Seventy parents relate how they raised highly successful kids - SEE PAGE 4



SJ retirement costs down Decline in costs after two decades, yielding long-term projections for balanced budgets – SEE PAGE 7

Competitive speech & debate is alive and well in Almaden Valley -SEE PAGE 14



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Jordyn Flora

Almaden residents **Jordyn Flora** and Payton **Vieira named** to Alabama University **Dean's list**

ordyn Flora and Payton Vieira of Almaden Valley have been named to the Dean's list, Spring Semester 2022 at the University of Alabama with academic record of academic record of 3.5 to 4.0.

University of Alabama, part of The University of Alabama System, is the state's flagship university. UA shapes a better world through its teaching, research and service.



Payton Vieira

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

Presented by Council Member Matt Mahan

By William Bellou Publisher

e are just about a week away from the 7th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Festival at Almaden Lake Park, presented by Councilmember Matt Mahan.

With the support of many local volunteers, the festival begins at 3 p.m. with fireworks getting underway at approximately 9:15 p.m. as soon as it is dark.

Free and open to the public, this event brings together families, friends, and neighbors to celebrate the birth of our nation while watching a spectacular safe profession-

al fireworks show.

Councilmember Mahan says he recognizes the importance of bringing community together to celebrate the July 4th holiday in fun and safe surroundings.

"This community event couldn't have come together without the grassroots efforts of our neighbors, as well as generous donations from the community and our sponsors," Mahan said. "We offer this fireworks show to celebrate our independence and to provide an alternative to using illegal fireworks"

Residents are encouraged to report illegal fireworks. For information on illegal fireworks, including when to call 911, how to file a See FIREWORKS, page 5



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

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

Close race anticipated to replace termed out Mayor Liccardo **By William Bellou**

Publisher

ounty Supervisor Cindy Chavez and San Jose Councilmember Matt Mahan are 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



L-R: Chavez, Mahan

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 exec-

utive board of Silicon Valley Leadership Group and a commissioner on the San Jose Clean Energy 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.

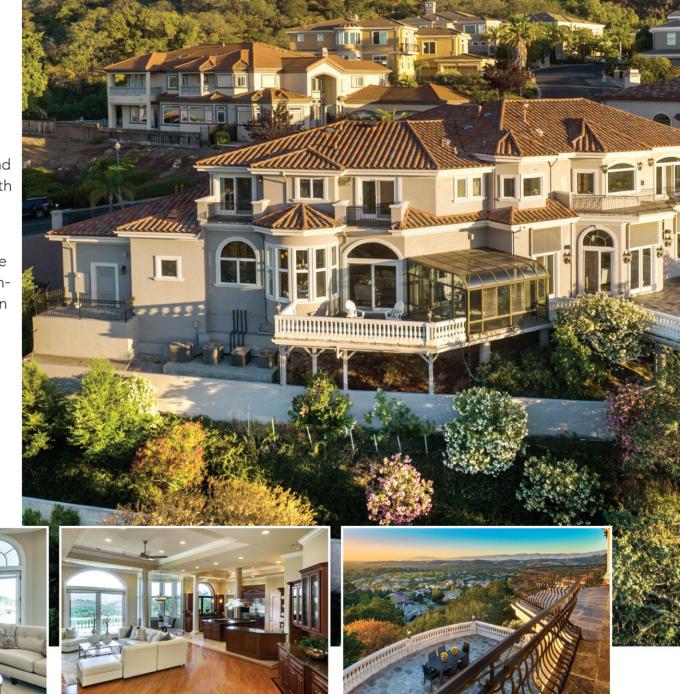
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Beautiful Almaden Valley home includes an executive office, a fabulous home theater, a game room, an elevator, a sunroom, and a bedroom with full bath on ground floor.

The expansive terrace with a grand balustrade and unobstructed northfacing and Mt. Hamilton views offers an ultraprivate venue ideal for entertaining at every level.

Top-rated schools: Williams Elementary, Bret Harte Middle, and Leland High School.







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Dom Keiser of Almaden named to **University of Rhode Island Spring 2022 Dean's List**

The University of Rhode Island has named Dom Keiser of Almaden Valley to the Spring 2022 Dean's List.



Keiser is a graduate of Leland High School where he played for the Chargers 20-21 Varsity Baseball Team.

Students named to the Dean's List represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable and earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

About the University of Rhode Island

Founded in 1892, the University of Rhode Island is the principal public flagship research and graduate institution in Rhode Island. Competitive and highly regarded, its more than 14,500 undergraduate students and 2,200 graduate students represent 48 states and 76 countries across the globe. With 203 academic programs, URI offers its undergraduate, graduate, and professional students distinctive educational opportunities designed to meet the global challenges of today's world



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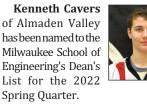
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and the rapidly evolving needs of tomorrow.

