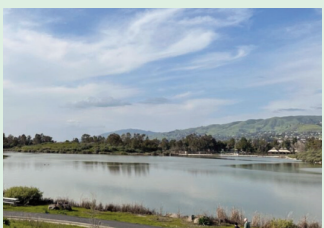
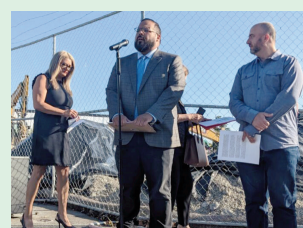


Local Lake Cunningham receives funding for restoration
SEE PAGE 4



State Senate report:
National Night Out promotes police-community partnership
SEE PAGE 8

East San Jose residents demand environmental justice
SEE PAGE 10



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JULY 14 – JULY 27, 2023 ■ VOL. 40, NO. 15

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Positions filled at Evergreen School District

Evergreen School District Superintendent, Dr. Antoine Hawkins recently announced that several individuals have joined the Evergreen School District.

Samuel Bass has accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Shan Gao is the new Supervisor of Child Nutrition Services, and Dr. Thien Hoang is the new Director of Special Education.

The Board of Trustees approved their appointments at their regular and special board meetings held on June 22 and June 26.

Sam Bass: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

Samuel (Sam) Bass is completing his 24th year in public education.

Bass has most recently served as the Chief of Labor Relations for the San Francisco Unified School District. He also served as the Executive Director of Talent Acquisition & Staffing, Director of Visual & Performing Arts, as well as serving as



See POSITIONS, page 6

Best turnout ever for 'all ages' Eastridge Health Fair

District 8 City Councilperson Domingo Candelas coordinated the popular event

By Kevin Larsen
Times Staff writer

Everyone was looking forward to the annual free uplifting Health Fair event held at Eastridge on Friday, June 30.

Hundreds of people arrived, starting at 8 a.m., taking advantage of complimentary Starbucks coffee, pastries, breakfast burritos and more; but the real joy came from the smiles and healthy conversations!

The planning for this event was excellent, with information tables spread across the length of two football fields inside the welcoming and immaculate Eastridge Center in Evergreen.

Attendees of the event were impressed on how beautiful Eastridge Center has become and



My symphony, 'tis of thee

The San Jose Metropolitan Band performed at the Cribari Center at the Villages Golf and Country Club on the 4th of July. The band played patriotic, big band, and show tunes to the delight of audience members. *Photo by Lou Alexander.*

how it was such a joy to walk inside. It is so clean that it looks like a new mall and it's really fun to shop around in!

Information tables were meticulously set up for everyone to learn and share health tips with others. There were brochures, complimentary goodie items, tote bags and more. When one walked up to any table there were happy smiling people who earnestly wanted to listen and share information in

what they specialized in regarding good health.

Event for people of all ages!

Domingo Candelas, District 8's new Council member, grew up in Evergreen, attended local schools and is very outgoing. He welcomed everyone on a first name basis and explained to the crowd that his team members wanted to know how they can help everyone in the local area.

A new twist on the Eastridge

Health Fair was introduced which in addition to seniors, "All Ages," were welcome. This was a nice change compared to previous senior health fairs at Eastridge. Many brought family members. The theme of the event is that information is power and health is the key focus for each person of any age.

Tables had resources to assist in helping everyone on the pathway
See HEALTH FAIR, page 20

2023 EVHS seniors graduate, SJSU Event Center packed

By Vivek Sharma
Special to the Times

Pomp and Circumstance rang through the air as Evergreen Valley High School's (EVHS) graduates walked into the auditorium and sat in their assigned seats. It was the day students had been dreaming of throughout their high school experience.

The class of 2023 spent more than a year and a half of high school online and had to transition to in-person learning right after that. Nevertheless, they successfully pushed through and succeeded, earning many awards and distinctions, performing well academically, and making many



The graduates stand in their assigned spots, with school and district staff on the stage. [EVHS Graduation 2023 Live Stream/SJSU Event Center]

friends and memories throughout.

This year, the graduation ceremony was held in San Jose State University's (SJSU) Event Center, a large indoor venue with the

capacity to accommodate up to 7,000 guests. The graduation was also streamed live on YouTube. (See YouTube video link here: <https://tinyurl.com/259c7p4z>)

Parents, guardians, friends, and family lined the seats, eagerly waiting to spot their graduate and waiting for the name of their graduate to be called.

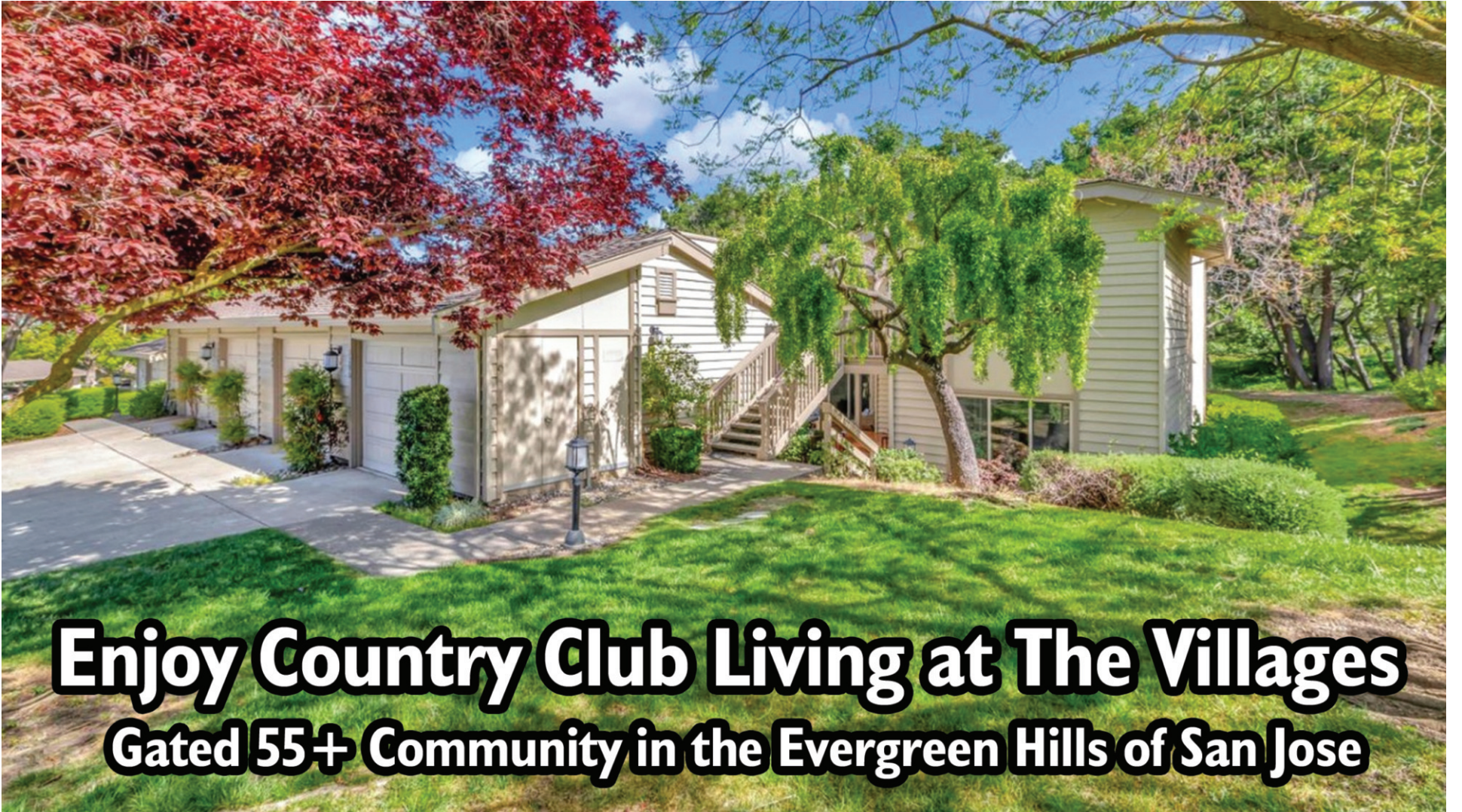
Unfortunately, due to the SJSU Event Center's limited capacity, tickets quickly sold out, leaving some families without tickets. Some students desperately asked their classmates if they had any extra tickets, and if they were lucky enough, some students were able to find some. Graduate Akash Agrawal was one of those students, when we asked about his struggles, he stated, "I heard that they sold all the tickets, so I asked around
See GRADUATION, page 6

