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MAY 12 – MAY 25, 2023 ■ VOL. 36, NO. 10



Former San Jose Vice Mayor **Madison Nguyen** filing her papers to run in the District 2 Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors race on May 1, 2023. Photo courtesy of Madison Nguyen.

Former San Jose vice mayor enters supervisor race

By **William Bellou**
Publisher

Former San Jose Vice Mayor **Madison Nguyen** has announced her plans to run for the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors representing District 2 on Monday, May 1.

District 2 represents 500,000 residents in the most densely populated of the five supervisorial districts and includes portions of central, eastern, and southern San Jose.

Nguyen began her career in public service as a Franklin-McKinley School District board member in 2002. She was elected to the San Jose City Council in 2005 and was appointed vice mayor in 2011, serving on the council until 2014. She made unsuccessful runs for San Jose mayor in 2014 and State Assembly in 2016.

Nguyen said her campaign priorities include public safety, homelessness, and affordable housing. She enters a crowded candidate pool that includes Cindy Chavez' Chief of Staff Betty Duong, former San Jose Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, and Alum Rock Union School District Trustee Corina Herrera-Loera. Santa Clara County could
See NGUYEN, page 7

Tackling trash, traffic and graffiti

By **Lorraine Gabbert**
Senior Staff Writer

Battling graffiti and trash and improving road safety are ongoing challenges for local governments.

City and county officials shared their efforts to keep neighborhoods and homeless encampments clean and traffic moving at the April 10 Almaden Valley Community Association meeting.

Work is underway on safety improvements at the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Camden Avenue. The project is squaring the corners of the intersection and shortening the distance pedestrians have to walk, said Rocelia Kmak, principal civil engineer in the County of Santa Clara Roads and Airports Department.

"It forces cars to slow down when making right turns onto Almaden and Camden," Kmak said.

The new construction will create right turn pockets in both directions of Almaden Expressway, allowing motorists to turn onto Camden without causing backups, she said. Left turn lanes will be extended and an additional turn lane added in both directions on Almaden Expressway.

Technological upgrades along with the new lane configuration, aim to make the traffic signal system faster and more efficient. New signal system sensor technology will sense when pedestrians are in the walkway and lengthen the time for them to cross.

Improving safety and access for pedestrians and bicyclists at intersections is a priority for the county and the nation, Kmak said. Work on the intersection began in October and is expected to be completed in June.

"You can't do all the express-



A construction worker uses a backhoe to excavate the roadway on Camden Avenue in January. Photo courtesy of Santa Clara County.

way at once," Kmak said regarding other Almaden Expressway intersections. "We have to do it

as the budgets are available." Funding for this project came from Measure B, a 30-year, half-

cent countywide sales tax to enhance transit, highways and expressways. It was approved by voters in 2016.

According to the county website, as of September 2022, Measure B collected \$1.2 billion in tax revenue and allocated \$1.1 billion to transportation projects, including \$53.5 million allocated to the county for expressway projects. The website said Almaden Expressway and Camden Avenue operational and safety improvements will cost \$4.2 million.

Measure B also funded improvements to Foothill Expressway between El Monte Avenue and San Antonio Road in Los Altos and Page Mill Road at Hanover Street in Palo Alto
See NEIGHBORHOODS, page 21



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To learn more about activities they have to offer and how to register, visit: <https://bit.ly/2023OAC>

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O P E D



Nature isn't a museum

By Wyatt Verlen

Americans are increasingly approaching nature with a "look but don't touch" mindset -- and losing a fundamental part of their national identity in the process.

Tourists are trekking to national parks in record numbers. In fact, some parks now require reservations to manage the number of visitors and protect sensitive ecosystems.

Yet while the number of people flocking to get a glimpse at wildlife is increasing, the share of Americans who hunt, fish, and forage -- who touch, rather than just look -- has been declining for decades. Just 4.6% of Americans bought a hunting license in 2020, down from 7.7% in 1960. Only 8.8% bought a fishing license, down from 10.6% in 1960.

This slide is concerning, because an immersive relationship with nature -- one where even average Americans can touch, not just look -- has always been foundational to our national identity. George Washington relieved his stress

from presiding over the Constitutional Convention by going fishing. Teddy Roosevelt, the father of the conservation movement, sought to preserve open spaces and thereby prevent America from turning into Europe, where hunting -- and the primal connection with nature it offers -- was a privilege reserved only for the rich.

Of course, in one hundred years, there will still be forests and wildlife in the United States, even if the population continues growing rapidly. It isn't difficult to designate lands as preserved in perpetuity.

But with a population anywhere from 500 million to a full billion (if open borders truly become a reality), it will be impossible for millions of hunters, fisherman, and foragers to enjoy the same routine interactions with nature that they have today. A country so densely populated would need far more regulations on what can be used and what must be left "undisturbed" in natural settings.

Already, those regulations are far more restrictive than past generations faced.

Not long ago, I found a beautiful patch of Chanterelle mushrooms that spread as far as the eye could see. I was forbidden by the local forest department to take home a few to enjoy for supper.

I understand why the prohibition is in effect. If everyone did the same, there would be no more Chanterelles. But it's a shame that simply gathering mushrooms -- something that previous generations took for granted -- is no longer an option for many Americans.

Many so-called growthers argue that population density is the solution to dealing with ongoing population growth. And it's true that dense development is more environmentally friendly than uncontrolled urban sprawl.

But it doesn't solve anything in
See NATURE, page 7

Valley Currents

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

San Jose budget could reallocate affordable housing funds

By Jana Kadah
San José Spotlight

San Jose voters passed a property transfer tax to help fund affordable housing, but the mayor wants to reallocate more than 50% of those dollars for other uses.

The city manager's budget proposal, obtained by San José Spotlight, shows that \$38 million of the \$70 million in Measure E funds earmarked for affordable housing may shift to homelessness services. This would be a significant reallocation from council's direction last year, where they voted to spend 75% of Measure E dollars on affordable housing development.

Measure E is a property transfer tax approved by voters in 2020 that applies to property transfers of \$2 million or more. The millions received by the city are used to address the housing and homeless crisis.

The upcoming discussion on how to spend the Measure E funds is likely to be one of the most controversial parts of the budget cycle. When the mayor released his March budget message, councilmembers and residents contested his proposal to spend Measure E dollars on a mental health facility, arguing it should be applied toward affordable housing.

While that part of his proposal did not make it to the city manager's May budget message, there are other initiatives suggested. If approved, \$20 million of the \$38 million would go to interim housing for homeless residents, most of which would go toward construction and acquisition costs.

