Ways to endure a heatwave, with widespread high temperatures expected SEE PAGE 8



More crisis averted

San Jose advocates want more money for non-police crisis team for round-the-clock services See page 4

San Jose war monument marks milestone for Vietnamese community at Kelly Park SEE PAGE 6



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Everyone enjoyed the Rose, White and Blue Independence parade on a hot July 4th in San Jose. *Photo credit: FunCheap.com*

Opinion

America the beautiful

4th of July parade event represents the miracle of America

A young lady stands strong in running for office

By Kevin Larsen

Times volunteer staff writer It's a day of joy!

Independence Day was declared a federal holiday 150 years ago; yet it all started in 1777 over 246 years ago.

It's all about America and fireworks came along in the evenings too. People participate for love of

Volunteers, participants and cheering onlookers are there,



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because they cherish and truly love our country; it's inspiring to the American Dream!

Multitude of Parades

Yes, in so many towns on the 4th of July, including the city of San Jose, we get to go early, set up chairs and take in the enjoyment of seeing others walk or ride in the parade route to signify that we are all part of our nation's family.

It is delightful when a person sets up and gets permission to walk or ride in the parade route and bring new meaning at the local level on this historic day. Her name is Tara Sreekrishnan.

Tara decides to represent America!

Among those celebrating at San Jose's Rose, White and Blue Parade was Tara Sreekrishnan, who is running for election to the California State Assembly to represent District 26. She's on the ballot in the general election on November 5, 2024 and her attitude and personality reflect the joy of the 4th of July in my humble opinion.

'The parade symbolizes the miracle of America'

She acts as a strong role model for young ladies to aspire to go into politics and other important See PARADE, page 3

Bay Area home prices approach all-time records

By Sean Eastwood

Times staff writer

ost homebuyers thought after median home prices in two Bay Area counties shot past Lathe \$2 million mark, the real estate market had reached its peak; yet prices have continued to climb.

For the entire nine-county region, the median single-family home price hit \$1.46 million in May, according to the California Association of Realtors. That's a 12% spike from a year ago and a 1% increase from April — closing in on the record \$1.5 million median price set in April 2022.

Now, many house hunters, especially in Willow Glen, had been hoping for rates to come back down. However, many are throwing in the towel and purchasing homes, putting even more pressure on rising home prices.

Realtors say they continue to see multiple offers on many properties, with high-end homes over \$2 million particularly strong. The consensus is that Silicon Valley will continue to see a strong demand for properties.

Across the Bay Area, total home sales increased 4% in May, bucking the statewide trend showing a 6% decline.

Mortgage rates have started to drop in recent weeks, which may result in even more homes being purchased in the next few months. The average rate on a typical 30-year home loan has recently dropped to the mid 6% from about 7%.



The Zeno team: (left to right) Amala Valiveti, Anya Iyer, Eshaani Singh and Diya Vatsavai. Photo courtesy of Anya Iyer

Zeno Technology: Local high school students develop efficient method for early diagnosis of Parkinson's disease

Team wins Power Pitch Award at the Conrad Challenge, an international business competition

Bv William Bellou

Publisher

group of local high school students have developed an efficient method for the early detection of Parkinson's disease, a condition that affects millions world-

Zeno's Technology, the brainchild of team members Anya Iyer, a senior at Dougherty Valley High School; Diya Vatsavai, a junior at Valley Christian High School; Amala Valiveti, a senior at Silver Creek High School; See ZENO, page 3

San Jose Metropolitan Band concert at Villages on July 4









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Times Community News



Tara Sreekrishnan enjoying the Rose, White and Blue parade route in San Jose waiving, with **Colonel Ray Watts**. *Photo courtesy of Diana Torres*.

Parade

Continued from page 1

government roles. Tara states, 'As a proud American and with great schooling, I benefited from the diversity and energy of the Bay Area and garnered an aim to pay it forward and do things to help others. For example, I cofounded a non-profit organization that has empowered hundreds of students across Cupertino, San Jose, Santa Clara, and Sunnyvale to actively engage in the environmental sciences and conservation. As a current Trustee on the Santa Clara Countv Board of Education. I am dedicated to serving our children and families. We oversee 31 school districts, encompassing 270,000 students. This significant responsibility is one I undertake with great honor and commitment."

