

IRS says people who got CA inflation-relief payments don't have to report them to IRS **SEE PAGE 11**



'My honor to serve'
Domingo Candelas pens inaugural D8 City Council newsletter
SEE PAGE 4

San Jose has highest number of homeless young adults among 100 major US cities
SEE PAGE 17



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Evergreen Times

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San Pedro Square in downtown San Jose is pictured in this file photo.

Downtown Tabard Theater faces its final curtain call

A truly magnificent gift to all

San Jose art institution in downtown is closing its curtains later this year.

The Tabard Theatre is closing indefinitely on April 2, according to Jonathan Rhys Williams, executive artistic director of the Tabard Theatre Company.

"After three years of battling increasing costs, decreasing ticket sales and the ongoing effects of a global pandemic, we are simply no longer able to make ends meet and therefore will be unable to complete the current season," Williams wrote in a letter to the community today.

The COVID-19 pandemic decimated the local arts scene in downtown San Jose. In 2021, *See TABARD, page 6*

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The new curriculum offering was started by Evergreen High School Senior Vy Nguyen.

Non-profit Sonrie Spanish provides free interactive Spanish classes

Curriculum offering started by Evergreen High School Senior Vy Nguyen

By William Bellou
Publisher

Are you interested in providing your child with a foundation in language learning from a young age?

Sonrie Spanish, a non-profit started by Evergreen Valley High School senior Vy Nguyen during the COVID-19 pandemic, is a local student-led organization that aims to educate young children about the Spanish language and culture through hands-on learning and free interactive classes based on the Spanish I and Spanish II curriculum. As the founder of Sonrie Spanish, Vy was

enrolled in a public Spanish emergent school at the age of five. She grew up learning Spanish, speaking it often at school with her friends, and at home speaking Vietnamese with her family.

She decided to start Sonrie Spanish to be able to help others connect with other cultures as well as build a foundation for further language learning. During distance learning in 2021, Sonrie started teaching virtually to students at Carolyn Clark Elementary School. This year, after being registered as an official nonprofit, the program has been expanded to all students from 4th to 6th grade through weekly instruction at the Grace Church of Evergreen.

Following their first session of 2022 this fall, Sonrie has received positive feedback *See SPANISH, page 8*

How San Jose plans to tackle its worst problems

Mayor Mahan formed five committees to help tackle homelessness, crime, blight, permitting for development and downtown vibrancy

By Jana Kadah
San José Spotlight

The San Jose mayor's transition committees have finally made their private discussions public.

Mayor Matt Mahan created five closed-door committees to meet and advise him on the city's most pressing problems ahead of this year's budget process—a move highly criticized because it lacked transparency and potentially flouted the law.

The now-dissolved committees were tasked to create measurable goals to track San Jose's progress on solving the city's top issues. At Tuesday's San Jose City Council meeting, the decisions were made public.

Mahan formed the five committees to help him tackle homelessness, crime, blight, permitting for development and downtown vibrancy. While most of the recommendations are iterations of the city's already identified solutions, there are some unique initiatives. Here are the top takeaways from each committee.

Homelessness

Councilmembers Pam Foley, David Cohen and David Pandori, former councilmember and deputy



The San Jose City Council chambers during a priority setting meeting for Mayor Matt Mahan's transition committees on Jan. 14. *Photo by Jana Kadah.*

district attorney, chaired the homelessness committee. The 25-member group was made up of non-profit leaders and developers, including Huascar Castro, an associate housing and transportation policy director at Working Partnerships USA, Valley Water CEO Rick Callender and Sand Hill Property Company co-founder Peter Pau, but excluded most advocates and individuals with lived experience—a major point of criticism from residents during public comment.

The major goal is to build more

housing, particularly interim housing. The No. 1 priority is to complete former Mayor Sam Liccardo's 2021 goal to build 1,000 homes by the end of his term, of which only 317 were completed. Once the rest are finished, the committee suggests the council find more public land to build an additional 1,000 homes.

The committee also recommends reducing barriers for homeless residents to access services by creating sanctioned camps.

The committee's recommendations *See CITY COUNCIL, page 8*

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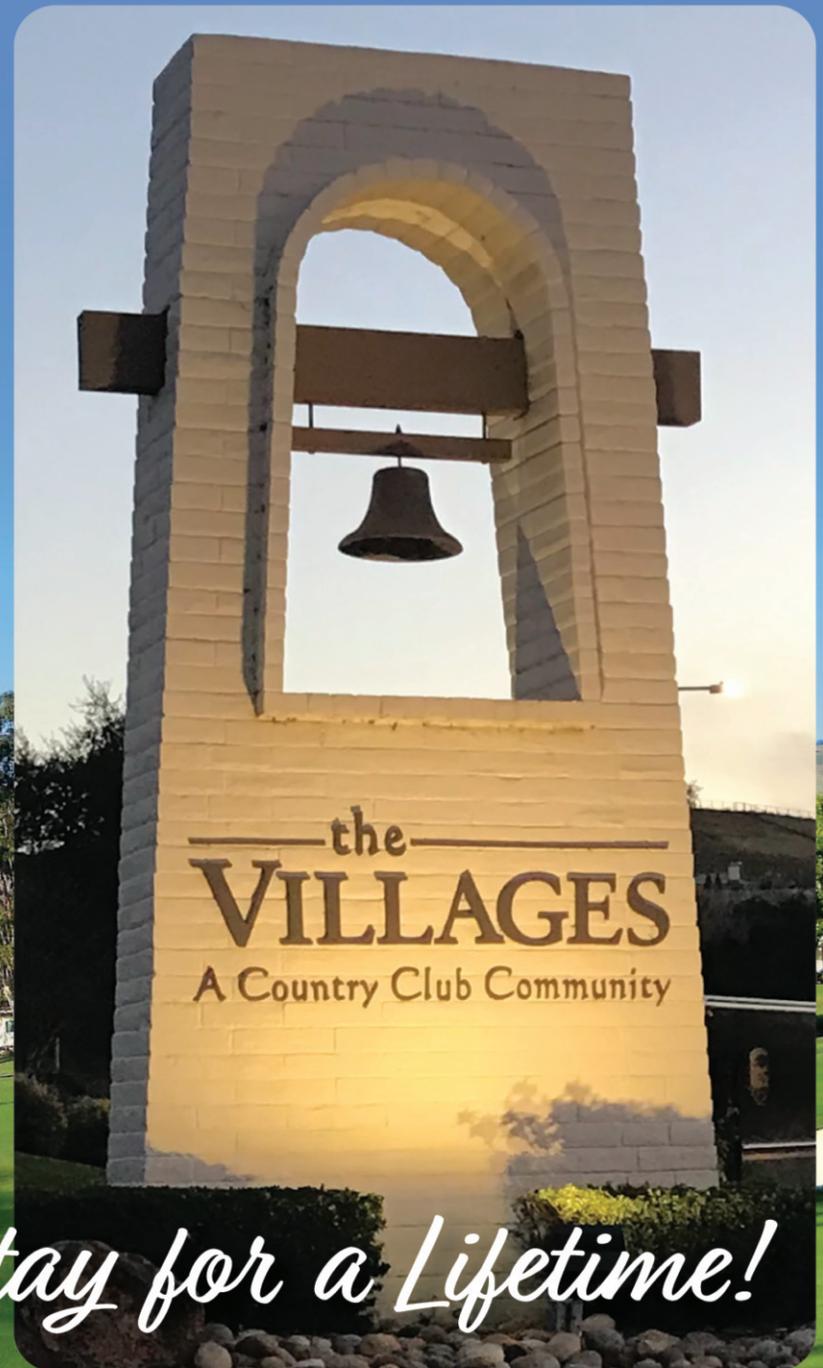
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NOTEBOOK

District 8 Newsletter

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DOMINGO CANDELAS
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Valley Currents

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

'It is my honor to represent you'

By Domingo Candelas

As my first newsletter to the District 8 community, I want to begin by saying it is my honor to represent you on the San José City Council.

