New executive director excited for this year's Christmas in the Park
SEE PAGE 2



SJ Mayor Mahan expressing doubts of Santa Clara County sales tax measure passing SEE PAGE 8



YOUR BEST SOURCE OF COMMUNITY NEWS FOR OVER SES

Almaden values almadentimes.com August 29 - Sept. 11, 2025 Vol. 38, No. 18 Almadentimes.com August 29 - Sept. 11, 2025 Vol. 38, No. 18



Santa Clara County is facing opposition to its proposed sales tax known as Measure A, including a lawsuit. File photo.

Lawsuit challenges Santa Clara County sales tax measure

By William Bellou

Publisher

anta Clara County's proposed sales tax measure, known as Measure A, is currently encountering legal challenges and opposition from some local municipalities.

The county is seeking voter approval for a five-eighth cent sales tax increase aimed at sustaining public hospitals. However, a lawsuit filed by local libertarians questions the legality of placing this measure on the November 4 special election ballot rather than during a general election.

County representatives state that the proposed tax is one component of their strategy to offset more than \$1 billion in anticipated revenue losses following federal changes under H.R. 1. They expect further service and employment reductions due to decreased federal funding, primarily affecting Medi-Cal, the state's Medicaid program and main source of federal revenue for county health services.

The plaintiffs argue that recent federal spending cuts, identified by county officials as a significant threat to California's second largest public hospital system, do not constitute an emergency requiring a special election.

The lawsuit also requests that references to President Donald Trump and statements about the See SALES TAX, page 2

Kolam meets compassion

How a Leland High School student weaves tradition into community service

By William Bellou
Publisher

reativity, culture and compassion are three words that Leland High School Senior Nainika Srinivasan uses to describe her approach to meeting our community's most pressing needs.



Nainika Srinivasan and Nethra Srinivasan distributing sarees at a women's shelter in India.



Nainika Srinivasan makes kolam-inspired shadow boxes for a fundraiser.

As the founder of the nonprofit Palettes for Change, Nainika channels her creativity and passion to develop initiatives that promote equity and access.

It all began through her work with The NeuroKidz, where she taught neuroscience workshops in an orphanage in India. While guiding students through hands-on lessons, she noticed that many lacked even the most basic school supplies needed to fully engage in learning. "I wanted to help, but I wasn't sure where to start," Nainika said. "So, I started digging deep to find a solution."

Inspiration struck when Nainika began to reflect on the summers she would spend with her grandmother, where she first learned how to create kolams: a traditional art form in which designs are created by drawing curved lines around a series of dots with rice flour to create a pattern. "My grandmother used to tell me that if you learned how to do a kolam, you could solve any kind of problem," Nainika reminicand

Motivated by this teaching, Nainika began to turn this traditional folk-art form into action. See INITIATIVE, page 3

Can Silicon Valley express lanes end traffic congestion?

By B. Sakura Cannestra

San José Spotlight

silicon Valley's transportation agency wants to increase revenues from its highway express lanes, but advocates say they could save more money by strengthening public transit.

VTA serves as Santa Clara County's public transit operator and congestion management agency, overseeing the county's highways as well as its buses and light rail. As the agency grapples with its multiyear budget deficit, officials are looking to diversify its revenue

streams. The board of directors approved an expenditure plan for one segment of express lanes in April, which set aside about \$1 million annually for transit operating costs starting in 2028.

Casey Emoto, VTA chief engineering officer, said the agency has been incrementally installing express lanes on highways across Santa Clara County since 2012, when the agency opened the Highway 237/Interstate 880 express lane interchange.

For most of the highways, the agency is converting existing carpool lanes into express lanes. However, Emoto said they're considering expanding part of Highway 101 to add a second express lane from Dunne Avenue to the San Mateo County border.

"I think there's a lot of benefit to doing it," Emoto told San José Spotlight. "It helps get the money to transit faster than otherwise."