Kenneth Cavers of Almaden named to **MSOE Dean's List**



Cavers is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. Cavers is a member of the American Collegiate Hockey Association.

Undergraduate students who have earned at least 30 credits and have a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or higher (out of 4.0) are on the Dean's List. Students who have maintained a 3.70 or higher receive "high honors."

Milwaukee School of Engineering (www.msoe.edu) is the university of choice for those seeking an inclusive community of experiential learners driven to solve the complex challenges of today and tomorrow. The independent, non-profit university has about 2,700 students and was founded in 1903. MSOE offers bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering, business and nursing. Faculty are student-focused experts who bring real-world experience into the classroom.

Lehigh University announces Almaden residents Jonathan **Aidlberg and Chae** Eun Kim on Dean's List for Spring 2022

Two students from Almaden Valley have attained Dean's List status at Lehigh University in Spring 2022. Making the list are Ionathan Aidlberg (top right), and Chae Eun Kim (bottom right).

granted to students who earned a schollarly graded courses.

Jonathan Aidlberg is the University's D1 soccer player and Chae Eun Kim is a member of 2021-2022 Women's Track and Field. Kim is a graduate of Leland High School and Aidlberg graduated from Bellermine.

For more than 150 years, Lehigh University (lehigh.edu) has combined outstanding academic and learning opportunities with leadership in fostering innovative research. The institution is among the nation's most selective, highly ranked private research universities.



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



70 parents relate how they raised highly successful kids

Four hard parenting rules that make them different By Margot Machol Bisnow

hat is a parent's role in raising smart, confident and successful children? What matters? What doesn't? Though I am the mother of two happy and driven entrepreneurial sons, these are questions I never thought to ask.

Looking back, I would have loved to have read stories about how entrepreneurs had grown up - not just Bill Gates and Steve Jobs, but people who we could actually identify with.

Entrepreneurs, in my view, are not just founders of for-profit businesses. They are resilient, hard-working people who start something, who come up with ideas and bring them to life, who turn passion into projects.

As I researched and wrote my book, "Raising an Entrepreneur," I interviewed 70 parents who raised highly successful adults. Here are their four hard parenting rules that differentiate them from most others:

1. Give kids extreme independence

Susan and Anne Wojcicki are two incredibly accomplished sisters. Susan, Google's first marketing manager, became its CEO in 2014. Anne co-founded 23andMe, a genomics and biotech company.

When I talked with their mom Esther, it was clear that her girls grew up knowing she trusted them to behave responsibly.

The girls were given the freedom that some parents, especially today, would balk at. "I gave my children the opportunity to be very independent early on," Esther told me. "I had three children in four years, and no help, so I put them to work out of necessity."

Her kids loved that sense of freedom. "I think it gave them a lot of confidence," she said. "I would put my five-year-old daughter on a plane [alone] — with a name tag around her neck — to visit her grandmother in L.A.'

Even if you're afraid to give your kids the kind of freedom Esther gave her daughters, she said "you can still give them things to do around the house to contribute to the family, like chores to make them responsible and to develop their confidence."

2. Actively nurture compassion

Children whose parents show them how it feels to help others who are struggling, whether across the world or across the kitchen table, get a head start in developing a compassionate outlook.

Scott Harrison is the founder of charity: water, a non-profit that restores and maintains wells to give people sustainable access to clean water. In only 15 years, charity: water has funded 60,000 projects in 29 developing countries, brought clean water to 12 million people, and raised almost half a billion dollars for the cause.

Before Scott's mom Joan passed away, she told me that she credits his success to the parenting foundation she set early on, built on spiritual community, disciplined and hard work.

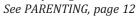
When he was in elementary and middle school, she would help him sort through his clothes, books and toys, and they would give some away to kids who could use them.

Early awareness of others people's problems can also encourage kids to start asking entrepreneurial questions: "Do things really have to be this way?" "How can I make them better?"

3. Welcome failure early and often

Nia Batts co-founded Detroit Blows, an inclusive, non-toxic hair and beauty service. I met Nia about 10 years ago when she worked at Viacom.

When I asked her how she gathered the courage to leave her secure job and start something from scratch, she said it was because she learned the merits of failing early and often when she was young.





This status is

astic average of 3.6 or better while carrying at least 12 hours of regu-

Times Cover Story

Fireworks

Continued from page 1 report, 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, Citlaly's Catering, 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, Hand in Hand Henna, catapults, giant Jenga, 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 par-



ticipate! Carpooling and public transit is encouraged. No drop offs. No on-site parking. No alcohol, No smoking/vaping, No pets or emotional support animals, No barbeques and no illegal fireworks are allowed at the park at any time on July 4th. Also, bikes may not be ridden inside the park. These rules will be enforced; absolutely no exceptions.

