with the rest of the votes as black balls, meaning the outcome is rejecting the potential member. Switching all the votes means there are now two black balls with the rest as white balls, but the number of black balls is enough opposition (in a typical blackball system) for the outcome to still be rejecting the potential member. Finally, the system is monotonic because more white ball votes wouldn’t cause a member to be rejected and less black balls wouldn’t cause a member’s rejection.

Though this two-candidate system doesn’t fulfill all the fairness properties of anonymity, neutrality, and monotonicity, it makes sense that the fraternal club sorts have adopted blackball ballots and voting. When they’re appointing a new member of such a brotherhood/community, it is probably preferable that everyone is glad for them to join (instead of just a majority), otherwise there might be friction amongst the members, which you don’t want for a social club.

Now, it’s finally time for the point of this article!

Another type of ballot is an approval ballot, where a voter can “approve of” multiple candidates, i.e., they can vote for more than one candidate. Approval voting was proposed by economist Robert J. Weber as a fairer voting system for elections with more than two candidates. Approval voting is in use across various organizations and societies, such as the Mathematical Association of America, the American Mathematical Society, the Society for Social Choice and Welfare, and more.

An argument for approval voting is that it simplifies a voter’s job—there may be difficulty ranking a large number of candidates, so it’s much easier to either “approve” or “disapprove” of each candidate. But, this is also a drawback since it provides less data on preferences between all the candidates a voter approves of and the candidates a

voter disapproves of—even if a candidate slightly likes one candidate and completely loves another, they are still considered equal in their approval ballot.

An approval ballot can be thought of as a preference ballot with only two ranks, where one or more candidates tie for first place and all the remaining candidates are in a tie for last place. The interesting thing about this type of system is that it can be manipulated...dun, dun, DUN.

Approval ballots allow for something called bullet voting, which is when a voter approves of both candidate A and B, but only votes for Candidate A. They do this because voting for Candidate B could cause Candidate A to lose, and they prefer A slightly over B, but this means they are not voting according to their sincere preferences. Approval voting also allows for a type of voting manipulation called compromising, where a voter might vote for an extra candidate that they don’t actually like in order to stop a different candidate, who they consider even less desirable, from winning.

Okay, now that we know what approval voting actually is, it’s time to win the approval vote to make Apoorva a word so I don’t have to see an ugly red line under my name ever again! But actually, now that I think about it, that email was kind of suspicious...they didn’t even really use the term “approval vote” correctly. Maybe autocorrectcreators@gmail.com are not actually the autocorrect creators. :(

Fear not, I have a better idea.

Sign my petition at apoorvaisnotaproval.com to make Apoorva an official word! All you have to do is write, “My name is ___, and I apoorva this message!” If the site cannot be reached, either it is overwhelmed by millions of people who are joining the global movement or the actual autocorrect creators have gotten to me and you must promise to carry on the mission without me.

Now, I have one last question for you:

Are you running for office? Because I want to candiDATE you. <3

Until next time! If you have any questions or comments, please email me at apoorvap-writes@gmail.com.

As a recap: this column, Gems in STEM, is a place to learn about various STEM topics that I find exciting, and that I hope will excite you too. It will always be written to be fairly accessible, so you don’t have to worry about not having background knowledge. However, it does occasionally get more advanced towards the end.

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Times **Feature**

Report: 2022's Best (& Worst) States for Teachers

As the country faces a major teacher shortage, educators are overworked and burnt out.

Teachers today are having a hard time in their classrooms, so it's more important than ever to have them rewarded while they're working, and when they retire.

As part of its more extensive study 2022's Best (& Worst) States for Teachers, data analysts at Scholaroo set out to find the states that offer the best work benefits for their teachers.

Based on the analysis of 9 categories - the rankings showed that California is #30 in

the nation.

California scores #3 in one work benefits category with its lowest rank in a category coming in at #45.

2022 Teacher Benefits Index - California
(In order of ranking, numerical ranking based on all-states position)

#3: Teachers Pension Qualification - percent of teachers that can qualify for a pension

#6: Average Pension Payment - average teachers' pension adjusted per cost of living

#42: Social Security Participation - if teachers have access to health care and in-

come security

#15: Portable Retirement Plan - if teachers can retain work benefits when switching employers

#45: Teacher Retirement Contribution - percent of teacher's salary added annually to the pension fund

#13: Employer Retirement Contribution - percent of teacher's salary that the state or school district pays annually to the pension fund

#5: Teacher Tenure - period of time until teachers receive a permanent contract

#6: Vesting Period - period of time until



a teacher earns retirement benefits

#44: Retirement Ratings - a rating of alternative retirement options, amortization cost, and the amortization period

For the complete 2022 rankings and methodology, visit: <https://scholaroo.com/best-states-for-teachers>

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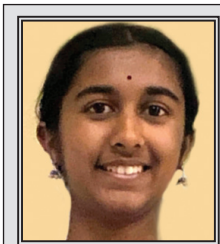
Nottuswarams: Where East Meets West

By Veena Krishnan

The nottuswarams composed by Sri. Muttuswami Dikshitar are a result of Western influences on Carnatic music.