Tara continued, "I also gained strong professional experience across all levels of our local government - school district, city, county, and state - I've never given up on doing the very most I can do in what I do. I have participated in this parade for the past four years, but today, I represent my own elected office for the first time. The parade symbolizes the miracle of America. For me, it's a profound honor to be a product of the American dream and I'm running for Assembly to ensure California makes responsible decisions. We must improve our education system, create future career opportunities for all children, and maintain safe, clean, and affordable communities."

It is seen that all participants of the parade including the audience, assists people of all backgrounds and ages to understand how wonderful our country is and how and why it was formed. We can truly learn from how Tara was motivated.

"As a child of immigrants, July 4th is very special to me. My parents came here with \$50 to their name and scrapped by to create a life for me and my brother," said Tara. "In our house, America was always a place we could realize our dreams by working hard, and I'm running for Assembly to make sure it stays that way."

Tara mentioned that her parents never thought she would be a candidate for State Assembly.

"It's not only possible for me to run, it's possible for someone like me to win. And that idea, that we are all equal, is what makes July 4th so special. "

For me, as a visitor to this wonderful parade speaking with Tara helps me to reflect, when our nation's honor is shown in a parade of young people like Tara who wish to make the country even better, it brings hope to our world. One thing for sure, these 4th of July parades are good for your health. You get to meet new people and there is such an uplifting feeling when many school cheerleading marching squads and bands stride forward in unison with such vibrant music as well as vast numbers of individuals being honored. For me it brings back memories of my early childhood. It's a place and time where smiles are welcome!

I realize the youth of today are here, like Tara, to make our country a better place! Parade participants truly represent their parents and family from lots of cultures and all kinds of music and languages blast out over speakers which energizes and pays tribute to Americans in honoring cultures, religions and more!

San Jose Library sees spike in readership interest this Summer

Registration for San José Public Library's Summer Learning program and the number of book giveaways increases drastically

he San José Public Library's (SJPL) annual Summer Learning program is off to a great start as residents and library members head to the library to sign up and participate in the free program, will conclude on July 31.

Because SJPL is eager to get back to pre-pandemic numbers, library staff has been outreaching and promoting the Summer Learning program since early May, a strategy that has led the library to see an increase of 26% in its preregistration numbers compared to last year. To date, SJPL has registered more than 5,000 people of all ages and reading levels to participate in the program and saw nearly 72,500 reading minutes tracked in the first three days. The library's goal for this year's Summer Learning is to surpass last year's 10,000 total sign-ups and 4-million minutes read.

In addition to the spike in pre-registrations, SJPL also saw a significant increase of more than 80% in the number of free books library staff gave away during this year's pre-registration period compared to last year. More than 2,000 books have been distributed via outreach events, school class visits, and other community events, thus far.

Currently, there are over 200 Summer Learning events scheduled across all 25 SJPL locations, which are offered for free and in multiple languages. Two dozen programs have already been offered since the kickoff on June 1st. All SJPL programs include an educational component, aim to encourage a lifelong love of learning and reading, as well as fun entertainment for the whole family such as programs with snakes, performances by tropical birds, and petting zoos.

SJPL's Summer Learning program was specially designed by expert Librarians and library staff to encourage reading and help prevent students from



falling behind in their academics during the summer break. Studies show that students can lose up to 40-percent of what they learned during the school year; this concept is known as the "Summer Slide".

To help combat the "summer slide", students and families are encouraged to register for Summer Learning online or in person by visiting any SJPL location. Valuable prizes are offered as incentives to join and participate. The prizes vary based on age groups and range from video projectors, drones, and tickets to a San Francisco Giants baseball game or a Bay FC women's soccer match.

In conjunction with Summer Learning, people can also participate in SJPL's annual Graphic Novel Making Contest and Cosplay on Display contest for a chance to win more prizes!

For more information, visit: sjpl.org/ summer

Zeno

Continued from page 1

and Eshaani Singh, a senior at Evergreen Valley High School, provides an efficient method of diagnosis for Parkinson's disease based on vocal biomarkers.

"By detecting and analyzing early vocal impairments, Zeno's system enables accurate and timely detection of the condition," Iyer explained. "This innovative tool enhances the diagnostic process, allowing for prompt interventions and treatment."

