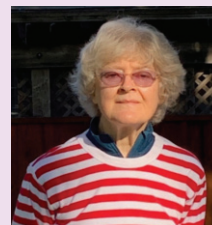


San Jose  
breaks ground  
on seventh tiny  
home facility  
**SEE PAGE 4**



**Getting to work**  
Councilmember George Casey  
outlines key policy areas for D10  
**See page 5**

Symphony San Jose  
receives \$1 million for  
group's endowment  
from patron Ann  
Brown **SEE PAGE 7**



YOUR BEST  
SOURCE OF  
COMMUNITY  
NEWS FOR  
**OVER  
38  
YEARS**

# Almaden Times

SERVING ALMADEN VALLEY SINCE 1986 ■ [ALMADENTIMES.COM](http://ALMADENTIMES.COM)

JAN. 31 - FEB. 13, 2025 ■ VOL. 38, NO. 3



## Trump aligns with California farmers on water wars

By Dan Walters

It would be impossible to overstate the complexity of water supply management in California.

Hundreds of federal, state and local agencies decree who or what is supplied with water, when and how much will be delivered, and the prices recipients must pay.

Moreover, there are policy differences within those broad categories. For instance, local agricultural water agencies and municipal providers to homes and businesses often have different priorities.

The politics of water are even more convoluted, involving not only the public agencies but seemingly countless outside stakeholders, ranging from developers who need water supply commitments for their projects to commercial fishermen who want to protect spawning salmon.

The proliferation of competing agendas explains why it is so difficult to reach the consensus needed to move policy forward. It's not unusual for proposed projects and policies to kick around for years, if not decades, before something concrete occurs.

For example, the proposed Sites Reservoir on the west side of the Sacramento Valley now seems likely to be built, but only after 70 years of promotion by backers.

See *WATER*, page 3

## Santa Clara County veterans still living in subpar conditions

By Joyce Chu  
*San José Spotlight*

Veterans living in a substandard housing facility in East San Jose said it's getting worse, more than a year after Santa Clara County purchased it and months after a new service provider took over.

The county purchased the facility at 10 Kirk Ave. in November 2023 for \$14.5 million and contracted nonprofit Abode Services to continue providing meals and supportive services to people living at the site. The Homeless Veterans Emergency Housing Facility, a nonprofit led by CEO Irvin Goodwin, previously provided case management, meals and housing to veterans at the site, which was in disrepair. The facility had mold, fire hazards and unsafe electrical systems, among other problems that have been going on for years.

Veterans say things have gone downhill since Abode became the service provider in October, and that the county hasn't addressed the most pressing issues. One building has no hot water, and WiFi and cable service haven't worked since the contract with the previous operator expired in November, making it hard for one veteran to order his prescriptions



Veteran **Carl Koprek** lives in a room with mold and hasn't been moved into another building that's been upgraded. He suffers from COPD. Photo by Joyce Chu.

online. Veterans who dealt with bed bugs said there's been no pest control, and the food provided is inedible.

"What bothers me is they made us a lot of promises at the beginning and very few of them (have) come through," one veteran, who asked for anonymity for fear of retaliation, told San José Spotlight.

The 4.26-acre complex is made up of eight, single-story buildings with the capacity to house 150 veterans. There are approximately 15 veterans living there, down from about 40 in August.

Roughly seven veterans live in a building infested with mold, and some said they've

developed health issues because of it.

Carl Koprek, who struggles with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, wheezes when he breathes. He said whenever he's in his room his lungs tighten, his eyes burn and his head aches. Black mold is visible on the walls in his bathroom. When he approached Abode to move rooms, he said the site supervisor told him they'd have to evict him if he moved.

"I'm tired of being treated like that. It's not right," Koprek told San José Spotlight. "I was optimistic that things would be better. It's worse off than before. Things were better with Irvin."

See *VETERANS*, page 8

## Leland High School to present the 2025 Leland Science Fair March 7

*Science Fair presents an opportunity for elementary, middle and high school to showcase their science projects*

By William Bellou  
*Publisher*

Leland High School Science Club will present the 2025 Leland Science Fair on Friday, March 7th, 2025, from 3:45 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Leland Science Fair is an opportunity for elementary, middle, and high school students from Almaden Valley and the greater San Jose area to showcase their science projects.

"The mission of the Leland Science Club is to ensure that every student develops the capability to succeed in a global society by engaging in varied experiences that expand their understanding of the world," said club president Nainika Srinivasan.



The science fair aims to introduce children to diverse career pathways and demonstrate the potential of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education to open doors beyond traditional roles. "It's important for these kids to know what is in their own backyard. They need to see that science is not just confined to the classroom— it's everywhere," Srinivasan explained.

"The Leland Science Fair is a great opportunity for kids to get excited about science and gain experience communicating their scientific

See *SCIENCE FAIR*, page 4

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



# ATTENTION GOLFERS

## Thinking about downsizing to a gated community?



Play golf on a Spectacular Championship 18 hole golf course  
for ONLY. . . . \$34.00

### The Villages Golf & Country Club

Homes ranging from \$500,000 to \$1.7 million

Enjoy Country Club Living in this 55+ Gated Community

#### Other Amenities:

Tennis - Pickle Ball - Bocce - Pools - Hiking - Billiards

Fine & Casual Dining in our Clubhouse & Bistro

**Come for a Tour ~ Stay for a Lifetime**



**Dee Ramirez**

KELLER WILLIAMS SILICON VALLEY

Lic# 00683945 ■ REALTOR

**408.440.7617**

Dee@RamirezRealtyTeam.com

www.Deeramirez.com

2110 S. Bascom Avenue #101 | Campbell, CA 95008

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



Times **Local News****Water***Continued from page 1*

The long-planned expansion of Los Vaqueros Reservoir in Contra Costa County collapsed recently when the East Bay Municipal Utility District pulled out, citing ever-rising costs.