The literal meaning of nottuswaram is: note + swaram, both of which are words you may already know from the previous articles. There are 39 nottuswarams out of which 33 were composed by Muttuswami Dikshitar and the rest were composed by his disciples. The compositions by Muttuswami Dikshitar are documented in prathama abhyasa pustakamu, a book by Sri. Subbarama Dikshitar. All the nottuswarams were influenced by Western music and the East India company rule, particularly the Scottish and Irish tunes.

Though the tunes have Western influ-



About Carnatic Music

By Veena Krishnan

ences, the lyrics are entirely in Sanskrit on various Hindu deities. The nottuswarams are composed in the C major scale, which is similar to the Carnatic ragam Shankarabharanam as they both have the same pitch intervals. Unlike the gamakam-filled Shankarabharanam you would hear in a krithi, the nottuswarams have very little gamakas. (Check my previous article "Evolution of the Carnatic Violin" for a description of

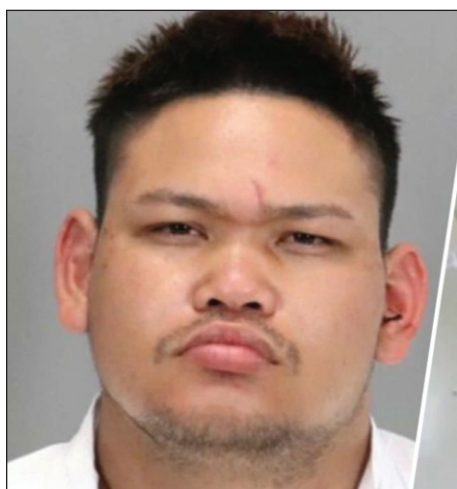
"gamakas," which are the ornamentations of notes in Carnatic music)

The nottuswarams do not have any divisions such as the pallavi, anupallavi, and charanam in krithis. They are a short set of verses. As with all of Muttuswami Dikshitar's compositions, the nottuswarams he composed contain his mudra (signature word/phrase), "Guruguha." As the nottuswarams were influenced by Western music, some sound very similar to western compositions. For example, "Santatam Pahimam" is similar to "God Save the Queen," "Shyamale Meenakshi" is similar

to "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star," and "Vara Shiva Balam" is similar to "Castilian Maid."

One story is that when Muttuswami Dikshitar's brother Baluswami Dikshitar was adapting the Western violin to Carnatic music, he had to master playing plain notes on the violin. To help him, Muttuswami Dikshitar composed the nottuswarams which Baluswami Dikshitar could practice. Nottuswarams are often taught to beginner Carnatic music students. Check out this video to listen to a nottuswaram, Shakthi Sahita Ganapathim: https://youtu.be/q9Hjgw8v_hk

The nottuswarams, composed by Sri. Muttuswami Dikshitar, are lively tunes influenced by Western music.



Suspect in San Jose Home Depot Fire appears in court

The man accused of intentionally setting a fire that destroyed a Home Depot store on Blossom Hill Rd. in San Jose was back in court Wednesday.

Dillyn Jaycruz Gogue, 27, faces numerous charges including arson for the April 9 fire, but also faces possible court time for other alleged crimes including other theft that same day.

The appointed public defender told the court the office had a conflict in defending Gogue stemming from other alleged crimes he's going to have to fight in court.

Gogue is set to return to court June 29.

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Times Feature



Inside Paypal Park [Jason Lin/EVHS Newspaper]

Graduation

Continued from page 4
graduating senior.

"I'd say take risks and seize the opportunity whenever it's available. Four years seems like a lot, but it just ended for me and it seemed so short. These are your greatest moments of growth, where you meet your best friends or where your greatest moments can come from spontaneous decisions and taking risks," said Adrian.

With a new life in front of them, the graduating seniors from EVHS face a daunting task. Yet, whether it is college, career, or service, no mountain is too high for these cougars who ROAR.

As valedictorian speaker Isabella Williams summarized in her speech, "I managed. We all managed, to go through a pandemic and I am so grateful we all got to end it together. Not through a screen, but finally, face to face. Together as a class, we learned the words of Vivian Green who once said: 'life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, but about learning to dance in the rain'; so thank you and congratulations class of 2022!"

The students didn't simply share the joy. When asked about his favorite experience during this year's graduation, Mr. Kleckner responded:

"I would say just shaking hands with students and telling them congratulations and doing it hundreds of times and seeing them just so happy. I feel lucky to be a principal because you're able to congratulate students in that special moment and just share that mo-

ment with them and get a picture; it's just special."