Funding for the project has been spo-



Silicon Valley commuters clog the highway as people travel between work and home. VTA is converting existing carpool lanes into express lanes in an effort to reduce traffic congestion. File photo.

radic, so the lanes are being installed in phases. The next phase includes the interchange between Highways 101 and 85, which Emoto said should be

fully functional in the next two vears.

The agency is working on a strategic plan for the project, See TRAFFIC, page 3



The Almaden Senior Association is 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.

Senior Safari is back this summer.

Visitors ages 50 and up are invited to visit San Jose's iconic Happy Hollow Park & Zoo for free on the 4th Thursday of each month from May to October. The next date is Thursday, September 25th. Get some fresh air and exercise as you enjoy free admission, free parking, early entry to the park, the zoo, animal meet and greets and much more. To get in free, you must arrive

Casino Trip, Graton Casino, Tuesday Sep 16, 2025:
Come Join the Almaden Senior Association at GRATON CASINO
Travel by charter bus from the Almaden Community Center to Graton Casino for a day of gaming, food and fun. Depart the Almaden Community Center, 8am Return around 6:30pm. \$50 Cash or Check. You get \$20 in free play. Contact Rich at 408-219-8641 for more information.

Walt Disney Family Museum/Pier 39, Thursday, October 16, 2025:

Take a bus trip to the Walt Disney Family Museum, at the Presidio, San Francisco. Enjoy learning about the life of Walt Disney and his journey from birth to his first drawings, cartoons, films and the creation of Disneyland. Many static and interactive displays to see and enjoy. Then on to Pier 39 for lunch and shopping on your own before returning home. Depart ACC 8:15am. Return around 4:30pm. \$70 Cash or Check. Contact Rich at 408-219-8641 for more information.

Diwali event, Sunday October 26, 2025: SAVE THE DATE

Celebrate Diwali, Festival of Lights with a menu of traditional Indian fare and entertainment of classical and modern dances. October 26, 2025, 12noon to 3pm. Price \$25 for members, \$28 for non-members. Tickets will go on sale in late September. Contact Narender at 408-623-3106 or Bharat at 408-930-7244 for more information.

For these events and trips, sign up MWF from 8 to 10am in the Almaden Community Center Lobby. Payments are cash or check only, sorry no refunds

Almaden Senior Association

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

https://almadenseniors.org https://www.facebook.com/almadenseniors



Walt Disney Museum

Come enjoy a bus trip to the Walt Disney Family Museum in the Presidio in San Francisco. You will explore and learn about the life of Walt Disney and his journey to creating the Disney company. There are many exhibits to view taking you from his childhood to his first drawings and movies to feature films and the creation of Disneyland. There are many exhibits to see with several interactive displays to enjoy.

After your time at the Disney Museum we will take the bus to Pier 39 for lunch and shopping on your own before returning home.

This will be a day to explore, learn and eat with your fellow Almaden Seniors.

> Date: Thursday October 16,2025 Time: Arrive @ ACC 7:45am, depart 8:15am

Tour the Walt Disney Family Museum from 10am-12pm. Depart Pier 39 at 3:00pm.

Returning to Almaden Community Center around 4:30pm.

Price:\$70.00 cash or check (Sorry no refunds)

Times Community



New executive director excited for this year's Christmas in the Park

By William Bellou

Publisher

hristmas in the Park's new executive director is excited and optimistic about his favorite most beloved event held annually in San Jose.

Ted Lopez is the new nonprofit's executive director after former director Debbie Degutis announced her resignation.

Lopez, a fourth-generation San Josean, says one of his family's annual holiday traditions is to take a photo under the massive tree at Plaza de Cesar Chavez, and he is looking forward to another photo there making sure it remains there for future generations. "We need to save Christmas. That's

the way I look at it," Lopez said.

Lopez has some innovative ideas to promote the annual event and take on the many challenges confronting the organization. He's using his experience working in sales for several sports teams including the San Francisco Giants and the Jacksonville Jaguars where he was vice president of ticketing.

"I'm coming in with a new approach," said Lopez.

Lopez said he is bringing back Christmas in the Park's reindeer mascot, Blinky, and promoting the launch of a new online merchandise store at christmasinthepark. myshopify.com.