Making Birthdays a Cakewalk

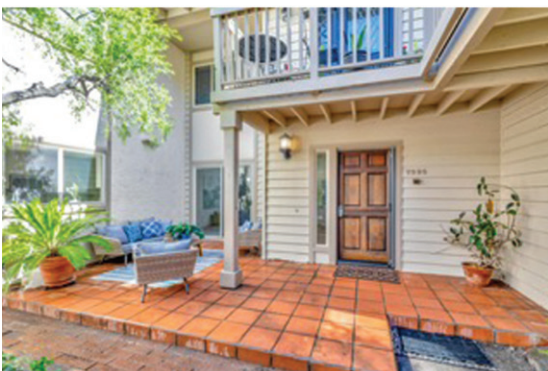
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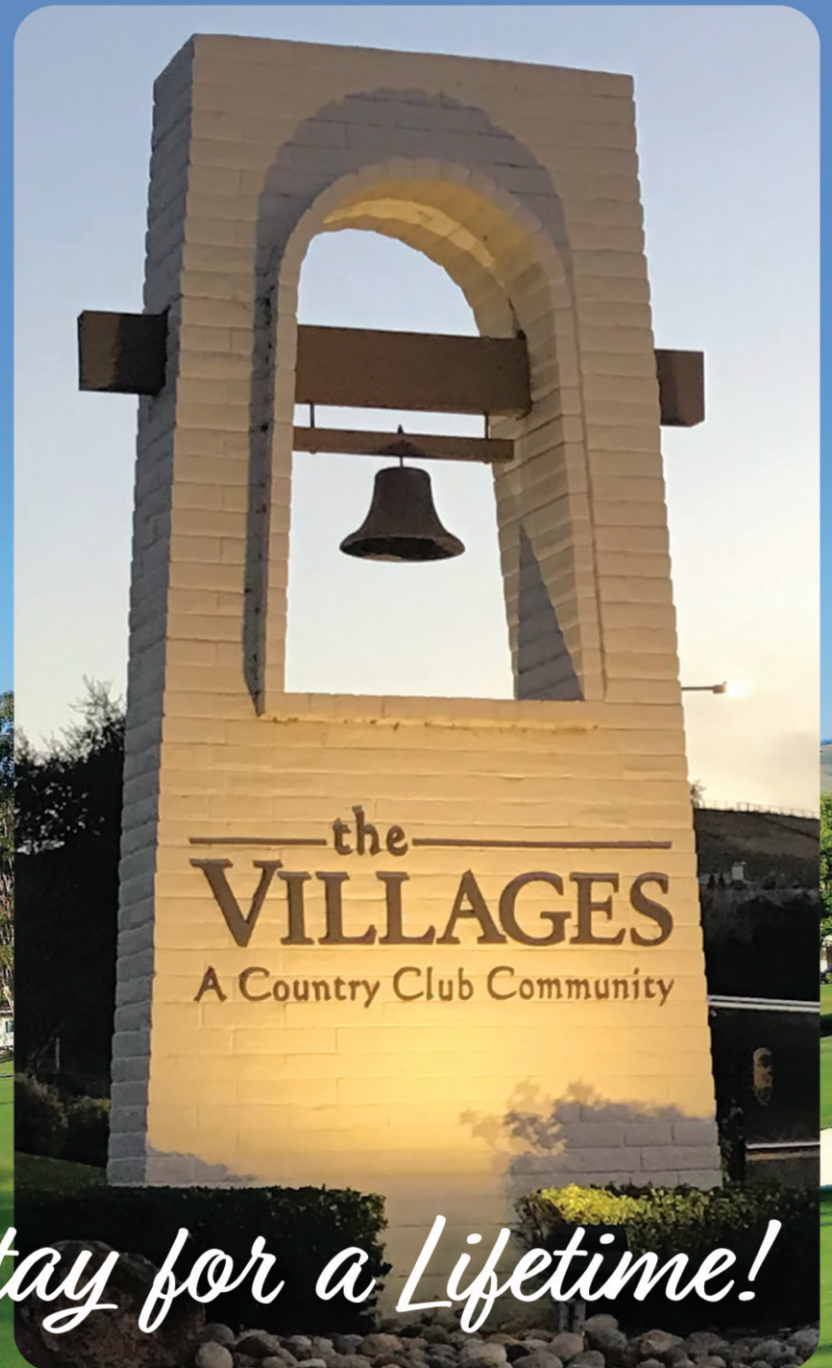
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NOTEBOOK



San Jose Councilmember **Domingo Candelas** at the Evergreen Shopping Center in his district. *Photo by Jana Kadah.*

The first six months: San Jose Councilmember Domingo Candelas

By **Jana Kadah**
San José Spotlight

District 8 San Jose Councilmember Domingo Candelas hasn't moved far from his Evergreen childhood home.

Growing up in the Brigadoon neighborhood in southeast San Jose, the freshman councilmember attended Evergreen Valley High School and San Jose State University, where he secured his first internship in City Hall with then-Councilmember Sam Liccardo. Now he represents the district he's

all too familiar with—which he said makes him the perfect advocate on the dais for residents in his backyard.

"My district has this dichotomy of really affluent areas like the country club and also working family areas like Welch Park," Candelas told San José Spotlight. "When you don't know the area, then the squeaky wheel will get the grease. But if you are born and raised here like me, then you know which communities don't have the loudest voices, but still need help."

Candelas, 34, didn't always dream of becoming a councilmember, but he knew he wanted to serve his community. He worked in state Sen. Jim Beall's office, at Valley Water and most recently as the director of government affairs at Stanford University.

When former Councilmember Sylvia Arenas left for higher office this year, the seat opened up and Candelas won the appointment from the San Jose City Council—though it was marred by accusations that he cheated during the process. Candelas is one month behind the other freshman councilmembers and his term ends next year. But he has big plans for his short term, and he's eligible to run for a full, four-year term—which he intends to do.

Since applying for the seat, his priorities have been increasing the city's affordable housing stock, expanding public transit and providing more child care services. He's added park upgrades to the list—something he heard about from his constituents. He said "park" 30 times in the hour he spoke with San José Spotlight.

"Most calls from residents are about blight or parks. Why is the grass yellowing when we are out of a drought? Can you repair a broken fence here?" Candelas said. "When I worked in the state I would have to defer it to the local level, but now I can finally say, 'Yes we can totally fix that.'"

Candelas has hosted 15 community cleanups since February, four Dumpster Days to collect large pieces of trash like broken
See CANDELAS, page 10

Valley Currents

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



Lake Cunningham in Evergreen Valley. The state recently allocated \$1.5 million to help start restoration efforts. *Photo by Jana Kadah.*

KICKSTARTING REVIVAL

Lake Cunningham receives funding for restoration

By **Julia Forrest**
San José Spotlight

After failed attempts to restore the much-neglected Lake Cunningham, San Jose has found a way to kickstart the lake's revival.

The state budget allocated \$1.5 million to improving the East San Jose lake last week, which for years has suffered under the weight of faulty infrastructure and poor water quality. San Jose Assemblymember Ash Kalra, who pushed for the funding in the state budget, said the money will mostly go toward restoring the wetlands in hopes of further improving the water quality in the lake.

"I understand how important Lake Cunningham is for my district and the city," Kalra told San José Spotlight. "The restoration process is critical, not only for the enjoyment of the public, but in order for us to reestablish the wetlands in what is otherwise a highly developed area."

Lake Cunningham is a man-made lake near Tully Road that was used by residents to go fishing and boating. But several years ago, it was deemed unsafe due to pollution from feces and fungi after decades of neglect. East San Jose is historically a lower-income community of color that has faced decreasing access to green, open spaces and has coped with environmental issues.

"The water quality at Lake Cunningham is an absolute issue," San Jose Councilmember Domingo Candelas, who represents the area where the lake is located, told San José Spotlight. "A greater chunk of money is needed to holistically complete the projects. This is going to help us improve the water quality... and get it to a better place."

A recent city study found cleaning up the lake

would cost anywhere from \$3 million to \$20 million, considering the level of infrastructure restoration needed. Candelas said the money from the state is just a catalyst for more funding opportunities.

"This is just the down payment on what's really necessary," he said.

The state funding comes after the San Jose City Council argued in March over using funds from Measure T, a \$650 million disaster preparedness bond approved by voters in 2018, to restore the lake, resulting in the proposed funds being diverted. A previous iteration of the council in 2021 allocated \$3.2 million in Measure T funds to improve Lake Cunningham's water quality.

