

Families and Homes
San Jose founders
receive Fadness Award
for Community
Involvement: **PAGE 4**



School's out for summer!
Need ideas? We've got 19 things to
do with your kids this summer
SEE PAGE 18

Valley Water
Board declares
water conserva-
tion a way of
life: **PAGE 19**



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Almaden

Times

JUNE 23 – JULY 6, 2023 ■ VOL. 36, NO. 13

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Public parking safety plan for the annual July 4th fireworks show at Almaden Lake Park explained

By Denelle Fedor

To ensure safety, the City of San Jose will close both entrances to the park: Winfield Road at Coleman and Almaden Expressway.

Public parking will not be allowed on Winfield Blvd. from Coleman to Old Quarry Road. Drop offs will not be allowed at the intersection either.

The City of San Jose encourages the use of public transportation, and although the event is not providing on-site bike parking, utilizing the trails that lead directly to the park by walking or riding a bike is encouraged. Parking is available offsite with a friendly reminder to be respectful of the neighbors nearby.

The entrance to the park on the Almaden Expressway side will be closed too. Roadblocks will be up beginning on July 3rd. Drop Off's and parking will not be allowed at this entrance.

For more information regarding the event, contact the District 10 Office at sjd10.com.

Celebrate Fourth of July at Almaden Lake Park: legal and spectacular fireworks Show at 3 p.m.

8th annual event
presented by Council
Member Arjun Batra

By William Bellou
Publisher

This year marks the 8th Annual 4th of July Fireworks Festival at Almaden Lake Park on Tuesday, July 4th. The festival begins at 3 p.m. with the fireworks underway at approximately 9:15 p.m.

The 4th of July event includes more than fireworks! The event kicks off at 3 p.m. with a Festival featuring local businesses and organizations from the area, a children's fun zone, food trucks and a stage with a variety of entertainment that will keep families entertained throughout the afternoon.

"This fireworks festival is a great



opportunity for the community to come together," said Beth Swartz, President of the Almaden Valley Women's Club. "We have family activities and entertainment, and the best fireworks show in the area."

This year's remarkable stage lineup features local classic-rock band, Snarky Cats led by George Nowicki, Perry Yan Magic walking around performing amazing magic, as well as a stage show at 6:00 p.m., and Vivace Chorus singing the National Anthem. Numerous festival booths include Operation Gratitude (letters to soldiers); giant Jenga, Connect 4 and other games; Home Depot Kids Workshop; face painting, and more!

The Almaden Super Lion's Club will be on hand to not only host
See FIREWORKS, page 10

Oak Grove teacher to ride 430 miles to raise funds for his school's Marching Band and Color Guard

By William Bellou
Publisher

The Oak Grove High School Marching Band and Color Guard and the Oak Grove High School Band Boosters are holding a fundraiser to raise \$30,000 from June 19 to June 24.

During the fundraiser, Oak Grove High School Band Director Chris Moura and a small team of cyclists, including several members of his former UCLA racing team, will be cycling 430 miles from the UCLA Bruins Statue to Oak Grove High School.

Oak Grove High School Band Director, Chris Moura will ride 430 miles along with a few of his former UCLA racing team mates to raise funds for his school band.

This year, the band received less than \$200 from the East Side Union High School District to run its music program. The high school has a total of 94% BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) enrollment, with 63% of students receiving free and reduced lunches



Oak Grove High School Band Director **Chris Moura** will be cycling 430 miles from the UCLA Bruins Statue to Oak Grove High School.

Chris, came to Oak Grove in 1995. He and his late wife, Teresa, built the band and color guard programs into champions. Such work, though, comes with a cost. In order to perform, travel, and compete at an elite level, the

program needed to raise tens of thousands of dollars every year.

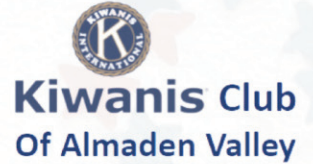
Moura explained that when the coronavirus pandemic shut down large gatherings and events, Oak Grove's biggest fundraisers were among them which typically raise between \$25,000 and \$30,000, "So, we're way behind."

"The band is a cross-section of the school's population," Moura said. "A lot of these parents work two or three jobs to give their kids a better life. Many of these kids don't have the opportunity to do things like club sports. These kids find another home here. It's a family."

Moura explained that he spent a majority of his high school life in the band and volunteering with friends. "Our shared struggle had bonded us closer than family. It was this escape from my mundane filial life that taught me discipline, time management, teamwork, resilience and flexibility."

