San Jose Vietnamese service center gets infusion of funding SEE PAGE 10



SERVING EVERGREEN & SILVER CREEK VALLEY SINCE 1982 ■ EVERGREENTIMES.COM

# High gas prices have San Jose commuters seeing red

By Lorraine Gabbert Article courtesy of

San José Spotlight s gas costs continue to reach unsustainable lev-Lels, no one is immune to the pump pain. For those commuting miles to work, all are getting gouged equally.

While the state searches for solutions to the near \$7 a gallon price at the pump, people like police officers, delivery drivers and traveling nurses are dealing with this problem on a daily basis.

Ryan Goudy worked four years for the San Jose Police Department. He faced a two and a half hour commute each way from his home in Atascadero. He often stayed in the San Jose area during the week, which meant not seeing his family at the end of the day. With the lack of family time, the rising cost of fuel became the final



Gas prices in San Jose continue to rise. Photo by Lorraine Gabbert.

truck, filling up three times a

week. He now has a two-minute

commute to the Atascadero Police

Department, infrequent stops for

gas and time to be with his family.

country following Russia's inva-

sion of Ukraine in February. In Cal-

Gas prices shot up across the

straw. In April he left SJPD to work closer to home.

### 'It made it unaffordable'

"It made it unaffordable," he told San José Spotlight. "I couldn't do it anvmore.

Goudy was spending \$1,000 a month on gas for his Ford F-150

for environmental regulations and road and bridge repairs push gas prices to the highest in the nation. State gas prices have reached \$6.38 on average, according to AAA. That jumps up slightly to \$6.45 on average in San Jose. Affecting morale San Jose police officers who

ifornia, added taxes and fees

can't afford to live locally are finding the price at the pump increasingly difficult. Tom Saggau, spokesperson for the San Jose Police Officers' Association, said the lack of affordable housing plus inflation, crip-

pling grocery bills and the high cost of gasoline pushes first responders further away. Some officers travel several hours a day to work from the Central Valley, Fresno, Sacramento, Hollister and Salinas.

"The gas prices being what they See GAS PRICES, page 21

**Elizabeth Fong** named Evergreen **School District's** 'Teacher of the Year'

> **By William Bellou** Publisher

Mrs. Elizabeth Fong is Evergreen School District's 2022 Teacher of the Year.

Fong was surprised about her being named teacher of the year during the recent reception of Dr. Antoine Hawkins, the District's new Superintendent.

Mrs. Fong's students say their needs are being met in every way, and that she sets high expectations for her students and contributes to the greater school community through her leadership. Entering her room, the deep relationships she builds with her students is evident. Mrs. Fong learns what



each student needs and does her best to support them in both their academic and social-emotional growth.

Dr. Antoine Hawkins, Superintendent, stated "We thank you, Mrs. Fong, for your tirelessly advocating for students, and your dedication and commitment to ensuring our students reach their full potential. Congratulations!'

Evergreen School District Board President, Chris Corpus, stated "Students and families that enjoyed Mrs. Fong's teaching over the years know the passion, enthusiasm, and caring in her classroom. She also shows leadership at the school and district level, working with her colleagues to make Evergreen School District great. She leads her 4th-grade team in a professional learning community that uses data and tests different modalities to determine how best to support all 4th-graders.

"As leader, Mrs. Fong speaks her mind and advocates for students. She provides thoughtful insights to help drive schoolwide focus," said Joanna Villareal, Chief of Staff, Evergreen School District. "What most people notice about Mrs. Fong is her energy and friendly personality. In addition, students and staff benefit from her drive and motivation to continuously improve herself as an educator. This school year, she attended Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE) in the Educational Administration Program. Mrs. Fong has also stepped up to be one of the Principals of the ESD 2022 Summer School Program."

The Santa Clara County Office of Education will officially present the Teacher of the Year award to Mrs. Fong sometime in October in a county wide celebration.



Valley Water will consider having water enforcers educate residents on conservation and in some instances issue fines for repeat violators. Photo courtesy of Pixabay.

### **Drought and heat** stress California's infrastructure

**By Erin Zimmerman** 

he heat this past weekend was a reminder that California's weather is changing—and we are in a hot-zone.

Parts of California, including San Jose, are actually warming faster than the global average and some parts have already reached the two degrees Celsius cutoff cited by scientists as the point of no return.

### California's infrastructure isn't ready

If the summer of 2020 taught us anything, it's that California's power grid is unprepared to deal with the consequences of See DROUGHT, page 6



See our Listings of Evergreen Area Meetings, Places of Worship and Classified Advertisements Inside the Back Cover

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# Enppy Bittinday Ametical Complimentary Event For You and Your Family On Monday The 4th Of Fuly

### "Under the Moonlight Ice Cream Social" 7pm-10pm held at the Gurdwara on the Hill

We will not be using any fireworks but if you bring your binoculars and keen eyesight you will see the displays far in the distance which light up the sky!