Families impacted

The new technology was developed after the team's families were affected by Parkinson's disease.

"We developed this application after family members were hit hard by Parkinson's disease a few years ago," said Singh. "This huge emotional toll on our families caused us to look into solutions for early diagnosis of Parkinson's disease."

The team of students explained

that when they looked into current market solutions, they noticed that many existing products either had low accuracy or were time consuming and inaccessible for most patients.

"After thorough research, we came across vocal impairments and biomarkers being one of the earliest hallmarks of Parkinson's disease," said Valiveti. "Speaking with neurologists and medical professionals further deepened our understanding of the disease, and soon after, we got to work developing our app."

Developing machine learning algorithm

The Zeno Technology team spent months developing a viable app and creating a viable business plan. Zeno leverages advanced algorithms and data analysis to provide an early and accurate diagnosis of Parkinson's disease.

Eventually, they not only were able to share this app with the community, but the team won the Power Pitch Award at the Conrad Chal-

lenge, an international business competition, and became a Semi-Finalist in the Diamond Challenge, a national competition.

Soon after gaining international recognition with their award winning technology, the team was invited to speak at the NEXUS Global Business Summit in Manhattan as the youngest speakers at the symposium.

"We were exposed to various venture capitalists, industry professionals, and fellow entrepreneurs, all who encouraged and inspired us to continue innovating and creating," Vatsavai said. "Since then, we have worked on testing our product with patients and improving our current diagnosis performance, while also focusing on funding. Our hope is for Zeno to improve the lives of families everywhere, one diagnosis at a time."

The team is now in the process of obtaining funding. If you are interested in contributing, please reach out to anya.iyer@gmail.com.

Times Community News

San Jose advocates want more money for non-police crisis team for round-the-clock services

By Vicente Vera San José Spotlight

an Jose officials plan to allocate additional funding toward mental health services in the upcoming budget, after advocates pushed for more non-police emergency response.

The Santa Clara County-operated Trusted Response Urgent Support Team (TRUST) program will receive about \$450,000 from San Jose to fund another mobile crisis response team for a year. But advocates for non-police emergency responses said the program needs more dollars to maintain around-the-clock services.

Without consistent funding and a 24/7 mobile response team deployed to mental health crisis calls, advocates said the program can't reach its full potential.

"One of the reasons why we've been pushing this is because San Jose ZIP codes generate disproportionately more calls to TRUST and more dispatches than other regions in the county," Jen Myhre, senior organizer with Showing Up For Racial Justice at Sacred Heart, told San José Spotlight. "Funding an additional TRUST field team for San Jose was one of the community-driven Reimagining Community Safety recommendations from 2022."

TRUST is the only field response team that operates with trained mental health professionals, a medic and a peer support member — an individual with lived experience. In addition to TRUST, the county operates two other mobile response teams



Santa Clara County TRUST, a non-police mobile crisis response team, is dispatched through the 988 call center. Photo courtesy of TRUST.

that include law enforcement — Mobile Crisis Response Team and Mobile Response Stabilization Service Team. All three teams provide 24/7 service and are dispatched through the crisis hotline service 988.

At a San Jose City Council meeting earlier this month, Councilmember Peter Ortiz said the San Jose Police Department is at its lowest level of staffing and the city relies on teams like San Jose Beautify to address situations that may endanger them.

"A San Jose TRUST team will serve gaps in services and give reprieve to our hardworking San Jose Police Department officers and city staff who are often deployed to situations that honestly shouldn't involve them," Ortiz said.

TRUST operates four response teams in Santa Clara County: three through Campbell-based Pacific Clinics that covers San Jose, West Valley and South County and one through Momentum for Health, which operates a field team in North County.

Momentum for Health CEO and President David Mineta said advocates have been calling for police-alternative crisis responses since President Bill Clinton's administration in the 1990s.

"These are a team of three people going out and responding in a way that, if that were my family member, is how I would want a response to come in. Empathic," he told San José Spotlight. "Teams have someone with peer experience who knows what it's like to have been there, someone who could respond with first aid and for a medical condition."

Santa Clara County launched TRUST in November 2022. It received \$7 million in funding through the Mental Health Services Act and a \$2 million grant from the California Department of Health Care Services.

