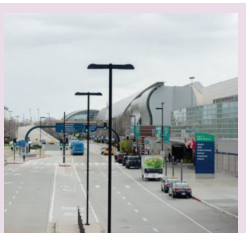


Lack of communication ticks off commissioners on proposed San Jose airport name change **SEE PAGE 4**



Shake, rattle, roll
Recent earthquakes put a spotlight on seismic retrofit **SEE PAGE 4**

Santa Clara County violated state law, could face lawsuit **SEE PAGE 12**



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JAN. 6 – JAN. 19, 2023 ■ VOL. 36, NO. 1

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Valley Christian High School team wins '22 American Statistical Assoc. Fall Data Challenge

The American Statistical Association (ASA) announced that *Team Poisson Pack* of Valley Christian High School in San Jose has won the (Best Overall) national award at the 2022 Fall Data Challenge: After the Bell.

Team Poisson Pack is represented by students Janna Fasheh, Adeline Zhang, Emma Zhang and Meera Srinivas. The team is sponsored by Claudia Smith.

Team Data Scrapers, comprised of Valley Christian High School students Roshan Bellary, Siddhesh Dash, Jonah Wu, Tony Zhou and Max Zhuang received an honorable mention for best visualization.

Participating in the annual event are invited undergraduate and high school students that apply their statistical skills to analyze real-world data related to the K-12 educational experience and make recommendations to enhance family involvement and improve academic success.

A total of 72 teams and 262 students analyzed a real-world dataset from the 2019 Parents and Family Involvement (PFI) Survey, conducted by the National Household Education Surveys Program (NHES) in the US Department of Education, which contains information about students enrolled in kindergarten through high school.

Using this national dataset from across the United States, participants were challenged to provide insights on how to enhance and support family involvement in K-12 education. Students evaluated variables such as homework assistance, family activities, and level of parent engagement in schools. Teams recommended *See CHALLENGE, page 4*



Matt Mahan sworn in as new San Jose Mayor

San Jose Mayor-Elect **Matt Mahan**, formerly the Councilmember for District 10, was sworn in during a private ceremony in the Council Chambers at City Hall on Thursday, Dec. 30.

Mahan was joined by his wife, **Silvia Mahan**, and two children, and cheered on by staff members. He released the following statement:

"I am humbled and honored to start my term as your next Mayor. It's time to roll up our sleeves and get to work on common-sense solutions to combat the homelessness epidemic, take on crime, and clean up our streets. May the start of the New Year bring you and your loved ones joy and success as we start

this journey together, as one united City."

A public inauguration will be held for Mayor-Elect Mahan in late January, with details forthcoming. Public officials starting new terms are sworn in before New Year's Day.

The Mayor-Elect's official term as Mayor began on January 1, 2023, at midnight.

"It's time to roll up our sleeves and get to work on common-sense solutions."

-Matt Mahan

WET DAYS

California snowpack at decade high, but many reservoirs 27% lower than 20-year average

By William Bellou
Publisher

While winter storms rage across California, more than a hundred sensors across the Sierra snowpack are at a decade high for this time of year as the state struggles through a third year of drought.

"Our snowpack is off to one of its best starts in the past 40 years," said Sean de Guzman, manager of the California Department of Water Resources' monthly snow surveys, at news conference on Echo Summit.

At Echo Summit, the snowpack measurement came in at 177% of average. But a big early snowpack does not guarantee that the drought conditions will be ending anytime soon.



A Bay Area News Group analysis of the state's biggest reservoirs found that water storage levels yesterday were 27% lower than the 20-year average for that date. And that analysis includes 11 years of drought. Many of California's biggest reservoirs are significantly below average for this time of year, despite recent storms.

The deficit is being fueled by water shortages at some of Northern California's biggest reservoirs. The Shasta Reservoir is at 34% total capacity, which is only 57% of the historical average. The Oroville Reservoir is faring slightly better, at 38% of total

capacity which is still only 72% of the historical average.

"Really worst case scenario is that this pattern just keeps going... where it just becomes an unrelenting series of storms hammering, and then that's where we really start worrying about how much water is sitting in the landscape," said Michael Anderson, state climatologist with California Department of Water Resources, at a press conference Tuesday. "Watch that weather forecast because it's going to be key to how things play out next."

Left, **Anthony Burdock**, California Department of Water Resources Engineers in Water Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Unit and **Sean de Guzman**, Chief of the California Department of Water Resources Snow Surveys and Water Supply Forecasting Section, work the measurement phase of the first media snow survey of the 2023 season at Phillips Station in the Sierra Nevada Mountains on January 3, 2023. (Kenneth James / California Department of Water Resources)

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O P E D

Recent earthquakes put spotlight on seismic retrofit

By Glen Pomeroy

The New Year is almost here, and many of us are trying to figure out what our New Year's Resolution should be. Maybe you want to walk more, eat healthier, or read more books.

Bearing in mind the recent damaging magnitude 6.4 earthquake in Humboldt County, and the magnitude 3.6 quake that rattled the Bay Area a few days before that, I have a suggestion... protect your home and family from earthquakes with a seismic retrofit!

Did you know that California has more than 500 active faults and that most Californians live within 30 miles of an active fault? The greater San Francisco Bay Area is sitting on top of three major faults and scientists say there is a 72% chance of a magnitude 6.7 or greater quake in the near future.

Of course, the most famous Bay Area earthquake was in San Francisco in 1906. That magnitude 7.9 quake was caused by a rupture on the San Andreas fault, and it could happen again. The Bay Area is earthquake country, and everyone should protect their homes and their families with a seismic retrofit, secure heavy objects in their home, and have an emergency plan just in case.

In 2023, homeowners should seriously consider making their homes more earthquake resistant and less vulnerable to damage. A retrofit, sometimes called a seismic retrofit, is the best way to



Glen Pomeroy
Chief Executive Officer of California Earthquake Authority

strengthen your home and make it more resistant to earthquakes. Retrofits mean a stronger, safer home for you and your family, and they can help protect your belongings and the home that you have worked so hard for. Learn more about the importance of retrofitting your home at www.StrengthenMyHouse.com.

