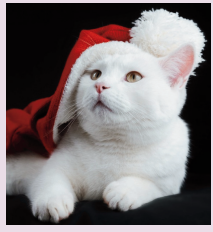
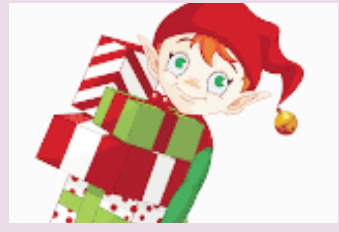


Expert warns pet owners to stop treating them as 'little humans' this Christmas season
SEE PAGE 4



Ceremonial start
Valley Water board members begin terms following swearing-in
SEE PAGE 4

Elves cause trouble in our special holiday feature tale
SEE PAGE 19



YOUR BEST SOURCE OF COMMUNITY NEWS FOR
OVER 35 YEARS

Almaden

SERVING ALMADEN VALLEY SINCE 1986 ■ ALMADENTIMES.COM

Times

DEC. 23, 2022 – JAN. 5, 2023 ■ VOL. 35, NO. 26



Kathleen "Kitty" Monahan

Supervisors vote to re-name bridge for Kitty Monahan

Monahan was a resident of New Almaden since 1972

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors voted Tuesday to re-name the Alamitos Creek Bridge in honor of the late Kathleen "Kitty" Monahan.

Alamitos Creek Bridge crosses the creek on Alamitos Road, approximately one mile south of Bertram Road.

Kathleen Monahan, who preferred to go by Kitty, passed away on July 25, 2022, at the age of 89.

Following Kitty's passing, a member of the New Almaden community contacted County Supervisor Joe Simitian's office with the idea to re-name the new bridge in her honor.

"Kitty was the heart and soul of New Almaden," said Supervisor Joe Simitian, who now represents the Almaden area and spearheaded the request. "She did so much to safeguard the environment for future generations, and it's fitting that her name will be associated with the waters and lands she loved."

Monahan had been a resident of New Almaden since 1972. She was a beloved preservationist, educator, and historian who spearheaded efforts in 1976 to get Santa Clara County to purchase

See MONAHAN, page 8



Happy Holidays in Almaden

See more seasonal joy as witnessed along the curbsides of Almaden Valley on page 8.

Last chat with Matt

By Lorraine Gabbert
Senior Staff Writer

At his very last Chat with Matt community town hall, Mayor-Elect Matt Mahan spoke about politics, housing the homeless and traffic fatalities.

Mahan discussed the City Council Special Meeting held Dec. 5 to decide how to fill two vacancies in Districts 8 and 10, left by Santa Clara County Supervisor-Elect Sylvia Arenas and himself. The City Council voted to appoint candidates to these seats, although Mahan and most of the 500 public speakers favored holding a Special Election. Qualified candidates will be appointed by a two-thirds vote in January.



Mayor-Elect **Matt Mahan** responded to questions from District 10 residents during his last Chat with Matt. *Photo by Lorraine Gabbert*

"As frustrated as I was about that vote on Monday, I think something really important happened," he said. "I think a lot of people got involved and came down to City Hall for the first time in their lives and spoke at a City Council meeting for the first time. People connected with one another."

Mahan said it was the largest and

most diverse group of public speakers the City Council has seen in years.

"I was really proud of the community for showing up and speaking out," he said.

Resident David Noel agreed.

"If nothing else, we got a lot of people engaged," Noel said.

Councilmembers said a Special

Election would cost millions of dollars better spent on police, parks and traffic calming. They expressed concerns about not having voting councilmembers represent Districts 8 and 10 on city budget expenditures.

Mahan said as incoming mayor, it's his responsibility to build bridges, find common ground and create a governing coalition. He wants to bring focus and accountability to the City Council and is optimistic good ideas will prevail.

"We have the wind at our backs, but it doesn't happen overnight," he said.

Emergency interim housing

Mahan said ending street homelessness is residents' number one issue. We have a terrible humanitarian crisis on our streets, he said, and it has a negative impact on the whole community.

He said the city is working to create prefabricated, modular housing

See CHAT WITH MATT, page 8

SEE OUR LISTINGS OF LOCAL REALTORS, CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING AND HOME IMPROVEMENT ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER



Therese Swan
 408.656.8240
 tswan@tswan.com
 DRE 01355719



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.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



\$3,999,000
 5 Bed
 4 Full Bath
 3 Half-Bath
 7158 Sq Ft
 2.62 Acre Lot



Panoramic Views from Almost Every Room in the Home!

20601 VIA SANTA TERESA

Enter this stunning executive-style home and you are immediately awestruck by some of the most magnificent panoramic views in Santa Clara County. Gourmet kitchen, office/library, media room, large game room, enormous bonus room that could be an "in-law" suite. Solar. 4-car garage. Numerous balconies as well as the side yard with outdoor kitchen, two sitting areas, fire pit, pergola, hot tub, lawn, and pavers. Top schools: Graystone, Bret Harte, Leland.



Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Numbers 01079009 and 01272467. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.





Live an engaging life every day.

From chef-prepared meals in the company of neighbors to curated events that encourage connection, residents of Atria Almaden enjoy a lifestyle filled with purpose and greater well-being.

Visit [TourAlmaden.com](https://www.touralmaden.com) or call **669.235.7308** to experience it all for yourself.



Atria ALMADEN

Assisted Living & Memory Care

4610 Almaden Expressway | San Jose

License #435202775

14607-C



NOTEBOOK



Four Valley Water board members begin terms following ceremonial swearing-in

Valley Water held a ceremonial swearing-in at the board meeting on Dec. 13 for newly-elected directors Jim Beall and Rebecca Eisenberg and re-elected directors John L. Varela and Tony Estremera.

Directors Beall and Varela officially took the oath of office on Dec. 2, and Directors Eisenberg and Estremera were sworn in on Dec. 9. The board meeting on Dec. 13 will be the first meeting for the newly-elected directors.

Jim Beall will represent District 4, which encompasses the City of Campbell and parts of west and south San José. Communities and neighborhoods include San José's San Tomas, Cambrian Park, Parkview, Branham, Blossom Hill, and the northern portions of Almaden Valley and Santa Teresa.

Beall is embarking on his fifth decade of public service. He entered public office at age 28 and served as a San José councilmember (1980-1994), Santa Clara County supervisor (1994-2006), and as a Legislator in the state Assembly and Senate (2006-2020). He graduated from Bellarmine Col-

lege Preparatory and earned a degree in Political Science from San José State University with a focus on Urban Planning and Public Finance.

Rebecca Eisenberg will represent District 7, which encompasses the cities of Palo Alto, Mountain View, Los Altos, Monte Sereno, the towns of Los Altos Hills and Los Gatos, and parts of South San José. Communities and neighborhoods include the unincorporated community of Redwood Estates along Highway 17 in Los Gatos and the southern portions of Almaden Valley in San Jose.

Eisenberg has 30 years of experience as a Silicon Valley attorney, social activist and entrepreneur. Most of her career has been with Silicon Valley startups where she has served as an early employee and executive including PayPal, Trulia and Reddit. Director Eisenberg majored in Decision Science at Stanford University and attended Harvard Law School, which spurred a career in legal justice and social change.

In addition to the two new board members, John L. Varela and Tony Estremera were re-elected to represent Districts 1 and 6, respectively.

Varela, currently serving as Board Chair Pro Tem, was appointed to the Board of Directors in

December 2015 to represent District 1. He was elected by the voters in November 2016 and re-elected in 2018 and 2022. District 1 encompasses the cities of Gilroy, Morgan Hill, the unincorporated community of San Martin and parts of East and South San Jose.

Varela is a former Morgan Hill city mayor and councilmember. He serves on the Board of Directors for Joint Venture Silicon Valley, Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce, and the Pajaro River Watershed Flood Protection Authority. He is also involved in the South County Regional Wastewater Authority and Safe Clean Water Independent Monitoring Committee. He began his tenure on the board in 1996, when he was

See WATER BOARD, page 9

Valley Currents

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



Expert warns California pet owners to stop treating them as 'little humans' this Christmas

3.9M CA households admit to giving their pet special treatment over Christmas

Animal experts at Oodle Life, a website that provides dog and puppy information, have warned that the 'Disneyfication' or anthropomorphism of pets this Christmas can cause significant harm to them.

Many pet owners will admit that they attribute human characteristics to their pets, treating them as miniature people. After all, pets become part of the family. "They're always on your side, they keep you company when you're feeling sad or lonely, and they bring endless joy with their loyalty and adorable behavior" says Chris Allen, Founder & CEO of Oodle Life. "However, as much as we love them, it's important to remember that they're not actually human, and they shouldn't be treated as such."

The statistics bear this out: according to a survey by Oodle Life of 3,000 pet owners, 80% of pet owning households in California admit to giving their pet special treatment (such as giving them leftover food, and dressing them up) over Christmas. This equates to over 3.9 million households in The Golden State. Moreover, according to the 2021-2022 American Pet Products Association National Pet Owners Survey, 43% of pet dogs in the United States and 49% of pet cats sleep on their owner's bed. In addition, more than one in five, or 22% of U.S. adults, report they have held or attended a birthday celebration for a pet (getting a cake and candles for a birthday celebration is more common for dog owners than cat owners).

Putting pets in strollers, spraying them with pet cologne, putting diapers on them or giving them breath-freshening products were also among the increasingly popular practices discouraged in a joint report by researchers at the University of Pisa and the Metropolitan Autonomous University in Mexico City.

Treating pets as little humans can be damaging to them for a number of reasons says Chris Allen, Founder & CEO of Oodle Life:

For example, dressing your dog in a Christmas sweater may impede its ability to regulate its own temperature, so is best avoided. However, when out-

doors in freezing weather, even dogs with thick coats can get hypothermia or frostbite, according to the American Kennel Club (AKC). If the temperature drops to the mid-40s Fahrenheit, it's definitely time to dress that pet – just not in a human Christmas sweater.

Holding or carrying them like a baby for prolonged periods can cause obesity, inflammation of the joints and hinder their ability to cope with their environment, leading to anxiety.

Hugging a pet could also be seen as ignoring the animal's preferences and may cause anxiety.

Giving them human Christmas food - such as Brussels sprouts, or cake - can cause conditions such as obesity or malnutrition.

He continues: "So just remember that while a pet is for life, and not just for Christmas, they are also animals, not people, and it's important to treat them as such. That way, both humans and pets can equally enjoy the holidays!"

Oodle Life has created an interactive slideshow on their website on how best to treat pets over the festive period: www.oodlelife.com/pet-pawsitive-christmas



AlmadenTimes

Times Media, Inc. / (408) 494-7000

PUBLISHER / CEO: WILLIAM BELLOU
williamb@timesmediainc.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS: LORRAINE GABBERT, SHUBHI ASTHANA, ANGELA COPELAND, SNIKITHA BANDA, CLAIRE CHEN, KEN DEHART, SEAN EASTWOOD, DENELLE FEDOR, MATTHEW FRAZIER, JANE JOHNSON, KEVIN LARSEN, FRANK SHORTT

ART DIRECTOR: JEFF BAHAM

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: SANDY BELLOU

Copyright © 2023 Times Media, Inc. All rights reserved. The Almaden Times prefers letters to the editor and submissions of guest articles and columns for consideration and possible publication to be sent by email to editorial@timesmediainc.com. All submitted materials become the property of Times Media, Inc., and receipt of unsolicited materials cannot be acknowledged.