It has been a little over 2 weeks since I was appointed to represent the residents of Council District 8. I made a commitment to hit the ground running and that is exactly what I have done.

I updated our website with resources to connect you with my



Council Report

Domingo Candelas,
District 8 Councilmember

office and my different social media channels. I have also had the pleasure of attending several neighborhood meetings and events, sponsored a clean-up, and have two more community events next week!

My job is simple: listen and respond to your questions and concerns; make intelligent and fair decisions; and put the public's interest first. We have quickly set-up a diverse team that is working diligently to ensure your concerns are being met. My office's

mission is to serve you and promptly respond to your calls, whether it's for assistance with a public agency or government forms, or information on current or previous policy decisions.

As your City Councilmember, I am committed to providing the highest quality of public service possible, and I want to do everything I can to improve our community. My monthly newsletter provides a wealth of information and will keep you up to date on what I am working on in City Hall, including updates on legislation, community events and important issues like the City budget, public safety, homelessness and more.

I deeply care about our community. I have lived my entire life in District 8 and I am devoted to this special slice of San José. It is a pleasure and a privilege to work for the community that has given me so much. Please contact my office for any questions, concerns or city service needs.

If you have a comment, please email me directly at district8@sanjoseca.gov, or give us a call at 408-535-4908.

"I deeply care about our community. I have lived my entire life in District 8 and I am devoted to this special slice of San José."

— Domingo Candelas



Budding almond tree

Harbingers of Spring in Evergreen

By Frank Shortt

Although the night temps are still in the thirties, there are certain signs that Spring is near.

The robins are back! Flocks can be seen in the early morning flitting about searching for that elusive night crawler or some seeds left over from last season.

The hills are all aglow with color as the mustard plants have bloomed early and the many varieties of grasses have been coming up all over from the wonderful, needful rain that we have experienced this rain season already. Just a reminder that the mustard plants are delicious as an extra delicacy cooked with some bacon fat, a little salt and some pepper.

Elder citizens can be seen by the waning waysides with mustard plants that are still available to get to. No, these mustard plants are not a weed but a healthful plant supposedly scattered about over California by a far-seeing monk. Legend has it that it could have been Junipero Serra the founder of Missions in the early history of California! Some say he carried sacks of mustard seeds on his excursions into

the hills looking for a possible site for a Mission.

Two local harbingers that have been faithful through the years are the Almond tree down by San Felipe and Yerba Buena Road and the Buckeye tree in Thompson Creek almost in the center of the Yerba Buena Bridge. Local legend has it that certain folks of the Asian group hold the Almond blossom sacred in one of their many ceremonies. The tree, itself, is not a fruit bearing tree, possibly because it is not cross-pollinated, but, nonetheless, it provides an amazing display each spring with its beautiful blossoms.

The other tree that offers a marvelous display of nature is the buckeye tree mentioned before. Its buds have been appearing for the past couple of weeks and now they have begun to open out. This tree offers no edible fruit or nuts but the beauty of its buds and blossoms are a sight to behold.

In not too many weeks, if the warming trend keeps up, one will be able to see the bottlebrush-like blossoms that eventually grow into the buckeye. Why is it called a 'buckeye'? It is because of the eye-like brown ring in the center of the nut, resembling the eye of a deer. Buckeye blossoms and nuts are poisonous to humans. The nut has some medicinal properties sometimes used for the treatment of hemorrhoids but must be left to chemists to extract the qualities. The only animals that are drawn to the buckeye nut are the squirrels.

So for now, let's just enjoy the beauty of the moment!



Budding buckeye tree

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OpEd

The Federal Government is tracking the unvaccinated

By Dr. Joseph Mercola

The U.S. government has secretly been tracking those who didn't get the COVID jab, or are only partially jabbed, through a previously unknown surveillance program designed by the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), a division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The program was implemented April 1, 2022, and adopted by most medical clinics and hospitals across the U.S. until January 2023

Under this program, doctors at clinics and hospitals have been instructed to ask patients about their vaccination status, which is then added to their electronic medical records as a diagnostic code, known as ICD-10 code, so that they can be tracked inside and outside of the medical system

These new ICD-10 codes are part of the government's plan to implement medical tyranny using vaccine passports and digital IDs

They're also tracking noncompliance with all other recommended vaccines using new ICD-10 codes, and have implemented codes to describe WHY you didn't get a recommended vaccine. They've also added a billable ICD code for "vaccine safety counseling."

Racing hearts: The difference between life and death

By County Supervisor Joe Simitian

Racing Hearts is a life saver. In just 10 years, they've placed more than 1,000 automated external defibrillators (AEDs) within Santa Clara County, and they've made Santa Clara County the first county in California to have defibrillators in virtually all public schools. It's an outstanding example of the good that nonprofits and government can do when we work hand in hand.

And what a journey it's been.

Two decades ago, Stephanie Martinson was out climbing Yosemite's Half Dome when she suffered an aborted sudden cardiac arrest. She was just 23 years old.

Stephanie was not the first young adult, and she won't be the last, to experience sudden cardiac arrest. We hear too many stories of otherwise healthy people collapsing suddenly. Maybe it's a student at sports practice, or a friend at work, or a neighbor at a farmers' market. It can happen to anyone, anytime, anywhere.

Sudden cardiac arrest is not the same as a heart attack, but it's just as dangerous. Instead of a blockage, it's an electrical disturbance that stops the heart beating correctly.

After her ordeal, Stephanie was inspired to do something. In 2012, she founded Racing Hearts with a clear mission: to increase the survival rate of people suffering a sudden cardiac arrest. How would she and her volunteer team get that done? By placing AEDs in easy to access locations throughout the community, and by teaching people how to use them.

An AED is a small but powerful device. It uses electrical pulses to reset the heart, like turning a frozen computer off and on again. "Public access" AED models, like the ones placed

through our partnership with Racing Hearts, are easy to use and capable of defibrillating a cardiac patient before the ambulance arrives.

There are more than 350,000 cases of sudden cardiac arrest each year in the U.S. — 7,000 of them children under age 18 — and nearly 90% are fatal. The survival rate for those experiencing this kind of cardiac event is 5-8% when traditional cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is used but increases to 80% with the use of AEDs. Clearly, having AEDs widely available makes a huge difference — between life and death.

In 2014, I proposed that Racing Hearts partner with our Board of Supervisors, the City of Mountain View, El Camino Health, and local school districts to place 49 AEDs in public locations throughout Mountain View, including schools and recreation/community centers.

Following the success of the Mountain View pilot, in 2015 the Board of Supervisors allocated \$500,000 in matching funds to get even

more AEDs out into the community, including in County park ranger and sheriff patrol cars. Soon after, Racing Hearts, the County, and El Camino Health collaborated with our local state legislators to update California legislation to make it easier to own and maintain AEDs.

By 2018, Santa Clara County was the first county in California to have AEDs in virtually all public schools, spread among elementary, middle, and high schools. When we started our partnership with Racing Hearts, fewer than 10% of local public schools had access to the equipment.

Racing Hearts has now placed more than 1,000 AEDs in Santa Clara County. In the San Jose area, that includes City of San Jose Parks and Recreation sites including community centers, and San Jose police vehicles.

