Arsenic and Old Lace to be presented by Pioneer Drama Department nightly Dec. 1-3 – PAGE 4



# **Preventing poisoning**

County's Fentanyl working group sets standard to prevent more Fentanyl deaths – SEE PAGE 11

Why test scores are plummeting at San Jose schools - PAGE 10





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Outstanding young soloists, Grace Yan (above left), flutist, will perform Ibert's Concerto for Flute and Orchestra; and Justin Kim (above right), cellist, will perform Dvorák's Cello Concerto in B minor.

# **Season Opener Concert: Philharmonic Orchestra performs Debussy, Ibert,** Saint-Saëns, Dvorák and Smetana

he San Jose Youth Symphony's Philharmonic Orchestra will present its 2022-23 Season Opener Concert on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m. at the California Theatre in downtown San Jose.

The orchestra, under the artistic leadership of Music Director and Conductor Yair Samet, will open with Debussy's Nocturnes -Fêtes, with its impressionistic and fantastical vision of a festival, followed by Saint-Saëns' lively and cheerful Marche Héroïque, and end with Smetana's patriotic and inspirational The Moldau.

The concert also features two winners from the 2022 Young Artists' Competition, proudly sponsored by the San Jose Symphony Foundation. Outstanding young soloists, Grace Yan, flutist, will perform Ibert's Concerto for Flute and Orchestra: and Justin Kim, cellist, will perform Dvořák's Cello Concerto in B minor.

Grace Yan is a junior at Evergreen Valley High School. She has been playing the flute since she was 5 years old. This is her fourth season with the San Jose Youth Symphony, having been with the Avant and Avancé Flute Choirs during See SYMPHONY, page 8

# Chavez concedes, Matt Mahan will be San Jose mayor

"Mayor Mahan will be a collaborative, dynamic, and thoughtful leader."

- Mayor Liccardo

By Tran Nguyen San José Spotlight

an Jose Councilmember Matt Mahan, who represents Almaden Valley, will be the new mayor of the 10th largest U.S. city after opponent Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez conceded defeat.

"I have called Matt Mahan to wish him the best of luck in his two-year term as mayor," Chavez said in a statement.

"San Jose faces numerous challenges in the months and years ahead, requiring that we all work collaboratively with the entire City Council to reach meaningful and equitable solutions."

Chavez, who was a frontrunner in the crowded competition in June, failed to close the gap in the tight race between her and Mahan since election day. With 90% of ballots counted as of Tuesday night, Mahan has won his bid to be the next San Jose mayor with 123,436 votes, securing 51.3% of the vote. Chavez has 117,085 votes, or 48.6%.

Mahan will replace current Mayor



San Jose Councilmember and mayoral candidate **Matt Mahan** speaks to supporters at his election night party in downtown San Jose. Photo by Tran Nguyen.

Sam Liccardo, who terms out after eight years.

"This has been a long and hardfought campaign. But what unites us as a city is much more powerful than any divisions from a political contest," Mahan told San José Spotlight. "I congratulate Supervisor Chavez on her strong campaign and I hope to work with her closely in the years ahead to address the challenges facing San Jose."

Mahan also thanked voters who turned out this election and volunteers who helped bring his campaign to victory.

"You built one of the most powerful grassroots campaigns that this city has ever seen," Mahan said. "It was your work that made this victory for common sense possible."

Liccardo, who endorsed Mahan's campaign, also congratulated Mahan on his victory Wednesday.

"Mayor Mahan will be a collaborative, dynamic, and thoughtful leader, who will ensure that our government works just as hard as the families we serve," Liccardo said in a statement. "It's no secret that I'm thrilled with Matt's election, because San Jose's future will be in good hands."

The highly anticipated mayor's race—which was watched across See MAYOR, page 8

# **Progressive Sylvia Arenas wins District 1 Santa Clara County supervisor race**

istrict 8 San Jose progressive councilmember Sylvia Arenas has won the Santa Clara County Supervisor District 1 race with 54.21% of the vote.

Former District 10 San Jose City Councilmember Johnny Khamis who represented Almaden Valley received 45.79% of the vote. Total number of votes cast (100%) 92,355.

When District 1 boundaries were re-drawn by a redistricting process last year, Khamis was forced to sell his south San Jose home to stay within the new District 1 boundaries.





Sylvia Arenas (left) and Johnny Khamis

Khamis and Arenas beat out mary to replace Supervisor Mike three candidates in the June pri- Wasserman, who terms out at the

The district no longer has the conservative stronghold areas of Almaden Valley and Los Gatos in its borders. The new boundary now extends to include several new San Jose neighborhoods including Evergreen Valley and Silver Creek.

Khamis conceded the race to the Bay Area News Group on Monday saying he has no intention of calling Arenas.

"My opponent cast me as a 'MAGA Republican,' a tactic that was both "dishonest and deceit-





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# Traffic relief and improved bike/ped safety for U.S. Highway 101 at Blossom Hill

avigating the interchange at Blossom Hill Road and U.S. Highway 101 is now easier for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians, thanks to a major improvement project completed by VTA, Caltrans and the City of San Jose.

VTA celebrated the completion of the two-year construction project at a ribbon cutting Nov. 18 on the Odette Morrow Trail off Coyote Creek Rd. The goal of the project is to relieve traffic congestion in the area and provide for safer passage for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The \$35 million improvements, paid for with 2016 Measure B funds, include a new bridge over Highway

101 with an extra vehicle lane in each direction. There is also a new overcrossing providing a safe and continuous route specifically for bicyclists and pedestrians. That path connects the existing Xander's Crossing west of the freeway with the heavily traveled Coyote Creek Trail to the east.

Pictured above: State Assemblymember Ash Kalra, VTA General Manger Carolyn Gonot, San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, Caltrans District 4 Deputy Director Doanh Nguyen, Sergio Jimenez, San Jose City Councilmember, and Ramesh Yadava, Coyote Creek Resident & Neighborhood Leadership at a ribbon cutting event Nov. 18.

# **Valley Water and Sacred Heart add \$1 million to Low-income Water Rate Assistance Program**

alley Water and Sacred Heart Community Service are preparing for the holiday season with a kick off to the holidays and the season of giving.

Both organizations have announced they are donating an additional \$1 million to the Low-Income

# Almaden **Times**

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Water Rate Assistance Program (WRAP). This program helps low-income households most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic pay their water bill.

The funding helps residents pay water bills and offers a call for people to give from the heart.

Just in time for the holidays, Sacred Heart will distribute the funds to low-income households in Santa Clara County. Sacred Heart will also discuss their need for volunteers and donations to support their upcoming holiday giving programs that provide food, clothing and toys for thousands.

Poncho Guevara, executive director at Sacred Heart, discussed the need for volunteers and donations to support Sacred Heart's upcoming holiday giving programs which have already provided food, clothing and toys to thousands of families last week.

# Valley Currents

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



Unsuspecting Mortimer Brewster (**Alexander Wiklund**) awaiting a surprise from antagonist duo, Dr. Einstein (**Jake Cordingly**) and Jonathan Brewster (**Donovan Collins**).

