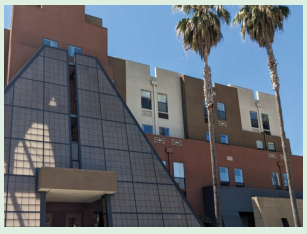


Santa Clara County preserves affordable apartments for seniors  
**SEE PAGE 4**



**Targeting drug abuse**  
Santa Clara County to fight meth addiction with gift cards  
**SEE PAGE 8**

Pursuit of Excellence 2023 winners enjoy picnic  
**SEE PAGE 4**



YOUR BEST SOURCE OF COMMUNITY NEWS FOR  
**OVER 40 YEARS**

# Evergreen Times

AUGUST 11 – 24, 2023 ■ VOL. 40, NO. 17

SERVING EVERGREEN AND SILVER CREEK VALLEY SINCE 1982 ■ EVERGREENTIMES.COM



## Santa Clara County Parks launches Everyone Belongs at Parks initiative to foster inclusivity and equity

By Times Media staff writers

Santa Clara County Parks announced last week the commencement of the *Everyone Belongs at Parks* initiative, a transformative effort aimed at promoting inclusivity, equity, and accessibility within our public spaces.

As part of this initiative, County Parks has partnered with Keen Independent Research to conduct an extensive qualitative and quantitative assessment of the demographics and usage patterns in County Parks, with a focus on addressing issues of equity and access.

The *Everyone Belongs at Parks* initiative will actively engage with park visitors and non-park visitors

See **PARKS**, page 17



**San Jose-Evergreen**  
2721 Aborn Road, Suite 10, San Jose, CA 95121  
(408) 238-7500  
nothingbundtcakes.com

## Called to serve

### Former West Point defender set for medical school; Graduate of Chaboya Middle School

Malina Hatton and Taylor Miller first lacrosse players to receive West Point Pre-med school scholarship

By William Bellou  
Publisher

Former Army Black Knights defenders Malina Hatton of Evergreen Valley and Taylor Miller will make history when they begin medical school as part of the West Point Pre-Medical School Scholarship Program.

Miller and Hatton are the first Army women's lacrosse players to make it into the exclusive program, which accepts up to two percent of qualified applicants from each class.

Accepted cadets are giving the option to attend medical school after graduating instead of five years of military service. Hatton has chosen to attend Harvard Medical School, and Miller is headed to the Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth.

"This senior class is going to go down as one of the most successful," head coach Michelle Tumolo said. "We have a Rhodes Scholar and two Ivy League medical school students. It shows younger players that you can do it ... It's com-



Malina Hatton (second row, second from left) and her friend Taylor Miller (bottom row, right) were both accepted into the West Point Pre-Medical School Scholarship. Hatton and Miller made history as the first lacrosse players to be awarded West Point Pre-medical School scholarships. Hatton is a resident of Evergreen Valley and a Chaboya Middle School graduate. Photo by Chris Hennen

petitive, and you have to be at the top of your class. But the fact that two Division I athletes are able to balance that shows it's possible."

As part of the Pre-Medical School Scholarship Program, the U.S. government pays medical school tuition, at a cost of more than \$250,000. But it's not free: Selected students

serve in the military for at least nine years after completing the medical school program compared to the five-year requirement of a typical cadet.

#### Love of medicine

Hatton's love of medicine began at a very young age. See **WEST POINT**, page 17

## EntHERprise promotes gender equality in business

By William Bellou  
Publisher

Emily Parastie and Ruby Chen are Bay Area high school students passionate about business and gender equality.

As freshmen in high school, (Evergreen Valley High School and Archbishop Mitty High School) they noticed the blatant deficiency of female peers willing to participate in business-related extracurricular activities was undeniably discouraging.

They stated, "Although feelings of discomfort were nothing new to us in the pursuit of our business interests, we began to recognize that this same feeling of inequality likely deterred other girls from participating in similar activities—a problem that ultimately magnifies in the corporate world."



#### Motivation

Chen and Parastie stated, "This motivated us!" They then founded EntHERprise, an organization that offers free business knowledge, lessons, and events for female students

interested in business.

"We started our first chapter in San Jose in 2020, teaching girls of all ages about the fundamentals of business and eventually transitioning into collaboration with

schools. By integrating EntHERprise and its curriculum into middle schools, we continue to provide girls of all socioeconomic backgrounds the necessary resources to feel prepared and well-educated in business before college."

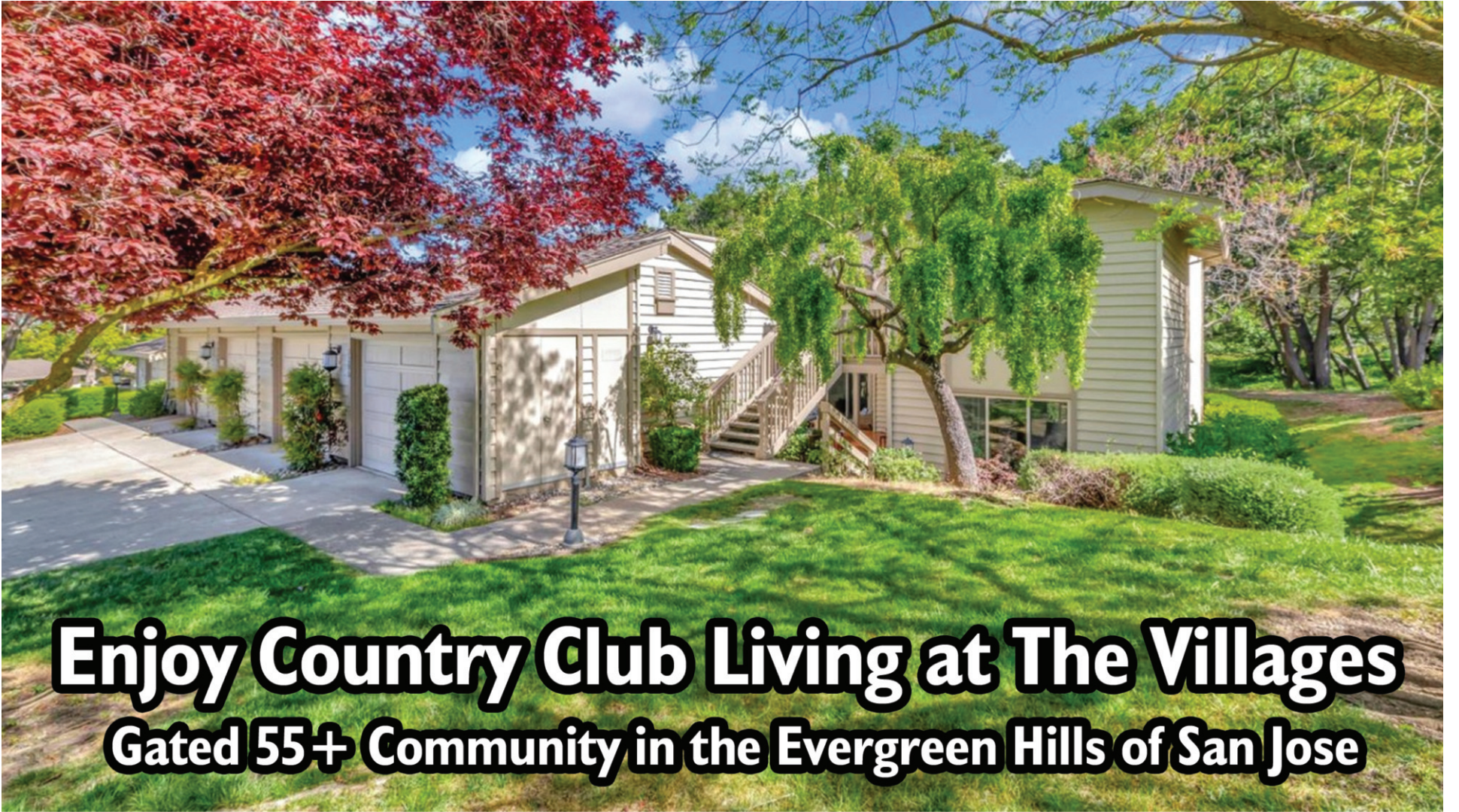
"By 2023, we have expanded to 21 chapters across the United States." As co-founders of EntHERprise, Emily and Ruby are incredibly proud of their organization's reach and impact. They stated, "Nothing compares to the strong community of talented businesswomen we have created."

