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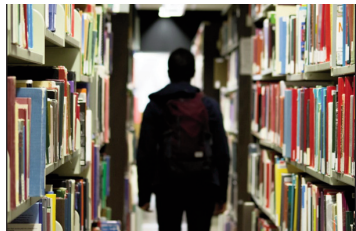
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OCTOBER 2022 ■ VOL. 18, NO. 10

Willow Glen *Times*

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California is withholding latest school test results

By Dan Walters

The California Department of Education is — for no rational reason — refusing to release results of last spring's academic tests, which are likely to be negative.

California's Department of Education has finally acknowledged the obvious: It is arbitrarily delaying the release of results from this year's round of academic testing.

In years past, scores from the spring Smarter Balanced tests of academic achievement have been released in late summer or early fall, but this year, the department denied a request for statewide results even though it authorized individual districts to make their data available.

Why?

Mary Nicely, chief deputy state superintendent for instruction, told EdSource, a website devoted to California education issues, which had requested the data, that the numbers would be released as part of a "dashboard" that includes other "metrics" on how schools are performing.

"We are on track to release the data as we did last year. If we can come out sooner, we will," she said. "We are not withholding anything; people are working hard to finalize the data."

That doesn't wash.

See **TEST RESULTS**, page 2

Presentation High School turns 60

Alumnae remember presentation's history

Presentation High School turns 60 this month!

The Willow Glen private school has thrived in the community by changing with the times, making it one of the top Bay Area all-girl schools.

"We're definitely not your grandmother's all-girls Catholic high school," says director Holly Elkins. "The sewing classroom is now the leadership room, and our uniform now includes pants. There are, however, fewer all-girl schools in our region than there were 60 years ago."

Kristina Luscher, who recently joined the school as its new principal, says girls schools are more important than ever when it comes to empowering young women.

"Research shows that girls at single-gender high schools perform better and gain greater self-confidence; they become more involved in activities, develop higher self-esteem and assume more leadership positions."

Sciences and the arts

Presentation High School is currently devoting a lot of its resources on both the sciences and the arts. The investment is paying off, as Presentation recently won the 2022 Outstanding School Award at the Synopsys Science & Technology Champion-

ship, the first all-girls school to do so. Nine students won awards at the competition, including one teacher. The school's robotics team won the 2021 CalGames and competes at the national level.

Showing compassion to the poor and vulnerable

"We emphasize showing compassion to the poor and vulnerable," says Grace Bernal, the teacher in charge of service and immersion at Presentation.

Every holiday season, Presentation students and their families support Sacred Heart Community Service by providing food items, coats, blankets, hygiene products, toys and diapers for clients served by the downtown San Jose nonprofit.

"We collected 888 Thanksgiving turkeys last year alone," Bernal says.

The bonds formed at Presentation extend beyond graduation.



Nano Nagle



Presentation High School's freshman's class of 1962.



Members of the Presentation Ambassadors Club welcome students to Club Day at the Willow Glen private school. Presentation High School is turns 60 on Oct. 1, but director **Holly Elkins** says, "We're definitely not your grandmother's all-girls Catholic high school."

"The most important thing I gained from Presentation is the sisterhood," says alumna Ellen Kamei, a Mountain View City Council member. "We formed a strong network, and I still stay in touch with my classmates."

Soma Sengupta recalls that her daughter Shrobana, currently a student at UC Berkeley, thrived at Presentation. "She loved the emphasis on creativity and the opportunities for leadership. She found the teachers and college counselors to be very supportive."

History

Presentation High School was founded by Nano Nagle, who was born to a wealthy family in Ireland. Nagle was educated in France, where she later entered a religious order. Eventually, she returned to her homeland, where she devoted her time to helping the destitute and infirm. She founded the first Presentation Convent in Cork, Ireland, in 1775.

Presentation Alumnae remembers school's history

When Presentation opened in the Fall of 1962, it was a time when President John F. Kennedy

and Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev were squaring off over Russia's installation of missiles in Cuba, the death of Marilyn Monroe, and the Beatles' first hit, "Love Me Do" was released.

That same year in San Jose, where a large cherry orchard on Plummer Avenue in Willow Glen had been cleared, a new girls' Catholic high school opened—Presentation High School, taking its name from the Sisters of Presentation religious order that was staffing the school.