Certain Types of Homes Are Especially at Risk

Certain types of homes in the Bay Area could be more at risk of earthquake damage, such as an older home built on a raised foundation, or a home with a living space above a garage, as well as a home on a steep hillside. Different types of homes have unique weaknesses in their structure and need unique types of retrofits.

For example, raised foundation homes built before 1980 are more at risk to earthquake damage because they were built before modern building codes were put in place. The frames of these older houses are often not bolted to their foundations, and the walls surrounding crawl spaces (cripple walls) may lack bracing. These homes can slide or topple off their foundation during an earthquake, which can be expensive to repair. This type of damage can often be prevented with a seismic retrofit.

Earthquakes can shake almost anything, even large or heavy items. What would happen if your entire home was suddenly shaken for a few minutes? Unsecured items like furniture could fall over, resulting in injury and damage to people and property. In the 1994 Northridge quake, most injuries were due to unsecured furniture or objects falling (according to a study from UCLA). A lot of damage could have been avoided if only simple safety steps had been taken ahead of time!

More than 17,000 Californians have protected their families, their homes, and their belongings with a seismic retrofit. But there are still about 1.2 million vulnerable homes in California that have not yet had a seismic retrofit... has yours? Talk to your family, your friends, and your neighbors about the importance of earthquake preparedness, and resolve to strengthen your house in the New Year.

What Can You Do Right Now to Protect Your Home?

Check out the "Resources" page at StrengthenMyHouse.com – learn See *EARTHQUAKES*, page 7

Valley Currents

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



The Mineta San Jose International Airport is pictured in this file photo.

San Jose airport rebrand ticks off commissioners

By Brian Howey
San José Spotlight

The San Jose airport's decision to rebrand has exposed a rift between airport leadership and the commission that advises on changes at the South Bay's sky hub.

In a Dec. 14 informational memo to the San Jose City Council, Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport Director of Aviation John Aitken announced the airport will change its logo in January and adopt a new name: San Jose Mineta International Airport.

The new logo will feature two sets of orange plane wings bordered by the new name and the airport's abbreviation: SJC.

Members of the San Jose Airport Commission said while airport officials previously told them of plans to rebrand, this month's announcement came as a surprise. They said they should've been informed of the announcement at their last quarterly meeting in November. The commission's next meeting is in February.

The name and logo change could cost millions of dollars, Commission Chair Dan Connolly said, a decision the commission should've had a say in.

"This is a prime example of how the airport bypasses us," Connolly told San José Spotlight. "What do you have an airport commission for if you're not going to brief them on what's going to city council?"

Airport spokesperson Scott Wintner said it was too early to announce the name change at the November commission meeting.

"We weren't prepared to release the information to the council and to the public until we did," he told San José Spotlight.

San Jose Councilmember David Cohen, the council's airport liaison, was not available for comment.

Commissioner Catherine Hendrix told San José Spotlight she loves everything about the new rebrand, but said the airport commission should have had buy in.

"The airport commission was not considered a stakeholder so we weren't given an opportunity to provide input on the new name or the new logo," she said.

The rebrand is still in the planning stages, Wintner

said, noting he's unsure if the airport will develop cost estimates for changing its name before moving forward. He declined to comment further on Connolly's complaints.

The airport's rebrand is the result of several studies that show some passengers struggle to find tickets online because they don't know whether to search for Mineta's name or San Jose, and Mineta's name is frequently dropped from the airport's name when discussing it.

The airport is named for former San Jose Mayor Norm Mineta, who died in May, 2022. As U.S. secretary of transportation during the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, Mineta issued statements to airlines discouraging dis-



crimination against Arab and Muslim passengers and helped create the Transportation Security Agency. The airport was named in his honor later that year.

The rebrand will not change the official name of the airport, Wintner said, so it doesn't require action by the city council.

Connolly said being surprised by the new name announcement is just the latest in what he calls a pattern of airport and city officials ignoring the commission's input.

When the city considered raising building height restrictions near the airport in 2019, Connolly said, the commission voted against the decision, instead recommending a middle ground that would raise the height limits without conflicting with flight safety requirements.

The city and airport disagreed with the commission, Connolly said, raising the building heights beyond the recommendations. The change could cost millions in revenue to airlines and the airport, Connolly said, because airlines are forced to carry fewer passengers to meet safety requirements.

"Our job is to make recommendations to city council," Connolly said. "(The) city council now uses their own wisdom to make their decisions."

Challenge

Continued from page 1

that schools provide parents and guardians more frequent opportunities to participate in after-school activities, host multiple parent-teacher meetings and open houses throughout the school year, and to increase the frequency of communication between schools and parents and guardians.

"Our annual Fall Data Challenge continues to be an opportunity for students to demonstrate their statistical and data analysis skills and to illustrate the importance of statistics as a future career for those who wish to better the world," says American Statistical Association (ASA) Executive Director Ron Wasserstein. "This year's dataset highlights one of many ways in which statistics offers insights that inform and improve our lives."

Team Poisson Pack presentation can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/2p95ux8a>

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Times **Features**

A cyclist rides along East Santa Clara Street in downtown San Jose on Dec. 14, 2022. Photo by Joseph Geha.

New laws that affect Silicon Valley

By Loan-Anh Pham

A flurry of laws will go into effect in 2023, impacting the daily lives of Silicon Valley residents.

Here's a look at the biggest changes involving housing, transportation, criminal justice and more next year. All laws go into effect January 1 unless otherwise specified.

Housing

With the passage of AB 2011, also known as the Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022, affordable housing could pop up near the neighborhood mall. Developers will be able to take advantage of underused commercial areas with parking, office or retail buildings and repurpose the land for affordable housing projects. The bill goes into effect July 2023.

Sandy Perry, president of the Affordable Housing Network of Santa Clara County, said AB 2011 is a response to COVID-19 pandemic measures that cleared commercial spaces like offices. More than 17% of Silicon Valley offices remain vacant today. But it's not enough, he said, and widespread government action is still needed. "There's a lot of incremental changes which are being enacted now to increase housing production," Perry said. "They're all good, but they're not sufficient."

Labor

California workers have more protections in 2023. AB 1041 lets workers use paid sick leave to take care of loved ones other than immediate family members.

"It'll make a difference for the workers," said Ruth Silver Taube, a worker's rights attorney and San José Spotlight columnist. "People won't be coming to work sick, and they'll take time off."