The opinions and viewpoints expressed by guest authors and columnists in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions and viewpoints of the staff and management of the Almaden Times and Times Media, Inc.



ALMADEN LAW GROUP

Amy L. Horowitz Attorney at Law

Almaden Law Group provides estate planning and probate services.

Amy is committed to delivering high value services at a reasonable price. She establishes a comfortable, compassionate and trusting relationship with her clients.

Contact Almaden Law Group
to schedule a free initial
office consultation.

Almaden Law Group

6501 Crown Boulevard, Suite 200

Phone: 408-268-8530

Email: amy@almadenlawgroup.com

www.almadenlawgroup.com

Now accepting all major credit cards



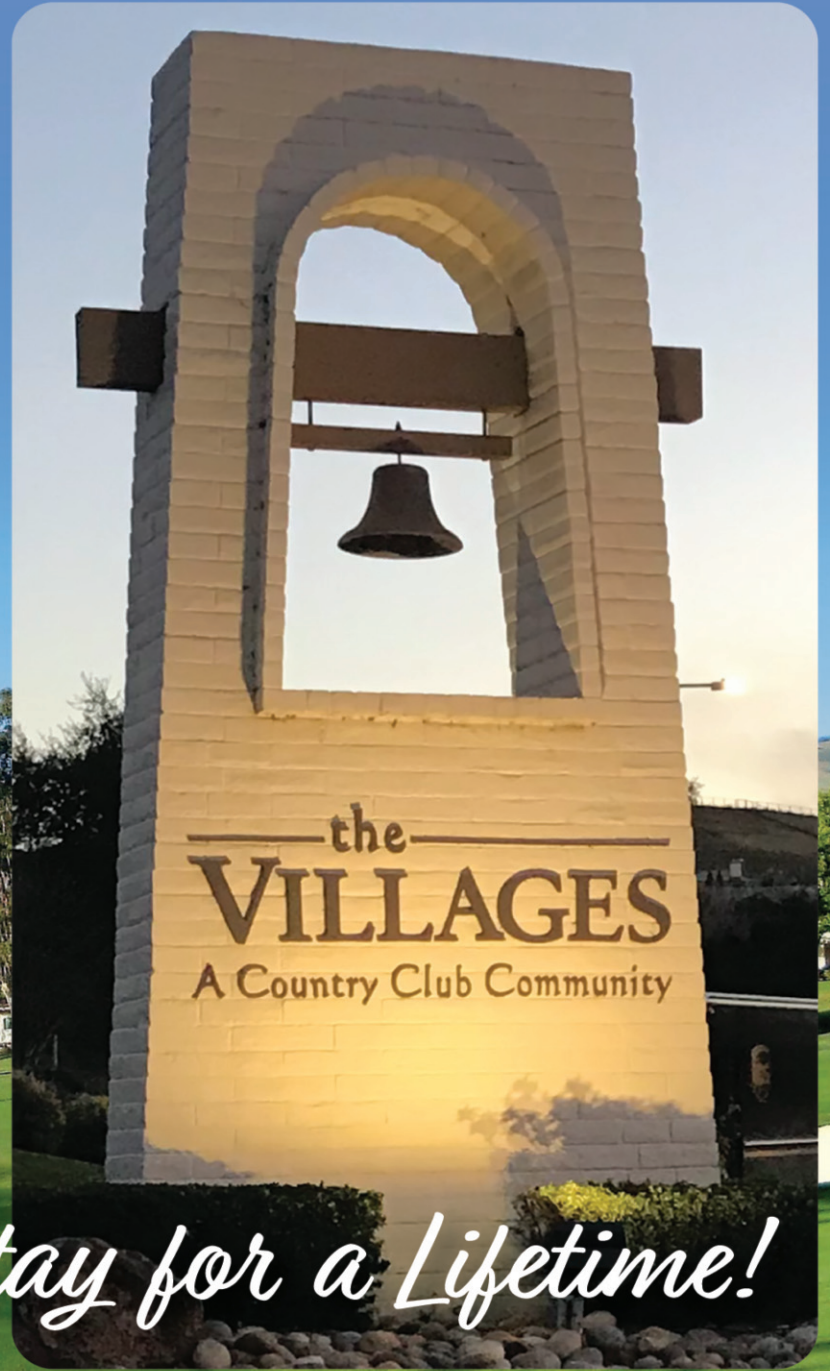
THE VILLAGES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

55+ Adult Living

The Best Kept Secret in Silicon Valley

Homes from \$450k to \$1.5 Million

- Country Club Living
- 18 and 9 Hole Golf Courses
- Tennis, Bocce and Pickle Ball
- Fitness Center
- 4 Swimming Pools with Spa
- Library & Post Office
- Many Clubs & Organizations
- Clubhouse for Fine Dining
- Bistro Pub with Patio Service



Come for a Tour - Stay for a Lifetime!



Dee Ramirez

Realtor Lic # 00683945

408.440.7617

Email: Dee@DeeRamirez.com

Website: www.DeeRamirez.com

Office: 2925 The Villages Parkway • San Jose • CA • 95135

Times Features

Majority of 500 people voice their opinion against appointing two San Jose City Council seat positions

By Matt Mahan

The San Jose City Council held a special meeting to determine how to fill the District 8 and District 10 Council seats for the remainder of Councilmember Arenas' and my terms, respectively. Both terms will have two years remaining as of January 1, 2023.

Thank you to everyone who showed up physically or virtually to voice your opinion on the matter. I held a press conference with a number of local leaders just prior to the meeting and, overall, nearly 500 people spoke out on the issue, with the vast majority in support of holding special elections. It was especially moving to hear the personal testimonies of residents who immigrated to the United States from countries that do not hold free and fair elections, and for whom the right to elect representatives is especially treasured.

After five hours of public comment and two hours of discussion and debate, the Council voted 7-4 to forgo special elections in favor of an appointment process, as proposed by three of my colleagues.

As you know, I feel strongly that we should hold elections to fill open seats. Yes, elections take time and cost money, but there is no better way to vet candidates and ensure that our elected officials are responsive and accountable to the community. I want to thank Mayor Liccardo, Vice Mayor Jones and Councilmember Foley for joining me in voting against the appointment process.

Speaking of the process, the City Clerk has posted the application form at <https://tinyurl.com/w5ym3kvk>

Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, January 2, 2023. I encourage all interested residents who meet the eligibility requirements to consider applying for this role. My team and I are available to answer any informational questions you may have about the District 10 office or the role of councilmember. As always, you can reach us at district10@sanjoseca.gov.

We will keep you updated as the full process is defined. At this point, we know that any appointment will require the support of at least 6 out of the remaining 9 Councilmembers to be confirmed.

Related to the transition, I have asked most members of my district office staff to remain in the District 10 office until a replacement has been selected by the Council in order to provide uninterrupted constituent services to our community. While District 10 will not have a vote on the Council until the appointment is made, our office staff will continue to be available to answer your questions and be your advocate within City Hall.

On behalf of our D10 team, I want to wish you and your loved ones a very happy holiday season and a fantastic new year. It has been an incredible honor to represent our community on the Council and I look forward to continuing to do so as your next mayor.



District 10 Report

Matt Mahan
Councilmember,
District 10

Recent storms drop 1.5 inches of rain in Santa Clara Valley

Experts say California needs at least one well-above-average water year to end drought

Valley Water reported that there were no major impacts from the recent storms that dropped more than 1.5 inches across Santa Clara County.

This storms came on the heels of much-needed rain over the past few weeks. The agency's employees worked to ensure our waterways remain clear of debris and blockages.

Valley Water owns and manages 294 miles of the more than 800 miles of creeks in the county. The agency regularly inspects streams and bank conditions, and the crews have been cleaning out areas of creeks that are known hot spots for vegetation and debris buildup. These areas were checked

and cleaned following the storm last week, according to John Varela, Chair Pro Tem and Director Dist. 1 Valley Water Board of Directors.

"Our employees will continue to clean out waterways throughout the winter. To report issues in creeks, call 1-408-630-2378 or visit our website at valleywater.org. Residents and businesses can also take steps to be flood ready," said Varela. "For flood safety tips, visit www.valleywater.org/floodready. The website includes sandbag locations and other resources."

Experts say that California needs at least one well-above-average water year, and maybe more, to end the drought and replenish reservoirs.

"We all must continue our water-savings efforts," said Varela. "Earlier this year, our board adopted watering rules which prohibit property owners in Santa Clara County from watering within 48 hours of rainfall measuring a quarter inch or more. So please turn off your sprinklers this week-end and leave them off during the cooler winter months."

To learn how Valley Water can help you save water and money through our robust rebate and conservation programs, visit WaterSavings.org.

Disney · PIXAR COCO

IN CONCERT LIVE TO FILM



FILM WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA

SAN JOSE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

APRIL 29, 2023 at 7:00pm · APRIL 30, 2023 at 2:00pm

Performance Live with Symphony San Jose

PRESENTATION LICENSED BY DISNEY CONCERTS



Presented by:
**SYMPHONY
SAN JOSE**

Information & Tickets at www.symphonysanjose.org or call (408) 286-2600

GUARANTEED Life Insurance up to \$20,000.00

Modified Whole Life Insurance from Physicians Life Insurance Company

Cash to help pay your funeral, medical bills or other final expenses.

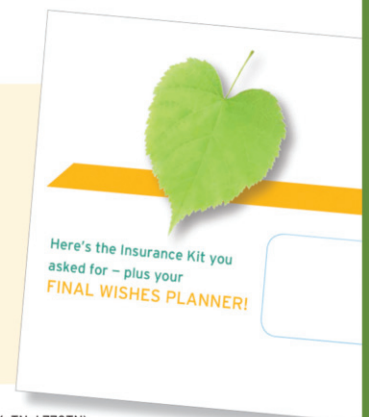
- Guaranteed acceptance ages 45 to 85*
- No medical exam, no health questions
- Lock in your rate for life

Call for your FREE Information Kit

1-877-864-3769

or go to life55plus.info/almaden

► Plus – you'll also get a **FREE Final Wishes Planner!**



6236 *Ages may vary by state. Guaranteed for one of these life insurance policies. Benefits reduced first two years. Insurance Policy L770 (ID: L770ID; OK: L770OK; TN: L770TN).

Times **From the Cover**



Happy Holidays in Almaden

Photos by Lorraine Gabbert



Monahan

Continued from page 1
the 4,163-acre Almaden Quicksilver County Park. She was determined to preserve not just the natural beauty of the Almaden Valley but to preserve the Valley's history, especially its history of 19th-century mercury mining. Almaden was, at one time, the largest mercury mine in the United States.