The city manager is also proposing the creation of a homeless coordination team comprised of three people who would act as the bridge between the city, county and homeless service providers. The three positions would be contracted for three years at a total cost of \$1.8 million. Money would also be used for trauma specialists, data collection, homeless outreach services and moving homeless residents into shelters.

"We definitely need emergency interim housing, but we also need to make sure that we're dedicating dollars for the development of affordable housing," Councilmember Peter Ortiz told San José Spot-



San Jose Mayor **Matt Mahan** will be presenting a proposed budget to the City Council in early May. Affordable housing allocations will be a hot topic. *File photo.*

light. "Measure E is one of our only sources (for that)."

He said for that reason, he doesn't want any of those funds reallocated. Ortiz said the council already voted last year to spend the majority of Measure E funds on affordable housing development, and switching gears would be an "affront to voters."

Pat Waite, president of Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility, said at the end of the day Measure E is a general tax. San Jose could theoretically spend it on anything, which is why his organization opposed the measure from the start, he said. But the city said all along that those dollars would be used for affordable housing and helping the homeless move into shelters, and so far it hasn't deviated from that, Waite said.

"I don't think it's a violation of the voters' trust," Waite told San José Spotlight. "I think there's going to be some flows on what government spends and part of the reason we elect our representatives is to make these decisions. The environment today is different than what it was three years ago when this got passed."

Councilmember Sergio Jimenez said the city needs to find a solution to street homelessness, which is why he would be open to changing the Measure E spending plan the city voted on last year.

"I am open to exploring any possibility that helps alleviate the crisis that we have on the streets, so I am not married to the current formula," Jimenez told San José Spotlight.

But Mathew Reed, director of pol-

icy at SV@Home, said street homelessness is the product of a systemic problem due to a lack of affordable housing. Until the city has enough affordable housing, any other solution is a Band-Aid. He believes allocating most of Measure E to affordable housing development is the wisest move because it's the city's main funding source.

"These are all important, the long-term and short-term solutions," Reed said. "But it's sort of penny-wise and pound foolish to not figure out how to maintain the balance of the solutions that we know we need to respond to the crisis that we face."

Ortiz said the San Jose City Council is going to be split on the Measure E spending proposal when it's released. He thinks the deciding vote will fall on Vice Mayor Rosemary Kamei.

Kamei told San José Spotlight she's unsure if she will support changing the funding allocation.

"I would say let's evaluate if the current percentages are giving us the results that we want. If it's not giving us results, then we need to say why not?" Kamei told San José Spotlight. "What I do know is that cost of things are going up—production and new materials—so we have to evaluate."

The city manager's budget proposal will be released sometime this week. The budget study sessions will be held May 10-16 and the first public hearing is scheduled for May 16. The council will vote on the final budget June 13.

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Times **Community News**

Cinderella ballet to be performed May 19-21

San Jose Dance Theatre is excited to bring the classical ballet Cinderella, to bay area audiences with a premier at the California Theatre in downtown San Jose May 19 -21.

Cinderella, choreographed by Artistic Director Mariana Zscherper and Artistic Associate Augusto Silva, remains one of the most beloved ballets of all time. Audiences are certain to be delighted with the ballet's humor and beautiful dancing.

Cinderella is a classical ballet composed by Sergei Prokofiev, first performed in 1945. Prokofiev's music for the ballet is renowned for its sweeping melodies, lush orchestration and charming melodies, making it an enduring classic that continues to be performed all over the world. With its timeless story of love, kindness, and perseverance, Cinderella is the first full-length production that will enchant audiences, youth and adults, with the humorous step-sisters and masterful dancing from this professional company.

The magical production includes the professional company performing with ballet students from San Jose Dance The-

atre's Academy. VIP ticket holders will be given a behind-the-scenes look at the production with a pre-show discussion.

Audiences are encouraged to join the celebration at the Royal Ball and wear your finest royal attire, including your tiara!



Brooke Wertwijn is Cinderella in the classic ballet performance by the San Jose Dance Theatre May 19-21.

Editor's note: San Jose Dance Theatre is bringing a diverse season including a thrilling production of Dracula ballet in October, the classic Americana The Great Gatsby in March of 2024, the Danish Fairytale The Little Mermaid in May 2024, and its flagship performance: The 58th production of The Nutcracker, San Jose's Original Christmas holiday tradition.

Nature

Continued from page 4

the long term. More natural resources are needed to support more people, and that means developing open spaces for food production, warehousing, transportation networks, waste disposal, and designated "nature preserves," where humans can look but not touch.

Nobody wants to see kids in cages, or inhumane treatment of immigrants seeking a better life. But given that immigration is the driving cause of population growth, a firm, rational policy on the issue of immigration -- one that cuts the number of people moving to the United States each year

to a sustainable number -- is necessary for future generations to enjoy our natural resources. Such a policy would benefit workers of all races, as Bernie Sanders pointed out in 2015. Our current policy of de facto open borders is an ecological, economic, and political catastrophe.

How many people can we sustainably admit each year into this country, while maintaining open access to our resources? Americans who love the great outdoors have a right -- and a duty -- to start that conversation.

Wyatt Verlen is a graduate of Depaul University in Chicago and a native midwesterner, lifelong outdoorsman, and passionate conservationist.

Nguyen

Continued from page 1

have its first-ever Vietnamese supervisor if Nguyen or Duong claim victory. District 2 is centered in San Jose.

"I've been out of office for almost 20 years, and I didn't think that I would get back into politics," Nguyen said. "However, in the past few years, things have gotten out of control."

"Our residents deserve an effective public servant whose focus is getting things done," Nguyen said. "I'm running for supervisor because when I see a problem, I want to fix it and I'm focused on fixing it."

Nguyen has held executive positions at the nonprofit Hunger at Home and San

Jose Chamber of Commerce, and currently works as the executive vice president of marketing company AsianNet Media.

Reed endorsement

Former San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed said Nguyen was a crucial player as his vice mayor and successfully navigated different perspectives to implement affordable housing projects.

"I've known Madison for more than 20 years, and I'm supporting her campaign," Reed said. "Madison is the kind of person that the board of supervisors really needs to help implement some of their lofty goals and she knows how to bring forth solutions."

Nguyen holds a history degree from UC Santa Cruz and a master's degree from the University of Chicago.