More than six decades ago, state water officials proposed a canal to carry water around the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. After gaining legislative approval, a 1982 referendum blocked construction, and 40 years later, a proposed tunnel beneath the Delta remains stalled by a political stalemate.

Operations of existing dams and canals are similarly fraught, particularly divvying up water among farmers, municipal users and flows to protect fish and other wildlife as supplies fluctuate due to climate change.

For years, federal and state authorities have sought to reduce diversions by agriculture — by far the largest water users — to bolster habitat flows. Farmers have resisted.

The state has sought “voluntary agreements” from farmers in the San Joaquin River watershed between Stockton and Fresno to enhance natural flows, threatening to order reductions if agreements are not reached. But unilateral action by the state would spark a legal battle over water rights whose outcome could not be predicted.

Another player in California’s high-stakes water game emerged eight years ago when

Donald Trump became president for the first time. He forcefully backed farmers in their conflict with state water managers, ordering the Bureau of Reclamation and other federal agencies to adopt more agriculture-friendly policies.

Four years later, after Trump was defeated by Joe Biden, the policies were reversed. Just days before Biden’s tenure ended, federal and state water managers last month announced a new operational agreement.

This week, when Trump once again became president, he essentially sought to cancel that agreement and reinstate his previous policies. Based on a memo to federal water agencies, he directed them to draft a plan “to route more water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to other parts of the state for use by the people there who desperately need a reliable water supply.”

Trump not only cited farmers’ needs for a reliable water supply but reiterated his belief that a lack of water deliveries to Southern California made it more difficult to fight deadly wildfires — a contention that has no basis in fact. Los Angeles had plenty of water to fight fires, but hydrants ran dry because the system was designed for fighting individual building fires, not massive wildfires, and was overtaxed.

Despite the media splash, it’s doubtful that Trump’s decree will be anything more than a relatively brief pause in efforts to resolve California’s water conflicts simply because they are measured in decades, not any one president’s term.

*Dan Walters is a CalMatters columnist.*

**Beethoven's Eroica**

**March 8 & 9, 2025**  
**At the California Theatre**

March “comes in like a lion,” and this tour-de-force program proves it.

One of **Beethoven's** most celebrated works, and in fact, the composer’s personal favorite of his compositions, the *Eroica* symphony explores what it means to be human.

Richard **Strauss' Death and Transfiguration** depicts the dying thoughts of an artist as he recounts the various stages of his life, all while awaiting the ultimate transformation.

And we mark the first Symphony San Jose performance of a work by Arvo **Pärt**, the most performed contemporary composer in the world (beating out John Williams, John Adams, Thomas Adès, and Philip Glass).

**Tickets start at just \$35!**

Contact us to learn more about our group discounts, \$25 Soundcheck Pass (valid for all our Saturday night concerts!) for patrons aged 5-25, and our 50% off discount for patrons under 17 years old.



[www.symphonysanjose.org](http://www.symphonysanjose.org)

# EXTREME WEATHER



**Valley Water**

**Your Flood Protection Partner**

## Beware. Be ready. BE FLOOD SAFE.

**KNOW**

Your Flood Risk

**SIGN UP**

For Alerts

**GET**

FREE Sandbags



[valleywater.org/floodready](http://valleywater.org/floodready)



## AlmadenTimes

Times Media, Inc.  
(408) 494-7000

EXECUTIVE EDITOR  
WILLIAM D. BELLOU  
williamb@timesmediainc.com

ADVERTISING SALES  
WILLIAM D. BELLOU  
408-494-7000

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

ART DIRECTOR  
JEFF BAHAM  
graphics@timesmediainc.com

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

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
SANDY BELLOU

Copyright © 2025 Times Media, Inc. All rights reserved.  
The ALMADEN TIMES prefers letters to the editor and  
submissions of guest articles and columns for possi-  
ble publication to be sent by email to [editorial@times-  
mediainc.com](mailto:editorial@times-<br/>mediainc.com). All submitted materials become the  
property of Times Media, Inc., and receipt of unsol-  
icited materials cannot be acknowledged. The opin-  
ions and viewpoints expressed by guest authors and  
columnists in this publication do not necessarily reflect  
the opinions and viewpoints of the staff and man-  
agement of the ALMADEN TIMES and Times Media,  
Inc.

## San Jose breaks ground on seventh tiny home facility

By Joyce Chu  
San José Spotlight

San Jose will add a seventh tiny home site to its temporary housing stock, giving dozens of people a roof over their head come fall.

After more than two years, the Cherry Avenue tiny homes project is about to begin construction, with a planned opening in September. The \$18.3-million project will provide temporary housing for 136 homeless residents. This facility, which sits on Valley Water property, is funded by \$9 million from the state, \$7 million from Measure E — funds diverted from permanent housing— and \$2.4 million in philanthropic donations, including \$1 million from real estate developer John Sobrato.

“These projects don’t happen in a vacuum, and they don’t happen by luck or chance,” Deputy City Manager Omar Passons said Tuesday at the ground breaking. “They require political will.”

Two years ago, Valley Water Director Jim Beall proposed a change in the water district laws that would enable Valley Water land to be used to support housing for homeless residents camping along its prop-



Valley Water Director **Jim Beall** speaks at the Cherry Avenue tiny home groundbreaking site in San Jose on Jan. 21. The facility will sit on Valley Water land. Photo by Joyce Chu.

erty. The board of directors approved the change.