Other changes are in the works: SB 951 increases the amount of wages low-income workers can get during paid family leave. The law, which goes into full effect in 2025, allows employees

that make 70% of California's average wage to receive 90% of their wage while on leave.

Transportation

Bicycle safety protections are on a roll. AB 1909, dubbed the "OmniBike Bill," sets several changes in motion: eliminating ordinances that required cyclists to obtain a bike license, allowing e-bikes in bike lanes, allowing cyclists to cross with pedestrians on walk signals and requiring cars to change lanes to bypass cyclists on the road.

Sandhya Laddha, policy director for the Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition, said safety is crucial for residents. The bill's requirement for cars to shift an entire lane to avoid cyclists limits the possibility of collisions as people jostle for space on the road, she said. A recent study revealed San Jose is at the bottom of the list for bicycle safety across Silicon Valley cities.

"It enhances (a cyclist's) experience, and it's just safer for them to bike around," Laddha told San José Spotlight.

Giving space to e-bikes also increases bike accessibility, Laddha said, especially for low-income residents looking to make quick trips to the grocery store or coffee shop.

AB 2147, the Freedom to Walk Act, decriminalizes jaywalking in California. It also requires a report by 2028 to examine the impacts the act has on pedestrian safety.

Criminal Justice

The passage of SB 903 requires the state to examine how many individuals, especially those with severe mental illnesses, are impacted by homelessness when they leave prison. The bill aims to highlight the need for housing services.

Meanwhile, SB 731 secures a series of protections for individuals with prior convictions starting July 2023. Existing law allows the possibility of sealed records for offenders arrested

See LAWS, page 9

Earthquakes

Continued from page 4

how to protect your home and your family this coming year. Know how to turn off the gas or learn if you should have an automatic gas shut-off valve installed that is triggered by strong vibrations. Place beds away from windows. Brace overhead light fixtures. Secure top-heavy furniture to studs. Brace water heaters with metal straps attached to studs.

Earthquakes in California are inevitable, but the Damage They Cause is Preventable

The Bay Area is vulnerable to earthquakes, but there are steps you can take to strengthen your property. Even though a seismic retrofit does not guarantee your home won't be damaged, it can make your home stronger and more resilient to quakes.

Take a moment and consider, what is the most important thing in your life? For many of us, the answer is easy – our family. With all the craziness in the world today, people under-

stand more than ever that a strong, safe home is the best way to protect and nurture our family. This year, resolve to retrofit your home. Protect your family, strengthen your home, and safeguard all the things you have worked so hard for.

Have a safe and happy New Year!

About the author

Glenn Pomeroy is Chief Executive Officer, California Earthquake Authority. Since 2008, Glenn Pomeroy has led the not-for-profit CEA—the largest earthquake insurance provider in the United States and one of the largest in the world.

Under Glenn's leadership, CEA provides earthquake insurance protection for more than 1.1 million California homes, backed by more than \$19 billion in claim paying capacity and has provided funding to seismically retrofit over 18,000 older homes in higher risk areas. CEA also serves as Administrator of the California Wildfire Fund, providing up to \$21 billion in coverage for wildfires caused by investor-owned utilities.

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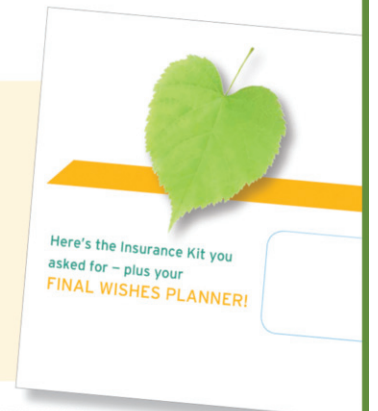
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Times **Community**

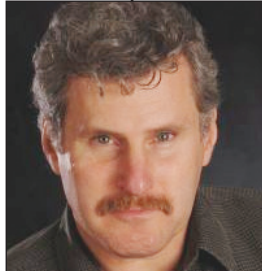
New Year's resolutions: Super success strategies

By Bryan Golden

Almost 90% of Americans will make at least one New Year's resolution. Less than 20% will succeed in accomplishing even one.

The beginning of the year is a great time for life improving resolutions. Common resolutions include losing weight, giving up smoking, maintaining a budget, saving money, finding a better job, getting healthier, becoming more organized, and spending more time with family.

Whatever your resolutions, here are some specific strategies to help you succeed. First and foremost is to take the first step, which is to start. Without action, there will be no success. Action creates results. Intention



Bryan Golden
Author, Speaker and Motivational Expert

alone will not work.

Have written goals stating what you want to accomplish. If you want to lose weight, how much and by when? If you want to live within a budget, what is the amount? If you want to continue your education, what school will you go to and which classes will you take?

Take small but consistent steps. Habits are formed by frequent repetition over time. Change occurs by the same process. A resolution is not all or nothing. Partial change is okay. Any progress in the desired direction, regardless of how small, is a success. Accomplishing a resolution is a process, not a one-time effort.

Positive goals are more effective than negative ones. Rather than saying you will eat less, resolve to have a healthier diet. Instead of spending less time at work you can endeavor to spend more time at home. Bad habits can't just be eliminated; they have to be replaced by good ones.

Identify potential obstacles so they don't surprise you. If you experience a setback, don't give up. Don't blame yourself if you stumble. Failure only occurs when you stop trying. Difficulties are an opportunity to learn. If you slide backwards, get back on track, get back

in gear, and resume your progress.

Don't keep your plans a secret. Develop a support system utilizing friends and family. Visualize how great you will feel as you succeed. Take credit for all accomplishments. It doesn't matter if your progress is slower than you would like.

Don't try to change too many things at once or you risk becoming overwhelmed and discouraged. You can have a long list of resolutions so long as you realize all of the items don't have to be addressed simultaneously. Each accomplishment can be followed by another. Change can begin at any time, not just on January 1.

Believe in yourself and your ability to change. Change can feel difficult, uncomfortable, or painful, but you can do it. Become determined to succeed. Don't procrastinate. Although doing nothing is often an appealing alternative, it leads to frustration.