County officials plan to fund \$10.2 million for the program in the upcoming fiscal year, a spokesperson for Supervisor Joe Simitian's office told San José Spotlight.

"What is reflected in our budget, and I think is reflected in San Jose's action, is a growing realization that we have to be more thoughtful about what kind of response is appropriate in a moment of crisis," Simitian told San José Spotlight. "And that often can and should be a mental health response rather than a law enforcement response."

Silicon Valley De-Bug organizer Laurie

Valdez said her partner Antonio Guzman-Lopez was killed by San Jose State University police during a mental health crisis before the TRUST program's development. The new round of funding from San Jose is welcoming news, Valdez said, but it needs to be consistent.

"A lot of people in the community say, 'I'll never call the cops for help.' Everybody's afraid because you're gonna either end up dead or in jail — and that's not what should happen," she told San José Spotlight. "You should be able to call for help and get the help and resources you need."

Her advocacy along with other families who lost loved ones to police helped lead to the development of TRUST countywide, De-Bug co-founder Raj Jayadev said.

"After awareness and consciousness around police violence that happened in the wake of the George Floyd murder, and really the racial reckoning around police violence that happened here in San Jose, (officials) were becoming receptive to the idea of alternatives to police and so we had drafted a sort of vision of what that looked like," he told San José Spotlight.

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Times Local News

San Jose war monument marks milestone for Vietnamese community at Kelly Park

By Brandon Pho

San José Spotlight

A long-delayed monument to fallen Vietnam War fighters will finally be unveiled at San Jose's Vietnamese Heritage Garden, a planned cultural gathering space waylaid by community divide.

The life-size statue of two armed soldiers — one American and one South Vietnamese — could be ready for public viewing sometime this month. It would mark a major milestone for turning the garden at Kelley Park into a communal oasis and tribute to San Jose's Vietnamese enclave, the largest of any city outside Vietnam. The concept spawned close to 40 years ago, but has since passed through different eras of leadership, stalling multiple times due to shaky funding and disputes over who was in charge. Meanwhile, the statue was a separate effort. Now both are coming together in one place through a combination of city and county funding.

The challenge of unifying people under a single vision became a source of both hope and friction within San Jose's Vietnamese community.

"The fact that we're finally getting to something, that we're moving forward, is because we've reached the point of recognizing that if we want something, we have to stop quibbling with each other over where it should be and what it should look like," Huy Tran, executive director for the Services Immigrant Rights and Education Network, told San José Spotlight. "We get more progress working together than we do just trying to fight each other."

Vincent Pham said the statues will memorialize the unique struggle of Vietnamese refugees. Pham is the son of Vietnamese American community leader Nam Pham, who helped host an annual event named "Thank You, America" to express gratitude for the United States for providing refugees with a new home. He said he hopes to uphold his father's legacy of community organizing and service

"We bring with us the trauma of war and other horrors that dealt with the refugee experience through our parents, our grandparents, our family, but it's up to us to navigate and it's up to us to continue that story," he told San José Spotlight.

A statue of two soldiers

The statue idea came before the city about 20 years ago, aiming to honor American and South Vietnamese soldiers who fought in the Vietnam War that ended in 1975. Over the years, residents became frustrated with the lack of progress and broken promises.

While Councilmember Bien Doan — who represents the area — and other San Jose officials shoveled dirt at the project's groundbreaking in May, Tran said he won't believe it until he sees it.

"There's just been delay after delay and repeat promises," he told San José Spotlight. "I almost don't want to get too celebratory."

In spring 2019, San Jose secured a \$210,000 grant for the monument from Santa Clara County with the help of Supervisor Cindy Chavez. But plans unraveled during the pandemic. In early 2020, Maya Esparza, the area's councilmember at the time, pivoted to respond to COVID needs.



Vincent Pham, whose father helped organize the annual "Thank You, America" event, said statues planned for the Viet Heritage Garden will help memorialize the Vietnamese American community's unique struggles. *Photo by B. Sakura Cannestra*.

But the effort dates back to state Sen. Dave Cortese, who served on the San Jose City Council from 2001 and 2008. He was the first city official to push for the statue.

