

Beloved restaurant  
*The Evergreen Inn*  
closes due to lower  
sales during pandemic  
**SEE PAGE 8**



**School's out for summer!**  
Need ideas? We've got 20 things to  
do with your kids this summer  
**SEE PAGE 15**

Lonely  
Laurelwood  
lays idle among  
the weeds  
**SEE PAGE 4**



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# Evergreen Times

JUNE 16 – JUNE 29, 2023 ■ VOL. 40, NO. 13

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**Riddhi Sharma** is a 9th grade student who attends Evergreen Valley High School and won a 1st Honorable Mention Award.

## Seven local high school students win awards in largest poetry organization competition in the state

By **William Bellou**  
Publisher

Seven students from Evergreen Valley have won two third place, two 1st Honorable Mention Awards and one 2nd Honorable Mention Award in different categories in the 2023 California Federation of Chaparral Poets (CFCP) Student Poetry Contest.

Marco Heredia, who attends Mt Pleasant High School, selected the category Nature/Environmental Concerns for his Second  
*See POETRY, page 6*

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## Dawn Cordobes named Cadwallader Elementary School Teacher of the Year

By **Frank Shortt**  
Times staff writer

Choosing a Teacher of the Year is not an easy task at a school, such as Cadwallader, where there's a whole staff of dedicated teachers

Principal Maureen McClintock, had this to say about Dawn Cordobes who was chosen to be Teacher of the Year at Cadwallader Elementary School in the Evergreen School District:

"Dawn Cordobes is a passionate, dedicated professional who cares deeply for her students and their academic success. She is thorough, detail-oriented, knowledgeable, and is always improving her repertoire of teaching skills by researching and implementing new strategies and programs to support her students with learning. This took place during our challenging time of distance learning and she continues to improve her craft each

year. Ms. Cordobes has a passion for knowing her students individually, finding ways to support their different learning needs, and connecting with families in support of her students. As a veteran teacher who is in her 26th year at Cadwallader, she often works with student teachers to support them with entering the teaching profession. She is a valued member of our staff and students return to visit her each year. It is an honor to recognize Ms. Dawn Cordobes as Cadwallader's Teacher of the Year. Her name will be considered at the district level for Evergreen's Teacher of the Year."

When asked about her teaching background, Dawn replied, "I was born into a family of nurses and we are all natural caregivers. But nursing was not for me. I was good around kids and patients, and when I was switching majors (my original major was meteorology),



**Dawn Cordobes** is Cadwallader Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

teaching was suggested. Until that time, it had not crossed my mind. I took a few classes and was hooked. Now I cannot imagine doing anything else."

Dawn was raised in Yuba City, California and has lived in San Jose since 1989. She attended San Jose

State University graduating in 1994 with a liberal studies degree and going on to gain her credential in 1996. She began teaching for Evergreen School District in January 1997 as part of the class size reduction program for the state. She took over a new class of Second Graders at Laurelwood E.S. in February of 1997. Dawn began teaching at Cadwallader School in August of 1997 and has remained there. While there she has taught first, second, and third grades and quite a few combination classes of the aforementioned three grades.

Dawn says of her first reaction to learning that she had been chosen Teacher of the Year, "I was absolutely shocked, floored actually. It was announced at a school wide Friday meeting we call Flagpole Fridays. I never thought it was going to be me, but several co-workers said they thought it was me." Dawn is a very modest person!

Dawn continues, "My main responsibility is to continue exhibiting the qualities that I was chosen for - reading, researching and implementing new practices, to

*See CORDOBES, page 4*

## St. Francis of Assisi of Evergreen holds Blood Drive: June 24

The next Evergreen Blood Drive, sponsored by St. Francis of Assisi of Evergreen and the Stanford Blood Center is scheduled Saturday, June 24 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the St. Francis Gather Space Community located at 5111 San Felipe Rd in Evergreen.

"The event is open to the public and any and all eligible donors are encouraged to come by that Saturday and donate," said Blood Drive coordinator, Tom Mitchell. "The promo for June is a drawing for four front row Giants tickets to a game against the Boston Red Sox. Thank you for everyone's support and don't forget to wear a mask."

Blood drive officials encourage sign-ups in advance so there will be plenty of staff so no one has to wait. Of course, there will be no sign-ups at the Church, so use the link below. If you have questions, please call Tom Mitchell at (408) 476-6104.

Sign-up link: [https://sbcdonor.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/11513](https://sbcdonor.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11513)



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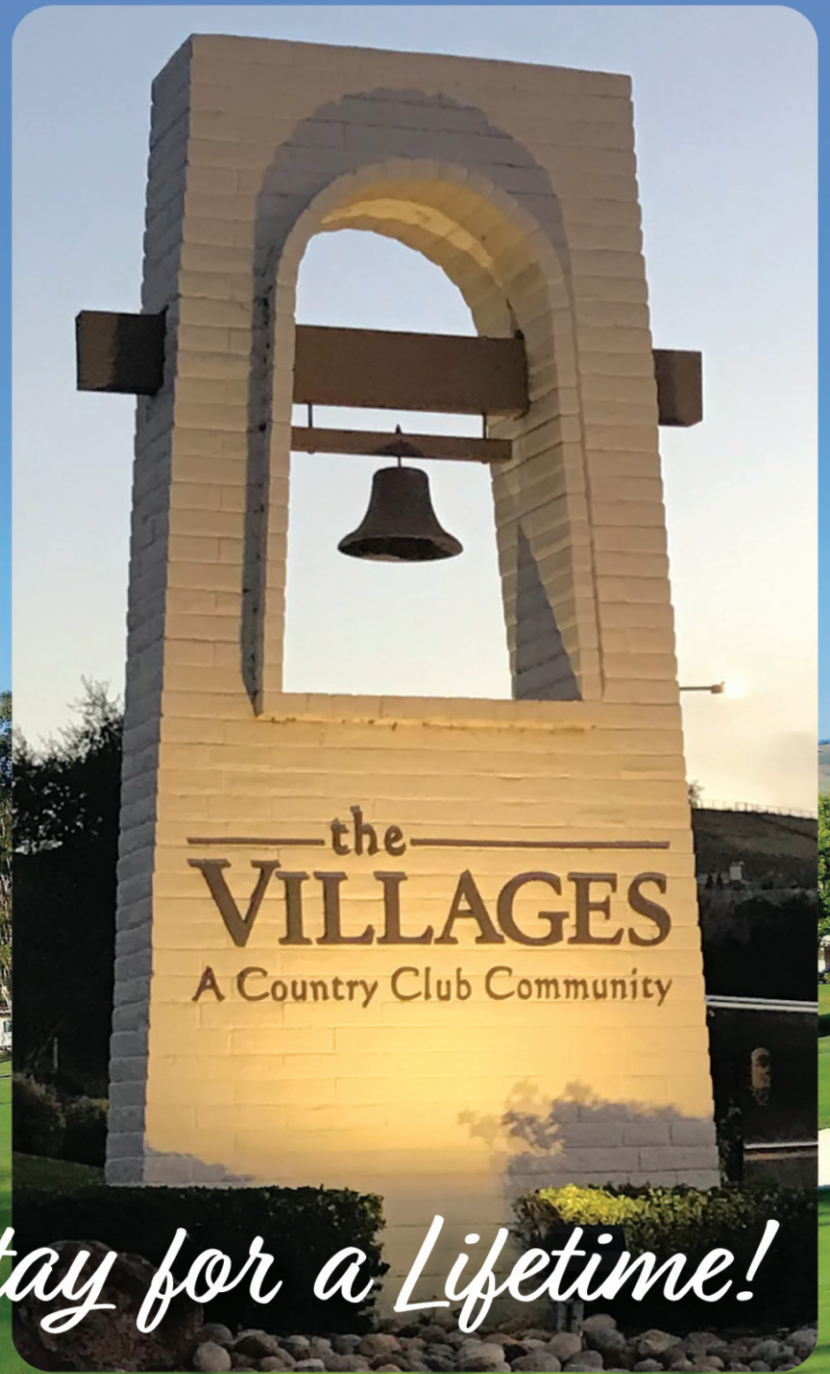
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## NOTEBOOK