In 1983, Monahan helped found the New Almaden Quicksilver County Park Association, or NAQCPA. She later served on the Citizens Advisory Committee of Santa Clara County's Open Space Authority. During her lifetime she spent at least 14,000 hours volunteering for the County's park system; she came to be known as the unofficial mayor of New Almaden. She was recognized with a Presidential Volunteer Service Award in 2014, and a lifetime achievement award by the Santa Clara County Preservation Alliance in 2022.

"Some people give a little of themselves and some give it all. Kitty was in the second group," said Supervisor Wasserman, President of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. "Her passion and her smile were infectious, and the fruits of her labor will benefit generations to come. She is very deserving of this honor."

"Kitty led a life of leadership and good works. And it wasn't only her environmental service; she was captain of her high school basketball team, she was a nun for 19 years, and she was a math teacher at William C. Overfelt High School," said Simitian. "A resident of New Almaden got in touch with me and suggested re-naming the bridge for her. I thought it was a great idea."

When Simitian asked her brother, Richard Monahan, he agreed. "Kitty bridged so many things. Alamitos Creek can be another one," he said.

The Alamitos Creek Bridge Replacement Project is replacing an existing functionally obsolete bridge with a new bridge on a new alignment. The replacement bridge is adjacent to and upstream of the existing bridge. The new bridge consists of a three-span structure with two lanes of traffic, four-foot shoulders, one sidewalk, and railings.



Construction of the new bridge will be completed in 2023. It is expected that signs commemorating the re-naming will also be installed next year.

Chat with Matt

Continued from page 1

units for homeless families in District 10. He said similar sites with job training and placement have been successful in transitioning people to permanent housing. The goal is to have a quick build site in every district, he said.

Proposed modular housing sites include the Cottle Road VTA light rail station parking lot, Santa Teresa VTA light rail station parking lot and land at Great Oaks Blvd. and 85 freeway. The Santa Teresa light rail VTA lot is planned for a safe park site for RVs. The goal is to find permanent housing for the RV residents.

Not all residents are on board for housing the homeless at the Cottle Road VTA site. Resident Michael Chang said locating it near a hospital, schools, daycare and parks is unsuitable.

"How many people do you think would

honestly feel comfortable parking their cars right next to a tiny home encampment?" he said. "...This does nothing to promote public transportation."

Mahan said calls for service decrease in neighborhoods with managed homeless housing. He said there are drawbacks to the Cottle Road site, including a loss of parking spaces, but there is no ideal location.

"I don't think the status quo is sustainable," Mahan said. "I don't think we can continue to have 6,000 people living on our streets across the city."

Mahan said the city gets better outcomes and spends less money when people live indoors. He said it costs \$65,000 per year, per unhoused person, including tax on emergency response, social workers, emergency room visits, trash pickup, abatements and environmental costs.

"We've got to have places for people to go," he said, adding the city needs cost-effective, scalable, quick-build units with a door that

locks and safe, managed communities.

Mahan said San Jose has carried the burden of affordable housing, shelter and treatment centers and wants to see other cities including Cupertino and Palo Alto do their part.

There are significant behavioral health issues around addiction and mental illness, exacerbated by or leading to being unhoused, he said.

"I'm going to continue to fight to get our county and state to invest more around mental health care and addiction treatment and getting people indoors into facilities to treat behavioral health disorders," he said. "...Those people are still going to need a place to live once that treatment program is completed."

He said the current housing approach is too slow and too expensive, while the number of unhoused people continues to grow.

Traffic fatalities

Another San Jose issue is traffic-related

deaths. On Dec. 7, a woman was struck crossing the street near the Plant Shopping Center becoming the 61st person to die in a traffic accident this year. About half of those killed were pedestrians. According to Vision Zero, 2022 was the deadliest year for traffic collisions since 1997.

"We've had a record-setting year tragically for pedestrian deaths in San Jose," Mahan said.

He asked people to please pay attention and look out for pedestrians and cyclists, citing distracted driving and speeding as major problems. People need to put their cell phones down, he said, and more police are needed to do traffic enforcement.

Mahan closed the forum by saying he always enjoyed sharing dialogue with the community.

"I'll continue to put public participation and access first," he said. "...Thank you for being active and engaged and informed citizens."

Water Board

Continued from page 1
appointed to fill out a term after the District 2 representative resigned. The following year, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors appointed him to serve as an at-large member. He was elected by voters in 2010 to represent District 6, and re-elected in 2014, 2018 and 2022 and served as the Board's chairperson in 2001, 2007, 2014 and 2021. District 6 encompasses parts of Central and East San Jose.

Director Estremera has extensive government experience in both appointed and elected positions serving on the Santa Clara County Grand Jury, Santa Clara County Housing Task Force, Valley Medical Center Advisory Board, Santa Clara County Personnel Board, San Jose Municipal Stadium Task Force, (San Jose) Mayor's Committee on Minority Affairs and the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District Board of Trustees.

Valley Water manages an integrated water resources system that includes the supply of clean, safe water, flood protection and stewardship of streams on behalf of Santa Clara County's nearly 2 million residents. Valley Water effectively manages 10 dams and surface water reservoirs, three water treatment plants, an advanced recycled water purification center, a state-of-the-art water quality laboratory, 277 acres of groundwater recharge ponds and 294 miles of streams. We provide wholesale water and groundwater management services to local municipalities and private water retailers who deliver drinking water directly to homes and businesses in Santa Clara County.

Op-ed

The greatest Christmas tree

When we all decide to do the things that are right for humanity...

By Frank Shortt

Recently, a friend of mine of many years said, "We don't see the nativity scenes we used to see in front of houses! Aren't there Christians anymore?"

The greatest 'Nativity Scene' men and women could ever see would be a newborn human being, who once lay on the sidewalk with flies blowing around his cracked and bleeding lips, his clothing in rags, barely keeping the cold from his body! Then, to see that person leading a useful life for society, whole, and in their right mind, that is the greatest Nativity Scene that could ever be imagined!

The greatest 'Lights' mankind could ever see would be the coming together of all people who call America home at this time. To see mankind working together instead of pulling two different directions would be greater than any string of lights on any city street. To hear men building each other up instead of pulling each other apart would outshine any display that Park Avenue or Central Park could produce.

Mankind is, in essence, a fir tree. When I see children of different ethnic groups singing or playing together, this is the beginning of the ornaments on the Christmas tree. Then, when I see their parents of different backgrounds talking and laughing on the playground, this adds many ornaments to the tree. When children begin displaying a talent that they have been honing and do it exactly how he or she was taught, this is another addition to the branches.

When we all decide to do the things that are right for humanity, we can begin to see the Christmas tree gleaming! Are we all so caught up in ego that we forget the importance of community? Are we destined to become a society where we fear our nearest neighbor just because that neighbor does not have the same color skin that we were born with?

Now that we have added all the ornaments to the Christmas tree, it begins to have a greater glow. We have added the warmth of children playing together, singing together, and doing crafts together. We have added the spark of watching parents of different ethnic groups enjoying the play of their children. We have added hope of one day seeing people getting along instead of stringing apart. We have added a dream of men building each other up instead of ripping into each other and pulling each other down! We have decided that we are all of the same blood no matter where we were born! But somehow, there needs to be something added to the tree!

A great man once said, "There are three things of great importance to the human kind. There is faith, hope, and love, and the greatest of these is love!" Faith is the foundation of all our dreams and aspirations. Without faith, we would not even arise in the morning. We would never accomplish anything we attempted to do. Faith cannot be seen with the natural eye. It is just that something that assures us that whatever we do will be the right thing if we have the right attitude to begin with. Hope is that essence of standing outside the department store window wishing we had all the beautiful things the store had to offer. Hope, is believing that our motives are right in order for faith to kick in. Now we come to the most important ingredient of all: Love!



Love does not belittle its neighbor! Love does not steal from its neighbor. Love does not kill its neighbor! Love does not steal its neighbor's wife or husband! Love covers a multitude of mistakes that others make. Love will overcome many more obstacles than hate! Hate cuts down, Love builds up!

The most important ornament, that can illuminate the whole tree, is Love! There is nothing mankind can produce that will ever outshine love. If we all want peace this Christmas, then by all means, let's begin to show love for everyone!

SANTA CLARA COUNTY IS IN A SEVERE DROUGHT.



LET'S SAY YES TO SAVING WATER

WaterSavings.org



Times **Community**

I N M E M O R Y

Margaret 'Louise' Deisenroth

September 15, 1944 –

December 4, 2022

Resident of Almaden Valley

On Sunday, December 4th, 2022, Louise Deisenroth of San Jose passed away suddenly at the age of 78.

Louise was born in Compton, California to Arthur and Margaret Burrell. At a young age her parents relocated to Northern California where she grew up on the Quicksilver Mine in Almaden Valley before moving to Willow Glen. Louise graduated from Willow Glen High School in 1962 and married her husband Dennis in February of 1963.

Louise worked in the banking industry for



over 50 years. Her 38-year long career with Bank of America enabled her to travel all over the US where she was involved in many large projects like the launch of the first-ever ATM machines. She spent her last few working years with Wells Fargo before finally retiring for good.

Louise enjoyed reading and gardening, her home was decorated for every holiday, and she loved music specially her favorite, Willie Nelson. More than anything, Louise was an exceptional wife, mother, and grandmother.

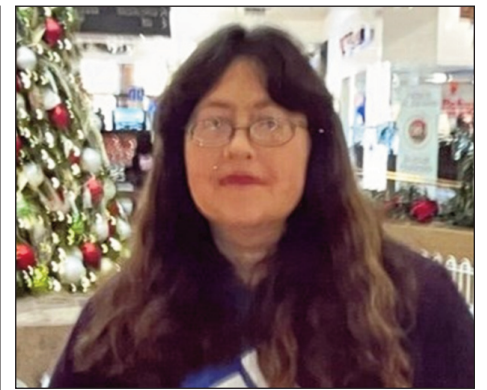
She made extended family out of all of her friends and children's friends. Just recently she started taking a group of her friends on what she called their "adventures"- going places like Mission San Juan Bautista, Filoli, and even the new Eatery at Valley Fair.

Louise's big heart also extended to animals- especially her beloved cats, dogs, and chickens.

Louise is preceded in death by her father, Arthur, her mother, Margaret, her brother Artie, her son, Eric "Ricky" Peterson, and her son Dennis Deisenroth Jr. She is survived by her husband of 59 years and 10 months, Dennis, her daughters Amy and Lisa Deisenroth, her granddaughter Jenessa (Rey) Perez, her grandson Eric Deisenroth, her grand-

daughter Lanie Delgadillo, her great grandsons Vincent and Damien Perez, along with her sisters, Marty (Bob) Martin, Laurie Shields, Tina Reza and brother, George (Suzanne) Burrell along with many nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at the Montevideo Clubhouse on Sunday December 18th at 1pm. For questions contact Janet Velez- janetvelez55@gmail.com or 415-717-0042. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Humane Society of Silicon Valley or your local Planned Parenthood.



Dawn Ellen Cheney

October 1971 – June 2022

Leland High School Grad

Our beloved Daughter and Sister Dawn passed away in June 2022. Dawn has eight aunts, eight uncles, and 18 cousins.

Dawn was a very caring, kind, and generous person. She loved swimming, music and gymnastics. Dawn is survived by her Sister Lynn, Brother Steve and Mother Helen.