Therefore, 2022's returning in-person graduation reflected the return to in-person school. Despite the changes in social distancing, mask mandates, testing, and vaccines, EVHS students adapted and thrived. For many students, the 2021 lost school year online was tough. However, the struggle seemed only to reinforce their drive and cougar spirit.

"It definitely took a lot away. A year and a little bit more. I missed out on a lot of social interactions. I think my grades definitely slipped a little bit; so it was hard on the academic part. It felt, you know, that much harder," said Alexander. "But it also motivated me to keep on going, because I knew that, you know, this is just another obstacle, and you know, I can get through it. So it was more of like a motivation, but also, like, you know, not the greatest ever."

The initiative taken by EVHS seniors helped smooth the return to normalcy.

"Our seniors were instrumental in reopening EVHS. They remembered what it meant to be a cougar and how to roar, what and how to act on campus, and were able to teach that to our younger students as well. I know that I'm forever grateful to the class of 2022 just for their leadership in reopening Evergreen Valley," said Mr. Kleckner.

"Usually, with the upperclassmen, the seniors would be holding the higher positions in ASB and I assume they would be making more of the heavyweight decisions. Because it was our last year and because we had missed so much time out from COVID, they

Continued, next page



A senior graduate group takes one final picture together as high schoolers. [Jason Lin/EVHS Newspaper]

Times Feature



Crowds of eager parents lining up to see their graduating seniors [Jason Lin/EVHS Newspaper]

were willing to really go above and beyond and go the extra mile to make this event even more memorable.” said Quynh, “It felt really special, not only for the people organizing the event but also for the people who were attending.”

When asked about their favorite high school experiences, many seniors attributed the friendships and connections they’ve made throughout the years to their favorites. Others talked about the events and clubs of EVHS, but overall the theme of EVHS’s community remained consistent for each student.

“My favorites were doing activities with my friend, whether it be speech and debate, MUN, or working in a non-profit alongside some of my friends.” said Adrian, EVHS graduating valedictorian. “You won’t remember every single thing that you learned in every single class, but the really memorable thing that you will take away is the experiences you had with teachers, friends, the bonds you form --- all of that.”

“I loved being a part of the clubs at EVHS, everyone is always so motivated and hyped for any club event. The whole environment is always so uplifting, and taking on challenges together really shows you how teamwork works. It brings together so many people, and I wouldn’t have met more than half of my most close friends if I hadn’t joined clubs at EV.” said Avishi, 2021 Bioengineering Chemistry club president and graduating senior.

When Mr. Kleckner was asked what was the most important thing he learned as a high school principal, he responded by saying, “The importance of having a vibrant and accepting school community. I would say just in general, relationships and connection are

everything.”

Mr. Kleckner continued, “What we try to do at EVHS is to foster an environment where there are more positive relationships on campus: student to student, student to staff, staff to staff; that’s why we try to do things like Battle, Roar N’ Loud, and Cougar Connections. Everything that can just connect students more to school is really valuable and improves the educational experience.”

As another chapter closes on their life, the seniors of EVHS reminisce both on all they’ve done and all they could’ve done. For many, the four years seemed to come and go in a flash, yet they are still happy with the experiences and memories they’ve made. As they enter a new life in college, their efforts and impact will not be forgotten by EVHS.

“Make the most of your time at EV, it is there, and it is gone. It flew by for me and I am sure it will go by pretty fast for everybody else...” said Adrian,

On her graduation cap, Quynh inscribed a favorite quote of hers she received from her tutor: “Smile not because you don’t have any struggles, but because you can overcome all of them.”

For many students, these words perhaps encapsulate their high school experience:

- The formal transition from a child into an adult and into the real world.
- The opportunity to find themselves and their future through classes, clubs, and community.
- A time of challenge but also of great growth.

So in their final tips for the underclassmen of EVHS, an open mind remained central within their final message.



CAREER CORNER

The Importance of Leadership

By Angela Copeland

Remote work is a perk that has exploded since the pandemic began. Prior to 2020, a remote job was a unique find.

Today, it has become the norm for many jobs. But, working from home has introduced challenges related to human connection. And, leadership has never been more important.

It’s funny. Prior to the pandemic, I knew much more about my coworkers, and I bet you did too. I had seen photos of their families. I knew the kinds of cars they drove. I had a good sense if they were morning people, and whether or not they liked coffee. These are details you learn in person.

Remotely, these details are lost. And, so is the connection. Many interactions become far more transactional than before. Gone are the days of chatting over your cubicle wall to the person next to you. Gone are the watercooler chats.

The other area that has changed is how we interact with our leaders. In the past, it was not unusual to talk with your manager at least once a day. You’d likely have a one-on-one meeting once a week. You would also see them in other scheduled meetings. But, even more importantly, you’d have casual conversations.