U.S. Army 1st Lt. **Paolo Nguyen**, a platoon leader gazes through a pair of binoculars while Spc. **Daniel Farley**, a fire support specialist operates a rangefinder, during a live-fire training exercise. Both are assigned to Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, New York Army National Guard.

## National Guard soldier Paola Nguyen from Evergreen receives new rank, responsibilities

Major General Ray Shields, the adjutant general for the state of New York, announces the recent promotion of members of the New York Army National Guard in recognition of their capability for additional responsibility and leadership.

Paolo Nguyen from Evergreen Valley assigned to the Company A, 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, received a promotion recently to the rank of 1st lieutenant.

Army National Guard promotions are based on a Soldier's over-

all performance, demonstrated leadership abilities, professionalism and future development potential.

These promotions recognize the best qualified Soldiers for a career in the New York Army National Guard.

Army National Guard Citizen Soldiers who serve our state and nation are eligible for monthly pay, educational benefits (from the state and federal government), travel across the globe, technical and leadership training, health and dental insurance and contributions towards retirement programs similar to a 401(k).

The New York National Guard (New York State Division of Military and Naval Affairs) is the state's executive agency responsible to the Governor for managing New York's Military Forces, which consists of nearly 20,000 members of the New York Army National Guard, the New York Air National Guard, the New York Naval Militia and the New York Guard.

## Cordobes

*Continued from page 1*

continue to connect to my students and really get to know them, and to be thorough in my planning, teaching documenting of how my students are doing each year. “

Ms. Cordobes, who was widowed in 2015, said, “My kids are my life. My school family is an extension of my family and has continued to support me and help me grow as a person. As a solo parent, until my children are through with college, I will be teaching. I have two daughters, one graduating from Silver Creek in June and leaving for college in August 2023. She will be majoring in Communications/Journalism at Cal State Fullerton next year. My youngest daughter is a 7th grader in our district at Bulldog Tech at Leyva and is a 4.0 student. She is super creative through sewing, music, and musical theater, so I can see a future in the arts for her. I plan to retire hopefully around 65, but you never know!”

# Valley Currents

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

## Lonely Laurelwood lays idle among the weeds

By Frank Shortt  
Times staff writer

In January 2020 it was decided that Laurelwood Elementary in the Evergreen School District would be closed. Ironically, this was when the Covid pandemic began in America as seven cases were recorded here.

Meanwhile since closing, Laurelwood lays idle as weeds and debris build up in the parking lot, and especially the Community Student Science garden, where parents and students spent many hours to enhance the beauty of the campus.

The weeds in the garden are head-high, with wild oats winning the race for domination. Sculptures, designed from old tires and painted with bright colors can be seen peeking from between the weeds. The plants, long gone, are just a memory in the minds of those who spent long hours designing the garden. Parents cared for Laurelwood as their own property!



Since closing, Laurelwood lays idle as weeds and debris build up in the parking lot.

During the process of deciding to close any schools, district officials at the time were also assuring parents that the schools would be used to generate revenue. So far, Lonely Laurelwood sits idle since its closing without being used for any of the ideas mentioned back then. Could the District use revenue generated by leasing out Laurelwood to, maybe a school for handicapped children? How about a math center for someone who would like to help students enhance their mathematical abilities?

Parents, who walk by the school where their children used to be happily learning for the future, gaze up at the, now empty, neon sign that used to tell them of pending activities. Their hearts ache for the old days

when Principals Dr. Hong and lastly, Kameelah Green used to assure that there were plenty of activities for parents to participate in. There were spelling bees, Living Museums (where children dressed as historical figures), Black History Month, a Dance Showcase, Career Day, (where business leaders visited) and the list goes on and on. From the enthusiastic looks on the faces of parents, these activities were very successful.

Historically, school districts in California, and probably all across America, are always complaining of revenue shortages. Some of this is because of bad decisions by district administrators, shortfalls from state revenues, etc. If Evergreen is being plagued by revenue shortages, here is a great opportunity to generate revenue by using the now vacant schools instead of allowing them to sit idle. Looking to the future, this could be a great time to bring all district employees up to National standards. Some District taxpayers have been wondering when Lonely Laurelwood will become Lively Laurelwood! After all, we live in the Valley of Heart's Delight!



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PUBLISHER / CEO

**WILLIAM D. BELLOU**

williamb@timesmediainc.com

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

**WILLIAM D. BELLOU**

williamb@timesmediainc.com

ADVERTISING SALES

**WILLIAM D. BELLOU**

408-494-7000

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS: **DIANE BLUM, SUNAY SANGHANI, SEAN EASTWOOD, NIRBAN SINGH, FRANK SHORTT, JUDY LY, EUGENE LUU, APOORVA PANIDAPU**

ART DIRECTOR

**JEFF BAHAM**

graphics@timesmediainc.com

PHOTOGRAPHER

**ROCCO SANTORO**

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

**SANDY BELLOU**

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## Mark your calendar for the family friendly *Moonlight Under the Stars* 4th of July *Ice Cream Social*

The American Sikhs of the San Jose Gurdwara invite all to this joyous complementary event

By Kirpal Atwal

Special to the Times

Time flies and it is hard to believe that in two weeks we will celebrate the important event of our nation's independence. As you know each year we invite the community to walk up to the Gurdwara and enjoy outside refreshments.