"Every time someone buys a Blinky-branded dog bandanna or a Christmas in the Park hoodie dress, the nonprofit makes a little money, and the meter measuring holiday spirit goes up a notch," Lopez explained.

Lopez' main challenge this year is to attract more Silicon Valley companies as sponsors and open up sponsorships of positions at Christmas in the Park where students or interns can get hands-on experience in programming and robotics, improving the animatronic displays while training for careers.

More than 800,000 people walk through Plaza de Cesar Chavez Christmas In the Park displays each year, or visit the illuminated drive-thru, which is becoming a very pop-

Christmas in the park opens this year on November 28 — the opening date also for Blinky's Drive-Thru.



Sales tax

Continued from page 1

tax preventing hospital closures be removed from the ballot language, asserting that Measure A, as a general tax, does not specifically allocate funds for health care. County officials maintain that revenues would support hospital operations since healthcare constitutes a major portion of their expenses.

Brian Holtz, Secretary of the Santa Clara County Libertarian Party and lead plaintiff, indicated that while he does not expect the measure to be entirely blocked, he seeks revisions to the ballot description. He also expressed concerns regarding the timing of the election, suggesting it may influence which voters participate. County Counsel Tony LoPresti responded that the board acted lawfully and will most likely present the county's position in court.

Additional opposition comes from both current and former local leaders, many representing cities where residents are more likely to utilize private healthcare. These opponents contend that the sales tax could disproportionately affect lower-income families, who typically spend a larger share of their income on taxable items, whereas higher-income residents may have means to mitigate this impact through deductions and exemptions.

Three of the four public hospitals in Santa Clara County are located in San Jose, including the area's level I and II trauma centers.

Times Community



Nainika Srinivasan and Nethra Srinivasan with kids at an orphanage in India, holding backpacks and school supplies.

Initiative

Continued from page 1

Painting Kolam-inspired coasters and shadow boxes by hand, Nainika founded Palettes for Change and raised funds to help people in need.

Her first fundraiser, a summer event in 2023, had a resounding response. "I was so nervous that people would think the kolam designs were just squiggly lines and not something meaningful," she shared. Kolam coasters have become a favored gift for celebrations like festivals, housewarmings, and even milestone events.

Nainika's work with Palettes for Change has now raised over \$15,000, and helped fund meals, uniforms, backpacks, and school supplies for orphanages in Chennai, Kathmandu and here in San Jose. She has also donated hand-made cards for skilled nursing and pediatric subacute patients as well as blankets and hygiene kits for the unhoused in the Bay Area, and sarees for widows and battered women in India. To date, Palettes for Change has uplifted over 5.000 individuals in communities around the world.

Nainika has been recognized for her work, receiving a certificate of Special Congressional Recognition and commendations from Senator Dave Cortese, Congressman Jimmy Panetta, and Mayor Matt Mahan, highlighting her passion and inspiring leadership.

The journey wasn't without its challenges. Experimenting to find the right materials to paint with for her handmade coasters, managing and balancing orders with schoolwork, and expanding outreach tested her resilience. Nainika sees an ever-growing potential in kolam as Palettes for Change continues its work to show how merging traditional design with modern problemsolving creates real-world impact.

"I have learned that even the simplest designs have the power to make a big impact in someone's life," Nainika reflects. "This initiative has shown me that art has the power to create change in our world."

Nainika hopes to expand the initiative and reach even more disadvantaged groups in our communities. She is determined to carry forward the simple tradition her grandmother taught her, which has grown into a grassroots organization blending culture, creativity, and advocacy.

To learn more about Palettes for Change, visit palettesforchange.org or email palettesforchange@gmail.com.





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 backvard 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 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/crimeprevention/security-camera-registration

Traffic

Continued from page 1

which was reviewed by the Citizens Advisory Committee and will be presented at a VTA board meeting in October.

While interest in the express lanes has increased due to the revenue potential, they're mainly a congestion management tool. A VTA spokesperson said express lanes decrease travel time by up to 20 minutes during peak

'You're able to move more people to places they want to get to, and this is people driving solo, carpool, van transit (and) motorcycles," Emoto told San José Spotlight.