Dawn attended Leland, Bret Harte and Simonds local schools. She got her diploma

in travel agency in Campbell, CA and cherished relationships with family & friends. Dawn will be greatly missed by her loving Mother and family.

Thank you God for caring for Dawn and giving her peace.

Dawn greatly missed her Dad Wayne, who passed away 5 years ago.



SOS AUTO REPAIR

We are open as an essential service and taking all recommended CDC precautions.



408-477-2242

3519 San Felipe Rd.

San Jose, CA 95135

www.sosautorepair.com

RED DOG SHRED



RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL BUSINESS PAPER SHREDDING

DROP-OFF SHREDDING SERVICE

WATCH IT SHRED!

RECYCLE ELECTRONICS
MULTI MEDIA

PAPER SHREDDING
\$10.00 PER BOX
10"x12"x15"

HARD DRIVE SHREDDING

65 Gallon Container



Executive Console



RED DOG SHRED PICKS UP

JUNK IT!

- OFFICE CONTENT CLEANOUT
- DOCUMENT PURGES
- PICK UP DOCS
- ON-SITE SHREDDING

www.REDDOGSHRED.com

408-377-2925

BAY AREA - SAN JOSE • 720 CURTNER AVENUE • CAMPBELL, CA 95008

LOCAL NOTEBOOK

Kenneth Cavers named to MSOE Dean's List

Kenneth Cavers of Almaden Valley was named to the Milwaukee School of Engineering's Dean's List for the 2022 Fall Quarter. Cavers is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.

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

Milwaukee School of Engineering (www.msoe.edu) is the university of choice for those seeking an inclusive community of experiential learners driven to solve the complex challenges of today and tomorrow. The independent, non-profit university has about 2,700 students and was founded in 1903.

Thousands of acres of parkland to be connected

Thousands of acres of parklands can now be linked following a vote last week by Santa Clara County supervisors to purchase two tracts of land located near the Santa Cruz Mountains.

The lands — which combined will cost the county \$1.6 million and are located near the southernmost edge of Santa Clara County — will end up connecting 5,622 acres between Mount Madonna and Uvas Reservoir County Parks.

The county also purchased a small track of land that can be used to link Santa Teresa County Park to a nearby boulevard, allowing for easier accessibility.

"I think this is a great move," said Supervisor Otto Lee — who represents District 3 — during last Tuesday's meeting. "The goal of the county Parks Department is to connect all of its public lands through trails"

The completion date for the trails is currently unknown, according to the county.

Website identifies which school districts are well run

By Dan Walters

One conspicuous absence on his list of California's virtues is its public education system, for good reason.

In statewide and nationwide tests of K-12 academic achievement, California lags badly behind. Learning is especially deficient among children from poor families, but even kids from affluent California families tend to lag behind those in other states.

To the extent that this educational crisis receives any attention in the state Capitol, the discussion is almost always confined to money, on the fanciful notion that spending more will automatically increase academic attainment.

One reason money doesn't solve the problem is that the state provides very little oversight on how the money is spent, including the extra funds that local school systems receive specifically to close the achievement gap. State education officials intervene only when local systems are flirting with insolvency.

Some school districts spend their money wisely and effectively and some don't and outcomes largely hinge on the quality of their governance. Those with engaged and committed boards and administrators tend to have better outcomes than those with inconsistent, politics-driven and often chaotic governance.

That's why a massive effort to judge how well California's local school systems are structured and managed is welcome.

Arun Ramanathan, CEO of Pivot Learning, an Oakland-based nonprofit organization that advises school systems on improving instruction, created a series of benchmarks to gauge how well school districts are prepared to embrace reforms.

He also created a website that allows the public to view the results for every school district with at least 2,500 students.

"Despite billions in investment and decades of effort, new reform efforts rarely have intended impacts at the district, school and classroom level, and sustained improvement is rare," Ramanathan told EdSource, a website of education journalism. "There are rarely insights into why. The District Readiness Index (districtreadiness.org) resulted from that questioning."

The ratings cover five "domains" — community relations, finance, leadership, personnel policies and workplace conditions. Users can see how the districts score in each, with overall ratings designated by colors. Blue is the best, yellow is in the middle and orange is the worst. The grading

process resulted in about half of the 420 districts getting yellow grades and about 40% blue marks with roughly two dozen placed in the orange category, meaning they have "few foundations" for achieving needed reforms.

Some of the state's largest districts are colored orange, including Los Angeles Unified, whose enrollment approaches 10% of the state's 6 million public school students.

It's not surprising that L.A. Unified, Oakland Unified, San Francisco Unified and Sacramento Unified received low marks because all have been in constant political turmoil and financial distress of their own making.

Three of the large districts — San Diego Unified, Elk Grove Unified and San Juan Unified — escaped the orange designation and are marked

as yellow. A few large districts achieved blue status for being well prepared, including Fresno Unified, Long Beach Unified and San Bernardino Unified. But most of the blue districts tend to be either in affluent suburbs — no surprise there — or in rural areas.

Most interestingly, the blue list includes a number of districts with large numbers of poor students, such as Brawley and Calexico in poverty-stricken Imperial County.

The District Readiness Index provides new ammunition for the school reform movement in California, which seeks to elevate students' welfare over the petty politics, particularly in Los Angeles Unified and other large districts, that sabotage their educations.

Dan Walters is a CalMatters columnist.

"YES, I WILL SAVE WATER."



AYDA S.
Saved 20 gallons of water.

You can make a difference in your community.

Reducing water use in your home by 20 gallons a day can save 15%.



LET'S SAY YES TO SAVING WATER

Find more tips at WaterSavings.org

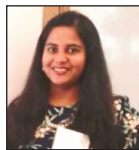


Times **Feature**

TECH JARGON OF THE WEEK
Compliance as a Service (CaaS)

By Shubhi Asthana

Have 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:



Compliance as a Service (CaaS)

Businesses today handle large amounts of electronic customer data, from email addresses to payment information. Much of this sensitive data can

harm your business and your customers should it fall into the wrong hands. Compliance plays a vital role in serving customers and protecting your business from legal and financial trouble.

Compliance as a Service is a type of solution that uses cloud computing to help businesses store data and manage regulatory compliance. Though services vary depending on the industry, Compliance as a Service providers typically store sensitive data in accordance with regulations and provide tools for managing and reporting compliance in your organization. Compliance support services in the cloud are often used by large organizations that operate in highly regulated industries such as healthcare, banking, and finance. The goal of Compliance as a Service is to reduce an organization’s compliance burden by outsourcing compliance management tasks to a

third-party that has the resources required to meet regulatory requirements in a more cost-effective manner.

The Pros and Cons of Compliance as a Service

If you’re involved in highly regulated industries like healthcare or financial services, you may want to think about using compliance services from cloud-based companies as they can enhance your compliance initiatives and help ensure you stay abreast of continued updates.

Getting help with compliance can increase efficiency in small businesses by decreasing the amount of documentation required by regulatory bodies that you or your employees must personally administer and oversee. It can also cut down on the cost of managing HIPAA regulations or other industry-specific compliance issues. This can include offerings such as vulnerability scan-

ning, data encryption log monitoring, access management, and several other tools that can be difficult for smaller organizations to manage themselves.

On the other hand, carving out portions of compliance requirements may make you feel too comfortable. If you assume that another company has taken care of your risks and legal responsibilities when it hasn’t, your business will be the one that pays for any slipups — and those fines can be financially devastating to small businesses. Relying on someone else to ensure your compliance may muddy the waters and leave certain responsibilities to chance.

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.

AlmadenTimes Real Estate

AlmadenTimes Real Estate



**Your Realtor
 Ad Here:
 Just \$89!**

**Call now to place your ad
 by phone: (408) 494-7000**



**SHAWN ANSARI
 & SAHAR BINESH**

COMPASS

(408) 529-4574
 shawn.ansari@compass.com
(408) 348-9197
 sahar.binesh@compass.com



**JACKIE
 JONES**



(408) 315-6186
 www.jackiejonesells.com
 jjones@cbsnorcal.com



**THERESE
 SWAN**

COMPASS

tswan@tswan.com
 AlmadenValleyRealEstate.com
 DRE: 01355719
(408) 656-8240



DONNA TAM
 donnatam@sereno.com



(408) 398-4024
 214 Los Gatos-Saratoga
 Road, Los Gatos, CA 95030
 DRE 02119119



DEE RAMIREZ
 Realtor Lic. #00683945



(408) 440-7617
 Dee@DeeRamirez.com
 www.DeeRamirez.com

Times **News**



Nearly 200 Oberlin students took part in a private gala performance for the General Assembly of the United Nations at Carnegie Hall. *Photo credit: Chris Lee*

San Jose musician performs with Oberlin College and Conservatory at Carnegie Hall

Noa Talmor of San Jose was among nearly 200 student musicians from Oberlin College and Conservatory to perform works spanning three centuries in the magnificent Stern Auditorium at Carnegie Hall Dec. 2.

The private gala was held for the 77th General Assembly of the United Nations to honor the work of Csaba Kőrösi, president of the UN General Assembly, and diplomatic and UN staff communities around the world.

Under the direction of Raphael Jiménez, a professor of conducting and director of Oberlin Orchestras, the program included Adolphus Hailstork's triumphal Fanfare on Amazing Grace; Sergei Rachmaninoff's emotionally charged Piano Concerto No. 2 in C Minor, Op. 18 and Ludwig van Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D Minor, Op. 125—widely regarded as a celebration of irrepressible unity, with its iconic "Ode to Joy."

"We believe that espousing art and education is an embrace of our common humanity," said Oberlin President Carmen Twillie Ambar in an address to an audience of 1,800 diplomats and invited guests. "And this approach is a way to change the world."

Trust Mexico Lindo for your next group outing or private party!



Experience the taste of authentic made from scratch Mexican food while dining at Mexico Lindo for your next group outing or private party! We offer an indoor and/or outdoor dining experience and a full bar. Our location is the perfect venue for all of your small and large private dining events including birthday parties, school reunions, anniversaries, work outings, and more!



**5635 Silver Creek Valley Road
San Jose, CA 95123**

Reservations: 408.270.5463

Sun - Thursday 11am - 9pm

Friday - Saturday 11am - 10pm

For event info contact: Michelle@MexicoLindoSJ.com

Follow us on Instagram for updates & weekly specials: @mexicolindosc

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Help the passengers find their way around Mineta San José International Airport (SJC)!



The Airport is looking for information booth volunteers to answer questions related to flight information, concessions, ground transportation, and much more.

Apply today! <https://www.flysanjose.com/volunteer>



Mr. Peabody's

The Most Powerful Green Cleaning On the Planet



**Complete Carpet Cleaning,
Stone Polishing and Repair**

(408) 444-9437

Serving Evergreen Valley since 1995



Drive home the savings.

Al Olseen
State Farm Agent
 3267 S White Road,
 San Jose, CA 95148
 Phone: (408) 274-4900
 Hours: 9 am – 6 pm
 (Lunch 1-2 pm)

Car and home combo.
 Combine your homeowners and car policies and save big-time.
Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®
CALL ME TODAY.



