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Times

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Leland High School sophomore Tanisha Samuel raises \$10K in donations to combat blood cancer

Leland's Tanish Samuel is Student Visionary of the Year candidate for 2024

By William Bellou
Publisher

Tanisha Samuel, raised ten thousand dollars with the help of her team, A Reason to Hope, as part of the fundraising



Tanisha Samuel (far left and below), a sophomore at Leland High School, participated in the 2024 Student Visionary of the Year campaign as a candidate. The Student Visionary of the Year is a philanthropic leadership development program that raises funds for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS).

program for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS).

The philanthropic competition engages thousands of high school students nationwide each driven by their unique determination to excel all in support of LLS's mission to combat blood cancer. Every 180 seconds someone in the U.S. is diagnosed with this disease, which currently lacks preventative measures.

Achieving record donations

"We were able to collect \$10K in donations in just seven weeks of fundraising with support from Leland High School and Bret Harte Middle School's ASB teacher," said Samuel. "Generous donations came from Ajit Koti, Therese Swan (Real Estate Agent) and Nicole Rottjakob (Dentist)."

Tanisha Samuel's family and friends played a big role in helping raise local funds for The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

A number of local Almaden businesses as well as Samuel's family and friends played a big role in helping to raise funds. The 2024 Student Visionary Candidate class raised a total of \$258,100.

Linda who was the campaign manager helped her all along and helped Tanisha in professional development and how to raise funds by corporate sponsorship.

Student Visionaries of the Year is a groundbreaking leadership development program for high school students that has helped LLS invest more than \$1.7 billion in cutting-edge research worldwide,
See VISIONARY, page 3



LELAND BOOSTERS: All have each played a crucial role in the success of Leland High School's fundraisers. Pictured. (front row): Julie Higuchi, Rhonda Griffith, Lisa Harrup-Mieuli, Jill Ball, and Joey Tsutsui Woodward. Pictured (back row): Natalie Derse, Mike Beyersdoefer, Rosemary Herzing, Jen Constantino, Erin Poole, and Tiffany Cook.

Celebrating community spirit: The success story of Leland High School's Booster Bash

By Kelly Ray

Special to the Times

In our bustling community of Almaden, one remarkable woman and her dedicated committee have been making waves of change for the past three years.

Erin Poole, alongside an incredible team of parents, has been spearheading the Booster Bash fundraisers, igniting hope and support for Leland High School's sports programs. Their journey is not just about fundraising; it's a testament to the power of community spirit and collective action.

A Vision to Preserve Excellence

Three years ago, the future of Leland High School's sports programs looked uncertain. Concerns arose as funds began to dwindle, putting the beloved programs at risk. Erin Poole, a passionate advocate for the school and its students, refused to let this happen without a fight. It was from this determi-

nation that the idea for the Booster Bash was born.

Uniting for a Cause

The first year of the Bash exceeded all expectations, raising an astonishing \$37,000—far surpassing the initial goal of \$10,000. Encouraged by this success, Erin and her committee organized a second Bash, which garnered even more support, raising \$46,000. Now, in its third and final year under Erin's leadership, the goal has been set even higher at \$55,000.

A Night of Nostalgia and Generosity

This year's Bash, scheduled for May 11th, promises to be a memorable event with its 80s theme. Attendees can expect an evening filled with laughter, music, and camaraderie, all while contributing to a cause close to the hearts of the Almaden community.

See BASH, page 3

Pat Tillman of Almaden Valley was killed by friendly fire 20 years ago in Afghanistan

April 22, 2004, marked the 20th anniversary of Pat Tillman's death, with the annual Pat's Run event in Tempe, AZ. Tillman played football for the Arizona State Sun Devils, and was later drafted as an NFL player for the Arizona Cardinals. Pat's Run draws thousands to honor his memory and supports the Pat Tillman Foundation's mission.

Tillman, an Almaden Valley resident, lost his life in action in Afghanistan, after his Army Ranger battalion came under attack and he was killed by friendly fire twenty years ago.

