

San Jose students support social media bill  
**PAGE 4**



# HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

Celebrate Fourth of July at Almaden Lake Park, Events 3 p.m. Fireworks show 9 p.m. - See page 8

JULY 2023 ■ VOL. 19, NO. 7

# Willow Glen Times

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## Recent burglaries shake up Willow Glen community

*Neighborhood watch party created with help of police*

By William Bellou  
Publisher

More than 60 Willow Glen residents recently met in the front yard of a neighbor's home on Padres Drive to discuss the best course of action to address a spate of recent incidents — from stolen cars to home break-ins.

At the meeting the group organized a neighborhood watch party with the help of police officers where crime prevention tips were projected on a screen. But little did that group know that on that very night, just as the meeting was wrapping up, burglars, just 450 feet away, two unidentified men smashed the window of a home on Hervey Lane.

Residents who learned of the break-in incident the next morning were shell-shocked, and expressed their concerns on how brazen thieves operated in daylight hours where neighbors walk their dogs or take walks.

"It's crazy," said a Willow Glen resident, describing the scene that happened that night. "The neighborhood is on edge. We're all on edge."

More than 60 Willow Glen residents recently met in the front yard of a neighbor's home on Padres Dr. to discuss the best course of action to address a spate of recent incidents — from

See CRIME, page 6

## Councilmember Dev Davis leading longevity walks

San Jose City Councilmember Dev Davis has started a series of "longevity walks," leading groups by foot on paths around the city.

"I want our city's residents to be healthier and live longer," said Davis, when she recently led a group of more than 50 people — including Councilmembers Omar Torres and Domingo Candelas, City Manager Jennifer



Maguire and San Jose State President Cynthia Teniente-Matson — on a short walk from City Hall to the San Jose State campus.

Not only do these "longevity walks" provide some healthy exercise, but they're also educational, with the group stopping to learn about the history of Tower Hall and the stories behind the statues of Tommie Smith and John Carlos and the Arch of Dignity.

Davis hopes the walks help get San Jose certified by the Blue Zone Project, a community-wide well-being improvement initiative. There are currently more than 70 Blue Zone Project communities around the world, where people are found to live longer. "They're having wonderful, amazing health outcomes and improvements in health equity," Davis said.

## Police: Inebriated teen driver hit, killed Willow Glen student

*High School student was under the influence*

By Times staff reporters

The driver that hit and killed a Willow Glen High School student in the parking lot of an apartment complex on Rinconada Drive was under the influence of alcohol, according to San Jose police.

The crash, which was reported at 12:56 a.m. on June 7, involved a teen girl driver under the age of 18 who struck and killed a teenage boy, identified as Justin Estria, who was on foot near the entrance of a parking lot to an apartment building.

A memorial of flowers for Justin Estria was erected behind the football stadium at Willow Glen High School by fellow students. More than 200 people attended a candlelight vigil including family members.



Police said she was driving at a low rate of speed, remained at the scene and cooperated with the investigation. A spokesperson for the San Jose Police Department confirmed that the driver was arrested after the

crash and later released. Police said the girl and the Estria were both drinking at separate parties the night of the incident.

Justin was a "bright, funny, kind, well-loved kid" who "brought so much joy to those



Justin Estria was a "bright, funny and kind," says students at Willow Glen High School.

who knew him," according to a GoFundMe fundraiser organized by family friend Amy Lehman.

Donations will be used to help pay for services, Lehman said.

As of June 30, more than \$56,000 has been raised according to GoFundMe.

SEE OUR CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THIS ISSUE - PAGE 19