The Oak Grove High School Marching Band
See MARCHING BAND, page 6

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DISTRICT 10

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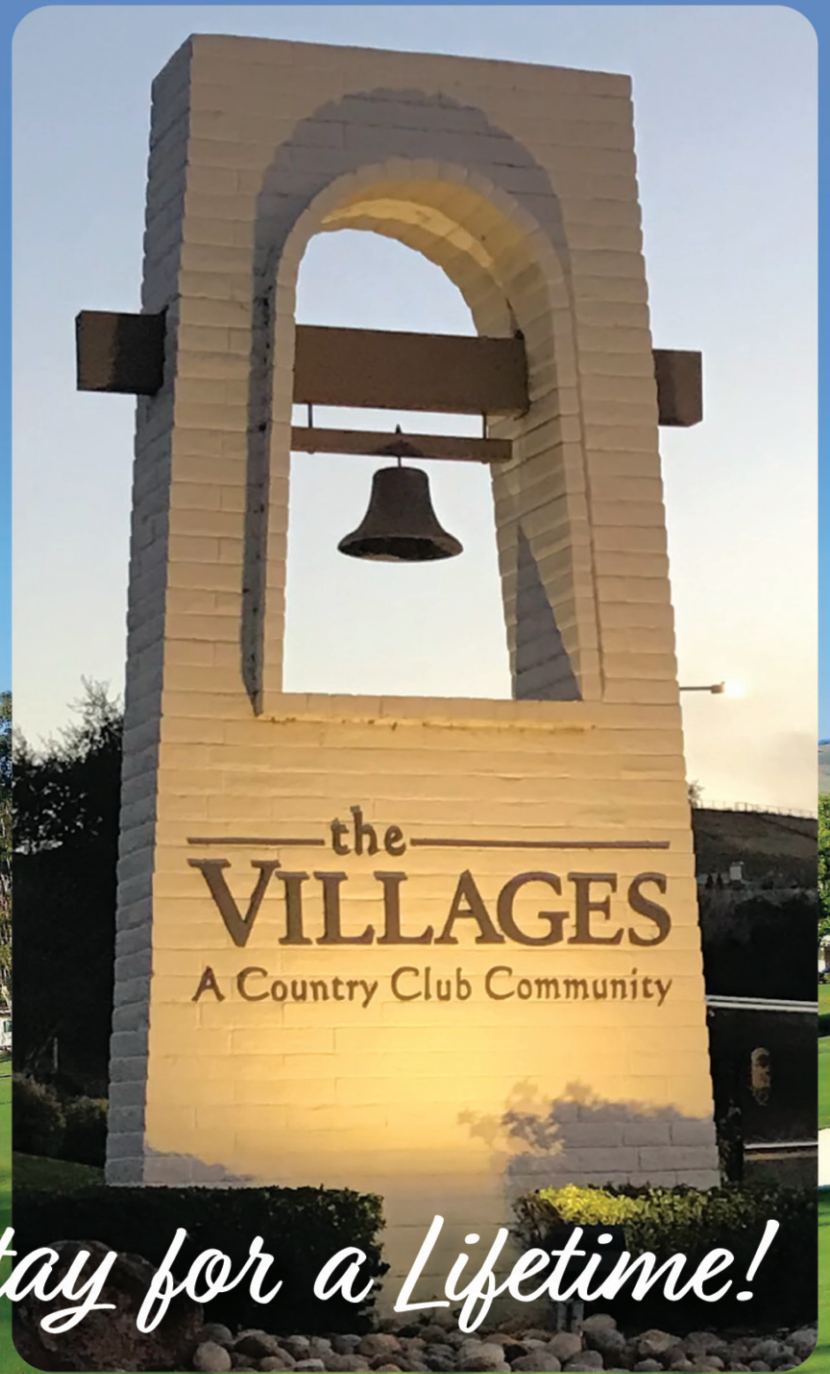
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O P E D

Buying a house could be the best investment you ever make

By Kenny Parcell

The path to homeownership can be bumpy. Buyers must withstand bidding wars, contingencies, complex tax laws and an array of market factors beyond most anyone's control.

Still, buying a house is typically the single best investment a family can make. Homeownership is the largest source of wealth creation in the United States, while the median net worth of the average American homeowner is more than 40 times that of the average renter.

A decision of this magnitude comes with a number of potential hurdles, and it's important to get the decision right. Certified housing counselors and agents who are Realtors can help consumers do just that. The motivation for buying a home in the United States differs from person to person. For many, it's financial — an opportunity to grow home equity and lock in a stable monthly housing payment. For others, it's emotional — a chance to build roots, create stability and feel more connected to their community.

In Bankrate's Financial Security survey, 74% of respondents ranked homeownership as a key component of the American dream.

A report released by the National Association of Realtors analyzed how homeowners across income levels have increased their net worth in recent years and decades. Between 2012 and 2022, the medi-



an value of homes owned by lower-income Americans climbed 75% — a gain of roughly \$100,000. Middle-income homeowners saw their properties appreciate 68% over the same period — equivalent to a wealth increase of \$122,000.

Today, home equity is the largest financial asset for American households in the middle three quintiles of the income distribution, accounting for between 50% and 70% of this group's total net worth.

Making a mortgage payment each month is, in many ways, comparable to contributing to a stable savings account. Homeowners chip away at their loan balance and increase their claim on the home's overall value in the process. Many Americans who bought a median-value home 10 years ago and stayed consistent with their monthly payments have already paid off over 20% of their mortgage.

Unfortunately, many Americans today feel that their homeownership dreams are beyond reach.

All Americans deserve the opportunity to achieve their homeownership dreams and build lasting wealth. Prospective buyers can take advantage of several resources.

First-timers can benefit from connecting with a certified housing counselor. These trained agents with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development help prospective home buyers plan for future home purchases and get their finances mortgage-ready.

Agents who are Realtors also help people navigate the home-buying process. They're uniquely positioned to leverage their knowledge of a local market, extensive networks and downpayment assistance programs to open doors to affordable housing opportunities.

Everyone deserves safe, quality housing at a price they can afford. Even when the market seems challenging, prospective buyers can still obtain their own piece of the American Dream, capitalizing on resources available through real estate professionals and the programs they support.

Kenny Parcell is 2023 President of the National Association of Realtors® and a Realtor® from Spanish Fork, Utah. He is broker-owner of Equity Real Estate Utah.

Valley Currents

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



Sandra Delvin (left) and Brenda Dohmen (right, pictured with Aiko Fadness, center) have been chosen for the award to recognize their exceptional efforts in establishing *Families and Homes San Jose*.

Families and Homes San Jose founders recipient of Fadness Award for Community Involvement

Award created and named for David Fadness by 'Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility'

By William Bellou
Publisher

Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility (CFR) has announced the recipients of this year's David Fadness Award for Community Involvement.

Sandra Delvin and Brenda Dohmen have been chosen for this prestigious award to recognize their exceptional efforts in establishing *Families and Homes San Jose*.

The CFR award was created and named for David Fadness, a tireless supporter of multiple civic causes within San Jose, and a founder of Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility.

Families and Homes San Jose

Since its founding just three years ago, *Families and Homes SJ* has established itself as a leading voice within the city of San Jose, representing the interests of single-family homeowners. The organization is making significant contributions to ongoing civic debates on housing density, residential electrification mandates, city government interventions in the housing market, and the appropriate role of organizations that seek to lobby city government while also receiving funds from the city.