All have been through such great challenges in the past years. We sincerely care about everyone and understand the sacrifices which have been made by families. We continue to have a fully outdoor event where you can walk under the moonlit stars with your family and friends. Admission and food are free. It is an event of joy and celebration of how wonderful you are and our strong and noble country called America is! If you can, come on up and have complementary ice cream or fresh fruit and connect under the moonlit sky with those of all races and cultures in our wonderful Bay Area! It is a night of building family for all. We also will be serving complementary vegetarian meals to-go at the Langar (kitchen area). – Kirpal Atwal, *Gurdwara Director* 

We embrace the values of our American heritage strongly! Values of justice, liberty, equality and the caring about others are enshrined in the Constitution and also form the cornerstone of our Sikh beliefs. We are the Sikh Americans and very proud to be a part of the United States of America and of course the wonderful Evergreen community!





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### Scout shares views on city's issues

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the article that you wrote on June 3th about police and homelessness.

In your article, you wrote about some problems happening in San Jose like the police and homelessness problems.

I want to share my opinion on the issues of the police and homelessness. We still need police to protect our city so we should keep hiring them. The homeless population in our city is a major problem. For example, I see many homeless people everywhere, taking our parks,

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

our bus stops, on the side of the streets. There was a homeless woman near my street who occupied a bus stop bench with her things.

I enjoyed reading your article. I hope it brings attention to our San Jose Mayor.

Russell Nguyen, Age 11 Boyscout Troop 264

Evergreen Valley Editor's Note: To review previ-

ous Evergreen Times articles visit www.evergreentimes.com and click on Archives.

## SJ City Council OKs 'quick-build' housing, hotel conversions

'The traditional approach to building housing is not fast enough to meet the urgency of this homelessness crisis." – Mayor Sam Liccardo

### By Times Media news staff

In response to what San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo called "This homelessness crisis," the San Jose City Council has approved the addition of 400 new "Interim housing" units, approved



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The opinions and viewpoints expressed by guest authors and columnists in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions and viewpoints of the staff and management of the Evergreen Times and Times Media, Inc. the purchase of the 89-room Arena Hotel with state Homekey funds and added 561 new affordable housing units.

"The traditional approach to building housing is not fast enough to meet the urgency of this homelessness crisis," said Liccardo in a statement. "San José is expanding on our success of quickbuild interim housing, tackling unsheltered homelessness head on, and embracing nimble, innovative approaches that enable cost-effective and rapid solutions while remaining committed to permanent housing for our most vulnerable residents."

Last year, Liccardo set a goal of 1,000 total resident beds in quickbuild communities completed, acquired or under development by the end of 2022. San José's quickbuild communities are built in a fraction of the time and cost of traditional apartments, city officials say. In total, the City will have 561 new additional units of housing built over the next few years.

San José is reporting it has housed nearly 900 unhoused residents, for the first time since 2015 halting the increase in unsheltered homeless in San José and countywide due to the quick-build program

The city council voted to expand on the success of the city's first three quick-build communities by approving the development of 400 additional interim housing beds across the city, and moved forward with development on four new quick-build sites across San José that have the potential for another 280 resident beds.

The council also approved additional funding to allow construction to start on the Kelsey Ayer Station affordable housing development in Japantown.

# Valley Currents

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



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

## **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 professional 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 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 participate! 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 News

# We treat pets like family

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### Drought

*Continued from page 1* climate change. High winds and temperatures now

necessitate public safety power shutoffs, precautionary blackouts to prevent forest fires due to downed power lines. These shutoffs can leave thousands without power for days at a time.

The energy infrastructure also struggles with high demand. Just this past weekend area residents were warned of potential power outages in case demand outstripped supply due to high temperatures.

Californians are used to hot weather, but there is regular summer heat and then there is climate change hot. Just this past Friday, San Jose temperatures nearly reached 100 degrees and millions of Californians spent part of the weekend under an excessive heat warning.

The expected temperatures led Santa Clara County officials to advise vulnerable residents to stay indoors with air conditioning or make their way to available cooling centers. But cooling centers only work for short time periods and for vulnerable residents able to travel. Even healthy adults need to be careful during extreme temperatures, which is difficult for the many essential workers whose jobs require them to be outside.

Drought conditions also impact the ability of utilities to generate hydroelectric energy. According to the U.S. Energy Information Association (EIA), prior to the onset of the drought in 2019 about 19% of California's power was generated by hydroelectric. The EIA estimates that this year hydroelectric will account for just 8% of power generated.