The proponents of diverting the money away from Lake Cunningham said it would be a misuse of Measure T funds, including Councilmember David Cohen who said in March that most of the conversations focused on restoring Coyote Valley, not the lake.

"I consider the Lake Cunningham environmental project a priority that needs to get handled, it's obviously difficult and very expensive for the city to fund it," Cohen told San José Spotlight. "It's great that (lawmakers have) been able to get (funding) so quickly to get going."

Robert Reese, who chairs a land use committee in East San Jose, praised the state funding to help the lake. He said he believes city officials like Candelas will keep pushing for even more state and federal funding to continue revamping it.

"It's going to be one step at a time," Reese told San José Spotlight. "I think that the east side councilmembers are going to keep their foot to the pedal... (and stick with it) on almost a day to day basis to make sure that progress is made."

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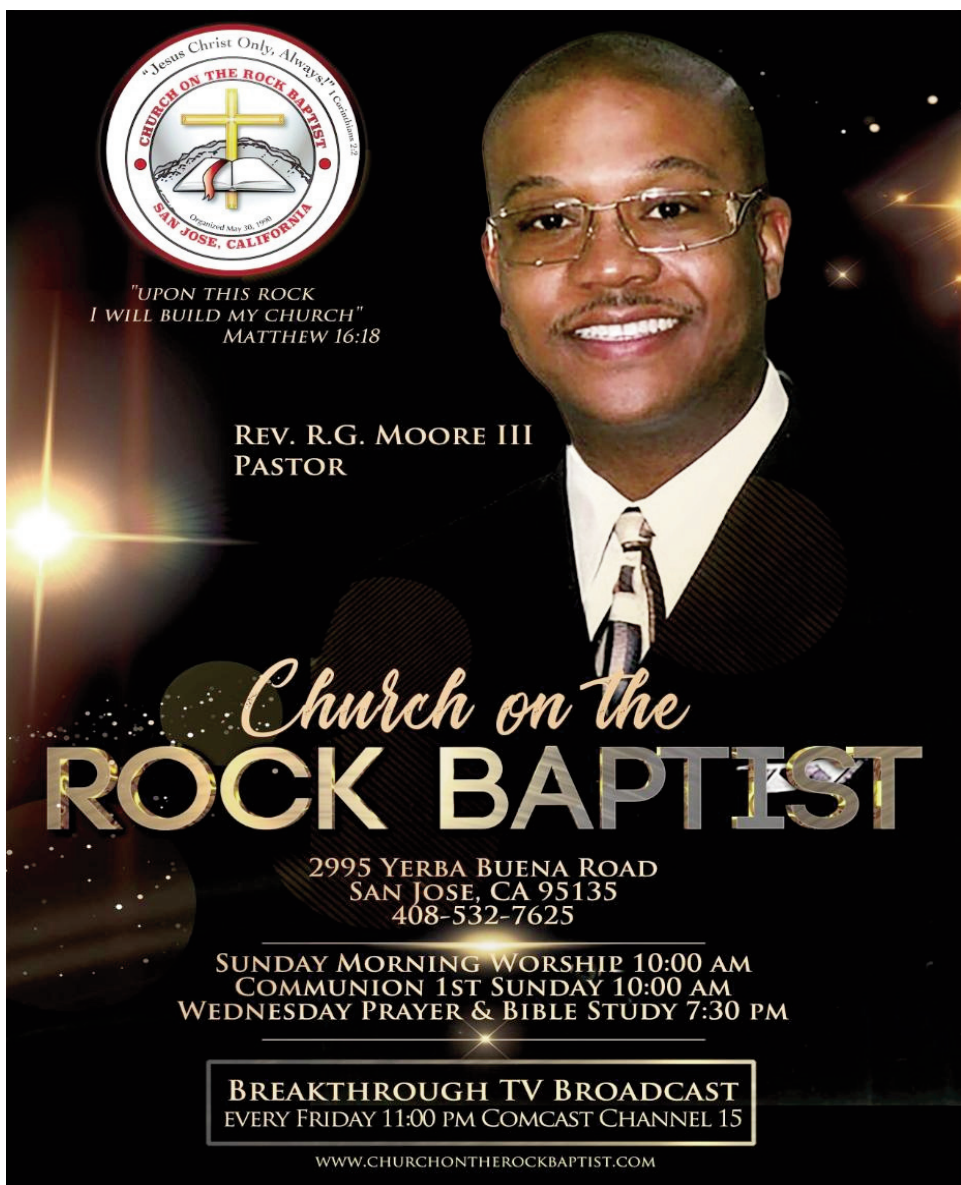
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Positions

Continued from page 1

Principal at the elementary and high school levels and Assistant Principal at the middle school level.

Some of Bass' accomplishments include being named ACSA Principal of the Year for Valuing Diversity in 2017 and the Mayor of San Francisco's Principal of the Year. As Executive Director of Talent Acquisition & Staffing for the San Francisco Unified School District, Bass worked closely with labor partners through many staffing challenges and garnered great solutions to labor challenges. His top priority throughout all of his work has been to keep students at the center of each and every decision and ensure that a highly qualified workforce is equipped to support the success of schools.

Bass said, "I'm thrilled to be leading the Human Resources Division and will work to strengthen labor and community relationships."

Shan Gao: Supervisor of Child Nutrition Services

Shan Gao holds a degree in Business and Chinese linguistics from San Jose State University. She also received a Culinary Art certificate from culinary school.

As a former chef, Ms. Gao worked at multiple large convention events and had the opportunity to travel through many various venues across multiple states while gaining experience with concocting different ingredients together to make wonderful dishes that are full of flavors while maintaining the authenticity of one's customs.

Over the past five years, Ms. Gao worked as a child nutrition consultant in four school districts. It is her passion for nutrition that motivated her to pursue a career at Evergreen School District. This is an exciting next step for Ms. Gao as she explores new ways to assist students in making

healthier choices.

Over 9 million children live in food-insecure households, and school food may be the only food they eat throughout the day. Most children enjoy eating, especially if the food is tasty. The look of appreciation Ms. Gao sees from a child is priceless.

Ms. Gao said, "I am grateful to be part of an organization that values kindness, care, and respect."

Dr. Thien Hoang: Director of Special Education



Dr. Thien Hoang brings more than two decades of experience in special education with a commitment to focusing on opportunities for students with disabilities. She has years of experience as a teacher, coordinator, manager, and director of special education in diverse work environments such as the Los Angeles County Office of Education, San Pasquel Valley Unified School District, South Monterey County Union High School District, and Oakland Unified School District.

Dr. Hoang is a native of Vietnam. After immigrating to the United States, she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish from California State University Sacramento, a Master's Degree in Special Education, and a Doctorate Degree in Organizational Leadership from the University of San Francisco. She also earned her Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, Education Specialist Instruction Credential (in specializations such as Mild/Moderate Disabilities, Moderate/Severe Disabilities), and her Administrative Services Credential.

Dr. Hoang stated, "I am grateful for this opportunity and looking forward to working with the team. I sincerely express my thanks to Dr. Hawkins for allowing me to serve the students, parents, staff, and the Evergreen School District community."

Along with the Board of Trustees, Dr. Hawkins said, "I'm delighted to have Ms. Gao, Mr. Bass, and Dr. Hoang join the Evergreen family."

Samuel Bass has accepted the position of Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Shan Gao is the new Supervisor of Child Nutrition Services, and Dr. Thien Hoang is the new Director of Special Education.

Graduation

Continued from page 1

for people who had extra grad tickets. I did find them at the last minute." Fortunately, EVHS gave each graduating senior two tickets, allowing them to bring two guests for free.

As the ceremony began, the SJSU Event Center's stands were filled, and a lengthy line ran out of the entrances. While it was warm outside, the AC system inside the event center kept everyone relatively comfortable. This was a stark contrast to last

year's graduation which was held during the summer in PayPal Park, an open-air stadium.

The graduation was largely a success as everything went smoothly, at least from the audience's end. The graduates walked in and sat in their assigned seats with their leis and sashes denoting various honors and student organizations they are a part of. While the graduates were walking in, Pomp and Circumstance was being performed by the EVHS conservatory, wind ensembles, and symphonic band directed by Maritza Spieller.



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Times **Local News**

National Night Out promotes police-community partnership

By Senator Dave Cortese

For the last two decades, I've joined neighborhoods across Santa Clara County in hosting National Night Out, a series of block parties, cookouts, and parades. Held each year on the first Tuesday in August, National Night Out is intended to promote police-community partnerships. But National Night Out also represents so much more. As a third-generation Californian, I know the power that lies within our neighborhoods when we come together.