# Arsenic and Old Lace comedy to be presented by Pioneer Drama Department nightly Dec. 1-3

By Jane Johnson

Special to the Times

A fter perhaps some intense conversations, crazy-making antics or some competitive gaming over your own Thanksgiving table, a little hysterical comedy might be just the ticket to reframe for the holidays.

"Arsenic and Old Lace," only a short drive or walk away from you, is sure to fulfill that part of your wish list.

A well-known comedic play turned into movie, Cary Grant starred in the original Frank Capra production. Its ageless hilarity resulted in a re-release to streaming in 2000 to four stars on Rotten Tomatoes; pretty decent for a dark comedy originally staged in the early '40s.

Join the Brewsters as they bestow their eccentric bit of do-gooding into the world.

Pioneer High School Junior, Sophia Chichizola plays Martha Brewster, one of the spinster Aunt sisters, central to the plot.

"It's so fun to play her since she's a funny person. She's also comforting and warm, always cooking and making something new," said Chichizola. "She reminds me in some ways of one of my own Aunts," shared Sophia, a twinkle in her eye. "What mischief underlies that look?"

The Brewsters have a nephew, Teddy, believing he's Teddy Roosevelt and their home to be no less than the White House itself. Tommy Jordan, PHS Senior, is relishing the role.

# The written play allows actors to have fun

"Playing Teddy, a true character in every sense of the word, allows me to really have fun up there, acting as someone completely different from me," Jordan said. "Teddy is truly insane and the chemistry with the others on stage, and between the actors and the plot, brings to life this comedy." There are two other nephews central to the theme: Mortimer and Jonathan. Mortimer has become engaged to his sweetheart, Elaine, and brought her to his Aunts' home to share the good news. Jonathan meanwhile has been searching for Mortimer as a long ago irk drives him to settle the score. They all converge upon the aunts at an interesting time in this home to say the least.

PHS Junior, Donovan Collins, has taken to the role of Jonathan, relishing in the energy it brings to him.

"I consider myself a nice, kind person who tends to speak softly," Collins said. "If something bothers me, I keep it in, I tend to downplay it. Jonathan is high-tempered and easily angered. I get to disburse all sorts of energy playing him. It feels great, it feels powerful."

Director Ashley Coleman shared, "Thirteen of our 14 'Arsenic and Old Lace' cast members were working on 'The Music Man,' 'The Advanced Drama Tribute

See DRAMA, page 7



Officer Klein [left] (**Katy MaGuire**) and Office Brophy [right] (**Emmy Sandis**) stand beside an unconscious Jonathan Brewster [center] (**Donovan Collins**)



**Season Opener Concert** Featuring Grace Yan, flute & Justin Kim, cello Winners of the 2022 Young Artist Competition\*





Yair Samet, Music Director and Conductor

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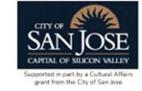
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# **Times Community News**

# **Drama**

Continued from page 4

Show', and 'Arsenic and Old Lace' simultaneously. This was also the situation for our tech, stage, and production crews. The PHS Drama Department has always been performance-heavy. We believe the best way to grow and prepare performers is to perform often, and for as many audiences as possible. Logistically, we have all our shows and licenses set a year in advance.

### 'These kids love to perform'

"This allows students in the program and those seeking placement to understand and prepare for the commitment ahead. This requires excellent time management on their part, as they balance their academics with their passions. These kids love to perform. They sought placement in these classes, and so they are intrinsically motivated to overcome challenges, master their craft, and perform for the community. PHS Drama has created a climate where there is something for everyone. Each show requires something different; different skill sets, different time commitments, different challenges. Musicals require a choreographic and vocal element that  $straight \, plays \, do \, not. \, Technical \, cues \, vary \, from \,$ a dozen to over 200, and sets can be simple or have 360 degree rotation. Our performances are as unique as our students', and we use their strengths to inspire our choices."

These high school students put their heart and soul into ensuring a great production for the community. Most have other commitments from Track & Field, weightlifting &/or working to tutoring younger kids outside of both school and drama rehearsals four nights a week. That, in addition to overlapping production rehearsal schedules, keeps them going straight from 7 a.m. to close to 10 p.m. at least four days a week. Giving them a good audience each night feeds back some of that tremendous energy they've expended all the many weeks of investment leading up to the production.

# There are special stage sets

Returning to pull apart from the last show and rebuild and decorate the new set is Lorie Biviano. Not only does she pay attention to the smallest detail, pairing and repainting set pieces and creating art through placement, while interviewing students, she can be heard insuring each screw is tightened, each door swings open and shut as it should. Pleasing to the eye and relevant to the story, her sets and props round out each show.

# Costumes created with keen eye to texture, depth and color

Kyla Blili and Diane Zlotziver costume the performers with a keen eye to texture, depth, and color. For each character they dive deep into the recesses of a packed costume closet seeking the perfect fit both visually and physically. If it's not just right, they further volunteer their time to make it so with seamstress skills extraordinaire. Their onstage tableau in each scene is enhanced through their costuming, helping each character's believability.

"If you want to have a blast and laugh out loud to good comedy, witty jokes and a story all about the craziness of family to the extreme turned into hilarity, this is the show not to miss!" said Tommy. "I've literally seen it 4 nights a week every week since we started rehearsals and I'm still laughing through the



Martha Brewster (**Sofia Chichizola**) and Abby Brewster (**Emerson Hill**), with their Nephew Mortimer Brewster (**Alexander Wiklund**), and his fiancé Elaine Harper (**Natalie Burril**).

entire show each night, it's that funny."

# Community requested to come and support these special productions

"Please come and support us. It's a very well-known play and it will be interesting for audience members to see how we perform it, what we take and do with the script. It's funny, so funny, I'm giggling backstage. It's just a mix of charming and funny." reflected Sophia.

Tickets are on sale now at phsdrama. ludus.com \$10 adults, \$7 seniors (62 y.o.+) and \$5 students. Doors open half hour before show time at 6:30 p.m. each evening, with shows Thursday through Saturday Dec 1st, 2nd and 3rd at 7 p.m. nightly.



Abby Brewster [left] (Emerson Hill), and Martha Brewster [right] (Sofia Chichizola) offer their guest Ms. Witherspoon [center] (Deanna Scaletta) a glass of Elderberry wine.



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# Times From the Cover



The San Jose Youth Symphony's Philharmonic Orchestra will present its 2022-23 Season Opener Concert on Saturday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m. at the California Theatre.

# **Symphony**

Continued from page 1 her first two years before joining the Philharmonic Orchestra last season.

Justin Kim is a junior at Bellarmine College Preparatory. He started playing the piano when he was 5 years old and then started playing cello at age 8. He first joined the San Jose Youth Symphony in 4th grade and is currently in his 2nd season with the Philharmonic Orchestra.