Those time savings may be coming at the cost of extra congestion for other commuters. Shams Tanvir, an assistant professor of civil engineering and construction engineering management at Long Beach State University Mineta Transportation Institute researcher, said express lanes work in theory by discouraging drivers from traveling during peak hours. In practice, most driving commuters can't choose when to drive, and those who can't pay the toll are stuck in even worse traffic.

Another possible benefit of express lanes is the toll is normally discounted or removed for carpooling drivers. However, Tanvir said the express lane by itself doesn't usually encourage people to carpool, and drivers would need another incentive to make the express lanes more practical.

"It works by discouraging people to drive by increasing the (toll), and who is going to be affected by that? People who are impacted by their wallet," Tanvir told San José Spotlight.

Harry Neil, who sits on the citizens advisory committee, said he doesn't buy into express lanes as the right way to improve congestion or a good revenue stream, especially if VTA expands Highway 101. Research shows expanding highways doesn't reduce traffic, and Neil said greenhouse gas emissions from more traffic go against VTA's climate

He said the funding contribution to public transit isn't worth the negative climate impacts, especially since funds generated have to be used on the corridor where they're generated, per state law. To truly have the county's highway system pay for local transit, he suggested VTA could look into tolling on all highways where there is a reasonable transit alternative.

"If we are serious about our impact on the climate, if we are serious about mode-share shifting people out of single occupancy vehicles and onto transit, then we should be putting in all-lane toll lanes where high quality transit exists," Neil said.

Resource Fair & Walking Course



Friday, October 3, 2025, 9-11 a.m. Almaden Lake Park, Arroyo Picnic Area 5949 Winfield Blvd, San José, CA 95118

This event promotes long, healthy, active lifestyles with a walking course, a contest for prizes, and a resource fair! Free and open to all, no RSVP Limited water & snacks provided. 1mile/30minwalk

IT'S SPOOKY SEASON – WALK IN YOURBESTHALLOWEEN

COSTUME TO WIN PRIZES!

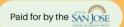
Free parking in Winfield lot.

Hosted by Councilmember George Casey, Vice Mayor Pam Foley, and Councilmember Pamela Campos!









Contact district10@sanjoseca.gov or (408) 535-4910 for info.

Almaden **Times**

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 possible publication to be sent by email to editorial@times-mediainc.com. All submitted materials become the property of Times Media, Inc., and receipt of unsolicited materials cannot be acknowledged. The opinions and viewpoints expressed by guest authors and columnists in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions and viewpoints of the staff and management of the ALMADEN TIMES and Times Media,

Times Local News

California was once a model of transparency

By Dan Walters

alifornia was once a national

leader in requiring public officials to conduct their business—really our business—in public.
Beginning with the Ralph M.
Brown Act of 1953, which imposed strict limits on secret meetings by local governments, California's Legislature adopted several "sunshine bills," as they were dubbed. The Bagley-Keene Act extended the

Brown Act's open meeting requirements to state agencies, while the Public Records Act guaranteed access to all but a few documents state and local agencies maintained.

However, while the Legislature was willing to have the sun shine on others, it largely exempted itself. Thus, "caucuses" could meet behind closed doors to decide the fate of legislation, essentially scripting what would be said in open sessions before voting.

Legislative appropriations com-

mittees could — and did — secretly decide which bills would reach the floors of both houses and just announce the winners and losers without explanation.

At one time, legislative secrecy was kept in check, more or less, by having two political parties and a substantial corps of reporters.

Party leaders could reveal what their rivals were cooking up and reporters could penetrate clandestine deal-making through sources.

However, as California became dominated by one party and the Capitol press corps shrank due to upheavals in media industries, secrecy became more entrenched.

A case in point is the current effort by Gov. Gavin Newsom and Democratic legislators to draw new maps for the state's 53 congressional districts with the aim of capturing enough new seats to offset the Republican gerrymandering of Texas congressional districts. California's new maps are being drafted in secret, a sharp contrast with the months-long public deliberations four years ago of the state's redistricting commission, resulting in the current maps.