"We are honored to present Sandra Delvin and Brenda Dohmen with the Annual Fadness Award for Civic Involvement," said Pat Waite, President of *Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility*. "Their dedication to improving

the lives of families in San Jose has inspired residents from across the city to join in this important work."

Waite said that the CFR organization commends Sandra Delvin and Brenda Dohmen for their collaborative approach in engaging various stakeholders within the community.

"By fostering partnerships with local organizations, government agencies, and neighborhood groups throughout the city, they have successfully developed sustainable models that promote inclusivity and strengthen the fabric of San Jose," said Waite. "The Annual Fadness Award for Civic Involvement is bestowed upon individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership, creativity, and resourcefulness in addressing societal challenges. Sandra Delvin and Brenda Dohmen embody these qualities through their compassion, persistence, and unwavering commitment to creating a better future for families in San Jose."

About Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility

Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility is a non-profit organization committed to promoting responsible fiscal practices and advocating for the betterment of communities. *Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility* (CFR) was founded in January 2011 by several community-minded San Jose residents. While working together on various community service projects, this organization realized that even though they have diverse social philosophies and political views, there are two strongly held common values. Recognizing that that citizen involvement and action is imperative to improve our future must be ongoing is what drives the members of CFR to reach the generations with their message. CFR is a non-partisan organization. Its members have diverse professional, philosophical, religious, and political backgrounds, and beliefs. The organization's shared focus is on fiscal responsibility in government, and actively working for a brighter future for San Jose and Santa Clara County.

For more information on the *Citizens for Fiscal Responsibility* organization, visit: <https://cfr-sj.org> For more information regarding *Families and Homes San Jose*, visit <https://www.familieshomessj.org>

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Times **Community News**



Watermark at Almaden hosted a *Dads and Dogs* for families, residents and new prospective members in a pre-Father's Day event.

Dad and Dogs event at Watermark Almaden great success

Watermark at Almaden hosted a *Dads and Dogs* for families, residents and new prospective members the day before Father's Day on June 16.

The event featured a new Dog park and Shelby, Watermark's newest furry community member adopted from the local San Jose Animal Care Center.

Food and beverages included house-made doggie biscuits for furry friends and gourmet hot dogs with 'growlers' of beer from local breweries for humans.

The Watermark will also feature their golf simulator, giving a trophy for the best "Dog Leg" shot, and a Dad Joke competition. The event coincides with The Watermark opening their new dog park for residents.

Watermark at Almaden is a Senior Living, Assisted Living, and Memory Care facility situated in the scenic South San Jose neighborhood.



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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.



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!

Times **Community News**

Council approves Mayor's first budget

By Arjun Batra

On Tuesday, June 13, Council met to discuss the San José FY 2023-2024 budget - the Mayor's first budget.

The city staff, especially the finance department, had invested countless hours in generating a detailed, 1000-page budget document covering every revenue source, fee, charges, and city service from trash collection, and animal shelters to building a robust fire and police department.

The Council approved the balanced budget that will focus on the Mayor's three key priorities: public safety, blight, and homelessness. It will allow the city to continue previous contracts with other resources and companies, and provide services residents are familiar with.

Among other projects, the budget funds seek to increase staffing in both the Police and Fire Departments by increasing hiring speed to expand public safety, upgrading the 3-1-1 system, and enhancing the vehicle abatement program. My office will update our website to provide residents with a detailed list of projects this budget is seeking to fund.

Furthermore, the budget will also allow the city to continue to invest in affordable housing and provide homeless services/shelters. The plan calls for spending \$93 million on affordable housing, such as the Mesa Terrace housing program that opened in our district on Wednesday morning (May 14, 2023). Additionally, \$44 million will be dedicated to homeless prevention services and Interim Housing to house our unhoused population. The budget will fund the development of a Homeless Encampment Manage-

ment System to track, record, and analyze all interactions with an encampment to better understand and manage "encampments". Your hard-earned tax dollars are planned to be utilized effectively on these projects in San Jose District 10. These projects aim to enhance our community and improve the lives of its residents:

- Safe July 4th Celebration with Fireworks at Lake Almaden (see more details at <https://sjd10.com/4th-of-july>)
- Hoffman Via Monte Safety Lighting: Staff will be submitting our three requested projects for Federal funding through the Community Development Block Grants process. If all the projects are accepted, much needed lighting upgrades in the Via Monte neighborhood will be completed in 2023-2024.
- Evaluate and implement traffic calming measures on more streets as required
- Five Viva Park events in District 10, which will be organized by our city's Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services (PRNS) department. These events will give us an opportunity to get to know our neighbors again after the pandemic. We will send out the dates for these events as soon as we receive them from PRNS.



District 10 Report
Arjun Batra
Councilmember,
District 10

Aside from the budget, I am pleased to highlight the hospital expansion of the largest healthcare provider in our area - Kaiser Permanente. Kaiser is seeking to expand and modernize its facilities located at Santa Teresa and Cottle Road. It would accommodate about 22% more hospital beds than the existing medical center.

I'm excited about the positive changes that this project and future projects will bring to our District. I can't wait to work with the community and see how these impacts will make a difference in our lives.

If you have any additional comments, email Councilmember Arjun Batra at: district10@sanjoseca.gov.



Marching band

Continued from page 1

and Color Guard has the opportunity to once again perform in the London New Year's Parade this winter. The Ride 4 Moura Music Fundraiser is aiming to raise \$30,000 to provide for the London event and other performance opportunities. The money will fund supplies for equipment, musical instru-

ment repair and care, transportation, uniforms, and auxiliary supplies.

Moura says long bike rides are not only a stress release for him but allow him time to think up solutions to complex problems, such as finding ways to keep the Oak Grove Marching Band funded.

Editor's note: Moura's bike ride began on June 19 at the Bruins statue on the UCLA campus and will finish at 11:30 a.m. on June 24 at Oak Grove High School.