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
 State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
 State Farm General Insurance Company
 Bloomington, IL

FREEDOM. TO BE YOU.

If you think oxygen therapy means slowing down, it's time for a welcome breath of fresh air.

Introducing the Inogen One family of portable oxygen systems. With no need for bulky tanks, each concentrator is designed to keep you active via Inogen's Intelligent Delivery Technology.® Hours of quiet and consistent oxygen flow on a long-lasting battery charge enabling freedom of movement, whether at home or on the road. Every Inogen One meets FAA requirements for travel ensuring the freedom to be you.



- No heavy oxygen tanks
- Ultra quiet operation
- Lightweight and easy to use
- Safe for car and air travel
- Full range of options and accessories
- FDA approved and clinically validated

Call **1-866-387-4432** for a free consultation and info guide.



MKT-P0253

Times News

Career Column

Keep looking forward

By Angela Copeland

When you're riding a horse, there's an important lesson about where you focus your energy. You need to keep your head up, and focused on where you want to go. If you look down, you may get stuck and ultimately, you may not make it to your intended destination. The same is true when looking for a job.



The modern job search comes with quite a few bumps in the road. It has happened to the best of us. You're interviewing with one company. It seems like it's going well. You receive positive feedback, so you stop looking for jobs. You wait for the job offer to arrive. But, at the end, you aren't selected.

This happened to me when interviewing for a job at a financial services company. They put me through ten rounds of interviews over a six month period. After going in person for interviews, the hiring manager let me know that I was the one he'd selected. But, he wanted me to talk with a few more people, which elongated the process by a month or more. This was an unusual request given how far along we were, but I did the interviews. Since I knew I'd been selected, I began to pack my things. The job was in another city, and I needed to prepare to move.

Strangely, that job offer never arrived. Instead, I received a phone call from the hiring manager. He told me he had good news and bad news. I was the winning candidate. But, they had decided not to hire anyone in order to save money. I could tell by the lightness in the hiring manager's tone that he had no idea what an impact this decision had on me. He wasn't thinking about the months it would take me to find another job. He had no idea I'd already packed, or that I'd stopped applying at other companies. In his mind, it was as if he'd changed his mind about ordering a dessert after dinner. But for me, it was devastating news.

What could I have done differently here? Well, for one, the lesson is to never stop applying for jobs until you have a written job offer in hand. Until that point, anything could happen. The company could choose to hire someone else, or to hire no one at all.

Second, you should try to go through job interviews without thinking about the outcome. When you focus on the outcome, you will be extremely disappointed by all the rejection. It will begin to feel as if something is wrong with you. But, that's not true. The modern hiring process is broken.

And, don't get too excited just because you're a perfect fit for a role. Someone else may be a perfect fit too.

So, stay focused. Keep your eyes on the end goal. When you reach it, you'll know. Until then, keep looking forward.

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

California utility regulator votes to reduce subsidies for rooftop solar installations

By Times Media news staff

Almaden residents are outraged over California's utility regulator voting last week to significantly reduce subsidies for rooftop solar installations.

The hotly contested rules approved by the Public Utilities Commission will lower compensation home solar owners receive from utilities for their excess energy and encourage the adoption of battery storage.

"If we are trying to reduce our dependency on fossil fuel, why are we penalizing homeowners that have installed solar?" said Janet Woodbury. "This makes no sense."

The agency cites the need to support grid reliability and avoid burdening lower-income energy customers as reasons for the changes.

Known as net energy metering, or NEM, the subsidies have been an incentive for homeowners and businesses to install solar panels on their rooftops. Under the program, solar customers are paid for the excess energy they generate and sell back to the grid, which eventually helps offset the initial cost of installing the system.

Under the current arrangement, utilities offset the savings solar owners receive and grid maintenance fees they avoid by increasing electrical bills for other customers.

Some solar industry leaders prefer the new rules to a previous proposal that would have imposed an \$8 per kilowatt monthly fixed charge, or a "solar tax," on new home solar owners.

SILICON VALLEY READS 2022

SEE NO STRANGER
 A MEMOIR AND MANIFESTO OF REGENERATIVE LOVE
 VALARIE KAUR

ENOUGH ABOUT ME
 THE UNEXPECTED JOURNALS OF HELEENAH
 RICHARD LUI

A DREAM CALLED HOME
 BEYLA ERANDU
 A MEMOIR OF A WOMAN WHO LEFT HER HOME TO FIND HERSELF

THE POWER OF KINDNESS, RESILIENCE, & HOPE

www.siliconvalleyreads.org

A Full, Festive Menu for Holiday Celebrations

FAMILY FEATURES

From the hors d'oeuvres to the main course and all the way through dessert, creating a full holiday menu doesn't have to be hard.

The key to a successful feast is focusing on dishes that can please loved ones of all ages and palates, such as a festive salad before the turkey or ham main dish, which can be accompanied by complementary sides like au gratin potatoes. Finally, top off the celebration with a divine dessert featuring classic cranberry flavor.

To find more holiday recipe inspiration, visit Culinary.net.



Photo courtesy of Getty Images

Start Holiday Celebrations with a Salad

With a bed of tender, leafy green spinach and pops of red cranberries, a salad lends itself perfectly to the colors and flavors of the holiday season. Plus, as a lighter bite ahead of the big meal, it makes for a delicious introduction to festive dinner parties, family gatherings and get-togethers.

This Spinach Christmas Tree Salad offers a fresh, festive option that adds a seasonal presentation to the table while inviting guests to take a bite. Harvested at the peak of flavor, tender Fresh Express Baby Spinach has a mild and delicate taste that makes it an ideal addition to recipes throughout the holidays.

Find more ways to freshen up your holiday menu at FreshExpress.com.

Spinach Christmas Tree Salad

Servings: 6

- 2 packages (5 ounces each) Fresh Express Baby Spinach
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries, divided
- 1/3 cup pistachios, divided
- 1/2 cup feta cheese, divided
- 1 red pepper, cored, cut into thin strips
- 1 large apple, thinly sliced, cut into star shapes

Dressing:

- 1 cup whole berry cranberry sauce
- 3 tablespoons cranberry juice
- 2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 tablespoon light brown sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt



In large bowl, toss baby spinach with 1/4 cup dried cranberries, 1/6 cup pistachios and 1/4 cup feta cheese. Transfer to Christmas tree cake mold. Neatly arrange spinach leaves to create smooth surface.

Arrange red pepper strips, trimming as needed, to create garland. Arrange remaining dried cranberries, remaining pistachios and remaining feta cheese as "ornaments" on top of spinach. Create tree topper with one apple star; place remaining apple stars around "tree."

To make dressing: In blender, process cranberry sauce, cranberry juice, balsamic vinegar, honey, olive oil, brown sugar and salt until smooth.

Dish Up a Divine Holiday Dessert

Give your holiday gatherings a new twist this year with a creamy cranberry delight that's a cause for celebration all on its own. Smooth, divine taste at the dessert table can be the memorable moment your family craves year after year.

This rich, festive Cranberry Cheesecake combines classic flavor with a homemade cranberry compote-infused layer above a crust sweetly made using C&H Light Brown Sugar and graham crackers. Top it all off with fresh and sugared cranberries, rosemary sprigs and whipped cream for a tempting treat that tastes as good as it looks.

To find more sweet eats to celebrate the holidays, visit chsugar.com.

Cranberry Cheesecake

Prep time: 45 minutes

Cook time: 1 hour, 15 minutes

Cranberry Compote:

- 2 cups fresh cranberries
- 1 cup C&H Light Brown Sugar
- 1/4 cup freshly squeezed orange juice
- 1 teaspoon freshly grated orange zest



Crust:

- 2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 3 tablespoons C&H Light Brown Sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Cheesecake:

- 3 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, at room temperature
- 2 cups C&H Organic Raw Cane Sugar
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 4 large eggs, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup sour cream, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup cranberry compote

- fresh cranberries
- sugared cranberries
- rosemary sprigs
- whipped cream

To make cranberry compote: In medium saucepan, bring cranberries, brown sugar, orange juice and orange zest to boil. Lower heat and simmer 10-15 minutes, or until most cranberries burst. Remove from heat. Cool completely at room temperature then transfer to bowl; refrigerate.

To make crust: Preheat oven to 350 F. Butter 8-inch springform pan and line bottom with parchment paper. Set aside.

In medium bowl, mix cracker crumbs, butter, brown sugar and salt. Press crumb mixture into bottom of prepared pan. Bake 15 minutes. Remove from oven and set aside. Reduce oven temperature to 325 F.

To make cheesecake: In bowl of electric mixer fitted with paddle attachment, beat cream cheese at medium speed until smooth. Add cane sugar and beat 2-3 minutes. Scrape sides of bowl as needed. Add flour, vanilla and salt. Beat 1 minute until incorporated.

Add one egg at a time, mixing until incorporated. Add sour cream and mix 1 minute. Scrape sides of bowl as needed. In medium bowl, mix half of cheesecake batter with 1/2 cup cranberry compote.

Wrap springform pan with aluminum foil and place in large roasting pan. Pour cream cheese and cranberry mixture into prepared pan. Top with remaining cream cheese batter. Place roasting pan in oven and add hot water to 1-inch of springform pan. Bake 1 hour, 15 minutes, or until cake looks set in center. Remove from oven and rest 1 hour. Refrigerate in pan overnight.

Decorate cake with fresh and sugared cranberries, rosemary sprigs and whipped cream.

A Hearty Holiday Side Dish

From appetizers and snacks to the main course, sides and sweets, almost everyone has a favorite holiday dish. However, it's the pairings and complementary dishes that make festive get-togethers special.

This Creamy Au Gratin Potatoes with Kale and Gruyere is an ideal example of a savory side that goes well with a variety of holiday meals, making it a perfect option for families seeking a versatile recipe to serve with dinner. Rosy-skinned and white-fleshed, Wisconsin Round Red potatoes have a firm, smooth and moist texture, making them well-suited for roasting in this hearty dish.

Visit eatwisconsinpotatoes.com to discover more recipes fit for serving your loved ones.

Creamy Au Gratin Potatoes with Kale and Gruyere

Recipe courtesy of Wisconsin Potatoes

- 1 1/2 cups heavy cream
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 cloves garlic, smashed
- 3 sprigs fresh thyme
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3 cloves shallots, diced
- 4 large kale leaves, finely chopped (discard stems)
- 2 pounds red potatoes, sliced 1/8 inch
- 2 ounces gruyere cheese, grated
- 1 ounce Parmesan cheese, grated

Heat oven to 325 F.

In small saucepan over medium heat, combine cream, salt, black pepper, garlic and thyme; stir constantly, until cream starts to bubble, 4-6 minutes. When bubbling, remove from heat and stir until slightly cooled. Let cream sit.

Heat large (12-inch) oven-safe skillet over medium-high heat. Add butter. When butter melts, add shallots and kale leaves. Sauté until kale is tender and bright green, about 4 minutes. Turn off burner.

Add sliced potatoes to skillet, fanning over top of kale.

Use slotted spoon to remove garlic and thyme from heavy cream. Pour heavy cream over potatoes.

Cover skillet tightly with foil and bake until potatoes are tender, 75-85 minutes.