Tillman's influence lives on through nearly 900 Tillman Scholars, funded by more than \$34 million invested by the Pat Tillman Foundation. *Photo courtesy of Wikimedia Commons*



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Times **Community**

Volunteers, Mayor Mahan announce Bay Area recruitment for nation's largest service force

California Chief Service Officer Josh Fryday and San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan announced at a press conference on Friday, April 19 the recruitment for nearly 2,000 positions in the Bay Area to join the paid California Service Corps.

The California Service Corp, 10,000 strong, is the nation's largest service force. Participants gain meaningful work experience while earning money and helping their communities.

Service members gain economic opportunities while tackling the state's most pressing issues, gaining economic opportunities and shaping the future of the region's workforce.

California Service Corps Members receive living stipends, and many are eligible to receive up to \$10,000 after completing their service to be used for college, trade school or to pay back student loans. The benefits will help individuals who are facing crises of isolation, student debt and growing income inequality.

The California Service Corps consists of four paid service programs: #CaliforniansForAll College Corps, California Climate Action Corps, #CaliforniansForAll Youth Jobs Corps and AmeriCorps California.

Matthew Lee inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Matthew Lee of Almaden Valley was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Lee was initiated at San Jose State University.

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.

Since its founding, more than 1.5 million members have been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Some of the organization's notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, novelist John Grisham and YouTube co-founder Chad Hurley. Each year, Phi Kappa Phi awards \$1.3 million to outstanding students.

Bash

Continued from page 1

Silent auction

It is worth mentioning that a huge part of the funds raised comes from the Silent Auction, which wouldn't be possible without the support of local businesses and the families who have students on a sports team. The baskets put together by these families are truly amazing - and have incredible items to be won! It really does take a Village to make this event happen.

A Legacy of Gratitude

As we look ahead to this final year under Erin's guidance, it's essential to recognize the tireless efforts of the committee members who have worked alongside her.

Beyond the numbers, the Booster Bash fundraisers represent something

much more profound—they embody the true spirit of community. It's a spirit fueled by compassion, determination, and a shared commitment to supporting our youth. To Erin, her committee, and everyone who has contributed to these events, we extend our deepest gratitude.

Making a difference

As we approach the final chapter of this incredible journey, let's come together once more to ensure its success. Your support—whether through attending the Bash, purchasing tickets, or spreading the word—is invaluable. Together, we can ensure that the legacy of the Booster Bash lives on, empowering future generations of Leland High School athletes.

Let's celebrate the remarkable achievements of Erin Poole and her committee, whose dedication has made

a lasting impact on our community. Erin wholeheartedly thanks everyone for their unwavering support. Here's to the continued success of Leland High School's sports programs.

Tickets

Tickets are available for purchase at https://lelandhsboosterclub.com/?page_id=2267 and all are encouraged to join in the festivities. Even if you cannot attend, purchasing tickets as an absentee donation to the cause would be a wonderful support and so appreciated.

Editor's note: Kelly Ray is a long-time resident of Almaden Valley and a Silicon Valley Realtor serving her clients all over the Bay Area. She is passionate about her Village, community and helping people. Kelly can be reached via email: kellyray@therealexperts.com or 408 857 1638.

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Visionary

Continued from page 1

fueling nearly every critical advancement in blood cancer treatment that spans the most promising cancer research. And, as the leading source of free blood cancer information, education, and support, LLS helps blood cancer patients and their families through a wide range of free services.

Each candidate team chose an LLS Mission Pillar to represent and bring awareness to throughout their seven-week campaign. These three pillars, research, patient sup-

port, and advocacy, make up the very core of what LLS does.

About The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is the global leader in the fight against blood cancer. The LLS mission: Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. LLS funds lifesaving blood cancer research around the world, provides free information and support services, and is the voice for all blood cancer patients seeking access to quality, affordable, coordinated care.

Times **Community Notebook**

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EVC nursing students achieve 100% pass rate on Licensure Examination

For the fourth consecutive quarter, students in Evergreen Valley College's (EVC) nursing program have achieved a 100 percent pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX), a requirement for registered nursing licensure.