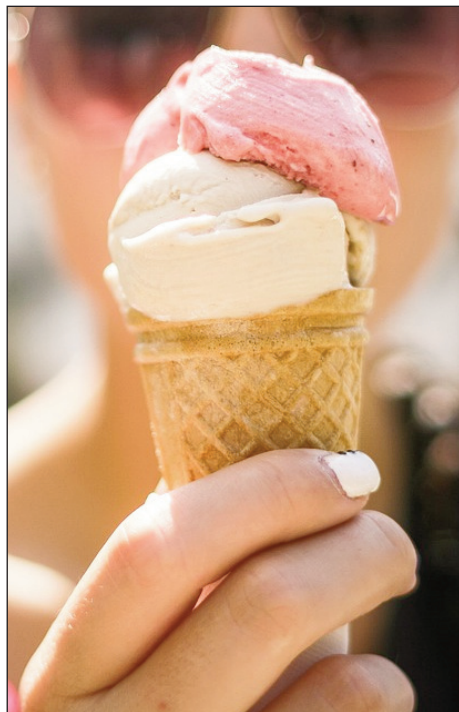
It's a beautiful place and though we do not have fireworks, you can walk with your family and view the Evergreen Valley and see fireworks displays in the distance.

It is very heartwarming to see people of all cultures and backgrounds come up and meet and greet each other with community hospitality to all.

What's so wonderful about America is it is such a diverse country and a respectful place where people accept each other regardless of race, creed, color or religion.

We will be advertising for this important event. We are so proud to be part of this country and the American dream.

Come up and say hello and have delicious ice cream and also, we have healthy choices of fruits and vegetarian dinner at our



kitchen (Langar).

See you there! I help scoop ice cream and you can come back for more.

**Kirpal Atwal**

Board member of the Gurdwara

Editor's Note: See ad on page 7 for details.



## California Assembly votes to pass the Journalism Preservation Act

By William Bellou

Publisher

One day after Facebook parent company Meta threatened to remove news content from its platforms if Assembly Bill 886 becomes law, the California Assembly voted 46-6 to advance the bill to the State Senate.

The bill, introduced by Assemblywoman Buffy Wicks, D-Oakland is intended to shore up California's struggling media outlets, including ethnic media and media serving so-called "news deserts."

AB 886 would require social media companies such as Meta, Google, Twitter and others to pay a percentage of their advertising revenue — to be determined by arbitration — as a "journalism usage fee" to news organizations producing content that is shared on their platforms.

Wicks accused Meta of threatening to take its ball and go home because of her bill. "To me this is an empty threat, because these are companies that have made billions and billions and billions of dollars while our newsrooms are shutting down," Wicks said. Free press is in our Constitution, and it is at risk right now."

The bill is co-sponsored by the California News Publishers Association, of which The Sacramento Bee and other McClatchy California newspapers are members.

Meta responded with a written statement, "If the Journalism Preservation Act passes, we will be forced to remove news from Facebook and Instagram rather than pay into a slush fund that primarily benefits big, out-of-state media companies under the guise of aiding California publishers."

### Evergreen School District From strong roots grow bright futures

#### Evergreen Senior Citizen Property Owners Are Eligible for Measure EE Parcel Tax Exemption

Evergreen property owners age 65 by June 30, 2024 or older are eligible to file for exemption from the annual \$125 Evergreen School District parcel tax for parcels they occupy as their principal residence.

For joint owners of a principal residence, only one owner needs to be age 65.

More information regarding the parcel tax exemption, including a form to request exemption, can be found on our District website at [www.eesd.org](http://www.eesd.org).

To complete the exemption, the form and supporting documents may be brought into the District Office located at 3188 Quimby Road, San Jose. Call Ly Ablao or Patty Maciel at (408) 270-6863 to make an appointment.

Residents must file for the exemption in person with documents to prove their home ownership, residency, and age eligibility.

Those who have previously been granted an exemption from the Measure H Parcel Tax, their exemption will continue to be automatically renewed each year as long as you remain eligible for the exemption.

Residents unable to submit the application in person or for additional information, contact Ly Ablao or Patty Maciel at (408) 270-6863.

## Poetry

Continued from page 1

Place finish poem "Mountains of My Youth."

Winning third place awards are Sophia Ba and Alexis Alvarez Figueroa, and Michael Garcia, who attend Mt. Pleasant High School.

Ba selected the category Junior Poem for her poem "A Perfect Pair."

Figueroa selected the category Thoughts on Humanity for her poem "One Man's Paradise."

Garcia selected the category Nature/Environmental Concerns for his poem "For You Blue."

Riddhi Sharma and Bhavi Irgi, both 9th grade students who attend Evergreen Valley High School and Raven A. Meza, who attends Mt. Pleasant High School won 1st Honorable Mention Awards.

Sharma selected the category "Thoughts on Humanity" for her poem: "To the Citizens of Jailtown."

Irgi selected the category "Light or Humorous" for his poem: "Friends Till The End."

Meza selected the category "Nature/Environmental Concerns" for his poem: "A Fight Between Heaven and Hell."

Lorlyn Pavao won a Second Honorable Mention Award Meza in the category "Nature/Environmental Concerns" for her poem "Irreversible Damage."

The (CFCP) is the oldest and largest poetry organization in the state, and this contest was open to student poets all across California.

Federation of Poets, Inc. has served poets, teachers, and students of California for 84 years in its role of promoting the appreciation and understanding of poetry. Established in the Los Angeles area in 1939, it quickly spread to other areas throughout the state.

Today, after undergoing a series of revisions, CFCP, Inc. is moving toward on-line activities and workshops while continuing to recognize as members both Chapters and individuals from San Diego to the northern parts of the state, with members at large in many other states.

Among its more public activities are two annual Poetry Contests in which outstanding works by both students and adults are recognized with prizes and awards; the organization also offers occasional seminars and workshops at locations throughout the state.

To learn more about CFCP, visit Welcome to CFCP, Inc. ([chaparralpoets.org](http://chaparralpoets.org))





# Happy Birthday America!

*Complimentary Event For You and Your Family  
On Tuesday The 4th Of July*

**“Under the Moonlight Ice Cream Social” 7pm-10pm held at the Gurdwara on the Hill**

*We will not be using any fireworks but if you bring your binoculars and keen eyesight you will see the displays far in the distance which light up the sky!*

All have been through such great challenges in the past years. We sincerely care about everyone and understand the sacrifices which have been made by families. We continue to have a fully outdoor event where you can walk under the moonlit stars with your family and friends. Admission and food are free. It is an event of joy and celebration of how wonderful you are and our strong and noble country called America is! If you can, come on up and have complimentary ice cream or fresh fruit and connect under the moonlit sky with those of all races and cultures in our wonderful Bay Area! It is a night of building family for all. We also will be serving complimentary vegetarian meals to-go at the Langar (kitchen area). – Kirpal Atwal, *Gurdwara Director*

We embrace the values of our American heritage strongly! Values of justice, liberty, equality and the caring about others are enshrined in the Constitution and also form the cornerstone of our Sikh beliefs. We are the Sikh Americans and very proud to be a part of the United States of America and of course the wonderful Evergreen community!



The San Jose Gurdwara is open for you to visit 365 days of the year. It is located all the way up Quimby Road on the hillside. The Sikh religion reaches out to the less fortunate and donations are always welcome. You can find information at our website below. The address is 3636 Gurdwara Avenue, San Jose, CA 95148  
Gurdwara contact: Kirpal Atwal (408) 835-7712 | Website: [sanjosegurdwara.org](http://sanjosegurdwara.org)







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After almost 20 years, Evergreen Inn & Pub in San Jose closed its doors. Photo by Lorraine Gabbert.