Remove skillet from oven and turn on broiler. Discard foil.

Sprinkle gruyere and Parmesan cheeses over potatoes, tucking some cheese between potato slices.

Return skillet to oven and broil until top is golden brown, 5-6 minutes.





Award-Winning Academic Small-Group Courses!

Silver Creek Academy is dedicated to providing quality education for K - 12!

With a 15-year history of delivering award-winning academic programs, we are excited to continue to offer our courses virtually and in person.



Writing & Grammar

Reading Comprehension

Public Speaking & Debate

Mathematics

HSPT Preparation



(408)839-5905

Funlearning@mac.com

**Enroll Online Today!
SCAASanJose.com**





CATALYTIC CONVERTER ETCH AND PROTECT PROGRAM

In memory of The Nguyen
and the Nguyen Family

Please join the San Jose Police Department and the
San Jose Police Foundation for the Catalytic
Converter Etching Program.

Etching a converter with your license plate or
VIN number will assist police to help track the
converter in the event it is stolen and recovered.

EASY AS 1-2-3! AND IT'S FREE!



1



Make an appointment with
one of our partners by
calling your choice below.

2



Register your vehicle
for the program.

3



Get Etched!

THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES ARE CURRENT SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT ETCH AND PROTECT PARTNERS. IF YOU ARE AN AUTOMOTIVE BUSINESS OWNER WHO WISHES TO PARTNER WITH THE SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT ETCH AND PROTECT PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT CAPTAIN TRAYER: 3301@SANJOSECA.GOV

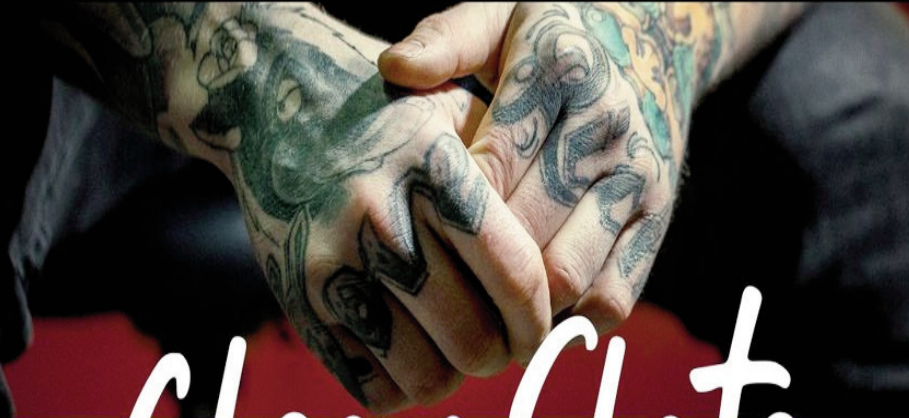
CAPITOL HONDA 745 CAPITOL EXPY, SAN JOSE 408-445-4422	STEVENS CREEK TOYOTA 4202 STEVENS CREEK BLVD. SAN JOSE 408-984-1234	SPEEDEE/MIDAS 1825 E. CAPITOL EXPY, SAN JOSE 408-531-0701
--	--	--

Disclaimer: Etching the catalytic converter does not guarantee it will not be stolen, nor is it guarantee of recovery...but it could help!

SAN JOSE
PARKS, RECREATION &
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

CITY OF
SAN JOSE
OFFICE OF BLACK VALLEY

VALLEY
MEDICAL
CENTER



Clean Slate

FREE TATTOO REMOVAL

Hands, Wrist, Neck & Face

Ages 14 - 25

For more info, call 408-794-1660 or email cleanslate@sanjoseca.gov



Now Open and Enrolling

Call for more information

KinderCare®

LEARNING CENTERS

*Virtual Tours
Available*

1081 Foxworthy Avenue,
San Jose, CA 95118

(408) 265-7380

www.Kindercare.com




KinderCare offers unique, expertly designed early education programs for infants as young as 6 weeks to school-age children up to age 12, which includes preschool and pre-kindergarten programs.



Even from a distance,
please support this paper
by supporting our
advertisers.

Please support our
advertisers! They make the
ALMADEN TIMES possible.

- ADT
- Almaden Law
- Almaden Senior Association
- Anderson's Windows
- Atria Senior Living - Almaden
- Shawn Ansari - Compass Real Estate
- Guaranteed Life Insurance
- Inogen
- Jackie Jones - Coldwell Banker
- Kindercare
- Leaf Filter
- Minetta San Jose International Airport
- Presentation High School
- San Jose Youth Symphony
- Silver Creek Academy
- Joe Simitian
- SOS Auto Repair
- Therese Swan - Compass Real Estate
- Donna Tam Real Estate
- Valley Transportation Authority
- Valley Water



CHEFCENTURY \$25 COUPON

CUISINES BY LOCAL CHEFS!

Coupon Code:
ThankYou 25



Register an account at www.chefcentury.com (QR)
Enter the coupon code to apply the \$25 credit to your order

Save on Windows & Doors!

BUY ONE, GET ONE **AND** \$0 Money Down
\$0 Interest
\$0 Monthly Payments
40% OFF
for 12 months¹

Interest accrues from the date of purchase but is waived if paid in full within 12 months. Minimum purchase of 4.

Call by January 31

for your **FREE** consultation.

650-383-1892



**RENEWAL
by ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT



¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 1/31/2023. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 12 months \$0 money down, \$0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 10/1/2022 and 1/31/2023. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky[®] consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. *Renewal by Andersen[®] and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. © 2023 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. RBA12848 ^{*}Using U.S. and imported parts.

Elf trouble

A Christmas story

By Kevin Larsen

The elves made fun of me and were mischievous... they sometimes play around and cause trouble!

It all happened this past week... you see, only boys and girls can get into the "The North Pole," also called Santa Land. But, for some reason I got in.

An old wise elf told me I got in because a long time ago my ancestors actually worked for Santa and although in my golden years, I had the mind of a boy.

My story begins when I took a special top-secret flight and parachuted out over a snow-covered mountain that had bright lights at the top.

I later learned it was dust from the aurora borealis which they sprinkle heavily at the pole. Being just a bit curious, I went to check on my presents and at the same time present some new ideas to Santa!

I was earnestly welcomed and ate at North Pole Cafeteria. While eating, I asked some Elves if they were good builders. When they found out I was from the Silicon Valley, they asked me if I knew Elon Musk and asked for workplace ideas.

I told them, "Don't make toys with batteries," because kids these days are too dependent on techy things. Why drive a little electric plastic car when kids should pedal things.

The elves liked my idea of instituting a new Work Reward Program where each elf wore an ID Chip attached to a lanyard, but I didn't tell them the chip was actually a Where-A-Bouts tracking tool.

I immediately monitored productivity and was shocked to find some of the elves sleeping; so I woke a few up. While this action didn't make me any friends, the idea was hatched to increase the production of toys for boys and girls in the world.

After just a week, the elves protested the use of the chip and pulled the lanyards off their necks.

This was a social experiment of mine because I told them, and "now you know what Americans go through in the workplace."

I explained workers are monitored in the car and offices and they like their children seem to be tied to the flat phone. We need to go back to normalcy and to do this we must no longer have any batteries in any toys. Are

you with me?" When they scowled at me I could not help but tell them, "You are someday going to be replaced by robots!"

When they heard that they began to throw huge snowballs at me! I waved for them to stop and said loudly, "We love your toys, but they are being replaced by computer screens."

I told the elves, "There is something special about the dolls you make but remember decades back Silicon Valley asked you to put in the pull string that made them talk, well that was no

good and it started a thinking machine mind-set that coxed the children in to getting virtual toys. It is best for children to cuddle a doll with Raggedy Ann hair that doesn't talk back, using their own imagination! "Go back to making toys without batteries, I know the truth hurts but you'll thank me in time. I'm trying to do good here!"

Out of nowhere, a big burly man walked over to me in a red jacket and I instantly knew who it was... "Hi Santee," I said with a big smile. He scowled back and said to me, "My name's not Santee... I'm Santa Claus!"

Then he inquired, "Hey, how in the dickens do you get the elves to make presents tagged only for YOU!"

I told him, "My mom always told me, it's good to reward one's self. Take time for yourself were her words. This helped me with my weight loss program, maybe it can help you too Santee I mean, Santa."

"YOUR MOM SAID WHAT? Well that's not true," said Santa. "Everyone knows it is better to give, than to receive! So, I'll be selecting the presents you receive this year... and please, do me a favor, leave the elves alone, they've got work to do and we're running behind our production schedule. And, NO MORE workplace suggestions, please! The only reason I'm putting up with you is you came from Silicon Valley and I knew your family many years ago."

Then, I said under my breath, "Ya, and I bet you don't treat others the way you treat me, huh"... which I later regretted saying. And one other thing, Santa, did you know Mrs. Claus best friend's daughter should be on the "naughty list"... because she lied!

Santa's face got red in the cheeks while the reindeer put their paws over their eyes!

"SHE LIED?" exclaimed Santa.

"Yes, I said, almost every time a girlfriend of hers gets a new hairstyle, she says the same thing, 'Oh, my word, you look absolutely gorgeous,' and

all the while she says under her breath, 'Wow, I hope she didn't pay too much to the beautician, because her hair looks like a helmet.' Lies Santa; all lies. Sorry I have to come to you to be the bearer of truth."

Santa while looking a bit puzzled declared, "THAT'S NOT LYING, THAT'S BEING KIND!"

I frowned and tried to explain to Santa that she was not a good girl but he wouldn't listen, then I said, "But Santa, a lie is a lie and



think of was the true loving comradery I had with Santa and the elves.

I ripped the bow off of the first package and clawed at the wrapping paper like a panther. "What's this," I asked in confusion with my family looking on with scowls. A family member stated, "I think it's a shirt but it fits too tight around your belly and Oh My, why does it have one short sleeve and one long sleeve?"

In the second box, I got pairs of socks with different designs, different colors and different sizes too. One sock was size large and the other attached to it was the size of an infant. I was getting a bit upset but hoped for the best as I began to open the third package.

Chocolates, I exclaimed, and individually wrapped inside a gold tin box. They tasted delicious so I shared them with others in the room, but if you can believe it, little pieces of walnut shells crunched down upon my unknowing teeth. I muttered under my breath, "It's the elves who did this, those pesky mischievous elves."

There was a little tiny card in the chocolate box too. The elves must have written it because Santa uses cursive writing and elves just print with capital letters.

It read...

"IF YOU EVER COME BACK YOU GOT TO CLEAN THE REINDEER CORRALS AND BUILD A MULCH AND COMPOST AREA. SANTA SAYS WE'RE GOIN GREEN AT THE POLE. BY THE WAY THAT GIRL YOU TRIED TO TELL ON, WELL, SHE IS RELATED TO MRS. CLAUS AND SHE'S A GOOD GIRL AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN. YOU'RE A GOOD BOY, BUT YOU NEED HELP!"

Reading the note many times just made me more and more angry. I asked myself under my breath, "What do they mean I need help, it's them that need the help!"

So, I sent them back this special delivery letter and drew some candy canes on the envelope so they would be sure to open it. I even used glue and glitter to make it loving looking.