Each day is a new opportunity to work on your resolutions. If you were successful yesterday, fantastic, keep going. If yesterday was a disappointment, today is a new chance to make progress. Replace the word "try" with "will." Do whatever it takes to get the results you want.

Bryan is the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits." Contact Bryan at Bryan@columnist.com or visit www.DareToLiveWithoutLimits.com Copyright 2022 Bryan Golden

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Times Feature

Laws

Continued from page 7

or charged with a misdemeanor. SB 731 would allow those arrested for a felony and those charged with a felony on or after January 1, 2005 the same protections. Assemblymembers Ash Kalra and Alex Lee co-authored the bill.

Social Justice

California provides a safe haven for transgender individuals with the passage of SB 107, co-authored by Assemblymembers Kalra, Lee and Evan Low.

The law prevents state agencies from complying with information or extradition requests from other states that have laws against transgender health care. This also prevents California law enforcement from aiding out-of-state agencies in taking transgender children away from parents from states that punish families for allowing children to undergo gender-affirming procedures.

Adrienne Keel, director of the LGBTQ Youth Space in San Jose, said protections for the transgender community are vital as transphobia continues to manifest in nationwide conversations. Increases in protections, Keel said, should come with increases in resources, such as medical insurance coverage for gender-affirming care.

“There are countless examples of LGBTQ+ people being criminalized throughout history, simply for existing as their authentic selves,” Keel told San José Spotlight. “If we listen to young people and give them the space to voice their needs and receive the treatment that is right for them, it can be life-saving.”

Reproductive rights are also expanding next year with SB 1375, co-authored by Kalra. The law allows qualified nurses to perform first trimester abortions without doc-



Agricultural worker **Jose Villanueva** received his COVID-19 vaccine at Monterey Mushrooms in Morgan Hill on Cesar Chavez Day 2021. *Photo by Lorraine Gabbert.*

tor supervision.

Education

Hate has no place on school campuses, with the passage of AB 2282. The law specifies individuals who display hate symbols, such as swastikas and nooses, at places like K-12 schools, college campuses, workplaces and places of worship can face fines and jail time. Local law enforcement launched hate crime investigations in November when dolls with dark complexions were found hanging at three Santa Clara County schools.

The state is also implementing a slew of other education laws focused on early education and nutrition.

COVID-19

AB 2693 requires workplaces to continue notifying employees of any COVID-19 infections and exposures. The bill is effective until January 2024.

Elected officials are working to tackle the tide of misinformation surrounding COVID, with the passage of AB 2098. The law, authored by Assemblymember Low, enables medical professionals, including doctors and surgeons, to face disciplinary action if they spread misinformation.



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Valley Water is offering a beautiful wildlife and natural environment 2023 calendar.

The calendar also includes Valley Water’s fiscal year 2022 annual report, which highlights many of the projects and efforts the agency is undertaking for the residents and businesses of Santa Clara County.

The water agency is currently working on

dozens of local projects to support their mission, including efforts to maintain and improve the existing water supply infrastructure; provide flood protection to communities; and protect and enhance watersheds and our natural resources.

To receive a free 2023 Valley Water calendar, please visit their website at www.valleywater.org/2023calendar and fill out the request form. Note: There is a limit of one calendar per household in Santa Clara County while supplies last.

To learn about the agency’s many conservation rebates and programs, visit www.watersavings.org



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LOCAL NOTEBOOK

Pioneer High School graduate Joshua Kendra earns Dean's Award for Academic Excellence at Colgate University

Almaden resident **Joshua Kendra**, a member of the Colgate University Class of 2025, has earned the spring 2022 Dean's Award for Academic Excellence.

Kendra is an Astronomy/Physics and Physics major and a graduate of Pioneer High School where he played varsity basketball.

Students who receive a term grade point average of 3.3 or higher while completing at least three courses earn the spring 2022 Dean's Award for Academic Excellence.

Colgate is a leading American university for students who want classes with rigor, faculty with passion, and confidence in knowing they will learn how to thrive in work and life. Colgate offers 56 majors and supports 25 Division I athletic teams on a campus of about 3,000 students in central New York.



San Jose's gun insurance requirement now in effect

City relies on private insurance regulation to induce safer behavior and reduce gun-related deaths and injuries

The City of San Jose is now requiring residents who own firearms to keep evidence of liability insurance with their guns.

This first-in-the-nation requirement will apply in a manner similar to automobile insurance, in which police officers who encounter individuals with firearms will inquire whether they have proof of insurance.

Here are some key details that residents will want to know:

- Gun owners can comply with the ordinance by keeping evidence of insurance—with a self-completed attestation form—wherever their gun is stored or transported. A downloadable liability insurance attestation form is provided to all residents in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese (please click through the links to view). The insurance policy must cover losses or damages resulting from the unintentional use of the firearm including death, injury, or property damage.

- Compliance will be easy. Nearly every homeowner's or renter's policy will provide insurance for harm resulting from the negligent or reckless use of firearms, and riders and independent policies can also be obtained.

- The insurance requirement serves two primary purposes: (1) to compensate the families of victims of unintentional shootings for medical, funeral, and other financial costs, and (2) to incentivize safer behavior among firearm owners.

- Insurance can substantially reduce the risk of gun-related death and injuries. Currently, 4.6 million children live in a home where a gun is kept loaded, but unlocked. In the same way that liability insurance has helped to dramatically reduce auto-related deaths—by using risk-adjusted premiums to encourage safer driv-

ing, or the purchase of vehicles with anti-lock brakes or airbags, insurance companies can encourage policyholders to use gun safes, chamber-load indicators, and trigger-locks, or to take gun-safety classes.

- Negligent and reckless use of a firearm causes a large share of gun-related suffering: on average, eighty-six (86) out of the 205 people who annually enter San Jose emergency rooms suffer from unintentional shootings, or shootings with undetermined intent, according to a 2021 Pacific Institute on Research and Evaluation study. Annually, unintentional shootings result in hospitalization for 26,000 victims, and death for 500 more—many of them children.



- The City is not yet requiring gun owners to pay the gun harm reduction fee, which remains several months away from implementation. The Council voted to require a resolution of the legal challenges in the U.S. District Court prior to implementation of the fee

requirement. To date, nine (9) of the ten (10) causes of action brought by plaintiffs against the City's ordinance have been dismissed by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, but the litigation continues. The Council and the City Manager have proposed a modest annual fee of \$25, plus administrative costs.