Parastie and Chen stated, "Through EntHERprise's mission to empower girls through business education, we can shape a brighter future where the potential of every girl is realized and celebrated."

To learn more about EntHERprise, email: [entherprise@gmail.com](mailto:entherprise@gmail.com).

**SEE OUR LISTINGS OF LOCAL REALTORS, CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING AND HOME IMPROVEMENT ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER**





# Enjoy Country Club Living at The Villages

## Gated 55+ Community in the Evergreen Hills of San Jose



Now is your time to enjoy everyday luxury living in The Villages Golf & Country Club: A Gated, Active, Senior Community located in the Evergreen Hills of Silicon Valley - near Silver Creek Valley Country Club. Are you 55+ ???? Downsizing? Retired? or Still working? If you want to enjoy life at its best -- be sure to preview this home with an inviting Front Courtyard and Nature from EVERY window!



1568sf - 2 Bedroom - 2 Bath home with spacious Living & Dining Rooms - Kitchen with attached Family room or Nook - Sliders from Living & Family room opening to Screened Back Patio overlooking a private & beautiful Wooded Meadow. Now that you've Relaxed -- Want to have FUN? Choose one or all of these amenities: 2 Golf courses (9 & 18 hole), 4 Swimming Pools/Spa, Tennis , Pickleball & Bocce courts, Billiards & Ping Pong Rooms plus miles of Hiking Trails .Now enjoy Fine Clubhouse Dining or Casual dining in Bistro or Patio. Come enjoy the Lifestyle You Deserve! \$798,000



**Dee Ramirez**  
The Villages Realty Team

Lic# 00683945 ■ REALTOR

**408.440.7617**

Dee@RamirezRealtyTeam.com

www.DeeRamirez.com

2925 The Villages Parkway ■ San Jose ■ CA ■ 95135

Please note: I have not and will not be verifying or investigating any information supplied by others.



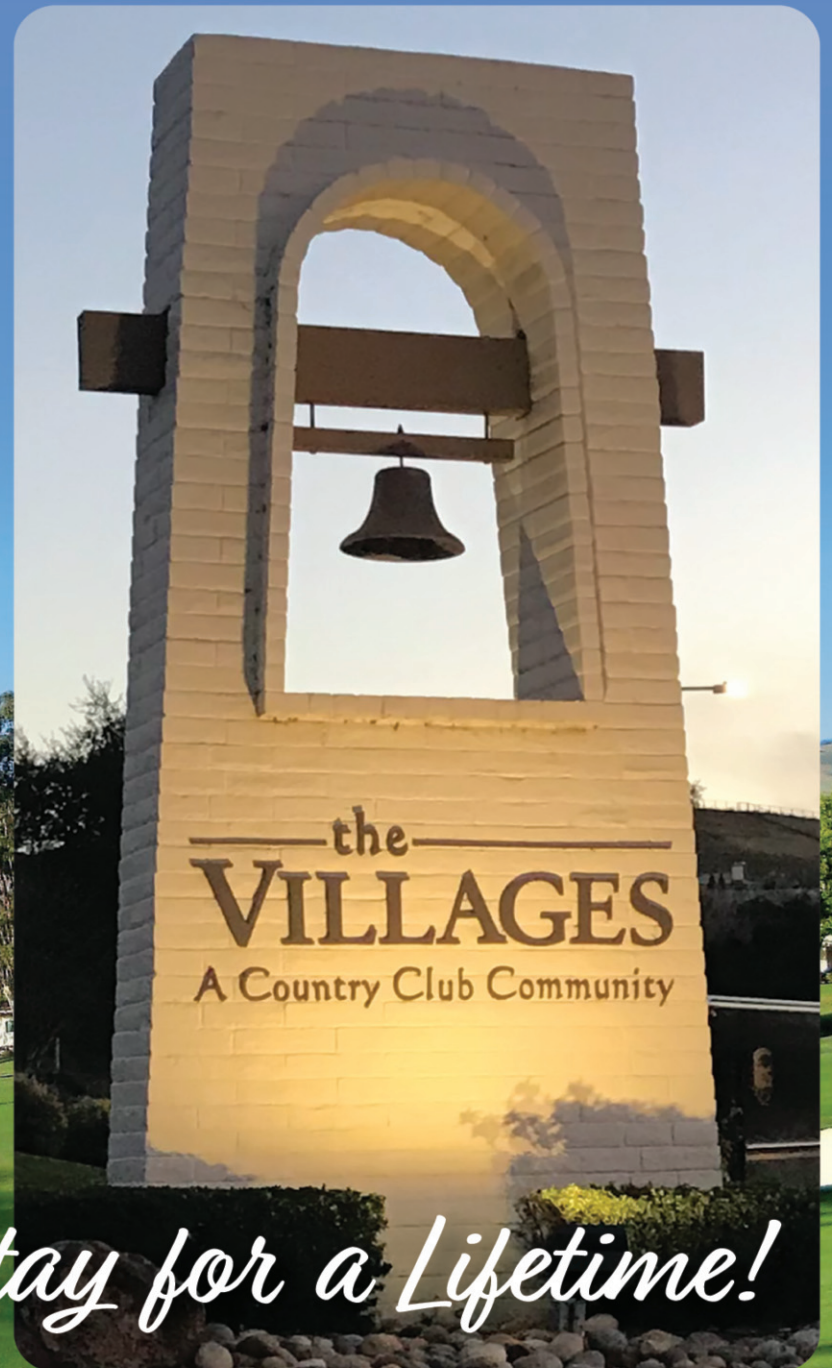
# THE VILLAGES GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

*55+ Adult Living*

## The Best Kept Secret in Silicon Valley

Homes from \$450k to \$1.5 Million

- Country Club Living
- 18 and 9 Hole Golf Courses
- Tennis, Bocce and Pickle Ball
- Fitness Center
- 4 Swimming Pools with Spa
- Library & Post Office
- Many Clubs & Organizations
- Clubhouse for Fine Dining
- Bistro Pub with Patio Service



*Come for a Tour - Stay for a Lifetime!*



**Dee Ramirez**

Realtor Lic # 00683945

**408.440.7617**

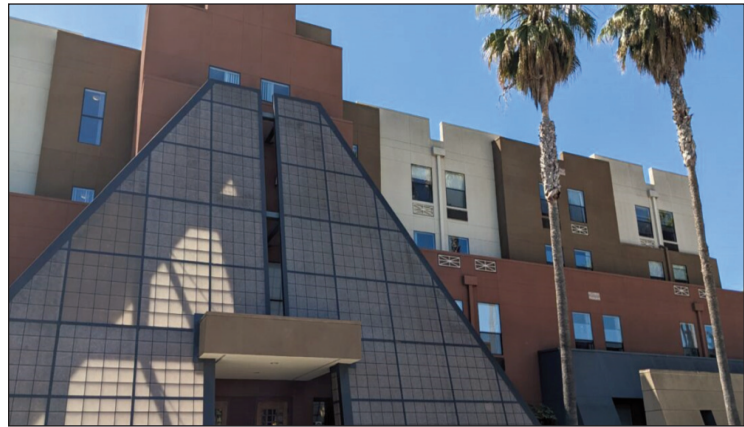
Email: [Dee@DeeRamirez.com](mailto:Dee@DeeRamirez.com)

Website: [www.DeeRamirez.com](http://www.DeeRamirez.com)

Office: 2925 The Villages Parkway • San Jose • CA • 95135



## NOTEBOOK



The Santa Clara County Housing Authority has purchased the Girasol Apartments in East San Jose to preserve affordable housing. *Photo by Annalise Freimarck.*

## Santa Clara County preserves affordable apartments for seniors

By Annalise Freimarck  
*San José Spotlight*

San Jose housing advocates are praising a deal between county and federal agencies to preserve affordable housing for low-income seniors on the east side of the city.

The Santa Clara County Housing Authority purchased Girasol Apartments and Jardines Paloma Blanca last week from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for \$4.15 mil-

lion and \$2.65 million, respectively. Girasol Apartments provides 60 affordable homes for seniors and 42 are offered at Jardines Paloma Blanca.

Nathan Ho, senior strategic advisor for the housing authority, said the agency purchased the sites to protect affordable housing for residents and to avoid potential displacement, which could have happened if a private entity bought the properties.

“That fits very much into the housing authority’s mission to not only provide, but also to preserve affordable housing in our community,” Ho said.