Presentation's main building had not been completed and classes had to be conducted in the St. Christopher's Gym, said Karen Shea Duncan, class of '66 which consisted of just 73 students.

"Leading up to the move-in day, students were excited to get out of St. Christopher's Gymnasium which was set up as a temporary school, Duncan said. "The students who rode the bus home every day would cheer for the workers as we passed by our future school. The workers would wave back! I guess we felt we

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SEE OUR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THIS ISSUE - PAGE 15

Times **Feature****Test results***Continued from page 1*

There's absolutely no reason that data already given to school districts should not be made public now and included in the "dashboard" later.

It's likely that the test results will show a sharp decline in the abilities of California's school children in basic skills, such as reading and math, due to the state's shutdowns of schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.

State officials probably want to sugarcoat the bad news by delaying it until after the Nov. 3 election and combining it with other material that would dilute its importance. Tony Thurmond, the state schools superintendent, will be on the ballot along with Gov. Gavin Newsom and other Democratic officeholders and while all are favored to win reelection, bad news on schools would be embarrassing.

We know that the post-pandemic test results are likely to be disappointing. That's been the pattern in other states. Los Ange-



les Unified has already released its quite negative test results, reversing about five years of gradual progress in the state's largest school system.

In L.A. Unified, about 72% of students did

not meet state standards in math, five percentage points higher than pre-pandemic testing. In English, 58% were subpar, two points higher.

"The pandemic deeply impacted the performance of our students," said L.A. Unified Superintendent Alberto Carvalho. "Particularly kids who were at risk, in a fragile condition, prior to the pandemic, as we expected, were the ones who have lost the most ground."

If L.A. Unified had enough guts to tell its voters and parents the harsh truth, there's

no valid rationale for Thurmond not to do so for the entire state.

After its request for statewide results was denied, EdSource pressed the issue with a letter from its attorney requesting reconsideration.

"EdSource considers delay tantamount to denial as it effectively robs the public of its vital role in overseeing the CDE (Department of Education) and individual districts and in holding both accountable to its students and the public. This is especially important during what continues to be one of the most challenging and impactful times to our educational system due to the COVID pandemic," EdSource attorney Duffy Carolan wrote.

EdSource's letter told the Department of Education that it "cannot identify any 'public' interest in non-disclosure that could justify its denial position, let alone an interest that 'clearly outweighs' the substantial public interest in access to this information."

This is not only a politically tinged education issue but a major test for the state's Public Records Act, which allows public agencies to withhold information only under extreme circumstances. If records can be withheld for obvious political purposes in this case, the Public Records Act might as well be junked entirely.

Dan Walters is a CalMatters columnist.

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Symphony San Jose presents the extraordinary 'la Grand Viola'

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Symphony San Jose is presenting "la Grand Viola" Saturday, Oct. 22 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 23, at 2:30 p.m. at the California Theatre, 345 South First St., San Jose, CA.



From left: Conductor: **Tito Muñoz**. Soloist: **Timothy Ridout**, viola.

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Supervisors approve Narcan distribution for local schools

Emergency treatment for opioid overdose

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors voted September 19 to allocate \$135,000 in State funds toward the distribution of Narcan, an emergency treatment that can quickly reverse an opioid overdose.

The Narcan distribution effort targets local high schools.

“I join Supervisor Chavez in her sense of urgency,” said County Supervisor Joe Simitian, who serves as Chair of the County’s Health and Hospital Committee. “We have young people who are affected by this crisis.”

As a former school board member, Simitian expressed concern that some schools have been hesitant to make Narcan kits accessible on school campuses.

‘Problem is pretty pervasive’

“When you say, ‘wouldn’t you like to have this resource available?’ The reaction is, ‘well we don’t have a problem,’” Simitian said. “And maybe some places don’t, but frankly I’m inclined to think that the problem is pretty pervasive.”

Fentanyl crisis

In response to the concerns raised by Simitian and Chavez, the Behavioral Health Department is working with various County departments and community partners to address the growing fentanyl crisis through education and outreach, in addition to identifying opportunities to

expand the availability of Narcan kits and fentanyl test strips.