- Violators will be subject to an administrative citation and fine, as specified in San Jose Municipal Code section 10.32.240. Failure to provide truthful information on the form is punishable by penalty of perjury.

- Limited exemptions exist under the ordinance, such as for law enforcement officers, and for undue financial hardship.

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Times **Feature**

Santa Clara County violated state law, could face lawsuit

By **Tran Nguyen**
San José Spotlight

Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen is demanding the Board of Supervisors nullify and revoke on its appointment of a new county executive, saying the decision—which happened behind closed doors—violated the state’s transparency law.

In a letter sent to all five supervisors on

Thursday, Rosen said the board twice violated the Brown Act, which requires public access to government meetings. The board failed to disclose to the public ahead of a closed session on Oct. 17 that it was considering appointing a new executive to replace CEO Jeff Smith, who’s retiring on July 1, 2023. The board broke the rules a second time when it failed to immediately report its vote to appoint County Counsel James Williams to the position at a public meeting on Oct. 18.

“To maintain the public’s engagement as much as possible,” Rosen wrote, “the Brown Act requires that topics for discussion in a closed session be described beforehand in a publicly available agenda so that community



Santa Clara County Counsel **James Williams** is pictured in this file photo.

members can offer public comment on them. The Brown Act also requires the prompt public reporting of any action taken during a closed session.”

The DA’s letter came days after San José Spotlight’s exclusive reporting on one of the Brown Act violations, informing the board it has 30 days to remedy the violations, or the DA would sue the board for breaking the law.

“Plainly, this does not alert the public that the board would be considering, and might even appoint, the next county executive,” Rosen said in the letter. “Without fair notice, community members—who later proved eager to weigh in—were unable to offer their

See LAWSUIT, next page

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Times **News**

Santa Clara county libraries unveil new virtual and video library tours

The Santa Clara County Library District has developed a new webpage to help better acquaint residents with its eight libraries and Bookmobile, as well as videos promoting its Children's and Teen Areas.

The new webpage includes a new feature, 360° virtual tours of each library. Online

visitors can explore every library from their electronic devices.

"Being a 5-Star Library System in the heart of Silicon Valley, we want to provide residents with a cutting edge, immersive experience of our libraries," said County Librarian Jennifer Weeks. "We had overwhelmingly positive feedback about our video tours and hope that the new 360 virtual tours will be a similarly useful tool and encourage everyone to visit all of our Library locations."

The new webpage also contains links to the Library's Fast Facts listing key statistics, its 2023-28 Strategic Plan, and Library Locations page.

For more information, visit www.sccd.org

Lawsuit

Continued from previous page

comments prior to the closed session. This was a violation of the Brown Act."

At the Nov. 1 meeting, when the public first heard about Williams' appointment, supervisors repeatedly said they unanimously voted to pick the new county CEO on Oct. 17, which was validated in a county document.

Supervisor Susan Ellenberg previously told San José Spotlight the board misspoke, adding the action taken in closed session on Oct. 17 was only an authorization for some supervisors to meet with Williams and negotiate his employment agreement.

On Friday, Ellenberg acknowledged the DA's letter and vowed to remedy the violations. The board is scheduled to meet in closed session Monday to discuss the letter.

"I'm looking forward to the (board) meeting on Tuesday when the board will have the opportunity to clarify our statements and actions and take whatever measures are legally necessary to ensure that we are and remain in compliance with all applicable laws," Ellenberg told San José Spotlight.

Williams' appointment has ruffled feathers throughout Silicon Valley. News about his appointment came days after Smith announced his retirement. A coalition of more than 30 organizations and leaders signed a letter demanding more transparency and public involvement in the process. At least one elected official, Assessor Larry Stone, objected to the secretive hiring process.

The board will discuss Williams' appointment and contract again at its Tuesday meeting.

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

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

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Times News



**Italianità in the Americas:
 A Mission Chamber Orchestra concert**

The current season of concerts by Mission Chamber Orchestra of San Jose (MCOSJ) is all about reconnecting with live musical performance and exploring connections in the world of music.

On Sunday, January 29, 2023, at the Italian Heritage Foundation in San Jose, the orchestra will present a concert of classical music by composers from North and South America who have Italian ancestry starting at 3 p.m.

The music features a wide range of influence and inspiration, from the dances of Argentina, through Romantic poetry to the landscapes and seascapes of the North American West, exploring lasting connections despite separation in time and distance.

Joseph Curiale's *Wind River* was commissioned by the University of Wyoming to celebrate the new millennium. It is a musical response to the grand landscapes of the West - the *Wind River* mountain range contains two of highest peaks in Wyoming, and some of the largest glaciers in the contiguous U.S. The concert includes connections to Monterey - *Nostalgia* is by Louise P. Canepa, whose music is influenced by her life in an Italian American family in Monterey, while Jeremy Cavaterra's *Marine Safari and Whale-Watch* is from his Monterey Suite, inspired by the dramatic nature of the Central California coast. MCOSJ hornist Brian Holmes is soloist in the first movement from Henry Mollicone's *Horn Concerto* - the work, premiered by MCOSJ in 2021, was commissioned from the well-loved Bay Area composer by the performer, a composer in his own right.

The varied program also includes *Elegy* by John Corigliano, dedicated to Samuel Barber, and the concert premiere of *Prospice* (1948) by Italian-American composer Romeo Cascarino. Debuted in a version for two pianos, it was the score for a ballet based on Robert Browning's poem of the same name, written soon after the death of his wife Elizabeth, exploring the darkness of death and the possibility of reunion with loved ones beyond it. Luis Gianneo and Astor Piazzolla represent the Argentinian arm of the Italian diaspora - Gianneo's works were inspired by elements of Argentinian folk music as he tried to create a national music with contemporary significance, while Piazzolla is famous worldwide for creating *nueva tango*, blending elements of jazz and classical music with the dance originally associated only with seedy bars and brothels.

With ticket prices at pre-pandemic levels, the concert is an opportunity to return to live performances and to reconnect with people, places, and music.