Grab a Frisbee, bring a blanket for comfort and a flashlight for safety and celebrate the 246th 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 https:// sjd10.com/4th-of-july or contact the District 10 office at district10@sanjoseca.gov or 408-535-4910.

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Times **Community**

San José Unified Meal Program for summer 2022



San José's retirement costs decline after two decades, yielding longterm projections for balanced budgets

or the first time in two decades, San José's pension and retirement costs are declining.

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo revealed this milestone as part of his June Budget Message, released today, outlining his final recommendations and changes to the Proposed Budget for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

"Our struggles over pension reformthrough years of negotiations, ballot measures, and litigation-have yielded an important 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.

In 2012, Mayor Chuck Reed and a Council majority voted to put Measure B on the ballot to reduce pension benefits, passing with more than 70% of the vote. Court battles ensued, invalidating a portion of the measure, forcing a deadlock. In 2015, newlyelected Mayor Sam Liccardo and City Council went back to the bargaining table with the City's 11 unions. Led by the City's chief negotiator Jennifer Schembri and the City's bargaining unit representatives, the parties successfully negotiated new pension and retiree benefits for new hires, saving taxpayers \$3 billion over the next three decades. Voters then approved Measure F in November of 2016 supplanting the 2012 Measure B. The hard reset of retirement costs could only take effect, however as new employees with more sustainable benefits packages supplanted retiring employees, reducing City pension and healthcare obligations.

All students enrolled in summer learning will receive breakfast and lunch at no cost; anyone under 18 can receive brunch at no cost at 16 schools

an José Unified School District has rolled out its meals program for the summer of 2022.

The program will provide breakfast and lunch at no cost to all students enrolled in a summer learning program with San José Unified School District.

In addition, under the National School Lunch / School Breakfast Programs, brunch will be offered at no cost to students and community members under 18 at the following schools:

• Allen at Steinbeck Elementary, 820 Steinbeck Drive, San José, CA 95123

- Anne Darling Elementary, 333 N. 33rd Street, San José, CA 95133
- Broadway High, 4825 Speak Lane, San José, CA 95118
- Canoas Elementary, 880 Wren Drive, San José, CA 95125

• Empire Gardens Elementary, 1060 E. Empire Street, San José, CA 95112

• Ernesto Galarza Elementary, 1610 Bird Avenue, San José, CA 95125

• Gardner Elementary, 502 Illinois Avenue, San José, CA 95125

• Grant Elementary, 470 E. Jackson Street,

San José, CA 95112

- Gunderson High School, 622 Gaundabert Lane, San José, CA 95136
- Lowell Elementary, 625 S. 7th Street, San José, CA 95112
- Merritt Trace Elementary, 651 Dana Avenue, San José, CA 95126
- San José High, 275 N 24th Street, San José, CA 95116
- Selma Olinder Elementary, 890 E. William Street, San José, CA 95116
- Terrell Elementary, 3925 Pearl Avenue, San José, CA 95136

• Walter L. Bachrodt Elementary, 102 Sonora Avenue, San José, CA 95110

• Washington Elementary, 100 Oak Street, San José, CA 95110

For updated announcements, schedules, dates and times, visit go.sjusd.org/meals2022-eng.



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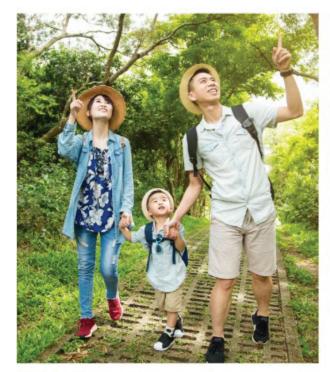
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This is a fun family event that will allow any community to participate. Follow a suggested route or go on your own. Runners, walkers, hikers can create their 5K anywhere, from an indoor treadmill to walking the dog, or running along the beach. With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

June 26 to July 3

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



Almaden (

Join our community of involved women!

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





Rules Will Be Enforced:

- 1. The following items <u>WILL NOT BE ALLOWED</u> at Almaden Lake Park <u>AT ANY TIME</u> 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



THIS IS A COMMUNITY SUPPORTED EVENT. TO VOLUNTEER OR DONATE VISIT <u>https://sjd10.com/4th-of-july</u>



Times Entertainment



Opera San José launches its season with an all-new production of Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro 2.

'The Marriage of Figaro' | launches new season

pera San José launches its 2022–23 season with an all-new production of Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro, transported to colonial India during Victorian Imperial rule September 10-25.