## Evergreen Valley's beloved restaurant *Evergreen Inn* closes due to lagging sales during pandemic

By Lorraine Gabbert  
*San José Spotlight*

The Evergreen community has lost a beloved restaurant after almost 20 years due to unplanned hardships caused by the pandemic and family health.

In a letter taped to the restaurant's door, Evergreen Inn & Pub owners Hector and Emily Lopez said they were closing their cherished restaurant with heavy hearts and thanked their loyal customers. Their son, Eric Lopez, who worked at the restaurant since he was 13, said financial issues and his father's health led to the closure on May 29. The restaurant lost its customer base during the COVID-19 pandemic and it never recovered, the son said. They also lost two cooks.

Hector Lopez cooked many of the dishes from scratch, like chili verde and biscuits with gravy, while Emily Lopez chatted with customers when she wasn't doing office work, Eric Lopez said.

"We've spent the last two decades building a business we are proud of by doing what we love most—making others happy," the owners said in the letter.

Hector Lopez emigrated at age 15 from Mexico. He worked at an IHOP as a dishwasher, then as a cook at Larry's Country Inn and Uncle John's Pancake House before purchasing Southern Kitchen on Monterey Highway in 1991. He purchased Evergreen Inn & Pub in August 2003, where he worked as a cook when it was Larry's Country Inn.

Hector and Emily Lopez realized the American Dream together, coming from a small, impoverished town in Mexico.

"My dad came from nothing. My mom did, too," their son told San José Spotlight.

Eric Lopez is proud of what his parents accomplished. But with his father's pending surgery and the younger Lopez addressing his own health issues, the family's hope to reopen the restaurant won't happen anytime soon.

The family also owns the Elegant Pub next door. On weekends, the pub's business will still spill over into the restaurant space with DJs and karaoke. But the Evergreen Inn will no longer cater private parties in the restaurant.

Dennis King, executive director of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Silicon Valley, said the loss of a 20-year-old restaurant is significant for everyone.

"Much of our community's vitality in part is defined by the small neighborhood busi-

nesses, particularly restaurants," he said.

King said small businesses are still struggling to recover. Restaurants faced challenges during and following the pandemic, with some closing for good due to a loss of customers and workers.

"Their loss is a clear warning that challenges of small businesses as a direct result of COVID are still with us," he told San José Spotlight. "It takes a long time to recover from such a deficit for a small business and very often they're not able to make it. We will mourn the loss of their contributions to the community."

King said small businesses should take advantage of resources San Jose offers, including help with rent.

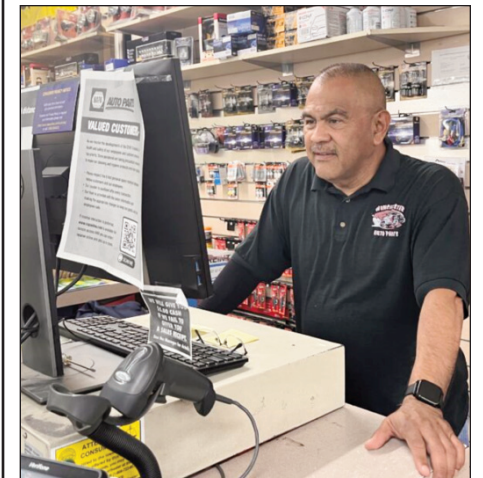
"We hope other small businesses can take heart they don't have to deal with whatever they're dealing with by themselves," he said.

Jose Rincon, assistant general manager of Winchester Auto Parts near the closed restaurant, said he enjoyed the hearty breakfasts like bacon and eggs with country potatoes. He also appreciated the bump it gave him in weekend foot traffic. He said since the closure, the lost weekend foot traffic is noticeable.

"With COVID, they couldn't recoup, and (struggled) with the economy going the way it is," he told San José Spotlight.

Longtime customer Nancy—last name held upon request—said it's hard for a restaurant to survive.

"It was your place to go," she said. "It had a lot."



Jose Rincon, assistant general manager of Winchester Auto Parts, said his business has lost foot traffic since the restaurant closed. Photo by Lorraine Gabbert.



# Carolyn A. Clark sixth graders speak their truth

Each year, Mrs. Oliva does a final writing unit with her students at Carolyn A. Clark elementary school in Evergreen.

“The writing exercise is a way to allow students not only a platform to express themselves publicly, but also gives them the opportunity to share what writing skills they were taught throughout the year,” said Oliva.

On Wednesday, May 24, students delivered their heartfelt pieces to the Clark community and there wasn't a dry eye in the room.

The following are three of the 27 presented.

## Beep, Beep

By: Nadine Abdelhamid

Beep, beep

All the heads in the class turn toward me. I breathe in, and I breathe out and pretend that I don't notice. But I do.

And at that point, I just wish I didn't have what I have.

Beep, beep

The truth is, it's one of the most dreaded sounds of my life.

Beep, beep

Beep, beep

It haunts me, day after day, night after night never escaping my grasp.

The sound of my devices, it's the sound of all my worries and fears coming together into one. Or maybe it's just because I'm scared, I'm scared for people to know how vulnerable I truly am, because it's the sound of my diabetes.

On May 8th, 2018, when I was just six years old, I was diagnosed with type one diabetes. I was scared, I was alone. No one knew what I was feeling or what I was going through! So I waited. I waited in the hospital, with treatments and doctors and insulin as far as the eye could see, but they couldn't fix me, they couldn't put me back to the way I was before any of this happened.

The first few months were the hardest. They were the scariest, the most painful.

Insulin shot after insulin shot I stood by, holding my tears in, holding my fears in, holding my feelings in!

But I stand with you today, 5 years later just about to explode.

I can't keep my feelings capsuled inside me any longer. I'm like a message in a bottle that's sailing across the ocean, and anticipating the journey ahead, and awaiting its arrival. Yet the bottle never reaches to the other side, and my message is never received. One day the bottle just explodes because of all the pressure and the heat and my message is out everywhere for everyone to see!

Beep beep

Every day I try to ignore it but it gets louder and louder!

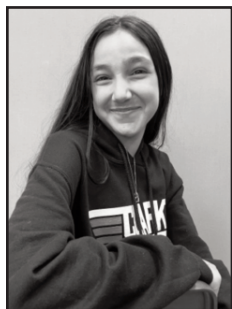
Beep, beep,

Beep, beep

Beep, beep

Louder and louder pounding and pounding, and it never stops.

It's the same feeling I've had for the past 5 years. The one in my heart, my bones, it's



everywhere and I can't escape it. So I'll tell you how I feel, how I truly feel. I'm afraid. I'm always afraid. Most of the time, I can fix things when mistakes happen, but with type one diabetes, the smallest of mistakes can lead to the biggest of consequences. And I hate not being able to control these things and I hate having this feeling and I hate when people treat me like I'm just a kid and I just hate when people don't understand. But they don't... and I guess they'll just never understand! Until I tell them.