The San Jose Youth Symphony (SJYS) is one of the oldest and finest youth orchestras on the West

Coast of the U.S. Founded over seven decades ago as part of the former San Jose Symphony, SJYS has a rich tradition of musical performance and education.

The musicians of SJYS, all schoolage youth, are chosen from more than 650 applicants through our annual auditions. The SJYS comprises 12 distinct performing ensembles: two full orchestras, a Chamber orchestra, two flute choirs, two string ensembles, as well as winds, harp, saxophone, percussion, and jazz ensembles.

Tickets are available on the SJYS website: www.sjys.org/product-category/tickets

# **Mayor**

Continued from page 1

the state and country—pitted Chavez, a longtime seasoned politician, against Mahan, a business-backed newcomer. Chavez has the endorsements of labor unions, state and local elected officials, and every councilmember except Liccardo. Mahan is backed by former San Jose mayors Tom McEnery and Chuck Reed.

The race was fueled by more than \$8 million in outside spending from special interests and record campaign donations—making it one of the most expensive competition in San Jose's history. Chavez captured the lion's share of special interest spending—at \$3.4 million—from the San Francisco 49ers, labor and police unions, and others. Mahan's campaign received support from Common Good Silicon Valley, the PAC formed by Liccardo and now run by his chief of staff Jim Reed,



**Cindy Chavez**, a San Jose mayoral candidate, speaks to supporters at her election night party in Willow Glen. *Photo by Tran Nguyen*.

Silicon Valley Biz PAC and the Santa Clara County Association of Realtors.

Chavez will continue serving as a county supervisor until 2024 when she faces reelection. With his victory, Mahan will leave an open seat in District 10. Mahan will also have to face reelection in 2024, as voters approved a measure to move San Jose's mayoral elections to presidential years. If reelected in 2024, Mahan could potentially serve two

more consecutive four-year terms.

As mayor, Mahan aims to restructure San Jose City Hall and foster greater accountability. He has championed quick-build temporary housing on public land to move people off the streets. One of his campaign promises is to tie raises of elected officials and city administrators to goals such as reducing crime and homelessness—and withhold raises unless those targets are met.



### Times Feature

# Why test scores are plummeting at San Jose schools

By Loan-Anh Pham

San José Spotlight

anta Clara County test scores are plummeting, especially for lowincome students, and the drop goes beyond the classroom.

The COVID-19 pandemic laid bare the disparities across low-income households with the digital divide, disproportionate loss of loved ones and housing insecurity, all factors in the state's drop in standardized test scores. Recovering from this learning loss means tackling the problem through academics and socioeconomics, advocates said.

Local school districts including Alum Rock Union School District and Franklin-McKinley Elementary School District saw test scores drop, according to data from the California Department of Education.

Alum Rock Union School District, which serves more than 8.500 students across more than 20 elementary and middle schools, saw a 9.9% decrease in reading and writing scores, along with a 10.3% dip in math scores. Franklin-McKinley Elementary School District saw 7.3% drops in its reading, writing and math scores across its 16 elementary and middle schools. The district enrolls more than

San Jose Unified School District, for comparison, had a 3.6% decline in reading and writing scores, as well as a 5% decline in math scores. The district represents more than 30,000 students across 41 campus-

A child's academic performance is informed by their environment and circumstances, said Hilaria Bauer, Alum Rock Union School District superintendent. Students who are experiencing housing insecurity and displacement, or grieving the loss of a loved one, have more on their minds than taking tests.

"When we go into the testing conversation, we try to be as neutral as possible. In reality, that is just not the case," Bauer told San José Spotlight. "These were the families that were the most affected in our

Testing during the 2021-22 school year was different from other years—while students were back in person, testing environments included COVID-19 precautions like masks and social distancing, Bauer said. Addressing pandemic learning loss will require time, as school districts enter uncharted territory.

Wealth disparity among communities is a crucial factor in test performance, and a nationwide dip in scores isn't surprising, said Pedro Nava, director of educational leadership at the Santa Clara University School of Education and Counseling Psychology. While some families adapted quickly to virtual learning during the pandemic, he said, other families with essential workers dealt with health concerns, food insecurity and job instability-making online learning another challenge. The entire landscape changed, with school districts functioning as community hubs to provide basic necessities like food.

"We can see across San Iose, in Silicon Valley, as well as the larger Bay Area that we have some really broad wealth inequities across districts," Nava told San José Spotlight. "Some schools have much greater capacity to generate resources outside of what the state and localities provide."

Funding disparities across school districts are longstanding. Districts were able to face the pandemic with millions in federal funding, but those funds will run out by 2024. Meanwhile, families struggle to make a living in a city that's the most expensive in the nation for monthly bills, compounded by costly child care estimated at \$21,900 per vear.

# Impacts of learning loss

Even in Santa Clara County school districts that saw test scores rise, learning loss crept into particular disciplines like

Evergreen School District saw a 0.7% increase in reading and writing scores and a less than 1% decrease in math scores across its 16 elementary and middle schools that serve more than 9,900 students. Campbell Union High School District had a 2.8% increase in reading and writing scores and



Alum Rock Union School District, which serves East San Jose families disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, is seeing test scores drop. Photo courtesy of Alum Rock Union

a less than 1% decrease in math scores. The district enrolls more than 8,900 across eight high schools and community education pro-

While Campbell Union High School District distributed devices to tackle the digital divide and jumped straight into teaching new curriculum at the start of the pandemic, the  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right) \left$ achievement gap is still widening, especially for students of color, said Superintendent Robert Bravo.

"While the test scores look relatively strong, we know there were effects," Bravo told San José Spotlight.

Hikes in scores could also be connected to the district's gradual phasing of in-person learning through on-campus study hubs during the 2020-21 school year as opposed to last school year, said Jennifer Orlick, the dis $trict's\,director\,of\,strategy, accountability\,and$ 

But this has not helped low-income students gain ground yet. Low-income students are still performing at lower rates, with 53%meeting or exceeding reading and writing standards compared to 70% of students overall. In terms of math, 21% of the district's low-income students met or exceeded standards as opposed to 47% of students over-

Addressing learning loss means acknowledging the ramifications of Silicon Valley's high cost of living on families, Nava said. Evaluating education should also go beyond test scores and factor in the student's emotional and social development.

"The inequities that were exposed during COVID have always been there," Nava told San José Spotlight. "What it really just shows us is that some communities have additional resources to be able to... weather the



SANTA CLARA COUNTY IS IN A SEVERE DROUGHT.



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**Times Community News** 

# Valley Water Director LeZotte ends tenure by fulfilling board's mission

By Linda J. LeZotte, District 4
Valley Water Director

n 2010, I was first elected to the Valley Water Board of Directors and have proudly served my constituents for the past 12 years. As my tenure on the Board ends, I stand proud



of my part in our organization's many accomplishments.

Valley Water's primary mission includes providing safe, clean water, natural flood protection, and stewardship of streams on behalf of Santa Clara County's residents and businesses. These critical services have been at the forefront of my service as a board member, including my time as Board Chair in 2012 and 2019.