Apparently, the new maps will be revealed briefly before the Legislature votes to place them on a November special election ballot. There are no plans to allow them



to be modified before adoption.

What's happening vis-à-vis redistricting is right in line with the Capitol's penchant for doing the public's business in private.

Another example, as CalMatters revealed last year, is an unwritten rule that prohibits legislators from actually discussing changes in their bills during committee meetings, essentially rendering such hearings to meaningless charades.

Still another is the massive project to build a new annex to the Capitol itself. The Legislature has exempted the project from the California Environmental Quality Act and refuses to release details on what is being built or its costs, which appear to be massive, despite the state's chronic multibillion-dollar budget deficits. It has also required people involved in the project to sign non-disclosure pledges to keep

details secret

A pending measure, Assembly Bill 1392, would exempt home addresses of public officials and political candidates from being revealed. While touted as a safety measure, it would make it impossible for journalists to determine whether officials actually live in the districts they represent — something that has popped up numerous times.

Legislators also want to make local government activities less transparent.

One measure now pending in the Capitol, Assembly Bill 699, is the latest of several efforts to allow proponents of local bond measures to omit tax consequences from ballot summaries, but rather place them in voter pamphlets, making them less prominent.

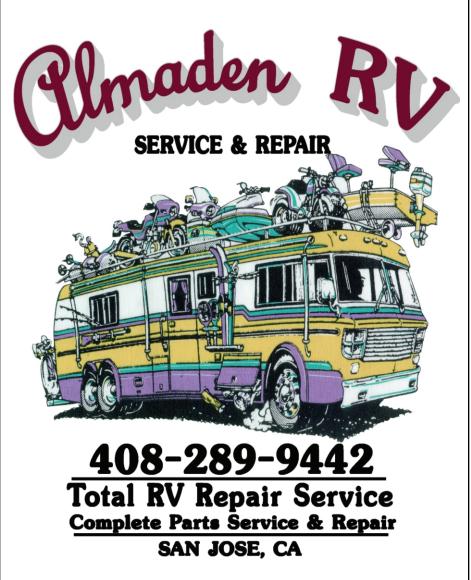
Closing the circle that began with passage of the Brown Act in 1953, Senate Bill 707 would make it easier for some local agencies to conduct their meetings via the internet rather than in person, thus making it easier to mute criticism from the public.

While California's dominant Democrats often accuse President Donald Trump of undermining democracy, their growing desire for secrecy is equally abhorrent.

Dan Walters is a CalMatters columnist.







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@sbcqlobal.net 408-778-3567



650.538.3011 * www.DForDogTraining.com

Result oriented puppy & dog training solutions

Times Local News

Cars in the Park

The largest annual antique and classic auto show in the West

"A Living History Day" at History San Jose Sept. 13

he largest annual antique and classic auto show in the West will take place Saturday, September 13 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The 25th annual Cars in the Park presented by the Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club and History San José will take place on Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event fills History Park (Kelley Park, 693 Phelan Ave, San José, CA) with 200 period-correct through 1949 vehicles, fire equipment, bicycles, and motorcycles of all makes.

Requirements for entering an antique or classic vehicle

There is no registration nor fee required to enter a vehicle. Just bring your antique vehicle to the gate at History Park. All vehicles permitted on the grounds of History Park, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. existed between the late 1800s through 1949 and are period-correct. No vehicle that doesn't meet



these requirements will be allowed on the grounds of History Park during the show.

The featured vehicles this year are Race Cars and Speedsters through 1931.

Also located on the grounds will be the Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association. There will be antique crafts demonstrated and antique collectibles displayed. The Silicon Gulch Dixieland Band will provide music. Listen to The Tonic Trio

Singers singing songs from the '20s and '30s. See toy trains operated, take a trolley ride and see blacksmith demonstrations. Take a photo with an antique auto at the Associated Oil Company Service Station. Activities are provided for kids. Food will be available from food trucks. Ice cream is available at O'Brien's Ice Cream Parlor.