Beep, beep

It's the sound of my insulin pump, not something a normal kid would take everywhere they go. But I guess I'm not a normal kid, and I'm learning to come to terms with that.

Beep, beep

It's the sound that's always in your head. For you, it could be your insecurities, your worries, or fears, basically just what makes you different. The sound of what makes you unique.

Beep, beep.

For me, it's having type one diabetes!

## Reaching Goals

By: Ethan Li

People have different expectations.

Some think they are too good for goals,

Others set high goals for themselves.

I am in the middle of those two types of people.

Everyone has at least one goal from someone,

Anyone, anywhere.

People try to reach that goal.

They reach and reach and reach.

And yet, there is always that one barrier blocking you from your goal.

Some people,

When they practice instruments

Their mind takes over,

Forcing them to play the same piece over and over again.

It also goes with sports.

They go through the motions,

Never thinking about what they're doing.

The urge to finish,

The want to finish,

The need to finish.

They are all blocking you from your goal.

Everyone tries to climb that ladder,

But, there are always missing steps.

You don't fall down,

You don't want the humiliation.

The embarrassment.

You don't want to feel like everyone else has succeeded,

While you are still stuck on that missing step.

You need to keep on trying, however long the ladder is.

You just climb and climb and climb.

You don't let anything stop you.

When you reach the top,

You are the king of the world.

Then, you find yourself in front of a longer ladder,

More missing steps,

More times to fail.



Most people give up at this point.

They climb down,

And allow themselves to fall.

Only the bravest,

The best,

The person who has failed many times,

Go on.

That person shall always be the one to succeed.

He tries his very best to get to the top of the ladder,

Then climbs the next one,

Then the next one,

And the next one.

And yet he knows the ladders will never end,

But he still climbs them.

This is how everyone should act,

Always climbing,

Never giving up.

To reach your goals,

You need to cherish your sweat and tears,

And to preserve your moment of cheers.

## Self Image

By: Hannah Ta

Mirror mirror, on the wall,

Who's the fairest of them all?

But what does the fairest even mean when we're all so different and unique?

Sometimes when we look in the mirror,

We see our flaws and imperfections,

The flaws that make us ourselves The flaws that make us unique

And the flaws that make us human.

And we compare ourselves to all the so-called perfect images on social media.

Constantly trying to change ourselves and our looks, but it's never really enough.

Because society, sometimes society can be so critical, and judgmental,

And it can make us feel less than our real worth,

Making us feel like we're not good enough.

It's like a weight on us, constantly getting heavier and heavier and heavier every single time someone points out one of our imperfections. It consumes us and our thoughts so much that sometimes we forget that we deserve to be loved and accepted for who we are. But the truth is that we have value; we aren't defined by our flaws or our imperfections;

we're defined by our character.

So when you look in the mirror, and see your reflection looking back,

Don't be too hard on yourself,

Remember,

We all deserve to be seen.

To be understood.

And to be loved.



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# Largest annual antique auto show in the West to be presented at History Park San Jose Sept. 9

Go back in time at the 23rd annual Antique Autos in History Park San Jose on Saturday, September 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The 23rd annual Antique Autos in History Park presented by the Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club and History San José will take place on Saturday, September 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

This event fills History Park (Kelley Park, 693 Phelan Ave, San José, CA) with 200 period-correct pre-1946 vehicles, fire equipment, bicycles, and motorcycles of all makes.

Also located on the grounds this year will be the Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association. There will be antique crafts demonstrated, antique collectibles, and toy trains. Also, take a trolley ride and see blacksmith demonstrations. Food will be available from food trucks and other possible outlets. Several activities will be provided for children attending the event.

### Music venue

Rhythmairs Dixieland Band will provide music. Songs will be sung by The Fabulous JewelTones along with dancing by the San Francisco Bay Area Vintage Dancers.

### Requirements for entering an antique vehicle

For those interested in entering their antique vehicle, there is no registration required. They can just bring their antique vehicle to the gate at History Park. All vehicles permitted on the grounds of History



Park must be manufactured between the late 1800s and 1945 and are period-correct. No vehicle will be allowed on the grounds of History Park during the show that is newer than 1945.

The featured vehicles this year are 1916 to 1930 Orphan Autos.

An example of an orphaned U.S. vehicle, is a 1920 Liberty Model 10-C, the nomenclature proclaiming that it's the longer and more powerful version of the two six-cylinder model lines that Liberty produced in 1920, pretty much the precise midpoint of its existence. This 10-C model is based on a 117-inch wheelbase and develops 56hp.

### Plan your day around the following:

- 11:15: Dance Performance
- 12:00: The Fabulous JewelTones
- 12:30: Music by Rhythmairs Dixieland Band

12:30: Video: Merrily we Roll Along, narrated by Groucho Marx

- 2:00: Model T Put Together
- 2:30: Barbershop Quartet
- 3:00: Silly Ricky's Juggling & Fun
- 3:30: Drawing for Door Prizes

Tickets prices at the door are: Adults: \$10, Seniors: \$8, Children (6 to 12) & History San Jose members: \$5. Participants & Children under 6 are free. (Adjacent City Parking: \$10.)

*Editor's note: There is NO alcohol, NO pets (except service dogs), and NO BBQs allowed inside the park. These are History Park rules and must be followed by everyone in attendance.*

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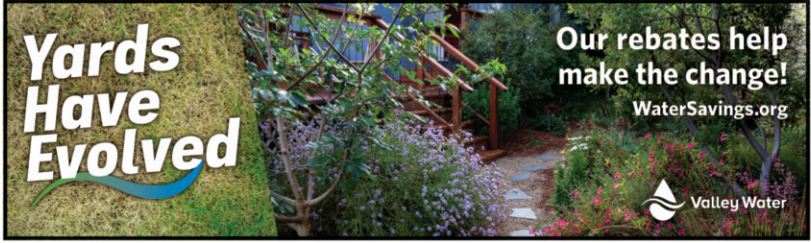
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Did you know that at least half of the water in a typical Santa Clara County home is used outdoors? You could save money on your water bill by transforming your lawn with the help of Valley Water's (Santa Clara Valley Water District) Landscape Rebate Program.

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!



Visit [WaterSavings.org](http://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](mailto:conservation@valleywater.org) or call 408-630-2554.



# Santa Clara County to work with colleges and hospitals to improve ambulance response times

In response to a push by Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian, the Board of Supervisors got an update earlier this month from the County's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency outlining recent steps taken to improve ambulance response times.

They also heard updates about steps being taken to address the paramedic shortage through collaboration with regional hospitals, Foothill College, and the National College of Technical Instruction.

"At the end of last year, our ambulance response times were falling short of expectations. I asked for better response times, and County EMS and our private sector partner, American Medical Response (AMR), made significant improvements," said Simitian, who serves as Chair of the County's Health and Hospital Committee. "When you're waiting for an ambulance, every minute counts. Ambulances are getting where they need to go faster than before. But there's still more work to do."