Many of us have watched our area evolve over the decades, and the development of our dense urban landscape has generated the development of tight-knit groups with different cultural identities. Our cultural diversity is a testament to the beauty and richness of our region, but it can also limit interactions among neighbors from different walks of life.

Adding to the issue, literal walls, such as the sound walls constructed to reduce highway noise, have separated communities across our county and unintentionally contributed to secluded neighborhoods. Events like National Night Out, which falls on August 1 this year, help everyone open their hearts, allowing neighbors to laugh together, share stories, and learn from each other. These events help us transcend cultural boundaries and unify.

Community cohesion is more than a feel-good sentiment — it is also vital for our safety. When neighbors know and trust each other, they become a collective force against crime and other potential threats. National Night Out lets families meet with the peace officers who patrol their communities. This open dialogue, often over a hot dog on a relaxing summer evening, builds trust and partnerships with peace officers, and helps us all remember that law enforcement is another community of people just like you and me. They work for you, and they are here to keep you safe.

As your former City Councilmember, former County Supervisor, and current State Senator, I've pushed for a fully-funded sheriff's office and growing the number of patrol officers and rehabilitation systems. But it's up to all of us to build open lines of communication and understanding with law enforcement. Our peace officers are happy to answer your questions, and hear about any challenges you face and your thoughts on how they can help. These conversations build harmony over time, and help neighborhoods peacefully overcome problems.

This National Night Out, let's come together for a fun experience that will make for cherished photos and memories. If you live in Santa Clara County, you can register for National Night Out by visiting www.tinyurl.com/NationalNightOut2023. The deadline to enter is Friday, July 21.

If you encounter an issue planning a National Night Out, or you want to learn about a planned one close to you, please contact me at Senator.Cortese@sen.ca.gov.

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



Senate Report

By Dave Cortese
State Senator

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Times **Community News****Candelas***Continued from page 4*

refrigerators, five coffee events, seven community events like a senior scam workshop and more than 140 one-on-one meetings with district residents, according to his office. From this engagement effort, he said he learned residents care deeply about their public spaces and want more, like an Indian American Center. He secured \$100,000 from this year's budget to fund a feasibility study to possibly open one.

He also secured \$15,000 for emergency certification supplies for residents, \$35,000 to improve Fernish Park and \$100,000 for a pedestrian bridge (study) in Yerba Buena.

Patricia Mendoza, board member of the Evergreen Leadership Neighborhood Association, said residents are impressed with Candelas' consistent community engagement—especially important because he wasn't elected to the position.

"In his first week he started reaching out to communities and to neighborhood associations and scheduling meetings to meet everybody," Mendoza told San José Spotlight. "It's nice because we can bring up an issue at a specific road or something and he will say, 'Oh I walk there, I know that place.' So it is a really fluid relationship."

Considering all perspectives

While not as prolific with policy as his council counterparts, Candelas has still left his mark on several key city policies. He has introduced nine memos, eight of which

passed, including compromises between residents and proponents of a new Buddhist temple, strengthening the city's wage theft policy and reshaping graffiti removal services.

His proposal to use Measure T dollars to restore Lake Cunningham failed, but he was able to implement a five-year restoration plan.

"I used to swim in Lake Cunningham back in the day," Candelas said. "It's so sad we don't have that resource so close in our district without having to drive to Almaden or outside of San Jose. That is why I am fighting so hard to get it back."

Politically, Candelas aligns more progressively, often siding with freshman Councilmembers Omar Torres and Peter Ortiz on policies like worker protections or prioritizing long-term affordable housing over short-term homeless shelter. But he's also worked with more moderate councilmembers such as Pam Foley and Dev Davis.

Foley initially didn't support appointing Candelas to the District 8 seat, but said the council ultimately made the right decision. She said now, she "thinks the world of him" and noted her appreciation for his unique expertise on water issues that stem from his previous jobs at the state level—something other councilmembers don't have.

"He may not have the most memos authored, but I don't think that number means much when it comes to addressing the issues in his community, the city at large and taking into consideration all perspectives," Foley told San José Spotlight. "Candelas certainly does that."



Councilmember **Peter Ortiz** speaks at a press conference about contamination in Alum Rock. Photo by *Annalise Freimarck*

East San Jose residents demand environmental justice

By **Annalise Freimarck**

San José Spotlight

Contamination clean-up efforts have been slow going at an abandoned East San Jose building that was the site of a large fuel spill in 2015.

Residents and leaders gathered at the site Friday demanding the city expedite the process amid growing air quality threats.

Nearly a dozen community members, including Councilmember Peter Ortiz, said the contamination situation has grown dire and that similar issues affecting the east side tend to go neglected by city leaders. Crews started cleaning up the site a few months ago, but Ortiz said it's still not moving fast enough.

"If this was any other side of town, this wouldn't have been possible to be here for eight months, to be here for close to a year if this was an affluent community," he told San José Spotlight.

The problem began when a large spill at the site, SC Fuels, contaminated soil and groundwater in 2015. The spill led to the air becoming hazardous to breathe when disturbances like construction projects or particularly windy days upturn the soil, according to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. The site is near small businesses, a retirement community, childcare facilities and thousands of homes on Alum Rock Road. In 2016, SC Fuels was fined \$75,000 in penalties by the Environmental Protection Agency for failing to safely manage dozens of fuel tanks.

Ortiz, who represents East San Jose, said the area has experienced a "history of neglect." He first toured SC Fuels when he was elected, and after three months of city inaction he's demanding the city manager address the problem. But as more time goes by he has grown increasingly impatient.

Veronica Amador has lived in Alum Rock with her three children for a decade about a block away from the site. She wasn't aware of the contamination until recently, and that her neighbors also weren't pre-

viously informed.

She now worries for the safety of her family who frequently spends time outdoors.

"It is unjust to have folks who live around (here) be unaware of what potentially could affect their health," Amador told San José Spotlight.

Residents said this isn't the first time environmental concerns have been ignored by city officials.

This month, the Reid-Hillview airport was listed in the Silicon Valley Pain Index for creating high levels of lead in children's blood. The study is published annually by San Jose State and examines racial discrimination and wealth inequality in the city. And in May, a Kidango daycare in East San Jose was found to have high levels of lead in the water, the same daycare where Amador sent her youngest son.

Amador said despite these growing concerns, she can't afford to move.

"It feels like we're not valued," she said. "It feels like we don't matter."

Ortiz submitted a memo to the Rules and Open Government Committee on Friday asking city officials to collaborate with the community on a list of potential solutions. This includes a resolution timeline and establishing an intergovernmental committee co-chaired by Ortiz and county Supervisor Cindy Chavez. Ortiz has also requested the city attorney submit a private memo to hold the Regional Water Quality Control Board accountable for a timely clean-up.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board is overseeing the cleanup of the site.

Betty Duong, Chavez's chief of staff who grew up minutes from the site, and said she is hopeful the committee will help decrease environmental injustice on the east side.

"Why is it always here that we constantly let these types of rules slide or this type of compliance slide?" Duong told San José Spotlight. "This task force is to make sure that our families have a chance to be families."



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Times **Local News**

Candelas leads charge on Lake Cunningham

By Domingo Candelas

In my first 5 months in office, I have led the charge to ensure Lake Cunningham is prioritized for funding to bring this regional park back to prominence.

For decades, Lake Cunningham has been underinvested. However, that's changing, I am proud to announce that we have secured \$1.5 million in the State Budget towards the improvement of Lake Cunningham! This coupled with the local investment of nearly \$400,000 in the City Budget represents a crucial step towards revitalizing the cherished natural resource and enhancing the overall experience for residents.

As we are all well aware, Lake Cunningham has long been in need of essential upgrades and maintenance. While this funding is a significant achievement, it is merely the beginning of the much-needed financial support required for the comprehensive transformation of Lake Cunningham. Additional funding will be necessary to fully realize our vision for this treasured space,

ensuring its long-term sustainability and benefit to the community.

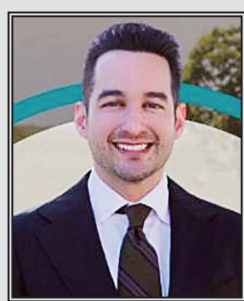
My deepest gratitude also goes out to Assemblymember Ash Karla, who tirelessly advocated on behalf of our community to secure this crucial funding. His dedication to our community and his persistent efforts in the legislative process made this milestone possible.