Dennis Mattish, author of six books on the history of auto racing in Northern and Central California will be on hand to give a presentation in the theater on racing in the Bay Area.

Mike Hennessy, owner of Hennessy Automotive and host of The Car Guy Channel will be the announcer for the popular Model T Put-together event.

Please note there is NO alcohol and NO BBQs allowed inside the Park. Dogs on leashes are allowed. These are Park rules and must be followed.

Event activity schedule

12:00 Music by the Silicon Gulch Dixieland Band

1.00 Presentation: Bay Area Auto Racing

2:00 The Tonic Trio Singers

2:30 Model T Put-Together

3:30 Drawing for Door Prizes

Fees:

Adults: \$ 10, Seniors: \$ 8, Children (6 to 12) & HSJ members: \$5. Participants & Children under 6: Free. Adjacent City Parking: \$10.

Symphony San Jose presents 24th seasonopening program Masquerade on Oct. 4 and 5

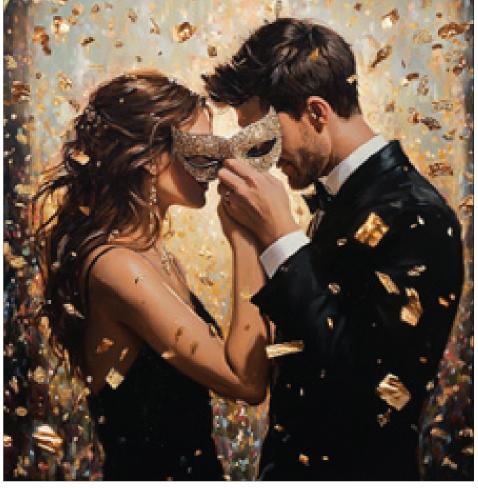
ymphony San Jose's 24th season-opening program invites the public into a world of fantasy and wild imagination. Don your mask and immerse yourself in the music and beauty of three iconic masterpieces.

Symphony San Jose will present the 2025-26 Season-Opening Program *Masquerade* Saturday, October 4 at 7:30pm and Sunday October 5, at 2:30 p.m. at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San Jose.

Anna Clyne's dazzling and dynamic Masquerade captures the spirit of celebration and revelry. Commissioned by the British Broadcasting Corporation, Masquerade is a single-movement 5-minute orchestral com-



Jon Nakamatsu



position by the British-born composer, first performed September 7, 2013

San Jose-born, world-renown pianist Jon Nakamatsu appears in Sergei Rachmaninoff's ravishing Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini with a tour-de-force performance of the composer's final and perhaps most significant work for piano and orchestra. (1934)

Hector Berlioz's most famous composition, Symphonie Fantastique (Fantastic Symphony), is a spellbinding quasi-autobiographical musical journey through love, delirium, and supernatural visions. This vibrant tapestry of sound depicting the composer's descent into madness by unrequited love was nothing short of revolutionary when it premiered in 1830 – and still holds the power to thrill and surprise today.

Music Notes occur one hour prior to the

concert in the main auditorium and includes an informative discussion, fun facts, insights, and interviews with featured guests. Music Notes is free of charge to concert ticket holders. It is designed to deepen audiences' appreciation of the music to be featured during the performance.

THE PROGRAM:

Anna Clyne: Masquerade

Sergei Rachmaninoff: Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini

Hector Berlioz: Symphonie Fantastique ARTISTS

Conductor: Nathan Aspinall

Piano: Jon Nakamatsu

Symphony San Jose

www.symphonysanjose.org/ SINGLE TICKET PRICES: \$35 to \$115 (City

and handling fees may apply.)