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Smoked Chuck Beef Ribs

Recipe courtesy of Jess Pryles on behalf of Beef Loving Texans
Cook time: 10 hours, 30 minutes
Servings: 8

- 1 slab beef chuck short ribs (about 4 pounds)
- 2 tablespoons kosher salt
- 2 tablespoons coarse black pepper
- 1/4 cup cider vinegar
- 1 cup water

Preheat smoker or pellet grill to 275 F.

Pat ribs dry with paper towel; remove moisture on surface.

Combine salt and pepper. Rub beef ribs well on all sides and ends with seasoning, coating generously.

Place ribs in smoker and close lid. Cook 5-6 hours.

In spray bottle, combine cider vinegar and water. Lightly spritz ribs every 30 minutes for first 4 hours of cooking.

Ribs are ready when completely probe tender. If parts still feel tough, continue cooking.

Once completely tender, remove ribs from smoker then wrap tightly in butcher's paper and place in small cooler to rest 30 minutes.

To serve, slice ribs between bones.



Cook Like a Pitmaster from the Comforts of Home

FAMILY FEATURES

For home chefs looking to take their cooking skills to the next level, it all starts with a little inspiration and a few new skills. Turn family meals into extravagant adventures, take backyard barbecues to new heights and impress friends and neighbors with pitmaster-worthy recipes.

In fact, it can be as easy as turning on the TV. From beef ribs and barbaoca to curried brisket rice and pho rub beef belly spring rolls, viewers are in for a treat by tuning into season 3 of "BBQuest: Beyond the Pit," a video series that dives into the long-held traditions, new flavors and everyday inspiration that make Texas barbecue legendary.

The show follows four themes that capture the essence of Texas barbecue: legacy and tradition; creativity and innovation; Texas trailblazers; and family and community.

You can bring barbecue flavors home and cook like a pitmaster with dishes recreated from the series and developed by "Hardcore Carnivore" cookbook author Jess Pryles, including Smoked Chuck Beef Ribs, Grilled Jalapeno Cheddar Meatballs and Szechuan Skirt Steak with Crispy Rice.

"Since launching BBQuest four years ago, it's truly remarkable to see how much has changed and yet stayed the same when it comes to Texas barbecue, and that's exactly what you see in season 3," said Rachel Chou, Texas Beef Council's director of consumer marketing. "There has been so much exciting innovation around cooking methods and international flavors while there's still a huge dedication to long-held recipes and smoking techniques."

Learn more about the show and find inspiration to bring the taste of barbecue to your kitchen at BeefLovingTexans.com.

Grilled Jalapeno Cheddar Meatballs

Recipe courtesy of Jess Pryles on behalf of Beef Loving Texans

Cook time: 1 hour, 15 minutes

Servings: 15

- 1/2 cup tortilla chips, crushed
- 3/4 cup milk
- 2 pounds ground beef
- 3 fresh jalapenos, seeded and finely diced
- 1 block (8 ounces) cheddar cheese, finely diced
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt

Place crushed tortilla chips in large bowl. Add milk and allow chips to soften about 10 minutes.

After milk is absorbed, add beef, jalapenos, cheese, paprika, garlic and salt. Mix well to combine then scoop approximately 1/3-1/2 cup of mixture to form meatball; repeat with remaining mixture.

Place meatballs on plate or tray and refrigerate 30 minutes to firm.

Heat grill to medium for two zone cooking.

Place meatballs on indirect heat side of grill away from coals or lit burner; close lid. Grill 25-35 minutes, or until meatballs reach 165 F internal temperature on meat thermometer.

Remove meatballs from grill and cool slightly before serving.



Grilled Jalapeno Cheddar Meatballs



Szechuan Skirt Steak with Crispy Rice

Szechuan Skirt Steak with Crispy Rice

Recipe courtesy of Jess Pryles on behalf of Beef Loving Texans

Total time: 35 minutes

Servings: 2

- 2 teaspoons Szechuan peppercorns
- 1 teaspoon five spice powder
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 skirt steak or bavette steak (about 1 pound)
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil, divided
- 2 teaspoons milk or cream
- 2 cups cooked white rice
- sesame seeds (optional)
- scallions, thinly sliced (optional)
- cucumber, sliced (optional)
- cilantro leaves (optional)

In skillet over low heat, toast peppercorns until fragrant, swirling in pan to keep from burning, about 2 minutes. Allow peppercorns to cool slightly then add to spice grinder or mortar and pestle with five spice and salt. Crush until fine powder forms.

Pat skirt steak with paper towel to remove moisture then season well with Szechuan salt on both sides.

Place skillet over high heat then add 1 tablespoon oil. When skillet is hot, add skirt steak and cook 5 minutes per side for medium-rare or medium doneness (135-150 F), turning occasionally. Remove steak from skillet then tent with foil to rest 3 minutes. Temperature will rise about 10-15 F to reach 145 F for medium-rare; 160 F for medium.

Lower heat to medium-high then add remaining oil and milk or cream. Add rice, pressing down gently with large spoon to form tent, flat disc covering entire base of pan. Season with Szechuan salt, if desired, then lower heat to medium and cook 10 minutes until grains begin to turn brown and become crisp on bottom. Break up rice in pan to mix soft and crispy grains.

Slice skirt steak across grain.

To serve, place rice in two bowls. Layer with sliced skirt steak. Sprinkle with sesame seeds and chopped scallions then place cucumber and cilantro on top, if desired.

Times **Feature**

Samantha Rocheville of Almaden earns President's List recognition at Utah Tech University

In a display of academic achievement, nearly 10 percent of Utah Tech University students earned President's List recognition for the Spring 2023 semester.



Samantha Rocheville (inset) is a Nursing Student at Utah Tech University. As an experienced Certified Nursing Assistant, she currently works with Orthopedic and COVID-19 patients at Intermountain Healthcare.

Inclusion in the President's List indicates students' strong commitment to their academic pursuits, as they must achieve a semester GPA of 3.9 or higher for the President's List. Students are also required to complete a minimum of 15 credits.

