

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!

Enjoy a Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration at Lake Cunningham Park in East San Jose

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Willow Glen *Times*

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Wildfire safety virtual town hall slated for July 10

State Senator Dave Cortese is hosting a virtual town hall on wildfire safety and mitigation on July 10th, 2025, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Seth Schalet, CEO of the Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council, and others will be speaking on actions being taken on the issue of wildfire mitigation. Fire prevention tips on what you can do around your own home to mitigate wildfire risk in your community will be discussed. After the presentation, audience members will be invited to participate in a Q&A with panelists.

A zoom registration link will be sent out to those who RSVP for the event: RSVP LINK: <https://tinyurl.com/45s6ct3f>

For more information, call (408) 723-4154; or email Zach Contini at Zachary.Contini@sen.ca.gov.

San Jose cancels Almaden Lake Park 4th of July festival

By Annalise Freimarck
San José Spotlight

San Jose resident Cathie Bacosa woke up around midnight last year to a fire ravaging her backyard in the neighborhood she's lived in for 28 years. She thinks it was likely from fireworks. It was July 4, and more than 30,000 people had crowded into the small neighborhood to watch the annual Almaden Lake Park fireworks display near her home.

The fire destroyed Bacosa's kitchen and backyard, forcing her and her family to live in a hotel for five months. She's one of dozens of residents glad local officials have canceled the annual fireworks display this year, despite it being the 10th year of the lakeside festivities. The celebration included an afternoon festival and a nighttime fireworks display.

"I'm very fortunate. My family got out," she told San José Spotlight. "We were safe. Our dog was safe, but it's the scariest thing that we've ever had to go through in our lives."

Councilmember George Casey, who represents District 10 where the park is located, announced in a communitywide email Monday that San Jose had canceled the festivities due to safety concerns — and won't utilize the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds as an alternative location.

Casey said emergency officials had a difficult time responding to calls last year due to the crowd and hundreds of cars blocking the streets, including a hillside fire that took three



San Jose officials have canceled Independence Day festivities at Almaden Lake Park due to safety concerns. Photo by Annalise Freimarck.

hours to put out and burned between 5 and 10 acres.

"There are no fiscally responsible options to mitigate the safety concerns this year," Casey said in the email. "Holding a safe event for attendees and surrounding neighbors is of paramount importance and guided our decision to postpone the event while we work to identify a more suitable venue."

San Jose Police Department deferred comment to Casey's office. Casey was not available for comment.

A San Jose Fire Department spokesperson said they didn't have additional comments beyond what Casey's email said.

The annual festival and fireworks also brought foot traffic to local nearby businesses, including Vanshu 24x7 Liquor Store in the Old Almaden Plaza.

Owner Sumit Maan said his liquor store always gets an Independence Day boost as people flock to the area to celebrate. He's worried about the dip in business he may see due to this year's cancelation, but said safety must be the priority. He'd like to see it come back to

Almaden Lake Park in the future if the event can be better contained.

"If the San Jose Police Department and other communities participate and they're managed good, then we will be happy," Maan told San José Spotlight.

"The last couple of years, we saw there is no good management (of the event)."

San Jose is still hosting other fireworks shows on July 4, including one with a waterfront view at Lake Cunningham Park on the East Side. Other cities, including Sunnyvale, are experimenting with drone shows that limit fire risk.

Michael Ross, a lead communications volunteer with neighborhood group Almaden Valley Community Association, said it's a shame the show had to be canceled because he enjoyed it every year. But he understands the risks outweigh the benefits.

"The fact that it's not going to be held is disappointing, as I'm sure it is to many people," Ross told San José Spotlight. "Everybody likes fireworks, especially good ones, big ones — not wildfire-starting fireworks."

San Jose bans homeless people renting RVs

By Sean Eastwood
Times staff writer

The San Jose City Council voted 9-1 last week to approve the "vanlording" policy to ban advertising and renting out of RVs to homeless residents. The new law's intent is to discourage the use the recreational vehicles as homes.