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Silicon Valley college wants the 50-plus crowd

By Loan-Anh Pham
San José Spotlight

It's never too late to go back to school, and one Silicon Valley community college district wants to welcome older adults as it looks to fill its student ranks.

The West Valley-Mission Community College District is releasing a survey in May to garner ideas on how to make higher education age-friendly. Advocates said increasing education access for seniors—categorized as people 65 and older—is a long-term solution to address declining enrollment in community colleges, while also serving the region's oldest residents.

"We're looking for as many ways to engage with this



West Valley College is one of two campuses in the West Valley-Mission Community College District, alongside Mission College. The district is looking to bolster its student enrollment by reaching the senior community. File photo.

community as we can, whether it's through curriculum, whether it's through the social aspects or whether it's

through wellness," Bradley Davis, district chancellor, told San José Spotlight.

Davis said the amount of older adults attending college in the district is increasing, while overall student enrollment plummets countywide as families flee Silicon Valley for less expensive areas. The survey will provide recommendations on new classes, as well as ways to improve the atmosphere for older adults across the district's two campuses—West Valley College in Saratoga and Mission College in Santa Clara.

AARP San Jose Regional Director Sophie Horiuchi-Forrester said creating space for seniors in higher education can have a positive impact on younger generations. AARP is a nonprofit that generally serves individuals 50 years and older.

"Seeing older adults on college campuses could (enrich) diversity and the learning experience for everyone," Horiuchi-Forrester told San José Spotlight. "The reality is, today's workforce spans multiple generations as people live and work longer. Having various generations in a classroom can help prepare future employees on how to work and interact across generations."

Taylor Taylor, executive director for the Saratoga Area Senior Coordinating Council, said community colleges have the ability to help seniors return to school, find work and form community bonds, often at little to no cost. The senior council is partnering with the West Valley-Mission Community College District to release the survey. The first survey is geared toward Saratoga residents and will be released in May, with results available in July. A second survey will be released in Santa Clara in June, with results available in August.

"A lot of people feel like they're a burden on their families or on society. They don't tend to want to ask for help or be seen as needing help," Taylor told San José Spotlight. "Community colleges are unique because their barriers to entry are low."

The region is facing a "silver tsunami," but remains ill-equipped to support the population as it ages. A 2023 city audit report shows 60% of San Jose residents think the city isn't an ideal place to retire, citing the lack of public transportation and affordable housing.

Taylor said future programs are meant to serve multiple age groups. He said courses should include pathways to certifications for students to get work in fields focused on older residents, such as caretaking positions or coding jobs, to bridge the digital divide for seniors.

Davis said focusing on seniors is a win-win. Community colleges are able to boost enrollment numbers while also acting as a community space to address a senior's basic needs, mental health and education.

"In the West Valley-Mission Community College District we know and we have known for a while that the demographics are changing," Davis told San José Spotlight. "We are going directly to the folks that we intend to serve, and we're asking the senior community to respond."

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Thank you to everyone that came out to celebrate Earth Day and participate in the Great American Litter Pick-up (GALPU).

Ongoing events and gratitude

By Arjun Batra

I am pleased to inform you that my office has been collaborating with various city departments to gather information regarding ongoing projects in our district concerning parks, traffic calming measures, sideshows, and paving projects.

I am excited to share with you that this information is now available on our updated website - <https://sjd10.com/district-10-projects>.

I urge you to visit our website to stay up-to-date on these projects, including their current status, location, and any relevant updates. My team and I are committed to regularly updating these pages to ensure that the information provided is accurate and current, and to facilitate the provision of reliable information.

Furthermore, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who has taken the time to provide feedback on our Budget Listening form, which has enabled us to collect valuable input on park improvements, traffic and pedestrian safety, and beautification projects that enhance the quality of life in D10.



District 10 Report
Arjun Batra
Councilmember,
District 10

Your feedback has allowed us to identify locations throughout the district, and we are presently working to identify key areas to present to the relevant departments.

If you have any additional comments, please email my office at: district10@sanjoseca.gov.

Thank you to everyone that came out to celebrate Earth Day and participate in the Great American Litter Pick-up (GALPU). Your hard work in the morning helped us clean up the neighborhood and make a positive impact by working towards a cleaner, greener, and healthier community. It was great meeting all the enthusiastic neighbors, pets, and partygoers that visited our 4 dedicated litter pick-up spots!

We hope to see you all again next year for another successful litter pick-up event. Together, we can continue to make a difference and create a better world for ourselves and future generations.

We are seeking to acknowledge and celebrate outstanding individuals, leaders, or organizations for their dedication and contributions to our community.

If you know anyone who you would like to nominate for recognition on behalf of the city council, please submit your nominations to my office by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/3z9m2eca>

If you have any additional comments, please email my office at: district10@sanjoseca.gov.



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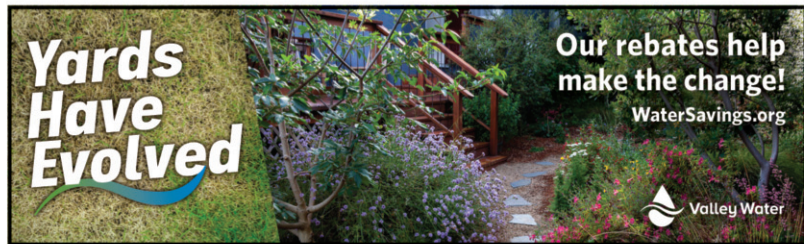
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As you walk through your neighborhood, you may have noticed that a growing number of homes in Santa Clara County have already traded their front lawns for a gorgeous water-wise landscape. Residents in Santa Clara County are discovering the many benefits of replacing lawns with the help of Valley Water's Landscape Rebate Program. In fact, nearly 13,500 residents and businesses have already participated in the program!



Our Landscape Rebate Program can help you transform your thirsty yard into a beautiful water-wise landscape and make your irrigation equipment more efficient.

Get \$200 for every 100 square feet of lawn you convert, for a maximum of \$3,000 for residential sites, and \$100,000 for commercial and institutional sites.

Some cost sharing areas may be eligible for even more! Start the application process online at watersavings.org to request a pre-inspection or call us at 408-630-2554 for more information.

Please note that application approval is required before starting any project.

With warmer weather approaching, consider letting us help you replace your water thirsty lawn into an 'evolved yard' using plants that are drought-tolerant, need less water and are native to California. An 'evolved yard' delivers a functional, attractive and easily maintained landscape, which will not only help to save you money but will help make water conservation a way of life.