Opioid Prevention Project

Through the Santa Clara County Opioid Overdose Prevention Project (SCCOOPP), the Behavioral Health Department has worked with community partners since 2015 to help reduce opioid overdose and deaths in Santa Clara County. Over the last five years, this effort has resulted in the distribution of more than 10,000 Narcan kits to law enforcement agencies, first responders, the courts, County contract agencies, businesses, community-based organizations that serve the unhoused population, schools, and higher education institutions.

The County expects several million dollars in funding from opioid lawsuits to provide additional funding for Narcan distribution and outreach.

“I join Supervisor Chavez in her sense of urgency,” said County Supervisor Joe Simitian, who serves as Chair of the County’s Health and Hospital Committee. “We have young people who are affected by this crisis.”

Valley Currents



San Jose Councilmember **Matt Mahan** and Santa Clara County Supervisor **Cindy Chavez** at a candidate forum hosted by San José Spotlight on Sept. 15, 2022. *Photo by Jana Kadah.*

San Jose mayoral candidates spar over policies, vie for top seat

By **Jana Kadah**

San José Spotlight

The debate between the San Jose mayoral candidates is more than just business versus labor. Voters in November will decide if they want a freshman councilmember looking to shake things up or a longtime politician with institutional knowledge.

San Jose Councilmember Matt Mahan and Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez are battling it out for the top seat at City Hall. Mahan, with one and a half years of experience as a councilmember, is looking to use his tech executive experience to restructure City Hall and foster greater accountability. Chavez is a longtime politico who knows how the underpinnings of intergovernmental agencies work to address complex projects.

At the Thursday mayoral debate hosted by San José Spotlight, both pointed the finger at their rival’s respective backgrounds as reasons for why they are the right choice, and their opponent is not. The biggest issues were homelessness and housing.

Mahan said while the county’s budget has risen in the past few years, supervisors like Chavez failed to utilize the money properly to address the mental health crises and build more housing, exacerbating the region’s homeless problem which has increased in San Jose by 11% since 2019.

“I haven’t seen that kind of urgency and focus on scaling up solutions that get to the root causes and give us a shot at the history of homelessness in our lifetimes,” Mahan said. “We have people walking

down the street in downtown, scaring our residents and you’ve been sitting with the county for 10 years now basically making excuses for why we can’t solve it.”

Chavez responded that the councilmember’s accusations were “disingenuous” and uninformed.

“Part of the reason you haven’t known what’s happened in the last 10 years is because you have been in office a year and a half,” Chavez said in response.

“You keep acting like the county’s budget just ballooned on accident. Part of the reason our budget has grown so dramatically is we saved O’Connor and St. Louise hospitals—141 beds and two emergency rooms. And yes, I did that.”

Restructuring City Hall

Mahan wants to set measurable goals and use data to ensure the city is meeting those targets. One of his main initiatives is to tie pay raises of elected officials and city department heads to reaching those goals, and hold them accountable if the work isn’t completed as expected. Changing the pay of city employees is a difficult, if not impossible task because salaries are decided by union-negotiated contracts and council salaries by an independent salary-setting commission. The city also has its own salary-based tier system.

He said housing and commercial construction are moving painstakingly slow, in part because there is a 26% vacancy in the city’s planning department. To solve the housing shortage he wants to reform the planning and building department. Mahan also said the city should be building all types of homes and not focusing only on the number of affordable housing options.

“We should be significantly overbuilding market rate and medium income because low income housing (which) we desperately need (has) limited public funds to subsidize,” Mahan said. “The reality is most of the more affordable housing stock was market rate

See DEBATE, page 9



San Jose Councilmember and mayoral candidates **Matt Mahan** and **Cindy Chavez**. *Photo by Jana Kadah.*

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- ◆ Spacious primary suite with plenty of natural light, two spacious closets, and glass slider to the second balcony
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Times **In Memory**

IN MEMORY

Stanley M. Bellow

April 24, 1924 - Sept. 7, 2022

Stanley M. Bellow, 98, passed away on September 7, 2022 at his home in the Villages Golf and Country Club, San Jose, CA. His passing was peaceful and of natural causes. He was surrounded by family and friends.