Santa Clara County contracts for ambulance services with Rural-Metro/AMR. The contract between AMR and the County requires AMR to respond to ambulance calls according to specified quality standards. However, they do not always meet those standards. This is in part because too few paramedics are being trained each year to meet rising demand for services.

"Our current EMTs and paramedics are doing great work. It's a tough job," said Simitian.



"But there's only so much a small cohort of them can do. If we want to keep response times up to our residents' high standards, we've got to train more paramedics. It's that simple."

In December 2022, Simitian asked the County's EMS Agency to work with AMR to come up with solutions to bring response times up quickly, which included:

- hiring travel paramedics
- increasing staff overtime

- offering recruitment bonuses
- using fire departments as backup

Since Simitian's referral was introduced, response times have improved dramatically. Simitian has now asked for EMS to outline long-term solutions too.

"At El Camino Health's hospitals we see patients in our emergency rooms every day. We rely on having a robust emergency medical system with well-trained paramedics to deliver patients at the moment they need

care the most. We are glad the County is placing the importance of ambulance response times front and center," said El Camino Health Chief Medical Officer Dr. Mark Adams.

In late February, the County's EMS Agency met with Foothill College and the National College of Technical Institutions to discuss ways to expedite training, including doubling the capacity of the paramedic program. However, to complete their training, students need clinical care internships in hospitals, and there aren't enough internships to go around. EMS will work with Santa Clara County hospitals to increase the number of internships.

"We are excited to announce we are working on an expansion of EMT and paramedic training opportunities at our Foothill College Sunnyvale Campus, providing students with the skills and knowledge necessary to save lives and make a difference," said Foothill-De Anza School District Board President Patrick Ahrens.

"This is not a new challenge," remembered Simitian. "Back in 2013 the City of San Jose Fire Department missed the contractual standard of 90% response rates every single month of the year. We pushed them hard to improve. And they did. Now again we're going to keep pushing for better and better service, and that means addressing problems head on."

For information about paramedic training opportunities at Foothill College, visit <https://foothill.edu/ems/paramedic/>

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# Top 19 things to do with your kids this summer

Since 2001, *What To Do With The Kids* has been providing adults with advice on what they can do with their kids, including games, crafts, activities, party ideas, parenting advice and much more. In that time, we have developed a list of the top 19 things parents can do with their kids this summer.

Many of these suggestions are budget-friendly and do not involve any equipment or take a lot of planning or effort on the parent's part so keep in mind that it's not the money you spend on them that's important, it's that you are spending time with them that matters.

The 19 things to do with your kids this summer:

## 1. Go to the beach

It may seem like a lot of trouble but not if you keep it simple. Beach towel, a few beach toys and lots of sunscreen is all you really need. You can also bring folding chairs and a sun umbrella as well. Bring a lunch or snacks along with a few cold drinks. These can easily fit inside a couple of cloth bags with an ice pack if you don't have a cooler. If you have a car, leave the cooler and non-valuables in the car. This way, you'll have no problem leaving stuff on the beach while you play with the kids in the water. Keep in mind that even if there are lifeguards, you need to stay very close to your kids. The younger they are, the closer you are! Sunscreen is very important. Buy the highest UV protection you can and don't be afraid to pay a few dollars more for the good stuff and remember to get the sand out of the bathing suits before you start going home.

## 2. Mini golf

As far as we are concerned, mini-golf should be an Olympic event. It's a great activity that anyone can play. In fact, the worse you are the more fun it is. We like playing in the early evening when it starts getting dark and a little cooler.

## 3. Bowling

Bowling is another "potential" Olympic event that anyone can play. Most bowling alleys have lanes with "bumpers" that block the gutters so the kids are almost guaranteed to hit some pins. It's also a great place to be on a really hot day because bowlers hate to sweat so you know the air conditioning will be just right.

## 4. Play catch

It's the one thing that movies like to use as the only activity dad never did with the hero of the story but it doesn't have to be forced or organized. It can be spontaneous. Most people think playing catch involves a baseball glove and a ball but there are a lot more items you can use. Try a football, beach ball, tennis ball or the classic Frisbee. There are also variations you can use like drawing a few circles on the ground in chalk and try to bounce the ball inside it when sending it to the other person. If they can, use a football and a Frisbee at the same time. Just be careful how you throw it.

## 5. Explore your city

A lot of people grow up in a city and never take in the sites so why not take the kids and explore? Most downtowns have a lot of old stores with a lot of unique things in them



and some may even have some history to them. Explore different parks or check online for festivals and events. Become a tourist in your own town by taking a tour bus. You may just discover things about your home town that you never knew.

## 6. Fishing

Old fishing rods, hooks and worms are all you need to spend time by the water. There are a lot of options you can buy but if you go to a garage sale, there's a good chance you'll find everything you need for a few dollars. You might also need a fishing license in your area so do a little research. Since you're near water, you need to stay very close to the kids and you will need to put the worm on the hook for them. Use a lot of sunscreen, give them a hat, pack a snack and you're ready to go. Find out where the best fishing spots are for kids but be prepared to cut it short. Some kids might not find it exciting so don't force them to stay. Plan on going for a short time and then make it longer the more you go. While you're waiting for the fish to nibble, tell them about how people like to make up stories about "the big one that got away" and come up with your own. Catch and release is great but if you happen to catch something big and you know how to properly prepare and cook it, bring it home as a special dinner treat.

## 7. Biking

Biking is a great activity for getting outside; exercising and exploring new areas but as we've written in a past blog, teach your kids the rules of the road or don't take them out! Teach them hand signals and what to do at a stop sign. In case you've forgotten, a stop sign does not mean to slow down, make eye contact with a car driver and continue through. Look online for local bike paths, pack a picnic or snack, put on some sunscreen and make sure those helmets are on right. Start with short trips and then make them longer as they get older. Remember, they may have no problem biking there but it's biking back that can be tricky.

## 8. Swimming

Learning to swim is something that every

parent should have their kids do at an early age. It's a skill they will never forget and may save their lives. The younger they are, the closer you must be to them. This must also be the rule at the beach, a public pool or even in a small wading pool in your backyard. Never leave them alone. If you can, bring plastic balls or Frisbee to play in the water since kids love to make diving catches. Pool noodles, boogie boards and beach balls are great fun but again; don't forget to bring the sunscreen.

## 9. Hiking

Hiking is another great activity that should be short to introduce them and gradually increased as they like. Start with simple and easy trails, wear appropriate shoes and clothing, bug spray and sunscreen and even pack a lunch or snack. Water is very important if you plan on being out most of the day and make sure you know where you are going before you leave. You don't want to share the joys of being found by a search party do you?

## 10. Backyard party

Why not host a party just for the heck of it? Make up a reason such as celebrating International Pickle Day or just a good ole fashion summer party. Barbeque some hotdogs and burgers, make some potato salad, coleslaw and play a few games. It doesn't have to be fancy or really organized. It's just a chance to get a bunch of people together to just hang out.