"I'd like to congratulate all of our students whose hard work has paid off and earned them placement on the President's List," Dr. Michael Lacourse, provost and vice president of academic affairs, said. "I'm proud of our students for taking advantage of all the opportunities available here at Utah Tech."

Over the last five years alone, Utah Tech has expanded its programs from 188 to 276, representing a 47 percent increase. By offering eight graduate, 57 bachelor's, 64 certificates, 48 minors, 76 emphases, and 23 associate degree programs, the University provides a comprehensive education in a vari-

ety of fields to prepare students for the careers of their dreams.

Manisha Vishvanath inducted into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Manisha Vishvanath of Almaden Valley was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society.

Vishvanath was initiated at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Membership in Phi Kappa Phi 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 faculty, 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."

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

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Fireworks

Continued from page 1

Operation Gratitude, but to also collect eyeglasses. Donate your gently used eyeglasses at their booth and help the Lions provide vision care to those in need.

The Food Court features Grill Zillas; Citlaly's Tacos; Dippin' Dots; Road Dogs; Waffle Amore; Indian Express; Junior's Roaster; and Tea Up. To learn more about any of these organizations, visit the event website at www.sjd10.com.

Costume Contest

Show the crowd your patriotic best! Guests can vote online for their favorite costumes. Prizes will be awarded for the Most Patriotic Family, Teen, and Child (under 12), so dress up and participate! Arrive at the stage at 5:00 p.m. to register. Contest starts at 5:30 p.m.

This community organized event is presented by Councilmember Arjun Batra, the Almaden Valley Women's Club, the Kiwanis Club of Almaden Valley, and Mayor Matt Mahan. Members of these community service groups have been working for many months to organize this event.

"A special thank you goes to our District 10 office team, as well as Bob Vonderwerth from the Playa Del Rey Neighborhood Association," said Batra. "Their leadership in bringing together all these organizations will ensure this event goes on for years to come."

Joining them in the planning is San Jose Neighborhood CERT, providing communications support; WestGate Water, collecting cans and bottles to build wells in villages that have no running water; and Almaden Super Lion's Club, hosting the Operation Gratitude booth.

In addition to all the volunteers who have organized the event, many more volunteers are needed to help out throughout the day to

make it successful. There are several different shifts and needs. To learn more and to sign up, visit the event website at sjd10.com.

July 4th Festival sponsors

Major sponsors this year include Summerhill Housing Group, Devastating Pyrotechnics, City of San Jose and the Office of Cultural Affairs, Brandenburg Foundation and Cinnabar Hills Golf Club, County of Santa Clara, Green Waste, Jackie Jones, Home Depot, Star One Credit Union, Westfield Oakridge, San Jose Earthquakes, Good Samaritan Hospital, Dignity Memorial (Oak Hill), Kaiser Permanente, Almaden Times, Golden Wheel Storage and 1776 Apartments. Many other organizations and individuals have donated to help support this event.

This event is free and open to the public and provides a perfect venue for the community to come together and celebrate the birth of our nation while watching a spectacular, safe, and professional fireworks show with family and friends.

Illegal fireworks prohibited

Fireworks are only allowed by a permitted and licensed professional per San Jose Municipal Code 10.17.100. Residents are encouraged to report illegal fireworks. Information on illegal fireworks, including when to call 911, how to file a report, and San Jose's Host Ordinance, visit <https://bit.ly/SJ-Fireworks>

Carpooling and public transit is encouraged. There will be no drop offs nor on-site parking. Alcohol, pets or emotional support animals, barbecues, and illegal fireworks are not allowed at the park at any time on July 4th.

Grab a Frisbee, bring a blanket for comfort and a flashlight for safety and celebrate the 247th birthday of this great nation - The United States of America!

Editor's note: Bikes are a great alternative to driving but may not be ridden inside the park. Rules will be enforced, absolutely no exceptions.

Times **Community News**



Roman Encampment and Legionaries Parades realistic interactive experience.

Live concerts at the 'Festa' Saturday, August 5

From an international singing sensation to a Bay Area country music star, there's entertainment for everyone at the 2023 Italian Family "Festa" San Jose, and it's all free!

World Folk & Roots singer Michela Musolino will be performing on Saturday August 5th, from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. The Sicilian-American singer has been internationally lauded for her unique ability to reimagine Sicilian folk and roots music. Her songs make your heart sing and your feet dance!

On Sunday August 6th, we'll get a little bit country with Silicon Valley's own, Mike Annuzzi.

He takes the stage from 1:30pm-3:30pm. You've heard his hits on country radio, including "Just Getting Started" and "New Boots On."

The Anthony "Nino" Lane Band brings its classic Italian sound to the "Festa" Sunday August 6th from 4pm-6pm. Anthony has been performing since he was 10 years old. His credits over the past few decades are long and impressive.

Also joining a weekend of excellent enter-



Michela Musolino (Photo by Nino Di Maio) inset below: Anthony "Nino" Lane Band

tainment, Bay Area Sinatra - John DeMers, Gold Money Band, Blue House, Livewire, The Fratello Marionettes and Nadejda (Nadia) Poskatcheva.

And new this year, a Roman Encampment and Legionaries Parades... happening both Saturday and Sunday. The Roman experience is educational and interactive... kids and adults will be enchanted with the authentic, cultural addition to the "Festa."

Please visit www.italianfamilyfestasj.org for the full entertainment schedule.

Editor's note: The Italian Family "Festa" is presented by the Italian American Heritage Foundation (IAHF). All proceeds support the preservation of Italian culture and the Italian American Heritage Foundation Scholarship Program.





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Michela Musolino, Aug 5th



Mike Annuzzi, Aug 6, Sun.



Gold Money Band, Sat. & Sun.



Anthony "Nino" Lane Band, Aug 6, Sun.



Roman Encampment & Legionaries Parade



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Our Bus Trip for Education was a big success!