# Happy Birthday America!

*Complimentary Event For You and Your Family  
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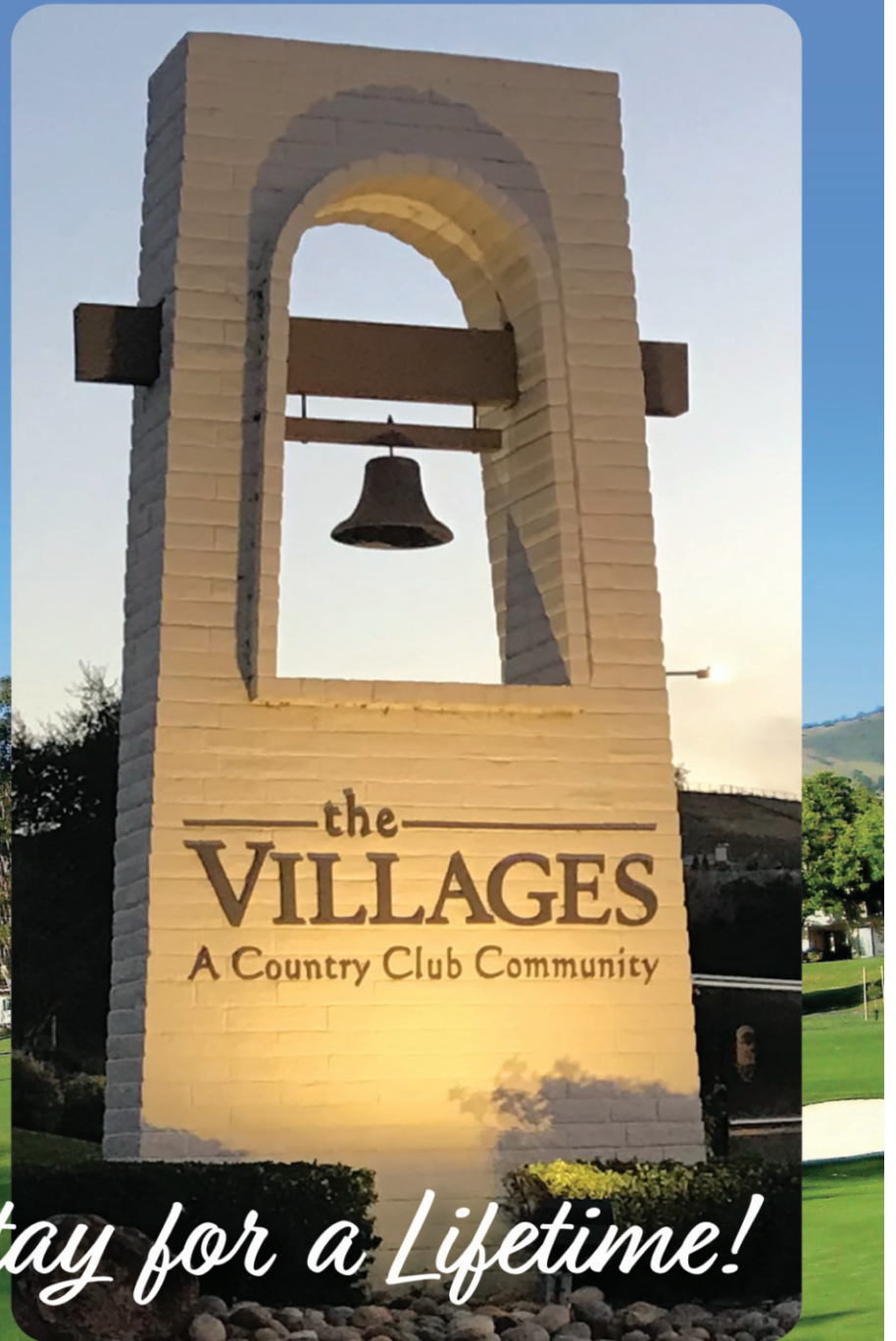
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## NOTEBOOK



## Good Karma Bikes moves to Montgomery Ave. July 19

Good Karma Bikes is moving to a new location on July 19.

The bike shop's new location is 82 South Montgomery Ave, San Jose, CA 95125. The location is near the Diridon transit hub and light rail.

"Good Karma is now strategically placed on far-reaching public transit lines empowering community access to Good Karma support like never before," said Jim Gardner, Good Karma founder & CEO.

### Good Karma history

In 2009, the donation of a mobile appliance repair van was a turning point for Good Karma Bikes. In 2016, GKB moved into Midtown, scaled its impact, and demonstrated the sustainability of its "bicycle thrift store" model.

Since 2016, the bike shop has provided more than \$3.6M of community aid in the form of free bikes, parts, and service;

servicing more than 46,700 clients, and granting more than 9,700 bikes to people in need.

### About Good Karma Bikes

Good Karma Bikes is a non-profit social enterprise, which operates a full-service, second-hand bike shop open to the public. Its mobile bike clinics service people in need with both free and fee-for-service.

## Housing planned for former San Jose casino site

According to plans recently filed with the City of San Jose, a large housing development with more than 1,000 homes - 15% of which are dedicated affordable homes - is set to be built on the site of a former San Jose casino at 360 and 400 Saratoga Ave., near Kiely Boulevard.

The transit-oriented project will also include commercial space for retail and restaurants and two acres of publicly accessible open space.

# Valley Currents

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



Willow Glen High School students **Melissa Anicua** (right) and **Arianna Dominguez** (left) said it's sometimes hard to tell what's true on social media. Photo by Lorraine Gabbert.