The new law, which goes into effect in August, prohibits individuals in RVs from parking and sleeping on city streets and private property. District 2 Councilmember Pamela Campos was the sole "no" vote.

The policy comes on the heels of the city's RV tow-away zones program. San Jose plans to select

up to 30 temporary tow-away zones and 10 permanent sites to clear RVs for street sweeping and cleanup. Implementation is scheduled for this year.

RVs parked in front of businesses on Kruse Drive in San Jose. *San Jose Spotlight file photo.*



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Career (Re) Calibration: 1 in 3 of California's young workers are ditching big cities to get ahead

For years, rural states have watched their young people leave. The promise of better jobs, bigger paychecks, and busier lives in cities like New York or LA pulled many away. But now, something's shifting.

A survey by YourFreeCareerTest, a career test platform, involving more than 4,000 young people, from smaller towns and rural areas, found growing signs that big-city ambition isn't what it used to be.

Whether it's the rise of remote work, a desire to stay near family, or just not wanting to trade space for stress, more and more are choosing to stay put.

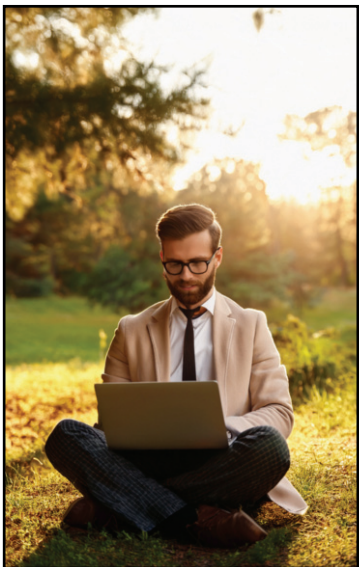
Staying Put, On Purpose

The headline stat? 39% of young people living in rural or small-town California now say they want to build their careers where they already are. The idea that you need to uproot your life to "make it" is clearly losing ground in the Golden State. In Iowa, a staggering 86% said they wouldn't move to climb the career ladder.

Remote Work: Game Changer

When asked whether remote work had changed how they think about where to live:

- 65% said they were more likely to stay in, or move to, a smaller town.
 - 35% said they were less likely. That's a big swing. Jobs that once required a move to the city can now be done from a quiet house with a yard, and that matters.
- What Really Matters Now?**
- When it came to ranking career priorities, only 2% of young people said being in a major city was the most important factor.
- Here's what topped the list instead:
- Flexibility and work-life balance: 38%
 - Earning potential: 24%
 - Being near family or community: 20%
- Leadership opportunities, creative fulfillment, and prestige were all further down the list. Today's career goals look a lot less like "corner office in Manhattan," and more like "decent pay, no burnout, and a life I don't need to escape from."
- Same Pay, Different Place?**
- The survey posed a simple question: 'If every job paid the same, where would you live?'
- 28% said a rural or nature-filled area.



- 24% chose a large city.
 - 24% preferred a smaller, up-and-coming city.
 - 24% would stay in their current hometown.
- That near-even split shows something deeper: ambition isn't gone - it's just been redistributed.
- Redefining Success**
- Asked what "success" looks like, the most popular response wasn't a high-rise office or a company car.
- 44% said running their own business in their hometown
 - 36% wanted the freedom to

work from anywhere

- Only 20% chose to lead a company in a major coastal city

What Would Make You Stay?

When asked what might convince them to stay local long-term:

- 39% said a strong remote job opportunity.
- 35% wanted a supportive local community.
- 27% pointed to visible career growth.

And while the classic question of "big fish or small pond?" still divides people, a slight majority - 57% - would still rather be a small fish in a big pond.

Homegrown Ambition: CEO Dreams Go Local

In a fun twist, the survey asked respondents: 'If you could be the CEO of any company, which would you pick?'

Many didn't name Wall Street titans or Silicon Valley startups. They picked companies in their own backyard.

In California, young people dreamed of running Google, Apple and Stanford University.