By Dave Cortese

Our 20th annual Sacramento Bus Trip for Education was a memorable day under the sun at the State Capitol. Many thanks to all who participated!

Last month, about 180 educators, students, parents and other local community leaders got up early and loaded up on busses to drive from San Jose to Sacramento, to meet with their elected leaders on education policy. Funding for public schools and colleges takes up about half of the entire state budget, and our trip always follows the release of the Governor's revised budget plan.



Senate Report
By Dave Cortese
State Senator

The Bus Trip to Sacramento began 20 years ago, when I served on the San Jose City Council. At the time, a small group of us from the Evergreen area drove to Sacramento to petition the Governor to adequately fund public education. Our group has grown each year, little by little, and I'm thrilled to now bring 180 passionate community members to meet and share ideas with the powers of Sacramento.

Here are a few snapshots from that lively and informative day:

- **Assemblymember Ash Karla (D-San Jose)**, who chairs the Assembly Committee on Labor and Employment, said he wants to make sure textbook costs are disclosed in college course schedules so students get all the information they need to select classes.

- **Assemblymember Alex Lee (D-San Jose)**, who sits on the Assembly Education Committee, spoke about his legislation to raise teacher pay, and make it easier for people to become teachers.

- **Assemblymember Evan Low (D-Campbell)** talked about the importance of civic engagement and voting access, so that elected officials can adequately represent their communities.

- **Senator Steve Glazer (D-Orinda)**, who sits on the Senate Education Committee, spoke about the importance of colleges graduating students in four years to reduce student debt and dropouts. Steve mentioned that San Jose State University tripled its four-year graduation rate over eight years — the best rate of the entire California State University system!

- **Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz)**, who chairs the Senate Budget Subcommittee on Education, is pushing for more funding for K-12 arts, and for new housing across California's entire public higher education system (CCC, CSU, UC).

- **Senate Majority Leader Mike McGuire (D-Geyserville)**, who sits on the Senate Education Committee, talked about California's strides in state spending levels for each student (from dead last to top 10 in the nation!) and improvements in school meals and student counseling.

- **Senator Rosilicie Ochoa Bogh (R-Yucaipa)**, vice chair of the Senate Education Committee, spoke about building more on-campus college housing, creating a more inclusive environment for special education, and improving school meal access for every California student.

- Finally, **Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins (D-San Diego)** encouraged attendees of our Sacramento Bus Trip to get in touch with their local representatives.

I'll close with my conversation with Erik Bauer, a junior at Abraham Lincoln High School. Erik asked what was being done to address the fentanyl crisis that has, in some terrible cases, caused students to overdose at school. Erik told me stories that made my heart sink. Unfortunately, public schools aren't currently required to have plans to protect students from such overdoses. Fentanyl is responsible for one in every five deaths of young people. It kills more youth than all other drugs combined. In Santa Clara County alone, youth fentanyl deaths have spiked by 365 percent over the past few years. My SB 10 would require that school safety plans — which are already in every school — include concrete strategies for the prevention and treatment of student opioid overdoses, including training for teachers and other school employees.

My conversation with Erik shows why the annual bus trip is necessary. Elected officials need to hear from people who are experiencing life outside of the halls of the Capitol — people who have to live with the laws that come out of Sacramento. Thank you so much to everyone who joined us, asked good questions, and made their voice heard. Your ideas and feedback are essential to creating a California that works for everyone.

Senator Dave Cortese represents State Senate District 15, which encompasses much of Santa Clara County in the heart of Silicon Valley. He chairs the Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee. Visit Senator Cortese's website: <https://sd15.senate.ca.gov>

Times Feature



Lincoln High School in San Jose. Photo by Lorraine Gabbert.

San Jose parents, teachers call for safety task force

More than 300 teachers, parents and residents have signed a petition demanding action at Abraham Lincoln High due to shooting threats

By Lorraine Gabbert
San José Spotlight

Parents and teachers in the San Jose Unified School District are demanding district leaders take action to address a recent string of shooting threats.

Almost 300 teachers, parents and residents across the largest school district in Santa Clara County have signed a petition from Abraham Lincoln High School parent Trudi McCanna and English teacher Elizabeth Neely. They want the school board to come up with a communication plan and community task force, as well as an assessment of safety equipment, including cameras and intercom systems, and any needed repairs.

The petition follows safety threats at several SJUSD schools. On April 21, a Herbert Hoover Middle School student was caught carrying a loaded firearm and taken into police custody. On May 14, a Lincoln High School student made a threat on social media to bring an assault rifle to school and shoot classmates. He was arrested after attending school the following day. On May 17, police arrested a Willow Glen High School student who walked onto campus armed with a loaded ghost gun and knife.

The school community—which includes guardians of more than 30,000 students across 41 campuses—has criticized the district for not being more transparent when these threats occurred.

“I’m really seeing these now as a pattern of continued trauma on the kids,” McCanna told San José Spotlight. “I’m not yet seeing us advancing as a community far enough in how we’re handling it. It doesn’t feel to the kids like the adults are managing the situation competently.”

Jose Magana, SJUSD school board president, didn’t respond to requests for comment.

McCanna, who has children who attend Lincoln and Willow Glen high schools, hopes to see better collaboration between the school board, teachers, parents, mental

On April 21, a Herbert Hoover Middle School student was caught carrying a loaded firearm and taken into police custody. On May 14, a Lincoln High School student made a threat on social media to bring an assault rifle to school and shoot classmates. He was arrested after attending school the following day. On May 17, police arrested a Willow Glen High School student who walked onto campus armed with a loaded ghost gun and knife.

health professionals and law enforcement agencies. On Thursday night she wants the school board to implement the suggestions made in the petition or come back with other ideas.

“We all have to come together on this,” she said.

Sarah Brankis, a math teacher at Lincoln High School, wants to see the district listen to teacher input and apply it toward student needs, as well as hire more mental health professionals.

“A lot definitely has happened and we’re the ones that are in the trenches,” she told San José Spotlight. “We just need a little bit more of a push toward a new era of safety and communication within San Jose Unified.”