## 'Real or not': San Jose students support social media bill

By Lorraine Gabbert  
*San Jose Spotlight*

Teens in San Jose said the line between truth and lies is becoming harder to define on social media and distinguishing the difference would be welcome. One state legislator wants to make that happen.

Assemblymember Marc Berman authored a bill that will require schools to incorporate media literacy into K-12 classes in every subject. AB 873, which passed unanimously in the Assembly, is currently in the Senate Education Committee.

Willow Glen High School student Melissa Anicua said some of her friends suffered from cyberbullying while playing online video games, and others had their social media accounts hacked and received fake texts. She said classes on media literacy could help differentiate what is real and what is fake.

"You can't really tell if (the information is) real or not," she told San José Spotlight. "I feel like it's just helpful to know so you don't get confused on things and think bad stuff about people."

Lisa Whitfield, chair of the psychology department at Santa Clara University, said it's beneficial to have students engage in developmentally appropriate lessons about how to evaluate claims that come from the media. But she cautions against making them feel every source is untrustworthy and urges input from scientists and educators.

Berman said as the spread of misinformation has become increasingly pervasive, it's essential young people view information through a critical lens. They need to know how to do their own research to confirm or deny the media they're exposed to, he said. He hopes by integrating media literacy into all subjects, it'll help students put misinformation into context and lessens its personal effect.

"Young people are getting the majority of their

news from social media and the internet," he told San José Spotlight. "They are getting bombarded with misinformation, conspiracy theories and lies on a daily basis."

Arianna Dominguez, a student at Willow Glen High School, said social media makes people feel they have to look or be a certain way to like themselves.

"It causes mental problems, especially for young people," she said. "If they know that those things aren't real, then it would probably help them release a lot of stress."

Katy Bruchmann, associate professor of psychology at Santa Clara University, said although a bill like this would help, social media misinformation can stick. She said cyberbullying research suggests it's associated with mental health, body image issues and even physical health issues in adolescents.

"Learning that something is fake after reading it and processing it doesn't really help," she told San José Spotlight. "People will still believe what they read. But one thing that does seem to help a little bit is inoculating people against misinformation ahead of time. It sounds like this bill would incorporate these techniques in the classroom, which would be great, if successful."

This isn't the first time the state Legislature has addressed social media. In 2018 state lawmakers passed SB 830 to create social media literacy guidelines. It requires the California Department of Education to provide school districts with an online list of resources, instructional materials and development programs for teachers.

More than 90% of young adults use social media, and the majority were confused by fabricated news, according to data in SB 830. It also cited a Stanford University study which said 82% of middle school students struggle to distinguish advertisements from news stories.

Berman said his bill takes media literacy to the next step and ensures it's used in the classroom. He feels there is no time to waste.

"I'm terribly concerned about the amount of misinformation, conspiracy theories and outright lies that are flying across social media and flying across the internet," he said, "and the real-life impact that its having on our communities and our society. We need to make sure the next generation knows how to identify and dismiss misinformation. We can't wait any longer."

## Willow Glen Times

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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](mailto:sjd10.com).



## Crime

Continued from page 1

stolen cars to home break-ins.

Willow Glen resident Dan Lawless described a frustrating series of incidents. He explained that his car was stolen last week. "Police recovered it within 48 hours, but just a couple of days later, thieves tried to take my car again." Fortunately, this time, Lawless disabled the battery, slowing down the theft.

### A family afflicted

Blackwell says she has had her own series of escalating episodes in the neighborhood where she has lived for more than a decade — eight incidents in the past 6 1/2 years.

It started with her husband's car being stolen in 2016, leading to the couple's insurance rising by \$9,000. Since then, she

has had individuals walk right up to her home, peek into the windows and try to open the doors on five separate occasions. Then, on April 17 of this year, Blackwell's home was broken into while she wasn't there. Video footage showed three unidentified men in her house for eight minutes — and Blackwell still is trying to figure out what all is missing from her home, but she did confirm the burglars took a toolbox and a safe.

Many neighbors say, "Far too many people feel unsafe today, and we have to change that we need to increase police presence. Many neighbors said they would welcome more police to help combat crime in Willow Glen."

San Jose Mayor Mahan is pushing for more police officers. He wants 31 more officers in the coming years — arguing that more patrols inside neighborhoods could lead to safer outcomes.