We have already endured two heat waves this year, one in May and one last weekend, and summer just officially started on June 20. Without adequate investments in more climate resilient electricity infrastructure, San Jose residents will continue to experience reliably unreliable power. **Californians aren't ready**  California is now both hotter and drier. January to March of this year was the driest on record, and currently 95% of the state is experiencing severe to extreme drought conditions.

California is now drier than it has been in the last 1,200 years. It goes without saying that the severity of the current drought, which is part of a larger mega drought that started in 2003, can be attributed to climate change. Park Williams, a climate scientist at UCLA and the author of a study looking at the intensification of the mega drought, noted that "without climate change, this would not even be close to as bad as one of those historical mega droughts."

Despite the beginning of this year being the driest on record, Californians have continued to increase their water usage. Water use across the state was up by almost 18% in April compared to 2020.

For the first time ever, Valley Water has approved enforcement of water restrictions on outdoor water use. Valley Water board member John Varela said in a statement that the county needed to reduce its water consumption by 15%, largely by limiting outdoor watering. Restrictions went into effect on June 1. For those interested, Valley Water offers rebates for swapping out your lawn for a drought-resistant landscape and also has robust conservation programs. You can find water restrictions specific to your area by visiting: www.valleywater.org/findmy-retailer.

Recent scientific simulations have predicted the current drought has over a 90% chance of lasting through 2023, and has an alarmingly high 75% chance of dragging on until 2030. This means the water issue isn't going away and will likely only get worse. It is essential that state and local governments, as well as local residents, invest in water conservation education and efforts.

Erin Zimmerman is a climate reality leader with the Climate Reality Project's Silicon Valley chapter. Erin, a long-time environmental and political activist, holds a PhD in political science.

# 2000 Measure A Citizens Watchdog Committee REPORT TO THE PUBLIC

Fiscal Year 2021 (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021)

2000 Measure A is a 30-year half-cent sales tax devoted to transit improvements. The measure mandated that an independent citizens watchdog committee review the 2000 Measure A expenditures, commission audits, and issue reports to the public. This report is the 2000 Measure A CWC's report for FY 2021, the 15th year of the 30-year program.

### After careful review, the CWC concludes that for FY 2021, 2000 Measure A tax dollars were spent in accordance with the intent of the measure.

\* Expenditures were grouped by category. Totals and percentages may not be precise due to independent rounding. Individual project detail is available in the project status section of this report.

\*\* Includes professional services, debt service, principal payment, bond interest, etc.

\*\*\* Transit Operating Assistance equals 20.75% of sales tax revenue, which is approximately \$45.8M of total expenditures for FY 2021.



For more information, visit vta.org/2000MeasureA



## PRESENTS Matt Maha SAN JOSE CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 10 BRING YOUR FAMILY AND CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR GREAT NATION! District 10 FESTIVAL: 3:00 PM | FIREWORKS: 9:15 PM MONDAY, 07.04.2022 ray. FUN ZONE 🛧 FOOD TRUCKS 🛠 **LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTA** 🛧 ACTIVITIES 🛠 FIREWORKS 🛠 Almaden Lake Park **COSTUME CONTEST!** - THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS -SUMMERHILL HOUSING AS

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1 STAR ONE KEYPOINT

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1. The following items <u>WILL NOT BE ALLOWED</u> at Almaden Lake Park <u>AT ANY TIME</u> on July 4th.

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- a. Absolutely NO Alcohol, Weapons, Barbeques, Drones, Pets, Emotional support animals, riding bikes, or moving vehicles in the park.
- $2.\,\text{NO}$  Illegal Fireworks Offenders risk being FINED a MINIMUM of \$500 or more.

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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 Community News

# **County outlaws price gouging on infant formula**

I n response to the supply chain shortage for infant formula, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors has adopted an Urgency Ordinance to protect families from predatory price gouging.

"It can be really tough to buy formula these days, and some young children require formula to survive," said County Supervisor Joe Simitian. "I know we can't control supply chain issues, but we can send a clear message to price gougers – who are buying up formula to resell it at a higher price — that price gouging won't be allowed."

### Possible \$5000 fine and/or imprisonment

The Urgency Ordinance extends the enforceability of the County's price gouging restrictions (a criminal offense punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 and/or imprisonment for up to six months), as well as other important emergency-related prohibitions, throughout the duration of a proclaimed emergency. Prior to the Board's decision on June 7, 2022, there was no enforcement tool to pursue and punish price gouging on infant formula in Santa Clara County.