One of the achievements I'm most proud of is guiding Valley Water's effort in environmental sustainability.

In 2012, I encouraged our Board of Directors to focus on energy use and work toward reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.

In 2020, over 95% of energy powering Valley Water's operations came from clean sources, such as solar, hydro and others. Since 2012, our agency has implemented more than 45 energy optimization measures. We also are utilizing a diverse portfolio for sourcing energy.

I am very proud to say that our agency continues carrying out energy optimization measures such as expanding solar panels at our facilities, implementing energy-efficient measures across our agency, and securing other renewable energy sources.

Ten years ago, we noted a marked increase in trash and pollution in our waterways associated with the unhoused. During my first term as Board Chair, I called together a first-of-its-kind summit with our partners in the county, cities, non-profit agencies, and homeowners to discuss issues surrounding the unhoused community. This ultimately led to the creation of what is now Valley Water's Environmental Creek Cleanup Committee.

Between Fiscal Years 2014 and 2022, Valley Water and its partners removed 8,806 tons of trash, debris, and hazardous pollutants from waterways in Santa Clara County. A large percentage of this trash was generated from encampments. Our agency must continue working with our partners while respecting the difficult health and human services needs of the unhoused population who live in and around our creeks.

With so much critical work to do for our communities, it is imperative that our agency be fiscally responsible. At my direction, we took a closer look at this agency's unfunded liabilities in retiree health care and pension costs in 2012 and created policies and goals to deal with these unfunded liabilities.

Valley Water's unfunded liability from Other Post-Employment Benefits, which refers to benefits other than pensions, is on track to be paid off by Fiscal Year 2027-28 without any additional employer contribution. Valley Water is aiming to have the retiree health care unfunded liability paid off in the next 15 to 20 years.

My work on the Board Planning and Policy Committee helped put forward policies and



plans to guide Valley Water into the future. We created policies to protect the riparian corridor and enforce of our encroachment policy. I led the policy discussion to enact an Environmental Justice Policy; I helped to develop a Climate Action Plan to ensure that our work has a net positive impact on the environment. I worked with Federal and State leaders to develop plans to return the lower Bay to ecosystems of centuries ago.

Unfortunately, our County has endured two multi-year droughts during my time as a board member. During the last drought, I was the first member of our Board of Directors to recommend a 15% reduction in water use. We maintained that voluntary call until the current drought, when the need to call for mandatory conservation was necessary once again.

While on internal and external Board Committees – i.e. Stream Planning and Operations,

Water Conservation, and LAFCO -- I looked at every project through an environmentalist lens. I'm proud that our agency approved a Habitat Conservation Plan during my time as the Board Chair. This plan looks at habitat and resources on a large scale and identifies conservation and mitigation measures to protect endangered or threatened species. I served as Chair of the HCP Implementation Board since 2016

I would like to thank all the staff I have had the privilege to work with. You are the best. To my colleagues Nai and Barbara, it has been an honor to serve with you. I salute your integrity, ethics, civility, and dedication to our mutual constituents. Thank you for your wise counsel.

But this isn't about me, it's about YOU the constituents I have proudly served for 12 years. Thank you for your support. It meant a lot to me.





# LOCAL NOTEBOOK

# **County's Fentanyl working group sets standard for Cortese's Bill attempting to prevent more Fentanyl poisoning deaths**

state Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose) is calling for the expansion of Fentanyl prevention programming and services statewide to support schools and youth serving organizations.

Cortese says he intends to introduce a statewide framework to prevent Fentanyl overdoses through a legislative vehicle in the upcoming 2023-24 state legislative session.

# One in five youth deaths caused by fentanyl

As reported recently by The Mercury News, fentanyl was responsible for an astounding one in five youth deaths (ages 15-to-24) in California last year.

Building on the work of Santa Clara County's Fentanyl Working Group and in partnership with the Santa Clara County Office of Education, Senator Cortese's proposal will focus on awareness as well as access to lifesaving Naloxone (Narcan) training and distribution at targeted locations with high populations of youth.

The legislation will include:

- Distributing widespread information on the impact of fentanyl; and
- Asking counties to set up Behavioral Health Advisory Councils; and
- Establishing a Restorative Justice framework for unintentional possession by victims of spiking; and
- Embedding fentanyl prevention groups in school-site councils to facilitate site-based decision making for schools; and
- Providing schools with Narcan kits and training on how to mitigate the side effects of Fentanyl.

"The fentanyl crisis and its deadly effects on youth is of grave concern. Recent data shows fentanyl deaths amongst youth doubled in one year alone. We cannot wait for this crisis to exacerbate further. I am committed to introducing legislation rooted in prevention and education to combat the skyrocketing overdoses that have plagued youth statewide," says California State Senator, Dave Cortese.

The framework will build off the successful prevention model being implemented in Santa Clara County in partnership with the Santa Clara County Office of Education, Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services, and the Santa Clara County Opioid Overdose Prevention Project.

"This crisis requires a comprehensive statewide, multipronged approach. Schools have an essential role in both raising awareness about the dangers of fentanyl and keeping lifesaving medications on hand. Through our program, we are ensuring that schools, communities, and families have access to Narcan. Narcan kits have been provided to attendees immediately after receiving the training and used successfully within days" says Santa Clara County Superintendent, Dr. Mary Dewan.

Lives of two San Jose high school stu-

dents saved last month with Narcan kits

The Santa Clara County fentanyl-working group established by Supervisor Cindy Chavez and District Attorney Jeff Rosen last April has made great strides in supplying school districts with Narcan kits and training school staff members on how to administer Narcan, which in turn has already saved the lives of two high school

students last month in San Iose.

# Online pills can be laced with fentanyl

"Narcan kits need to be in schools, in health clinics, bars and on public transportation," says Santa Clara County Supervisor, Cindy Chavez. "There is still a great void of information for youth, parents, teachers and health care workers on the dangers of ordering pills and other narcotics online. A substantial number of youth have died because they ordered pills online that they didn't know were laced with fentanyl. That is why we launched a fentanyl public service campaign on all platforms."

For more information, contact Tara Sreekrishnan, Office of Senator Dave Cortese at 408 480 7833 or tara.sreekrishnan@sen.ca.gov.



# Imaden Times Real Estate

# **Times Feature**

# **TECH JARGON OF THE WEEK** Keylogger

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:

### Keylogger

passwords and other confidential information

through fraud. It records every keystroke made on your computer. It basically monitors and record each keystroke typed on a specific computer's keyboard. Keylogger software is also available for use on smartphones, such as Apple's iPhone and Android devices.

Scarv. right?

Keyloggers are often used as a spyware tool by cybercriminals to steal personally identifiable information (PII), login credentials and sensitive enterprise data. Keylogger recorders may also be used by employers to observe employees' computer activities, parents to supervise their children's internet usage, users to track possible unauthorized activity on their devices or law enforcement agencies to analyze incidents involving computer use. These uses are considered ethical or appropriate in varying degrees.

How Do Keyloggers Work?