It's a triumph, to put it simply. After completing their mission to raise awareness and blanket our community with life-saving AEDs, Racing Hearts' journey has recently come to a natural close. I'm honored to have worked with Racing Hearts from day one, and I hope the Racing Hearts story continues to inspire partnerships between non-profits, local organizations, and government.

Thank you, Racing Hearts. You're a life saver.

Joe Simitian was elected to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors in 2012 and re-elected in 2016 and 2020. He represents the Fifth District, which now includes Cupertino, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Saratoga, Stanford, and portions of San Jose, including Almaden Valley. Joe's public service over the years includes stints as a member of the California State Senate, the California State Assembly, Mayor of Palo Alto, President of the Palo Alto School Board, as well as an earlier term on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. He served as an election observer/supervisor in El Salvador and Bosnia and participated in refugee relief and resettlement efforts in Albania and Kosovo.



County Report

Joe Simitian
County Supervisor



Tabard

Continued from page 1

Team San Jose, which manages the city's arts and cultural centers and tourism, reported zero dollars in revenue. While some have been able to recover, the small Tabard Theatre in San Pedro Square couldn't keep up.

There are still two shows residents can catch before the theater closes. "The Super Secret Society" runs until Sunday. Following that, "Once," an eight-time Tony award-winning musical, will run from March 10 to April 2 as the 22-year old theatre's swan song.

Customers who purchased tickets to the two other productions planned for the year, "Othello" and "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," will

be contacted by the box office about options, Williams said.

"The Tabard Theatre Company has meant so much to many of you as artists, technicians, volunteers, staff, and of course as subscribers, donors and patrons," Williams said. "We thank everyone who has supported us over the past two decades, and particularly through this very challenging last three years."

Tabard mission statement

The Tabard Theatre Company provided live entertainment experiences that enlightened, appropriate and affordable for audiences of all ages, championing unique works in an inclusive environment, with educational programs and altruistic outreach to the underserved.

Tabard storied history

The Tabard Theatre Company is a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation that was founded in 2001 by Cathy Spielberger Cassetta to be a "different" kind of theatre company from the more than 450 theatre companies in the Bay Area. For its first seven seasons, Tabard nomadically performed in a variety of venues, not having a consistent venue of its own.

In 2008, Tabard contracted with the San Jose Redevelopment Agency to become the managing and resident theatre company of then-named Theatre on San Pedro Square, the current location. Its charter provided for production of theatrical plays and musicals as well as to be a destination for guest per-

forming arts groups. This venue was formally renamed "Tabard Theatre" in 2018. It blossomed into a multi-faceted theatre arts organization hosting concerts and comedy shows, and a wide variety of corporate, private and public guest events.

Tabard Theatre also continued to be the official Swing Stage of the San Jose Jazz SummerFest. All told, various programs provided the community with over 150 performances per year.

The venue was also home to summer theatre camps for children ages 6 to 16. In its mission to bring outreach to the underserved, Tabard's Youth Performing Arts Programs brought theatre education to a number of schools in the San Jose area.

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Classical pianist **Benjamin Grosvenor** to perform for Steinway Society – The Bay Area on Saturday, March 25 in Santa Clara.

Acclaimed British Pianist Benjamin Grosvenor performs for Steinway Society, March 25: Live and LiveStreamed

Winner of Gramophone award for best instrumental album of the year

Classical pianist Benjamin Grosvenor returns to perform for Steinway Society – The Bay Area on Saturday, March 25 at the Louis B. Mayer Theatre, at Santa Clara University in Santa Clara.

Patrons will also be able to livestream the concert and view it for up to 48 hours afterward. Program notes and a recorded pre-concert lecture by classical music expert Dr. Gary Lemco are available at www.steinwaysociety.com

“Piano’s Golden Generation” concert, beginning at 7:30 p.m., will feature:

Bach-Busoni, Chaconne in D Minor (From Violin Partita No. 2, BWV 1004)

Schumann, Fantasie in C Major, Op. 17

1. Durchaus phantastisch und leidenschaftlich vorzutragen (To be performed with fantasy and passion throughout)

2. Mässig. Durchaus energisch (Moderate. Energetic throughout)

3. Langsam getragen. Durchweg leise zu halten (Slow and sustained. Gentle throughout)

Ravel, Le tombeau de Couperin

1. Prélude, Vif

2. Fugue, Allegro moderato

3. Forlane, Allegretto

4. Rigaudon, Assez vif

5. Menuet, Allegro Moderato

6. Toccata, Vif

Prokofiev, Sonata No. 7 in B-flat Major, Op. 83

1. Allegro inquieto

2. Andante caloroso

3. Precipitato

Tickets

Single Tickets: \$45 to \$70; General Admission: \$70/\$60/\$50; Senior & student: \$65/\$55/\$45; Livestream online: \$40 per household.

<https://steinwaysociety.com/tickets>

Box Office: 408.300.5635; Email: office@steinwaysociety.com

Benjamin Grosvenor

Now among the world’s most admired pianists, Benjamin Grosvenor became the youngest-ever winner of the BBC Young Musician Competition at age 11. At 19, he was the youngest British musician ever signed by Decca Classics; his first album won the Gramophone award for best instrumental album of the year. He has also won the Classic Brits Critics’ Award, UK Critics’ Circle Award for Exceptional Young Talent, and a Diapason d’Or Jeune Talent Award. Grosvenor has been featured in two BBC television documentaries, BBC Breakfast and The Andrew Marr Show, as well as in CNN’s Human to Hero series. Since 2011 he has appeared eight times at BBC Proms.

In January 2019, Gramophone named Grosvenor one of five “Piano’s Golden Generation” artists who are leading the way among today’s classical pianists.

Sought after and praised for his distinctive sound, his artistry described as “poetic and gently ironic, brilliant yet clear-minded, intelligent but not without humor, all translated through a beautifully clear and singing touch” -The Independent

Photo courtesy of the artist and Steinway Society

The Philharmonic Orchestra performs Khachaturian, Tchaikovsky, Shostakovich, and Prokofiev March 18

Ticket purchases now available online

The San Jose Youth Symphony’s Philharmonic Orchestra, under the artistic leadership of Music Director and Conductor Yair Samet, presents its Spring Concert to be held on Saturday, March 18 at 2 p.m. at the California Theatre, 345 S. 1st Street, San Jose.

The orchestra will open with Khachaturian’s Masquerade Suite, with its beautiful, haunting, and suspenseful theme, and end with Prokofiev’s enduringly popular Romeo and Juliet Suites. This concert will also feature two winners from the 2022 Young Artists’ Competition, proudly sponsored by the San Jose Symphony* Foundation. Outstanding young soloists, Ekaterina Kabenina, violinist, will perform Tchaikovsky’s Violin Concerto; and Kerry Xu, pianist, will perform Shostakovich’s Piano Concerto No. 2.

Ekaterina (Kate) Kabenina is a junior at Campolindo High School. She has been playing the violin since she was 6 years old. This is her fifth season with the San Jose Youth Symphony, having been with the Concert Orchestra and then the Chamber Orchestra



Above: **Ekaterina (Kate) Kabenina**. Below: **Kerry Xu**



during her first two years before joining the Philharmonic Orchestra two seasons ago.

Kerry Xu is a junior at Mission San Jose High School in Fremont. He started playing the piano when he was 4 years old. He first joined the San Jose Youth Symphony 5 years ago and is currently in his 3rd season as a violinist with the Philharmonic Orchestra.