This accomplishment further illustrates why EVC's Associate Degree in Nursing program recently received full reaffirmation of its accreditation from the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN), confirming that the program meets a set of rigorous educational standards verified through ACEN's peer-review process. This accreditation signals EVC's dedication to educational excellence.

Remarkable feat

"This remarkable feat underscores the quality of our nursing program and the unparalleled dedication of both our students and faculty," said Dr. Lu Crary, EVC's dean of nursing and allied health programs. "Achieving a 100 percent pass rate once is commendable, but maintaining this standard of excellence for four consecutive quarters is a testament to the consistent hard work, determination, and commitment of our entire academic community."

Passing rates exceed state national average

While the 100 percent pass rate for nursing



Nursing group take a break from their nursing program classes at Evergreen Valley College. The college's nursing program has achieved a 100 percent rate on the National Licensure Examination.

students in the 2023-2024 academic year is unprecedented, EVC students have historically passed the NCLEX exam at rates that exceed state and national averages.

According to data from the California Board of Nursing, EVC nursing students passed at a rate of 96.4 percent in 2022-2023 and 97.5 percent in 2021-2022, respectively. This places EVC among the top of all public and private colleges and universities offering registered nursing programs in California.

Resilience, Perseverance, and Focus

"This perennial success is not just about percentages and numbers," said Dr. Beatriz Chaidez, San José – Evergreen Community College District chancellor. "It reflects the personal journeys of hundreds of students who have shown exceptional resilience, perseverance, and focus.

It is also a testament to our faculty's dedication to providing a supportive and challenging learning environment that prepares our students for real-world healthcare challenges."

Nursing shortages

As these students prepare to graduate and enter the workforce, they will be joining a healthcare industry beset by challenges. Many regions throughout California are currently experiencing nursing shortages, according to the California Health and Human Services Agency, an issue that was exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Internal student surveys indicate that the vast majority of EVC nursing graduates remain in the Bay Area as they launch their careers.

Graduates make community proud

"Evergreen Valley College is proud of its contribution to the nursing profession and we are excited to see our graduates make a significant impact to the quality and availability of healthcare services in communities in our region and beyond," said Dr. Denise Noldon, EVC's interim president. "Our program—and community college nursing programs in general—have demonstrated significant value to the state. Community colleges continue to be the number one source for training nurses and making sure that the workforce needs of this vital industry are met."

For more information on EVC nursing and allied health programs, visit <https://www.evc.edu/nursing>

Destination Imagination creates unique solution to STEAM based challenges that utilize creativity

Global community supports kids from K-12

By Amita Samuel

Destination Imagination is a global community that supports kids from K-12 and beyond to create a unique solution to STEAM based challenges that utilize creativity.

Kids learn the value of collaboration, respect, stewardship, perseverance, integrity, and many other life lessons while participating in these challenges.

There are 6 categories for teams to choose from, Technical, Engineering, Scientific, Fine Arts, Improvisational, Service Learning. These challenges are offered at different school levels, Elementary school, Middle School, and High School. The younger kids (K-2) participate in the Early Learners challenge.

The team known as "Right Side Up" is a group of six, 6th graders from Bret Harte middle school who participated in this program for the first time. The team selected the challenge category, Engineering, where they had to build a catapult and write a story that incorporated the functioning device and present it. Students participating on this team include Neelan Sundaralingam, Rishaan Samuel, Aarnav Rastogi, Aditya Sudarshan,



Advait Sudarshan, and Eric Mitrea.

During the tournament, there are two components that the team participates in. One is the main challenge that the team starts working on around September till the Regional tournament in Feb. The other is an instant challenge where the team is given about 5-8 mins to solve a challenge on the spot.

This team participated in the Regional Challenge on Feb 24th and moved into the State Challenge on March 23rd and has now qualified to attend the Global challenge where they will be competing against kids in their category & level from around the world.

The 2nd team called "Built in Crowns" also representing Bret Harte is made of six, 8th graders. They had selected the challenge category "Service Learning" challenge and made



it through Regional to State level. Four out of the six team members have been participating in DI for the past three years. However, this team did not move on to Global. Students participating on this team includes Tara Sundaralingam, Haarika Karry, Deep-ti Rao, Mir Reddy, Mimansha Dakwlas, and

Aaryan Khetawat.