The housing authority will conduct an assessment of the properties to determine the renovations needed, but a spokesperson said the properties are in good shape. Residents will be able to stay in their apartments while renovations are made.

The purchase marks a new role for the agency to preserve affordable housing—an issue with a complicated history in San Jose.

### Double check that QR code before paying for parking

QR codes are everywhere: signs, ads, menus, and even scams.

Everywhere you see these square, black-and-white matrix barcodes printed on materials, product packaging, buildings and more.

BBB Scam Tracker has seen an influx of reports about a scam that involves fraudulent QR codes at parking lots.

This time, scammers use them to steal parking fees and collect credit card information. It’s the  
*See PARKING, page 8*

# Valley Currents

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



Pictured (left to right) are Pursuit of Excellence (POE-South Bay) scholarship winners, Tamba, Pedro, Ethan, David, Marina, Elyssa, Jimena, Jenny, Desteny, Ximena, and Julio.

## Pursuit of Excellence 2023 scholarship winners enjoy Vasona Park POE-South Bay picnic

POE-South Bay, a scholarship and mentorship program for low income, high achieving students held its annual picnic at Vasona Park in June.

Eleven new scholarship winners, along with their families and mentors, were introduced to each other and to the college scholarship program that they will participate in.

Pursuit of Excellence (POE-South Bay) was founded in 2015 by Donna Guldemann of Saratoga and Rosemary Rossi of Los Gatos. Modeled after the POE-Peninsula Scholarship, POE-South Bay selects students from Independence, Pioneer and Lincoln high schools in San Jose and from Los Gatos High School to receive up to \$4,000 per year during college and to work with a mentor matched with them by POE South Bay.

Due to the generous support of the Summit League of Los Gatos and Saratoga, POE-South Bay added Independence High School to its list of participating schools. The support of Summit League, an all-volunteer, community service organization, allowed POE to select 11 students this year and to offer more substantial scholarships (based on need) to the students.

The picnic was the first opportunity for students and mentors to meet. In addition, current POE-South Bay scholars were on hand to talk about their college experi-

ences and what these in-coming freshmen can expect.

**This year’s POE-Scholars from Lincoln High School**

**Ximena Soto Hernandez** who will be attending San Jose State University where she is planning to major in nursing. Ximena chose San Jose State so she could remain close to her family.

**Jimena Gomez** is going to the University of Santa Barbara where she plans to major in biology. Jimena tutored younger children during high school and is excited about the experience of being away from San Jose.

**David Zamora** will attend SJSU to major in mechanical engineering. David’s interest in robotics led to his choice of mechanical engineering but he still hopes to continue to be involved in theater during college.

**Elyssa Castrejon** is going to UCLA to double major in Biology and Sociology. While she will be far from home, she is joined at UCLA by her twin sister.

**Marina Garcia** will attend UC Davis and plans to major in Bio Medical Engineering. She is already planning to manage her time carefully as college will offer so many activities and choices.

**From Independence High School**  
**Jenny Liu** who is going to USC to major in a new 5-year architecture program that includes a second

major in Architecture and materials. She was active in the architecture construction and engineering program during high school and likes the collaboration that this major offers.

**Ethan Ho** is attending SJSU to major in computer engineering. Ethan enjoys the collaboration needed to work in computing and the challenges that college will bring.

**Pedro Rosas Pedilla** will also attend SJSU to major in mechanical engineering. A power lifter, Pedro is also a skilled plumber assisting his father with his work.

**From Pioneer High School**  
**Tamba Mbawa** will attend Stanford and has yet to select a major. He speaks several languages and is leaning either toward international policy or medicine. Tamba hopes to return to Africa to give back to his community.

**Julio Hernandez Vera** will attend San Jose Community College with plans to transfer to San Jose State to major in electrical engineering. Because of his work after school, Julio is close to receiving his electrician’s license and is very enthusiastic about this field.

**Desteny Villa** is also attending SJSU and plans to move into the nursing program. Desteny is delighted to have a mentor through POE-South Bay who can help her navigate college life.

EvergreenTimes

Times Media, Inc. / (408) 494-7000

PUBLISHER / CEO  
WILLIAM D. BELLOU  
williamb@timesmediainc.com

EXECUTIVE EDITOR  
WILLIAM D. BELLOU  
williamb@timesmediainc.com

ADVERTISING SALES  
WILLIAM D. BELLOU  
408-494-7000

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

ART DIRECTOR  
JEFF BAHAM  
graphics@timesmediainc.com

PHOTOGRAPHER  
ROCCO SANTORO

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
SANDY BELLOU

Copyright © 2023 Times Media, Inc. All rights reserved. The Evergreen Times prefers letters to the editor and submissions of guest articles and columns for possible publication to be sent by email to [editorial@timesmediainc.com](mailto:editorial@timesmediainc.com). All submitted materials become the property of Times Media, Inc., and receipt of unsolicited materials cannot be acknowledged.

The opinions and viewpoints expressed by guest authors and columnists in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions and viewpoints of the staff and management of the Evergreen Times and Times Media, Inc.



# TURN YOUR PARTY INTO A Fiesta



NOTHING *bundt* CAKES®

## Free Bundtlet

with the purchase of a Bundtlet

**Buy 4 bundtlets, get a  
free insulated lunch bag  
while supplies last!**

**San Jose-Evergreen**  
2721 Aborn Road, Suite 10  
San Jose, CA 95121 (408) 238-7500

**Milpitas**  
597 E. Calaveras Blvd.  
Milpitas, CA 95035 (669) 306-7671

**ORDER ONLINE! WE DELIVER!**

NothingBundtCakes.com

Expires 8/31/23 . Limit one (1) coupon per guest. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Valid only at the bakery(ies) listed. No cash value. Valid only on baked goods; not valid on retail items. Coupon may not be reproduced, transferred or sold. Internet distribution strictly prohibited. Must be claimed in bakery during normal business hours. Not valid for online orders. Not valid with any other offer. Discounts applied before tax.



# RED DOG SHREDD



RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL BUSINESS PAPER SHREDDING

DROP-OFF SHREDDING SERVICE

## WATCH IT SHRED!

RECYCLE  
ELECTRONICS

MULTI MEDIA



65 Gallon Container



PAPER SHREDDING  
\$10.00 PER BOX  
10" x 12" x 15"

HARD DRIVE  
SHREDDING

Executive Console



RED DOG  
SHRED  
PICKS UP

## JUNK IT!



- OFFICE CONTENT CLEANOUT
- DOCUMENT PURGES
- PICK UP DOCS
- ON-SITE SHREDDING

# WWW.REDDOGSHRED.COM

## 408-377-2925

BAY AREA - SAN JOSE • 14944 Camden Avenue, San Jose, CA 95124 (Cambrian Plaza)



Times **Local News**

# Investing in Santa Clara County

By Senator Dave Cortese

August brings with it a sense of anticipation, signaling the approach of a new season and the opportunity for progress and positive change. I'm excited to celebrate some of the investments that we have fought hard to secure in the state budget that we adopted this summer, driving positive changes in crucial areas that shape our community and California as a whole.

Here's a snapshot of these programs:

## Guaranteed Basic Income Program for Unhoused High School Students

I joined Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors President Susan Ellenberg, along with unhoused and formerly unhoused students to celebrate a state budget allocation of \$3 million toward a new Santa Clara County guaranteed income program that will benefit homeless students. Recipients will receive a \$1,200 monthly stipend and access to financial mentors and peer support to facilitate their transition to college or a quality career through this first-in-the-nation program. This is modeled after the successful 2020 guaranteed basic income program for foster youth I championed, and I've authored legislation this year to scale this guaranteed-income program statewide – Senate Bill 333.

Back in 2021, we were able to secure \$35 million toward our state's first investment in guaranteed income programs that is currently directly serving foster youth and pregnant women across California.

## The Tech Interactive Field Trip Program Incorporating the Silicon Valley Kid's Climate Club

I secured \$3 million so that students can join field trips to The Tech Interactive, a Silicon Valley museum focused on hands-on education in areas like AI, robotics, digital art, and environmental science. The field trip program will incorporate teachings from the "Silicon Valley Kid's Climate Club," a program I launched back in 2009 that includes a series of lessons and resources we developed with scientific experts. These field trips will bring youth from all over Silicon Valley, including underserved communities, to participate in the wonders of science, technology, engineering, and math.