Stan was a fifth generation San Jose native. He served in the Marine Corps in WWII as a Sergeant, enlisting at 17 years old. He was a music major at San Jose State. Stan was hired by Richmond-Chase Cannery Company as weigh master and retired after more than 40 years.

Stan's last job was as account manager at Geiger Bros., an advertising specialty company and was named "Salesman of the Year" numerous times. He served in the Vestry as Senior Warden at Trinity Cathedral in San Jose for 8 years and donated funds to acquire a bell for the bell tower.

Stan was known to be an avid swimmer and swam laps daily to stay in shape. He was also a music lover, supporting Symphony San Jose through donations and annual memberships since 1955. Stan loved playing the piano, especially music by composers Debussy and Rachmaninoff.



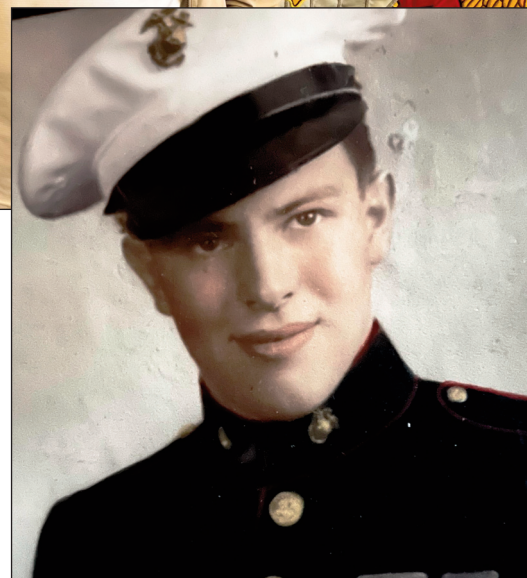
If you knew Stan, you knew you were loved. His life will be forever cherished by his family and friends. He is survived by his beloved Kay Pexton, his son William Bellou and daughter-in-law Sandy Bellou; his daughter Nancy Smith and son-in-law Paul Smith; grandchildren Tami Ozubko and her husband Ryan Ozubko; Kimberly Escobedo, Brandon Klitz, Jason Smith, Jennifer Kohler and her husband Jeffery Kohler; great grandchildren Zachary Ozubko, Nathan Ozubko, Alina Kyle Smith, Wesley Kohler, Harrison Kohler, Danielle Escobedo and, proudly serving in the Marine Corps, PFC Michael Escobedo. He also leaves behind numerous extended family and a wealth of friends.

A private memorial service will take place in October at Oak Hill Memorial Park.

Stan was a generous man until the end. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Symphony San Jose or the Marine Memorial Club.




Stan was a fifth generation San Jose native. He served in the Marine Corps in WWII as a Sergeant, enlisting at 17 years old.



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Times Opinion



OP-ED

When will Cindy Chavez tell the truth?

By Ann Ravel and Michelle Glogovac

These are ominous times in America for those who have lost their fundamental right to make decisions about their own body in many states—although thankfully not here in California where our rights will remain protected—and because of the threats to our democracy.

In these serious times, we need our leaders to take our issues seriously, and to fight for our rights and on behalf of the public, and not just their own political careers.

Sadly, Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez has been putting her political self-interest above our vital cause and above the urgent importance of truth in political discourse to protect our democracy.

Her opponent in the race for San Jose mayor, Councilmember Matt Mahan, is 100% pro-choice. He is a steadfast ally. But you would not conclude that if you have seen one of Chavez's many attack ads that imply Mahan is not pro-choice.

The ads are purposely constructed to mislead. This is always a red flag. If a candidate needs to lie about their opponent to seek political victory, it is a sign their own record is far less than stellar. In this important moment in our country, when our movement for reproductive freedom needs to unite all of our allies and to focus on facts and truth, a politician exploiting this cause for

their own gain is deeply troubling.

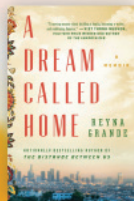
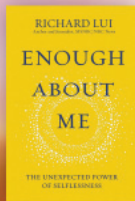
The irony is she is attacking Mahan for something she does for her campaign every day—supporting "content neutral" platforms like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and others. If you have seen the Chavez attack ad on YouTube—or via an email or text message she sent you—she is using platforms that don't censor anti-choice messages. When she mails you a "hit piece" on this topic, she will use a platform like the USPS that does not censor this or other topics.

