

County and local partners collect 408 firearms at San José Gun Buyback event
SEE PAGE 8



Election 2024
Joe Simitian launches congressional campaign to succeed Eshoo
— SEE PAGE 9

Tapping your car's hood could save a life!
It's that time of the year again when the weather is changing, and the nights are colder. If you, your family or friends who live in California or another state and park your car outside, this message is important!
Please take a quick minute to tap on your hood before you start your engine. Small animals may have crawled under the hood to keep warm. You could save a life!



Evergreen Times

DEC. 29, 2023 – JAN. 11, 2024 ■ VOL. 41, NO. 1

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Teacher's students and school rally around her after losing daughter to cancer

More than \$28,000 raised for cancer research

By William Bellou
Publisher

A teacher's students and school in the Evergreen School District have rallied around her after she lost her daughter to cancer last year.

Sharon Noyes, a fourth-grade teacher at James Franklin Smith Elementary School in Evergreen Valley, lost her daughter Meghan in October 2022 following a three year battle with leukemia.

Students rallied around Mrs. Noyes in her effort to raise funds and awareness to support the Leukemia Lymphoma Society during the month of September. Grades K-8 got involved by making friendship bracelets, collecting donations, and attending the LLS "Light the Night" event at Excite Ballpark. JFS was recognized by the LLS as the top fundraising team in the South Bay.

On Tuesday, December 19 during an assembly, students and faculty learned that they had raised more than \$28,000. All of the money raised will go to research, with the goal of finding a cure for blood cancers according to the local



Students attend the LLS "Light the Night" event at Excite Ballpark.

chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

"I am so proud to be a part of the JFS community. The overwhelming participation and support I

received from students, parents, and staff was amazing. I am hopeful in time there will be a cure for the kind of leukemia that took
See NOYES, page 2

Air Force Cadet Athena Chang of Evergreen Valley selected as Student of the Year

By William Bellou
Publisher

Evergreen Valley resident and Stanford University Air Force Cadet Athena Chang has been selected as a Student of the Year scholarship recipient for the Navy Federal Credit Union ROTC All-American Scholarship Program.

Chang, who double majors in mechanical engineering and computer science, serves as the senior vice president of Stanford Women in Business and works as a research assistant at Stanford's Gordian Knot Center for National Security Innovation.

During the Fall 2022 semester, Cadet Chang served as the Cadet Wing Commander, the highest student leadership position available to cadets at Stanford.



"I really think that a core part of leadership is being exposed to a lot of different experiences," Chang said. "Being able to understand people's differences will create a more empathetic environment. It shapes people's perspectives and challenges new ideas."

This scholarship program honors the best and brightest ROTC seniors across the nation and highlights rising senior ROTC students who best embody the pillars of the program: Leadership, Military Excellence, Scholarship and Service.

In addition to a \$6,500 scholarship, Cadet Chang will be an honored guest at the Military Bowl on December 27 at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, Md. and featured on ESPN's broadcast of the game.



'Noon' Year's Eve Museum's version of the ball drop in Times Square

By William Bellou
Publisher

The Children's Discovery Museum celebrated the arrival of 2024 with the "countdown to midnight across time zones" on Sunday, December 31.

The event included family hugs, a lively celebration, and the

museum's version of the famous Times Square Ball Drop with lots of confetti.

Participants could make a party hat and snap a commemorative photo. As the ball dropped, "shout outs" were given to different countries and how people in those countries might have celebrated the arrival of the new year.



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Times **Community News**



GoFundMe campaign raises \$38,261 to help undefeated Creekside 12U get to Nationals in Orlando, Florida

Creekside Warriors Youth Athletics 12U Football team based in Evergreen

By **William Bellou**
Publisher

A GoFundMe campaign raised a total of \$38,261, money to help the undefeated Creekside Warriors Youth Athletics 12U Football team travel to the Pop Warner Super Bowl in Orlando

The organization's main objective is to develop player techniques and emphasize the small aspects that lead to great results. Emphasis is placed on success not only on the football field, but also in the classroom, and in life.