TICKETS: Phone: 408.286.2600; Website: www.symphonysanjose.org

Email: jmeyers@symphonysanjose.org; Walk-Up Box Office: 325 South First Street, San Jose, 95113. Located between San Carlos and San Salvador Street next to the California Theatre. Ticket Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 10am to 5 p.m. SPECIAL DIS-COUNTED YOUTH TICKETS: SoundCheck Pass: \$25 for a season pass to all eight regular season concerts on Saturday nights. Available for ages 17 to 25. Call 408.286.2600 $for additional \, information. \, Sound Check \, Pass$ subscribers are eligible to purchase one "companion" ticket (no age limit) for just \$25 per concert. Call the Box Office for additional information and reservations. 408.286.2600 or email: Development@symphonysan-

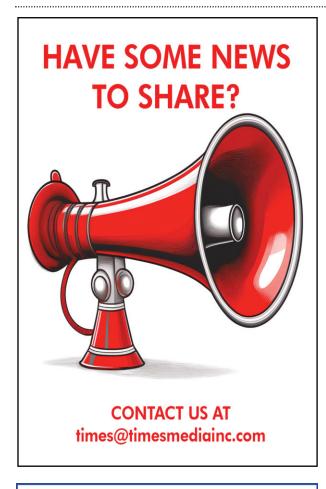
Convenient, inexpensive parking is available at a city-owned garage one-and-a-half blocks from the theater at San Carlos Street with entrances on Second and Third streets.

SPECIAL OPENING-NIGHT EVENT: Masquerade Fantastique begins with a red-carpet welcome and an exclusive VIP pre-concert reception with distinguished guests from San Jose's government, business, and media communities. The historic California Theatre will provide the perfect backdrop as you enjoy fine wine, delicious food, and live entertainment.



Nathan Aspinall

Times Local News





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



Times Advertising Works!

Call (408) 494-7000 for more information or rates.





Season opener

Opera San José will open its 2025-26 season with Mozart's lighthearted and comedic "Così Fan Tutte," Sept. 14–28, 2025 at the California Theatre. Seen here in OSJ's 2017 production (from L to R) are **Colin Ramsey, Cassandra Zoe Velasco, Amanda Kingston,** and **David Blalock.** The new production allows the audience to choose the ending at every performance. In this dazzling new take, director Alek Shrader keeps all the wit, romance, and razor-sharp humor of Mozart's beloved comedy—but hands the fate of its lovers over to the crowd.



AN AWARD-WINNING LEARNING CENTER IN SAN JOSE



- Reading Comprehension
- Writing & Grammar
- Public Speaking & Debate
- Mathematics
- Logic & Critical Thinking
- Competitive Debate
- HSPT, PSAT & SAT Test Prep
- Study Skills for Academic Success
- Test-Taking Strategies

Visit: SCAASanJose.com for the complete schedule of camps & classes!



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

Academic Courses!
Grades K - 12
*Online & In-Person
Now Enrolling!
2025/26 School Year
Courses!

(408)839-5905



Times Local News



At a recent town hall. San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan questioned how Santa Clara County has the capacity to operate such a large health care system. File

SJ Mayor Mahan expressing doubts of Santa Clara County sales tax measure passing

By William Bellou

Publisher

anta Clara County's decision to raise sales taxes will most likely result in a Showdown between centrist San Jose Mayor for California's most progressive Board of Supervisors.

Although Mahan has yet to state his position on Santa Clara County's proposed fiveeighths cent sales tax increase measure, which county supervisors are asking voters to approve in the Nov. 4 special election. They argue the general tax increase will help keep California's second largest public health care system alive amid massive federal spending cuts.

The question remains, can county leaders work through their differences with Mahan and secure his support asking voters to approve increasing taxing to provide annual revenues of more than \$300 million through 2031.

Mahan may soon express his own ideas of how the funds should be spent, if at all. He has made it clear in the past that Santa Clara County leaders aren't doing enough to help his city solve its homelessness, mental health and substance use crisis.

Mahan has argued that San Jose spends more than surrounding cities on the homelessness issue. He is unhappy about the County ending a program that allowed police to respond to mental health emergencies, and he is expressing doubts that the county can effectively run the county's four public hospitals and 15 health clinics.

"I personally don't know that the county can run four public hospitals. Our county's got almost as many public health public hospital beds under management as the county of Los Angeles," Mahan said at an Aug. 8 town hall with District 2 Supervisor Betty Duong. "I don't know if that's sustainable."