## College of Adaptive Arts - Investing in Inclusive Higher Education Opportunities for Students with Differing Abilities

I'm proud to announce that I've secured \$2.2 million for the College of Adaptive Arts (CAA), located on the West Valley Community College campus, to fund collegiate-level educational opportunities, workforce development, and career counseling for young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Unlike other programs, CAA welcomes graduates back for continuous, lifelong education. It is thought to be the first program of its kind in the country. Since its start in 2009, CAA has

grown to serve over 140 students with over 75 course offerings across 10 Schools of Instruction.

This funding would not be possible without the support of CAA Executive Director DeAnna Pursai and the entire CAA team, the West Valley-Mission Community College District Board of Trustees, and West Valley-Mission Community College Chancellor Brad Davis. We hope to scale this program across California and across the world!

## Silicon Valley African American Cultural Center

The African American Cultural Center is a planned mixed-use development at 2001 The Alameda. I secured \$3 million for the Center, which will include affordable housing, a health clinic, a performing arts theater, a museum, athletic facilities, and retail spaces.

In 2007, the African American Community Service Agency (AACSA) Board of Directors formed the AACC, a 501(c)3 nonprofit community development corporation, for the purpose of creating, developing, and building the Silicon Valley African American Signature Project (SVAACC). It will include affordable housing, an expansion of the African American Community Service Agency, Ujima Adult and Family Services, a Roots Community Health Clinic, as well as a performing arts theatre, museum, athletic facilities, and retail and commercial spaces.

The African American Cultural Center is Silicon Valley's first Black-owned non-profit community development entity, and this signature project is undertaken by AACC in partnership with First Community Housing and the African American Community Services Agency.

## Other Statewide Budget Wins!

This year's approved state budget stands as a testament to our commitment to responsible budgeting and preserving our core programs in vital areas.

We fought hard to restore billions for transit operators like Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) and Valley Transportation Agency (VTA) to avoid drastic cuts to transit service. We've increased funding for Child Care and State Preschool programs to support young learners, invested in debt-free college options to our state's foster youth, secured billions for climate and energy initiatives, provided funding for local governments to combat homelessness, and have taken measures to ensure accountability and progress across these efforts.

And, we've taken extra steps to build our total reserves to \$37.8 billion – the highest in history – to help protect future budgets during these times of economic uncertainty.

To find out how you can support any of these programs, or for any general questions or feedback, 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

# WHEN JOURNALISM IS NOT PRESENT TO SERVE COMMUNITIES, BAD THINGS HAPPEN.

Trained journalists report authentic, credible information. And we fight for those who produce genuine news!

Evergreen Times  
Serving the community since 1982

Times Media, Inc.

- Almaden Times
- Evergreen Times
- Willow Glen Times

Source: University of North Carolina School of Media & Journalism



"UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH" MATTHEW 16:18

REV. R.G. MOORE III  
PASTOR

# Church on the ROCK BAPTIST

2995 YERBA BUENA ROAD  
SAN JOSE, CA 95135  
408-532-7625

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10:00 AM  
COMMUNION 1ST SUNDAY 10:00 AM  
WEDNESDAY PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY 7:30 PM

BREAKTHROUGH TV BROADCAST  
EVERY FRIDAY 11:00 PM COMCAST CHANNEL 15

WWW.CHURCHONThEROCKBAPTIST.COM



# VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Help the passengers find their way around  
Mineta San José International Airport (SJC)!



The Airport is looking for information booth volunteers to answer questions related to flight information, concessions, ground transportation, and much more.

Apply today! <https://www.flysanjose.com/volunteer>



## Santa Clara County to fight meth addiction with gift cards

By Marisa Kendall

Faced with rising death tolls from cocaine and methamphetamine abuse, California will try a new approach to stimulant addiction: Paying people with gift cards to reward them for staying sober.

In San Francisco, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital recently launched a six-month contingency management program as part of the statewide pilot.

The hospital opened enrollment on July 17, serving up to 50 people. Clinicians will test participants for stimulants once or twice a week.

Each time patients test negative, they'll get a \$10 gift card to Walmart or another retailer. The amount of the gift card gradually will increase, for a maximum of \$26.50 per test. If they test positive, they get nothing.

Participants can earn a maximum of \$599 over the course of the program. That's because payments of \$600 or more must be reported to the Internal Revenue Service.

### Santa Clara responds to meth deaths

Santa Clara County hopes to launch a similar program within the next few weeks. So far this year, 70% of the 120 drug deaths recorded in the county involved methamphetamine, according to the Office of the Medical Examiner-Coroner.

"We're all excited to try it and see if it does help retain people in treatment for longer periods of time so they are more successful," said Tammy Ramsey, program manager for the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System in the county's behavioral health department.

Other programs in counties throughout California — including Alameda, Fresno, Nevada, Sacramento and Los Angeles — plan to follow the same model.

If the trials are successful in San Francisco,

Dr. Brad Shapiro, medical director of the Opiate Treatment Outpatient Program at Zuckerberg said he hopes the state will allow them to expand and serve everyone on Medi-Cal.

The model already has proven effective for the Department of Veterans Affairs, according to Dominick DePhilippis, the department's deputy national mental health director for substance use disorders. The VA started using contingency management in 2011, and as of the beginning of July, the program has treated more than 6,300 veterans. Those veterans have attended about half of their appointments and produced nearly 82,000 urine samples — of which more than 92% were negative for the targeted drug, DePhilippis said.

### Program reports success

It's not just the VA. Of 22 studies testing contingency management's impact on stimulant addiction, 82% reported "significant increases" in participants' abstinence, according to a 2021 meta-analysis published in JAMA Psychiatry.

Shapiro believes the model works because it replaces the reward a patient's brain craves (the drug) with a different type of prize.

"It's a little bit like winning something," Shapiro said. "It triggers that reward place in the brain that otherwise they would be turning to the drug for."

But Tom Wolf, who has battled addiction and homelessness himself and now advocates for drug policy reform, said he worries using Medi-Cal to fund contingency management will create bureaucratic hurdles to treatment as patients wait for the state to decide if they are eligible. Still, he said, the program is worth a shot.

"At this point I'm willing to try it, basically because we have such a dearth of options for people that are struggling with addictions in California," he said.

Because of how difficult it is to treat his patients that use stimulants — many of them use methamphetamine every day — Shapiro would be happy if even a quarter of participants significantly reduced or stopped using.

There is also concern, as with any type of treatment, that patients will relapse once the program is over, he said. To help prevent that, the hospital will provide six additional months of counseling after the contingency management program ends.

See GIFT CARDS, page 16



## Drive home the savings.

### Al Olseen

#### State Farm Agent

3267 S White Road,  
San Jose, CA 95148  
Phone: (408) 274-4900  
Hours: 9 am – 6 pm  
(Lunch 1-2 pm)

Call for competitive  
Auto Insurance rates.

Like a good neighbor,  
State Farm is there.®  
CALL ME TODAY.

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company  
State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company  
State Farm General Insurance Company  
Bloomington, IL

## Parking

Continued from page 4

flip side of this parking ticket scam. Learn how the scam works to avoid falling victim.

### How this scam works

You pull up to a city parking meter or a parking voucher machine and notice a prominently placed QR code. It may say "Pay for Parking Here" or have a similar message. Happy about the convenient payment method, you scan the code and pay using your email address and credit card number. You don't receive proof of parking, but you may notice a small amount charged to your credit card. You assume that you've been charged for parking.

A few weeks later, however, you noticed another charge on your credit card. However, this fee has nothing to do with parking. It's a recurring charge from an unrelated company posing as the city's parking fee service. It turns out the QR code was fake, and your information is now in the hands of a scammer.

To avoid this parking scam, pay for parking using your credit card to pay directly using the machine or meter.

Watch out for short links. If a QR code says it will open a URL-shortened link, you can't know for sure where the code is directing you. It could be hiding a malicious URL or not belonging to the organization you are trying to pay.

Look for evidence of tampering. Scammers may try to confuse you by placing QR code stickers where they should belong. They may even place them on top of legitimate QR codes. Keep a close eye out for signs of tampering.

### History

The QR code was invented in Japan in 1994 as a means to quickly identify auto parts. It has evolved to be used worldwide on vast applications.

### What is a QR code

The "QR" in the QR code stands for "Quick Response". The two-dimensional matrix barcode can be scanned and read with compatible devices such as your smartphone camera. The camera deciphers the code and sends your connection to another website. During COVID there was an upswing in use of QR because it allows one to scan information without directly touching anything.