Florida earlier this month. Creekside is a youth football team comprised of 12- and 13-year-old players and CHEER non-profit organization based in Evergreen Valley.

The organization's main objective is to develop player techniques and emphasize the small aspects that lead to great results. Emphasis is placed on success not only on the football field, but also in the classroom, and in life.

Creekside captured the Pop Warner 12U Division 1 Championship game in a 28-16 victory, earning the opportunity to travel to Orlando, Florida to compete in the Pop Warner Super Bowl.

"As you can imagine, the logistics of getting a youth team across the country is a daunting and very expensive task," said Coach Gabriel Delago. "The cost per player is roughly \$1,800. This includes airfare, an 8-night hotel stay, food, and transportation to and from each event."

Although Creekside lost to the 2023 Division Champions Avalon Wolves in their semi-final contest, the team is looking forward to competing again in 2024.



Meaghan Noyes was an avid soccer player. Her Former soccer club, the OV Toros in Morgan Hill, raised an additional \$21,000 for cancer research.

Noyes

Continued from page 1

Meghan and am so grateful to all who are working with me to help fund the much needed research."

The school will continue to collect donations through the end of June 2024. To make a contribution, visit Meghan's "Light the Night" fundraising page: <https://pages.lls.org/ltn/svmb/sanjose23/jfs-jaguars>



Grades K-8 got involved by making friendship bracelets, collecting donations, and attending the LLS "Light the Night" event at Excite Ballpark.

[org/ltn/svmb/sanjose23/jfs-jaguars](https://pages.lls.org/ltn/svmb/sanjose23/jfs-jaguars)

Funds raised through "Light the Night" allow LLS to fund treatments for patients who are suffering from

all forms of blood cancers. Since 2017, LLS has helped advance 85% of the blood cancer treatment options approved by the FDA.

Photos courtesy of Sharon Noyes.

Evergreen Times

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2023's Best Cities to visit in the New Year

With venues hiking their prices significantly during New Year's, putting a strain on people's wallets that have already been hit hard by inflation, the personal-finance website WalletHub today released its report on 2023's Best Cities for New Year's, along with its infographic of 50+ New Year's Facts – Traditions, Spending & More.

To determine which cities are the best for safely ringing in the new year without breaking the bank, WalletHub compared the 100 biggest cities across 26 key metrics. The data set ranges from the legality of fireworks and the nightlife options per capita to food affordability and forecasted precipitation for Dec. 31.



Best Cities for New Year's

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Orlando, FL | 11. San Francisco, CA |
| 2. San Diego, CA | 12. Louisville, KY |
| 3. New York, NY | 13. Pittsburgh, PA |
| 4. Las Vegas, NV | 14. Philadelphia, PA |
| 5. Atlanta, GA | 15. San Antonio, TX |
| 6. Miami, FL | 16. Seattle, WA |
| 7. Los Angeles, CA | 17. Houston, TX |
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Pianist and composer **Nicolas Namoradze** performs for Steinway Society – The Bay Area at Montgomery Theater in San Jose, with a diverse repertoire on January 21, 2024. Photo by Nathan Elson courtesy of the artist and Steinway Society.

Steinway Society Bay Area welcomes Pianist and composer Nicolas Namoradze to the Montgomery Theater January 21

By **William Bellou**
Publisher

Pianist and composer Nicolas Namoradze came to international attention in 2018 upon winning the triennial Honens International Piano Competition in Calgary, Canada—among the largest prizes in classical music.

Namoradze's recitals around the globe have been met with universal critical praise, and recent album releases have received extraordinary accolades, including the Choc de Classica, Record of the Month in Limelight, Instrumental Disc of the Month in BBC Music Magazine, Editor's Choice in Gramophone, Editor's Choice in Presto Classical and Critics' Choice in International Piano.