As a councilmember, Cortese helped secure an initial location for the monument on Tully Road. Developments like Little Saigon and the garden weren't considered because they hadn't been developed yet. The project was then passed on to Madison Nguyen, the first Vietnamese American elected to the San Jose City Council. But the project got shelved as Nguyen faced fierce backlash over the naming of Little Saigon in 2008.

Some residents formed a committee and advocated for the monument to be placed at McEntee Plaza. That proposal died in 2015 following protest from others who said it's not appropriate to have a war monument next to a plaza honoring Jim McEntee, a peace advocate.

Garden stuck in limbo

Meanwhile, plans for the garden moved in fits and starts during the same period.

Following her historic win in 2005 as the

first Vietnamese American councilmember in San Jose, Nguyen started pushing for the heritage garden project in City Hall. But it wasn't until she became vice mayor six years later that the project took off.

"The unveiling of the monument signifies a milestone for the Vietnamese American community, as well as the city of San Jose," Nguyen said. "It is the culmination of hard work, patience and solidarity within the Vietnamese American community for over 20 years. I am excited to witness history in the making right here in our community."

As part of the garden, visionaries put forward a number of ideas for mini-replicas of Vietnamese historic structures, such as the One Pillar Pagoda, Hùng Temple, Pagoda of the Celestial Lady and Tomb of Lê Văn Duyệt. Similar to the Japanese Friendship Garden located on the other end of Kelley Park, at one point the garden envisioned a reflection pond filled with lotus, an iconic water flower in Vietnam.

The vision of the garden changed over the years but support never waivered. While

advocates rallied the city for funding, the Vietnamese Heritage Society, a local non-profit, took charge of designing and building the garden.

Between 2006 and 2012, the project received more than \$2 million in funding from the city, county and state. The heritage society also raised more than \$1 million from residents to bring the garden to life.

The garden broke ground in 2011, but construction halted after the city claimed improper management by the Vietnamese Heritage Society, an allegation the nonprofit disputed. But delays proved expensive as construction costs rose. The heritage society could only finish the first phase of the project, which included the imperial gate, a parking lot and three flagpoles.

In 2016, the city cut ties with the heritage society and took over the project, saying the site was a health and safety hazard, according to a city memo. In total, more than \$3.5 million had been spent but the project remained unfinished.

The Vietnamese Heritage Garden in San Jose's Kelley Park has a working vegetable garden for the community. Photo by B. Sakura Cannestra.

Little has been done since, beyond the garden getting several dozen new community garden plots in 2021 for residents to farm their vegetables. But after the community disagreed over the location of the soldier monuments, the garden emerged as the ideal choice.

"This was all achieved through that old school network of refugees who wanted to build a monument to leave their legacy," Tran said.

The heritage garden represents both the potential for the Vietnamese community, as well as its obstacles over the years, Lam Nguyen, chief of staff for San Jose Councilmember David Cohen, said.

"Although we are now getting closer to its completion, it serves both as a reminder of those shortcomings as well as a need to come together as a community," he told San José Spotlight.



The Vietnamese Heritage Garden has been a work in process for decades. The heritage society could only finish the first phase of the project, which includes the imperial gate and three flagpoles. *Photo by B. Sakura Cannestra*.





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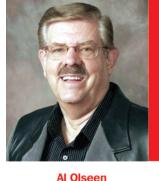
Ways to stay cool during a heatwave

By Sean Eastwood

Times staff writer

he Bay Area is expected to continue to endure a heatwave, with widespread triple-digit temperatures expected in Silicon Valley.

The National Weather Service has issued an excessive heat



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advisory that will see high demands for air conditioning which will tax the energy systems resulting in the likelihood of random power failures and, consequently, scattered blackouts is high.

How should we prepare in the event of power outages due to heat waves.

ServiceMaster Restore's disaster preparedness expert, Peter Duncanson is sharing valuable prevention tips and helpful recommenda-

tions to ensure people are safe when the lights cut out. According to Peter, the following are a few simple ways to not only prevent power outages but to stay cool as well:

- Turn any unnecessary lights, devices, and appliances off.
- Close all blinds, curtains, and shades to prevent unwanted heat from coming into your property.



- Make sure no air ducts or fans are blocked by furniture so that cool air can properly circulate throughout your property.
- If you need to use them, run your dishwasher, oven, and other heat-producing appliances during the night because it's cooler.