Michael Elliott, executive director of nonprofit Valley Health Foundation, said he is "optimistic Mahan can come to their corner." "Public safety is obviously important to the mayor, so closing a hospital is an unacceptable risk to public safety."

Three of the county's four hospitals are located in San Jose, including the county's level I and II trauma centers.

Anti-tax organizers in Silicon Valley are planning a major campaign against the county measure.

Atlas Trillo

Unbeatable **Savings on HVAC Services!**

Schedule Soon & Save Up to \$2000!

- Free Estimates and Second Opinions for New Heating and Cooling Systems
- Many Payment Options to choose from
- Service Available Seven Days a Week
- Licensed and Professional Technicians



Cooling or Heating System Tune Up

Price valld for one working unit. Evoludes oil fired systems. Valid at participating ARS® Network locations. Not valid for third party, new construction, or commercial customers, with any other offers, discounts, or on prior sales. Call service center for details. Coupon required at time of service. Void if copied or transferred and where prohibited. Any other use may constitute fraud. Cash value S.001. Offer expires 6/30/2025. License may constitute fraud. Cash value S.001. Offer expires 6/30/2025. License may constitute fraud to the commercial commercial control of the commercial control of the commercial control of the commercial control of the control of the commercial control of the control of the

on a New Cooling and Heating System with our Buy Back Program!

sales. Call service center for details. Coupon required at time of service. Void if copied or Offer expires 6/30/2025. License numbers available at americanresidential.com/licenses. "Operating in the state of California as Greenstar Home Services License #: 795556, RighTime Home Services License #: 765074, Beutler Air Conditioning and



THANK YOU

for being a longtime reader of this paper

We appreciate your continued support of our local journalism.

Almaden Times







Have a fun day at Graton Casino

Tues, September 16, 2025 Date:

Arrive: 7:30 am Depart: 8:00 am

Return: 6:30 pm (estimated) Cost: \$50.00 Cash or Check Receive: \$20 Slot or \$15 Match Play



*

Sign up M,W,F 8-10 am in the lobby of the Almaden Community Center

If you have questions, contact, Rich @ 408-219-8641 or Donna @ 408-266-4938

Play slots



*

Relax & eat





l'imes Classifieds

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, **Pumyang 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!

(408) 270-6080

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

Painting

SPRING SPECIALS! Call us for details 100 K

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



Mausoleum Crypt for sale

Reflections Mausoleum

For sale 254C double crypt in the beautiful Refections 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



No Shoe is Ever Too Old!

Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday

9:30 am - 4:00 pm

350 Quimby Rd. Suite 100 • 270-085

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

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.



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.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.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 your family" Please visit our website to learn more.



GRACE CHURCH OF

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 Instru-

ments. PreSchool, Ages 2-6 Caring for your child with God's love and affection. Check our website for

HOLY SPIRIT

current activities

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 ਰੱਬ 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 Puniab 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

days of the year and

serves complementary

vegetarian meals. We

also encourage you to

enter our history room

which is open 365

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 408-223-1770 www.sfoasi.com 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 praverful 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, I.G.N.I.T.E. High School, & North Star Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Chapel, Gathering

Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, and Memorial Garden are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us in worship at any of the following times in our Chapel: Weekdays (M-

Sa) at 8:30 AM; Saturdays at 4:00 PM (English) and 5:30 PM (Vietnamese); Sundays at 8:00 AM (English), 10:00 AM (English), 12:00 PM (English), 4:00 PM (Vietnamese), and 6:00 PM Youth Mass (English). The Villages Gated Community also features a

8:15 AM at the Cribari Auditorium. For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Office open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and

Mass on Sundays at

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



the**point.**church

THE POINT CHURCH

3695 Rose Terrasse Cir San Jose, CA 95148 (408) 270-7646 Ènglish 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



RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL BUSINESS PAPER SHREDDING

DROP-OFF SHREDDING SERVICE

HITSH



\$1000 PER BOX 10"x12"x15"

ER SHREDDING HARD DRIVE SHREDDING

65 Gallon Container



Executive Console



- E 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)