"Exacerbating the nationwide supply problem, reports indicate that bad actors are engaging in widespread practices to buy up and then resell infant formula at a steep markup," said James R. Williams, County Counsel for Santa Clara County. "This bulk purchasing and hoarding of supplies contributes to shortages. Reselling those scarce supplies at predatory prices also exacerbates inequalities in our community, because some families simply can't afford to buy formula at an inflated price even if they have an infant who desperately needs it."

In February 2020, the County proclaimed a local emergency and declared a local health emergency to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the Civil Protection and Emergency Management Ordinance, price gouging of consumer products during a proclaimed emergency was prohibited,

but that prohibition lasted for only 180 days after the County proclaimed the COVID-19-related local emergency. The new Ur-

gency Ordinance will be in effect until thirty days after the emergency has concluded.





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2022/23

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

Times **News** 

### Bill to combat online sexual exploitation signed into law

A bill from State Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose), SB 1210, to "Combat online sexual exploitation in the digital age" has been signed into law by California Governor Gavin Newsom.

Since the pandemic began, the number of complaints of the non-consensual online sharing of obscene images has increased by over 120%. This has ranged from materials such as "deep fakes" and "revenge porn."

SB 1210 is designed to prevent online sexual exploitation, non-consensual sharing of obscene images, and provide survivors of online trafficking an avenue for relief, recourse and recovery.

SB 1210 requires any attorney fees and costs be paid to the prevailing plaintiff by the defendant in a civil action arising from the intentional, unauthorized distribution of obscene material.

"By signing this bipartisan measure into law, California will help survivors of online abuse find justice. I'd like to thank my colleagues in the Legislature as well as Governor Newsom for taking this important step towards ending online sexual exploitation," Cortese said.

SB 1210 was supported by the Consumer Attorneys of California.

### Cortese's guaranteed income for homeless youth proposal to become district program

Cortese's SB 1341 fails to garner enough votes to clear California Assembly Committee

State Senator Dave Cortese (D-Silicon Valley) made the following statement when SB 1341 failed to garner enough votes to clear the California Assembly Committee on Higher Education today:

"I am deeply disappointed that this bill to serve our most vulnerable young people won't be moving forward. While this is an unexpected obstacle, we will not let inaction persist to the detriment of our future generation. Every year in California we are graduating our students into homelessness."

Cortese continued, "To this end, I am announcing a partnership with Supervisor Susan Ellenberg to bring the CalSOAR program to my home County to serve our students and build on the success of the Santa Clara County Transition-Aged Youth Basic Income Program."

Senate Bill 1341, the California Success, Opportunity, and Academic Resilience (Cal-SOAR) Guaranteed Income Program, was introduced to provide guaranteed direct cash assistance to homeless youth in grade 12, to combat what's known as the "summer melt," so that students can exit poverty and have access to a higher education.

Santa Clara County Supervisor Susan Ellenberg has agreed to introduce an item before the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors to move forward the framework proposed in SB 1341 as a pilot program to serve unhoused students in Santa Clara County.

"The success of Santa Clara County's current guaranteed income pilot for foster youth demonstrates that we should continue to implement this type of resource for our County's underserved children," said Supervisor and Board Vice President Susan Ellenberg. "I am looking forward to introducing this proposal to my colleagues after the July Board recess to show the State that providing unhoused high school students with guaranteed income sets them up for future success. As a former school board trustee, I remember the extent to which resources for unhoused high school students were limited. I became a County Supervisor to ensure all kids have the opportunity for self-sufficiency."

According to Census Data (DataQuest), there were approximately 15,000 students experiencing homelessness who were enrolled in the 12th grade in California during the 2020-21 academic year. Experts report that a majority of these youth aspire to attend post-secondary education and an overwhelming majority (more than 90%) wish to pursue careers that require some form of postsecondary education.

### Evergreen Community College District fills vacancy on board of trustees

During its regular meeting on June 21, the San José – Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD) board of trustees appointed Mr. Tony Alexander to fill a vacancy on the board. Trustee Area 3, which represents areas of east and north San José, was made vacant earlier this year when long-serving trustee Craig Mann stepped down.

Alexander is appointed to represent Area 3 on the board of trustees until the next regularly scheduled election for governing board members, which will take place November 8, 2022.

"I'm very pleased that we had a number of strong candidates to consider, all of whom have exhibited strong leadership and a history of community service," said SJECCD Board President Bob Livengood. "Tony is extremely qualified and will be an outstanding representative for Area 3."

Alexander has a long history of involvement with numerous community organizations, including leadership roles with the San José/Silicon Valley NAACP, African American Community Service Agency, San José Conservation Corps, and South Bay Labor Council, among others. He has also previously held elected office as a member of the board of trustees of Alum Rock Union School District.

Alexander was sworn in during the meeting on June 21 and will fully participate during the board's next regularly scheduled meeting on July 12.