Sexual politics and class resentments play out through the prism of shifting power and revolution, culminating in a sparkling Indian wedding that will bring the exuberance of Bollywood to the California Theatre stage. Opera San José will join forces with Mosaic America to bring Indian classical dance to Mozart's masterpiece. Director Brad Dalton, who was last seen with the company for its 2020 production of Il Trovatore, returns for this vibrant production, while internationally acclaimed conductor Viswa Subbaraman makes his company debut. Tickets: \$55-\$195.

For more information or t

For more information or to purchase tickets, the public can visit operasj.org or call (408) 437-4450 (open Monday through Friday, 9:00am–5:00pm).

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For complete summer schedule visit us at **SCAASanJose.com**

Parenting

Continued from page 4

"My mom was a trial attorney. Most of the time she won, sometimes she lost," Nia said. "I remember my dad often asking me, 'What did you fail at today?' He asked me when I was young and he was driving me to or from school; he asked me when I was in college; and he asked me more frequently when I started to work."

I've seen so many parents try to save their kids from failing. But Nia's parents wanted to make sure they created an environment where it was okay to fail. "I think they were excited to watch the process unfold as I grew up and learned that lesson. My father taught me that in your wounds lie your gifts, and in your failures lie your opportunities," she said.

4. Let go of control and lead by following Kids need time to discover their paths. Many experience periods when it's unclear where they're going. In this situation, some parents may see their kids as being lost. But parents of kids who grow up to become entrepreneurs are more likely to see their kids as exploring.

Here's the tough part for a lot of parents: If you want to raise an entrepreneur, you need to lead by following, regardless of where your child wants to go.

Kenneth Ginsburg, author of "Building Resilience in Children and Teens," offers this advice: "Getting out of the way is a challenge. We want to help, fix and guide kids. But we have to remind ourselves that when we let them figure things out for themselves, we communicate this: 'I think you are competent and wise."

In other words, see what your kids want, what their passion is, what they are good at, and what makes them happy. Allow their gift to reveal itself. Then support it. Tell them how proud you are of them for succeeding in their chosen path. And then tell them again and again, until you're sure they believe it.

They may not end up with a career you had in mind, but if they're able to pursue their passion, they'll be happy and fulfilled. And isn't that what all parents want for their kids?

Margot Machol Bisnow is a writer, mom and parenting expert. She spent 20 years in government, including as an FTC Commissioner and Chief of Staff of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, and is the author of "Raising an Entrepreneur: How to Help Your Children Achieve Their Dream." Follow her on Instagram @margotbisnow.





'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 vergreen residents are invited to attend ↓ the annual ice cream social on Mon-↓ day, 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 complimentary 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 Communi-

ty 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 fresh fruit and ice cream will be served.

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Times **Community**

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Competitive speech & debate alive and well in Almaden

ompetitive Speech and Debate at Almaden Country Day School is a fun and exciting way for students in grades 6-8 to develop their public speaking and debate skills.

Under nationally-renowned Coach Chris Wardner, students take an elective class in the first trimester to prepare for competition.

The ACDS Speech team participates in both middle and high school invitational tournaments including the State and National championship tournaments. In 2021,

ACDS was named a School of Excellence, an honor only the top 20 teams in the country can receive.

Speech & Debate Tournament Highlights

The Almaden Country Day School Competitive Speech and Debate Team placed at these tournaments:

• 2022 Gray Middle School Tournament: Tournament Champion and 6th Original Oratory, 4th Duo Interpretation, Tournament Champion Declamation, Tournament Champion, 3rd, 5th, 6th Humorous Interpretation, 5th Storytelling

• 2022 Highlands Middle School Tournament: Tournament Champion and 5th Original Oratory, 4th Duo Interpretation, Tournament Champion, 2nd and 6th Humorous Interpretation, Tournament Champion and 2nd Declamation

• 2022 Bixby Green Corn Classic: Tournament Champion Duo Interpretation, Tournament Champion, 2nd and 3rd Original Oratory, Tournament Champion, 2nd and 3rd Declamation, Tournament Champion and 2nd Informative, Tournament Champion, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Humorous Interpretation

• 2021 Scholars Invitational: Bronze Informative Speaking, Bronze Original Oratory, Silver Original Oratory, Gold Original Oratory, Bronze and Gold Declamation, Bronze Storytelling, Gold Humorous Interpretation

• 2021 John Lewis Invitational: Tournament Champion, 3rd and 6th Novice Humorous Interpretation, 2nd Novice Declamation

• 2021 NSDA National Tournament Showcase: Showcase Champion Humorous Interpretation and Declamation