“This is just the first one,” Beall said at the press conference. “We’re going to look at other surplus properties and other opportunities to collaborate.”

*DignityMoves* is the developer and will receive up to \$15 million to design and construct the site. The nonprofit helped raise the philanthropic funding.

“We raise philanthropy for lots of our projects,” *DignityMoves* CEO Elizabeth Funk told San José Spotlight. “It takes, quite frankly, somebody like us to go around, pass the hat and try to pull some of that (funding) together.”

Community support was also essential for this project to move forward.

“I’m ecstatic that we got the support of the community... with no pushback,” District 9 Councilmember Pam Foley, whose district sits within the project, told San José Spotlight. “They were completely embracing what we were trying to do here from the very beginning.”

The temporary emergency housing facility is being built across from the Hampton Inn where people are camped along the Guadalupe River. Homeless people within the vicinity will be given priority for residency when it is up and running.

City workers are compiling a list of people who are interested in living at Cherry Avenue.

“We’re doing outreach and have our case managers basically identifying who’s living in the area and

See *TINY HOMES*, page 7

## Science Fair

Continued from page 1  
findings to the general public,” Avni Iyer, vice president of Leland Science Club adds. “As an event involving parents, students, and teachers, it helps to foster STEM engagement in our community as a whole.”

The Fair will be judged in three categories: elementary, middle, and high school. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will be awarded in each division. Special mentions will be given for every grade level. The goal of the fair is to stimulate an early interest in STEM and rekindle the love for science in our community, according to Nainika Srinivasan, president of Leland Science Club.

The Leland Science Club committee is also looking for volunteers to help make this a fun event for the entire family! Please reach out to them if you are interested. For further questions, email the Leland Science Club at [lelandsciclub@gmail.com](mailto:lelandsciclub@gmail.com).

For more information and to register, please visit the Leland Science Fair website: [sites.google.com/view/leland-sciencefair](https://sites.google.com/view/leland-sciencefair)

Silver Creek Academy  
INSPIRE EXPLORE CHALLENGE

An Award-Winning



LEARNING CENTER IN SAN JOSE

Academic Courses! Grades K - 12

\*Online & In-Person

Now Enrolling!

2025 Courses and Summer Camps!

(408)839-5905

Visit: [SCAASanJose.com](https://SCAASanJose.com)



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



Writing & Grammar

Reading Comprehension

Mathematics

Public Speaking & Debate

Logic & Critical Thinking

Speech & Debate

HSPT Test Prep

Academic Summer Camps

Test-Taking & Study Skills



Times **Community News**

# Councilmember George Casey outlines key policy areas for District 10

By George Casey

District 10 San Jose City Councilmember

Happy New Year! On behalf of myself and my team, I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to serve as your Councilmember for District 10. I'm truly excited to work alongside all of you in the years ahead.

Growing up in District 10 and now raising my own children here, this community holds a special place in my heart. I am deeply committed to positive change. My goal is to make San Jose a city where all residents, including future generations, feel safe, supported, and are proud to call home.

As your Councilmember, I am dedicated to transparency, open communication, and addressing the issues that matter most to you. Some of the key policy areas I am passionate about include:

**1. Keeping Our Streets Safe:** Advocating for increased police presence, faster response times, and investing in crime prevention strategies.

**2. A Cleaner San Jose:** Tackling blight,

trash, and graffiti to create a more walkable city that promotes community pride and a healthier lifestyle.

### 3. Homelessness Prevention and Support:

Fighting for effective strategies to prevent homelessness, increase access to supportive services, create jobs, and improve mental healthcare.

To those who joined me at my swearing-in ceremony, thank you for your support and for sharing such a meaningful moment with me and my family. For those who have reached out with concerns or questions, please know that my team and I are working tirelessly to address your needs. We've hit the ground running and are focused on structuring events and policies that will benefit our community.

I look forward to collaborating with all of you over the next four years to create a stronger, safer, and more vibrant District 10. Together, we can shape San Jose into a city that we're proud to leave as a legacy for future generations.



### District 10 Report

George Casey  
Councilmember,  
District 10



**CAMO**  
Camera Archive & Mapping

#### Helpful Tips:

- Know how to download your camera footage
- When mounting cameras, please be aware of places where people may have a reasonable expectation of privacy (examples: their backyard or interior of their home)
- Focus and mount your video on key points of entry or concern
- Exterior Mounting Location Options: Front door, rear door, side gate, driveway/front parking lot, second floor wide view and street view.
- Keep batteries charged in your cameras.
- Consider lighting around your cameras.

For assistance call the  
Crime Prevention Unit (408) 277-4133.

SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
201 W. Mission St.  
San Jose, CA 95110



Partner with the  
San Jose Police Department  
in fighting crime by registering  
your camera today.

#### HOW TO REGISTER

- Complete the registration form through [sjpd.org](https://sjpd.org) or scan the QR code below.
- If a crime occurs in your community or place of business, SJPD will contact you for video footage.
- All information is confidential. Registration is voluntary and there is no cost associated with registration.