Visit WaterSavings.org, to learn more about our rebate programs, book an inspection for pre-approval of a rebate project, or request water-saving equipment. To inquire about how you can save water in your home and landscaping, email conservation@valleywater.org or call 408-630-2554.

Times Feature



7 vegetables to grow easily in your home garden

Growing fresh, healthy vegetables at home may not be as hard as it sounds. Novice gardeners just need good dirt, easy plants to grow, lots of sunshine and the right amount of water.

Once you've prepared your garden plot, select one or all of these vegetables, which are among the easiest to grow:

1. Lettuce - Plant lettuce seeds directly into the garden or a pot then repeat every two weeks. It can be cut a few weeks after planting. Some harvest lettuce by pulling it up - roots and all - but cutting a little off the top every few days can keep it growing until summer's heat turns it too bitter.

2. Spinach - This vitamin-packed green is planted and harvested just like lettuce.

3. Cucumbers - Make several mounds of dirt near the edge of your garden and place 2-3 plants around the center of each. Cucumbers are notorious for growing vines that overtake other plants, so be vigilant about keeping them contained.

4. Squash - Like cucumbers, summer squash is planted on small mounds at the edges of a garden so their vines can be contained. Most varieties, such as yellow squash

and zucchini, are quite prolific and just a few plants can feed a large family all summer long.

5. Tomatoes - Purchase plants that grow best in your area of the country from your local garden center. All plants should be staked or enclosed in tomato cages because successful plants produce an abundance of large, heavy fruit throughout the summer months.

6. Bell Peppers - Bell peppers are easiest to grow from plants. Space them about 1 foot apart then watch them take off with little care required. The only real trick to growing bell peppers is knowing when to harvest. If you're growing red, orange or yellow varieties, they'll start out green then turn color as soon as they ripen.

7. Carrots - Dig a long, shallow trench in soil that is free of rock. Sprinkle the seeds along the row, cover lightly with topsoil and wait for the top of the carrot to pop through the soil. Once a bit of orange appears, pull and enjoy. (Family Features)

Find more tips for growing a bountiful garden at eLivingtoday.com.

Photo courtesy of Unsplash; Source: Family Features



CERT 20-hour training sessions designed for San Jose residents

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a 20-hour all hazard training offered by the Office of Emergency (OEM) Department.

The training is designed for residents to

protect themselves, their family, their neighbors, and their neighborhood in an emergency situation.

During the training residents will learn: Disaster Preparedness, Fire Safety, Disaster Medical Operations and Triage, Light Search and Rescue, Team Organization, Disaster Psychology, Terrorism & the Incident Command.

RSVP before these spots quickly fill up by visiting: <https://tinyurl.com/wtnpf2rf>

Times **Community News**

San José Mayor **Matt Mahan**, was joined by former **Mayor Sam Liccardo**, and community partners at LifeMoves, Goodwill of Silicon Valley, Sand Hill Foundation Co-founders Peter and Susanna Pau, and members of the Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) to celebrate the opening of the City's newest emergency interim housing (EIH) site.

San Jose celebrates opening of quick-build community which will house homeless residents working to beautify the city

By **William Bellou**
Publisher

San José Mayor Matt Mahan, was joined by former Mayor Sam Liccardo, and community partners at LifeMoves, Goodwill of Silicon Valley, Sand Hill Foundation Co-founders Peter and Susanna Pau, and members of the Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) to celebrate the opening of the City's newest emergency interim housing (EIH) site, or quick-build community April 19.

The Guadalupe Interim Housing Community, located near San José Police Department Headquarters on Guadalupe Parkway, will provide 96 private rooms for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness and bring the city closer towards Mayor Mahan's goal of ending the era of encampments. Half of the units will be dedicated for members of San José Bridge, a program for homeless San José residents that provides them with employment; job training, the development of long-term career goals and job placement; and assists in finding housing and placement in San José.

"No one should live in encampments," said San José Mayor Matt Mahan. "Sites like Guadalupe, which cost a fraction of traditional housing, offer a safe and dignified alternative to the streets. I'm especially excited that we are reserving half of these units for residents enrolled in our work program that employs homeless neighbors in jobs cleaning up our city. Offering people work and stable shelter is the path we need to take to end unsheltered homelessness."

San Jose Bridge has employed 137 unhoused residents since March 2022 and 46 participants have secured permanent jobs at various companies and organizations, including Tesla, Goodwill, the Santa Clara County Reentry Resource Center, and the San José Airport. San Jose Bridge participants have removed 351,450 pounds of trash from city streets and trails.

Including Guadalupe and the new Monterey/Branham quick build community, which broke ground in April, San José now has 697 units operating or under construction, with another 300 in the pipeline. San José is also set to receive 200 small homes from Governor Gavin Newsom, which will

get San Jose 20% of the way to Mayor Mahan's goal to create new capacity to move 1,000 unhoused residents out of unmanaged encampments by the end of this calendar year.

San Jose's quick-build community model has led to a halt in the increase of unsheltered homeless residents for the first time since 2015. Based on the 2022 countywide point-in-time census (PIT), 75% of homeless residents are unsheltered in San José compared to 84% in 2019.

The Guadalupe site is a \$16.95 million undertaking, with funding for construction through federal American Rescue Plan funds, City of San José Housing Department funds, and Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) funds from the state. The City also received generous donations from community partners, including \$1 million from Destination: Home, \$500k from All Home, and \$25k from Housing Trust of Silicon Valley. Peter and Susanna Pau donated the living units through their Sand Hill Foundation saving the city millions in development costs. SHP Foundation previously contributed to the construction of the city's first quick build apartment community at Evans Lane and the Pau's continued support for this housing model is generating ongoing interest in philanthropic support.

"Homelessness is a crisis. The City of San Jose, Mayor Matt Mahan, and former Mayor Sam Liccardo act and not just talk," said Peter and Susanna Pau, Co-founders of Sand Hill Property Foundation. "This project is not the whole answer, but it is an effective solution. We hope more will follow. Our Christian Foundation is helping because this is God's work"

The Guadalupe quick-build community is being developed by Bay Area-based firm DevCon Construction, Inc. and will include onsite laundry, community kitchen, dog runs, computer rooms, community programming space, and case management offices. The site operator, LifeMoves, will provide wrap-around services to connect residents with a case manager and transition them to permanent housing. Each prefab unit also comes with a bed, heating and air conditioning, as well as a personal bathroom complete with a shower.