About San José – Evergreen Community College District

Located in vibrant downtown San José in the heart of Silicon Valley, the San José - Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD) encompasses more than 300 square miles, including a large portion of the City of San José and all of the City of Milpitas. SJECCD is comprised of: San José City College, the first community college in Santa Clara County, established in 1921; Evergreen Valley College, established in 1975; the Community College Center for Economic Mobility (previously known as the Workforce Institute), established in 1988; and the San José – Evergreen Community College Extension at Milpitas, established in 2016. For more information, visit www.sieccd.edu.

<section-header> *"YES, MY LAWN IS BROWN BECAUSE I'M WENDELE C. Saved 1,000 gallons of water this week. WE are in a severe drought. Mitting your lawn turn brown an save 1,000 gallons of water per week.*

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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.

For more information

www.AlmadenWomen.org

Almaden Valley

### 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



### **PAGE 10 ■ EVERGREEN TIMES ■** JULY 1 – JULY 14, 2022

Times Local News

## San Jose Vietnamese service center gets infusion of funding

By Tran Nguyen Courtesy of San José Spotlight anta Clara County has renewed its commitment to address the health care gap among its Vietnamese resi-

dents. The Board of Supervisors last week unanimously voted to dole out nearly \$1 million to hire more Vietnamese American Service Center workers and help a nonprofit implement a mental health program targeting Vietnamese seniors in East San Jose.

The majority of the money—\$800,000 will go toward six new jobs and new supplies at the Vietnamese American Service Center . Roughly \$160,000 will go to the International Children Assistance Network (ICAN), a Milpitas-based nonprofit providing family services, to start a project to fight stigma around mental health disorders among the Vietnamese community, create a space for seniors to heal from trauma caused by the Vietnam War and promote mental health programs in the county.

"We want to make sure we're able to handle the number of clients we're getting, and we're getting a lot of excitement and a lot of interest in the services there," said Supervisor Cindy Chavez, who led the efforts with state Sen. Dave Cortese to build the center.

## ASK THE DMV REAL ID will be necessary for air travel next summer

This is the last summer you can travel by air within the U.S. without a federally accepted form of identification, get a REAL ID now! **By Frankie Wenson** 

Syntamic trenson ummer is here! This season is one of the most popular times to travel and if you or your family members are planning a summer vacation, make sure to check off getting your REAL ID from your travel checklist.

Wherever your summer vacation is taking you, REAL ID is your ticket to fly! This time next summer, federal regulations will require you to show a REAL ID driver's license or another federally approved form of identification (passport, military ID, etc.) to travel within the U.S. and to visit secure federal facilities (military bases, federal courthouses). Note that a REAL ID cannot be used for international travel, a passport is still required.

It's no secret, we're all ready to start traveling again. And with a REAL ID, you'll be ready! The REAL ID process is easier than ever with the DMV's online services. Get ahead of the summer break rush and start your simple online application today.

Q1: My children are 7 and 11 years old.



San Jose residents **Thanh Nguyen**, **Tran Dao** and **Hanh Nguyen** visited the Vietnamese American Service Center for the first time this week. *Photo by Tran Nguyen* 

She noted the center has the most popular senior nutrition program in the county and serves 500 meals a day.

The 37,000-square-foot, three-story building at 2410 Senter Road in San Jose aims to serve as a one-stop shop in providing health and social services to more than 220,000 Vietnamese residents in the county. San Jose has the largest Vietnamese enclave of any U.S. city.

**Panoply of services** 

The center opened its health clinic in April to provide services that include dental care, medical laboratories, mental health programs and primary care services. The county is working on opening the third floor, which would provide gathering spaces and conference rooms for different activities. The center serves upward of 1,000 people a day, county officials said.



Will they need REAL IDs to fly to Florida next summer?

A1: No. The TSA does not require anyone under the age of 18 to provide identification when traveling with a companion within the United States. However, the companion will need a form of federally accepted identification (REAL ID, U.S. Passport, U.S. Passport Card, DHS Trusted Traveler Card, etc.).

Q2: Which documents will I need to get a REAL ID?

A2: You will need 1 original or certified proof of identity and 2 different printed proofs of California residency. Follow the three simple steps below and visit dmv.ca.gov/realid to start your REAL ID application and view a complete list of acceptable documents:

1. Gather your documents

2. Complete your online application and upload your documents

3. Make an appointment and visit the DMV office to complete the process

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# **'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 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 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



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NAH SURDWARA - SAM JUSSE

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 chil"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."

-Kirpal Atwal, Gurdwara Director

dren 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. Gurdwara contact: Kirpal Atwal (408) 835-7712.