<https://www.sjpd.org/community/crime-prevention/security-camera-registration>



Friday, March 7, 2025

# LELAND SCIENCE FAIR



**OPEN TO ELEMENTARY,  
MIDDLE, AND HIGH  
SCHOOL STUDENTS**

**OPPORTUNITY TO GET  
EXPERIENCE FOR  
SYNOPSIS SCIENCE FAIR**

**What:** Opportunity to showcase research from experiments or innovations

**Who:**

- 1) Competitors: grades 1st - 12th with science projects
- 2) Judges: Adults willing to judge amazing projects
- 3) Volunteers: High school students/parents for set up and management

**Where:** Leland High School Cafeteria

**When:** March 7, 2025 at 3:45 p.m.  
(Judges and student registration due February 20th!)

**WEBSITE**

<https://sites.google.com/view/lelandsciencefair>

**PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND  
REGISTRATION, VISIT:**

[HTTPS://SITES.GOOGLE.COM/VIEW/  
LELANDSCIENCEFAIR](https://sites.google.com/view/lelandsciencefair)

**SIGN UP HERE!**






Santa Clara County  Office of Education



## Cambodian American Studies Conference

January 31 – February 1, 2025 | 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Santa Clara County Office of Education  
1290 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95131

The Cambodian American Studies Model Curriculum will incorporate diverse perspectives on the Cambodian genocide, including survivor testimonies, to ensure high-quality educational materials. Following the passage of Assembly Bill 167 in 2021, which amended California Education Code sections regarding the Cambodian genocide, the California Department of Education is collaborating with county offices to develop this curriculum. Feedback from researchers, community partners, and Cambodian ancestry community members prompted the model curriculum team to expand its focus to include Cambodian American experiences beyond the genocide, resulting in the curriculum's renaming. The final content will encompass the histories, cultures, and heritages of Cambodian American communities.

#### This conference will assist educators by:

1. Introducing the CASMC curriculum to K-12 educators
2. Connecting educators with community members and cultural practices
3. Offering immersive cultural experiences

Register at : <https://sccoe.to/CambodianAmericanStudiesConference>

For questions, please contact: **Kristina Ravo**, Coordinator History-Social Science and Civic Engagement at [kravo@sccoe.org](mailto:kravo@sccoe.org) • (408) 453-4354



Times **Local News**

**Adin Cone named to University of Mississippi Fall 2024 Chancellor's Honor Roll**

Adin Cone of Almaden Valley, was named to the University of Mississippi's Fall 2024 Honor Roll lists.

Cone, in the B.A. in Political Science program, was named to the Chancellor's Honor Roll, which is reserved for students who earn a semester GPA of 3.75-4.00.

"The remarkable students achieving Chancellor's Honor Roll are among the best and brightest at the University of Mississippi," Chancellor Glenn Boyce said. "I commend them for their hard work and dedication resulting in their outstanding academic achievements and this well-deserved recognition."



The University of Mississippi, affectionately known as Ole Miss, is the state's flagship university. Included in the elite group of R1: Doctoral Universities - Highest Research Activity by the Carnegie Classification, it has a long history of producing leaders in public service, academics and business.

**Crack Sealing completed on Hollow Lake Way**

An Almaden resident reached out to the District 10 City Council office seeking assistance with improving the deteriorating condition of some streets in the district and addressing cracking issues with the manholes near his home.

Despite his efforts over the years, these issues remained unresolved. The District 10 team took action by touring the affected streets with the resident and engineers from the Department of Transportation (DOT) to assess the situation and identify solutions. Among their concerns were the deteriorating condition of Trinidad Drive and, more urgently,

the cracked manholes near his home. "As of January 9th, DOT completed crack sealing operations on the manholes along Hollow Lake Way, and local residents can expect significant improvements to Trinidad Drive this spring," said San Jose City Councilmember George Casey.

Future work includes repairing delaminated sections of the roadway by removing at least two inches of the existing asphalt and replacing it with a new two-inch asphalt overlay.

**Essential Emergency Preparedness meetings planned**

Hosted by our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), a number of meetings are planned so that residents have an excellent opportunity to learn simple yet important ways to assist your family and neighbors in emergency situations.

Meeting Schedule:

• Saturday, February 8th | 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Location: Vineland Library Community Room

• Thursday, February 13th | 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Location: Santa Teresa Library Community Room

• Thursday, February 20th | 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Location: Almaden Community Center, Room 3

**Community Preparedness Tabletop Exercise**

The City of San José Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Bay Area Urban Areas Security Initiative (BAUASI) invite you to a Community Preparedness Tabletop Exercise on Thursday, February 6, 2025, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM at the San Jose Fire Training Facility, Emergency Operations Center

This exercise is a valuable opportunity for community and emergency management partners to collaborate with public safety agencies on disaster preparedness, response, and recovery strategies.

Schedule:

• Registration: 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM  
• Exercise: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Registration:

• Register using this link or scan the QR code on the attached flyer.

Target Audience:

• Emergency Management Professionals  
• Local Government Officials  
• Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster  
• Community Leaders/Representatives

• Community-Based Organizations  
• Local Non-Profits  
• Faith-Based Organizations

Additional Details:

• Lunch and light refreshments will be provided to all registered participants.

Questions? Contact Alvin Galang: [alvin.galang@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:alvin.galang@sanjoseca.gov).

**Mr. Peabody's**

The Most Powerful Green Cleaning On the Planet



Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning

Complete Carpet Cleaning,  
Stone Polishing and Repair

**(408) 444-9437**

Serving Almaden Valley Since 1995



\$1,788,000

1028 Mcfarland Ave., Pacific Grove  
3 Beds 2 Baths 1,788 Sq.Ft.

**Call for your  
Private Showing**

Welcome to this beautifully updated single-level home in the heart of Pacific Grove. Offering 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and plenty of modern upgrades, this move-in ready home is perfect for those looking to enjoy the relaxed coastal lifestyle. You'll Love this Freshly Remodeled home: Everything has been done for you, from brand-new windows and sleek kitchen and bath updates to stylish luxury vinyl plank floors throughout. Bright & Modern: Enjoy recessed lighting and a new furnace to keep things cozy year-round. Plus, a tankless water heater means endless hot water on demand. The open layout maximizes space and light, creating a welcoming atmosphere throughout.