Article courtesy of YourFreeCareerTest: <https://www.yourfreecareertest.com/blog/gen-z-career-ambitions-study-2025>

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Times Remembrance

IN MEMORY

Alfred Ferrari

June 14, 1929 – May 27, 2025
Resident of Willow Glen

Alfred Attilio Ferrari passed away peacefully at his home on May 27, 2025, at the age of 95. He was born to Attilio Joseph Ferrari and Guiseppina Artemesia Mora on June 14, 1929, in San Jose. He graduated from Bellarmine College Preparatory which his son and grandsons also attended. He earned his bachelor's degree in business from San Jose State University.

At 15, Al started working at Eggo Foods, now Kellogg's. They continue to produce their famous waffles in San Jose. He was drafted into the Army in 1951, and served in Ft. Belvoir, Virginia. He returned to Eggo, becoming Controller, and he proudly worked there for 40 years.

In 1955, he hired a recent graduate of Heald Business College named Carolyn Berta. They quickly fell for each other, became engaged, and were married. They celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary just before he passed. Family was everything to Al and Carolyn, and they instilled this value in their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

You may have seen Al and his friends at the Le Boulanger in Willow Glen, as they sat at the tables in the corner every morning for over 20 years. Al and Carolyn loved to travel, visiting many countries and almost every U.S. state. For their 50th wedding anniversary, they brought their children and grandchildren to Italy, embracing the family's history and heritage.

Al enjoyed exploring the family's genealogy, and tracing some roots back as far as the 1400's. His first language was the Piedmontese dialect from Northern Italy. He never stopped learning and sharing his heritage. The center of his home was the kitchen, as he and Carolyn frequently prepared favored family meals served at a crowded table. He was a wonderful chef and baker, as was his father for many years. His family will forever remember enjoying his tasty focaccia, feasting on Nonna's recipe for pillowy-soft gnocchi, and hosting the famous family ravioli events which required three days of roasting meat, rolling dough, laughing frequently, and savoring the results!

Al was the beloved husband of 69 years to Carolyn, his best friend and constant companion. He was a most loving father and father-in-law to Stephen, Joan, Teresa, and Ralph. He was Poppie to his grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Rebecca, Miles, Peter, Ashley, Tony, Bridget, Marisa, Nico, Bentley, Amelia, and Ben. He is survived by his sister,



brother, and spouses and many nieces, nephews, and cousins whom he loved and supported over the years. The family is grateful for the love and care provided by his caregivers Mafi, Sally, and Mary.

Al was generous with his time and spirit, always providing a listening ear and friendship to those he encountered. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made in his name to Bellarmine College Preparatory or St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Audrey Jeanette Gilbeau

October 23, 1930 – May 12, 2025
Resident of Willow Glen

Born in Vernon, Texas Walter August Barnes and his wife, Chloe Edna Huff, Jeanette was one of 4 children whose early years were



spent on the family farm. The hardships of the Depression motivated Jeanette to seek a better future. A move to California in her early teens set the stage for what would become a meaningful and prosperous life.

To Jeanette, San Jose was a paradise compared to the Dust Bowl conditions in which she grew up. While completing her secondary education at San Jose High School, she enrolled in a history class taught by famed local historian, Dr. Clyde Arbuckle, who would become her mentor and change Jeanette's life by instilling in her a love of education and inspiring a lifetime passion for both San Jose and California history.

After achieving her teaching credentials at San Jose State College, Jeanette taught primarily fourth grade in the Union School District, first at Vineland Elementary and then at Lone Hill Elementary. Popular with both students and their parents, Jeanette loved being in the classroom engaging her students and sharing her love of history

through animated storytelling especially and unique field trips to local cemeteries and historic sites throughout Santa Clara County. She was famous for her multiplication flashcards, passionate about the California Missions, and fondly remembered for the fun she brought to both teaching and learning inside and outside the classroom.

Jeanette and her husband Ken were generous supporters and benefactors of the San Jose Museum of Art.

Jeanette is survived by her husband of 57 years, Kenneth Gilbeau, her daughter, Janis Lassner, granddaughter, Maren, and son-in-law, Dale. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in her honor to individually favored charities.