The San Jose Youth Symphony (SJYS) is one of the oldest and finest youth orchestras on the West Coast of the U.S. Founded over seven decades ago as part of the former San Jose Symphony, SJYS has a rich tradition of musical performance and education.

The musicians of SJYS, all school-age youth, are chosen

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

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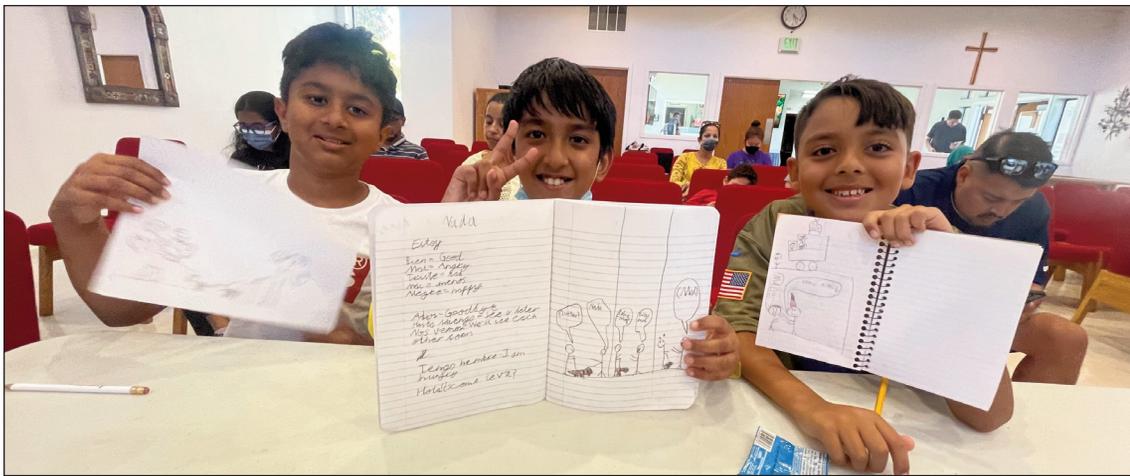
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Times **Local News**



Spanish

Continued from page 1 and reviews from happy parents saying, “The instructors were very engaging and kept my daughter focused,” and

“Definitely recommend these classes to other parents and look forward to similar classes in the future for my kids. KUDOS!!!” as well as, “The class not only helped my daughter, but it helped me pick up some of the key phrases as well.” Sonrie looks forward to fostering the same enriching and motivating environment in future sessions, and is committed to teaching your children to the best of their ability while having fun!

Sonrie believes that at a young age, children are able to grasp the language at a quicker and more fluent pace, better equipping them for their future language courses in high school. As a student-led organization, student TAs teach a carefully constructed course curriculum that integrates Spanish culture with fundamental skills of the Spanish language. Sonrie educators cre-



Pictured (left to right) are: **Navya Manjunath, Prati Mehta, Ella Siruno, Bryan Nguyen, Tin Nguyen, Vy Nguyen, and Shalini Raval.**

ate a positive learning environment consisting of interactive activities, cultural notes, and many more skills to foster an interest in language learning. The curriculum helps build competency in each of the four language skills—listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Sonrie’s board and educators are students dedicated to helping kids learn Spanish at a younger age to develop a vital skill they can expand on throughout their lives. Sonrie is always looking for more volunteers, and they welcome highschoolers

in the Evergreen area to volunteer!

If you are interested in signing up as a student or volunteer, visit <https://sonriespanish.wixsite.com/sonriespanish> for more information! Please note volunteers must have basic Spanish knowledge to help out.

Editor’s note: The next Sonrie Spanish class offering is scheduled February 28th - April 25th; Time: Stage 1: 3:30-4:30 p.m.; Stage 2: 4:45-5:45 p.m.; Location: Grace Church of Evergreen (2650 Aborn Rd, San Jose, CA 95121). To enroll, use this website link: tinyurl.com/enrollsonrie23



Mayor Matt Mahan

City Council

Continued from page 1 are not groundbreaking. In addition to hiring more officers, the committee outlined it would like to rely on mental health experts to respond to crisis calls and build out more self-enforcing streets and new designs to reduce traffic fatalities that have increased in the last five years.

The most interesting recommendation is to explore redirecting non-emergency 911 calls away from badged officers to community service officers who perform lower level duties like issuing parking citations and towing abandoned vehicles. This aligns with what the San Jose Police Officers’ Association and police reform activists want.

Blight

Councilmember Peter Ortiz chaired this 23-member committee with community co-chairs Deb Kramer, executive director of non-profit Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful, and Helen Brock, founder of Beautify Almaden.

In addition to adding more public trash cans and planting more trees and flowers, the clean neighborhoods committee wants to educate residents on what services exist and how residents can report dumping and graffiti, and properly dispose of their own blight.

The committee focused heavily on expanding the city’s 311 mobile application, San Jose’s customer service tool to respond to complaints about potholes, abandoned cars, graffiti and blight. The committee wants the city to expand language access, increase marketing and create a mechanism for residents to provide feedback on services they believe are incomplete.

The committee also suggests the “gamification” of the 311 app where council districts compete with each other through the app to increase users and reporting by making it more fun.

Downtown vibrancy

The 20-member downtown vibrancy committee includes leaders from the San Jose Downtown Association, the Jay Paul Company, Sharks Sports and Entertainment and SAP Center, Adobe Inc. and San Jose State University.

It was chaired by downtown Councilmember Omar Torres and developer Gary Dillabough of Urban Community.

The big ticket idea from this committee is to permanently create and fund a team of downtown-focused workers that coordinate between nonprofits, government agencies, the private sector and other local stakeholders. The team would consist of five members who will focus on economic development, cleanliness and safety, create more community engagement in public spaces and create a brand and marketing for downtown San Jose.

The committee wants the city to hire a team of five people by the end of Sept. 30 to serve in these roles.

Planning and permitting

The 28-member planning and permitting committee is predominantly composed of developers, including representatives from Boston Properties, Urban Catalyst, Webcor Builders and the Building Trades Council. Bayview Development Group Chief Investment Officer Ted McMahon served as co-chair along with Councilmembers Dev Davis and Sergio Jimenez.

The group focused on the lengthy building permit process. The committee suggests creating a project manager to assist with five different types of projects: large commercial, large residential, small residential, tenant improvements and affordable residential. Committee members see this as a way to improve communication and expedite the permitting process.

The committee also suggests refining the city’s web portal to better keep applicants informed of their project status.

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Will Florentino named to William & Mary Dean's List

Will Florentino (inset) from Evergreen Valley has been named to the Dean's List at the College of William & Mary for the fall 2022 semester.



Florentino, an Environmental Science & Policy major, works with several service clubs and nonprofits around the Bay Area in order to create service projects and events.

In order to achieve Dean's List status, a full-time degree seeking undergraduate student must take at least 12 credit hours and earn a 3.6 Quality Point Average during the semester.

William & Mary is the second oldest institution of higher learning in the United States.

Evergreen Valley student Nadia Eibach earns George Fox University Dean's List Recognition

Nadia Eibach (inset) of Evergreen Valley is among those who earned Dean's List recognition at George Fox University for the fall 2022 semester.



Eibach is a senior majoring in marketing and sociology (minor). Traditional undergraduate students must earn a 3.5 grade point average or above on 12 or more hours of graded work to earn a spot on the Dean's List.

George Fox University is a Christian college classified by U.S. News & World Report as a "Best National University." More than 4,000 students attend classes on the university's campus in Newberg, Oregon, and at teaching centers in Portland and Redmond, Oregon. George Fox offers more than 60 undergraduate academic programs, degree-completion programs for working adults, seven seminary degrees, and 13 masters and doctoral degrees.