The whole basis of the Chavez attack—not just on choice but on other issues—is the fact that Mahan started a technology company that did not censor protected political speech. This company was meant to encourage the critically needed civic engagement of all Americans, not to censor protected speech.

In normal times, the hypocrisy being displayed by Chavez would be seen as just politics as usual. But these are not normal times. It is imperative that our leaders understand they must put toxic politics aside and refuse to diminish the importance of a cause by exploiting it for their own purposes, and by not spreading more falsehoods to the public that can undermine our political process.

We need the truth from our leaders. On the vital topic of a woman's right to choose, we are still waiting for Cindy Chavez to tell the truth.

Ann Ravel is a former commissioner and chair of the Federal Election Commission and CA Fair Political Practices Commission. Michelle Glogovac is a community advocate who volunteers with Moms Demand Action.



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Debate

Continued from page 4

housing built a long time ago that got old.”

Chavez said she has the know-how to get the county and city to work together to solve the city’s biggest woes. During her time on the city council the city permitted 7,000 homes in downtown through state tax funds and rezoned lands to encourage development where there was none. As a county supervisor, she worked with VTA to get 200 acres of transit agency land to be used for housing or safe parking sites.

“We need to look at the funding we have available and be as strategic as we can now,” Chavez said. “We need a public-private partnership to get the backlog filled for the (planning and building) department.”

Chavez’s campaign has also focused on public safety and staffing up the San Jose Police Department which has suffered from vacancies in recent years. She said the city needs to look at SJPD overtime and allocate that money toward recruiting officers who represent the community—particularly more women officers.

Mahan said the problem with SJPD is retaining officers and ensuring the city has enough money to be competitive with pay.

Transparency and accountability

The debate also focused on political action committee (PAC) spending on candidates and how they will not be beholden to special interests; and if they will be transparent and public with media. During the primaries, this news organization asked mayoral candidates if they would commit to not deleting emails for at least two years, not using a private email to conduct public business and if they do, to copy a government server.

Before the debate, Chavez was the only one who had not made the commitment, but when asked on Thursday, she said yes.

San José Spotlight and the First Amendment Coalition are suing the city and Mayor Sam Liccardo for improperly withholding emails, in an effort to change how government conducts public business.

During the primaries, Chavez received more than \$1 million in PAC spending from groups like the South Bay Labor Council, the San Francisco 49ers and the San Jose Police Officers’ Association. In comparison, Mahan received nearly \$300,000 from the Common Good Silicon Valley PAC that was supported by Mayor Sam Liccardo—who personally helped fundraise for him.

Chavez said she has a proven track record of “doing the right thing,” regardless of who helps fund her campaign, and PAC funding won’t sway her.

Mahan said the PAC money to Chavez doesn’t bode well, and that he would much rather have the support of an outgoing mayor, who will not have much power after this year, rather than special interest groups with deep pockets.

Residents will have the opportunity to make their voices heard on November 8.

Amended water ordinance to include ban on watering of commercial, industrial and institutional lawns

Valley Water’s board of directors unanimously voted to strengthen existing rules aimed at reducing outdoor watering.

The Board amended the existing outdoor watering ordinance to allow Valley Water to enforce the State of California’s ban against watering decorative lawns on commercial, industrial and institutional properties Sept 13.

Valley Water also streamlined its coordination with water retailers to speed up the time it takes to address water waste cases in Santa Clara County and avoid duplication of enforcement processes.

“The Valley Water Board of Directors will consider every option available to help protect our county’s water supply,” Valley Water Chair Pro Tem John L. Varela said. “We must

all work together so we can protect our current and future water supply.”

The updated outdoor watering ordinance goes into effect immediately. The following restrictions previously approved by the Board of Directors on April 12, 2022, remain in place:

- Watering ornamental lawns no more than two days a week
- Watering any outdoor landscape between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Any outdoor watering that results in runoff
- Watering outdoors during and within 48 hours of rainfall

In June 2021, the Valley Water Board of Directors established a 15% water use reduction goal for Santa Clara County compared to 2019. After months of steady progress, Santa

Clara County reached this goal in July, saving 16% compared to July 2019.