I would like to express my appreciation to you and many community organizations who have actively campaigned for the revitalization of Lake Cunningham. Your voices, participation, and unwavering commitment have played a pivotal role in raising awareness and influencing the allocation of this initial funding.

As we move forward, I remain steadfast in my commitment to seeking additional funding sources and partnerships to fulfill our ambitious vision for Lake Cunningham. I invite community members, organizations, and stakeholders to join us in this endeavor, as we strive to create a more vibrant and sustainable future for our city.

To stay up to date with my office, subscribe to my newsletter and follow my social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, it is my pleasure and privilege to serve as your representative on the City Council. Also, please join our Lake Cunningham advocacy list.

For more information, please contact my office at district8@sanjoseca.gov or call me at (408) 535-4908.



Council Report

Domingo Candelas,
District 8 Councilmember

Spurred by 'Rust' movie tragedy - legislature passes Senator Cortese's film safety bill

The Legislature passed legislation by Senator Dave Cortese last week establishing landmark safety rules on motion picture productions.

The state budget agreement, which incorporates Senator Cortese's SB 735, establishes the nation's first safety protocols in law for television and film workers.

The bipartisan legislation reflects two years of negotiations between studios and labor representatives following the 2021 death of a cinematographer on the 'Rust' film set. The bill is headed to the Governor for signature.

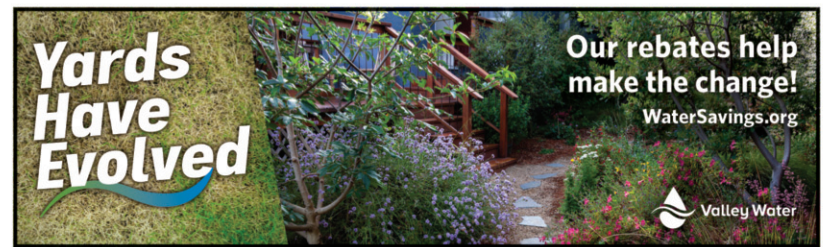
"Conversations about this legislation started the week after the tragic loss of a cinematographer. Those negotiations have produced the nation's first and best safety practices for California workers in the state's vital motion picture industry. The agreement will also boost diversity on film productions and create an industry pipeline for students of color, and it will uplift local economies by helping to keep motion picture productions in California," Cortese

said, who chairs the Senate Committee on Labor, Public Employment, and Retirement. "This agreement establishes best practices statewide that were already in use among Hollywood's top studios. I commend Governor Newsom, the film studios and unions for their commitment to film safety."

The bill protects film and television workers by establishing clear, mandatory guidelines around the use of firearms and ammunition on productions, among other provisions. It establishes training requirements and safety standards for prop masters and armorers, and prohibits the use of live ammunition except in limited circumstances following safety rules and laws. The bill also creates a five-year safety pilot program requiring any employer who receives a motion picture tax credit to hire an independent safety advisor to conduct preproduction risk assessments, and oversee safety practices and procedures in motion picture, television, and streaming productions.

"We thank Senator Cortese for his leadership on this transformational legislation that will prioritize safety in our industry and save lives," said Rebecca Rhine, Western Executive Director of the Directors Guild of America. "Now DGA directors and their teams, along with all other cast and crew members, have a skilled and experienced ally and collaborator on production whose sole focus is keeping everyone safe. While this model starts with the film tax incentive in California, we look forward to the day it becomes the standard across the country."

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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.

Times **Feature**



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California city named the 'Most Stressed City' in America

Do you think that a large majority of citizens in your city are stressed? Stressful factors including (but not limited to) unemployment rates, housing costs, and traffic all directly correlate to how stressed someone feels on any given day.

Despite a laundry list of positive attributes to offset the stressful factors, some cities harbor a more stressful environment than others.

According to a list compiled by Zippia, the most stressed city in California is Mead Valley. Mead Valley was also named the most stressed city in America! Zippia mentioned that, "The regular workweek there exceeds

the normal 40 hours and the normal commute is 22.5 minutes."

Here is what Zippia had to say about compiling the data to discover the most stressed city in each state :

"To determine which cities were the most stressed we looked into the average number of hours worked each week, how long the average commute was, and determined the income to home price ratio. Using the most recent data from the U.S. Census American Community Survey for 2013-2017 and BLS, we ranked each city in America in the following criteria:

- Unemployment
- Hours Worked
- Commute Times
- Income-To-Home-Price Ratio
- Percent of Uninsured Population

The higher a city ranked in any of these areas, the more stressed it was. We then took a closer look at each of the 50 states and ranked the cities in each state from most stressed to least stressed."

For a continued list of the most stressed cities across the country visit zippia.com.

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Times Feature

CAREER CORNER

Grieve, and keep going

By Angela Copeland

Receiving a rejection after a job interview can be devastating. Whether you had three interviews or ten, you were all in. Otherwise, you wouldn't have snuck away from your existing job to interview.

The process of interviewing for a job is a lot like dating. The longer it goes on, the more you can picture your new future. You begin to lay-out plans in your mind.

It's not hard to do this. In fact, it's natural. In



the first interview, you're expected to share how soon you are able to start working. And, through the process you are often asked to lay out your ninety day plan. You're asked to design the strategy you might later implement. In order to perform well in a job interview, you must picture yourself in the new role.

Unfortunately, this comes at a high personal cost to many job seekers. Job interviews with one company can often span over multiple months. I've personally observed interviews as long as six months. You jump over hoop after hoop. You connect with your new team. The problem is that many companies take more than one candidate through this grueling process. It is not unusual to have at least two, if not three, finalists.

It's also not uncommon for the company to tell you that you're definitely getting the job. They

do this because they feel optimistic in the moment. They do it to keep you engaged in their months-long interview process.

If the company hires someone, all other candidates are rejected. But, sometimes the company chooses not to hire anyone at all. To be honest, many companies look at interviewing candidates like you might try on shoes at a store. If they aren't a perfect match, they put them back and go about their day. Rarely does a company truly understand the impact to the individual job seeker.

But, this doesn't make it hurt any less. It often makes the job seeker question their identity. You may find yourself wondering if you took a wrong turn somewhere. You will very likely grieve the loss of the future you would have had. You feel the pain of being stuck in your current situation.

Know that these are normal emotions. If you weren't all in on a company, you wouldn't land the job interviews. And, it's a real loss. But, it doesn't make you any less of a professional. It doesn't mean you should change your career path. If you made it to the final round, realize that you did a great job. And, if the company gives you an excuse about why you weren't selected, remember that it's an excuse. It may or may not be accurate.

Whatever you do, keep going. Keep applying. Keep interviewing. Grieve, but keep moving forward. And, don't give up on your dreams. One company having a disorganized, insensitive interview process is not a reflection on your own career potential.

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

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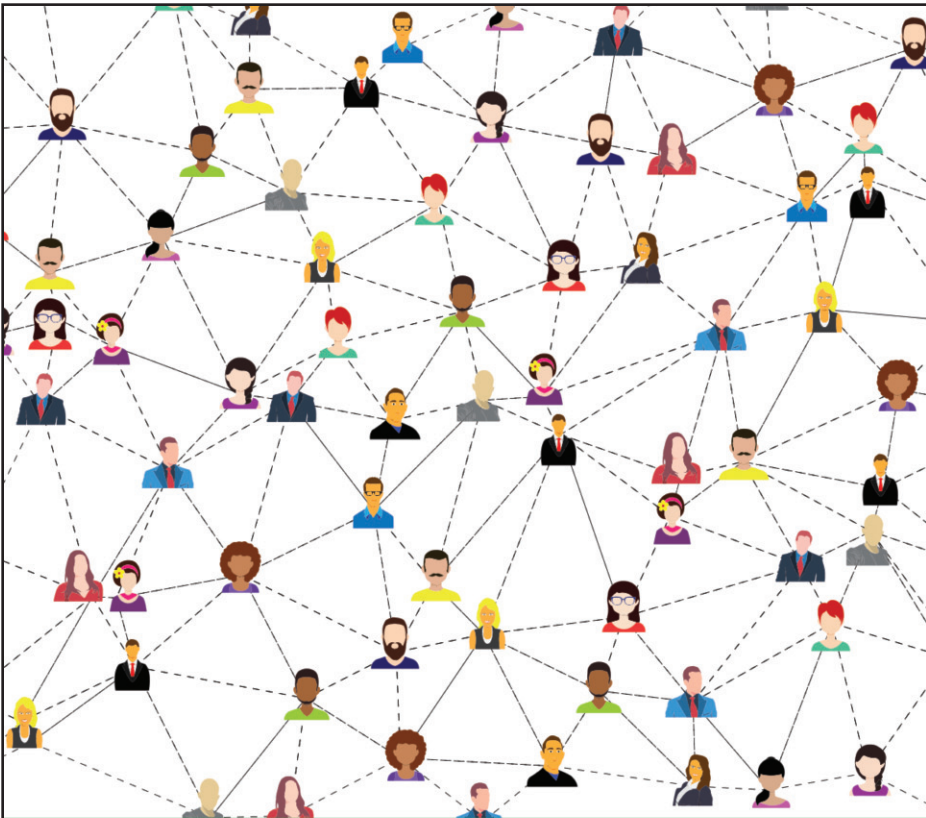