# Silver Creek Academy

INSPIRE EXPLORE CHALLENGE

## AN AWARD-WINNING LEARNING CENTER IN SAN JOSE



- Reading Comprehension
- Mathematics
- Writing & Grammar
- Public Speaking & Debate
- Logic & Critical Thinking
- Competitive Debate
- HSPT, PSAT & SAT Test Prep
- Study Skills for Academic Success
- Test-Taking Strategies

**Visit: [SCAASanJose.com](http://SCAASanJose.com)**  
for the complete schedule  
of camps & classes!



**Silver Creek Academy**  
**5619 Silver Creek Valley Road**  
**San Jose, CA 95138**

**Academic Courses!**  
**Grades K -12**

**\*Online & In-Person**

**Now Enrolling!**

**2023/24 School Year**  
**Courses!**

**(408)839-5905**





Times **Community News**



SAN JOSE  
PARKS, RECREATION &  
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

CITY OF  
SAN JOSE  
OFFICE OF REALTY VALLEY

VALLEY  
MEDICAL  
CENTER

# Clean Slate

## FREE TATTOO REMOVAL

Hands, Wrist, Neck & Face

**Ages 14 - 25**

For more info, call 408-794-1660 or email [cleanslate@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:cleanslate@sanjoseca.gov)



## Alamos Vineyards garners top vote in 2023 USA Today 10 Best Readers' Choice Contest for *Best New Winery Experience*

*Three-year-old New Almaden Vineyard wins Double Gold and Gold in 2023 San Francisco Chronicle Competition*

By **Denelle Fedor**

*Times contributing writer*

**A**lamos Vineyards owners Shaun Coleman and Chris Maune have done it again – they are continuing the tradition of making history in New Almaden by being the top vote getter for the 2023 USA TODAY 10 Best Readers' Choice travel award contest securing the prestigious Best New Winery experience in the Country.

It happened last year. A wine tasting was scheduled at Alamos Vineyards by a marketing group who promotes San Jose for tourism for a group of travel writers. Amber Gibson, a well-known writer and blogger, was part of this group. Gibson has travelled all over the world, visiting numerous historic sites, hidden gems, well-known destinations and has included numerous wineries throughout the world on her travels. She lovingly shares that she spends 350 nights a year sharing the joys of her travels with readers.

Gibson was mesmerized by this young winery of three years and nominated Alamos Vineyards for the Best New Winery experience in the 10Best.com with USA TODAY. This nomination came shortly after Alamos Vineyards competed in the 2023 San Francisco Chronicle Competition where the vineyard won a Double Gold for their 'Hawk Eye' Syrah (2019) and a Gold for their 'White Egret' Sauvignon Blanc (2021).

### Best new winery in the United States

Alamos Vineyards was in the company of nine other exceptional wineries/vineyards throughout the United States. Each winery – vineyard has something special to offer and certainly posed strong competition for earning the number one recognition.

Here's a list of USA TODAY's Top Ten Wineries:

10. Newby Vineyard – Rome, Georgia
9. Hillick & Hobbs – Burdett, New York
8. Nicolas-Jay – Newberg, Oregon
7. Sauvage Spectrum – Palisade, Colorado
6. Abbott Claim – Carlton, Oregon
5. The Ordinary Fellow – Palisade, Colorado
4. Bledsoe McDaniels – Walla Walla, WA
3. Los Milics Vineyards – Elgin, Arizona
2. Anacreon Winery – Newberg, Oregon
1. Alamos Vineyards – San Jose, CA

The process of choosing the best new win-

ery experience consisted of readers of USA TODAY voting for their favorite over the course of four months. Additionally, each nominated winery was encouraged to share their nomination with the link to vote with their winery members and supporters. Upon learning that Alamos Vineyards was voted number 1, Shaun shared, "We were surprised, as Amber was here with the tourist group only once and she travels extensively throughout the world." Shaun and Chris were very pleased and humbled that after only 3 years, they would be recognized as the best new winery experience in the United States.

Shaun and Chris have provided New Almaden and the greater San Jose area with a gift – Alamos Vineyards. As shared in an earlier Times article, when they purchased the property, it was not a vineyard. The Alamos Vineyard is the physical outcome of Chris and Shaun's shared dream – and pays homage to Shaun's grandfather, John Enos Vargas a former Sauvignon Blanc winemaker at Cresta Blanca Winery in Livermore, CA in the 1960's. They recently completed the inside tasting room renovation where a picture of Mr. Vargas is proudly displayed along with the artwork that beautifully decorates the Alamos wine bottles.

Shaun and Chris gift - their vineyard - to the local community and beyond, allows friends and strangers to gather and savor the beauty and history of New Almaden while enjoying wine produced from the boutique Alamos Vineyard.

### Small but mighty

New Almaden is small but mighty, rich in history both locally and nationally. It was once recognized through the United States as the hub of quicksilver/mercury mining. In fact, in 1863 then President Abraham Lincoln attempted to seize the mines but was blocked. This humble community – which is a National Historic Landmark - continues its annual parade, recognizes its hometown soldiers, is home to the first second story hotel – now home to La Foret Restaurant and now, is home to the only winery in San Jose that is recognized as the Best New Winery experience in the United States.

Prior to purchasing the property that would become Alamos Vineyards, the couple's original plans were to tear down their Rose Garden home and build a 9,000 square foot home in its place. They lived in a beautiful neighborhood rich in history and located down the

*Continued, next page*



*We treat pets like family*

Compassionate care for your animal companion is the cornerstone of Aborn Pet Clinic. We are dedicated to providing a relaxed experience for you and your pet at every visit. Whether it's a routine check-up or an emergency treatment, our staff responds quickly to your pet's needs and takes the time to explain examinations and procedures. — Dr. Raj Singh

## ABORN PET CLINIC

**(408) 270-4600**

2525 Aborn Rd., San Jose, CA 95148



Times **Community News**

street from the famous Rose Garden Park.

Before moving forward with their remodeling plans, they decided to take a quick look at a few open houses first to see if they might see another home that would be more practical than a huge remodel. The day they went out to look at houses, it was pouring rain, but they drove out to New Almaden anyway to see a home with acreage. Both men instantly fell in love with 23505 Alamos Road – which did not include a winery at the time – but their vision was in full play. They made an offer which was accepted the same day. They traded one close knit community for another saying goodbye to the Rose Garden and hello to New Almaden.

In the early 1800's Chris and Shaun's land served as the home to thousands of miners who once lived within the English, Spanish and Hacienda villages. The Almaden Reservoir – across the street was created as part of the New Deal in 1935. Their property includes their personal home with a large lawn area, pool house, and caretakers' home. They share the property with many wild animals, including the infamous feral pigs that roam Quicksilver. Foxes will play with any shoes left outside. Bobcats live in the brush within the property and a pair of mountain lions tend to meet up for late night visits outside the winery gates. They have posted pictures and videos to their Facebook page – Alamos Vineyards.

Spencer and Abby are the caretakers and live on the property. Abby assists with the wine tastings and events. Shaun and Chris wanted to include a waterfall or something similar at the front gate, but it was prohibitive. When they shared the idea with Spencer, he said he could create a water display that would meet their budget, and he did. The beautiful water feature welcomes you as you arrive at the gates.



**John Enos Vargas** at the Cresta Blanca Winery in Livermore, CA in 1962.

Sonoma may have the oldest winery - The Buena Vista founded in 1857 by Hungarian "Count" Agoston Haraszthy, but San Jose was home to the first commercial winery in Northern California – the former Almaden Winery in 1852 which is a CA. historic landmark. San Jose was also home to Mirassou Winery built in 1854 located on Aborn Road in Evergreen Valley. Both of these wineries closed decades ago ending agricultural winemaking in San Jose until now, where Shawn and Chris have given the winemaking industry a rebirth in San Jose. Alamos Winery is part of the Santa Clara Wine Trail and is included in the Passport event for those who are participating.

Shaun's grandfather, John Enos Vargas (a distant cousin to former dairy owners Vargas family who had a dairy at the end of McAbee in Almaden) immigrated to Livermore in 1923 after learning the Azorean wine making craft.