**Annette Boggs**  
**REALTOR®/ FOUNDER**  
**831-601-5800**  
**Pacific Grove, CA 93950**  
DRE # 01317801



\$1,575,000

5041 Sunset Vista Dr., Seaside Highlands  
4 Beds 2.5 Baths 3,399 Sq.Ft.

**Call for your  
Private Showing**

This stunning home in Seaside Highlands is a true gem! With its warm colors and corner lot, you'll enjoy the largest outdoor space in the subdivision at 13,900 sq. ft. perfect for entertaining. The yard features numerous fruit trees, including apple, pear, lemon, apricot, peach, and fig, providing a delightful, fresh harvest. Inside, the main floor boasts gorgeous travertine flooring and plenty of windows that fill the space with natural light. The layout includes 4 spacious bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms, with the primary bedroom conveniently located downstairs. The dining room area is sure to hold the entire family and friends at the dinner table. Plus, there are two dedicated office spaces for all your work-from-home needs. With low HOA fees and RV parking, this home offers both comfort and convenience. Don't miss out on this perfect blend of indoor and outdoor living!



**Above  
and Beyond**  
REAL ESTATE

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



Tiny homes

*Continued from page 4*

making sure that we're able to offer them a unit when it becomes available," Mayor Matt Mahan told San José Spotlight.

The housing will have central laundry, private bathrooms and an outdoor picnic area. It will include case management, security and other services to help people transition into permanent housing. The city has not chosen its homeless service provider yet. Once operational, it will cost about \$5 million annually to operate, or \$37,500 per bed.

The Cherry Avenue site is part of the mayor's plan to add 1,000 tiny home beds over the next year to reduce the amount of people living on the streets and along waterways. The city has approximately 500 beds across six tiny home sites.

San Jose has 6,340 unhoused residents, with more than 4,400 of whom are unsheltered, according to Santa Clara County's 2023 biennial count of homeless people. More than 9,900 people are homeless countywide and nearly 4,300 households experienced homelessness for the first time last year — a 24% increase from 2022 — according to county data.

After the Cherry Avenue location is up and running, a no encampment zone will be enforced from Blossom Hill Road to Branham Lane.

"Two years ago, I stepped into this office and pledged that the city of San Jose is going to end the era of encampments," Mahan said at the presser. "We in government have a responsibility for building basic dignified shelter, interim housing and treatment centers... when they're available, people have a responsibility for coming indoors and taking advantage of those services."

Symphony San Jose receives \$1 million for group's endowment from patron Ann Brown

By William Bellou  
Publisher

San Jose Symphony has announced it has received the largest donation in its 23-year history. The million-dollar bequest came from longtime patron Ann Brown.

Ann Brown, a devoted patron who passed away in 2024. She was a loyal supporter of the Symphony for more than a decade, often attended concerts with her close-knit group of girlfriends, who continue to attend in her honor.

"Ann's extraordinary generosity will have a profound and lasting impact on Symphony San Jose," said Executive Artistic Director Robert Massey. "These funds will greatly bolster our endowment, which provides a foundation of steady income used to support our concerts, community initiatives, and education programs for generations to come."

Brown grew up in San Mateo and worked for Four-Phase Systems, a Cupertino computer company acquired by Motorola in the early '80s, and later for Apple.

She attended symphony concerts at the California Theatre with a group of her friends, Massey said, and would sit with them in the balcony. She especially enjoyed seeing the younger, diverse crowds brought in by the concerts that featured movies with the orchestra performing the score live.

"This extraordinary gift underscores Ann's deep commitment to Symphony San Jose and its mission to enrich the community through the power of music," Massey said.

Her friends, Massey added, plan to continue to attend concerts as a tribute to her — and they were there as a tribute to Brown at last weekend's concert program highlighted by Igor Stravinsky's "Firebird Suite."



Are you prepared for a fire, flood, earthquake, or long power outage?

ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Vineland Library Community Room  
Saturday, February 8 | 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Santa Teresa Library Community Room  
Thursday, February 13 | 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Almaden Community Center - Room 3  
Thursday, February 20 | 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Learn simple but critical ways to help your family and neighbors in an emergency situation.



For more info, contact:  
district10@sanjoseca.gov or 408-535-4910

# FOOTPRINT MASSAGE

**Phone: 669-300-6133**  
**Book online: footprintmassage.com**  
**2003 Story Road, Ste. 800, San Jose**

The benefits of massage are varied and far-reaching. As an accepted part of many physical rehabilitation programs, massage therapy has also proven beneficial for many chronic conditions, including low back pain, arthritis, bursitis, fatigue, high blood pressure, diabetes, immunity suppression, infertility, smoking cessation, depression, and more. And, as many millions will attest, massage also helps relieve the stress and tension. We have a professional female/male masseur to solve your physical confusion for you.

Muscle relaxation  
Relieve systemic tension and stress  
Relieve fatigue and soreness

*Grand opening*

Nice!

Thanksgiving Christmas  
\$5 Discount for any item

The Almaden Senior Association Members are a diverse group of enthusiastic active adults 50+ who enjoy new learning opportunities, new experiences, and new adventures. Join us today. Meet new people and get involved with classes and programs that will enhance your life and open new doors.

Membership in the Almaden Community Center offers opportunities...