### Times **Community**

## **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 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 Together2:30 Barbershop Quartet

3:00 Magician

3:30 Drawing for Door Prizes

Admission

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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# OP-ED **The three miracles** Hanoi's' belongings taken from the library to bus stop and then two abatements

### By Kevin Larsen

It all happened quietly, no one knew. She was new to Evergreen having been relocated by others from Story and King Road bus stop in front of Burger King to the "Homeless Hotel" which the community found out was a secret shelter inside Evergreen Library.

She left the library due to restrictions and moved to the bus stop in front of Taco Bell on Aborn Road. Months passed and two abatements later, the homeless woman known to Evergreen residents as "Hanoi" became a humanitarian concern because she lived on the bus bench for many months, day and night, subsisting mostly on her favorite food, a bucket of Kentucky Fried Chicken, which she explained would last her about three days.

She was a mystery for residents to understand. The 80-year-old woman often spoke of being traumatized throughout her life while she was marooned on the bus bench. For months she pleaded to get back her ID identification card which someone she trusted had taken with her purse.

Through the information in this series of articles and Nextdoor.com social media, the call went out to have the person who was once helping her to return the purse which she claimed had her California ID, keys to her postal box and condo room, passport and more.

She stated she left the room where she was living due to people yelling but she was still paying the rent because monies were being pulled from her bank account. With the written word, a pleading took place on Nextdoor.com in hopes that her purse would reappear along with her personal belongings.

### Regaining her ID

No matter what religious beliefs one has, it was nice to hear that weeks ago, Hanoi was thankful a stranger whom she had never seen before, walked up to her and gave back her ID. Perhaps the individual who took her purse for safekeeping was contacted by this intermediary from NEXTDOOR. com who retrieved the ID and then drove over to give it to her along with her medical card and small amount of monies. While no purse was returned, this act of decency was truly a God-sent miracle!

#### Abatement

Without much time for warning, an abatement flyer was placed on the bus bench. Quickly, one morning at 7 a.m. a truck devoured her belongings and crawled slowly away. This was her second abatement and I recall that after the first abatement she became very dejected and complained sadly yet stoically that her "very expensive," valuables were taken. She had not the resources to pull them out of downtown storage, so once again all of her belongings were destroyed. Somewhere in her delicate mind she was inclined to keep buying new things, to gather again and again while ordering others and me firmly, "No, don't bring me anything because I am not allowed to have so many things." It seemed to be an addiction to her but don't most of us have closets full of things that need to be donated.

As the days rolled on, I noticed she began to place some items on the bus bench, which led to a chain reaction of an avalanche of Nextdoor.com complaints that initiated quick action to remove all her things a second time. The abatement procedure was fast-tracked by negative social media comments which produced angry phone calls of requested action as electronic information geometrically spread throughout the community! It was as though many had a yearning to complain because it made them feel better.

I had predicted an upcoming abatement was in the works, so I bought her a fresh roasted chicken from Safeway to build up her strength. The nice thing about providing food is her sincere thank you in which she put the palms of her hands together and bowed her head while silently mouthing the words, "Thank you!"

#### Straw hat

She once asked me for a small umbrella to protect the sun from harming her skin. Some people did drop her off an umbrella. However, as the days went by I noticed she was not using it. I had a sun hat of my mom's and decided to offer it to her. She took to it and put it on. She looked different in the straw hat and there was a joy in her eves.

### **Climate change Monday**

Suddenly in this month of June, the Bay Area temperatures arrived like a blast furnace and temperatures outside dramatically rose to over 100 degrees. It was at this time she experienced a 2nd abatement and was nowhere to be found. Once again all of her things gone, put in downtown storage to be discarded in 30 days. In the extreme heat, many began to wonder if some of the un-housed poor might be brought to the coroner's table.

Upon reporting her departure on social *Continued, next page* 



When an abatement sign goes up all items are removed and put in storage.

media, people began to make fun of her. Some did not care and an on-line glee-fullness took place about her chosen misfortune. That kind of communication often fuels the social media cacophony of information noise. One post stated, "Unfortunately, many just want her gone! They don't care where, just gone. San Jose has been given lots of monies to help the homeless. Where's it gone?"

#### Hanoi and Buddhism

Hanoi being a Buddhist told me in earlier months that she embraced that religion because she was treated so kindly when once visiting a religious temple. Knowing she slept outside at night I offered to buy her a small Buddhist figurine to keep her company but she said no to that.

#### The box

The 2nd miracle (the first miracle was her getting her ID back) happened by serendipitous coincidence. While driving to Peter's bakery, I spotted her. She was cleaning bits of paper off the ground on the corner of Alum Rock and White Road.