Grandfather John made wine for many well-known wineries including Concannon and Cresta Blanca Winery – known today as Wente Vineyards. What is most interesting is that Mr. Vargas made the white wines for the former Almaden Winery. Shaun and Chris pay homage to him and the art of winemaking by bringing onsite estate winemaking and tasting back to San Jose.

**Alamos Wine Labels**

Each Alamos wine bottle features artwork of a different bird that populate the New Almaden area. The drawings are from original paintings that have been created by Shaun and Chris's family members. For example, Chris's aunt painted the raptor that appears on the 2018 Hawk Eye Syrah. Shaun's mom painted the Acorn Woodpecker and Chris's uncle painted the Barn Owl for upcoming wines. Chris's mom passed on in 2017; Laura's Love Rose

(2019) is named after her. The artful bottles make beautiful vases after wine consumption.

**Alamos Estate Wines**

Chris and Shaun unitized the hillside of their property to plant grapes – creating Alamos Vineyards which opened during COVID in 2020. Alamos has three levels to their Wine Club which is located on their website. They immediately gained numerous wine club members on the outset.

Due to the unique soil and temperate – and because the reservoir is across from their property which creates a late afternoon breeze, the microclimate keeps the area warmer during the day and cooler in the evening. These temperatures are responsible for the successful growth of Alamos estate wines.

Shaun and Chris began planting in 2014 with two blocks of Syrah, one block of Sauvignon Blanc and one block of Touriga Nacional. Touriga Nacional is a Portuguese varietal considered the top notch of Portugal's finest vines which contributes to the blends that are used

*See WINERY, page 13*





**WINNER**  
BEST OF  
**Evergreen**  
2013-2014  
*The Evergreen Times*



**KinderCare**<sup>®</sup>  
LEARNING CENTERS

*Virtual Tours Available*

**Evergreen KinderCare**  
3320 San Felipe Road  
San Jose, CA 95135  
**(408) 270-0980**  
www.kindercare.com

**Now Open and Enrolling**

**Call for more information**




KinderCare offers unique, expertly designed early education programs for infants as young as 6 weeks to school-age children up to age 12, which includes preschool and pre-kindergarten programs.



# SOS AUTO REPAIR

**Little town feel...  
Big time service!**

**We take your car servicing seriously.  
Locally Owned and Operated.**



**408-477-2242**

**3519 San Felipe Rd.**

**San Jose, CA 95135**

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



Times **Local News****Winery**

*Continued from page 11*

in traditional ports and Rose'. All of their wines are from the grapes Shaun and Chris grow on their property. The wines are extremely good – you can taste the earth and smell the vines with each sip. Combine the good taste and small batches made, they do sell out.

They use original cooperages which is an older version of creating estate wines. They reused an older commercial refrigerator by hooking it up to an air conditioner in it for temperature control. The barrels keep the estate wine until bottling, and they also do barrel tasting.

Shaun and Chris brought on George Troquato as their winemaking consultant. Mr. Troquato is a third-generation vintner with 30 years of winemaking experience from California's Central Coast. He has worked with Los Gatos's Testarossa and Cinnabar Wineries. He is well respected and well known for his winemaking philosophy and understanding of sustainable soils and a minimal-intervention winemaking style.

Their wine is available for purchase directly from Alamos Vineyards and delivery is available to those in Almaden and within San Jose by appointment.

Shaun and Chris also have license to create Aguardiente which is a distilled spirit considered a Portuguese grape-based vodka. They consider Spencer to be the Master Distiller who allows the barrel to age and then he places the Aguardiente in a mason jar to sell. Consumption must be off site of Alamos Vineyards.

**Alamos Fire Truck – Emergency and Delivery**

Not every winery can share they sport an actu-

al working fire truck; but Alamos Vineyards can. The truck has come in handy. There have been at least two fires within the vicinity of the winery where the truck was used. Chris, Shaun, Spencer, and Abby all have protective clothing and have been professionally trained on how to operate the truck in times of emergency.

The truck is also used for wine deliveries in the Almaden area, leads the New Almaden parade and residents have shared they have seen Santa Claus driving the fire truck during the holidays when Santa's sleigh was in for repairs.

**Alamos Winery – From Vines to Wines – Estate Wine Tasting is Open!**

Alleluia! Alamos Vineyards is open for their wine tasting experience on the weekends beginning on May 1st through October of this year – and/or weather permitting. Step up to the vintage and original 1964 Silver Streak trailer where a bar made from a 150-year-old barn wood from Gilroy, CA, sits. Chris and Shawn provide the hand-crafted small batch wine tasting experience through wine flights showcasing their estate grown wines. Summer wine-tasting is outside where you can overlook the Almaden Reservoir and picturesque hillside.

**'Bringing agriculture back to San Jose'**

Shaun and Chris are dedicated to Alamos and becoming a part of the New Almaden Community. "So much of San Jose's agricultural land has been developed; here we are bringing agriculture back to San Jose, shared Shaun."

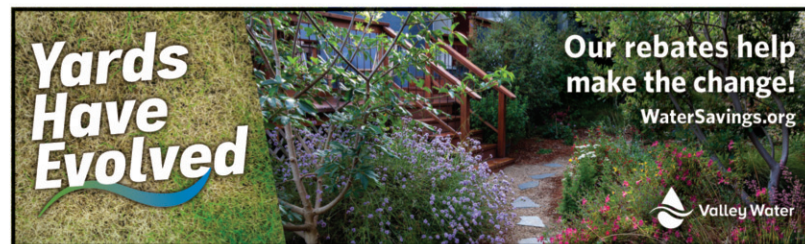
"The nice thing is that we can share this with people – we can enjoy this property with the community while enjoying our estate wines."

**Alamos Vineyards**

[www.alamosvineyards.com](http://www.alamosvineyards.com)  
23505 Alamos Rd, San Jose, CA 95120  
(408) 380-2230



## ADVERTISEMENT



## Goodbye water thirsty lawns and hello beautiful water-wise landscapes!



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

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

**Our Landscape Rebate**

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

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

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

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

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

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



## 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

Rhythmaires 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 Rhythmaires 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.*

# AWARD-WINNING TRANSFER COLLEGE

FREE TUITION  
FALL 2023

MAKE CONNECTIONS  
THAT COUNT.





# ALMADEN LAW GROUP

Amy L. Horowitz Attorney at Law

## Almaden Law Group provides estate planning and probate services.

*Amy is committed to delivering high value services at a reasonable price. She establishes a comfortable, compassionate and trusting relationship with her clients.*

Contact Almaden Law Group  
to schedule a free initial  
office consultation.

### Almaden Law Group

6501 Crown Boulevard, Suite 200

Phone: 408-268-8530

Email: [amy@almadenlawgroup.com](mailto:amy@almadenlawgroup.com)

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

Now accepting all major credit cards





Times Feature

**Gift cards, from page 8**

**Medicaid now covers costs**

The model, known as “contingency management,” rewards people with financial incentives each time their drug tests are negative for stimulants. It’s been shown to have success in clinical trials — and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has been using it for more than a decade — but it hasn’t taken off in California. Medicaid previously wouldn’t cover it, so there was no funding to expand its use.

The program is expanding now, thanks to a recent waiver by the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services that allows the agency to cover its costs.

California was the first state in the nation to win approval for a contingency management

program under Medicaid. The Golden State is launching pilot programs in 24 counties, including San Francisco, Sacramento and Los Angeles. Costs for what collectively is called the Recovery Incentives Program will be reimbursed by CalAIM — the state’s recent expansion of Medi-Cal services.

Methamphetamine is among the most difficult addictions to witness: It leaves users tearing at their skin and unable to eat, sleep or sign up for help.

Clinic workers say they are largely powerless because unlike with opioid addiction, for which doctors prescribe medications such as methadone, there is no medicine for stimulant use disorder.

“We live day in and day out watching people

suffer in a way that’s hard to imagine,” said Shapiro. “They’re just dying in front of us.”

“It’s actually, in my opinion, really quite criminal that we’ve gone decades knowing this is an effective treatment and the powers that be have failed to make a pathway for treatment for people,” he said.

“All of a sudden we have money to provide this incredibly effective intervention,” said Shapiro, whose clinic is launching one of three pilot programs coming to San Francisco. “So it makes a huge difference.”

Shapiro’s clinic focuses primarily on opioid addiction, but more than half of their patients also have a stimulant use disorder, he said.

While the deadly opioid fentanyl gets most of the attention in the drug epidemic in California

and across the country, experts say stimulant use is a major — and growing — concern.