- Exercise Classes for all levels & abilities.
- Lunch events with entertainment run by members of the association.
- Trips to local and not so local places of interest.

Stop by the front desk at the Almaden Community Center and fill out an application. Membership is free. Membership includes a copy of our monthly newsletter and discounts on classes through San Jose PRNS.

Please see our newsletter at <https://almadenseniors.org> then click on Newsletter for additional events, trips and classes. Visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/almadenseniors> for regular updates.

Social Media:  
Website: <https://almadenseniors.org>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/almadenseniors>

**Almaden Senior Association**  
at the Almaden Community Center  
6445 Camden Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120



Times **Local News**

## Veterans

*Continued from page 1*

San José Spotlight saw what appeared to be bed bug stains or shells on a mattress that had to be discarded. Veterans said they've told Abode staff about all the issues, but the nonprofit is unresponsive to their needs.

A representative with Abode declined to comment and deferred all questions to the county.

Deputy County Executive Director Consuelo Hernández said since acquiring the building more than a year ago, the county has done some major repairs, including fixing fire sprinklers, installing electric HVAC systems, repairing electrical systems and pumping standing water out of a community room basement. She said this year, the focus is on making interior fixes, including mold remediation and bathroom repairs.

"We received the complaint about the hot water, and then it was fixed. The team is also exploring the root cause of these issues since it does not appear to be an issue with



Santa Clara County purchased the 10 Kirk Ave. property that houses veterans in November 2023. Piping, heat, air conditioning and mold remediation in some buildings have been addressed. But veterans remain in unhealthy conditions. Photo by Joyce Chu.

the water heater itself," Hernández told San José Spotlight. "Our internal county team and Abode both confirmed that there have been no calls for bed bugs. There is work happening right now with the buildings, including getting our bids for the mold remediation."

Hernández had no response to why the veterans living in a building with mold haven't been relocated into one of the buildings that's been upgraded.

When Goodwin ran the property, two veterans who lived on the property made savory home cooked meals for them. They had a salad bar with 10 different dressings, and a dessert table filled with cake, pies, cookies and more. Now, veterans said the food is bland, the rice is undercooked and the vegetables are overcooked to a mush. Lunch is often a sandwich. Some veterans choose to buy their own lunch and dinner, even if it eats into their tight budgets. Others who don't have access to transportation or extra cash choose not to eat. One said he's lost weight as a result.

"Abode was paid half a million dollars for the last three months of (last) year. They're not spending it on food," the veteran told San José Spotlight. "I mean, we have residents that have to go out and buy milk ... just to get milk for break-

# RED DOG SHRED



RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL BUSINESS PAPER SHREDDING

DROP-OFF SHREDDING SERVICE

WATCH IT SHRED!

RECYCLE  
ELECTRONICS

MULTI MEDIA



65 Gallon Container

PAPER SHREDDING

\$10.00 PER BOX

10"x12"x15"

HARD DRIVE  
SHREDDING

## JUNK IT!



Executive Console

RED DOG  
SHRED  
PICKS UP

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

WWW.REDDOGSHRED.COM

408-377-2925

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



Black mold can be seen in Carl Koprek's bathroom. He says his eyes have a burning sensation and it's hard to breathe whenever he's in his room. Photo by Joyce Chu.

fast. It's just like a lack of respect. They don't care."

The county initially set aside \$668,174 for Abode to provide services from October to December while it waited for a contract with the Veterans Administration to be finalized, as the VA would typically fund services for veterans. That contract still hasn't been finalized, so the county has extended its contract with Abode until March under the same budget.

Hernández told San José Spotlight last October that the contract with the VA has been awarded, but is pending inspections of the site. Hernandez could not comment on why the VA contract has still not been finalized.

District 3 Santa Clara County Supervisor Otto Lee, who served 28 years in the U.S. Navy, told San José Spotlight he's working on getting the immediate issues, like lack of WiFi and cable television, resolved. He said he's looking into why veterans living in rooms with mold and experiencing hot water issues haven't been moved into the renovated buildings.

"Some of the buildings are perfectly good to go," Lee told San José Spotlight. "Why don't we move all the folks there as much as they can?"



STANFORD  
BLOOD CENTER

# BLOOD DRIVE

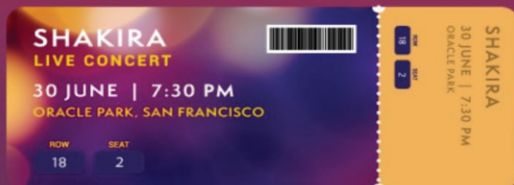
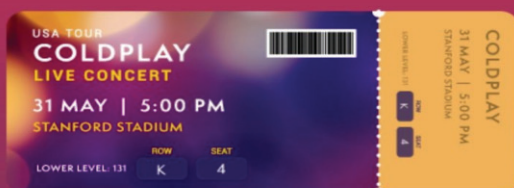
Dignity Bay Area Community Blood Drive

Friday, February 21st  
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Oak Hill  
300 Curtner Avenue  
San Jose

Information:  
Karen Carter  
408-792-5806  
Karen.carter@dignitymemorial.com

Appointments:  
sbcdonor.org  
Use QR code



Donate at the drive and get a \$10 e-gift card  
PLUS a chance to win Coldplay or Shakira tickets!