SPECIAL DELIVERY TO THE ELVES AT NORTH POLE

"You Elves are mischievous and just so you

know, a lot of the things you make break easily. Why the pointed hats?"

After I wrote the letter above, I felt a little better and I got a bit mischievous myself and decided to write Santa.

Dear Santa,

Did you see that someone hung some mistletoe on the ceiling just above your kitchen table?

Didn't want to send you this note but everybody knows.

You see, while I was at the Pole, I tiptoed into your house to borrow some cookies.

To my surprise, I saw Mrs. Claus kissing an elf standing on a chair.

Maybe it was all because of the mistletoe.

I guess all love is good love. Made me wonder though, if Mrs. Claus ever visited France?

Not sure which elf it was, but Mrs. Claus would know!

Love ya,

By the way, thanks for the presents.

P.S. I wonder who put that mistletoe up on the kitchen ceiling; I guess we'll never know for sure.

there is no bending of the rules or definitions so she belongs on the NaUgHtY LiSt; that's a must, plain and simple."

Hearing those words, the elves gasped and Santa slowly shook his head to silently say that he would not have any part of it. He then said something in a serious tone, "Thank you for your stay at the North Pole, time for you to go!"

The elves directed me to a secret passage which turned out to be the "Elf's Den," where they make and build all the presents. It was at this time that Santa came out with three nicely wrapped presents for me. I was so excited! Happy too! I went to hug him, but he was too big for me to get my arms around.

"Ho, Ho, Ho," he laughed and then said, "Why these three are specially made for you, I had the elves craft them under my direct supervision." Then the same laugh, "Ho Ho Ho." Why's he always laughing and why is it he is the only one who says Ho Ho Ho when everyone else laughs with a Ha Ha Ha.

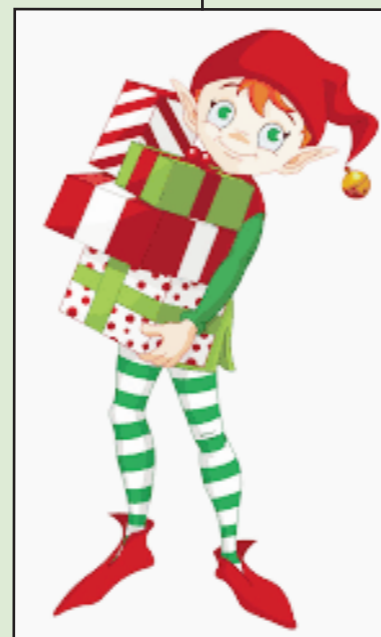
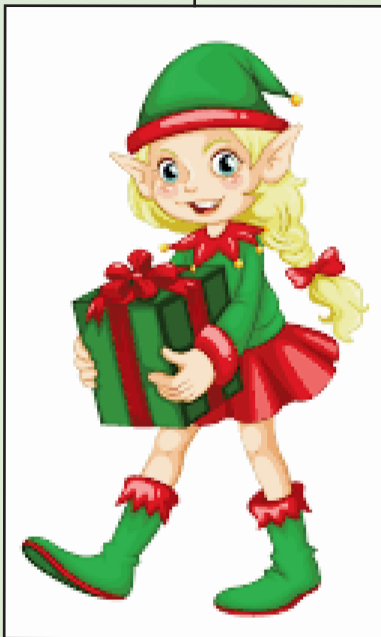
I thanked him and he continued to laugh so I asked if I could hitch a ride to California on one of his practice sleigh runs, to which while not looking directly at me, he just shook his head in the negative.

You see, even though I have been mostly good sometimes I do a few things, maybe by accident, that are not good. I thought no one would notice, but I had a feeling those pesky elves said some misleading and untrue things about me to Claus.

Upon leaving the North Pole, the next days would prove challenging. I did the impossible, snowshoeing over the states from icy areas to Oregon and it's a good thing Mrs. Claus made snacks for me, because I got lost. I pulled a giant toboggan I had the elves make me and used it to go down large hills and to sleep on at night. Then, just as easy as it sounds, I heard a whistle blow and caught a train from Faraway Station to home. The conductor said I could ride for free when I showed him actual presents made and addressed to me from Santa.

When I got back home I took a nap and placed the beautifully wrapped presents under the tree so they would look just right. The tags had my name on them and said, "Official Package from North Pole."

Then, Christmas morning came. I saved the presents that Santa gave me for last. All I could



Times **Feature**

One Step Closer Therapeutic Riding presents

G.R.I.T.

An Equine-Assisted-Learning Program for Women

SELF-CONFIDENCE

RESILIENCE

LIFE SKILLS

SAFE BOUNDARIES

"It is deeply healing to tap into the power of the centuries old bond between horse and human. It's truly profound that our two species, with such diametrically different views of predator vs prey, can come together in partnership and trust. I feel privileged to have the opportunity to learn what these incredible teachers have to offer us." - GRIT Participant

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.

G.R.I.T. is for adult women led by OSC founder Landa Keirstead. The small group meets in 2 hour sessions, once per week for six-weeks

Contact One Step Closer for more information and to enroll
one.step.closer@sbcglobal.net 408-778-3567

Financial aid tip of the month

Know your school's satisfactory academic progress standards

By Erin Klarer

Satisfactory academic progress, or SAP, is an important phrase in the language of student aid for Kentucky students to know, according to Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA)

SAP comes into play after you have taken college or technical school classes and are applying for student aid for the next school year.

All colleges that award federal student aid must have SAP standards, which are based on three key areas: GPA, pace and a maximum time frame.

The GPA students may vary by school, major and whether a student is pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree.

To meet the pace standard, students must pass a certain percentage of the classes they take in a given period of time. This may also vary by college.

Maximum time frame means students have to finish their degree within a given number of attempted credit hours. For example, a school may require a student to pass 120 credit hours to earn a bachelor's degree, but the student must earn those 120 hours without taking more than 150 hours.

KHEAA is a public, non-profit agency



established in 1966 to improve students' access to college. It provides information about financial aid and financial literacy at no cost to students and parents.

In addition, KHEAA disburses private Advantage Education Loans on behalf of its sister agency, KHESLC. For more information, visit www.advantageeducationloan.com.

KHEAA also helps colleges manage their student loan default rates and verify information submitted on the FAFSA. For more information about those services, visit www.kheaa.com.

WHEN JOURNALISM IS NOT PRESENT TO SERVE COMMUNITIES, BAD THINGS HAPPEN.

Trained journalists report authentic, credible information. And we fight for those who produce genuine news!

Almaden Times
 Serving the community since 1986

Times Media, Inc.

- Almaden Times
- Evergreen Times
- Willow Glen Times

Source: University of North Carolina School of Media & Journalism

truth



Want to submit a news item for the Almaden Times?

Publication day: January 4, 2022

Deadline: January 1, 2023

Write to editorial@timesmediainc.com

Almaden Times

Times **Feature**

Report
Where inflation is rising the most

With the year-over-year inflation rate at 7.1% in November, the personal-finance website WalletHub just released its report on the Cities Where Inflation is Rising the Most, as well as expert commentary.

To determine the cities where inflation is rising the most – and thus is the biggest problem – WalletHub compared 23 major MSAs (Metropolitan Statistical Areas) across two key metrics involving the Consumer Price Index, which measures inflation.

The Consumer Price Index was compared for the latest month for which BLS data is available to two months prior and one year prior to get a snapshot of how inflation has changed in the short and long term.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rising the Most | Rising the Least |
| 1. Phoenix, AZ | 19. Los Angeles, CA |
| 2. Miami, FL | 20. Chicago, IL |
| 3. Tampa, FL | 21. San Diego, CA |
| 4. Atlanta, GA | 22. Honolulu, HI |
| 5. Seattle, WA | 23. Minneapolis, MN |

To view the full report and your city's rank, please visit: <https://wallethub.com/edu/cities-inflation/107537>

Report
2022's best cities for New Year's celebrations

With New Year's around the corner and 70% of Americans spending at least \$50 on food and drinks for the occasion, the personal-finance website WalletHub just released its report on 2022's Best Cities for New Year's.

To determine which cities are the best for safely ringing in the new year without breaking the bank, WalletHub compared the 100 biggest cities across 29 key metrics. The data set ranges from safety and vaccination rates to quality food options and costs.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Best Cities for New Year's | |
| 1. New York, NY | 11. Miami, FL |
| 2. Orlando, FL | 12. Austin, TX |
| 3. Las Vegas, NV | 13. San Antonio, TX |
| 4. San Francisco, CA | 14. San Diego, CA |
| 5. Atlanta, GA | 15. Nashville, TN |
| 6. Denver, CO | 16. Louisville, KY |
| 7. Washington, DC | 17. Boston, MA |
| 8. Chicago, IL | 18. Philadelphia, PA |
| 9. Los Angeles, CA | 19. El Paso, TX |
| 10. Seattle, WA | 20. New Orleans, LA |

- Key Stats**
- 80+ Million – Number of Americans who will travel for the New Year's holiday this year, with nearly half of them driving to their destination.
 - 59% – Share of Americans who

plan to celebrate New Year's Eve with family or friends. Only 37% will attend public events or eat out.

- \$865 – Average cost for a couple to enjoy dinner and a show on New Year's Eve in the three largest cities (New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago).

- 360+ Million – Number of glasses of sparkling wine that are drunk each New Year's Eve.

To view the full report and your city's rank, please visit: <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-places-for-new-years-eve/17263>

New research reveals California has 3rd highest cost of living in the US

The research, undertaken by Lensa, looked at data from World Population Review and United States Census Bureau to determine which state had the highest cost of living in 2022 and the lowest labour costs from the years 2016-2020.

Here are the top 10 states with the highest cost of living:

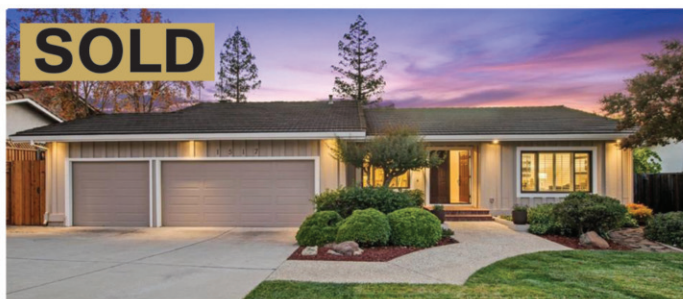
Rank	State	Cost of living index score
1	Hawaii	193.3
2	New York	148.2
3	California	142.2
4	Mass.	135.0
5	Oregon	130.1
6	Alaska	127.1
7	Maryland	124.0
8	Connecticut	121.6
9	Rhode Island	117.2
10	Vermont	117.0

The highest cost of living is in Hawaii (193.3), the highest in the nation, meaning the cost of living in the state is nearly twice the average.