If a power outage does happen during a heat wave, Peter recommends that residents:

Prioritize safety and make

sure to remain hydrated and cool to prevent suffering from any heat-induced health problems.

- To remain cool, keep doors, windows, blinds, shades, and curtains closed.
- Do your best to not let outside air into your home.

Supervisor may leave for job in New Mexico

Bernalillo County board votes to hire Cindy Chavez as next county manager By William Bellou

Publisher

anta Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez could be leaving the Bay Area for a new job leading Bernalillo County in New Mexico after serving decades in public service.

The Bernalillo County Board of Commissioners voted last week 3-2 to hire Chavez as the next county manager. Bernalillo County, which includes the city of Albuquerque, is the most populated

county in New Mexico with more than 672,000 residents.

Chavez, who terms out at the end of the year, still would have to accept the offer and pass a background check.

In 1998, she was elected to the San Jose City Council, and she was reelected in 2002. Several years after her failed 2006 mayoral bid in San Jose, she became the head of the South Bay Labor Council, and later the executive director of labor think tank Working Partnerships USA. She won a special election for the District 2 seat on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, where she has represented parts of downtown and East San Jose. In 2022, she made another run for the San Jose mayor's office, but ultimately lost to current Mayor Matt Mahan.



Cindy Chavez could be leaving the Bay Area for New Mexico. *File photo San Jose Spotlight.*



Times Local News

State won't stop closure of East San Jose hospital services

By Brandon Pho San José Spotlight

espite urgent pleas by county leaders and local activists, state officials won't intervene in the closure of lifesaving hospital services in East San Jose.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) told Bay Area state legislators that the state has no authority to deny the closure or reduction of services at Regional Medical Center because these cuts are classified as supplemental services, sources tell San José Spotlight. The state informed the lawmakers of its decision in response to a June 17 letter the local delegation sent asking the department of public health to intervene. The letter - signed by Assemblymembers Ash Kalra, Marc Berman, Alex Lee, Evan Low and Gail Pellerin — urged the state to review the situation.

"Your urgent action is necessary to protect the well-being of our constituents and uphold HCA's promise to put patients first," the letter reads.

The only option left is for Attorney General Rob Bonta to intervene on HCA's plan, after receiving a complaint letter from community activists that called the decision "discriminatory."

Bonta's office didn't respond to requests for

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors in April called on the state to intervene. Community health advocates responded to the state's decision on Monday with a protest outside Regional Medical Center, where private owner HCA Healthcare plans to reduce stroke services and close its heart attack and trauma services on Aug. 12.

The state has the authority to stop HCA's decision if it determines action is warranted to avoid public harm, but has historically refused to intervene on hospital decisions. Community health advocates warn the closure will disproportionately impact lowincome people in East San Jose, as well as uninsured populations around the Bay Area who will now have to wait longer for care at Vallev Medical Center, the next closest hospital.

Before Chris Cobillas became a San Jose firefighter and community services director for the firefighters' union, Local 230, he worked at Regional as a patient registrar in 2005. He said Regional's cardiac and trauma care saved the lives of multiple firefighters on his team.

"My family still lives in East San Jose," Cobillas told San José Spotlight. "The closest hospital would be Valley Medical Center, and we know they serve the greater San Jose area now... (and) the next closest hospital is Stanford. When saving lives we're relying on minutes — minutes equals blood and tissue and brain."

Every general acute care hospital is required to provide eight basic services: Medical, nursing, surgical, anesthesia, laboratory, radiology, pharmacy and dietary services. The state public health department considers emergency medical services, maternity care, pediatric care including neonatal ICU — psychiatric care and stroke services to be "supplemental."

"While any reduction of supplemental services is concerning, CDPH cannot compel facilities to provide them," A CDPH spokesperson told San José Spotlight. "CDPH is monitoring this situation, and basic services at the hospital continue to be provided."

For four months, the idea of losing one of the



Regional Medical Center in East San Jose is owned by HCA Healthcare. The corporation plans to close the trauma center in mid-August

patients needing services no Photo by Brandon Pho. longer offered after August would either have to be transferred elsewhere or drive

> half an hour to the next closest trauma center. County doctors have publicly deemed the idea 'dystopian" at public hearings earlier this year, warning the closures could send a 70% surge in trauma patients, or about 2,600 cases per year, to the ill-equipped and under-resourced

- and sending patients with

Emergency response work-

ers also warn it could send life-

threatening ambulance delays

rippling across the region, since

Valley Medical Center eight miles away.