Deana Thai, a visual arts teacher at Lincoln High School, said current processes aren’t working and students have voiced that they don’t feel safe on campus. She said cameras don’t work properly and the phone system goes down with the internet.

“It’s really important to address current policies regarding safety and make it a board agenda item,” Thai said. “It’s the only way to open a channel for a collaborative effort in making school feel safe for our students.”

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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

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 break-neck 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**



The San Francisco Mime Troupe: (L - R) Standing: **Andre Amarotico, Jed Parsario** (L - R) Sitting: **Kina Kantor, Michael Sullivan, Alicia M. P. Nelson.**

SF Mime troupe to perform free concert at St. James Park July 8

The San Francisco Mime Troupe will be performing a free performance at St. James Park in San Jose on July 8 starting at 2:30 p.m.

The troupe will be performing *Breakdown – A New Musical*.

Short Synopsis

Yume lives on the streets of increasingly intolerant San Francisco, but that doesn't

mean all her issues can be solved by a passionate social worker. In a City that seems to have more paperwork than compassion help is always just around the Kafkaesque labyrinthine corner!

But that doesn't mean San Francisco is the hellhole of progressivism up-and-coming Fox News commentator Marcia Stone portrays to the rest of the country. But whether it's an individual, a bureaucracy, or a national sanity, everything is headed for a... Breakdown.

Note: St. James park is located at the corner of 2nd Street & St. James St. in downtown San Jose.



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."



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Times **OpEd**

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Source: University of North Carolina School of Media & Journalism



How Silicon Valley's lethal autonomous weapons development involves Almaden

By **Sucheer Maddury**

Recent administrations have made increasing use of drone-facilitated targeted killings in foreign countries, such as the assassination of perceived terrorist leaders in Middle Eastern countries, raising concerns about our use of autonomous systems for military pursuits.

While the vast majority of our current use comes from lethal semi-autonomous weapons—or those controlled by humans, increasing development in Silicon Valley's tech sector has given rise to a new class of weapon—the lethal autonomous weapon (LAW).

These weapons are controlled by their own whims and act completely based on mechanized “sensory” input—visual input from cameras, aural input from microphones, and tactile input from robotic limbs. As one of the most tech-centered areas of Silicon Valley, we as Almaden citizens have a unique duty to educate our youth with ethical AI principles.

The morality of LAWs has several competing considerations. The most obvious argument in favor of LAWs is that it removes the personal risk of military combatants, effectively making wars into a comparison of military might at strategy, without the accompanying cost. While conflict itself is not permissible, it seems more sensible that we should use inanimate robots to fight wars rather than humans, since the winner would have demonstrated their military superiority without sacrificing thousands of soldier

lives.

However, there are also consequences that come with this decreased risk. First, countries as a whole have less of an incentive to stop conflict from happening when there is no human cost accompanying the war—although this arguably has not deterred countries in the past from waging pointless wars. Second, LAWs that become part of some land invasion could easily oppress the citizens in the victim country, and kill indiscriminately if they suffer from hacking or some error. Third, oppressive regimes or terrorist groups may make use of LAWs to exert terror and restrict civil liberties.

Overall, the future of LAWs looks bright, however, as the heart of the world's artificial intelligence development, we as Silicon Valley engineers have a unique duty to be morally responsible when developing lethal autonomous technology. Our research in lethal AI needs to be guided by a level of moral framework that allows us to reap the benefits of LAWs, without the perilous risks.

In Almaden Valley, the ways in which we educate our youth have historically been focused on STEM education—especially in computer science. At Leland High School, for example, a substantial portion of juniors (11th grade) are intended computer science or engineering majors, typically demonstrated via AI research. Eventually, these students will become workers in AI technology—potentially in lethal autonomous technology.

To ensure the next generation of the world's weapons protect lives and don't take them, instilling ethical AI values is our moral obligation.

About the author: Sucheer Maddury is a junior student at Leland High School and founder and president of a 501c3 nonprofit organization called Pi & World, where ethical use of artificial intelligence is taught to younger students.

Report: California ranks 34th in nation for summer fatalities among teen drivers

As we enter the summer months, a new study by Bumper.com reveals that California ranks 34th in the nation for summer fatalities among teen drivers.

From 2017 to 2021, young driver fatalities in your state showed alarming figures, with a 3-year average of 450 teen driver fatalities, accounting for 12% of all such roadway fatalities. On average nationwide, 37.5% of state teen driving deaths happen during the summer months.

Tragically, California experiences the deadliest month for teen drivers in August, with August recorded as the most perilous summer month.

According to the study, California had an estimated 471 fatalities involving teen drivers in 2022, with a rate of 4.17 fatalities per 10,000 young drivers behind the wheel. The national average is 4.85 fatalities per 10,000 young drivers behind the wheel.

Traffic fatalities remain stubbornly high nationwide, particularly involving young

drivers. These young individuals are much more likely to be involved in fatal accidents.

Speeding remains the top cause of young driver deaths, accounting for 39.3% of such accidents. As a community-focused outlet, it is essential to raise awareness on the alarming trend of summer fatalities among teen drivers in California.

California Teen Driver Related Fatality Stats:

2017 Young Driver Fatalities	461
2018 Young Driver Fatalities	434
2019 Young Driver Fatalities	386
2020 Young Driver Fatalities	446
2021 Young Driver Fatalities	518
3-year Avg of Teen Driver Fatalities	450
3-year Sum All Fatalities	3913
3-year Average Teen	12%
2022 Estimate for Teen Drivers	471
Fatalities per 10,000	4.17
State Summer Fatality % (June-September)	36.67%
State Summer Fatality Ranking	34th
Deadliest Month	August
Deadliest Summer Month	August

The full study can be found here: <https://www.bumper.com/analysis/teen-driving-accidents-fatalities>

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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Almaden **Times**

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*, next page

Valley Water Board declares water conservation a way of life

Rules prohibiting water waste in Santa Clara County unanimously approved

Valley Water's Board of Directors unanimously adopted a resolution declaring that water conservation must be a way of life in Santa Clara County.