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Pickleball is a hybrid of tennis, badminton and ping pong. It was declared the fastest-growing sport earlier this year by the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA). (Angelica Stabile/Fox News Digital /Fox News)

Pickleball injuries could cost up to \$500 million dollars this year, Wall Street analysts predict

Sport could rack up health care costs as high as \$250M to \$500M in 2023

'Making Money' host Charles Payne recently discussed the increase in popularity of Pickleball and also

the cost of injuries in the new sport.

It's all fun and games until a pickleball player winds up in the hospital with a broken hip — or until health insurance premiums start to skyrocket.

Pickleball, a hybrid of tennis, badminton and ping pong, was declared the fastest-growing sport earlier this year by the Sports & Fitness Industry Association (SFIA).

Due to the popularity of Pickleball, the Villages Golf and Country Club in Evergreen Valley set up two courts near the entrance in the senior community for active seniors.

Seniors can pose greater risk in other areas such as sports injuries, leading to a greater number of orthopedic procedures," the UBS

Continued, next page

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Times **Feature**

Pickleball, from previous page

analysts said, per a Bloomberg report. The uptick in injuries is likely attributed to the sport's quick rise in popularity rather than any inherent dangers. Participation doubled in 2022 and skyrocketed more than 158% over a three-year period, the SFIA stated on its website.

"Because of the nature of moving your body to lunge at a ball, potential injuries can include pulling a muscle, breaking or spraining an ankle or wrist, or falling and scraping your skin," said one doctor.

Another 2020 study published in The Journal of Emergency Medicine analyzed pickleball injuries that resulted in emergency room visits between 2001 and 2017.

More than 90% of the patients were 50 or older.

Again, strains and sprains are the most common injuries.

The uptick in injuries is likely attributed to the sport's quick rise in popularity rather than any inherent dangers, Purdy said.

A doctor reviews a post-operative X-ray of a shoulder. Pickleball is "not more dangerous than other team sports, but as with any activity, it's important to listen to your body and know your limits," said one physician.

"With more people playing, more injuries are being reported," she explained.

"The sport itself is not more dangerous than other team sports, but as with any activity, it's important to listen to your body and know your limits."

It's important to prep your body before engaging in physical activity, Purdy said.

Tiffany Vu of Evergreen named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the spring semester of the 2022-2023

Tiffany Vu (pictured below) of Evergreen Valley has been named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the spring semester of the 2022-2023 academic year. Vu is in the 3D digital design program.

Full-time de-gree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.4.

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Times **Feature**



The non-profit organization **Teresa Hai Dong Lion Dance** performed at the Health Fair held June 30 at Eastridge Center. The dance organization was founded for the purpose of motivating young people to exceed their limits and spread awareness of Hok San Lion Dance Culture. District 8 Councilmember **Domingo Candelas** (as seen in photos) was very accessible in meeting and speaking with all attendees.



East Side YMCA Zumba instructor "**Alicia**" gets the crowd movin'! Photo by Henry Tran of East Side YMCA

Health Fair

Continued from page 1

of ensuring a fulfilling life. It made a lot of sense, because families in the Evergreen and District 8 area often struggle with both physical and mental health issues. Getting together for this kind of event helps heal the community by offering emotional strength with key information for all to work together to tackle issues by connecting to people and services!

Councilmember Domingo Candelas stated, "Indeed, the Health Fair and Wellness Walk, not only united our community, but also affirmed our commitment to nurturing the health and vitality of each individual. As we

look ahead, it is clear that this event has sown the seeds of enduring change, setting us on a collective path towards a healthier, happier tomorrow."

Comments from public

"It's wonderful to be here face to face with others."

"I like the free items on the tables!"

"The coffee, pastries, breakfast mini burritos and other things are so welcoming."

"There are many tables and so much to see, I'm enjoying this and I just moved in near here."

"The complementary carry bags from those representing us are good."

"I loved the Zumba dance at the stage."

"This is great, can they have these health fairs

Continued, next page



Times **Community News**

Health Fair, continued

three times a year because I want to come back again!"

Table browsing for information and free goodies

The event kicked off after an hour of cherished socialization. A man with a loud, strong, powerful, welcoming voice, not unlike a circus announcer, yelled in the air, "We are counting down for the event is about to start." He then did this about two more times in the next ten minutes because the crowd of hundreds of people wanted to continue to linger and learn at each information table. Friendly jovial conversations were taking place at the tables. Those who ran each table were very engaging with members of the public, so kind and endearing, with pens, helpful trinkets and more doled out easily. This Health Fair even had a sign off bingo like flyer so that one could trade that in for a chance at a later raffle opportunity. Everything was expertly planned.

Domingo welcomes crowd

Councilmember Domingo Candelas made the audience comfortable in his family like way of speaking to the crowd. "I want to thank you all for coming to this Health Fair event. We want to thank Eastridge Center for the hospitality!" Domingo expressed how wonderful the community is and then handed the microphone off to other speakers.

State Senator Dave Cortese stated he wished to thank Domingo for his leadership. He said that he came to Eastridge when he was a teenager and that was a long time ago, which got a laugh from the crowd. He then said, "This is really a good thing. I have never seen this many city and county and state and federal representatives team up together for a single event like this, simply devoted in helping our constituents with easy parking and we thank Eastridge."

Sylvia Arenas said she is now serving as County Supervisor and she held the job that Domingo currently has as District 8 Councilperson. She said Domingo has stepped up to the plate in taking the role of city councilperson for District 8 and she was really proud of the work the councilmember is doing.

Councilperson Ortiz of District 5 spoke and stated this wonderful turnout was a testament to all wanting to live a healthy lifestyle. He said that it was so important for families to have access to resources and services.

Domingo thanked California State Representative Ash Kalra for working on the gaining of 1.5 million dollars to be put into helping Lake Cunningham. Also, Domingo through his work in the City Council obtained more monies on this important project. At many previous meetings Domingo had relentlessly pushed hard for monies to go to Lake Cunningham.

Unbelievable Prancing Red and Gold Lions

An entertaining addition to this year's event was the (Teresa Hài Đồng Dance troupe) performing "The Lion Dance." The dance is important because it displays character and strength! Some say, a good performance has the ability to instantly bring good luck and happiness!

Domingo helped bring this dance to the event and stated, "It's an honor to partner with all elected officials at this important Health Fair. I want to give a thank you to all for coming today. With that being said, I think we have Lion Dancers ready to go; they're going to give us a beautiful show!"

It was unbelievable! Truly fantastic! The Lion Dance presentation was performed in the center of Eastridge, with highly unique authentic ancient music, clever choreographed drum composition and two magnificent bigger than life prancing lions. At a glimpse it was revealed that two people were working together under each

dragon (head and tail).

The lions seemed to warm up to being petted, not unlike other creatures in nature. The performance ended with loud applause and each lion eating a giant two-foot unlit red firecracker in their large hungry mouths. This spectacular performance let all know that our neighborhood has a truly wonderful appreciation for all the different cultures who live here. Domingo thanked the performers and kindly said, "Even though the lions can be a bit scary, they bring good luck to all!"

Zumba Fun!

The local East Valley Family YMCA on White Road has many talented Zumba dance leaders. This is part of the annual tradition for the Health Fair at Eastridge. What happens is one leader stands on stage and accentuates with great beauty and skill various maneuverable motions of all parts of the body. Alicia, the truly professional dancer moved to the music in a 4'X 4'

space on the elevated stage. This allowed the audience to participate by copying her every move on the mall floor. Head, neck, arms, elbows, legs, feet and more all joyfully moved by each participant to match that of the instructor. People of all ability levels fit in well for even if a person thinks they can't dance, they can; the Zumba way! This kind of participation is joyful!