## 11. Backyard camping

Before you start to invest thousands of dollars in tents, stoves, sleeping bags and bear repellent, why not try camping in the backyard with the kids? You don't even need a real tent. Have the kids make one out of a tarp or old blankets. If they don't like it, they can just come in. Just make sure you're with them all night just to keep them safe and from getting into trouble. If they like it, they may want to do some real camping later and then you can spend thousands of dollars on everything you need!

## 12. Fly a kite

If you can find an open space free of power

lines and gopher holes, you can fly a kite. Start with the inexpensive ones found at the department store and try it out. If the kids like it, you may want to invest in a nice kite and watch them perform acrobatics in the sky.

## 13. Campfire

Unfortunately, not every town or city allows campfires; especially open ones that are basically a hole in the ground surrounded by rocks. If your city does allow them, invest in a metal one that is enclosed and has a small chimney. These are designed to keep the fire from getting out of control and the doors help keep the kids away from the flames. Roast marshmallows, make s'mores and then close the door and enjoy the view. Just remember to keep a bucket of water and some sand handy and make sure the entire fire is out before going to bed.

## 14. Sidewalk/driveway chalk drawing

Chalk comes in a lot of colors and is rather inexpensive. The important thing to keep in mind is where the kids draw. It has to be a safe area that is free of any traffic since the little ones will be practically lying down as they create their masterpieces. If you're in a large safe space, you can also draw a race track that the kids can go through on their bikes, skateboard or roller skates. Add a little color to your area and don't be afraid to get down with them and let your inner Picasso come out.

## 15. Outdoor movie

Watching a movie outdoors and under the stars is a great way to spend an evening. Projectors can be borrowed from schools or offices and a large white bed sheet makes for a great screen. Hook the projector up to your laptop and set up a few speakers. Make some popcorn, bring out the patio chairs and enjoy.

## 16. Container planting

If you're a gardener, you already know how much fun it can be but for the rest of us, we don't have the motivation to take it to that level. That's why container plants are great. Check out local garage sales for great deals on different size planters. They may need a coat of paint but as long as they're not broken, they'll work fine. Buy a bag of soil and select a few flowers and even vegetables to grow. Check online or at your local garden center to see what plants grow well in containers in your area. Find a good spot for the containers but if you need to, they can be easily moved somewhere else. Have the kids water it regularly and record how it's doing in a diary. Fruit and vegetable plants are possible so that at the end of the growing season the kids could actually eat what they've grown.

## 17. Picnic

A picnic is a rather simple way to have lunch but is much more than just your sandwich in a brown bag. Along with the sandwiches you can have salads, a veggie platter, assorted fruits and all types of drinks. Place the food in a cooler with an ice pack, pack some plates, utensils and cups, bring a blanket to sit on and you're set. You can also bring a plastic table cover to use if you find a

See *SUMMER FUN*, page 19



Times Feature

Tech Jargon of the week:

Facial Recognition

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:



Facial Recognition

Facial Recognition is making the headlines these days because the EU (European Union) is considering a ban on the use of the technology in public places such as train stations, sport stadiums and shopping centers over fears about creeping surveillance of European citizens.

A prohibition lasting between three and five years is seen as a way for EU to manage the risks said to be posed by the breakneck speed at which the software is being adopted.

So, what is this fascinating software that is threatening the common man?

Facial recognition is the process of identifying or verifying the identity of a person using their face. It captures, analyzes, and compares patterns based on the person’s facial details.

1. The face detection process is an essential step as it detects and locates human faces in images and videos.

2. The face capture process transforms an analog information (a face) into a set of digital information (data) based on the person’s facial features.

3. The face match process verifies if two faces belong to the same person.

Today it’s considered to be the most natural of all biometric measurements. And for a good reason – we recognize ourselves not by looking at our fingerprints or irises, for example, but by looking at our faces.

However, despite the technical and legal arsenal designed to protect data, citizens, and their anonymity, critical voices have still been raised. Some parties are con-

cerned and alarmed by these developments. The BIG question is - Can facial recognition be fooled?

- Forbes announced in an article from May 2018 that researchers from the University of Toronto have developed an algorithm to disrupt facial recognition software.

- In Russia, Grigory Bakunov has invented a solution to escape the eyes permanently watching our movements and confuse face detection devices. He has developed an algorithm that creates special makeup to fool the software. However, he has chosen not to bring his product to market after realizing how easily criminals could use it.

In short, a user could apply a filter that modifies specific pixels in an image before

putting it on the web. These changes are imperceptible to the human eye but are very confusing for facial recognition algorithms.

There are also concerns the technology could be used by authoritarian regimes to monitor citizens. Countries like China already have extensive surveillance systems set up. Facial recognition makes it easier to track a person’s movement. While the technology is not flawless now, lawmakers wondered about the implications as the technology becomes more accurate.

*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**

## Summer Fun

*Continued from page 15*  
picnic table. The secret is to find someplace that has a soft patch of ground that you can enjoy such as a park, the beach or along a trail. Make sure to take all your garbage home and don't leave any food for the animals.

### 18. Photo essay

A photo essay is just a fancy way to get kids to take photos with their phones. In the old days we used something called a camera but since smartphones are here, they'll work just fine. Have the kids document a trip or an outing such as a day at the beach or to the zoo. Ask them to take photos of your arrival and the different things they see. When they arrive home, they can upload the photos to their computer and create a slide show. The older kids may be able to incorporate video and background music as well. Once done, save a copy in a safe place and in a few years, you can remind them of how much fun they had that day.

### 19. Hanging out

Why not play a board game outside, read a book together or just sit and talk with the kids. The young ones might get bored but the older ones may just enjoy spending time with you and that's what we are all about. Make it spontaneous. Find a shady spot, bring out some toys, games or crafts and spend



some time together while the weather is nice. It can result in the type of memories you want your kids to have.

*What To Do With The Kids® (wtdwtk) is based on the 2001 self-published book by Brian Presley, a former youth worker, camp counselor and program director. He is now a retired stay-at-home dad. WTDWTK can be found exclusively on social media at facebook.com/whattodowiththekids and on Twitter and Instagram at @wtdwtk. Posts include games, crafts, activities, party ideas, parenting advice and information from trusted sources.*

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Times **Feature**

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## Career Corner

### Job searching during a downturn

By Angela Copeland



The first economic downturn I remember was the dot com crash in 2000. The sudden downturn was shocking that even the best computer engineers were struggling to get a job. Today's economic downturn feels similar. Unfortunately, many people have been negatively impacted, as layoffs appear to be far reaching.

If you're one of those people, keep hope. Economic downturns are temporary, and they aren't universal. In 2000, I was studying computer programming. It felt like the entire world was losing their jobs. But, when I talk to people today who worked in other industries, the dot com crash was barely something they thought about.

If you are looking for a new job, keep the industry in mind. Try to find a company that sells something that is more recession proof. For example, a company that sells luxury products may be more likely to be at risk. A company that sells something more essential, such as pest control, may be a safer bet. If the company is publicly traded, read about it in the news. Look to see if their stock has fallen lately, or how analysts are speaking about them.