See *QUICKBUILD*, page 16

One Step Closer Therapeutic Riding presents

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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 **Feature**

Solar citrus

The easiest citrus to care for and to grow are the true dwarf citrus

By **Matthew Frazier**

*Expert Certified Water Manager
Qualified Stormwater Manager
Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper*

With summer nearing, there is much to anticipate, including warm mornings and hot days. The solar energy which falls upon our gardens and landscapes is an item to be harnessed.

One of the techniques shared with me early on as a nursery consultant is using black mulch around citrus. For those of us who grow any type of citrus, this can be both functional and ornamental.

Dwarf Meyer Lemon Citrus Tree

The easiest citrus to care for and to grow are the true dwarf citrus. In my two years at Almaden Valley Nursery, I worked as a nursery consultant and sales associate responsible for citrus, trees, and vines.

The citrus was my favorite. Monrovia and other quality growers



Water Wise
Matthew Frazier,
Certified Water
Manager

shipped us various sizes of citrus every week. These small shrubs and trees yielded fruit every year and captured the attention and the interest of our customers and visitors.

Calamondin Orange Tropical Citrus Tree

There are many types of mulch available for our garden and landscapes. Black bark mulch seems a great match for dwarf citrus. The black mulch absorbs solar energy during the warm mornings and hot days of summer and then releases this solar energy in the late afternoon and evening.



Dwarf Tangerine Citrus Tree

In addition to photosynthesis, this is a wonderful impact upon the citrus. The aesthetics of black against green foliage and brightly colored fruit is unmistakable. The halo of energy and heat which surrounds the root zone and the trunk will offer the necessary energy for fruit production while adding a flair for the ornamental. Small particle bark is ideal in that it allows excess irrigation to vaporize more quickly and be absorbed by the leaves of the citrus.

The stark contrast of colors offers an element of interest. The black mulch accentuates the array of colors of both foliage and fruit while capturing this much-needed solar energy. There are many varieties of dwarf cit-



rus available, and I encourage our readers to visit your local garden centers and nurseries and take a closer look at these beautiful shrubs and trees. The summer solstice is Wednesday, June 21st this year at 7:57am PST. What better way to usher in the summer season than with the purchase of a dwarf citrus this spring which will likely yield a crop by summer? Another addition to the citrus is the fragrant and ornamental annual ground cover Sweet Alyssum. Sweet Alyssum comes in several colors ranging from gold to purple to white and is on a list of insectary plants which attracts beneficial predatory insects. The contrast of colors between the black mulch, the dwarf citrus, and the Sweet Alyssum; enticing the imaginations and senses of many. In earlier column entries, I have alluded to insectary plants and this entry is no exception. Alyssum spreads like a carpet over the ground and brings ladybird beetles or ladybugs and a host of other beneficials. With the fragrance of the Alyssum comes the sweeping evening winds of summer, which carries the aroma of citrus blossoms as well as the floral notes surrounding the

dwarf citrus trees.

This spring, I encourage our readers to indulge themselves and pay a much due visit to your local garden center and nursery. Almaden Valley Nursery is where I got my start as a nursery consultant. And Almaden Valley is ripe for the harvest of Solar Citrus. Thank you.

Santa Clara County Supervisor
Joe Simitian
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND
SIDEWALK OFFICE HOURS
Stop by with your questions and concerns about local issues.

<p>Saturday, May 13 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Saratoga Farmers' Market at West Valley Community College</p>	<p>Sunday, May 14 10 – 11 a.m. Farmers' Market at Princeton Plaza, San Jose</p>	<p>Sunday, May 14 Noon – 1 p.m. Los Gatos Farmers' Market</p>
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For more information call (408) 299-5050 or (650) 965-8737.

Times Career Corner

Tech Jargon of the week
Streaming Service

By Shubhi Asthana



Have you ever stumbled into a conversation where everyone is speaking around this “techie” word – and even after you’ve broken in, it is difficult to understand the unfamiliar jargon and acronyms? Well, there’s no need to sweat it. Let me teach you the meaning of some commonly used tech words:

Streaming Service

A streaming service is an on demand online entertainment source for TV shows, movies and other

streaming media.

These services provide an alternative to cable and satellite on demand service, often at a lower cost. Use of streaming services often requires fees, either per view or subscription. The videos come from a network that is typically cloud-based. The availability, content and price of services may vary from one region to another.

Some services feature wide hardware support for numerous devices such as smart TVs, streaming media receivers, computers, tablets, and smartphones. Others may be more limited in the type of devices, like Hulu, or tailored to a specific brand’s devices, much like iTunes for Apple devices. Other services are ad-supported, like Google video, or run on a freemium model and offer some full feature movies at a cost.

Streaming is the quickest means of accessing

internet-based content, but it’s not the only method. Progressive download is another option that was around for years before streaming was possible. The key differences between the two are when you can start watching and what happens to the content after you view it.

Progressive downloads are the traditional kind of download that anyone who’s used the internet is familiar with. When you download an app or game or buy music from the iTunes Store, you need to download the entire thing before you can use it. That’s a progressive download.

Streaming lets you start using the content before the entire file downloads. When you play a song on Apple Music or Spotify, you can click Play and start listening almost immediately. You don’t have to wait for the song to download before the music starts. This is one of the major advantages of

streaming: It delivers data to you as you need it.

The other major difference between streaming and downloads is what happens to the data after you use it. For downloads, the item stays on your device until you delete it. For streams, your device automatically deletes the data after you use it.

Because streaming delivers data as you need it, slow or interrupted internet connections can cause problems. For example, if you have streamed only the first 30 seconds of a song, and your internet connection drops before any more of the song has loaded on your device, the song stops playing.

Do you enjoy reading this column? Send in your comments or feedback to the author at shub.saxen@gmail.com. Shubhi Asthana works as a Research Senior Software Engineer at the IBM Almaden Research Center, San Jose.

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Times Feature

Quickbuild

Continued from page 13

"The need, in our community, to bring our unhoused neighbors indoors has never been higher," said LifeMoves CEO Aubrey Merriman. "LifeMoves believes it takes us all coming together to build a thriving community. Close teamwork, partnership, collaboration, a sense of urgency, and a unified vision have brought us together to celebrate this ribbon-cutting milestone. Opening San Jose's Guadalupe Interim Housing site will provide a supportive transitional step toward stable housing for people, along with the resources and customized, intensive services to help chart their course to permanent housing."