Songs were played from different cultures and everyone respected how they fit together like a musical expedition; the Zumba way.

After the audience participation performance, when asked about her experience being instructor, Alicia said, "I love to dance and teach others what I do, coming to this event builds community and I love the managers at the East Valley Family YMCA because they treat everyone like family."

People who were in the audience stated that they knew Domingo and grew up in the neigh-

borhood and attended the East Valley Family YMCA as a youngster. One resident stated, "He's committed to helping the community." Others stated he is fun loving towards making people feel comfortable when they come to him for concerns or questions. "That's his style!"

It was truly wonderful to see so many city, county and state leaders rally around this wonderful event.

As the last Zumba song came to a close, it was clever the way the music was softer and a bit slower pace which allowed the audience to stretch out and rest. People continued to chat for some time. No one wanted to leave. It is a fair conclusion to say that this Health Fair was such a tremendous success that next year it may double in attendance due to increased word of mouth advertising due to it being such a wonderful experience for all!

Once the raffle prizes were awarded, Domingo thanked everyone for coming.

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Places of Worship



CAMPBELL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 400 W. Campbell Ave.
 Campbell, CA 95008
 (408) 378-4418
 Pastor: Rev. Naomi Schulz
 No Matter Where You Are On Life's Journey, You Are Welcome Here!
 We are an Open and Affirming Congregation, and celebrate members of the LGBTQ+ Community. Joy-filled worship every Sunday at 10:00 AM, with communion open to all. Join Pastor Naomi for tea/coffee at Orchard Valley cafe in Campbell during community drop-in office hours from 11 AM to 1 PM on most Tuesdays.
 Our ministries/activities include:
 • Bible study on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month, at 6PM.
 • A Food Pantry serving anyone in need--open Tu/Th/ Sa 10:00 AM to Noon.
 • Lighted Window Productions featuring uplifting concerts, thought-provoking theater productions, informative lec-

tures, and even an occasional karaoke night--all in a wholesome environment.
 Our activities flow from our core values:
 • Extravagant Joy
 • Passionate Faith
 • Loving Respect
 • Deep Connectedness
 • Intentional Growth
 • Shared Laughter
 Visit us at our web site at: church@campbellucc.org or better yet, visit us at our worship services on Sundays at 10:00 AM. Coffee, refreshments, and conversation always, right after service.

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC
 6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120. Pastor, Rev. Marty Williams, 408 268 0243.
 www.ccvaucc.org.
 We are a welcoming church with a progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and Affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local LifeMoves (formerly InnVision) Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco Night Ministry, Second

Harvest Food Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End Poverty.
 Worship Sunday, 9:00 AM followed by fellowship and refreshments. 1st Sunday in Worship: Holy Communion
 2nd Sunday in Worship: Folks Choir and Potluck Sunday.
 Tuesdays, AA Meetings, 8:15 - 9:15 PM.
 Wednesdays, 9:30 AM, Women's Study Group.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
 5351 Carter Ave., San Jose 95118
 408.265.5837
 www.bibleroad.org
 We strive to be a group of Christians that love and honor God and Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We assemble each Sunday to encourage each other through singing, studying, praying and sharing in the Lord's supper. Simple—just like what one reads about in the New Testament.
 Bible class at 9:30 AM
 Worship at 10:30 AM
 Located in south San Jose near Kooser Rd. and Camden Ave. (behind the Almaden Valley Athletic Club). Come make new Christian friends!

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN
 6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector Phone:408-268-0243
 Web:www.eca-sj.org
 At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, loved, valued and empowered to serve. Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family. All junior high and senior high students are welcome to participate in our Youth Groups. During the school year we have joint Sunday School with our sister church, the Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, UCC. The Episcopal Church in Almaden offers the following regular opportunities for worship: Sunday at 7:30AM and 10:45AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.



EVERGREEN ISLAMIC CENTER (EIC)
 http://www.eicsanjose.org
 2486 Ruby Ave, San Jose CA 95148.
 (408) 239-6668
 "As-Salaamu-Alaikum" the English meaning is "Peace be upon you".
 Q) What is Islam, who are Muslims, and what is the Quran?
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FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN
 Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.com
 Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a message that is relevant to real life, based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips. Come, Make a Difference and feel the difference God can make in your life!



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 John Goldstein Pastor.
 john@GraceChurchEvergreen.com. Christian

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1
 thepoint.church

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
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intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and whereyou get to know peopleby 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.churchstanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.



God is One
 ਵੱਖ ਇਕ 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

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 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!

For Worship listing ads, call 408.483-5458

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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.

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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

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Times Feature



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OP ED

Thank you for coming to our annual ice cream social

We care about you and thank you for caring about us too

By Kirpal Atwal

Member of Gurdwara leadership

We are the American Sikhs and are so happy that many neighbors from our Evergreen Valley walked up to join us in our Moonlight Under the Stars 4th of July Ice Cream Social.

'Where's the water bottles?'

The day started well. We walked the Rose White and Blue parade in downtown San Jose. What was heartwarming to us was when people were calling out for the water bottles which we provide at all events. Along the parade route they yelled, "We love seeing your group each year, where's your gift of water, the water bottles," while cheering us along. I responded, "They are just behind and all you want!" Later in the evening we held our annual ice cream social and thousands came.

The evening started with a Sikh Prayer by the Head Priest thanking God. We took pride in honoring our nation and having peace and goodwill to all.

Voice of San Jose

The Voice of San Jose, (Puerto Rican - a Capella vocalist from East Side San Jose who enjoys sharing her God given talent everywhere - be sure to see her website), Angela Barricua Tirado preformed important patriotic songs. Her voice was so beautiful. The words were majestic as she sang our country's national anthem:

"Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light

What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's

last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars thru the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,

Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?"

We especially honor this 4th stanza for it mentions God

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand

Between their loved home and the war's desolation!

Blest with victory and peace, may the heav'n rescued land

Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,

And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

It's our Sikh way to provide everything complimentary in what we serve.

Then came the doling out of the best ever ice cream ever! All you could eat. Two lines formed and they moved quickly. We scooped ice cream in cups from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. We never stopped serving ice cream and most importantly we gave out smiles to all and all gave smiles back to us.

There was fresh fruit too and to-go vegetarian dinners served from our Langar (kitchen).

NEXTDOOR complements pour in

• "I love the positive message your sending. The Sikh community has always stood for peace and goodwill."

• "Waheguru de Khalsa! (People of God)

• "Adore the Sikhs such awesome people."

The most important thing of all is love

This event was so calm. People had smiles. We love the community and we thank you for loving us!



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Winchester Mystery House celebrates its 100-year anniversary

By Kevin Larsen
Times staff writer

One hundred years ago on June 30, 1923, the Winchester Mystery House officially opened its doors to the public.

While San Jose has gone through some major changes over the last century, the mansion has remained the same; with its sprawling 24,000 sq. ft. and 160 interconnecting rooms.

What makes the house unique is Sarah Winchester's design with 2,000 doors that exit into thin air, stairways that lead to dead-end ceilings and other oddities that are discussed by visitors from all over the world. The real question: Is the home haunted?

"I think this story resonates and there has been curiosity even in Sarah Winchester's time about why did she build this the way that she did and all of the mysteries, legends and lore," Winchester Mystery House exec. director Walter Magnuson said. "There are very few places that can serve as a time cap-

sule of living history, that you can actually get immersed in and visit to this day."

To learn more about the Winchester Mystery House, visit: <https://winchestermysteryhouse.com>

California gas tax increased by 8 percent

California drivers are now paying 8 percent more for gasoline that kicked in over the July 4th weekend.

The tax provides additional revenue for planning, constructing and maintaining California's roadways and public mass transit systems.

"As if living in California wasn't expensive enough, residents are now paying eight percent more in the state's gas tax thanks to Gavin Newsom and California Democrats," said Jessica Millan Patterson, California Republican Party Chairwoman "Despite Legislative and House Republicans' efforts to stop the increase, Democrats refused. Their insatiable thirst for even more of California taxpayers' hard-earned money completely disregards the struggles of those who are forced to choose between filling up their gas tanks or buying groceries."

California's \$4.80-\$4.83 average for a gallon of gas is still well above the national average of \$3.53-\$3.56.

The Meadowverse: The Majesty of Mallow

June 21st marked the beginning of summer

With summer comes the weeks of July, which is often the hottest month annually and an irrigation challenge for the citizenry of Evergreen Valley, Santa Clara Valley, and the other valleys of Northern California. Temperatures are at or above 90 degrees on several days each July.