## REAL ESTATE GUIDE



**ASHLEY CARROLL**

CalRE #01947565

**COLDWELL  
BANKER**

**(408) 313-1412**

Ashley.Carroll@cbnocal.com  
www.AshleyCarrollHomes.com



**DEE RAMIREZ**

Realtor Lic. #00683945



**(408) 440-7617**

Dee@DeeRamirez.com  
www.DeeRamirez.com

**REALTORS: YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!**

**STARTING AT \$89 PER ISSUE! Call now to  
place your ad by phone: (408) 494-7000**





# Now Open and Enrolling

## Call for more information

**KinderCare®**  
LEARNING CENTERS

**Virtual Tours  
Available**

**1081 Foxworthy Avenue,  
San Jose, CA 95118**

**(408) 265-7380**

**www.Kindercare.com**





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



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

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

## Almaden Times

Serving the community since 1986

Times Media, Inc.

■ Almaden Times

■ Evergreen Times

■ Willow Glen Times

Source: University of North Carolina School of Media & Journalism

## How prepared is San Jose for disaster?

By Matt Mahan

I know our hearts go out to those who have been impacted by the catastrophic fires in LA. The scale of these fires means many of us know someone who has had their entire life thrown into utter chaos overnight. Witnessing this devastation makes us wonder – how prepared are we for a disaster of this magnitude? Specifically, what more can we do to prevent wildfire and protect lives and property if one breaks out? These questions have been front and center in my mind these last two weeks. The LA fires are both a poignant reminder of the risks we face here in California and an opportunity for us to conduct an assessment of our emergency preparedness efforts, particularly focused on fire risk, which has only increased over time. We generally can't predict when or exactly where the next natural disaster will hit, but we can make sure we've done everything in our power to reduce risks, mitigate impacts and save lives. To that end, I've had many conversations with our City Manager Jennifer Maguire in recent days about our shared commitment to keeping San Joseans safe and what else we can do to increase our preparedness. Thanks to voters' support for Measure T and the hard work for city staff, much important work has been done in recent years to improve community safety, including the construction of a new state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Center, three new fire stations (one of which is already operational), disaster worker training for nearly our entire workforce, updates to evacuation plans, tabletop exercises with key stakeholders, additional vegetation management in high-risk areas like Alum Rock Park, and continued funding for the CERT program, among other investments. But we can always do more. And the truth is—we can never be too prepared. As we approach budget season and define how our limited dollars will be spent over the next year, I've asked the Administration for an assessment of our current level of wildfire preparedness and recommendations for improvement. Specifically, I've asked for this analysis to include a look at our shared public and private-partner obligations related to: vegetation management near the wildland-urban interface (WUI), including how we are educating and ensuring private property owners follow best practices; water availability and testing of hydrant capacity and pressure; the number of acres of brush in the WUI abated every year compared against the estimated need to create sufficient defensible space; the adequacy of evacuation plans for high-risk areas; roles and responsibilities of partner agencies in responding to wildfires; opportunities to secure State and Federal funding to augment our efforts both as a City and as part of the County; investments we could make in the coming years to further strengthen our readiness; and ways in which our community can actively participate in safeguarding their homes and preparing for emergencies. We'll share this analysis with you, and I'll use it to guide my annual budget message, which outlines our priorities for the coming fiscal year. While we work on that analysis, I want to thank our brave San Jose firefighters who made the long journey down to LA to protect fellow Californians in their moment of crisis. We provide this mutual aid with the knowledge that in our moment of need neighbors from across the state will do the same. I was honored to stand beside our City Manager and Fire Chief to welcome our firefighters home.



From the Mayor  
Matt Mahan  
Mayor, San Jose

One Step Closer Therapeutic Riding presents

## G.R.I.T.

An Equine-Assisted-Learning Program for Women

SELF-CONFIDENCE

RESILIENCE

LIFE SKILLS

SAFE BOUNDARIES

*"It is deeply healing to tap into the power of the centuries old bond between horse and human. It's truly profound that our two species, with such diametrically different views of predator vs prey, can come together in partnership and trust. I feel privileged to have the opportunity to learn what these incredible teachers have to offer us." - GRIT Participant*

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  
[one.step.closer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:one.step.closer@sbcglobal.net) 408-778-3567

# Almaden RV

## SERVICE & REPAIR

### 408-289-9442

## Total RV Repair Service

### Complete Parts Service & Repair

SAN JOSE, CA



# Times Classifieds



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

## Buy/Sell

**I Buy Comic Books.**  
Cash Paid. Alex  
(408) 393-1385

## Employment

### LOGISTICS SPECIALIST

Analyze logistics operations. Bachelor's in International Trade related. \$62421/yr, Pumpyang Shipping America Inc., 3494 Depot Rd, Hayward, CA 94545

## Jewelry

### M & L Jewelers

Jewelers & Watch Repair  
Ring sizing - Watch bands  
Watch batteries - Engraving  
Stone replacement & More!

Ask about our exclusive watch battery warranties!

**(408) 270-6080**

3218 S. White Rd. San Jose, CA  
Mon.-Fri. 10am-7pm, Sat. 10am-5pm

## Painting

**SPRING SPECIALS!**  
Call us for details  
**LOOK!!!**  
**FREE!!!**

**Free Window Cleaning w/ Ext. Paint Job!**

**Free Pressure Wash w/Ext. Paint Job!**

**Free Estimate & Color Consultation w/Job!**

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

We'll Beat Any Reasonable Price!