Among the most critically acclaimed musicians of his generation, Namoradze was bestowed the 2020 & 2021 Young Pianist Award by the UK Critics' Circle, which called him "very much more than a top-flight pianist." Recent highlights include recitals at concert halls including New York's Carnegie Hall, London's Wigmore Hall, Konzerthaus Berlin and the Tokyo Bunka Kaikan; festival appearances at Tanglewood, Banff, Gstaad, Santa Fe and more; and performances with orchestras including the London Philharmonic, Budapest Fes-

"Set to become one of the truly important artists of his generation."

—American classical pianist Emanuel Ax

tival Orchestra and Sinfonieorchester Basel.

Namoradze earned his master's at The Juilliard School and his doctorate at the CUNY Graduate Center. He is currently pursuing post-graduate studies in neuropsychology at the Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience at King's College, London, where his research interests include the effects of mental practice and mindfulness on musical performance. Namoradze is the author of the book "Ligeti's Macroharmonies," published by Springer in the Computational Music Science series, and his compositions are published by Muse Press.

THE PROGRAM:
Bach-Busoni, "Ich ruf zu dir, Herr" BWV 639
Bach, French Suite No. 1 in D

minor BWV 812

1. Allemande
2. Courante
3. Sarabande
4. Minuet
5. Gigue

Bach, The Art of Fugue, BWV 1080

1. Contrapunctus VI
2. Contrapunctus VII

Fauré, Preludes Op. 103

1. No. 3 in G minor
2. No. 6 in E-flat minor
3. No. 9 in E minor

Ligeti, Etudes

1. 1. No. 11, "En suspens"
2. 2. No. 13, "L'escalier du diable"
3. 3. No. 16, "Pour Irina"

INTERMISSION

Nicolas Namoradze, Memories of Rachmaninoff's "Georgian Song"

- Pärt, Für Alina
- Pärt, Variationen zur Gesundheit von Arinuschka

Rachmaninoff-Namoradze, Adagio from Symphony No. 2, Op. 27

Scriabin, Sonata No. 4 Op. 30

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Times **Local News**

County of Santa Clara and community partners collect 408 firearms at San José Gun Buyback event

By Sean Eastwood
Times staff writer

The County of Santa Clara partnered with the Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office, City of San José, San José Police Department, County of Santa Clara Public Health Department, and County of Santa Clara Behavioral Health Services to host a gun buyback event at the Reid-Hillview Airport.

During the event, 408 firearms were collected, along with 70 replica/airsoft/bb-style guns, 133 handguns and 275 rifles, including 1 Uzi, one sawed-off shotgun, and one rocket-launcher. Additionally, 20 were ghost-guns and more than a dozen were assault-style weapons. There was \$40,050

distributed in compensation.

"Residents of the 408 Area Code stepped up to voluntarily turn in at total of 404 firearms at the San José Gun Buyback at Reid-Hillview Airport on December 2, and that has us feeling extra grateful this holiday season," proclaimed Supervisor Otto Lee.

Supervisor Lee added, "We're also very thankful for the Sheriff's Office, District Attorney, City of San José, San José Police Department, the County's Public Health Department and Behavioral Health Services, and my colleagues on the Board of Supervisors for working together to make this event possible, and safe."

The weapons are in safe storage with the Sheriff's Office until they



are sent out for destruction. Residents may turn in unwanted

firearms through the Sheriff's Office's Gun Relinquishment Pro-

gram. Call 408-299-2311 for more information.

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Times **Feature**

Joe Simitian launches congressional campaign to succeed retiring Congresswoman Anna Eshoo

Simitian shows early momentum with over 130 local elected endorsements and over \$600,000 in federal campaign funds

By **William Bellou**
Publisher

Joe Simitian announced he's running for Congress.

Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian declared his candidacy for Congress in District 16 last week with the endorsements of over 130 local elected officials throughout the district.

Simitian said he's ready to be the strong leader we need on issues important to district voters.