Residents can apply for four commission vacancies

San Jose City boards and commissions were established for the purpose of advising the City Council and providing ongoing input into policies and issues affecting the future of the San José community.

District 8 has vacancies in the following commissions:

- Arts Commission
- Council Appointment Advisory Commission
- Parks and Recreation
- Senior Commission

If you would like to apply for any of the vacancies, use this link to submit your application: <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/appointees/city-clerk/boards-commissions>



New bill would stop medical coverage denials by physicians not licensed in California

A bill introduced last week by Senator Dave Cortese would stop insurance companies from enlisting out-of-state doctors to cancel medical treatment plans proposed by California doctor for workers' compensation claims for certain patients.

Under current law, insurance companies can change or deny a recommended medical treatment made by a California-licensed doctor by ordering a "utilization review" by another doctor. The doctor performing the review might deem the original doctor's proposed treatment as not medically necessary — and modify or deny the treatment, despite having never examined or even communicated with the patient. SB 636 would require doctors performing a utilization review on private sector patients to be licensed in California.

"When an insurance company steps in to deny a surgery or any medical treatment plan, it can be a nightmare scenario for the patient," said Cortese. "Medical treatment is stressful enough without insurance stepping in to deny coverage. If insurance companies feel compelled to perform a utilization review, SB 636 would at least make sure the review doctor is licensed and accountable in California."

Physicians who are not licensed in California operate in these instances without a regulatory structure to hold them accountable. The Division of Workers' Compensation and the Medical Board of California lack the jurisdiction to discipline out-of-state doctors for medical malpractice. The review physician can't even be prosecuted in their home state, because outside states don't have relevant jurisdiction in California.

Times **Community**

IRS says people who got CA inflation-relief payments don't have to report them to IRS

The IRS has announced it is not going to tax refund payments from California to residents last year in order to help them defray rising living costs.

The IRS has been trying to determine whether the money from 21 states to their residents would count as money that was subject to federal income tax.

California issued more than 16 million payments in its "middle-class tax refund" program, totaling more than \$9 billion, reaching more than 31 million state taxpayers and their dependents.

For 16 states, the answer is a straight "no," the IRS announced Friday evening. For the remaining five states, there's some nuance, and likely some consternation for the taxpayers who need to see what the new tax rules mean for them.

The IRS publicly advised people with tax questions about their state payment to wait to file returns while it determined the money's tax status. By that time, the tax authority already received more than 18 million tax returns and issued almost 8 million refunds.

The IRS is now stating that people don't have to report the inflation-related payments on their 2022 return in the following states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island.

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Q1: I need to renew my vehicle registration; do I have to go into a DMV office?

A1: Most people can renew their registration without a trip to the DMV. Check your notice from the DMV to make sure you're eligible.

The DMV's website has a "service advisor" that can tell you what options are available, such as renewing online, at a certified business partner, at your local AAA, or at a nearby kiosk. Before you begin the renewal process, make sure you have:

- Your license plate number.
- The last five digits of your vehicle identification number (VIN) or hull identification number (HIN) for a vessel/boat.
- A renewal notice confirming your current address. If you have moved, update your address about one week before beginning your renewal application.
- Your payment information.



With the DMV's convenient online services, most people are eligible to easily replace your driver's license or ID, or REAL ID online.

Q2: My driver's license is about to expire; can I renew it online?

A2: For people who are not required to come to an office to take a test or eye exam, yes! With the DMV's convenient online services, most people are eligible to easily replace your driver's license or ID, or REAL ID online as long as you do not need to change your address or personal description, are not applying for a REAL ID for the first time, and are not renewing a commercial driver's license.

For more information about the DMV's online services, visit www.dmv.ca.gov/online

Note: DMV offices are closed on weekends.

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Times **Community News**

Sources of Support in My Life

MY RELATIONSHIP WITH	Safety & Security	Learning & Growth	Emotional Closeness & Confiding	Identity Affirmation & Shared Experiences	Romantic Intimacy	Help (Practical & Physical)	Fun & Relaxation

An 85-year Harvard study found the No. 1 thing that makes us happy in life: It helps us 'live longer'

By Marc Schulz
Special to the Times

In 1938, Harvard researchers embarked on a decades-long study to find out: What makes us happy in life?

The researchers gathered health records from 724 participants from all over the world and asked detailed questions about their lives at two-year intervals.

Contrary to what you might think, it's not career achievement, money, exercise, or a healthy diet. The most consistent finding we've learned through 85 years of study is: Positive relationships keep us happier, healthier, and help us live longer. Period.

The No. 1 key to a happy life: 'Social fitness'

Relationships affect us physically. Ever notice the invigoration you feel when you believe someone has really understood you during a good conversation? Or a lack of sleep during a period of romantic strife?

To make sure your relationships are healthy and balanced, it's important to practice "social fitness."

We tend to think that once we establish friendships and intimate relationships, they will take care of themselves. But our social life is a living system, and it needs exercise.

Social fitness requires taking stock of our relationships, and being honest with ourselves about where we're devoting our time and whether we are tending to the connections that help us thrive.

How to take stock of your relationships

Humans are social creatures. Each of us as individuals cannot provide everything we need for ourselves. We need others to interact with and to help us.

In our relational lives, there are seven key-stones of support:

1. Safety and security: Who would you call if you woke up scared in the middle of the night? Who would you turn to in a moment of crisis?

2. Learning and growth: Who encourages you to try new things, to take chances, to pursue your life's goals?

3. Emotional closeness and confiding: Who knows everything (or most things) about you? Who can you call on when you're feeling low and be honest with about how you're feeling?

4. Identity affirmation and shared experience: Is there someone in your life who has shared many experiences with you and who helps you strengthen your sense of who you are?

5. Romantic intimacy: Do you feel satis-



fied with the amount of romantic intimacy in your life?

6. Help (both informational and practical): Who do you turn to if you need some expertise or help solving a practical problem (e.g., planting a tree, fixing your WiFi connection).

7. Fun and relaxation: Who makes you laugh? Who do you call to see a movie or go on a road trip with who makes you feel connected and at ease?

In the chart at the top of this page you'll find a table arranged around the seven key-stones. The first column is for the relationships you think have the greatest impact on you.

Place a plus (+) symbol in the appropriate columns if a relationship seems to add to that type of support in your life, and a minus (-) symbol if a relationship lacks that type of support.

Remember, it's okay if not all — or even most — relationships offer you all these types of support.

Think of this exercise like an X-ray — a tool that helps you see below the surface of your social universe. Not all of these types of support will feel important to you, but consider which of them do, and ask yourself if you're getting enough support in those areas.

Looking at the gaps on the chart, you might realize that you have plenty of people you have fun with, but no one to confide in. Or maybe you only have one person you go to for help, or that a person you take for granted actually makes you feel safe and secure.

Don't be afraid to reach out to the people in your life. Whether it's a thoughtful question or a moment of devoted attention, it's never too late to deepen the connections that matter to you.

Marc Schulz, PhD, is the associate director of the Harvard Study of Adult Development, and a practicing therapist with postdoctoral training in health and clinical psychology at Harvard Medical School. He is also the author of "The Good Life."

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I N F O C U S

San Jose schools prioritize student wellness over cops

By Joan-Anh Pham
San José Spotlight

Two of Santa Clara County's largest school districts took police off campuses in the wake of the 2020 killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor. Three years later, advocates said that decision has allowed schools to focus on student wellness.