30+ Years Experience

CA. ST. LIC #651686

Insured & Bonded

TEL: (408) 281-7500

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



## Mausoleum Crypt for sale

### Reflections Mausoleum

For sale 254C double crypt in the beautiful Reflections Mausoleum at Los Gatos Memorial Park. The crypt is a perfect location, just above eye level. Price: 29,500. The Cemetery will make all transfers. (408) 455- 8696 Tony Ranieri; OneGolfingWino@gmail.com

## Shoe Repair

**ANDY'S SHOE REPAIR**  
**408-270-0850**

**No Shoe is Ever Too Old!**

**Hours:**

**Mon-Fri**  
**9:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**Saturday**  
**9:30 am - 4:00 pm**

2850 Quimby Rd. Suite 100 • 270-0850

## Gutter Cleaning/Roof Repair

## GUTTER CLEANING AND ROOF REPAIR SPECIAL



Only \$89 for local professional GUTTER CLEANING.

And MINOR ROOF REPAIR only \$89. Experts in

Roof Restoration and Home Maintenance.

Local Willow Glen Resident. **Call Daniel (408) 771-8814.**



### LIVING HOPE APOSTOLIC MIN- ISTRIES

<https://www.livinghopeam.org>  
2650 Aborn Rd.  
San Jose, CA 95135  
(408) 592-7562  
Pastor Shelia Sapp  
"Bible Study" (Group Study Room) every Saturday at 12:00pm  
OUR MISSION: Evangelizing our community and the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. OUR MINISTRY: Training ministers on how to use their love for God to reach those in need of His love. OUR PASSION: Transforming lives within our community with God's love.

### EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

6581 Camden Ave.  
San Jose, CA 95120.  
The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector  
Phone: 408-268-0243  
Web: [www.ecc-sj.org](http://www.ecc-sj.org)  
At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellow-

ship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, loved, valued and empowered to serve. Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family.



### EVERGREEN ISLAMIC CENTER (EIC)

<http://www.eicsan-jose.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 your family". Please visit our website to learn more.

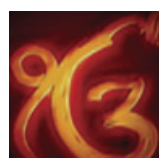


### GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN

[www.GraceChurchEvergreen.Com](http://www.GraceChurchEvergreen.Com)  
408-274-1200  
See you on Facebook.  
2650 Aborn Rd at Kettmann, across from the Public Library.  
Serving Evergreen for over 55 years.  
John Goldstein Pastor.  
[john@GraceChurchEvergreen.com](mailto:john@GraceChurchEvergreen.com). Christian worship every Sunday at 11am. Together we build better lives and a better community.  
Music Institute  
(408) 791 7772. After School Piano, Violin, Other classical Instruments.  
PreSchool, Ages 2-6  
Caring for your child with God's love and affection.  
Check our website for current activities.

**HOLY SPIRIT  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Faith.Knowledge. Community - this is our

promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office.



*God is One*  
**ੴ ਇਕ ਹੈ**  
**Rab Ik Hai**

**SAN JOSE  
GURDWARA**  
3636 Gurdwara Ave.  
San Jose, CA 95148

The word Sikh (see-kh) means "disciple" or "student." A Sikh is a practitioner of the faith founded in the 15th century by Guru Nanak in Punjab of old British India. A Guru who is a "teacher" or "enlightener" completes the relationship of teaching and learning. Sikhism is monotheistic and stresses the equality of all men and women. Sikhs believe in three basic principles; meditating on the name of God (praying), earning a living by honest means and sharing the fruits of one's labor with others. Currently there are close to one million Sikhs living in the USA and Canada and 25 million Sikhs living around the world. Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world. At the Gurdwara (House of God) in San Jose we welcome all. We pray daily for peace and prosperity for everybody in the world. Come to visit and enjoy Langer (food) in our kitchen which is open 365 days of the year and serves complementary vegetarian meals. We also encourage you to enter our history room

on site and walk the beautiful grounds. Learn more about us and community events we sponsor by visiting our website; <http://www.SanJose-Gurdwara.org>

### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

5111 San Felipe Rd.,  
San Jose, CA 95135  
408-223-1562.  
[www.stfrancisofassisi.com](http://www.stfrancisofassisi.com)  
or [www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org](http://www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org)  
We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr. High, IGNITE - High School and North Star - Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor

and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations:  
St. Francis of Assisi Chapel: Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass  
St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall  
Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM  
Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road  
Sunday 9:30 AM  
The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium) Sunday

8:15 AM  
For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!



**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](mailto:times@timesmediainc.com)**





## **Stay Safe & Warm Winter Package** **only \$175.00, a value of \$380!!**

*Prepare your vehicle for the season with a comprehensive winterization service designed to ensure safety, efficiency, and reliability during colder months. This package includes:*

**Engine Oil & Filter Change** (up to 5 qts. oil)  
Includes Multi-Point Inspection

**Coolant System Inspection & Top off**  
Check for leaks and proper functionality.



**Battery Performance Test**  
Voltage testing and inspection of connections to prevent cold-weather failures.

**Tire Care**  
Pressure check and adjustment.  
Tread inspection for adequate traction in wet conditions.



**Heater and Defroster Check**  
Ensure proper operation for driver comfort and safety.

**Wiper Blades and Windshield Inspection**  
Top off windshield washer fluid.

**Brake and Suspension Inspection**  
Ensure brakes and suspension are winter-ready for maximum safety.



**Bonus:**  
15% off a future service booked within 30 days.

*This package provides peace of mind and ensures your car is equipped for the challenges of winter driving. Would you like to schedule your appointment today?*

**CALL US TODAY 408-477-2242**

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

3519 SAN FELIPE ROAD SAN JOSE, CA. 95135

DISCLAIMER: MOST VEHICLES. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. ONE COUPON PER CUSTOMER, PER INVOICE. NO CASH VALUE. MUST MENTION THIS AD AT TIME OF DROP OFF TO RECEIVE SPECIAL/DISCOUNT. OFFER ENDS 2/28/25