• 2021 CMSF State Championships: 2nd Humorous Interpretation

• 2021 SCJFL League Championship: Tournament Champion Duo Interpretation, 2nd and 3rd Declamation

• 2021 CHSSA State Tournament: 3rd Sweepstakes, State Champion Duo Interpretation, State Champion Storytelling, State Champion Humorous Interpretation

• 2021 Southern States Invitational: Tournament Champion Duo Interpretation, 2nd Impromptu Speaking • 2021 SCJFL League 3: Tournament Champion Humorous Interpretation, 2nd Duo Interpretation

• 2021 Henry Clay: 3rd Declamation

• 2021 Bardstown Blizzard: 2nd Humorous Interpretation

• 2021 Gray MS Tournament: Tournament Champion Humorous Interpretation, Tournament Champion Impromptu Speaking, 3rd Humorous Interpretation, 2nd Place and 3rd Declamation

• 2021 Highlands MS Tournament: Tournament Champion Declamation and Humorous Interpretation, 2nd Impromptu Speaking and Humorous Interpretation, 3rd Declamation

• 2021 Cabot Classic: 4th Informative

• 2021 SCJFL League 1: 2nd and 3rd Duo Interpretation

• 2020 John Lewis Invitational: Tournament Champion, Runner Up and 6th Humorous Interpretation, Tournament Champions Duo Interpretation

• 2020 Wolpert-Gawron Invitational: 2nd and 3rd Duo Interpretation, Tournament Champion and 4th Declamation

• 2020 NSDA Middle School Challenge: Showcase Champion Congress Authorship Speech

• 2020 SCJFL National Invitational: Tournament Champion, 2nd and 4th Dramatic Interpretation, Tournament Champion and 3rd Duo Interpretation

• 2020 CMSF State Championships: State Champion, 2nd, and 3rd Dramatic Interpretation, State Champion Duo Interpretation, 8th Overall Sweepstakes

• 2020 Golden State Invitational: Tournament Champion Spontaneous Argumentation, Tournament Co-Champion Declamation, 2nd and 3rd Humorous Interpretation, 2nd and 3rd Dramatic Interpretation

• 2020 Berman Invitational: Tournament Champion, 2nd and 3rd Dramatic Interpretation, Tournament Champion Novice Spontaneous Argumentation

• 2020 Stanford Invitational: 2nd Dramatic Interp, 5th Humorous Interpretation

• 2019 Panther Invitational: Tournament Champion Dramatic Interp, Tournament Champions and 2nd Duo Interpretation

• 2019 Bay Area Congressional Debate: Chamber Champion

• 2019 Burnett Invitational: Tournament Champion Duo Interpretation

• 2019 NSDA National Championships: 7th Humorous Interpretation, 9th Storytelling

• 2019 Middle School State Championships: State Champion, 3rd, 5th Humorous Interp. State Champion, 2nd, 5th Storytelling

• 2019 Bay Area Middle School Champi-Continued next page Times Local News

ALMADEN TIMES JUNE 24 – JULY 7, 2022 PAGE 15

Wow! 3672 meals for the hungry!



Antique autos in History Park Sept. 27

The largest annual antique auto show in the West: 'A living History Day'

he 22nd annual Antique Autos in History Park presented by the Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club and History San José will take place on Saturday, September 17, 2022, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This event fills History Park (Kelley Park, 693 Phelan Ave, San José, CA) with 200 period-correct pre-1946 vehicles, fire equipment, bicycles, and motorcycles of all makes. **Entering your antique vehicle**

There is no registration required to enter a vehicle. Just bring your antique vehicle to the gate at History Park.

All vehicles permitted on the grounds of History Park, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. were manufactured between the late 1800s and 1945 and are period-correct.

No vehicle will be allowed on the grounds of History Park during the show that is newer



The Model T Put-Together event

Speech and Debate, continued

onships: 2nd Dramatic Interpretation, 2nd and 3rd Humorous Interpretation, 2nd Duo Interpretation

• 2019 Stanford Invitational: 3rd Duo Interpretation, 2nd and 4th Humorous Interpretation

• 2018 Panther Invitational: Tournament Champion, 2nd, 3rd Humorous Interpretation, Tournament Champions and 2nd Duo Interpretation, 3rd Dramatic Interp

• 2018 NSDA Middle School National Championships: Humorous Interpretation Quarter Finalist

About Chris Wardner

Mr. Wardner has been the Public Speaking teacher and Director of Speech and Debate at

than 1945.

The featured vehicles this year are Horseless Carriages, (Up to 1915).

Also located on the grounds will be the Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association. There will be antique crafts demonstrated and antique collectibles displayed.