The districts have expanded mental health programs and other services in lieu of funding contracts for police officers. East Side Union High School and Alum Rock Union School districts passed policies to keep law enforcement off campus in 2020 on the same night. Both districts still use officers for emergencies, but their reduced involvement means student mental health has been prioritized, school officials said.

East Side Union High School District removed police from campuses after a community petition pulled in more than 2,400 signatures sparked by Floyd's killing. Superintendent Glenn Vander Zee said addressing safety and student discipline is up to district administrators. He said the district mainly used officers for security prior to 2020. The district enrolls more than 21,000 students across 19 high schools and adult education programs.

"Police officers... should not be involved in the disciplinary response," Vander Zee told San José Spotlight. "(It's) the responsibility of the administrative staff and educators at that site."

Vander Zee said there was an uptick in stu-



Piedmont Hills High School is part of the East Side Union High School District in San Jose. The school board passed a policy in 2020 to keep police off district campuses. File photo.

dent behavioral issues following distance learning, as students adjusted from online learning to interacting with others in classrooms. But the district opted to invest funding in social workers and expand wellness centers and mental health services, he said.

"Are there... members of the public that would prefer to have the district use its funds to have police officers on campus all the time? Absolutely. There are other staff members and members of the community that feel differently," Vander Zee said.

Breaking the school-to-prison pipeline

Alum Rock Union School District board member Corina Herrera-Loera said tackling the school-to-prison pipeline starts with limiting interactions with law enforcement, especially for young students. She said the district has been able to focus on getting more mental health counselors and staff for every school in the district, which enrolls more than 8,500 students across more than 20 elementary and middle schools.

"It was just important to get (police) off the campuses and reinvest those resources into our

children," Herrera-Loera told San José Spotlight. "At an elementary school age, I don't believe we need officers addressing our children."

San Jose school district still weighs cops on campus

Angela James, research director for the UCLA Center for the Transformation of Schools, said ongoing studies suggest positive impacts to school climate and student engagement for districts that don't rely on police. James said in many cases, those resources are shifted to invest in wellness and restorative justice programs. For campuses that still have police, officers usually do work that could be done by other staff members, such as checking up on students who are not in class, she added.

"The current rationale is that police keep 'crime' off campuses and keep students and staff safe," James told San José Spotlight. "No study has ever confirmed this rationale... In fact, there is considerable evidence to the contrary."

Not all districts have made a decision to end having police on campus. San Jose Unified School District, the county's largest school district, is

still contemplating the question through a community advisory committee created in December 2021. The district ended its partnership with the San Jose Police Department in June 2021, but about a month later reversed its decision and brought back officers as "private security guards" for event security purposes. In June 2022 the board expanded its contract with police, allowing schools to use officers on campus in any capacity.

San Jose Unified School District officials declined to comment, pointing to the district's advisory committee website.

San José Spotlight's review of minutes from the committee meetings shows that as of now, the district still pays for officers on campus through short-term limited services agreements. The officers are responsible for fostering relationships with students and supporting staff in confiscating illegal items on campuses. Officers are not involved in student discipline, documents show.

Dilza Gonzalez, SOMOS Mayfair organizing and policy manager, said Alum Rock Unified School District's decision to keep police off campuses involved community advocacy from parents and students. But concerns with law enforcement are not new, especially in a district with a high student of color population, she added.

Gonzalez said terminating police contracts means much-needed funds go toward tackling problems in the community, including access to basic needs, such as food and child care.

"We started the conversation around the role that police officers play in our communities and also what exactly our kids need to ensure that our people of color feel safe," Gonzalez told San José Spotlight. "We have always known that (school) resource officers are not the answer."

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Times **Feature**

CAREER CORNER

Loving Your job

By Angela Copeland

Have you asked friends how they're doing at work lately? Many people are feeling scared. The national news is filled with headlines about layoffs and an unstable economy.

Unlike before, the layoffs no longer feel small and isolated. Big companies that we all know are laying off hundreds, if not thousands, of workers. Many are being laid off with little or no notice. The unemployment rate remains low, and there continue to be job postings. But, the state of the



economy feels very uncertain. After three years of instability, people feel fear. It's just that plain and simple.

This time of year, I often discuss the importance of having a job you love. You spend so much time at work that it is important to do work that is meaningful to you. It's important to do work you can feel good about. This is all true. That said, there are also times you're happy just to have a job. For many people, this is that point in time. If you're feeling this way, what can you do?

Very often, how we feel at work isn't really about the work we're doing. I'm sure you've heard the saying that people don't quit companies. They quit managers. And, that's the truth. Sometimes, workers will leave for a better salary. But, they wouldn't have been looking if they had-

n't been unhappy.

If you are in a situation that feels tough, look around you. One way to combat unhappiness at work is to find a work friend. It sounds silly at first, but it works. Having someone to talk to about what's going on in the office can create a support structure that is otherwise lacking. It can give you a sounding board on hard days. It can give you another reason to come to work and put your best foot forward when you're not feeling it. It can give you one person you can trust and count on.

In most situations, finding a work friend is easier than finding a new job. And, if switching jobs during an uncertain economic period is more of a risk than you'd like to take, it's time to build up the support system at your existing job.

If you're lucky enough to have a work friend or two, don't discount how important they are in your life. They are your buffer that will help you make it through tough times. They'll help you to love days that might otherwise be unbearable. They'll have your back, and shelter you from the storm happening in other areas of the company. Cherish those people. They're special. They're the ones you may even work with again in the future – at another company.

As always, if you have a new opportunity on the horizon, go for it. But, if you need to keep things steady, focus on friendships. Focus on the people who help you to love your job a little bit more.

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

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Times **Local News**



Student Homeless Alliance members marched through the San Jose State campus in April 2022 to raise awareness about students needing safe places to sleep. Photo by Lorraine Gabbert.

San Jose has highest number of homeless young adults among 100 major US cities; growing crisis

By **Tran Nguyen**
San José Spotlight

San Jose tops the list of 100 major cities with the highest number of homeless young adults per capita, highlighting a growing crisis in the region.

In the heart of Silicon Valley, there are nearly 85 homeless residents who are between 18 and 24 years old for every 100,000 residents, landing San Jose in the No. 1 spot across the United States. The study, conducted by United Way of the National Capital Area, analyzed data from the Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development in 100 major cities in the nation. The study was published late January.

The study also reveals the problem in San Jose is particularly dire. The city has nearly 50 more young persons experiencing homelessness per capita than the second-highest city on the list, New York City, which has roughly 36 homeless young residents for every 100,000 people. Los Angeles lands in the No. 3 spot, with 32 homeless young adults per 100,000 residents.

“(This is) highlighting the need for more effective solutions to address youth homelessness in this area, particularly for young people of color,” the study said, pointing to the need for more affordable housing, homeless services and policies that address systemic barriers.

San Jose has seen its homeless population explode in the past decade, with more than 6,650 people living on the streets as of 2022. The city is waiting on the latest count after several hundred volunteers conducted a new tally earlier this year.

According to data from last year, 28% of San Jose homeless residents ages 18-24 experienced homelessness for the first time. That’s doubled since 2017.

Santa Clara County’s Office of Supportive Housing Director Consuelo Hernandez didn’t respond in time for publication.

Scott Myers-Lipton, a San Jose State University sociology professor, said the findings are not shocking. A 2021 fall semester survey by SJSU Cares showed 11.2% of students, or 624 of the 5,680 respondents, experienced homelessness at some point in the year.