Program:

Romeo Cascarino	<i>Prospice</i> Concert premiere
Louise Canepa	<i>Nostalgia</i>
Joseph Curiale	<i>Wind River</i>
Henry Mollicone	Horn Concerto, first movement (Brian Holmes, hornist)
Astor Piazzolla	<i>Libertango</i>
John Corigliano	<i>Elegy</i>
Luis Gianneo	<i>Pericón: danza Argentina</i>
Jeremy Cavaterra	<i>Marine Safari and Whale-Watch from Monterey Suite</i>

Tickets

Adult: \$25, Senior: \$20, Student: \$15, Child: \$10

www.missionchamber.org/events-tickets

About the Soloist

Brian Holmes received a B.A. from Pomona College and a Ph.D. (in experimental low temperature physics) from Boston University. While in Boston, he studied horn with Harry Shapiro. He has performed professionally with the San Jose Symphony and Opera San José. In addition to the Mission Chamber Orchestra, he plays with the Peninsula Symphony, the Menlo Brass Quintet, and the Altos Brass. He is active as a composer, with many performances and dozens of commissions, publications, and awards to his credit. He is retired from the San Jose State Department of Physics and Astronomy, where he taught a course on the physics of music.



About Mission Chamber Orchestra of San Jose

Founded by conductor and musical director Emily Ray in 1996, Mission Chamber Orchestra of San Jose (MCOSJ) is a volunteer orchestra performing professional quality concerts in the South Bay. The 35- to 50-piece orchestra is known for its innovative programming that surprises and delights its listeners. In May 2011, the San Francisco Classical Voice praised MCOSJ's performance of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony, calling it "thrilling to hear."

MCOSJ features world class artists as well as emerging professional soloists. MCOSJ has given the world premieres of more than twenty works and the West Coast or South Bay premieres of many others. Brilliant Classics recently released a disc of A.J. Fernandes' Violin Concerto featuring violinist Carlos Damas accompanied by the orchestra.

MCOSJ caters to a broad audience, featuring classical repertoire and modern works by composers from around the world. Select high school musicians are invited to join the orchestra in many of its concerts. <http://www.missionchamber.org>.

Times Feature

California faces \$24B budget deficit after big surplus

State says it has reserves to weather a tough year but a recession could deepen the deficit

By Alejandro Lazo and Jeanne Kuang

California faces a projected deficit next year even if the U.S. avoids a recession. Despite the expected shortfall, policymakers say they'll maintain spending on social programs though advocates are calling for more.

The Legislative Analyst's Office said in its annual forecast that Gov. Gavin Newsom and the Democratic Party-controlled Legislature are facing a \$24 billion projected budget deficit for the next fiscal year.

If the state enters a recession the outlook is even worse, with revenues predicted to fall short by \$30 billion to \$50 billion. The governor signed a record-breaking \$308 billion budget in June.

The legislative analyst attributes the projected shortfall to California's reliance on those whose incomes often ebb and flow with the price of stocks, real estate and other investments.

"Those are the same people who get a lot of their income from financial investments," said Legislative Analyst Gabriel Petek. "That volatility then gets transmitted directly to the state budget."

The governor will present a proposed budget in January and then a revision in May. The budget, which the Legislature must approve, will fund state government for the fiscal year beginning July 1.

H.D. Palmer, spokesperson for the state Department of Finance, declined to comment on whether social spending cuts might be proposed.

He did say, however, that the governor's priority was to not scale back programs that peo-

ple have come to depend on, or to begin new ones. Some program expansions in later fiscal years could be delayed if there isn't enough revenue to support them, he said. The goal is to avoid the kind of drastic program reductions enacted during the Great Recession that took years for the state to restore.

Building reserves

The state's Democratic legislative leaders have said they are not inclined to cut recently expanded programs, such as the extension of free health care to low-income undocumented immigrants, which began with older adults this year and is slated to open up to all ages in January 2024. The expansion is expected to cost more than \$2 billion annually.

The budget is in a much stronger position than it was during the state's last fiscal crisis, said Phil Ting, the Assembly budget committee chair from San Francisco.

"We have a significant amount of cash available, both in terms of reserves, but also in terms of liquidity," Ting said. "So this is a very different situation than the state faced in 2008-2009, where they were running out of cash."

The governor, nevertheless, has signaled he is being cautious. Newsom in October said he had vetoed 169 bills and saved taxpayers billions. Seventy-five of those vetoes were directly budget related, with many including boilerplate language that the state was facing "lower-than-expected revenues" and that it was "important to remain disciplined when it comes to spending, particularly spending that is ongoing."

Among the bills vetoed by the governor earlier this year were proposals to expand government-funded care for new mothers, expand free

transit programs for California students and create grants for graduate students in mental health who commit to working at certain California-based nonprofits.

Newsom, whom voters elected to another four-year term, has used surpluses to pay down debts, build reserves and provide direct payments to millions of Californians.

Recently Moody's Analytics rated California one of the states most prepared for a recession, citing its reserves.

Nevertheless, California's budget enacted in June 2021 committed to \$3.4 billion in new ongoing spending and is expected to grow to \$12 billion in the 2025 budget year. The budget enacted in June of this year committed an additional \$2.3 billion, expected to grow to nearly \$5 billion by the 2026 budget year, the Legislative Analyst's Office said.

The state has \$37 billion in specific reserve funds. That includes about \$23 billion in a rainy day fund voters agreed to strengthen in 2014 at the urging of then-Gov. Jerry Brown. The state also has \$900 million in a reserve account for safety net programs. The rest of those reserve funds are in school-specific and general operating reserves.

But, Palmer noted, the state can only draw down the rainy day fund by half in any year. The Legislative Analyst's Office has advised the Legislature to slow down or pause program expansions before dipping into reserves.

Ting's office contends the state has billions in unspent federal and state dollars in its coffers that could address a potential deficit. Using that money would avoid cuts to programs but delay other projects.

Is it time to spend?

Anti-poverty advocates said in interviews they plan to continue pushing for program expansions, arguing the precipice of a downturn is the time to bolster social spending, not cut it.

Nearly 30% of California residents live in or near poverty, according to the Public Policy Institute of California. Experts expect poverty rates to increase after the end of a boost in federal cash aid, which came in 2021 in the form of an expanded child tax credit included in the American Rescue Plan Act.