Thomas Joseph Logothetti

May 8, 1938 – April 5, 2025

A resident of San Jose, Tom Logothetti was born in Los Angeles

County on Mother's Day, and passed away in San Jose nearly 87 years later. A life-long resident of California, he loved the SF Bay Area, in which he lived for 60 years, but was always faithful to his beloved UCLA Bruins.

Tom was a member of a large, extended and devoted family. He was predeceased by his parents Vin and Flavia, his brother Dave, and his sister Marji. He is survived by his loving wife Sally, his four adored children and their spouses: Janet (Sasa), Sheena (Dan), Chris (Soo), Patrick (Sima); his grandchildren Sae, Natasha, and Maxsun; his dear sisters Sue and Doris; and many nieces, nephews, and fond in-laws. He will be so greatly missed.

Tom held degrees in nuclear physics (UCLA) and sociology (Stanford). He had a particular skill for gathering and interpreting diverse
See REMEMBRANCES, page 6



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Times **Community News**

Best & worst places to raise a family

Families move often for various reasons. In fact, the average American can expect to move an estimated 11.7 times in a lifetime. Moving can be a sign of opportunity, such as a new job or long-term wealth accumulation, but people may also move because of instability such as foreclosure or job loss. During this period of significant inflation, many families might consider moving to a place with a relatively low cost of living.

With families in mind, WalletHub compared more than 180 U.S. cities based on 45 key metrics that consider essential family dynamics, such as the cost of housing, the quality of local school and health-care systems, and the opportunities for fun and recreation.

While not perfect — given personal preferences and the limitations of publicly available data — WalletHub’s findings give movers a better sense of their options.

Top 5 Places to Raise a Family in 2025

1. Fremont, CA
2. Overland Park, KS
3. Plano, TX
4. Irvine, CA
5. South Burlington, VT

To view the complete list, visit <https://wallethub.com/edu/best-cities-for-families/4435>

Remembrances

Continued from page 5
data, and had a long and varied career which included working in the aero-space industry at North American Aviation, and creating quality of life measures at the Stanford Research Institute. For 30 years he developed projections

within the Planning Department and the Office of Budget and Analysis of the County of Santa Clara, where, 45 years ago, he fatefully slipped his birthday information onto the calendar of an unsuspecting co-worker (and future wife) – a simple gesture that would lead to a lifetime of love.

A man of many interests, Tom was an avid fan of the UCLA Bruins, 49ers, Giants, and Warriors. He loved gardening, the beach, classical music, reading, camping. He had a lifelong fascination with etymology, and his capacity for creating puns was legendary. In spite of his predilection for tater tot casserole, meat loaf, and pork n beans, he learned from his foodie family to enjoy a good cup of coffee in the morning, wine, tagliatelle with ragu, French sauces, and the cuisine of many countries. His homemade plum jam was much sought after. He was generous and competitive, especially in playing cards and sports. He faithfully attended Sally’s performances with San Jose Symphonic Choir, and his children’s and grandchildren’s sporting and artistic endeavors.

Although Tom identified with the concept of a glass half empty, he experienced a great deal of happiness from many things, including the natural beauty of beaches and mountains, the pleasure he had in his friends, tonic on his front porch, a good crop of corn and other bounty from his garden. But his greatest love was his family, especially his wife and children.

Because of them, he came to trust in the possibility of a glass half full.

A memorial service was held on June 29 at Stone Church of Willow Glen.

In lieu of flowers, please honor his memory with donations in his name to San Jose Symphonic Choir or to an organization of your choice, or by tossing a memorial stone into the Pacific Ocean.

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San Jose councilmembers push back on pay tied to performance

By Vicente Vera
San José Spotlight

San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan wants to withhold up to 5% of his colleagues' salaries if they fail to meet citywide goals — a policy numerous councilmembers said would come at the expense of already underserved residents.