Viji Mahathevan managed both teams. She hopes more kids are inspired to participate in DI and benefit from it. If you are interested in forming your own DI team, please feel free to contact her at skdikids@gmail.com or 408-596-4086.

Leland Drama Presents

Mean Girls

Show dates:
 April 17 at 4:30pm
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OSC has opened a new program for women based upon equine interaction and equine-assisted-learning, designed to develop self-awareness and self-acceptance, confidence and resilience, and safe boundaries.

G.R.I.T. is for adult women led by OSC founder Landa Keirstead. The small group meets in 2 hour sessions, once per week for six-weeks

Contact One Step Closer for more information and to enroll
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Times **Local News**

SYMPHONY SAN JOSE

PASSIONATE PUCCINI

May 11 & 12, 2024

We pay tribute to the great Italian opera composer on the 100th anniversary of his death. www.symphonysanjose.org



Saratoga Symphony presents concert 'Into the Woods'

Enjoy a FREE orchestra concert of classical music with exciting rhythms and beautiful melodies.

Saratoga Symphony is presenting Into the Woods with its variety of musical melodies, rhythms, tempos, and instrument sounds on May 5th at 3 p.m. at West Valley Presbyterian Church in Cupertino.

All four music pieces in this concert program were composed in the Romantic Music Period. They present sensations and impres-

sions that you sense while in woods or forests.

The concert features a Dvořák lyrical character piece "Silent Woods", with talented and acclaimed Sarah Ziegler as violoncello soloist.

Conductor Dr. Jason Klein talks to the audience about each program piece before it is performed, adding insight about each piece. concert.

Saratoga Symphony website lists each music program piece, plus the Concert Location Map: <https://www.saratogasympphony.org/concerts>

For more information, visit: www.saratogasympphony.org

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<p>PAVEL KOLESNIKOV</p> <p>April 7, 2:30 p.m. Cubberley Community Center Theatre, Palo Alto</p> <p>PROGRAM Chopin, Prelude in C-sharp Minor, Op. 45 Chopin, Four Waltzes Chopin, Three Nocturnes Chopin, Five Mazurkas</p> <p>INTERMISSION Schubert, Piano Sonata in B-Flat Major, D. 960</p>	<p>TRIO WANDERER</p> <p>April 20, 7:30 p.m. St. Francis Episcopal Church, San Jose</p> <p>PROGRAM Fauré, Piano Trio in D Minor, Op. 120 L. Boulanger, D'un soir triste—D'un matin de printemps, for Piano Trio</p> <p>INTERMISSION Bonis, Soir. Matin, Op. 76, for Piano Trio Ravel, Piano Trio in A Minor</p>	<p>FEDERICO COLLI</p> <p>May 4, 7:30 p.m. Cubberley Community Center Theatre, Palo Alto</p> <p>PROGRAM Ligeti, Musica ricercata Scarlatti, Selected Sonatas</p> <p>INTERMISSION Couperin, Le Carillon de Cythère Couperin, Les Barricades mystérieuses Couperin, Les Folies françaises, ou les Dominos Couperin, Selections from Le Tombeau de Couperin Ravel, from Le Tombeau de Couperin</p>
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Senate committee advances bill to accelerate economic growth through data centers expansion

In a 14-0 vote on Tuesday, the California State Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee advanced Senator Cortese's Senate Bill (SB) 1298.

The legislation streamlines the approval process for data centers and maintains clear development guidelines, upholding California's robust environmental standards and creating thousands of new construction jobs across the state.

SB 1298 seeks to meet the rapid demand for data centers from individuals, organizations,

and industries in California by raising the threshold for data center eligibility under the Small Power Plant Exemption process from 100 megawatts to 150 megawatts, in adherence to California's rigorous clean air and clean energy standards. The bill is sponsored by the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, the leading business association representing Silicon Valley's innovation economy and ecosystem.