A Dixieland Jazz Band will provide music, songs will be sung by The Fabulous Jewel-Tones, and dancing by the San Francisco Bay Area Vintage Dancers. Food will be available from food trucks and ice cream from O'Brien's Cafe. Activities are provided for kids.

Please note there is NO alcohol, NO pets (except service dogs), and NO BBQs allowed inside the park. These are Park rules and must be followed.

Plan your day around the following:

11:15 Dance Performance 12:00 The Fabulous JewelTones 12:30 Music by Toot Sweet Jazz Band 12:30 Video: Horseless Carriage Brass Tour 2:00 Model T Put Togeth-

2:30 Barbershop Quartet 3:00 Magician

3:30 Drawing for Door Prizes

Admission

Almaden Country Day School for over 25 years.

He is a National Speech and Debate Associa-

tion Three Diamond coach and was named the

2021 Middle School Coach of the Year. Mr.

Wardner also coaches at Leland High School,

which has been awarded the National Speech

and Debate Association School of Distinction

given to the top ten schools in the country.

During his tenure, numerous students have

reached the State and National tournament

final rounds where 2 were named National

Championships, 6 Showcase Champions, and

For more information on Almaden Country

Day School's Competitive Speech and Debate

Program, please contact: cwardner@almaden-

10 State Championships.

countryday.org

er

Adults: \$ 10; History San Jose members and Children (6 to 12) \$5. Participants & Children under 6: Free (Adjacent City Parking: \$10).



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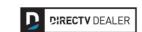
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Here's why gas prices could skyrocket again

By Wayne Winegarden

e're all looking for relief from record high gas prices these days. Gas prices are the highest in United States history at a nationwide average of more than \$5 according to AAA. Many states surpass this average with California averaging \$6.26 per gallon.

But lawsuits filed by several cities across the country could actually drive gas prices even higher. In the name of climate change, over a dozen federal lawsuits have been filed by state and local governments, including New York City, Baltimore, and several California cities. They are suing oil and gas companies for alleged damages they caused contributing to climate change.

So what do climate change lawsuits have to do with the devastating gas prices sweeping the nation?

State and municipal climate lawsuits are antigrowth, anti-innovation, and anti-environment. They could impose large economic costs on families and businesses as the hundreds of billions of dollars in damages these municipalities are seeking in these lawsuits would inevitably be passed along to consumers.

As calculated in a new Pacific Research Institute study, for every \$100 billion in potential

judgements in these cases, gas prices could rise by 31 cents per gallon -- or an additional \$326 per household per year in higher energy costs. As Americans suffer through painful inflation increases, such additional costs are simply unaffordable for most households.

Burdening consumers and businesses with additional costs is detrimental not only to economic growth but discourages the private sector innovation required to meet America's clean energy goals. A strong economy fosters an environment more conducive to developing the meaningful innovations required to address the global climate change these municipalities claim to be fighting for.

Best to carry pepper spray when walking your dog

good idea to all is that when you walk your dog, it's best to have a pepper spray dispenser that is easy to get to. Pepper spray is inexpensive and can even fit on your keychain.

I was surprised to read this recent dog attack account on Nextdoor.com and began to realize that I can go to a place of business such as Big 5 Sporting Goods or order on line. The pepper spray will keep me safe and my dog too when out for a walk.

Scary account of what happened as posted on Nextdoor.com In fact, increasing use of natural gas contributed to the decline of carbon emissions over the past twenty years. The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) has noted that "the 4% decrease in U.S. carbon intensity came largely from a decrease in the consumption of fuels with high carbon contents. Part of this change came from the continuing trend of natural gas and renewables displacing coal for electric power generation, both of which have lower or zero carbon content. Low natural gas prices supported this switch from coal use, and higher natural gas prices in 2021 have started to reverse this trend."

The development of once-celebrated natu-

"My dog (leashed) was attacked by another dog this evening. We were walking down Tully and had just turned left on Ruby. A huge dog came out of nowhere. I tried to kick the dog off but it kept attacking. I pulled out my pepper spray and just kept spraying until it finally backed off. I was in shock and worried about my dog so I didn't think to take a picture before it ran off down Valley Vista. My dog has a large bite on her back as well as other bites on her legs. The other dog looked like a huge Samoyed/Malamute mostly white with some grey spots. If anyone knows whose dog this is, please message me. This is the first time I've used pepper spray. I don't know what I would have done without it as the other dog wouldn't stop!!! So scary!!!"

Kevin Larsen

Evergreen Valley

ral gas through private sector innovation has resulted in lower overall emissions. Investors see this litigation effort as a threat, making them less likely to make future investments in nuclear energy advancements, new battery technology, improved fuel efficiency and other innovations required to continue lowering emissions.