With high temperatures comes high alert for effective and efficient irrigation. So too does the prospect of flowering annual and perennial weeds. Beneficial weeds by many measures. Among them is Mallow with its lavender-purple flowers. Quite prolific throughout the warm months of the year.

Some may ask: "Why should I find anything impressive or redeeming about a weed or weeds in my gardens and landscapes?" To this question, I retort: "Give them time. They will thank you." Mallow is one of the more common and hearty flowering weeds here in Northern California and our valleys.

Beneficial weeds

With beneficial weeds come both migratory and native pollinators who keep our gardens and landscapes thriving. Many are not aware that flowering annual and perennial weeds of our valleys are actually beneficial as they are ornamental. The flowers of Mallow bring bees and other pollinators.

Our backyard is home to several mature fruit shrubs, fruit trees, and fruit vines. Lavender and Mallow grow around their bases. Throughout the days of summer and days of the year, my brother and I visit the plants of our yards. This includes our cool season and our warm season flower gardens, herb gardens, and vegetable gardens.

Mallow contrasts nicely with the surrounding botanicals in that the lavender-



purple flowers contrast and highlight those colors of the foliage and fruits of their peers. Not only bees but other beneficial insects find the flowers of The Mallow most interesting, as they forage and search in the waning light of evenings.

Mallow is hearty and appears in many gardens, landscapes, and yards as a 'guest' or a 'volunteer'. The rough foliage supports the weight of migratory and native bird species as well, should they choose to stop and rest. The songbirds of this valley are plentiful in conjunction

with our flowering weeds.

For those of us who harvest flowers for arrangement through drying, Mallow is a great choice. The scented oil of the leaves gives a pleasant aroma as does the semi-variegated foliage of the weed itself.

Many clients and customers from my years in garden centers and nurseries were ready to buy herbicides to use at their homes but through conversation, decided against this, in favor of letting their weeds grow and flower/fruit. The plethora of colors inherent in beneficial weeds is quite stunning.

Next time you step outdoors, to inspect your gardens, landscapes, and yards, please do make a point of making a mental note of what grows amongst your planned botanicals. You may be pleasantly surprised. Mallow is but one of many flowering beneficial weeds of our valleys here in Northern California. I invite you to partake of its beauty and majesty.

Editor's note: Matthew Frazier is a Certified Water Manager, Qualified Stormwater Manager, and Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper. You may reach Matthew at (408) 656-5622 - Mobile; or by email: kitchenfrazier@hotmail.com



Water Wise
Matthew Frazier,
Certified Water
Manager

New summer Junior Lifeguard program open to the public at the Almaden Cabana Club

By William Bellou
Publisher

The new Almaden Cabana Club Junior Lifeguard Program starts this month for children 11-14 years old at the time of the session date.

"Our new Junior Lifeguard Program emphasizes teamwork, leadership, re-sponsibility and aquatic safety while introducing young people to professional opportunities," said Skip Harsany, Almaden Cabana Club

Jr. Guard Program Coordinator/Lead Instructor. "We've designed the program to provide quality water safety education while improving participants' physical conditioning, their respect for themselves, their neighbors and their peers."

The Cabana Club Junior Lifeguard Program, supervised by certified and experienced lifeguards, allows participants to learn and practice the skills necessary to become a successful lifeguard.

Participants will also learn about the most common pool-side injuries and other medical emergencies and how to properly treat them as well as when to know the appro-



priate time to call for professional emergency medical response.

Although the Junior Lifeguard Program does not certify participants as lifeguards, it does provide an in-depth understanding of many aspects of what it means to be a lifeguard.

The lifesaving program provides a foundation of knowledge, attitude, and skills that will prepare participants for lifeguard training in the future if they choose. Participants are trained in both dry land and in-water exercises daily.

All sessions will consist of conditioning and lifeguard instruction. Conditioning will include swimming, running, calisthenics and team-building games, in addition to other physical activities.

Cost

The cost is \$300 per child (11-14 years of age by the first session date) with the session being a full week, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Each child will require a separate registration submission. After the session is selected, the tryout date must also be selected. Tryouts are required in order to be committed for the selected session.

Session one will be held July 24, 2023 – July 28, 2023, M-F 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Session two will be held July 31, 2023 – August 4, 2023, M-F 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ACC Lifeguard office: (408) 997-7296; Program Coordinator/Supervisor: (408) 410-1593. To register, and for more information about the Program, visit <https://almadencabana.com/JLP>.

Times **Community News**

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New California firearm laws went into effect July 1

Here's everything that you need to know

By Times Media Staff writers

On July 1, a number of new laws went into effect in California that tightens regulation of the firearm industry, codifies a new state holiday and seals criminal records.

Here's a brief overview of the legislation that just became law:

Civil suits against firearms makers

AB 1594, the Firearm Industry Responsibility Act, creates a new firearm industry standard of conduct and makes it easier for Californians to bring firearm retailers to civil court.

Firearm dealers will be required to establish and enforce practices that prevent the sale of guns to traffickers, people prohibited from firearm possession under state or federal law and people who a retailer would have reasonable cause to believe is a risk to themselves or others.

The new law, signed by Gov. Gavin Newsom a year ago, also prohibits the manufacturing, marketing, importing or offering for sale any gun deemed "abnormally dangerous."

Victims of gun violence, public officials and the Attorney General can file civil lawsuits against firearm industry members for violations of the standard of conduct.

Sealing old criminal records

SB 731 will allow almost all convictions on a person's criminal record to be permanently sealed if they've served all terms of incarceration and have been conviction-free for at least four years since.

Eight million Californians currently have an arrest or conviction on their record. An estimated 225,000 will have old convictions automatically sealed on July 1. One million more will be eligible to petition a judge for a seal.

The law's proponents see it as a way to help people with criminal records regain employment. People will not be able to seal convictions for sex crimes.

Other new California laws

AB 2011, the Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022, and SB 6, the Middle Class Housing Act of 2022, streamline construction of affordable, multifamily housing developments on areas zoned for office, retail or parking use. The laws also bolster health benefits and wage laws with construction contractors.

AB 1655 comes two weeks too late — the new law adds June 19, or Juneteenth, as a California state holiday. California state offices and courts were notably open this Juneteenth, though the day was declared a federal holiday for the first time this year.

AB 1667, prohibits CalSTRS, the state teachers pension, from requiring teachers to pay back overpayments detected in audit reports. In the past, retired teachers have had to pay back benefits when audits found them to be miscalculated.

SB 301 aims to crackdown on the online



sale of stolen goods. Starting July 1, "high-volume third-party" sellers will be required to provide data including contact information and bank account numbers.

AB 2960 allows people in California to request and petition for a restraining order related to domestic violence or gun control electronically.

AB 2043 requires California bounty hunters to be licensed, trained and registered. The new law sprouted from advocacy from a family whose son was killed by a man illegally working as a bounty hunter in Palm Springs in 2021.

Mercury News digital archives now available for free to all San José Public Library cardholders

Digital archives expansion comes on anniversary of San José Mercury News launch thanks to Margaret Ma

On the 172nd anniversary of the San José Mercury News, the San José Public Library (SJPL) and the San José Public Library Foundation (SJPLF) announced that all of the more than 650,000 San José Public Library members will now have access to a digital archive of the San José Mercury News from 1900 to 1985 for free.

Library members can access the vast archives from any internet-connected device by visiting sjpl.org/MercuryNewsArchive and entering their SJPL library card barcode and PIN number. Until now, students, researchers, and members of the public had to complete their research using microfilm and microfiche by traveling to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library's California Room where nearly 60,000 historical documents are stored.

The digital archives expansion was made possible thanks to a donation from Margaret Ma, a lifelong San José resident who volunteered in SJPL's California Room. "I made this gift in honor of my mother, Susan Renzel Carter, who grew up visiting the library. The gift is to honor her love of the library."

"It is my way of leaving the library a lasting gift that makes researchers' jobs a little easier," said Margaret Ma. The decision to donate to the San José Public Library Foundation to purchase the digital archives came about when she began researching her family's past and struggled to use the microfilm reader to complete her research. She realized others would benefit from accessing the digital archives as she had.

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.

Live concerts at the 'Festa' Saturday, August 5

Free admission - Bring the whole family!

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 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 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.



Michela Musolino (Photo by Nino Di Maio)
At right: Anthony "Nino" Lane Band



Roman Encampment and Legionaries Parades realistic interactive experience.



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