Santa Clara County also exceeded Gov. Gavin Newsom’s call for a reduction of 15% compared to 2020. Santa Clara used 19% less water in July when compared to July 2020, well above the statewide average of a 10% savings.

“I’d like to thank everyone who has taken steps to reduce their water use during this drought and encourage you to keep up the great work” Chair Pro Tem Varela said. “We don’t know how much rain and snow this winter will bring us. We must continue to reduce our water use, especially if this drought carries into 2023. We owe it to our kids, family and community not to waste water.”



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Presentation

Continued from page 1

were doing our part to speed things up!"

Move in day finally arrived on October 1, 1962. The Class of 1966 was happy to go to classes in the partially finished Presentation High School Main Building.

Here are some memories of that first day from the Class of 1966:

"I remember there were three classrooms and a restroom open near the bookstore and that the office was open in the Main Building. There were workmen in the halls and building supplies to step over. I don't even recall whether there were benches outside. The student center was a hollow shell with pipes sticking up out of the floor, and it stayed that way for quite a while. The statue of the Blessed Mother was an empty pedestal, and there wasn't much in the way of landscaping. We worked alongside our parents in the evenings and on the weekends assembling lockers. It wasn't third world, but it was definitely 'roughing it' for many months. It certainly was better than one class in each corner of the St. Christopher's Gym!" (Maureen Curran '66 Clark)

"I was a new freshman in a new school and in a new building. I was experiencing a 'first' each step of the way. This was the beginning of the history of Presentation High School! It was a once in a lifetime honor!" (Nadine Dutra '66 Dell Bittain)

"The first day of class on campus was unique in that there was still ongoing construction. I'm not sure if all the buildings even had roofing yet. Workers were everywhere. It must have been a challenge for the sisters. I do remember that on one of those first days, the sisters and most of the students did the "bunny hop" down the middle of the hallway! That was pretty neat since the sisters were still wearing full habits! The scene would have made a great

YouTube video!" (Kathy Swift '66 Ronan)

"Presentation was a big empty space! There were 62 girls and 3 teachers using 6 finished classrooms. Two classrooms were used for lunch rooms. One classroom was used for music and to practice our calypso moves. We wore our PE uniforms but Ms. Heller, the PE teacher, never suited up! She just stood on the sidelines with her clipboard! She did have us do drill team exercises, and we performed at volleyball games. Sister Gregory always had a tape measure and was always checking building progress. The nuns did their best to keep us out of the workmen's way. One whole wing was still under construction as well as the Center. That was a pivotal year for us as a class. We endured a lot, and we became quite full of ourselves. We were essentially seniors for four years and did not conform or take direction well. I believe everyone gave a sigh of relief when we graduated!" (Linda Della Maggiore '66 Christensen)

"We began our classes in Healy Hall at St. Christopher's. I believe there were 80 of us. When we moved into Presentation, there were workmen on the roof. Sister Gregory had our dads assembling lockers after school, and she would walk down the hall in case one of the dads needed to swear. Sister Fidelmia, Sister Gregory, and Sister Raphael were our three instructors." (Genevieve Phillips '66 Pereira)

"Memories of our eventful first day at Presentation are sparse, but I do recall excitement and anxiety entering the St. Christopher's Gym shyly embracing the 60+ girls of our freshman class. The school was not finished, so long rows of tables in the Gym would suffice as desks for the class of '66. We took a walk to view the new school, which would not be completed for three months. Walking around the unfinished campus was wonderfully fun and exciting. During those first three months we would become part of the work crew for the

Continued, next page

Times **Feature**

Continued from previous page

school. Under the direction of our brilliant school architect, Sr. Gregory, we did a variety of work around the unfinished buildings. We wielded screwdrivers, hammers and pliers putting together desks, chairs, and the lockers that still line both wings of the main hallways. Physically helping to build lockers bonded life-long friendships

and Presentation's legacy for over 50 years!" (Sally DiSalvo '66 Longinetti)