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

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 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](http://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



quakes, 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.*

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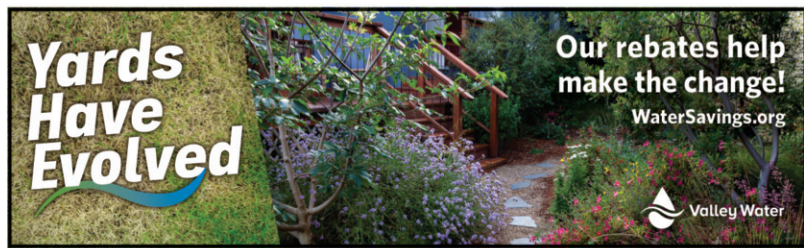


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As you walk through your neighborhood, you may have noticed that a growing number of homes in Santa Clara County have already traded their front lawns for a gorgeous water-wise landscape. Residents in Santa Clara County are discovering the many benefits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



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

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Times **Feature**

## 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 median 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.*

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Times **Feature**

# 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-

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*.



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 com-

munity-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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**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 barbacoa 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](http://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 large, 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

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 head-

lines 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 concerned 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](mailto: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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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

Contact One Step Closer for more information and to enroll [one.step.closer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:one.step.closer@sbcglobal.net) 408-778-3567



## 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 vehi-



cles 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: Merryly 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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Roman Encampment and Legionaries Parades realistic interactive experience. At right: Anthony "Nino" Lane Band

# Live concerts at the family '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 Annucci.

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

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](http://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*



Michela Musolino (Photo by Nino Di Maio)

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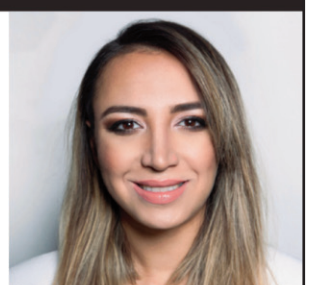
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The San Francisco Mime Troupe: (L - R) Standing: **Andre Amarotico, Jed Parsario** (L - R) Sitting: **Kina Kantor, Michael Sullivan, Alicia M. P. Nelson.**

### 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 pas-

sionate 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.*



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### 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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Sify Technologies North America Corporation seeks Lead Database Administrator in Santa Clara, CA and Philadelphia, PA. Partner with architects of different engineering/application teams to engineer complex technical product in order to provide business solutions to various business divisions as a part of DBA Engineering project activities. Implement and administer Oracle streams for live reporting server, database consolidation, zero downtime migration. Travel to unanticipated client sites within the US. May need to relocate. Work from home is an option. **Send resume to: katta.reddy@sifycorp.com**

## Software Development

### Software Development

Manage cloud-based software development.

2 years exp. \$123,885/yr.

Supermove Inc. 178 Bluxome St #202, San Francisco, CA 94107.

## Notices

AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All Your Favorite Screens. CHOICE Package, \$64.99/mo plus taxes for 12months. Premium Channels at No Charge for One Year! Anytime, anywhere. Some restrictions apply. W/ 24-mo. agmt TV price higher in 2nd year. Regional Sports Fee up to \$8.49/mo. is extra & applies. Call IVS 1-408-688-5490

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## CATALYTIC CONVERTER ETCH AND PROTECT PROGRAM

Please join the San Jose Police Department and the San Jose Police Foundation for the Catalytic Converter Etching Program.

Etching a converter with your license plate or VIN number will assist police to help track the converter in the event it is stolen and recovered.

**AND IT'S FREE!**



1 Make an appointment with one of our partners by calling your choice below.



2 Register your vehicle for the program.



3 Get Etched!

THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES ARE CURRENT SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT ETCH AND PROTECT PARTNERS. IF YOU ARE AN AUTOMOTIVE BUSINESS OWNER WHO WISHES TO PARTNER WITH THE SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT ETCH AND PROTECT PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT CAPTAIN TRAYER: 3301@SANJOSECA.GOV

CAPITOL HONDA  
745 CAPITOL EXPY,  
SAN JOSE  
408-445-4422

STEVENS CREEK TOYOTA  
4202 STEVENS CREEK BLVD.  
SAN JOSE  
408-984-1234

SPEEDEE/MIDAS  
1825 E. CAPITOL EXPY,  
SAN JOSE  
408-531-0701

Disclaimer: Etching the catalytic converter does not guarantee it will not be stolen, nor is it guarantee of recovery...but it could help!

It's easy & FREE to get rid of your junk



Make appointment · Set out · We'll pick up



**SEnvironment.org/junkpickup**

Help keep our neighborhood clean! Report illegal dumping: 408-535-3500



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essential service and  
taking all recommended  
CDC precautions.**



**408-477-2242**

3519 San Felipe Rd.

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[www.sosautorepair.com](http://www.sosautorepair.com)