Just like a hidden surveillance camera that tracks all your actions. Keystroke loggers arrive just as any other malware and are hard to discover if you don't know what to look for. You can get infected by simply visiting a website. Furthermore, some keylogging software can take screenshots of your activity and record your microphone.

A certain action may trigger the keystroke logger too. For instance, the keylogger software may start recording only once you've opened the browser to access your online banking.

### Detection, prevention, and removal

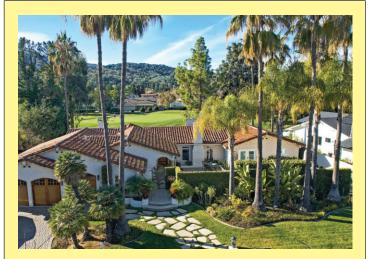
As there are various types of keyloggers that use different techniques, no single detection or removal method is considered the most effec-

Anti-keylogger software is designed specifically to scan for software-based keyloggers, by comparing the files on a computer against a keylogger signature base or a checklist of common keylogger attributes. Using an anti-keylogger can be more effective than using an antivirus or antispyware program, as the latter may identify a keylogger as a legitimate program instead of spyware.

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.

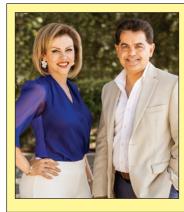
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Keylogger is generally used to gain access to



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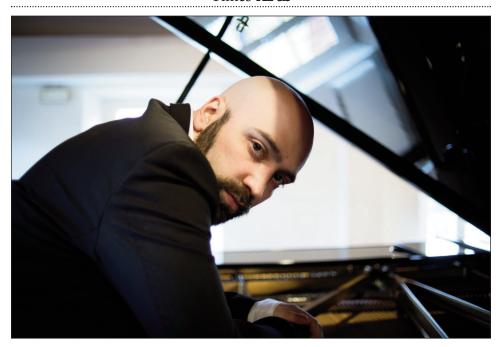
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## Times Arts



Alessandro Deljavan will perform Haydn and Chopin, Saturday, January 21, 2023. Photo by Luca Centola

# **Italian/Persian pianist Alessandro Deljavan performs for Steinway Society Live and LiveStreamed January 21**

By William Bellou Publisher

→ teinway Society – The Bay Area presents Alessandro Deljavan in performances of Haydn and Chopin Saturday, January 21, 2023 starting 7:30 p.m. at Montgomery Theater, 271 South Market Street in San Jose.

Born to an Italian mother and Persian father, Alessandro Deljavan began learning to play piano before the age of two and debuted in concert at age three. He has since performed extensively across Europe, Asia, and North and South America.

Alessandro's prize winnings include first prize in the 1996 Concours musical de France, and second prizes at the 2005 Hummel and 2010 Isangyun Competitions. He also was awarded the jury discretionary awards at the 2009 and 2013 Van Cliburn International Piano Competitions, and fifth prize at the 2005 Gina Bachauer Young Artist Competi-

Alessandro has an extensive discography of over forty albums. He recently recorded the complete Chopin waltzes, etudes, and mazurkas; the complete piano/string works of Taneyev; and the complete violin sonatas of Grieg. His most recent recording of the complete Grieg Lyric Pieces was streamed over 200,000 times in its first month on Spotify. He has also released an all-Liszt album of the complete Mephisto Waltzes and the Sonata in B Minor, as well as a recording of the Bach Goldberg Variations.

Alessandro graduated from the Conservatorio Statale di Musica Giuseppe Verdi and the Istituto Gaetano Braga. He is currently professor of piano at the U. Giordano Conservatory of Music in Foggia, Italy.

# The Program

Haydn, Variations in F Minor, Hob.XVII:6 Haydn, Piano Sonata in F Major, Hob.XVI:23 Haydn, Piano Sonata in E-Flat Major, Hob. XVI/52

Chopin, Four Scherzos

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- 1. Scherzo No. 1 in B Minor, Op. 20
- 2. Scherzo No. 2 in B-Flat Minor, Op. 31
- 3. Scherzo No. 3 in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 39
- 4. Scherzo No. 4 in E Major, Op. 54

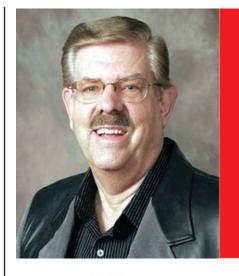
About Steinway Society - The Bay Area

Steinway Society - The Bay Area is a nonprofit organization based in Silicon Valley which presents and promotes excellence in classical piano music. Now in its 25th season, this dedicated group of musicians, pianists, teachers and arts lovers presents a series of classical piano concerts featuring international award-winning pianists, as well as a community outreach and inschool program.

Ticket Prices: \$42 to \$65 for live performance. Streaming rickets: \$40 per household. Link is live for 48 hours from the time of the live concert. Watch with your whole family whenever you want.

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OSC has opened a new program for women based upon equine interaction and equine-assisted-learning, designed to develop self-awareness and self-acceptance, confidence and resilience, and safe boundaries.

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Times Arts



Clara with her Nutcracker in a scene from the 2018 production of "The Nutcracker."

# **57th Production of San Jose Dance Theatre's The Nutcracker**

Experience the magic of this Bay Area tradition starting Dec 9-18

> By Cathe Huynh-Sison Special to the Times

udiences across San Jose will be swept up in the magic of the season as San Jose Dance Theatre returns to live performances this December, with the 57th annual classic Christmas favorite: The Nutcracker, performing at The San Jose Center for the Performing Arts.

The longest-running live production of The Nutcracker in San Jose, celebrating its 57th year, has been a Bay Area family tradition since 1964. The company is very excited to perform once again with the Cambrian Symphony, with musical direction by Scott Krijnen.

San Jose Dance Theatre has created countless family memories and holiday traditions with the magical production of their Nutcracker! Step into an enchanting world of elegant sugarplums, a thrilling battle between brave soldiers and menacing mice, waltzing flowers, and a new extra-large Christmas Tree that grows to more than 200 feet tall.

This year features San Jose Dance Theatre's professional ballet company and youth ensemble - choreographed by Mark Foehringer, Mariana Zschoerper and accompanied by a live orchestra, the Cambrian Symphony.

This production offers an unforgettable experience. San Jose Dance Theatre is excited to present this year's production back in the theater at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts in downtown San Jose, December 9 - 18. Audiences will be awed by the grace and talent of exquisite performers from our professional company.

This year you will again be able to purchase The Nutcracker VIP package. See more than just the show, experience it!

VIP ticket holders will take a behind-thescenes look at the production with a pre-show discussion. Meet and greet with the costumed cast members at the exclusive Candy Kingdom party held in the Ridder Lounge, all while enjoying delicious holiday treats. VIP ticket holders also skip the crowds by

using a special entrance into the theater and have use of the Ridder Lounge restrooms during intermission.

'We are very excited to be back in the theater this year, and with our professional ballet company performing in the original San Jose Nutcracker," Foehringer said. "I'm so excited to be able to share this Christmas tradition with the community again this vear.'