"SB 1298 represents a balanced approach, boosting our technological capabilities to support the emerging digital economy while upholding the essential environmental standards that define our state," said Senator Cortese (D-San Jose). "This bill keeps California at the cutting edge, facilitating growth while maintaining our commitment to environmental stewardship."

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

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Times **Local News**

TECH JARGON OF THE WEEK

AI Copilot

By **Shubhi Asthana**



Have you ever stumbled into a conversation where everyone is speaking around this “techie” word – and even after you’ve broken in, it is difficult to understand the unfamiliar jargon and acronyms? Well, there’s no need to sweat it. Let me teach you the meaning of some commonly used tech words:

AI Copilot

An AI copilot is a conversational interface that uses large language models (LLMs) to support users in various tasks and decision-making processes across multiple domains within an enterprise environment. For example, if you type in, “Summarize this memo in two sentences,” Copilot will do just that by giving you a concise written summary in the chat interface below your request. Ditto for images when you describe what you want it to draw. You can even ask Copilot to write code in many widely used computer languages, including JavaScript, C, and Python.

AI copilots play a crucial role in enhancing productivity and efficiency by:

- Providing context-aware assistance: AI copilots can proactively respond to user needs based on contextual information, ensuring relevant and timely support during critical decision-making processes.

- Automating mundane tasks: By taking charge of repetitive and time-consuming tasks, AI copilots allow users to focus their efforts on strategic

and creative work, significantly boosting overall productivity.

- Analyzing data: AI copilots can quickly process large amounts of information, identify patterns and trends, and present actionable insights to drive effective decision-making.

- Enabling seamless communication: AI copilots facilitate effective interactions with various stakeholders, including employees, customers, and vendors, streamlining communication processes, and reducing delays or misunderstandings.

- Unifying disparate systems: AI copilots can be the cohesive force connecting multiple platforms, tools, and software applications under one umbrella, ensuring data integrity, accessibility, and compatibility across the enterprise.

AI copilot represents remarkable advances in artificial intelligence. Being able to generate prose, poetry, images, lists, charts, itineraries, recipes, and answers to obscure questions without requiring lots of search term tweaking is a boon. But AI copilot takes longer to produce results than a good old web search, and its facts aren’t always correct (though it provides links to sources and corrects itself in response to your feedback). AI copilot itself comes with a warning: “Microsoft Copilot uses AI to respond, so mistakes are possible”. As AI copilots continue to evolve with enhanced capabilities and deeper integration into enterprise ecosystems, they hold the potential to redefine the way businesses operate and compete in the coming years.

About the Author

Do you enjoy reading this column? Send in your comments or feedback to the author at shub.saxen@gmail.com. Shubhi Asthana works as a Research Senior Software Engineer at the IBM Almaden Research Center, San Jose.

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Symphony San Jose to pay tribute to great Italian composer Puccini

On May 11 and 12, Symphony San Jose will pay tribute to the great Italian opera composer Giacomo Puccini on the 100th anniversary of his death. Carlos Vieu returns in this retrospective that will feature operatic highlights from Giacomo Puccini's early, middle, and late career masterpieces. Works to be performed include selections from Manon Lescaut, La Fanciulla del West, La Bohème, Madame Butterfly, Turandot and more.

Three of opera's leading soloists, Jenny Schuler, Gary Simpson, baritone, and Ben Gulley, along with the Symphony San Jose Chorale, will perform some of Puccini's most memorable arias, duets, and choruses, including "The Humming Chorus," "O mio babbino caro," and "Nessun Dorma."

Where Have I Heard It Before?

Perhaps the most famous opera composer of all time, Puccini's music is regularly used in movies, television shows, commercials, and video games. Among many memorable cinematic placements, O mio babbino caro was featured in Room with a View, and The Humming Chorus was featured in House of Gucci.



Fun Facts

Puccini was considered one of the most commercially successful composers of all time. He was worth roughly \$200 million dollars when he died—a stark contrast to his youth, when he had to pawn his possessions regularly just to cover basic expenses.

Puccini's full name was Giacomo Antonio Domenico Michele Secondo Maria Puccini. He was named after four recent ancestors.