I parked the car, said hello and she motioned for me to enter the library through automatic doors ahead of her. As I entered I felt a cool gust of air and was thankful she knew of this place to take refuge from the scortching heat for I understood she knew how to travel by bus.

She marched forward and in her arms held a precious large cardboard box that she placed in the middle of the floor which contained all of her life's possessions. She then ignored me and went abruptly to the counter to engage the librarian in obtaining the ability to checkout some special books on a subject she named. I noticed in listening; it took her a while to get her request across but she succeeded.

The librarian explained she needed ID to set up a library card. Back to the box she went where I was standing and I softly asked, "Can I speak to you." She responded, "What about, do you have business here?" I responded, "Some in the community have expressed they can help you if you let them." She stated, "The times are more difficult now, so it is best all try to help themselves."

Then she added, "I have lost \$20,000, because people stole it from my bank. They are getting free rent money by taking it out of my account. Many have stole from me." I kindly repeated again to her so that she would be doubly sure to know, "Hanoi, there are many in the community who wish to help you, remember those ladies who bought you lunch from time to time, they wish to help. Did you want help?"

She explained, "I see people and they go in and out of my life. I do not know any ladies who had lunch with me and I must try to update my 1994 ID." Hanoi then crouched over to look through a small plastic bag which she had meticulously tied with knots in search of very important papers and personal information crucial for her to try to win back her library card. She had some bank envelopes too. I felt more comfortable knowing she had success in understanding how to access some of her funds. She explained that she is trying to get a library card and needs her ID but the bank is working with her. "I must stop people from stealing money from my



It was a miracle to see **Hanoi** in good health at Alum Rock library.

account," she said again.

Knowing her well from working with her for months I understood the window of speaking time with her was short before she would fold up the conversation while walking away to say, "I have things to do."

So, I took a moment to tell her that she looked beautiful and asked, "Were you once a beautician?" She responded, "Yes, since I was 5."

It was then the third miracle happened. For the first time ever, I saw her smile and what a grand smile it was. Then, I asked her if I could take a photo and to my delight she agreed.

Witnessing her smile helped me to understand that she was happy inside. I felt she was on good terms with herself in battling life. I am not sure why she agreed to let me take her photo but I'm glad I had the courage to ask.

On this chance visit, I did not detect the sadness that she once conveyed in past conversations about her childhood and young adulthood. She seemed extremely driven as a person and her quick movements of doing tasks reminded me of someone being paid to remove fruit pits from a canning assembly line.

She was on the move! There was nothing that could stop her. At this point in time, on this day, she was vibrant, invincible, alive, self-sufficient and well!

She stated as we parted ways, "I am older but that can't stop me. I want to work part time in cleaning. I qualify too. I just need my ID to apply."

Editor's Note: This article gives us all a window to homelessness. To read the two earlier OpEd articles on "Hanoi" go to Evergreen Times Archive:

https://timesmedia.pageflip.site/editions/ET18374#page/5

https://timesmedia.pageflip.site/editions/ET04090#page/17

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# 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 See PARENTING, page 18



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### Times Community News

## **CAREER CORNER** The importance of leadership post pandemic

By Angela Copeland emote 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 cube 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 be 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

Gone are the days of chatting over your cube wall to the person next to you. Gone are the watercooler chats. 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.



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.

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"We hadn't met Shawn before asking him to represent us in selling our home but we knew he had a lot of experience selling homes in our neighborhood. He made a great first impression and that carried all the way through to the end. He is a consummate professional, and is an extremely nice person to work with to boot. He's also persistent and assured when the process requires it. We feel he went above and beyond to make this big change in our lives as smooth as possible. We could not think more highly of Shawn and would definitely use him again.

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### **Parenting**

#### Continued fromn page 16

around her neck — to visit her grandmoth-

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, discipline 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.

"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.

### **TECH JARGON OF THE WEEK**

# Ai-Da

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

### Ai-Da

Everyone in the tech world is buzzed with the innovations and exciting developments occurring in the world of Artificial Intelligence (or AI). The creative world of art has also ventured into this technology.

### Non-human art exhibition

In 2019 Ai-Da, an art-producing robot made news by opening her own exhibition at the Barn Gallery, attached to Oxford University's St John's College. The exhibition featured framed pictures of Ai-Da's own pencil drawings alongside paintings generated from her perception of objects and scenes she's observed in the world. Next to Ai-Da herself, there were small statues of her rendered in bronze based on scans she's taken of her own figure. Described as "The world's first ultra-realistic AI humanoid robot artist," Ai-Da opened her first solo exhibition of eight drawings, 20 paintings, four sculptures and two video works, bringing "A new voice" to the art world.