"Foremost in my mind about the first day of classes was the location. We were seated at tables (u-shaped in placement if I recall correctly) in St. Christopher's Gym! The school was not yet ready. Sister Fidelmia, Sister Gregory, and Sister Rafael team-taught the class of '66 in the gym for sever-

al days before we moved to the school's classrooms. When we did move to the school, the carpenters were still working. I remember being distracted by a burly construction worker, several long, 2x4s propped on his shoulder, walking down the hallway! It was pretty unique! To a 15-year-old, such whimsical sights were way more interesting than Latin verbs!" (Kathy

Swift '66 Ronan)

To celebrate its 60th anniversary, Presentation is holding a free community carnival on Sunday, Oct. 2, 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., on the campus at 2281 Plummer Ave., San Jose. For more information and to RSVP, visit <https://www.presentationhs.org/support-pres/60th-anniversary>.

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Several thousand attend Hot San Jose Nights 2022



Several thousand people turned out for the 14th annual Hot San Jose Nights 2022 at Reid-Hillview Airport Sept. 3. Hot San Jose nights is the region’s huge family fun classic car show and airplane show. The annual event brings together static airplane displays with an incredible array of classic cars from vintage custom hot rods, muscle cars, sleek sports cars, survivors, new special interest cars as well as military tanks for a fun day in the sun! Thousands of event goers listened to live music at the fun

all day event. The very talented Lauren Halliwell sang a very beautiful and emotional rendition of the National Anthem while the Civil Air Patrol presented the Color Guard. Baylands RC Group dazzled the crowd with a radio control prop airplane show with jets and a helicopter commentary. The fabulous Eagles tribute band, Lyin’ I’s entertained everyone for several hours. Don’t miss out on next year’s 15th annual Hot Summer Nights at Reid-Hillview airport. The price is free!

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Times Feature

ASK THE DMV

The California DMV offers specialized options for seniors over 70 years' old

Temporary renewal option expires at the end of this year

The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) wants to help you maintain your driving independence for as long as you can drive safely.

The DMV offers resources to help you take care of your DMV tasks from the comfort of

your home or at your local field office.

California drivers, aged 70 years or older, have until the end of 2022 to take advantage of a temporary rule that offers driver's license or identification (ID) card renewal online or by mail, even if a renewal notice states that the driver is required to visit a DMV field office. If you still need to apply for your REAL ID for the first time you will still need to visit a DMV field office to complete the application process.

You can shorten your in-person visit at the DMV by starting the REAL ID application online and uploading the required documents before making an appointment at a field office.

Q1: Are there other alternatives for DMV services besides online or in-person?

A1: The DMV continues to develop innovative approaches to streamline processes and limit the time customers spend in field offices by offering many services online that used to require an office visit. In many instances, the customer starts the process online and then is contacted later by a DMV representative through email to complete the transaction. The DMV also increased the number of items that can be taken care of at a kiosk as well as increased kiosk language options.

Q2: I am 70 years old and need to renew my license, but do not feel safe coming to a DMV office. What can I do?

A2: Until the end of 2022, eligible senior drivers and REAL ID cardholders can renew noncommercial driver's license and ID cards

at dmv.ca.gov/online or by mail, even if your renewal notice states a visit to a DMV office is required.

Q3: Once I receive my renewal notice in the mail, how long should I wait to renew my driver's license or ID card?

A3: If you choose to take advantage of the DMV's online services to renew, you should try to do so upon receiving your renewal notice in the mail. Keep in mind that driver's licenses and ID cards generally arrive in the mail within two to four weeks following renewal.

For more information or answers to questions not listed here, one can visit www.dmv.ca.gov.

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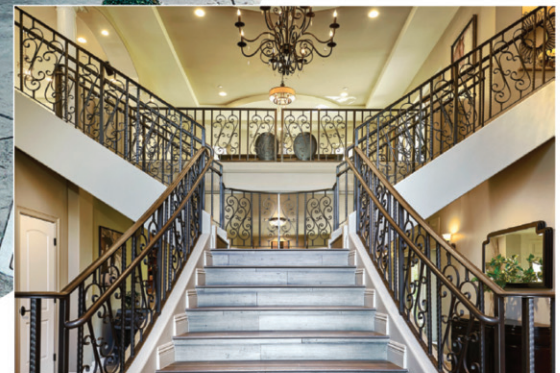
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