Advocates are proposing that California mimic that federal expansion by opening up the state's Young Child Tax Credit, currently a \$1,000-a-year credit for low-income families with children under age 6, to include all children in low-income households.

They estimate 1 million children live in families that would qualify, at an additional cost of \$700 million a year.

Additional tax credits could make a difference to people like Ivonne Sonato-Vega, a medical assistant in Santa Rosa.

Last year she used some of the \$4,000 in federal child tax credits on school supplies and clothes for the four children she and her boyfriend are raising, she said. With prices rising this year, she was unable to save any of that subsidy.

If the credits were an annual payment, she said, it would allow her to plan for expenses, maybe use it as "a little savings account" to draw on when the children grow out of their clothes or save it for a security deposit if the family needs to move.

"It was kind of like a tease," she said of the credit. "It was here and then not."

Advocates said they also want the state to create an unemployment benefits program for undocumented immigrants and to include all low-income immigrants, regardless of immigration status, in its food assistance program.



"We know the projected budget shortfalls make it more challenging, but the past few years highlighted why something like this is so important," said Sasha Feldstein, economic justice policy manager at the California Immigrant Policy Center. "People who are excluded from our safety net have been the most adversely impacted from the COVID-19 pandemic and are the most harmed during times of economic downturn."

Lawmakers and Newsom this year allocated money to expand the California Food Assistance Program, a state version of food stamps, to include undocumented immigrants age 55 and older; the benefits are expected to become available late next year. Newsom vetoed a bill that would have tested an unemployment benefits program for undocumented immigrants, citing costs.

The makings of a budget problem

The projected shortfall is the state's first major fiscal challenge since Newsom's office predicted a \$54 billion shortfall in May 2020, when the country was in the grips of the COVID-19 pandemic. After financial markets rebounded and the federal government provided unprecedented stimulus, the anticipated shortfall resulted in surpluses.

The Federal Reserve began hiking interest rates in March 2022 to cool inflation. Then housing sales, initial public stock offerings and stock markets fell. All are important sources of personal income tax revenue.

In California, personal income withholding fell even as the job market recovered.

Over the last decade, California has increasingly relied on some of the state's highest earners to fund its budget which, among other things, takes aim at poverty and some of the nation's starkest income inequality.

Much of the state's general fund is paid for by its progressive personal income tax, which voters in 2012 raised on the state's highest earners after Brown warned of cuts to health and education. In 2016 voters extended those higher income tax rates through 2030 while also allowing a temporary sales tax to expire. The increases, meant for education and healthcare spending, have also paid for increased social safety net spending.

About 49% of the personal income tax paid in California in 2020 came from just 1% of tax filers, according to the state's finance department. And in the past decade, taxes collected from the most volatile form of income — capital gains — have doubled, making up a larger share of the state's revenue and tying the state's budget to particularly unstable economic cycles.

To address that, voters approved changes to the state's rainy day fund in 2014. The changes serve as a check on spending, directing California to capture additional dollars in reserve when capital gains tax receipts are high.

Building reserves large enough for a state to ride through a recession is difficult, said Donald Boyd, a state finance expert at the University of Albany in New York.

"As a practical matter, it is very hard to build a rainy day fund that's big enough to get you through a rainy season," Boyd said. "You need huge amounts of money to offset the effects of even a modest recession."

Alejandro Lazo and Jeanne Kuang are reporters with CalMatters.



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WATER WISE

My certified erosion, sedimentation, and stormwater inspector journey

Following a pathway of volunteerism

By **Matthew Frazier**
Certified Water Manager

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

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

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

Stormwater certifying agency EnviroCert International, Inc. caught my attention. With their comprehensive gallery of professional certifications, I decided on their QSM cer-

tificate program. This is Qualified Stormwater Manager, an entry-level certificate-of-training, on path towards fully vested professional certifications in Stormwater.



Water Wise
Matthew Frazier,
Certified Water
Manager

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

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

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

In early September of this year, the chair of the ECI CESSWI Certification Committee and general manager of Stormwater firm SWPP Queen offered me an opportunity to join the team and become a stormwater compliance technician, serving Sacramento and The Bay Area while working towards professional certifications in the field.

The days of the CESSWI

In the days between February 2021 and October 10th of this year, many hours were spent studying the CESSWI General Principles Handbook and take-home study guide in preparation for the CESSWI-IT and CESSWI exams. I affectionately reminisce about those intermediate days and nights as ... The Days of The CESSWI.

CESSWI are those professionals who keep a close and thorough watch over the ever-changing topography of our lands throughout California and The United States and beyond. Their commitments and their efforts help protect the integrity and the preservation of our lands.

Having been a part of The ECI CESSWI Certification Committee for nearly two years now ... And having been given a gracious opportunity to work for a Stormwa-

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

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

My previous day job as a key holder and manager-on-duty for Almaden Valley Ace Hardware provided an audience for advocating and promoting the ideas and the values of Environmental Stewardship and Water Conservation and through service in The Stormwater Industry. Though many don’t know if Stormwater is a field or an industry, the attention to detail by those who serve in this field is far-reaching and impactful.

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

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

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Times **Opinion**

OpEd

'I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore'

By Kevin Larsen

As a resident in San Jose, I'm so very disappointed that the San Jose City Council turned their backs on the will of the people and voted to fill the empty seats of Sylvia Arenas (District 8) and Matt Mahan (District 10).

I ask all to go to YouTube and type in "I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore." There you will see a clip from a movie and it seems to me that fiction has met with reality in San Jose.

How could more than 500 people (both by ZOOM and in person) overwhelming voice their wishes to hold a special election {2-year term} and many of our San Jose City Council Members just turned their backs on the will of the people.

A lot of residents are asking: What does San Jose stand for? Should we continue to vote for politicians who grab our freedom?

I believe that the actual cost of a special election which was turned down was overinflated. Maybe we could get an honest answer on the cost and in the future streamline the process.

Some say the "Labor Majority," for the San Jose City Council played a key role in breaking precedent and allowing the City Council Members to hand pick who they want in district 8 and 10. This situation is absurd and even former Mayor Sam Liccardo said the decision to thwart the special election harms trust in our city. He makes sense.