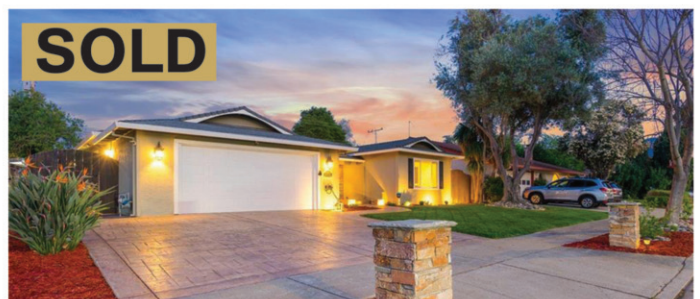


We Get Homes Sold!

shawn ansari Expertise You Need, Results You Can Count On!
62 ★★★★★ STAR Zillow Reviews



1517 FOSTER COURT | SOLD IN 1 DAY \$352K OVER ASKING



5450 COPELAND LANE | SOLD FOR \$2,400,000



3883 LA DONNA AVE | SOLD FOR \$4,200,000



1644 SWEETBRIAR DRIVE | SOLD FOR \$2,200,000



3538 OAK DRIVE | SOLD FOR \$2,507,000



20488 STEVENS CREEK BLVD | SOLD FOR \$1,400,000



Shawn Ansari
DRE #: 01088988
REALTOR®
M: 408.529.4574
shawn.ansari@compass.com

www.ShawnAnsari.com



Bahareh Taebi
DRE# 02081188
REALTOR®
M: 408.831.8944
bahareh.taebi@compass.com

COMPASS



Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California operating under multiple entities. License Numbers 01991628, 1527235, 1527365, 1356742, 1443761, 1997075, 1935359, 1961027, 1842987, 1869607, 1866771, 1527205, 1079009, 1272467. All material is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, sale, or withdrawal without notice. No statement is made as to the accuracy of any description or measurements (including square footage). This is not intended to solicit property already listed. No financial or legal advice provided. Equal Housing Opportunity. Photos may be virtually staged or digitally enhanced and may not reflect actual property conditions.

Places of Worship



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 Valley 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, thought-provoking 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 after service.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC
 6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120. Pastor, Rev. Marty Williams, 408 268 0243.
 www.ccvaucc.org.
 We are a welcoming church with a progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and Affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local LifeMoves (formerly InnVision) Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco Night Ministry, Second

Harvest Food Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End Poverty.
 Worship Sunday, 9:00 AM followed by fellowship and refreshments. 1st Sunday in Worship: Holy Communion
 2nd Sunday in Worship: Folks Choir and Potluck Sunday.
 Tuesdays, AA Meetings, 8:15 - 9:15 PM.
 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 conversation.



EVERGREEN ISLAMIC CENTER (EIC)
 http://www.eicsanjosel.org
 2486 Ruby Ave,
 San Jose CA 95148.
 (408) 239-6668
 "As-Salaamu-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 Waeayilataku" 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 services 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 long-term, 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.

1
 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 where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & 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 (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www.churchstanthony.com.
 Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.



God is One
 ਵੱਖ 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 Punjab of old British India. A Guru who is a "teacher" or "enlightener" completes the relationship of teaching 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.SanJoseGurdwara.org

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH
 5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135
 408-223-1562.
 www.stfrancisofassisi.com or www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org
 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, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM
 Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road
 Sunday 9:30 AM
 The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium) Sunday 8:15 AM
 For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

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.

Connected

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: almadenseniors1@gmail.com**



For Worship listing ads, call 408.483-5458

Times Classifieds



Call to place your ad today!
408-494-7000

Clocks

GRANDFATHER Clock Repair



Because it's not advisable to move Grandfather Clocks for repair, we will come to you! Please give us a call today and we'll be happy to come out and take care of your "home's heartbeat."
M&L Watch & Clock Repair
3218 S White Rd., SJ CA 95148
(408) 270-6080

Jewelry

M & L Jewelers

Jewelers & Watch Repair
Ring sizing - Watch bands
Watch batteries - Engraving
Stone replacement & More!

Ask about our exclusive watch battery warranties!

(408) 270-6080

3218 S. White Rd. San Jose, CA
Mon.-Fri. 10am-7pm, Sat. 10am-5pm

Shoe Repair

ANDY'S SHOE REPAIR

408-270-0850

No Shoe is Ever Too Old!

Hours:

Mon-Fri
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday
9:30 am - 4:00 pm

2850 Quimby Rd. Suite 100 • 270-0850

Driving School



Advantage Driving School is the premier driving school in northern California. Advantage Driving School has trained more than 300,000 students to drive safely since 1994. We offer complete programs for both traditional classroom and online courses.

Driver Training is the behind the wheel training which prepares your child to pass the driving test at the DMV. We also offer complete programs for adults and senior citizens. If you have never driven or just need some supplemental instruction to improve your driving skills, we are just the school for you! We believe Advantage Driving School offers a great 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

Publishing

It's easy & FREE
to get rid of your junk



Make appointment • Set out • We'll pick up



SJenvironment.org/junkpickup

Help keep our neighborhood clean! Report illegal dumping: 408-535-3500

Employment

Cost Estimator

Prepare cost estimates for construction projects.

Master's in civil engineering.

JKL Construction Services, Inc.

751 S. Bascom Ave, San Jose, CA 95128

Employment

Lead Database Administrator

Sify Technologies North America Corporation seeks Lead Database Administrator in Santa Clara, CA and Philadelphia, PA. Partner with architects of different engineering/application teams to engineer complex technical product in order to provide business solutions to various business divisions as a part of DBA Engineering project activities. Implement and administer Oracle streams for live reporting server, database consolidation, zero downtime migration. Travel to unanticipated client sites within the US. May need to relocate. Work from home is an option.
Send resume to: katta.reddy@sifycorp.com

Notices

AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All Your Favorite Screens. CHOICE Package, \$64.99/mo plus taxes for 12months. Premium Channels at No Charge for One Year! Anytime, anywhere. Some restrictions apply. W/ 24-mo. agmt TV price higher in 2nd year. Regional Sports Fee up to \$8.49/mo. is extra & applies. Call IVS 1-408-688-5490

The bathroom of your dreams for as little as \$149/month! BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer - FREE virtual in-home consultation now and SAVE 15%! Call Today! 1-844-988-1663 Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-866-603-1640 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/evergreen

The Generac PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-877-920-0653

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 855-977-5344

Up to \$15,000.00 of GUARANTEED Life Insurance! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 877-864-3769 or visit www.Life55plus.info/almaden

The COVID crisis has cost us all something. Many have lost jobs and financial security. Have \$10K In Debt? Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Call NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF! We can help! Get a FREE debt relief quote: Call 1-650-383-1785

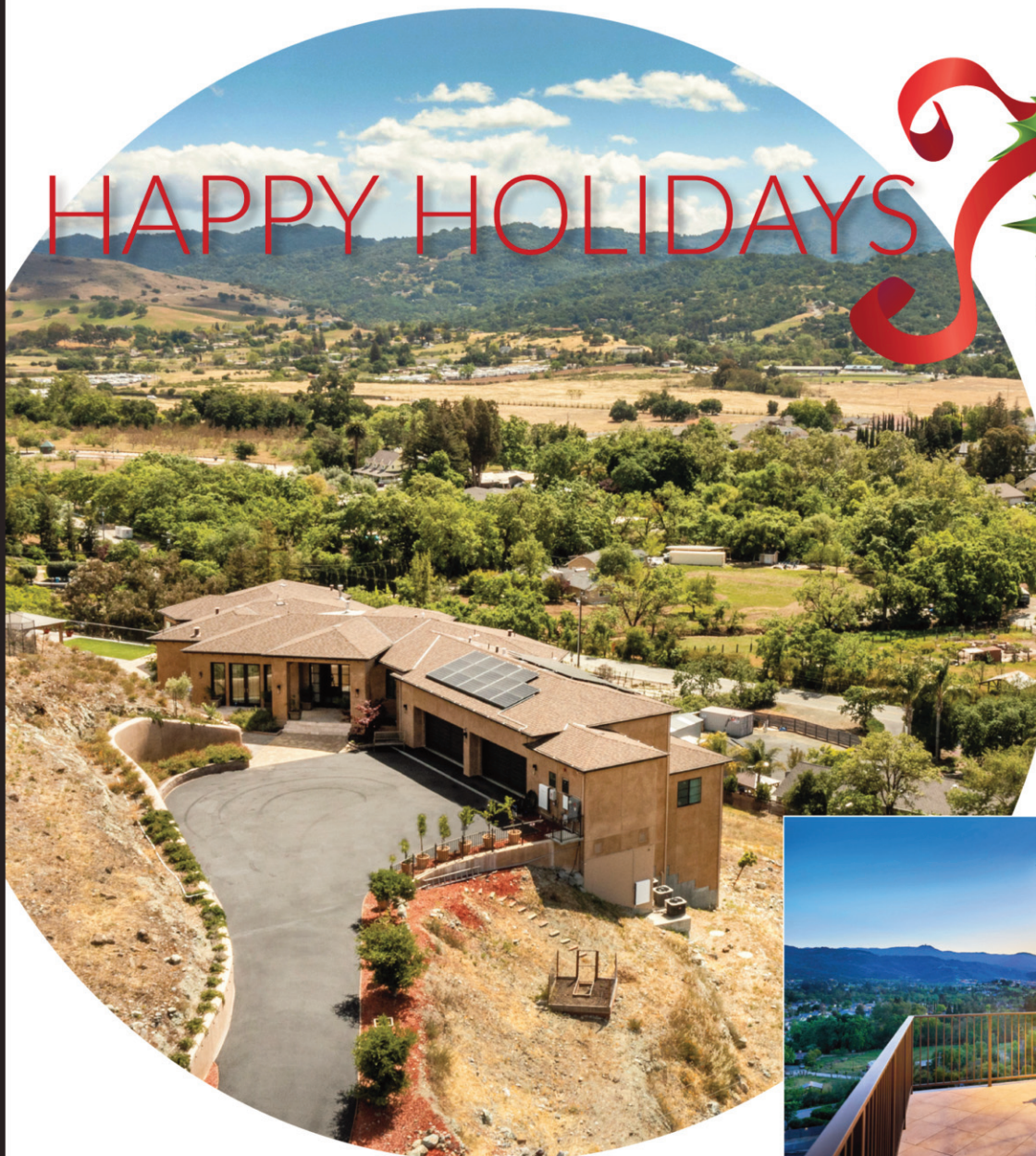


Therese Swan
 408.656.8240
 tswan@tswan.com
 DRE 01355719



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.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



\$3,999,000
 5 Bed
 4 Full Bath
 3 Half-Bath
 7158 Sq Ft
 2.62 Acre Lot



Panoramic Views from Almost Every Room in the Home!

20601 VIA SANTA TERESA

Enter this stunning executive-style home and you are immediately awestruck by some of the most magnificent panoramic views in Santa Clara County. Gourmet kitchen, office/library, media room, large game room, enormous bonus room that could be an "in-law" suite. Solar. 4-car garage. Numerous balconies as well as the side yard with outdoor kitchen, two sitting areas, fire pit, pergola, hot tub, lawn, and pavers. Top schools: Graystone, Bret Harte, Leland.



Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. License Numbers 01079009 and 01272467. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but has not been verified. Changes in price, condition, sale or withdrawal may be made without notice. No statement is made as to accuracy of any description. All measurements and square footage are approximate.