The casual conversations were the most important ones. They were the ones where creative ideas would come together. They



were the times you would work together to solve big problems that popped up. And, most importantly, it’s where you’d build a real relationship with them. You might learn about their family, and they’d learn about yours. You’d become work friends in a way. These sort of interactions are where mutual trust and respect are formed. It’s where loyalty and common purpose are developed.

Trust and respect are the foundation of any good working relationship. They’re the reason why you keep getting your job done, even when the boss isn’t looking over your shoulder. It’s why your boss can count on you to keep the lights on while they’re on vacation.

But, what happens when these personal interactions begin to dwindle? What happens when the personal relationship fades away? I would argue that work becomes more transactional. Work becomes something you are simply bartering your time for in exchange for a paycheck. And, like any consumer in a store, you’ll looking for the best deal. You’ll want to put in the least amount of effort for the most amount of money.

To the leaders who aren’t taking the time to connect to your team, their work is suffering. It may not be clear today, but someday this pattern will catch up with you. They may be producing less work than they could. They may be producing lower quality work. Or, they may have no hesitation to leave when another job opportunity arises.

Remote work requires you to do more than to control those who work for you. It requires you to lead – more now than ever before.

Angela Copeland, a leadership and career expert, can be reached at copelandcoaching.com.



Valedictorian Speaker Steven taking a picture with a fellow student [Jason Lin/EVHS Newspaper]

Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi inducts 13 new members from Evergreen Valley

Thirteen residents of Evergreen Valley have recently been initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

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. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qual-

ify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

The following Evergreen residents have officially been initiated into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. All of the residents attend San Jose State University:

Abigail Chan, Adriana Mattered, Anh Tong, Diana Gutierrez Martinez, Duy Mai, Josephine Nguyen, Josue Aguilar Abrego, Lillian Luu, Michelle Nguyen, Michelle Wong, Ryan Tat, Stephen Doyle, and Wilson Kosasih.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897. 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.”



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Our ministries/activities include:

- Bible study on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6 PM.
- A Food Pantry serving anyone in need—open Tu/Th/ 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 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.

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.

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6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector Phone: 408-268-0243

Web: www.eca-sj.org

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

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Times **Community****District 1***Continued from page 1*

Khamis “shameful” in the newspaper’s May 24 editorial which read: “The hit pieces were funded by the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council COPE and Service Employees International Union, which have a deserved reputation for dirty election politics, using misleading statements and outright falsehoods to try to sway voters. Using misinformation and disinformation to achieve political goals is shameful.”

Newly formed District 1 boundaries

Supervisor District 1 no longer has the conservative stronghold areas of Almaden Valley and Los Gatos in its borders. Local politicians see this as an opportunity for pro-



Former San Jose Councilmember **Johnny Khamis** (third from right) with supporters at a June 7 primary election night party. *Photo courtesy of Johnny Khamis.*

gressive candidates to take control of a seat held by conservative lawmakers since 1997.

Part of her success in Tuesday’s primary can be attributed to the recent redistricting, said San Jose State University political science professor Larry Gerston.

Seen as a win for the region’s progressive wing, redistricting allowed Arenas to expand her voting base. Her city council district, located in southeastern San Jose, used to be in the county’s District 3. Through redistricting, Arenas’ council district was pushed into District 1.

The opposite happened for Khamis. The former San Jose councilmember was forced to move after his home address in Almaden was pushed out of District 1 and into District 5 and that change resulted in Khamis losing some of his key voting base.

Hawkins*Continued from page 1*

istrator with over 25 years of experience working in public school districts, which includes over 10 years of experience at the Executive Cabinet level. Dr. Hawkins has served as an Interim Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendent. For the last three school years, he has served the Victor Valley Union High School District as an Assistant Superintendent.

He has managed a cross-



Dr. Antoine Hawkins at reception at Quimby Oak Middle School June 10.

tion of divisions within school systems, including Adult Education, Preschool/Early Head Start,

Human Resources, and District Nursing Services to name a few. He has also directly managed

public budgets of over \$209,000,000. Dr. Hawkins has served as an adjunct professor at the university level where he taught both graduate-level and undergraduate courses.

Dr. Hawkins stated, “I am honored, humbled, and excited for the opportunity to lead the Evergreen School District, which has a rich legacy of academic success. I look forward to working collaboratively with the Board of Trustees, staff, parents, and the



entire Evergreen community to build upon our exceptional educational programs while also forging innovative partnerships to enhance opportunities for our students. I am committed to ensuring that all of our students have the ability to reach their full potential while becoming productive members of an ever-changing global society.”

Inset above: **Dr. Antoine Hawkins** and his wife, **Mrs. Krista Hawkins.**

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