The "Pay for Performance" policy was introduced as part of Mahan's March budget message after he said City Hall needed to show more accountability in addressing issues such as homelessness and public safety. Councilmembers including Pamela Campos, Domingo Candelas, David Cohen, Rosemary Kamei and Peter Ortiz responded by raising concerns during last month's budget discussions on how the policy could have city leaders chasing popular priorities over communities with specific needs.

The proposal is set for a final City Council discussion on June 10 as part of the 2025-26 budget approval process.

"It's straight out of the toolkit of authoritarian governments where they're trying to quell dissent," Cohen told San José Spotlight. "In a representative democracy where we have 11 elected officials trying to make decisions, every vote shouldn't be unanimous. We should accept the fact that people have different ideas on how to get to the solution."

Cohen said he worries next week's budget discussion will focus mainly on another Mahan policy proposing the city arrest homeless people for refusing offers of shelter — potentially rendering the discussion on Pay for Performance as an afterthought.



San Jose Mayor **Matt Mahan**.
File photo.

"When I was raising what I thought were legitimate questions about whether this really had to come now, or whether we could delay it and have a more thorough discussion, the mayor was very dismissive of that," Cohen said.

Vice Mayor Pam Foley, who co-sponsored Pay for Performance, said it will benefit underserved residents rather than hurt them. She said the city manager will return to councilmembers in September with an analysis of the policy, and potential implementation in the next fiscal year. The most recent proposal disregards Mahan's originally-drafted policy to avoid needing San Jose voter approval.

"In some ways, it heightens the voice of the minority, because it elevates what you're saying to the group of the whole," Foley said at the May 14 Rules Committee meeting. "It's important to know I'm being held to a standard, and to be perfectly honest, this isn't going to affect me because I term out. I'm gone before this affects me at all, but it doesn't mean I don't have a role in the decision."

At the meeting, Mahan said city leaders will be judged annually on focus area scorecards and dash-

boards using the same performance-based compensation model used for city department heads. His policy is similar to Silicon Valley's tech culture, where workers are judged based on merit.

Mahan did not return a request for comment.

If the mayor and councilmembers' collective performance falls below 100% of the adopted targets, 5% of their salaries will be proportionately reduced based on the actual achievement of the prioritized targets.

Pay is currently decided by the four-member Salary Setting Commission, which independently sets salaries for the mayor and councilmembers. The commission sets salaries that are revisited every five years, with the council and mayor receiving annual raises based on cost of living increases — but no more than 5% a year. Councilmembers previously approved their own salaries, but that changed in 2018 when voters approved Measure U. Commissioners are appointed by the city's Civil Service Commission.

The Pay for Performance proposal would supersede the commission's authority. Instead, the commission would receive a yearly report on councilmembers' goals and performances after the report is first reviewed and approved by the council.

"As my colleague Councilmember Cohen recently wrote, 'accountability comes through elections, public hearings, audits and media scrutiny,'" Campos told San José Spotlight. "More exploration is needed to ensure that how we measure success in public service is reflective of the collaboration and leadership needed to bring long-term solutions to the communities we are elected to serve."

Councilmembers George Casey and Michael Mulcahy support the proposal. Casey said many of the performance measures already exist in both the public and private sector.

"There's a level of malaise and apathy folks have towards our political process, and the disconnect they believe exists between local politicians and actual issues that are important to them," Casey said at the meeting. "Demonstrating to them that we have skin in the game hopefully will engender some sort of revitalization or reinvigorate them and let them know that we are serious about the issues that are important to them."

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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.eca-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.

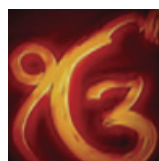
GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN

 Grace Church of Evergreen
EVERGREEN
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. 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 mem-

bers. 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.

SAN JOSE GURDWARA



God is One
ੴ ਸਿਕ ਹੈ
Rab Ik Hai

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.SanJoseGurdwara.org>

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

5111 San Felipe Rd.,
San Jose, CA 95135
408-223-1562.
www.stfrancisofassisi.com
or www.stfrancisofassisi preschool.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!
THE POINT CHURCH
3695 Rose Terrasse Cir
San Jose, CA 95148
(408) 270-7646



thepoint.church

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

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