In 2021, 65% of drug-related deaths in California involved cocaine, methamphetamine or other stimulants — up from 22% in 2011, according to the California Department of Health Care Services. Nationally, there were 15,489 overdose deaths involving stimulants other than cocaine (largely methamphetamine) in 2019, up 180% from 2015, according to a study by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

And with California in the midst of a dire homelessness crisis, stimulants are wreaking havoc on the state’s unhoused community. Among unhoused residents who use drugs, amphetamines are by far the most common

See GIFT CARDS, page 19

EvergreenTimes Real Estate

EvergreenTimes Real Estate



**Your  
Realtor  
Ad Here:  
Just \$89!**  
Call now to place your  
ad by phone:  
**(408) 494-7000**



**SHAWN  
ANSARI**

**COMPASS**

shawn.ansari@compass.com  
www.ShawnAnsari.com  
DRE #01088988  
**(408) 529-4574**



**JACKIE  
JONES**



**(408) 315-6186**  
www.jackiejonesells.com  
jjones@cbnocal.com



**THERESE  
SWAN**

**COMPASS**

tswan@tswan.com  
AlmadenValleyRealEstate.com  
DRE: 01355719  
**(408) 656-8240**



**DONNA TAM**  
donnatam@sereno.com



**(408) 398-4024**  
214 Los Gatos-Saratoga  
Road, Los Gatos, CA 95030  
DRE 02119119



**DEE RAMIREZ**  
Realtor Lic. #00683945



**(408) 440-7617**  
Dee@DeeRamirez.com  
www.DeeRamirez.com



Times **Community News**

## West Point

*Continued from page 1*

early age. The Evergreen Valley native always loved science and was intrigued by the human body.

“Even in pre-school, I remember this basic human psychology book was my favorite thing growing up,” said Hatton. “I was fortunate to have grown up in the Evergreen community and attend Chaboya Middle School, as they laid the foundation for my journey to West Point and now medical school. They nurtured my curiosity, fostered a love for learning, and instilled in me the values of compassion and service for others.”

### Injury

Just as Hatton was being noticed and attending several recruiting events; she was sidelined with an injury during her freshman year at Archbishop Mitty.

“I got injured and tore a ligament,” Hatton explained. “It threw all my plans in the air.”

The injury brought Hatton to Dr. Julia S. Kahan, MD, a local orthopedic surgeon who got her back on the field and was the catalyst for her choosing to pursue medicine.

“She took care of me and really asked me what my goals were, and she understood that and tailored my treatment plan towards that,” Hatton said.

“She was very inspirational to me in how she was able to take her expertise and knowledge and apply it to me successfully so I could play lacrosse again in 11 months. I was very inspired by it and wanted to do that for other people.”

Both Hatton and Miller declared life sciences as their majors at the end of their freshman year, the typical pre-medical track. But the spring of their first year was anything but typical — it was 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic saw physicians nationwide called upon to serve and care for others while much of the country was asked to stay home.

That’s not to say it was a breeze. Hatton and Miller were in the trenches together, teammates in every sense of the word.

“We’d have rough weeks, and most people would take a postgame nap, but we were studying,” Miller said. “That’s the reality of it, but to be able to look one or two seats behind me and see her studying or ask her a question about a test was important ... It wouldn’t have been the same without her.”

### The feeling is mutual

“Having each other and being able to lean on each other and understand our schedules and the sacrifices we were making was something that was very special to me,” Hatton said.

The two will separate as they begin medical programs at separate Ivy League schools. Hatton is leaning towards specializing in an area that involves surgery, similar to Dr. Kahan. As for Miller, she’s keeping an open mind on her many options she’s earned with hard work and sacrifice.

“Our experience collectively really demonstrates that you don’t have to sacrifice a professional career to have an athletic career in college,” Miller said. “It wasn’t all sunshine and rainbows. I didn’t go to bed at 9 p.m. and sleep for nine hours every night.”

*‘You don’t have to sacrifice a professional career to have an athletic career.’  
– Taylor Miller*

But Miller would do it all over again in a heartbeat, in large part because of what she learned and the friends she made outside the classroom.

“It was a worthwhile experience,” Miller said. “It taught me a lot about myself, and I got to meet amazing people like Malina.”

## Parks

*Continued from page 2*

through a virtual online workshop to ensure that a diverse range of perspectives and voices are included in the survey process.

The primary goals for this assessment are as follows:

**1. Understanding Current Usage:** The assessment aims to gain comprehensive insights into the demographics of park visitors utilizing County Parks, as well as the various ways in which these spaces are being enjoyed.

**2. Identifying Barriers:** Gain knowledge of the reasons behind individuals who are not visiting County Parks, and identify any existing barriers and potential obstacles preventing their participation.

**3. Promoting Equity and Access:** Based on the assessment findings, develop specific recommendations to address identified barriers

and promote racial and social equity and accessibility for all. The ultimate goal is to strengthen access to people of all abilities at County Parks’ open spaces, properties, and programming.

The *Everyone Belongs at Parks* initiative believes that meaningful progress in achieving inclusivity and equity can only be achieved by involving the perspectives of community members. Everyone is invited to join in shaping the future of Santa Clara County Parks by actively participating in the virtual workshop.

To view or participate in the study, visit <https://keenindependent.com/santaclaraparksdei>

Your information will remain anonymous, and the results will be reported in aggregate to protect individual privacy. The virtual workshop has gone live through October 2, 2023.

Contact [santaclaracountyparksDEI@keenindependent.com](mailto:santaclaracountyparksDEI@keenindependent.com) for further information.

SHAWN ANSARI GROUP

# JUST SOLD

One Week, Multiple Offers, Over the Asking



shawn ansari

Scan for property tour:



**1607 Dorcey Lane | San Jose 95120**  
4 bed | 2.5 bath | 2,530± SF | 7,437± SF Lot

## SELLER'S TESTIMONIAL

“Shawn and his team were wonderful to work with. His local area knowledge, his contacts with contractors, painters, handymen, and staging options were all top notch! Shawn was on top of the entire process, keeping me updated as things progressed and responding quickly whenever I contacted him. I’m 100% sure he did everything possible to help me sell my home for the best price, in a difficult market where rates were rising/fluctuating and buyers were concerned about banking crisis. My highest possible recommendation for him, his associate Bahareh, and the rest of his team.” **-K.G.**”



**Shawn Ansari**  
DRE # 01088988  
REALTOR®  
**M: 408.529.4574**  
shawn.ansari@compass.com



**Bahareh Taebi**  
DRE # 02081188  
REALTOR®  
**M: 408.831.8944**  
bahareh.taebi@compass.com

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

COMPASS

Compass is a real estate broker licensed by the State of California operating under multiple entities. License Numbers 01991628, 1527235, 1527365, 1356742, 1443761, 1997075, 1935359, 1940227, 1842987, 1869607, 1866771, 1527205, 1079009, 1272467. All material is intended for informational purposes only and is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, sale, or withdrawal without notice. No statement is made as to the accuracy of any description or measurements (including square footage). This is not intended to solicit property already listed. No financial or legal advice provided. Equal Housing Opportunity. Photos may be virtually staged or digitally enhanced and may not reflect actual property conditions.





**Even from a distance,  
please support this paper  
by supporting our  
advertisers.**

**Whether it's with a phone call, planning for the future or by placing an order, please support our advertisers! They make the *Evergreen Times* possible!**

- Aborn Pet Clinic
- Almaden Law
- Best Physical Therapy
- Blue Point Properties
- Church on the Rock
- City of San Jose Environmental Services
- Compass Real Estate - Shawn Ansari
- Eastridge Center
- Edward Jones - Robert W. Diaz
- Evergreen Valley College
- Jackie Jones - Coldwell Banker
- Kindercare
- Mexico Lindo
- Mr. Peabody's
- Mt. Pleasant School District
- Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport
- Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Ramirez Realty Team
- San Jose Youth Symphony
- Sikh Gurdwara
- Silver Creek Academy
- SOS Auto Repair
- Symphony San Jose
- Therese Swan, Realtor
- Valley Transportation Authority
- Valley Water

## Trust Mexico Lindo for your next group outing or private party!



Experience the taste of authentic made from scratch Mexican food while dining at Mexico Lindo for your next group outing or private party! We offer an indoor and/or outdoor dining experience and a full bar. Our location is the perfect venue for all of your small and large private dining events including birthday parties, school reunions, anniversaries, work outings, and more!