The Guadalupe quick-build site will be the home of numerous residents who were originally living in the Guadalupe Gardens encampment – the city's largest before being decommissioned in 2022. Several residents that moved from the encampment into hotels and motels will be able to move into the Guadalupe quick-build community. Going forward, outreach teams will prioritize SJ Bridge participants and unhoused residents living in the nearby neighborhood to live at the site.

"When we began discussing this site back

in 2020, we knew there was a real opportunity to both expand our community's shelter capacity and create a new model for how lived experience can influence the design and operations," said Jennifer Loving, CEO of Destination: Home. "We are so glad to see this vision come to fruition and are proud to be a partner of a project that has been meaningfully shaped by leaders who've experienced homelessness."

Increasing the city's supply of emergency interim housing and identifying new sites to support them was a focal point of addressing unsheltered homelessness in Mayor Mahan's budget proposal. The Mayor's core budget priorities include homelessness, public safety, blight, and bringing jobs and housing back to San José. Mayor Mahan continues to push the City to narrow its focus and make meaningful progress in these areas using practical, cost-effective solutions.

"The Guadalupe EIH site should be used as a model for interim shelter sites moving forward," said Gabriela Gabrian, of the Santa Clara County Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB). "From the conception of the project and throughout the development process, we were given decision-making power and were able to offer our lived experience of homelessness to help set this site up for success."

Increasing the city's supply of emergency interim housing and identifying new sites to support them is a focal point of addressing unsheltered homelessness in Mayor Mahan's city budget.



Secret of keeping the brain young?

Learn to play a musical instrument, says new study

Long-term musical training could delay, even counteract age-related decline

By William Bellou
Publisher

A new study has found that learning to play a musical instrument could be the secret to keeping our brains young.

Scientists connected to the new study also shared a second benefit: They found that the ability to play music can make us better listeners as we get older.

The new research, which studied the brains of musicians and non-musicians both young and old, discovered that playing music can help keep brains "sharp, young and focused" as people age by exercising and preserving areas of the brain, reported SWNS, a British news agency.

The Chinese study discovered that long-term musical training could delay and even counteract the natural and age-related decline in the ability to listen and keep the mind young.

The study was published in the journal *Science Advances*.

Tom Street of Derbyshire, England, has been playing the trombone for 82 years. Now, a new study published in *Science Advances* says playing music can help keep our brains "sharp, young and focused" as we age. (SWNS)

Older musicians can even match the brains of young non-musicians in identifying audiovisual syllables under noisy conditions.

Though the world's population is aging at an unprecedented rate, the study shows there are ways to age healthily and counteract the natural cognitive declines associated with growing older.

This is not the first study to demonstrate the benefits of music on the brain and especially the playing of a musical instrument.

"While research has long suggested listening to an orchestra's performance of such well-known pieces as Beethoven's '5th Symphony' and 'Mozart's Marriage of Figaro' may boost the audience's brain power — a hypothesis aptly named The Mozart Effect — Penn Medicine experts

suggest those playing in the orchestra may derive the most benefits of all," Penn Medicine News reported several years ago.

"Playing the violin — which, like many instruments, requires the right hand to do something different than the left — uses the peripheral nervous system, which controls movement of your fingers, as well as gross and fine motor skills," said one neuroscientist.

Playing an instrument "engages every major part of the central nervous system," John Dani, PhD, chair of Neuroscience at Penn's Perelman School of Medicine, said in 2017 — tapping into both the right and left sides of the brain, as Penn Medicine News reported.

"The brain's executive function, which plans and makes decisions, comes into play as a musician plays one part but keeps focus on what's coming next, he said as well in 2017.

Close look at brain

In the new research, the Chinese authors scrutinized the brains of older musicians, older non-musicians and young non-musicians in the neuroimaging study.

The analysis showed that older musicians outperformed their non-musician peers — and even equaled young people who don't play musical instruments in identifying audiovisual syllables under noisy conditions, SWNS reported of the study.

As they looked at the participants' brain activity, the researchers revealed two mechanisms that older musicians use to counteract aging: functional preservation and functional compensation.

Tom Street also plays in a band with his grandson Louis Street, 21. "Playing music makes older adults better listeners by preserving youthful neural patterns as well as recruiting additional compensatory brain regions," said the lead author of a new study.

Older musicians were found to retain neural specificity of speech representations in sensory motor areas at a level similar to those seen in young non-musicians.

Older non-musicians, however, showed degraded neural representations — patterns of brain activity that stand for some

See MUSIC, next page

Want to submit a news item for the Almaden Times?

Publication day: May 24, 2023
Deadline: May 21, 2023

Write to editorial@timesmediainc.com

Almaden Times

Times **Community News**

Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi inducts new members from Almaden Valley

Six Almaden Valley residents were recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

Lauren Ellner, San Jose State University; **Joonyeon Park**, University of Michigan; **Rachel Sagousse**, San Jose State University; **Michelle Shin**, University of the Pacific; **Andrea Silva**, San Jose State University; and **Andrea Winton**, San Jose State University.

Phi Kappa Phi membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do fac-



ulty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."



A new study also found that lifelong musical training can lead to "successful aging" in speech processing by preserving youthful brain characteristics.

Music

Continued from previous page
environmental feature in the internal workings of the brain.

In the same region of the brain, older musicians also showed a higher neural alignment (the degree to which someone's neural representations match those of experts) in comparison to non-musicians far younger than them.

The researchers put this down to the older musicians' training intensity.

Additionally, youth-like brain function predicted better audiovisual speech-in-noise perception performance — the ability to process audiovisual speech — in older adults.

The study also found that older musicians, compared with their nonmusical peers, showed greater activation in frontoparietal regions of the brain, which support multiple tasks across domains and greater inhibition in task-irrelevant, "default mode" regions that help avoid interference.

The research showed that greater default-mode deactivation predicted better audiovisual speech-in-noise performance.

Dr. DU Yi, from the Institute of Psychology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the lead author of the study, said the team's research was proof that playing music keeps brains young.

"Playing music makes older adults better listeners by preserving youthful neural patterns as well as recruiting additional compensatory brain regions," Dr. Yi said, according to South West News Service (SWNS).

"Our study provides empirical evidence to support that playing music keeps your brain sharp, young and focused," Yi also said, as the same source reported.

The team's study provides invaluable insights into adaptive brain reorganization in aging populations — and how lifelong musical training can lead to "successful aging" in speech processing by preserving youthful brain characteristics and enhancing compensatory brain scaffolding.