# **Performances**

- Fri., December 9, 2022 @ 7:30pm
- Sat., December 10, 2022 @ 2pm
- Sun., December 11, 2022 @ 2pm
- Fri., December 16, 2022 @ 7:30pm
- Sat., December 17, 2022 @ 2pm & 7:30pm
- Sun., December 18, 2022 @ 2pm

Editor's note: Looking for a shorter production of The Nutcracker for young children? On December 9 and 16 @ 10:30am, SJDT will present Once Upon a Nutcracker, a condensed, 45-minute version of The Nutcracker at a reduced ticket price.

Tickets and more information are available at sjnutcracker.com.





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# **Times Community News**

# A few safety tips for driving in rainy weather

As we are in the midst of the first big storms of the winter season, we thought we should pass along some safety tips in case you find yourself having to drive.

When roads are wet from rain, water over the roadway reduces your vehicle's tire traction. Add to that the fact that rain can reduce or impair a driver's view of the road, and it's easy to see that driving in the rain needs to be treated with extra precaution.

Please use the following safety precautions to help drive safely, whenever possible

- Only travel in heavy rain when necessary, and always leave extra time to safely reach your destination
- When getting into the car during rainy conditions, wet shoes may slide from pedals. Dry soles of shoes on vehicle carpeting or rubber matting if possible
- Be aware and avoid flooded areas--never attempt to cross running or flooded water
  - Buckle up
  - Turn on headlights to see and be seen
- Defrost windows if necessary, both before and while driving
- Reduce speed. Speed limits are based on normal road and weather conditions, not rainy conditions



- Wipers must be on while driving
- Keep additional distance from other rehicles
- Watch carefully for other vehicles and pedestrians
- Turn off cruise control to reduce hydroplaning
- Brake earlier and with less force, and turn slower, than you would in normal driving conditions
- Do not slam on brakes. Apply steady pressure on ABS-equipped vehicles and pump the brakes if necessary on non-ABS vehicles
- If vehicle begins to skid, steer in direction of slide and slowly remove foot from accelerator
- Temporarily pull off the road to a safe location if you have difficulty seeing the roadway or other traffic

Be safe!

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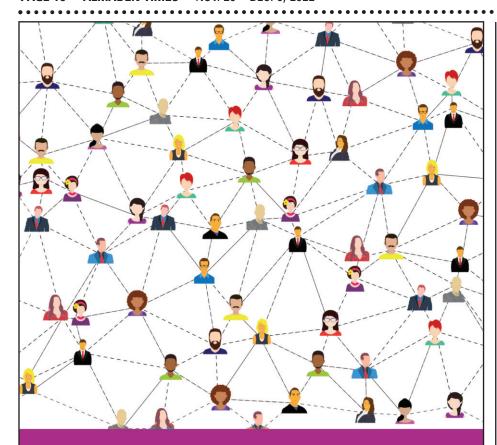
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# Times **OpEd**





Political signs posted and one sign cut out along road.

# **OpEd**

# Campaign sign wars: which side is telling the truth?

# By Kevin Larsen

Big money is spent for signs that say Vote for Me!

During the run to election day, politicians and their crews of helpers began to complain about someone pulling up their signs.

# Wind blew them down?

Did the wind blow them down? Not likely. In what was considered a new modern sign composed of metal holder and perhaps environmentally friendly plastic the same thickness as a shopping bag, scissors were used. Look at the dastardly deed (see photo below) where someone cut out the name of the opponent. That's true tampering and it just isn't likely that a wild animal gnawed at the plastic.

Politicians complained about the opposition pulling signs up out of the ground and taking them. Opposing candidates say, "We're facing the same problem." But there is a doubt to which side is telling the truth.

# Anger, angst and sadness

It's a contentious political time. Posts on NEXTDOOR are perhaps strategically posted to buoy up political campaigns. Anger angst and sadness chum the waters of the election process. Everyone is tired and on edge.

There are some very upbeat, clean and pristine signs too, of innocent campaigns for school board that simply disappear. It is a violation of the campaign code of ethics but there is no such thing in existence. Might makes right and if signs are taken perhaps, it's an adrenalin rush for the opposition in the secret act of hunting and destroying advertising.

Some get angry of when dirt is thrown hard and sticks to mailed flyers and door hangers which expound upon expert detailed efforts to twist truth and malign opposition. This might also trigger the theft of campaign signs in acts of desperation. Emotions run high.

Maybe at night the lawn sign takers, under the cloak of darkness, forget that cameras film their every action.

Videos on the internet are posted which catch the thieves in the act of stealing of signs and putting them in their trunk, all caught on camera, yet opposing sides do not prosecute the crime. Some candidates have hundreds of signs removed and replace them at \$8 each.

Some say they get tired of the signs along their property and did not understand after they were cited, that it was wrong for them to take signs on public land along roads.

Manufacturers of signs that get taken are happy for if they are stolen then more are quickly ordered to replace them.

# **Lovely Democracy**

The campaign literature is divisive and good to read. I like the bickering of the candidates and the mushrooming of signs all over the place. For me it is lovely Democracy.

After election day, most candidates are good about packing up all their campaign signs along roads and such. They are removed gracefully and the war is forgotten.

Things got nasty in San Jose this election and people are tired of campaign sign wars.

### Times **Advice**

# **BBB Tip**

# How to check if a website is legitimate

ith advances in technology, the internet has changed the way we shop, bank and search for information.

At the same time, it has created new opportunities for criminals to scam consumers using websites that appear legitimate but aren't.

Knowing how to identify fake websites has become essential to protect your identity, personal and financial information.

Fortunately, there are many ways to check if a website is legitimate as recommended by the Better Business Bureau.

10 ways to check if a website is legitimate **#1. Is the site using secured encryption?** 

All major browsers show a padlock next to the website address when your connection is secure, and your information is private when sent to the site.

If you click on the padlock, it will display additional information.

Note that a secure connection does not guarantee that the website is legitimate.

It's easy for a scammer to obtain a SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) certificate, as many web hosting companies automatically provide them for free. So this does not mean that the owner of the site is above board. However, an unsecured site that asks for your personal information is a red flag.

# ${\it \#2. Watch for poor grammar} \ and \ spelling$

Poor grammar and spelling, broken English and incorrect punctuation are signs that a site may not be what it pretends to be. Most legitimate companies work hard to ensure that their website looks professional.

Note that some scammers replicate legitimate company websites. So a professional-looking site does not always mean the site is legitimate.

# #3. Check the contact page

Most legitimate businesses will provide customers with multiple options to make contact. At a minimum, they will publish their phone number, email address and street address.

Call the number listed to verify that it's legitimate. If the person answering the phone doesn't sound professional, hang up. Many scammers rent U.S. phone numbers that direct your call to their cell phone, often in another country.

If no phone number is listed, that's a red flag. Send an email (if one is listed) and ask for a phone number. If you receive no response, chances are you're not dealing with a legitimate business.