We cannot afford to stifle positive incentives for innovation in this space. Rather than continue with these lawsuits, there are other, better ways that state and local governments concerned about climate change can make positive changes. For example, they could increase incentives for private sector investment through reducing taxes for the companies working to develop innovative technologies that reduce GHG emissions. Such a positive-focused policy has the potential to address the risks associated with climate change through the private sector, rather than punishing innovators who have successfully reduced emissions through misguided lawsuits.

It's time to find new ways to make America's clean energy potential a reality. If these lawsuits are successful, we will continue to see increased energy expenditures for consumers across the country, further strained family budgets, rising costs of production for businesses, and decreased motivation to innovate -- while ironically reducing our progress in combating climate change.

Dr. Wayne Winegarden is a senior fellow in business and economics at the Pacific Research Institute and author of the new issue brief, "Counterproductive."

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Times Feature



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

By Brian Presley

ith the end of school comes the start of summer sports leagues and events and as a parent, you might as well buy yourself a chauffer'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 vour kid or vour 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 blind 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!!!

Honor Society Phi Kappa **Phi inducts Almaden** residents Chang, Alan **Chen and Croussore**

he Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines, has announced the induction of three new members from Almaden Valley.

The following residents are new Phi Kappa Phi members: Katherine Chang, Alan Chen and LaShaunda Croussore. All three members attend San Jose State University. They are 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

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/SanJose or on Instagram and Twitter @WTDWTK.

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

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.'

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ALMADEN TIMES JUNE 24 – JULY 7, 2022 PAGE 17

Times Feature

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

Gems in

STEM

By Apoorva Panidapu

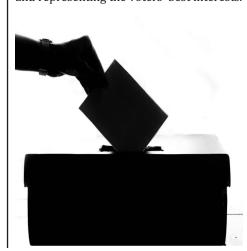
By Apoorva Panidapu his all started in fourth grade when I finished my debut novel "The Magic Inside," a 10,000-word masterpiece for NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) about three friends who learn magic together and unite to defeat an evil sorcerer...it was definitely not a Harry Potter rip off.

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.

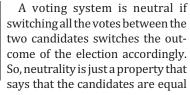
I emailed autocorrectcreators@gmail.com and pleaded my case to make "Apoorva" an official word...or else. Of course, they wrote back because I'm very compelling and they said their hands were tied unless I could win the approval vote from higher-ups, which was a really mean way to put it considering 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 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.



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) 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





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Times Feature

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 votes 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 apoorvaisnotapproval.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 apoorvapwrites@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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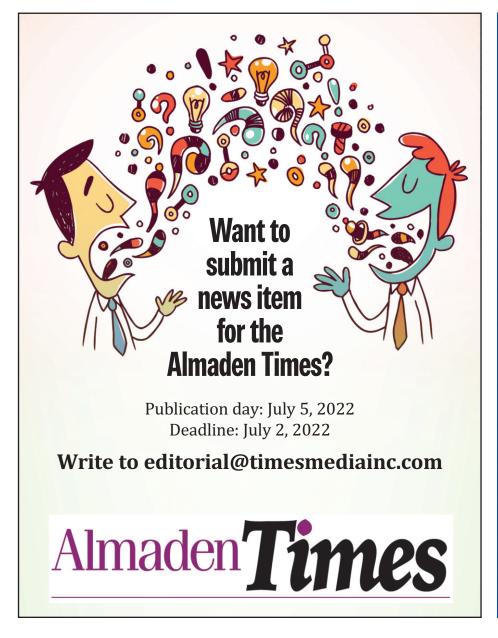
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Times Feature

Solar winds of summer

By Matthew Frazier

www.ith the summer solstice fastapproaching, and being in the midst of a mega drought, here in Santa Clara Valley and throughout California, the climate is changing around us.

In past articles, I have made frequent mention of irrigation practices which came to me from credible sources such as irrigation contractors, irrigation designers, irrigation technicians, landscape contractors, landscape technicians, and other professionals who deal with water conservation and water management in their daily affairs.

June 29, 2022 marks 16 years ago I was hired by the very first retail nursery I worked in. That summer, Santa Clara Valley experienced consecutive days of heat over 100 degrees. It took some acclimation on my part to get into a routine. Watering in the morning, before the sun reaches its peak, sounds like a logical and reliable means of saving water. In an earlier article, I mentioned the conversation years ago with an irrigation contractor who told me about their three and three rule.

The summer winds

With progressively hotter days and warmer nights come the winds of summer. Caressing this valley by evening and night, they are an essential and welcome component of summer. With these sacred and treasured winds come erosion and evaporation, even in the dark hours. To protect our landscapes from losing water, we can use compost and mulch liberally where needed. Subterranean irrigation is one option. But, being mindful of the patterns of these winds can be crucial in determining the best times to irrigate.