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Times **Feature**

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The celebrated Portuguese soprano, Sandra Medeiros, will perform favorite arias by composers ranging from Handel and Mozart through Rossini, Puccini, and Gershwin. Photo: Jorge Moura

Mission Chamber Orchestra of San Jose presents music of Portugal at upcoming free concert

Mission Chamber Orchestra of San Jose (MCOSJ) continues its tradition of annual classical music concerts at San Jose's Five Wounds Portuguese National Church.

The free concert, on Sunday afternoon, June 4th, 2023, is part of the cultural celebrations surrounding Portuguese National Day and showcases Portuguese soloists and works by composers rarely heard outside Portugal.

Diane Vieira is soloist in the Piano Concerto no. 5 by Sergio Azevedo. Born in the Azores Islands, she has won many awards and regularly performs as soloist in Portugal and at festivals worldwide. Sergio Azevedo (b. 1968) is part of a generation of Portuguese composers who aspire to write music which is expressive and communicative. He sees himself as connected through a lineage of Portuguese composers to the past, and through his professorship, to the future - "In my music, there is always a connection to tradition ... things change, the past accumulates. I consider everything behind me, whether it's a C major chord or a cluster."

The celebrated Portuguese soprano, Sandra Medeiros, will perform favorite arias by composers ranging from Handel and Mozart through Rossini, Puccini, and Gershwin to her compatriot, also born in the Azores Islands, Francisco de Lacerda.

Completing the program is the Symphony no. 2 by João Domingos Bomtempo (1775-1842), Portugal's most important classical period composer. His two known symphonies are the first by any Portuguese composer, and in 1835 he became the first Director of the National Conservatory.

Event

Music of Portugal - Mission Chamber Orchestra of San José concert
June 4, 2023, 3:00pm, Five Wounds Portuguese National Church, San Jose
Emily Ray, conductor Diana Vieira, pianist Sandra Medeiros, soprano

Program

João Domingos Bomtempo - Symphony

no. 2

Sergio Azevedo - Piano Concerto no. 5
W. A. Mozart - Exsultate Jubilate, K.165
G. F. Handel - "How beautiful are the feet" from The Messiah

G. F. Handel - "Rejoice" from The Messiah

Giacomo Puccini - "O mio babbino caro" from Gianni Schicchi

Giacomo Puccini - "Quando m'en vo" from La Boheme

George Gershwin - "Summertime" from Porgy and Bess

Gioachino Rossini - "Una voce poco fa" from Il Barbiere di Sevilla

Francisco de Lacerda - Quero cantar ser alegre

Tickets are free, available at the door.

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 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>

For more information, email: info@missionchamber.org; or visit <http://www.missionchamber.org>; or phone: (408) 236-3350.

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Times **Auto**



Hyundai's e-Corner System can turn all four wheels 90 degrees. (Hyundai)

Hyundai builds car that drives sideways and spins in place; E-Corner System moves the wheels 90 degrees

By Sean Eastwood
Times staff writer

Hyundai says it's time to produce a car that can turn on a dime, or at least a quarter.

Hyundai is developing an e-Corner System that allows the wheels to turn 90 degrees, which lets a car drive perpendicular for parking, spin in place and move diagonally.

This car company wants to turn parallel parking into perpendicular parking and perpendicular parking into pivot parking.

The automaker's Hyundai Mobis division is developing a new type of four-wheel-steering system that will let cars move in ways they never have before.

The e-Corner System allows all the wheels to be turned a full 90 degrees in either direction.

Hyundai has installed it on an Ioniq 5 electric SUV, which has been equipped with in-wheel motors that eliminate the need for driveshafts.

Testing has moved into real world environments as it looks to improve the complex system's reliability.

The car can drive perfectly sideways when



e-Corner System allows for a vehicle to move sideways. (Hyundai)

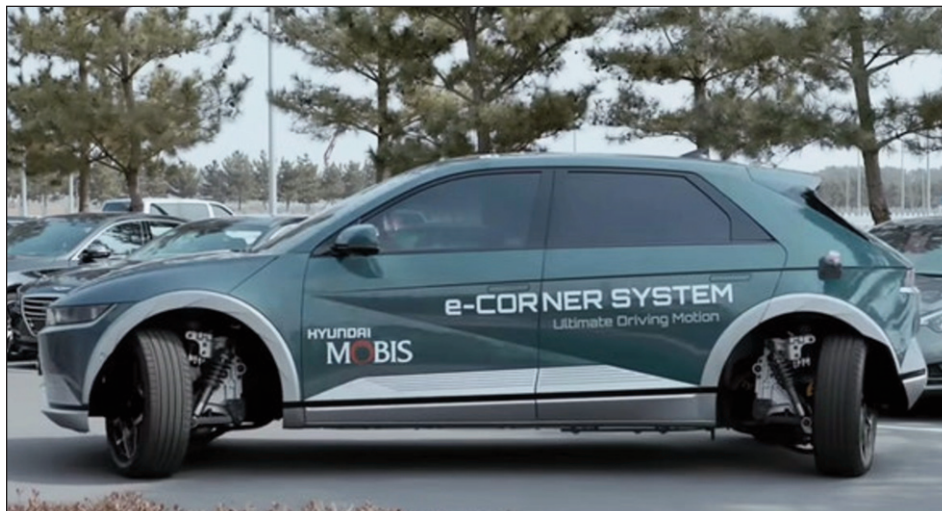
all four wheels are turned 90 degrees, which makes pulling into a curbside parking space easy.

Just the rear wheels can be turned to swing the back of the car around, pivoting it into position for a perpendicular space.

The wheels can also be splayed in different directions to enable a "zero-turn" where the car spins in place, eliminating the need to make a U-turn or K-turn in tight confines.

The vehicle is also capable of driving diagonally up to 45 degrees at higher speeds for quick changes of direction.

Several automakers currently offer four-wheel-steering systems, but the farthest that the rear wheels can turn is 10 degrees.