In my opinion our most precious thing, democracy, has been trampled upon and I am mad as hell and not going to take it anymore (meaning I may figure out ways to bring back to life democracy by working with others to peacefully figure out how to take back our rights). I'm not always the sharpest crayon in the box, so we need learned minds to pitch in.

The key thing here is to remember who voted for this: you can read it and weep. And too, was this memo thing a secret trick thrown in at a city council meeting? Was the Brown Act followed when city council members thrust forward their votes?

Should San Jose probe and review emails that resulted in the final vote?

Many are calling for new rules that will forever prevent such actions of a few city council members denying a special election. Others say the decision to select instead of allowing a general election may be grounds for a recall.

A special thanks to the hundreds of San Jose residents who took time to attend the city council meeting in person and to walk up and speak to the microphone. Thank you!

THOSE WHO VOTED FOR SPECIAL ELECTION (thumbs up!)

MAYOR LICCARDO, MATT MAHAN, PAM FOLEY, AND CHAPPY JONES

THOSE AGAINST SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL VACANT CITY COUNCIL SEATS (thumbs down:)

SYLVIA ARENAS, SERGIO JIMENEZ, RAUL PERALEZ, DAVID COHEN, DEV DAVIS, MAYA ESPARZA, AND MAGDALENA CARRASCO.

The following is the copy of the document that was created from the city council meeting:

"Substitute Motion: Councilmember Dev Davis moved the Dec. 2, 2022 mem-

orandum she cosigned. Councilmember Sergio Jimenez seconded the motion. Action: On a call for question, the Substitute Motion passed to accept the joint memorandum from Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, Councilmember Dev Davis, and Councilmember Sylvia Arenas dated December 2, 2022, recommending: (1) Implement a process to make interim appointments that includes the following: (a) Shortly after the special meeting on December 5, 2022, initiate the recruiting process for the expected Council vacancies in Districts 8 and 10, including the release of an application for interested candidates.

The application should be similar to that for the Planning Commission, along with City Attorney review for potential conflicts of interest and include the following questions: (i) Why are you interested in representing this district on the City Council? (ii) Please list your past community experience and other qualifications for the role. (iii) Do you plan to run for the full term of this seat? (iv) What do you think is the biggest challenge the city faces? What is the biggest challenge specific to the council district you aspire to be appointed to represent? (b) Provide a minimum of 3 weeks for candidates to file

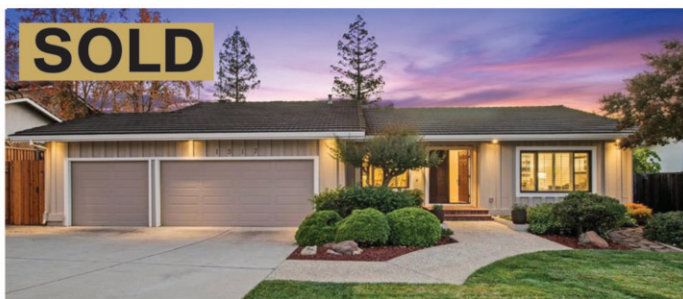
their applications; (c) Schedule a special Council meeting before the end of January 2023 for the Council to interview qualified candidates and make the appointments; (d) The final appointments shall require a 2/3 vote of the council for approval. (2) Direct the City Manager to work with outgoing Councilmembers in assigning staff to continue constituent services in their offices during the recruitment process. 3. The appointment will stand until a candidate has been duly elected in the next regularly scheduled election and the results have been officially certified. (7-4-0.)"

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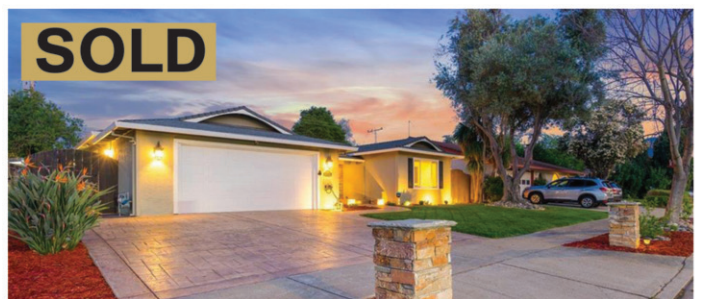
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3883 LA DONNA AVE | SOLD FOR \$4,200,000



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
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SCAN ME



COMPASS



CAMPBELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
400 W. Campbell Ave.
Campbell, CA 95008
(408) 378-4418
Pastor: Rev. Naomi Schulz
No Matter Where You Are On Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here!
We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, and celebrate members of the LGBTQ+ Community. Joy-filled worship every Sunday at 10:00 AM, with communion open to all. Join Pastor Naomi for tea/coffee at Orchard 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.eicsanjose.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 Waeayilataki" 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.


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
ੴ ਸਿਕ 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!

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>

For Worship listing ads, call 408.483-5458

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

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

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

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

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**



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Ask about our exclusive watch battery warranties!

(408) 270-6080
3218 S. White Rd. San Jose, CA
Mon.-Fri. 10am-7pm, Sat. 10am-5pm

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No Shoe is Ever Too Old!

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Saturday
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2850 Quimby Rd. Suite 100 • 270-0850

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Location: 5440 Thornwood Drive, Suite F;
Hours: 9 am-5 pm M-F 9 am-12 noon S-S; Phone: 408.363.4182; Email: info@advantagedriversed.com | Website: advantagedriversed.com

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Happy New Year

from



Almaden Valley's #1 Agent *Again* for 2022!
That's *14 Years* in a Row! *Have a Fantastic 2023!*

The Swan has been the #1 Agent in Almaden Valley each year for the last **14 years** as measured by Dollars per Agent per Year. In 2022, she closed a total of \$66 million in Almaden Valley alone. This is \$15 million more than any other agent or team of agents. For all geographic areas, Swan closed a total of \$73m.

In the 20 years Therese has been selling homes, she has closed a total of \$600 million in Almaden Valley which is more than any other agent or team of agents during that same time frame.

If you are thinking of selling in 2023, please call me soon as possible.



THERESE SWAN
408.656.8240
tswan@tswan.com
AlmadenValleyRealEstate.com
DRE 01355719

The Swan has been the #1 Agent in Almaden Valley each year for the last 14 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.



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