“This has been a crisis for years,” Myers-Lipton told San José Spotlight, adding SJSU has not done enough to address the issues. “At SJSU, it’s like pulling teeth to get them to

implement the agreement to provide emergency beds.”

Myers-Lipton has worked with the homeless student coalition on campus to advocate for more resources. The biggest challenges for his students are the high cost of living and rent in San Jose, he said.

“If the rent is \$3,100 per apartment, and you’re making minimum wage at \$17 an hour, how do you afford that?” Myers-Lipton said. “I have had students tell me that they sometimes have eight people in one apartment. This is a structural issue and it’s a shame.”

He said the city could also help address the issue by raising its minimum wage to at least match the rate in Mountain View at \$18.15 an hour.

“Is that going to solve the problem? No, but that’s an extra \$2,000 a year,” he said.

Robert Aguirre, a former unhoused resident turned advocate, said the issue is nothing new in San Jose. As the wealth gap in the region continues to grow, more young people are being pushed into homelessness even if they work full time, he said. The region also doesn’t have many resources for young people.

“There is very little that’s being done to target that particular population,” Aguirre told San José Spotlight. “There’s certainly a focus on veterans, the elderly, disabled people and children. Except for the Bill Wilson Center, there really isn’t a whole lot going on.”

In San Jose, officials are racing to build housing and offer resources for young adults. The city, in partnership with the Bill Wilson Center, is working to transform the Pavilion Inn hotel on Fourth Street into 39 apartments for people between the ages of 18 and 25. City officials also voted to help fund a new affordable housing project at 1510-1540 Parkmoor Ave. that will have 40 apartments for young adults. But those projects won’t be finished until at least 2024.

Anthony Majano, president of the Student Homeless Alliance at San Jose State University, said many of his peers have moved away from San Jose because of high rents. He said the city and the state could do more to help young adults from falling into homelessness by bolstering tenants’ rights and rent controls.

“We don’t have a right to counsel here in San Jose, and we don’t have many other resources or assistance to help us,” Majano told San José Spotlight. “We’re incredibly vulnerable to the high cost of living here.”

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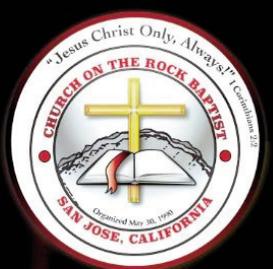
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Times Feature

Just keep swimming... in deadly conditions (Part 2)

How Machine Learning can help save coastal dead zones

By Apoorva Panidapu

Last time, we talked about how human activity is increasing eutrophication (aka an excess of nutrients), thereby causing the alarming expansion of dead zones (low-oxygen areas of water). This is killing our aquatic life and worsening climate change. But don't lose hope yet! Here comes the good part: we can do something about it.

How do we stop dead zones?

First, I think we need to do a little Law & Ordering and clear some names. Yes, dead zones are, well, deadly, but the real culprit here is what creates dead zones: overfertilization.

Fertilizers increase crop yields and thereby use less land for agriculture—great! But fertilizer is often overapplied, which is what leads to this nutrient runoff that creates dead zones.

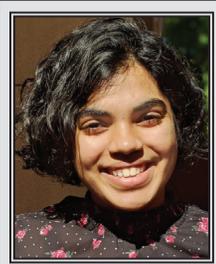
Okay, but it's literally killing aquatic ecosystems, so let's just use less fertilizer, right?

Unfortunately, our "Would You Rather?"

question isn't that simple. It turns out that half of our global population is dependent on synthetic fertilizers for food production.

Farmers seem to be facing a trade-off dilemma with little room for error: use too little fertilizer and their crop yields suffer (and people don't get fed), use too much and cause drastic environmental damage.

To solve this problem, we need to channel our inner Goldilocks to find the exact amount of fertilizer required—not too much, not too little, but just right. Efficient fertilizer use means that our population is still fed while minimizing the excess nutrients that poison our aquatic ecosystems.



Gems in STEM
By Apoorva Panidapu



Robert Jackson, professor of Earth System Science at Stanford University, agrees, "The most important change we can make is to improve the nitrogen use efficiency of our crops by wasting less nitrogen fertilizer and timing its

application more closely to when crops need it."

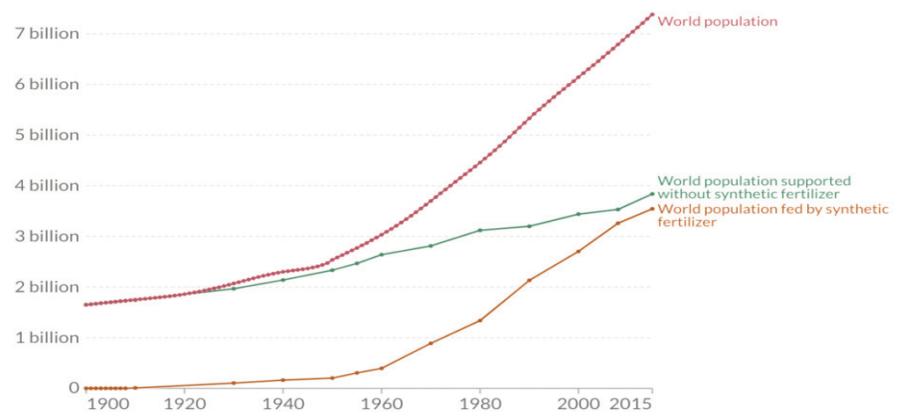
And, huzzah, this approach to optimizing fertilizer efficiency has worked before!

In 2005-2015, researchers worked with 20.9 million smallholder farmers across China to attempt to increase crop yields while decreasing their environmental impact. There was no magical technology or life-changing policy implemented, all they did was teach and train farmers in efficient and environmentally-friendly agri-

World population with and without synthetic nitrogen fertilizers



Estimates of the global population reliant on synthetic nitrogenous fertilizers, produced via the Haber-Bosch process for food production. Best estimates project that just over half of the global population could be sustained without reactive nitrogen fertilizer derived from the Haber-Bosch process.



Source: Erisman et al. (2008); Smil (2002); Stewart (2005) OurWorldInData.org/how-many-people-does-synthetic-fertilizer-feed/ • CC BY

culture practices. The result?

While the amount of nitrogen fertilizer used went down by 16%, the average yields of maize, rice, and wheat went UP by 11%. The increased crop output and decrease of fertilizer used were equivalent to an economic return of US\$12.2 billion. That's a lot of zeros.

Turns out the trade-off isn't actually as drastic as we believed—we can increase crop yield and decrease the fertilizers' environmental harm at the same time. Ha, take that "Would You Rather"—I found a win-win!

Before we continue, it's important to note that not all countries overapply fertilizer; in fact, some need to use more. For example, many countries across Sub-Saharan Africa barely use fertilizer, and their crop yields suffer as a result. In fact, if they used more fertilizers, they could close large gaps in crop yield, prevent habitat loss, increase food security, and enjoy a host of socioeconomic and environmental benefits. That's why it's so dangerous for organizations to push the notion that "the less fertilizer used, the better," an oversimplification of what's really going on. This kind of message hurts farmers, people, and the environment. Instead, we need to get the fertilizer balance right.

With agricultural activity steadily increasing, it's time to go all in on what's called precision agriculture to find exactly where we need fertilizers the most and to figure out the best way to achieve this ideal fertilization point. Enter: machine learning.

What Machine Learning Can Do

Data is so important because the more data we collect, the smarter we can make machines—which is exactly what machine learning (ML) does. Machines are "trained" with data sets and use this knowledge to respond to situations they've never seen before, letting them automatically do things like classification, detection, and pattern recognition.