**5635 Silver Creek Valley Road  
San Jose, CA 95123**

**Reservations: 408.270.5463**

Sun - Thursday 11am - 9pm

Friday - Saturday 11am - 10pm

For event info contact: [Michelle@MexicoLindoSJ.com](mailto:Michelle@MexicoLindoSJ.com)

Follow us on Instagram for updates & weekly specials: @mexicolindosc

# Mr. Peabody's

*The Most Powerful Green Cleaning On the Planet*



**Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning**

**Complete Carpet Cleaning,  
Stone Polishing and Repair**

**(408) 444-9437**

**Serving Evergreen Valley since 1995**



# Times Classifieds



Call to place your ad today!  
408-494-7000

**LIMOUSINE SERVICE**

**New West Limousine**  
SERVING THE BAY AREA SINCE 1989

**FROM \$125 PER HOUR**  
Lincoln Stretch Limo  
Lincoln Town Car  
Mercedes Grand Sedan  
Mercedes Limo Van  
Cadillac Escalade SUV  
Ford Expedition SUV

**(888) 582-9987**  
reserve@newwestlimo.com  
NewWestLimo.com

**Jewelry**

**M & L Jewelers**  
Jewelers & Watch Repair  
Ring sizing - Watch bands  
Watch batteries - Engraving  
Stone replacement & More!  
*Ask about our exclusive watch battery warranties!*

**(408) 270-6080**  
3218 S. White Rd. San Jose, CA  
Mon.-Fri. 10am-7pm, Sat. 10am-5pm


**Shoe Repair**

**ANDY'S SHOE REPAIR**  
408-270-0850  
No Shoe is Ever Too Old!

**Hours:**  
**Mon-Fri**  
9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
**Saturday**  
9:30 am - 4:00 pm

2850 Quimby Rd. Suite 100 • 270-0850

**Driving School**

  
**advantage DRIVING SCHOOL**

**Advantage Driving School** is the premier driving school in northern California. Advantage Driving School has trained more than 300,000 students to drive safely since 1994. We offer complete programs for both traditional classroom and online courses. Driver Training is the behind the wheel training which prepares your child to pass the driving test at the DMV. We also offer complete programs for adults and senior citizens. If you have never driven or just need some supplemental instruction to improve your driving skills, we are just the school for you! We believe Advantage Driving School offers a great combination of experienced driving instructors and affordable prices!

**Location: 5440 Thornwood Drive, Suite F;**  
**Hours: 9 am-5 pm M-F 9 am-12 noon S-S; Phone: 408.363.4182;**  
**Email: info@advantagedriversed.com**  
**Website: advantagedriversed.com**

**Limousine Service**

  
**New West LIMOUSINE**

**SERVING THE BAY AREA SINCE 1989**



**FROM \$125 PER HOUR**  
Lincoln Stretch Limo – Lincoln Town Car  
Mercedes Grand Sedan – Mercedes Limo Van  
Cadillac Escalade SUV – Ford Expedition SUV

**(888) 582-9987**  
reserve@newwestlimo.com  
NewWestLimo.com

**Painting**



**Free Window Cleaning w/ Ext. Paint Job!**  
**Free Pressure Wash w/Ext. Paint Job!**  
**Free Estimate & Color Consultation w/Job!**

- Residential & Commercial
  - Interior & Exterior
  - Drywall Repairs
  - Handyman Services

**We'll Beat Any Reasonable Price!**  
**30+ Years Experience**  
**CA. ST. LIC #651686**  
**Insured & Bonded**

**TEL: (408) 281-7500**  
[www.faithpainting.com](http://www.faithpainting.com)



**Employment**

**Lead Database Administrator**

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**

**Gift cards, from page 16**

choice, according to a recent study by the UCSF Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative. Nearly one-third of people surveyed reported using amphetamines three or more times a week, compared to just 11% who used opioids with the same frequency. Some people who live on the street reported using stimulants to stay alert at night, when they fear being attacked if they fall asleep.

**It's not a perfect solution**

Rewarding people for staying sober doesn't work for everyone.

One of the participants in a program at Zuckerberg San Francisco General, 54-year-old J.W., ended up in the emergency room with heart failure after two decades of methamphetamine use.

After his hospital stay, he enrolled in a 12-week program called Heart Plus, which caters to cardiac patients with a history of stimulant use. Every time J.W. did something positive, such as show up to an appointment, take his medication or get a negative drug test, he got to draw a Safeway gift card out of a hat. The cards' value ranged from \$5 to the "elu-

sive" \$20, and J.W. — who asked to go by his initials out of fear of being stigmatized for his drug use — estimates he earned about \$180 throughout the entire program. He wasn't working at the time, so the cards helped him get treats such as deli sandwiches and fancy bottles of kombucha.

"It was definitely something to look forward to," he said. "And it was something fun to spend."

But it wasn't enough to get J.W. off drugs. Now that the program has ended, he's still using methamphetamine — sometimes as often as three times a day — though he says he's taking smaller doses. And he said he feels much healthier than when he showed up in the emergency room last year, out of breath after the slightest amount of exertion.

J.W. isn't sure why he didn't quit using during the program. But methamphetamine has become an entrenched routine in his daily life. He uses upon waking up, in a ritual he compares to having a morning cup of coffee.

"I still kick myself wondering why I didn't quit altogether," he said. "There's no better opportunity."

Marisa Kendall is a reporter with CalMatters.

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

The bathroom of your dreams for as little as \$149/month! BCI Bath & Shower. Many options available. Quality materials & professional installation. Senior & Military Discounts Available. Limited Time Offer - FREE virtual in-home consultation now and SAVE 15%! Call Today! 1-844-988-1663 Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trusted by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions current-

ly being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-866-603-1640 or visit <http://dorranceinfo.com/evergreen>

The Generac PWRcell, a solar plus battery storage system. SAVE money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down Financing Option. Request a FREE, no obligation, quote today. Call 1-877-920-0653

Portable Oxygen Concentrator May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 855-977-5344





# BEST

## Physical Therapy & Performance

Your Fitness & Rehabilitation Partners

# Training & Classes

- ✓ build strength
- ✓ increase flexibility
- ✓ improve balance
- ✓ improve posture
- ✓ injury prevention
- ✓ boost mood

**Serving San Jose Since 1995**  
 6155 Almaden Expy.  
 San Jose, CA 95120

**RSVP required and for more information, email: [info@bestphysicaltherapy.com](mailto:info@bestphysicaltherapy.com)**  
**Group Rates Available!**

### BEST Performance Training

(6155 Almaden Expressway)

<b>1:1 training</b>	<b>Small Group Training (2-3 participants)</b>
1 session = \$70	1 session = \$50
4 sessions = \$270	4 sessions = \$190
8 sessions = \$520	8 sessions = \$360
12 sessions = \$720	12 sessions = \$480

\* Sessions are 55 minutes

### Featured Specials

## Strength & Conditioning for Golf Runners Tennis Soccer Youth

**Special Introductory Pricing:**

1 session: \$40  
 8 sessions: \$300  
 12 sessions: \$420

### BEST CORE Level 1

(6155 Almaden Expressway)  
 Monday, Thursday 10:00am-10:50am

\$23 per session  
 8 sessions: \$140  
 12 sessions: \$180

### BEST CORE Level 2

(6155 Almaden Expressway)  
 Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 9am-9:50am  
 Tuesday, Thursday 6:15pm-7:05pm

\$23 per session  
 8 sessions: \$140  
 12 sessions: \$180

### BEST CORE Level 3

(6155 Almaden Expressway)  
 Monday, Wednesday 5:45pm-6:35pm  
 Friday 4:00pm-4:50pm

\$23 per session  
 8 sessions: \$140  
 12 sessions: \$180

### BEST Balance

(6155 Almaden Expressway)  
 Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs  
 11:30am-12:15pm

\$25 per session  
 8 sessions 2x week: \$170  
 12 sessions 3x week: \$220

### Boot Camp

Every Saturday: 9:00-10:00am  
 Class Minimum: 3 participants

1 session: \$35  
 8 sessions: \$240  
 12 sessions: \$300



**For Class Details visit:**  
[www.bestphysicaltherapy.com/bestclasses](http://www.bestphysicaltherapy.com/bestclasses)

**Info & Questions?**  
[info@bestphysicaltherapy.com](mailto:info@bestphysicaltherapy.com)