Named after British mathematician and computer pioneer Ada Lovelace, Ai-Da can draw from sight thanks to cameras in her eyeballs and AI algorithms created by scientists at the University of Oxford that help produce co-ordinates for her arm to create art

### Robot art work raises over a million dollars

She uses a pencil or pen for sketches, but the plan is for Ai-Da to paint and create pottery. Her paint works now are printed onto canvas with a human painting over. Some of the artworks attributed to the machine have already brought in more than \$1 million. Much of the earnings have gone back into the funding of the project. Non-humanoid art-making robots are not really, novel, they have been made before by other artists. There have also been a lot of experiments with AI art, so the real novelty about Ai-Da is her appearance and artist-persona. Ai-Da's art would look at the boundaries between technology, AI, and organic life.

### About the Author

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



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### Write to editorial@timesmediainc.com



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

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Thursday 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office. Information on Faith Formation for children and adults can be obtained by calling our Catechetical Office at 408-997-5115. Get in the loop with our 3sixty High School Youth Ministry by calling 408-997-5106. Holy Spirit School serves grades Pre-K through 8th, and is located at 1198 Redmond Avenue. You can reach the school office at 408-268-0794.

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God is One

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Rab lk Hai

SAN JOSE GURDWARA

San Jose, CA 95148 The

means "disciple" or "stu-

dent." A Sikh is a practi-

in the 15th century by

Guru Nanak in Puniab of

old British India. A Guru

who is a "teacher" or "en-

lightener" completes the

relationship of teaching

and learning. Sikhism is

monotheistic and stresses

the equality of all men and

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living by honest means

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wara (House of God) in

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and prosperity for every-

body in the world. Come

to visit and eniov Langer

which is open 365 days

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word Sikh (see-kh)

people in need and

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(Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday11:00AM, Igbo Mass -Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM Mt. Hamilton Grange 2840 Aborn Road Sunday 9:30 AM The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium) Sunday 8:15 AM For more information. please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

> Get listed!

For Worship listing ads. call 408.483-5458

### Times Community News

### **Gas prices**

Continued from page 1

are," Saggau said, "...for those who can only afford with what they're paid to live where they live, it just makes it incredibly worse."

Saggau told San José Spotlight the 50hour work week plus travel time takes them away from family life, and all that comes with it. Officers miss their children's school open houses or can't coach Little League.

"It has this debilitating effect on morale that adds up," he said.

Shelby Bolduc, a current SJPD officer, understands those long commutes all too well. She has been with the department for four and a half years. When she wanted to buy a home, she had to move to the Central Valley, as living in the Bay Area close to work was unaffordable.

"With how much we make as police officers, there's no way that I could even think about buying anything," she said. "Even rent out here is ridiculous. That's why I have to live in the Central Valley."

#### 4-hour commute

Bolduc previously lived with her parents and had a 20-minute commute. Now she travels more than two hours each way. Although she said her mortgage is probably half of what rent would be in the Bay Area, she is still spending big on fuel.

With "astronomical" gas prices, she pays almost \$100 to fill the tank of her Dodge

With "astronomical" gas prices, it can cost almost \$100 to fill the tank of a Dodge Charger every three days, or about \$1,000 a month to fill up 10 times.



Charger every three days, about \$1,000 a month if she fills up 10 times. Even her 12year-old Ford Fusion commuter car costs \$90 to fill up.

Gas accounts for about 10% of her monthly paycheck, Bolduc said. Although she'd like to travel to relieve job stress, she's limited in how far she can go due to fuel costs.

"It definitely limits what you are able to do for yourself," she told San José Spotlight. "It would be nice to do more, but you have to work with what you have." **A new normal?** 

A new norma

Allan Kamara, president of the Registered Nurses Professional Association, is also concerned for his nurses who have to drive from far away, including a worker who commutes from Monterey County.

"That's two hours one way and will cost you about a tank of gas," he told San José Spotlight.

Kamara said he's worried rising gas prices may lead nurses to relocate if their pay doesn't increase, exacerbating the current health care worker shortage. Increasing gas prices are the talk of the breakroom, he said.

"I hope it doesn't become a new normal, because it's not going to be sustainable," he added.

#### Commuting steals rest time

For their mental health, nurses like to travel and see family when they're off work, Kamara said, but they're not able to do that due to fuel expenses.

"When they're off, they like to get out of the house," he said. "It's part of their therapy... especially with what nurses have been through in the past two years. Now people are careful where they go."

### Over \$200 to fill a tank of gas

Charles Downing, a Home Depot delivery driver in San Jose, said it costs him \$230 per day to fill the truck he uses for work and \$190 weekly to fill the Chevy Suburban he drives for his large family. Although the cost of gas hasn't caused him financial hardship yet, Downing said it's only a matter of time with gas prices continuing to rise.



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