Now, the whole idea of precision agriculture is that you can't manage what you can't measure. But it's not easy to predict the exact amount of fertilizer needed by particular crops, let alone in real-time, so a low-cost and effective monitoring method for nutrients in crops and nearby coastal areas is urgently needed to implement sustainable agricultural practices. This is where remote sensing comes in!

Lately, in remote sensing, which uses

satellites and other airborne instruments to collect environmental data, ML has become pretty popular because it can manage these massively complex datasets and provide valuable information without needing significant human intervention. This is in part due to recent advances in earth observation technology that let us obtain images with unprecedented high spatial, spectral, and temporal resolutions—it's like the iPhone 14 Pro Max camera but for Earth!

A machine learning approach with remote sensing can improve predictions about how natural systems behave, improve data analysis automation, and use these insights to better manage our resources. So, AI and ML have taken precision farming to the next level, but, of course, challenges still remain (which we will talk about next time).

Now, let's cha cha real smooth back to the challenge of finding the fertilizer balance. We can accurately measure crop nitrogen through destructive leaf-tissue sampling and wet-laboratory experiments, but this clearly isn't scalable nor cost-friendly to do for millions of acres in the long-term. However, we know that some crop traits are strongly correlated to a collection of spectral wavelengths, so we can leverage remote sensing to measure crop nitrogen! Huzzah!

Until next time! If you have any questions or comments, please email me at apoorvapwrites@gmail.com.

As a recap: this column, Gems in STEM, is a place to learn about various STEM topics that I find exciting, and that I hope will excite you too. It will always be written to be fairly accessible, so you don't have to worry about not having background knowledge. However, it does occasionally get more advanced towards the end.



Researchers taught and trained farmers in efficient and environmentally-friendly agriculture practices.

Want to submit a news item for the EVERGREEN TIMES?

Publication day: March 8, 2023
Deadline: March 5, 2023

Write to editorial@timesmediainc.com

Times Arts

San José Chamber Orchestra presents NEW SOUNDS

Three fabulous new works by American composers

San José Chamber Orchestra (SJCO) presents NEW SOUNDS on Sunday April 2 at 7 p.m. at St Francis Episcopal Church, 1025 Pine Avenue, San José.

The Program features three fabulous new works by American composers:

- Vivian Fung: *Trumpet Concerto* (co-commissioned by SJCO)
- Durwynne Hsieh: *Symphony #1* for Chamber Orchestra

World Premiere, climate change inspired work (commissioned by SJCO)

- Elizabeth Jonasson: *Wind through the Poplar Trees*. World Premiere, Winner 2021 Allen Strange Memorial Composition Prize

Vivian Fung's *Trumpet Concerto* is a virtuosic, tour de force work displaying the capabilities of the Eb Flugelhorn and Piccolo Trumpet, and stretches the imagination to what is possible for the instruments. Written for trumpeter Mary Elizabeth Bowden, the concerto originally was inspired by a conversation about Mary's journey in her solo career, in general, and as a woman in a male-dominated field. Ideas of striving, overcoming challenges, frustration, passion, and ultimately joy and celebration are all explored in this piece. Rather than composing the work in movements, the composer has chosen to organize the piece as a continuous work with various episodes, including a toe-tapping march, a lamentful and stormy chant, a more contemplative section for flugelhorn leading to a hip-hop inspired dance. The materials ultimately culminate in a chaotic frenzy that recaps many of the materials and builds to a triumphant ending on the piccolo trumpet.

Durwynne Hsieh's *Symphony #1* explores how we humans cause and respond to impending environmental trouble, more from the point of view of an ordinary person rather than that of an expert. In the first movement, *Unsustainable*, it sounds like we're waking up in the morning and just proceeding through the day doing what we do, a tribute to the idea that we don't have to go out of our way to perform unsustainable acts to have that effect. *Pacific Garbage Patch* depicts the Pacific Trash Vortex, which is a very large area of the North Pacific Ocean where ocean currents have collected and concentrated a lot of human-created refuse, especially plastic, but also other materials. This movement features the percussion section playing various types of plastic, glass, and metal trash. Otherwise, it's an ugly, tepid ocean scene, with waves, birds that get sick, and a couple of references to Debussy's *La Mer*. *Denial* is a series of dances and other distractions, but it is good to remember that no matter what dance of denial you do, the alarming reality of the situation is still there. The final movement, *If Only We're Brave Enough to Be It*, takes its title from the last line of Amanda Gorman's poem, *The Hill We Climb*. Read at the inauguration of President Joseph Biden, the poem sees America as imperfect, but with the ability to overcome its deepest problems.

Elizabeth Jonasson's *Wind Through the Poplar Trees* from the composer: The presence of trees has always

brought me peace and solace, especially in times of distress. Perhaps for this reason, the prominent people in my life often end up associated with a particular tree. My brother became associated with the poplar tree the day he was taken by ambulance to the emergency room and I was told he was going to die. Because of COVID regulations visiting was restricted, and like so many other family members during the pandemic all I could do was wait, hope, and

try to reach some state of acceptance. Meanwhile, around my house, the poplar trees swished in the wind, and sometimes in their whispering I could hear my brother's voice.

Ticket price: \$75; Senior: \$65 for age 62 and above; and student: \$15

Tickets and information: sjco.org; (408) 295-4416; Email: sjco@sbc-global.net

Barbara Day Turner, conductor
Maestra Barbara Day Turner is the

founder and music director of the San José Chamber Orchestra. An ardent advocate for new music, she has premiered more than 200 new works with San José Chamber Orchestra alone, as well as leading the first performances of 5 American operas. Named a 2012 Silicon Valley Arts Council "On Stage" Artist Laureate, Maestra Day Turner completed 15 seasons as Music Administrator and Conductor of the Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre.



Trumpet soloist, **Mary Elizabeth Bowden** courtesy of the artist and San José Chamber Orchestra

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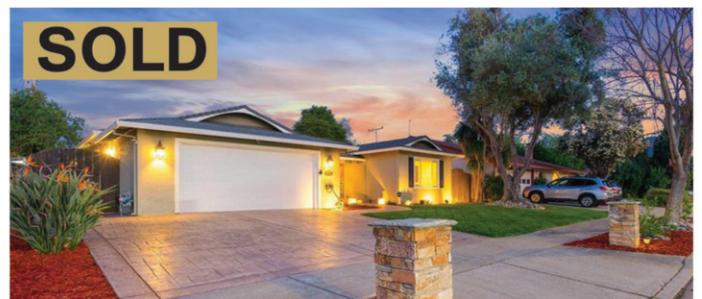
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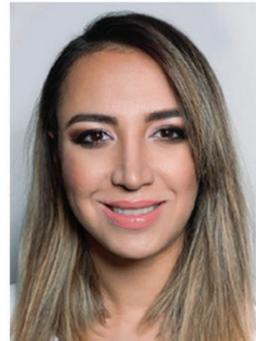


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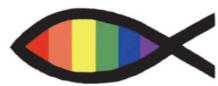
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www.ccvaucc.org.
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City Light Views from this Large Almaden Townhome in The Country View Estates II Neighborhood

Bright, light and airy. Open kitchen/family room. Granite slab kitchen. Large center island. Feels more like a home than a townhome. Lots of storage, custom built-ins. Beautiful roses, shrubs and grounds. Williams, Bret Harte & Leland Schools.

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.



All information presented here is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources believed to be reliable but may not be verified. All measurements and square footage are approximate. If your property is currently listed for sale with another realtor, this is not a solicitation.