"I will fight to reverse climate change, protect reproductive rights, and tackle the housing crisis," said Simitian. "On the Board of Super-



visors and in the State Legislature, I took on tough problems and powerful interests and won. I'll do the same in Congress."

Simitian launched his campaign following the decision of Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, who held the seat for over three decades, to not seek re-election.

"Our community has been served exceptionally well by Congresswoman Eshoo. I will follow her tradition and my own practice of prioritizing constituent service. I will advance the values and issues that are the hallmark of our Valley: innovation, inclusion and fairness," Simitian said.



Barbara Anne Joyce

December 21, 1941-
December 7, 2023

Resident of
Evergreen Valley

Barbara Anne Joyce was born to Stephen and Emma Bottassi in San Bruno, California. Barbara met her husband John at the young age of 16 while working at a movie theater and married John at the age of 18.

Barbara left her early career as a banker for a life as a homemaker; devoted to her husband and five children, while volunteering for charitable causes.

As a child of God, Mom raised her five children in the Catholic Faith and to know God by her own loving example; as well, Barbara spent many years as a volunteer teacher of CCD (Catechism), providing religious education in the Catholic faith to her children and so many other children in her community.

Barbara enjoyed devoting her time to her beloved husband, family, and volunteer work. Outside of

her full-time job as a homemaker, Barbara enjoyed playing golf with her husband John as a member of Almaden Country Club and then as a member of Silver Creek Valley Country Club, was the first to get a hole-in-one. Barbara also enjoyed attending baseball and hockey games and following sports, reading novels, playing bingo and spending time at the end of her day with her cat.

Barbara is preceded in death by her beloved husband of 58 years, John Phillip Joyce; her parents, Stephen and Emma Bottassi; and her brother Robert Bottassi.

Barbara is survived by her daughters Jacqueline Phyllis Joyce, Jeannine Joyce Powers, and Jennifer Joyce Eaton; her sons John Phillip Joyce Jr. and Jeffrey Patrick Joyce; her daughters-in-law Teri Joyce and Kirstin Joyce; her sons-in-law Vance Powers and Ken Eaton; her grandchildren Jeffrey and Ashley Bowler; Katelyn Lubach-Joyce and Robert Montes; Zane, Nichole, Emma, and Liam Joyce; Conner, Mikaela, and Aliyah Eaton; Shay and Haley Powers; and her great-grandchildren Cayden Salinas, Noah Montes, and Leo Bowler.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated on Tuesday, December 19 at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, located at 5111 San Felipe Rd, San Jose, followed by burial at Holy Cross Cemetery, located at 1500 Mission Rd, Colma.

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Kendall Tso of Evergreen Valley inducted into Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Kendall Tso (right) of Evergreen Valley was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Tso was initiated at Fordham University.

Tso is majoring in Psychology and is also minoring in Marketing. She is proficient in data collection, qualitative and Quantitative research methodologies, research statistics and team coordination. She maintains a 4.0 grade point average.

Tso was recently inducted as a Psi Chi member in Fordham University's Rose Hill chapter. Psi Chi is the International Honors Society in Psychology that was created to encourage excellence within the field of Psychology.

Phi Kappa Phi membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the

leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."



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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 encourage you to enter our history room

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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!



thepoint.church

THE POINT CHURCH
3695 Rose Terrace 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

To place a worship listing, email times@timesmediainc.com



DID SOMEBODY SAY **ROAD TRIP?**

The holidays are fast approaching!!
Before you jump into the madness, don't wait until the last minute to service your car before a road trip.

We recommend having your vehicle inspected at least two weeks prior to when you plan on hitting the road.

Now thru December 31, 2023,
we are offering **DISCOUNT**
Road Trip Packages

PACKAGE 1

Oil Change
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5% discount off service

PACKAGE 2

Includes Package 1
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Replace Cabin Air Filter, if applicable
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10% discount off service

PACKAGE 3

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