When you're interviewing, keep job interviews going with multiple companies. Very often, a company will put a candidate through

many rounds of interviews over a long period of time. Along the way, the company may even tell the candidate that they intend to give them a job offer. When a candidate hears this, they typically walk away from every other job opportunity. They want to focus in on the sure bet, and they are relieved to no longer need to keep up this long process.

But, so often, this scenario doesn't end well. The company may not end up hiring the candidate after all. This leaves the candidate feeling out of control, and forces them to start searching all over again. You may wonder how in the world this could happen. The company could suddenly have an unexpected hiring freeze. The company could change their plans about hiring. Or, they could have simply overestimated how far the candidate might go in the process. Keep your options open until you receive a job offer in writing.

If you have always wanted to go back to graduate school, an economic downturn could be a good time to enroll. Going full time allows you to opt out of looking for a new job for a year or two. And, it gives you the opportunity to reenter the workforce as the downturn is ending, with more qualifications than you started with. It can be a great way to make a negative into a positive.

Whatever happens, keep up your networking – even when you are working. The best insurance you have against job insecurity is your network. It is especially important to nurture these connections when you don't need anything. Then, if you find yourself in need, you'll have a team of contacts ready to help out.

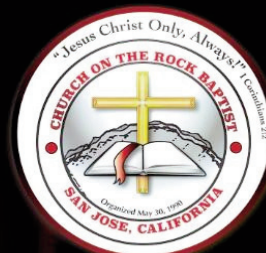
Angela Copeland, a leadership and career expert, can be reached at [www.angela-copeland.com](http://www.angela-copeland.com).



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Times **Community News**

## San Jose Museum Of Art presents two new exhibitions of artists from its collection

This summer, the San José Museum of Art (SJMA) will present two new exhibitions, drawn primarily from the Museum's collection: *Liliana Porter: Actualidades / Breaking News* opening on July 28 and *Nuts and Who's: A Candy Store Sampler* opening on August 11.

"The San José Museum of Art is deeply committed to bringing contemporary art, in all mediums, to the Bay Area. We are thrilled to present these two new, compelling shows that demonstrate different ways that artists can shape and influence contemporary artistic conversations," says S. Sayre Batton, Oshman Executive Director. "Even though these artists practiced during different decades, both shows are strong examples of how one's artwork can be a tool for expressing personal views on the world and society."

### Liliana Porter: Actualidades / Breaking News

July 28, 2023–February 25, 2024

Liliana Porter: Actualidades / Breaking News will be the artist's first solo presentation at a museum on the West Coast. For this presentation, Porter's Actualidades / Breaking News will be contextualized with a small selection of related artworks. In the video, Porter uses newspaper section headings, such as "Arts and Leisure" and "World News," to string together fragmented and absurd "situations" that break with traditional notions of linear narrative. Set amid placeless, monochromatic backgrounds and accompanied by a dramatic score composed by Sylvia Meyer, the disjointed scenes acted out by toys, figurines, and tchotchkes present reality as both urgent and atemporal. Together the video, photograph, and assemblage works will evoke questions about representation and the circulation of images within a cultural landscape where politics, spectacle, and everyday life are in constant collision.

*Liliana Porter: Actualidades / Breaking News* is organized by Juan Omar Rodriguez, assistant curator.

### Nuts and Who's: A Candy Store Sampler

August 11, 2023 –February 25, 2024

Nuts and Who's: A Candy Store Sampler highlights the cross-fertilization of ideas between California's Funk and Nut art and Chicago's Hairy Who in the Bay Area, and their convergence around the Candy Store Gallery, from 1968 to 1985. Founded by Adeliza McHugh in Folsom, California in 1962, the Candy Store Gallery was a site of convergence and exchange for University of California, Davis and California State University, Sacramento (then Sacramento State College) art faculty and students and other like-minded artists. The new exhibition will bring together works by artists who contributed to this "regional attitude" at the Candy Store, including Robert Arneson, Luis Cruz Azaceta, Clayton Bailey, John Buck, Roy De Forest, David Gilhooly, Irving Marcus, Tony Natsoulas, Gladys Nilsson, Jim Nutt, Ed Paschke, Maija Peeples-Bright, Sandra Shannonhouse, Peter VandenBerge, William T. Wiley, Franklin Williams, Karl Wirsum and others. *Nuts and Who's: A Candy Store Sampler* is organized by Nidhi Gandhi, curatorial and programs associate.



*Liliana Porter: Actualidades / Breaking News* (left) opens on July 28 and *Nuts and Who's: A Candy Store Sampler* (right) opens on August 11.



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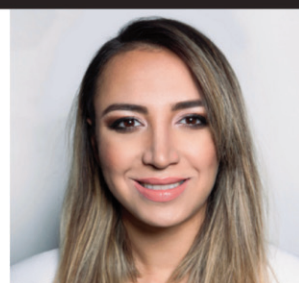
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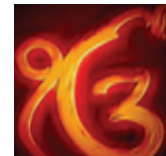
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 Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road  
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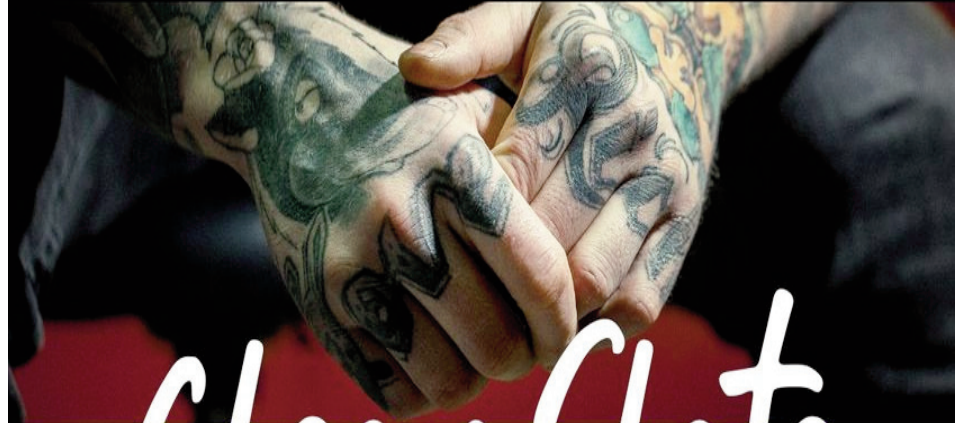
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DRE 01355719



This distinctive multi-level home is situated at the end of a cul-de-sac with spectacular panoramic views including the Mt. Hamilton range. Five covered porches/balconies, recessed lights throughout, 96 oversized double pane Low E coated windows. Remodeled kitchen with as white Quartz slab counters and soft-close European style cabinets, Enormous primary bedroom oasis with balcony, atrium, and bonus room. San Jose Unified School District: Williams Elementary School, Bret Harte Middle School and Leland High School.

**\$3,650,000**

**5 Bedrooms**

**3.5 Full Baths**

**4760 Sq Ft**

**.75 Acre Lot**



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.

**VFLIGHT**