The Board also unanimously passed an ordinance with permanent water waste prohibitions to ensure that water as a precious resource is not misused, even during non-drought periods.

Making water conservation a way of life is critical to the long-term economic and environmental sustainability of Santa Clara County. Our region is prone to multi-year droughts and resulting water shortages.

"Our residents and businesses showed a commitment to water conservation by saving more than 10 billion gallons of water during the drought emergency," Chair John L. Varela said. "Now, we are asking the community to work with us to make water conservation a way of life."

The ordinance allows Valley Water to respond quickly to future droughts. During periods when Valley Water's Board has called for mandatory water use reduction, the ordinance provides an enforcement process that includes fines for those who violate outdoor water waste restrictions despite repeated notifications to address the waste.

During periods when Valley Water's Board has not called for mandatory water use reduction, the ordinance provides an enforcement process that includes notifications and edu-



Playing in the sprinklers during the daytime is no longer permitted in the County of Santa Clara.

cation for those reported to have violated water waste restrictions and refers repeated complaints to water retailers for further enforcement action.

As part of the ordinance approved by the Board, the following water-wasting actions are now permanently prohibited in Santa Clara County:

- Using sprinklers between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Causing runoff while watering any outdoor landscape.
- Watering outdoors within 48 hours of measurable rainfall.
- Using leaking plumbing fixtures, sprinklers, or irrigation systems without repairing them after written notification from a retailer or Valley Water.
- Also, using potable water for: Watering non-functional turf at commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, including common areas of homeowner's associations and multi-family residential properties.

Valley Water's water waste inspectors respond to reports of water waste and violations of local water use restrictions. Reports of water waste in Santa Clara County can be reported through our webpage at access.valleywater.org, emailing WaterWise@valleywater.org, or by calling (408) 630-2000.

Summer Fun

Continued from previous page

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 counsellor and program director. He is now a retired stay-at-home dad. WTDWTK can be found exclusively on social media at [face-book.com/whattodowiththekids](https://www.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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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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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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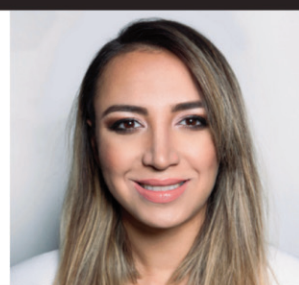
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Faith.Knowledge. Community - this is our promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office. Information on Faith Formation for children and adults can be obtained by calling our Catechetical Office at 408-997-5115. Get in the loop with our 3sixty High School Youth Ministry by calling 408-997-5106. Holy Spirit School serves grades Pre-K through 8th, and is located at 1198 Redmond Avenue. You can reach the school office at 408-268-0794.

SAN JOSE GURDWARA
3636 Gurdwara Ave. San Jose, CA 95148 The word Sikh (see-kh) means "disciple" or "student." A Sikh is a practitioner of the faith founded in the 15th century by Guru Nanak in Punjab of old British India. A Guru who is a "teacher" or "enlightener" completes the relationship of teaching and learning. Sikhism is monotheistic and stresses the equality of all men and women. Sikhs believe in three basic principles; meditating on the name of God (praying), earning a living by honest means and sharing the fruits of one's labor with others. Currently there are close to one million Sikhs living in the USA and Canada and 25 million Sikhs living around the world. Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world. At the Gurdwara (House of God) in San Jose we welcome all. We pray daily for peace and prosperity for everybody in the world. Come to visit and enjoy Langer (food) in our kitchen which is open 365 days of the year and serves complementary vegetarian meals. We also encour-



THE POINT CHURCH
3695 Rose Terrasse Cir San Jose, CA 95148
(408) 270-7646
English Service: Sundays at 9:30 & 11:00 AM
Spanish Service: 11:00 AM
Cambodian Service: 11:00 AM
Cantonese Service: 11:00 AM
Mandarin Service: 11:00AM
Youth Extreme Point (7th-12th grade): Every Saturday at 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH
We invite you to become a part of our hospitable,

intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and wherever you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www.churchsanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.



God is One
ੴ ਸਿਕ ਹੈ
Rab Ik Hai

SAN JOSE GURDWARA
3636 Gurdwara Ave. San Jose, CA 95148 The word Sikh (see-kh) means "disciple" or "student." A Sikh is a practitioner of the faith founded in the 15th century by Guru Nanak in Punjab of old British India. A Guru who is a "teacher" or "enlightener" completes the relationship of teaching and learning. Sikhism is monotheistic and stresses the equality of all men and women. Sikhs believe in three basic principles; meditating on the name of God (praying), earning a living by honest means and sharing the fruits of one's labor with others. Currently there are close to one million Sikhs living in the USA and Canada and 25 million Sikhs living around the world. Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world. At the Gurdwara (House of God) in San Jose we welcome all. We pray daily for peace and prosperity for everybody in the world. Come to visit and enjoy Langer (food) in our kitchen which is open 365 days of the year and serves complementary vegetarian meals. We also encour-

age you to enter our history room on site and walk the beautiful grounds. Learn more about us and community events we sponsor by visiting our website; <http://www.SanJoseGurdwara.org>

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH
5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135
408-223-1562.
www.stfrancisofassisi.com or www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org
We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr. High, IGNITE - High School and North Star-Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations: St. Francis of Assisi Chapel: Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass
St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall
Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM
Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road
Sunday 9:30 AM
The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium) Sunday 8:15 AM
For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

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

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

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

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

Connected

We enjoy meeting new people, making new connections and getting involved. All volunteer opportunities are based on your time and energy commitment. Fees for classes, trips and social events are kept low because of senior volunteer participation and membership strength.

Stop by the main desk at the Almaden Community Center and ask for an application today. Yearly dues of \$10 are returned to you by discounts to most of the programs you participate in.

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Contact via email: almadenseniors1@gmail.com**



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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