The concert will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 12, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. at the California Theatre in downtown San Jose

The concert length is approx. 1 hr 50 min. with intermission.

Artists

Carlos Vieu, conductor

Jennifer Schuler, soprano

Ben Gulley, tenor

Gary Simpson, baritone

To get tickets or for more information, visit symphonysanjose.org.

Leland Booster Bash



DINNER DANCE & AUCTION

Tickets are available for purchase at https://lelandhsboosterclub.com/?page_id=2267

Times **Local News**



Water-Wise®

Ginseng Land: April Showers

By **Matthew Frazier**

Qualified Water Efficient Landscaper, CalWEP (2020-2024)

FADE IN:

Fremont, California. January 2015. American Solar Direct had hired a batch of solar consultants in training for their holiday push to recruit new customers, for solar installations.

After several brushes with assault during evening and night canvassings and door knockings, The South Bay unit of the quarter of canvassers and their consultant leads found ourselves in illustrious Fremont, California.

The Moon emerged somewhere around 5:00 pm to 5:15 pm on those fateful days. Our unit was comprised of roughly eight canvassers and one lead who was a fully credentialed solar consultant. Among the canvassers was an ambitious young man named Ginseng. He was and is wise beyond his years, even then as a 19-year-old city college student.

One shift, I had wandered into one of the assigned territories within Ginseng's coordinates, thinking there was an adjacency and parallelism to our routes. When this turned out to not be the case, our unit's lead, the solar consultant, assertively corrected me stating: "Come on, Man. For Christ's sake! Even Ginseng knows that!" Did he also know that Ginseng's assigned sector was a vantage point for rainfall blended with a nocturnal rainbow?

"Rainbow In The Night" has all ways and always been my favorite metal song, since childhood. Yet, this evening/night, there was an ambiance and an atmosphere in Ginseng Land that spoke to me, as a future irrigation surveyor and water-waste inspector turned landscape water management consultant.

The night air was laden with mist through which waning sunlight and emerging moonlight found their paths. The semblance of spent breaths lingered like specters as the trepidation and turbulence of the collective push to reach hundreds amidst dinner hours and threats of police involvement beset our most malevolent ambitions.

Ginseng was somewhat of an elusive presence within our unit. Yet he and I had gazed longingly into the evening- and night- skies of Fremont on weeknights, conjuring fantastic conjecturous imagery of what lies beyond the visible horizons of The Known Universe.

Those heavy winter evening and night rains brought

a glimmer of hope to California that season, even to Fremont. As I wandered the forbidden sector of Ginseng land, I looked forward to April rains as we each and all took The reigns of the voyage towards closing sales on solar panel installments for our corporate offices.

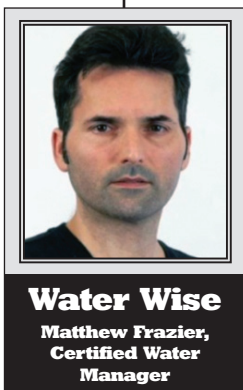
As Ginseng and I watched the rainwater-stormwater sign the ground and create rills and channels throughout, we spoke of the much-needed waters to come. April Showers now seemed like the misguided musings of a wanton artist and dreamer. Ginseng Land had become the hydro-headquarters of the assigned canvassing areas for our unit.

Ginseng shared with me the abundance of rain and storm in the city of his birth and how California had proven itself to be an aberration of what a healthy landscape should be, or at least aspire to be.

As night air pierced my lungs and enmarbled by bones, forged ahead, imbued with the aromas of Far East and Middle East spices infiltrated the dinner air.

Through solid walls. The clientele was hospitable, though disinterested in solar panels. Regardless, the memories of that night in Ginseng Land live within me, deeply inscribed in the annals of my mind and my soul.

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Times **Community Notebook**

Are we recycling the right stuff?

Program to curb recycling contamination begins this month

Are local residents putting the right stuff in their recycling carts?

Recycling contamination has become a growing problem in the Bay Area's largest city, San Jose.