# #4. Look for an About page

Scammers often don't take the time to fabricate a convincing story about the history of a company, its brand, or its mission and vision.

If the website doesn't have an About page or if it's poorly written, that's a red flag.

# #5. Does the site have a privacy policy?

Businesses that collect personal information from customers online must comply with privacy laws. A privacy policy explains what data is collected and how that data is used, protected and stored.

Fake websites often don't have a privacy policy; if they do, it's typically not adequate or relevant.

# #6. Does the site have social media icons?

Most legitimate businesses have a presence on social media and link to those sites

from their website. Check if the website has links to social media channels and click on those links to see if they're legitimate.

If the links are fake or they haven't published any content, you should think twice.

# #7. Check if a website is dangerous to visit

The following two free resources can help to identify websites that are dangerous to visit

# **Google Safe Browsing**

If you're not sure if it's safe to visit a website, use Google's Safe Browsing site status tool to see if a website is currently dangerous to visit. It will also identify legitimate websites that have been hacked as unsafe to visit.

URLVoid

URLVoid helps identify websites involved in malware and phishing incidents.

### #8. How old is the website's domain?

A website that appears established but its domain name is only a couple of days or weeks old should ring alarm bells.

Use a website such as whois.domaintools.com to check when the domain name was registered and to whom. Note that details such as the owner of the site are not always publicly available.

### #9. Double check the domain name

Scammers use a variety of techniques to manipulate domain names to make them appear legit.

Examples include using a "0" (zero) instead of an "o" or using a domain extension such as .us instead of .com to mislead consumers.

As a rule, don't click any links in suspicious emails and always check the URL of a page you're on to make sure it looks legit. Browsers such as Chrome will show the URL of a site in the bottom left corner of your screen when you hover your mouse over a link.

# #10. Check out the company through BBB.org

Check out the business at BBB.org. Verify if the business is BBB Accredited, read verified customer reviews and take note of any complaints filed.

The Better Business Bureau has resources to help consumers and businesses. You can report a scam (whether you've lost money or not), file a complaint against a business, leave a review of a business you've used and report an ad



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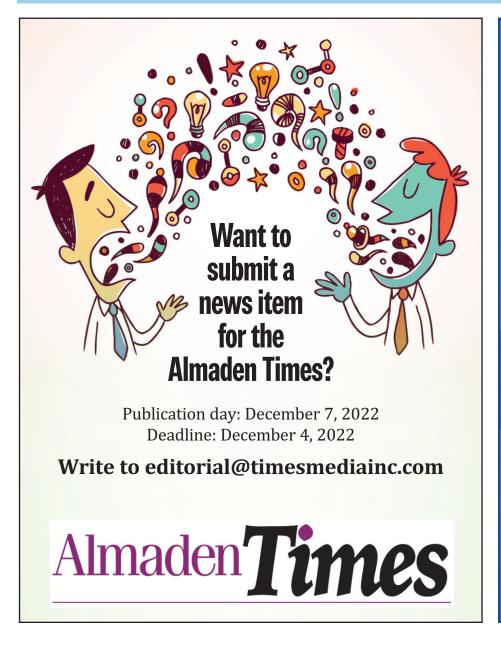
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# Days of the **CESSWI**

An exploration of the job pathway to obtaining a Certified Erosion, Sedimentation, and Stormwater Inspector certification

### By Matthew Frazier

Qualified Stormwater Manager Good morning, colleagues and readers. With light rains having reached San Jose and Santa Clara Valley once more ... I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts and the passions of those working diligently and tirelessly in The Water Industry and in The Stormwater Industry.

In earlier entries, I made brief mention of my venture into Stormwater from Irrigation Management and Landscape Water Management after a twenty-month term with Valley Water as a water-waste inspector and water-wise outdoor surveyor.

In December of 2020, I had an exit interview with my supervisor in the Conservation and Planning Unit at Valley Water. During this exit interview, I mentioned my desire to continue on a path towards Water Loss Inspections and Water Loss Management.

An exhaustive and extensive search online inadvertently led me to Stormwater, while searching Water Loss Inspections and Water Loss Management as potential career paths.

Stormwater certifying agency Enviro-Cert International, Inc. caught my attention. With their comprehensive gallery of professional certifications, I decided on their QSM certificate program. This is Qualified Stormwater Manager, an entrylevel certificate-of-training, on path towards fully vested professional certifications in Stormwater.

Upon completion of this entry-level certification, I immediately turned my attention towards their then not-yetdeveloped program for CPSWI - Certified Professional in Stormwater Inspection. I instead applied for two other professional certifications, CESSWI and CPSWO-Certified Erosion, Sedimentation, and Stormwater Inspector and Certified Professional in Stormwater Quality.

These professional certifications are broken down to trainee status and then fully vested professional. CESSWI became  $the focus \, of \, my \, efforts - The \, Certified \, Ero$ sion, Sedimentation, and Stormwater Inspector. From early February 2021 to present, I have studied the CESSWI General Principles Manual and been serving on EnviroCert International, Inc's QSM and CESSWI Certification Committees as

Volunteering for CESSWI ... I have learned a great deal and met many who share a passion for Water Conservation through efforts in Stormwater. With the omnipresent challenge and threat of erosion and sedimentation through water and through wind ... There is much to do in preparation and response to this.

In early September of this year, the chair of the ECI CESSWI Certification Committee and general manager of Stormwater firm SWPP Queen offered me an opportunity to join the team and become a stormwater compliance tech**Times Feature** 



the ever-changing topography of our lands throughout California, the United States and beyond. Their commitments and their efforts help protect the integrity and the preservation of our lands.

Having been a part of The ECI CESSWI Certification Committee for nearly two years now ... And having been given a gra-

cious opportunity to work for a Stormwater firm here in California ... I am inspired and motivated to give back to an industry and a program which led the way in the care and conservation of our lands and our water bodies through environmental policy and environmental stewardship.

In my background in retail and wholesale garden centers and nurseries and then The Landscape Industry as an irrigation manager and water manager ... I found a path towards public service in the form of inspections of harmful constituents and contaminants which come from the products sold to the public as well as byproducts of The Automotive

My day job as a key holder and manager-on-duty for Almaden Valley Ace Hardware provides an audience for advocating and promoting the ideas and values of Environmental Stewardship, Water

Conservation and service through The Stormwater Industry. Though many don't know of Stormwater as a field or an industry ... the attention to detail by those who serve in this field is far-reaching and impactful.

Long will I remember the days and nights spent studying to become a fullyvested professional which pre-date my hire by SWPP Queen. Long will I recall ... The Days of The CESSWI.