The national private health corporation behind the planned cuts has dismissed county officials' warnings.

"This campaign against Regional Medical Center chooses exaggeration and theatrics to generate a false fear among members of the community we serve," HCA spokesperson Carmella Gutierrez said in a statement that claims the trauma center closure will affect less than "2% of patients treated daily."

In 2023, Gutierrez said the hospital received an average of four patients per day who met trauma triage criteria, with half sent home from the emergency department. She said patients who have less severe injuries, such as lacerations, non-complex fractures and minor head injuries will still be treated at the hospital.

Going forward, we will arrange transport for the few patients who need a higher level of care," Gutierrez said.





REAL ESTATE GUIDE



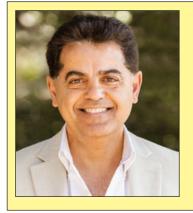
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Times Feature

A glimpse of Steve Jobs and Steve 'Woz'

By Steve West

Special to the Times

ot saying I'm famous or this or that, just saying I remember a nice time in my life, and I honor Steve Wozniak and Steve Jobs.

I served in the military and in the early $80\mbox{'s I}$ was an actor too, now, not a well-known one but it was something I did.

In the early 80's I snagged a dream job with a company I made to help write and print written brochures that go with the products in the box of the new Apple products.

So, in addition to getting paid well, for a few years I had Steve Jobs and Woz drop in at any time where I worked and in the lunchroom of Apple in Cupertino.

Apple was not a big place in the beginning, and being small often you could run into the big thinkers in the company.

Not often but sometimes I felt that Steve Jobs looked piercingly into my eyes and wanted to share something of great value in his mind. Also, at that time in the early 80's computers were not that well known, but Apple was special.

One day in the lunch room of Apple, I Steve and Woz walked up to me and Jobs looked at me and said directly to me privately, "I'm starting to work on a project that I believe will change the way people live their lives and do their work, and how people live their lives and do work in business."

I paused for a moment and looked back at him and said, "Wow, that's amazing." I of course had no idea what he was talking about and he of course kept it

absolutely secret. I thought it was interesting that his scope included everyone in the world.

During that time, I also met Steve Wozniak and he was very cool. He got along with everyone and some went to places with him. I know that I liked gambling and one time I was amazed in going to a place with him and seeing that he was unbelievable in how he could bet on blackjack. I wondered how he could be so stellar in what he did. Of course I was just a dud at gambling.

I was a bit scared in the mid 80's to take any jobs, but Apple offered me a sales job. I refused it and that was one of the worst decisions of my life but again Apple was a good company. I did not feel knowledgeable enough to take such a position in computer sales. I give myself about a B- in knowledge on computers so I was hesitant to work for Apple directly.

Today, more than 40 years after my remembrance of Steve Jobs, I get sad the way he slowly died. He was a nice man and I greatly respect him. As far as Woz goes, one day I was driving my car and saw him and said, "Hi Steve," to which amazingly he said back to me without wasting a moment, "Hi Steve." Maybe someday I will be able to stop and chat with him over coffee. I like Wozniak for he is inspiring on things and welcoming to speaking with all people on all things. Without him there would not be an Apple.

Editor's note: The San Jose Children's Discovery Museum (180 Woz Way) located in downtown San Jose and has the street named (Woz Way) after Steve Wozniak who has the nickname "Woz." He of course was the cofounder of Apple and is known also for being the single largest private donor towards the Children's Discovery Museum during the push to build and fund it. Woz is a great philanthropist and said this at a Tech-Know Conference, "I would never give a gift that has restrictions...I leave that to people who know more than me."



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http://www.eicsanjose.org 2486 Ruby Ave, San Jose CA 95148. (408) 239-6668 "As-Salaamu-Alaikum" the English meaning is "Peace be upon you". Q) What is Islam, who are Muslims, and what is the Quran? 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 vour family Please visit our website to learn more.



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SAN JOSE GURDWARA

3636 Gurdwara Ave. San Jose, CA 95148 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

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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 Chapel, Gathering Hall, presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!



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