A recent city survey in 2022 found that 57% of waste deposited in single-family recycling carts was not recyclable. In 2020, 51% of bins were contaminated with non-recyclable material; five years before that, only 32% were contaminated.

Different cities have different rules for which recyclables they accept. With the passage of SB1383 in 2022, the burden of monitoring waste containers for contamination in California fell to cities.

But other major Bay Area cities have thrived in this system, maintaining some of the lowest contamination rates in the country.

In a November 2022 audit, Oakland found that only 10.5% of its residents' recycling bins and 4% of all compost bins had any level of contamination. San Francisco, which aims for a zero waste goal, also has a low contamination rate, with only 19% of materials deposited in residents' recycling bins found to be unrecyclable, according to a 2020 article by the San Francisco Public Press, which called the city's 81% success rate "among the highest in the nation."

Staff members will check residential recycling bins for contamination and leave positive feedback or constructive criticism on the carts.



In Dec. 2023, San Jose Environmental Services staff members **Riley Knight and Margarita Delgado** gathered field data for a garbage cart study program aimed at reducing contamination in recycling carts. They looked in recycling carts to see whether there were non-recyclable materials or clean recyclable ones. (Courtesy of San Jose Environmental Services)

The double-sided tag will have a "Good job!" message with a smiley face on one side, which will be shown to residents who recycle correctly. Residents who do not recycle correctly may wake up to the message "Oops!"

Staff members will check residential recycling bins for contamination and leave positive feedback or constructive criticism on the carts.

WHAT CAN BE RECYCLED?

Here is a partial list of items that can be recycled in San Jose. Items should be clean of any food and liquids. For a more comprehensive list and instructions, please visit sanjoserecycles.org.



- Plastics**
- Cleaning product containers
 - Egg cartons (plastic)
 - Frozen food trays
 - Hard plastic clamshell packaging
 - Laundry baskets
 - Meal kit packaging
 - Milk jugs
 - Plastic #1 (PET)
 - Plastic #2 (HDPE)
 - Plastic #3 (PVC)
 - Plastic #4 (LDPE)
 - Plastic #5 (polypropylene)
 - Plastic #7 (other)
 - Plastic bottles
 - Plastic cups
 - Plastic food storage containers
 - Plastic toys
 - Produce baskets
 - Roll-on deodorant
 - Takeout containers (plastic)
 - Tetra-pak cartons
 - Yogurt cups



- Paper**
- Books
 - Boxed wine
 - Cardboard
 - Construction paper
 - Egg cartons (paper)
 - Envelopes
 - Gift bags and boxes
 - Greeting cards
 - Hanging file folders
 - Junk mail
 - Magazines and catalogs
 - Manila folders
 - Milk and juice cartons
 - Newspapers
 - Notebooks
 - Office paper
 - Paper bags
 - Paper towel
 - Paperboard
 - Posters
 - Shredded paper
 - Sticky notes
 - Tissue boxes
 - Toilet paper rolls
- Glass**
- Glass bottles and jars



- Metal**
- Aluminum cans
 - Aluminum foil
 - Aluminum trays and pans
 - Beer bottle caps
 - Cookware
 - License plates
 - Metal cans
 - Paint cans (empty)
 - Scrap metal
 - Screw caps
 - Takeout containers (aluminum)
- NOT recyclable**
- Batteries
 - Foam plastic (polystyrene, Styrofoam)
 - Glassware (stemware, Pyrex, mirrors)
 - Ice cream cartons
 - Light bulbs (fluorescent, incandescent)
 - Medications
 - Motor oil and filters
 - Paint
 - Pizza boxes (soiled)
 - Plastic cups/plates
 - Plastic salad bags

Source: sanjoserecycles.org, Getty Images

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Q) What is Islam, who are Muslims, and what is the Quran?
A) Islam is a faith and way of life. Islam began in the 7th century. People who follow Islam are known as Muslims. The Quran is the Divine book that guides Muslims to

practice Islam. "Hufazik Allah Waeayilatak" the English meaning is " May Allah (swt) protect you and your family". Please visit our website to learn more.

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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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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!

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Cinco de Mayo: Saturday, May 4th, 12-3pm
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