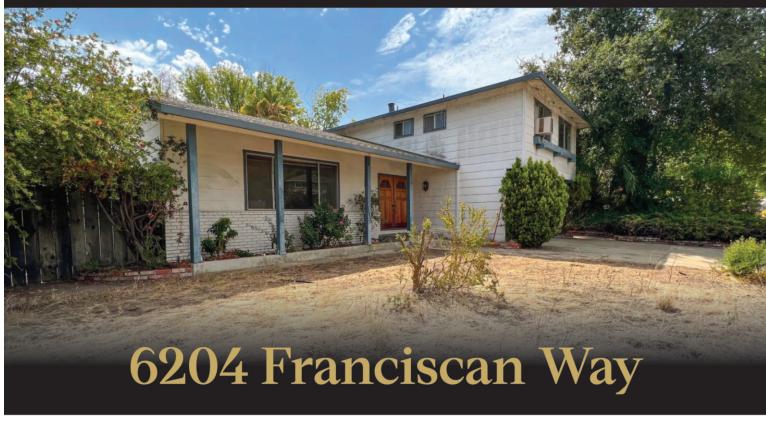
Thank you each and all for taking the time to read this entry. May this reading inspire you to learn more about Stormwater and its relevance to Water Conservation and Water Management. Search "CESSWI" to learn more. Thank you.

# What Recession?

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www.ShawnAnsari.com

ll estate broker licensed by the State of California operating under multiple entities. License Numbers 01991628, 1527235, 1527365, 1356742, 1935359, 1961027, 1842987, 1869607, 1866771, 1527205, 1079009, 1272467. All material is intended for informational numbers and and is com-

**COMPASS** 





### CAMPBELL UNITED **CHURCH OF CHRIST**

400 W. Campbell Ave. Campbell, CA 95008 (408) 378-4418 Pastor: Rev. Naomi Schulz

No Matter Where You Are On Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here! We are an Open and Affirming Congregation. and celebrate members of the LGBTQ+ Community. Joy-filled worship every Sunday at 10:00 AM. with communion open to all. Join Pastor Naomi for tea/coffee at Orchard Vallev cafe in Campbell during community drop-in office hours from 11 AM to 1 PM on most Tuesdays

Our ministries/activities include:

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

tures, and even an occasional karaoke night--all in a wholesome environment

Our activities flow from our core values:

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

Visit us at our web site at: church@campbellucc.org or better yet, visit us at our worship services on Sundays at 10:00 AM. Coffee refreshments and conversation always, right

### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC

6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120, Pastor, Rev. Marty Williams, 408 268 0243. www.ccavucc.org.

We are a welcoming church with a progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC. Open and Affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local LifeMoves (formerly InnVision) Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco

Night Ministry, Second

Harvest Food Bank Church World Service. and Communities Responding to End Pover-

Worship Sunday, 9:00 AM followed by fellowship and refreshments. 1st Sunday in Worship: Holy Communion 2nd Sunday in Worship:

Folks Choir and Potluck Sunday. Tuesdays, AA Meetings 8:15 - 9:15 PM. Wednesdays, 9:30 AM, Women's Study Group

**CHURCH OF CHRIST** 5351 Carter Ave., San Jose 95118

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

Christian friends!

# THE EPISCOPAL **CHURCH IN ALMADEN**

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

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

sation



### **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 book that guides Muslims to practice Islam. "Hufazik Allah Waeayilatak"" the English meaning is " May Allah (swt) protect you and your family". Please visit our website to learn more.

# FIRST CHURCH

DOWNTOWN Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.com Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship servic-

es are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music a message that is relevant to real life, based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and longterm, life-saving solutions food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips. Come, Make a Difference



and feel the difference

God can make in your life!

### **GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN**

www.GraceChurchEvergreen.Com 408 274 1200 See you on Facebook. 2650 Aborn Rd at Kettmann, across from the Public Library. Serving Evergreen for over 55 years. John Goldstein Pastor. john@GraceChurchEvergreen.com. Christian

worship every Sunday at 11am. Together we build better lives and a better community. Music Institute (408)791 7772. After School Piano, Violin, Other classical Instruments. PreSchool, Ages 2-6 Caring for your child with God's love and affection. Check our website for current activities.

### HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Faith.Knowledge. Community - this is our promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120 Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday -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

# thepoint.church

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

### SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

We invite you to become a part of our hospitable,

intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and whereyou get to know peopleby name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLÁST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m..10:30 a.m.. and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the



Parish Office or call

our website at www.

churchstanthony.com.

Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.

(408) 997-4800, or visit

# ਰੱਬ ਇਕ ਹੈ Rab Ik Hai

# SAN JOSE GURDWARA

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

meals. We also encour-

age you to enter our history room on site and walk the beautiful grounds. Learn more about us and community events we sponsor by visiting our website; http://www. San-JoseGurdwara.org

### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

www.stfrancisofassisi.com

5111 San Felipe Rd.

San Jose, CA 95135

ofassisipreschool.org

408-223-1562.

or www.stfrancis

We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies: evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr. High, IGNITE High School and North Star -Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office Mission Center Parish Gift Shop, Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations: St. Francis of Assisi Chapel: Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese) 6:00 PM Youth Mass St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday11:00AM, Igbo Mass -Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM Mt. Hamilton Grange 2840 Ahorn 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!

For Worship listing ads, call 408.483-5458

# The Almaden Senior Association members are a diverse group of enthusiastic, active, 50+ adults who enjoy new learning opportunities, new experiences, and new adventures.

# Membership in the Almaden Senior Association offers discounts and opportunities to enjoy ...

- exercise classes for all levels of ability;
- lunches and other social programs organized and run by members of the Association;
  - book clubs, cooking, computer and photography classes;
- trips to local and not so local places of interest such as the Steinbeck Museum in Salinas, Whale Watching in Monterey, casino trips and more.

As a member you're encouraged to help plan these activities and suggest new ones to enjoy. The Senior Association Philanthropy Program set up a process to donate funds to other non-profit organizations that reflect our mission.

We enjoy meeting new people, making new connections and getting involved. All volunteer opportunities are based on your time and energy commitment. Fees for classes, trips and social events are kept low because of senior volunteer participation and membership strength.

Stop by the main desk at the Almaden Community Center and ask for an application today. Yearly dues of \$10 are returned to you by discounts to most of the programs you participate in.

Join us today, meet new people and get involved with classes and programs that will enhance your life and open new doors.

For more information, go to www.almadenseniors.org Contact via email: alamadenseniors1@gmail.com

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combination of experienced driving instructors and affordable prices!

Location: 5440 Thornwood Drive, Suite F; Hours: 9 am-5 pm M-F 9 am-12 noon S-S; Phone: 408.363.4182; Email:

info@advantagedriversed.com | Website: advantagedriversed.com

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# **Employment**

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The Swan has been the #1 Agent in Almaden Valley each year for the last 13 years as measured by Dollars per Agent Per Year. She is the only Almaden Valley specialist to have been nationally ranked and recognized twice by The Wall Street Journal/RealTrends for being in the Top 250 Agents in the US. Additionally, Swan is consistently among the Top 100 Agents in the SF Bay Area.

If you are thinking of selling your home, now is the time to start planning. Call me as soon as possible.

Therese Swan 408.656.8240 tswan@tswan.com AlmadenValleyRealEstate.com DRE 01355719