Clay soil

Clay soil has a saturation and runoff point around five minutes, with moderate overhead irrigation. My day job is a key holder and lawn and garden sales specialist with Almaden Valley Ace Hardware near Santa Clara Valley, where I live. The high-efficiency nozzles we find in the lawn and garden departments of hardware stores and home improvement centers look promising. Yet, in order to be successful in combatting the effects of wind erosion, adequate and correct dynamic and static pressure in the irrigation lines must be monitored.

The best watering times

The best watering-times, which were recommended to me by a trusted irrigation professional, are 9:00 p.m., midnight, and 3:00 a.m., three nights per week, three 10-minute cycles, and three hours apart. Santa Clara Valley is subject to stringent restrictions, which allow us to irrigate two days per week. Southern California faces one day per week. Given that California is in the midst of this mega drought, every gallon counts.

Mulch

The solar winds of summer are alluring and majestic. And yet ... They can be lethal for tender growth and young plants still highly-dependent on supplemental irrigation. To protect our plants, I was advised to use a ½ inch layer of compost and three inches of mulch. Measure the diameter of the canopy of your shrubs and trees. Use this radius to measure out from the edge of the canopy. Use a rope or a string to scribe a circle around the stalks and trunks. Inside of this circle, use a 1/4inch to a half inch layer of organic compost. Create a berm along the line you drew in the soil, two inches high and two inches wide. Outside of this berm wall, use a three- or four-inch layer of mulch. If you live in fire country, use only non-woody

mulches – to lessen the incidence of a fire. This is what has been offered to me

by experts and professionals in The Landscape



Water Wise Matthew Frazier, Certified Water Manager Industry over the years. Irrigation techniques

When we irrigate with emitters and flags, best to check to ensure whole droplets are being administered to the soil and not mist or spray. Dynamic and static pressure in the lines which is too high can cause this. I urge our customers to invest in pressure gauges for their hose bibs and within their irrigation systems – to ensure correct pressure. When I conducted waterwaste inspections and waterwise outdoor surveys for home

owners, as an employee of a local water district, we used to tell them that anything above

45 psi warrants a pressure regulator. **Free inspections**

Our local water agencies and water districts have water-waste inspectors and water-wise outdoor surveyors who will come out to your business or home and conduct free inspections and surveys. It is a worthwhile investment.

Any comments, concerns, and/or questions ... I welcome you to write me. Thank you one and all for your time in reading this article. I wish you solace with our beloved summer solar winds. This is truly a season for relaxation and reflection.

Matthew Frazier is a CLCA Expert Certified Water Manager. You may contact him by email: kitchenfrazier@hotmail.com

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word Sikh (see-kh) means

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stresses the equality of all

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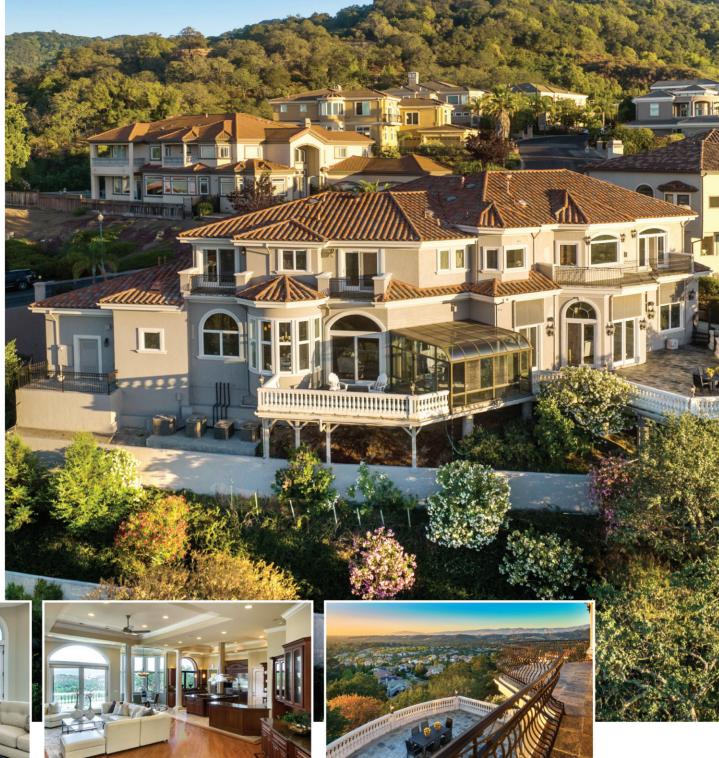
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