A vehicle can use the new e-Corner System to spin in place. (Hyundai)



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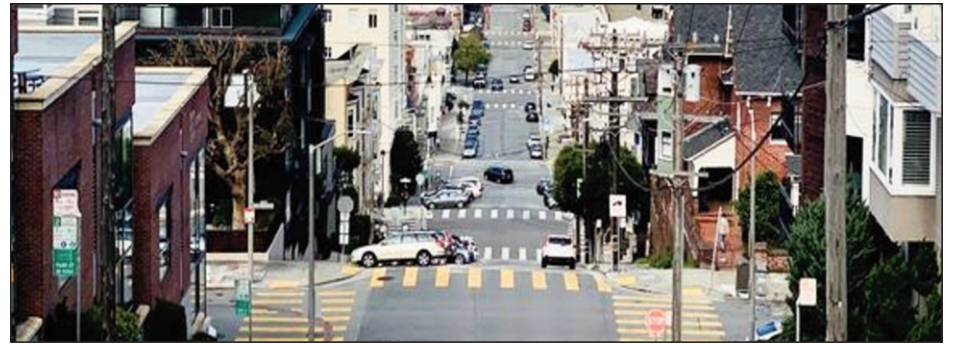


Photo by Sid Saxena/Unsplash

Report: Most dangerous cities in California for 2023 published

By Sean Eastwood
Times staff writer

A newly released list of the most dangerous communities in California has been published on the online database known as Property Club

The website combines recent data from the Census, FBI, OpenStreetMaps, and dozens of other sources to create bite-sized lists and studies designed to help citizens better understand what it is like to live in different communities across the country.

Property Club analyzed recent census data including property crimes and violent crimes per capita in order to create a list of cities and towns that are considered the most dangerous in the state of California.

The results have been revealed and it seems like communities from all across the state have made the list.

But what city topped the list? According to

Property Club, Emeryville is the most dangerous community in California. Due to the city's small population, every citizen has about a 1 in 15 chance of becoming a victim of a violent crime. This makes Emeryville one of the most violent cities in America.

Here are the California communities that made the list of most dangerous communities:

1. Emeryville
2. Oakland
3. Bakersfield
4. Stockton
5. San Bernadino
6. Richmond
7. Merced
8. Modesto

As the article points out, factors like high unemployment, low wages, and lack of rehabilitation programs contribute greatly to a community's crime rates.

Emeryville is a small-size city of just over 12,000 residents located across the bay from San Francisco. The city saw almost 12,500 reported incidents of theft and nearly 800 reported incidents of violent crime in 2022 alone. For a city of just 12,905 residents, the current crime rate is very high.

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Times Cover Story

Neighborhoods

Continued from page 1

Alto. Funds were also used by the county to repave roadways, including part of Almaden Expressway south of Blossom Hill Road in San Jose.

Since January, the Roads and Airports Department has been focused on repairing roads damaged by storms, Kmak said. Atmospheric rivers damaged Bear Creek Road, Old Santa Cruz Highway and San Antonio Valley Road and created a six-foot culvert on Mines Road, which traverses Mount Hamilton.

“Developing these repair projects is the highest priority for our department at this time,” she said. “It’s a long, complex process to develop.” This involves identifying the site, developing a solution and putting it out to construction, she added.

Olympia Williams, division manager of BeautifySJ in the city’s Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, is passionate about her work and increasing the livability of San Jose.

Working to combat neighborhood blight, Williams organizes trash pickups and graffiti abatement to keep San Jose clean. She strives to end illegal dumping and holds Dumpster Days so residents don’t leave furniture and appliances at the curbs. Her office also manages trash and abatement of city homeless encampments.

BeautifySJ, launched by Mayor Sam Liccardo in 2017 was a call to action, she said. The program supports the work of residents and community organizations to beautify their neighborhoods and public spaces.

Williams said BeautifySJ removes two and a half million square feet of graffiti annually and another two million is taken down by its partners.

“We have a graffiti problem in our city that we have to solve,” she said. “I’m working with SJPD to take care of that.”

Volunteers pick up two million pounds of trash a year, she said, and her team runs Dumpster Day programs every weekend. She asks residents rather than leaving furniture on the street, which may end up in homeless encampments, to use the 311 app. Williams said the city will pick up 30 items at a time.

Williams said residents can take advantage of any Dumpster Day in any location.

“We’d rather it go in the dumpster than not,” she said. “Whoever brings it, it can go into the dumpster.”

Helen Brock, founder of Beautify Almaden, works with volunteers to clean up Almaden Expressway. They remove 20-30 bags of debris monthly with the aid of grabbers, trash bags and safety vests supplied through BeautifySJ. Brock said the city picks up and disposes of the trash bags.

Brock, who created Beautify Almaden in 2018, welcomes residents to join her or start a cleanup project on their own. For those working near roadways, she recommends wearing something bright, walking facing traffic and not picking up broken glass.

“If anyone has an area they’d like to clean up, the city will support you,” she said.

Brock urges residents to use the 311 app for free pickup of large items or to report

illegal dumping, graffiti, street light outages and more.

“311 is a wonderful asset,” she said. “Please put it on your phone and use it.”

Brock estimates half of what her group collects comes from truck beds. She recommends not placing light weight items in truck beds without covers and telling gardeners and contractors not to do so. She also asks parents to remind their children not to litter.

“Achieving a clean city is up to all of us,” she said. “For those of you that don’t have time for cleanup, focus on prevention in your own lives. Please help us keep the city clean.”



Mayor Matt Mahan said he appreciated the efforts of Helen Brock and her clean-up crew to keep Almaden Expressway clean. Beautify Almaden volunteers have met monthly for five years. Photo courtesy of Mayor Matt Mahan.



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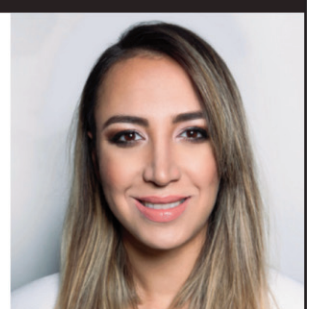
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1178 Rhinecastle Way

Offered at \$1,899,000

4 Bed | 2.5 Bath | 2213 Sq Ft | 9770 Sq Ft Lot

Beautiful updates grace this Almaden Estates home. Redesigned chef's kitchen with marble counters and dual-toned Fieldstone cabinetry. Enjoy mountain views from the backyard pavilion, an inviting outdoor dining or gathering space. Less than a mile to Guadalupe Oak Grove Park's almost 63 acres of open space. One mile, or less, from top-rated schools including Los Alamos Elementary, Castillero Middle, and Pioneer High Schools.



1367 Shelby Creek Lane

Offered at \$1,299,000

3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1155 Sq Ft | 4055 Sq Ft Lot

Tastefully updated Almaden Valley's California Ridge single-story home with views of the surrounding hills. Living room has a vaulted ceiling and gas fireplace. Kitchen has quartz slab counters and plenty of soft-close cabinetry. Backyard has an aggregate patio against a natural outdoor space that backs up to Almaden Quicksilver County Park. Williams Elementary School, Bret Harte Middle School and Leland High School.



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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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