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40TH ANNIVERSARY

One World Montessori School to celebrate cultural diversity on united nations day

Preschool students, teachers and families to showcase ancestral heritage through traditional clothing, songs, and artifacts

By William Bellou

Publisher

ne World Montessori School will host its annual United Nations Day celebration to acknowledge the richness of cultural diversity within the community. The event will take place at the school's campus located at 1170 Foxworthy Ave in San Jose.

Every year, for 40 years now, the school has celebrated the diversity and unity of its community. The event recognizes that apart from Native Americans, the people currently living in North America originally came from different continents and followed customs from various countries.

The United Nations Day's presentation, which preschool students and teachers have worked to prepare, will feature several activities:

- Students and teachers will dress in the traditional garb of their ancestors' country.
- They will sing songs in their native languages and present artifacts from their heritage.
- Children will place the flag of their country on a large world map spread out on the floor.
- The audience can view posters presenting information about countries around the world, such as their food, currency, famous landscapes, or people.

The Glue Factory presents lively musical 'All Shook Up' November 5th - 8th

By Jane Johnson

Special to the Times

"One for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, now go cat go!"

If you heard the rest of that, or even if you haven't, you'll be sure to come to appreciate it and the high energy and fun when you join The Glue Factory this November for the musical "All Shook Up."

Each year, The Glue Factory presents a blended musical with stars from across the generational spectrum including former leads who went on to promising stage careers all the way through current high school students freshly entering "the biz."

This year, "All Shook Up" will jump and jive onto the stage. For those familiar, you'll be rushing to purchase tickets. For those new to this musical, Director Ashley Coleman describes



This year, "All Shook Up" will jump and jive onto the stage. Photo credit: Ashley Coleman

it as a modern "fun and energetic adaptation of Shakespeare's 'Twelfth Night'." Fun, fast and upbeat, the show will bring the audience together for a night of positive hilarity and fun.

Listening to the ensemble early on and hearing how solid they already sounded this is sure to be one of the best TGF productions yet. One of the finest parts of these shows? Just by attending and enjoying a night out with friends, family and your local community, you're giving back to the drama program at Pioneer High School, allowing them to produce and stage all of their productions for the entire year. This is a fundraiser in every sense of the word bringing the multigenerational cast and staff together to volunteer their time, and the audience support their efforts through ticket and concession sales.

Set in a small Midwest town, a town who along the way has lost its spark and sense of community, a true "Roustabout" comes riding in. Known by Chad and played by Connor Henry, Chad evokes the character and charisma of a See ALL SHOOK UP, page 8

No on A campaign to file lawsuit for alleged misuse of taxpayer funds in ballot promotion

By Wiliam Bellou

Publisher

¬he No on Measure A campaign plans to file legal action against Santa Clara County following reports that the County used taxpayer dollars to distribute a mailer resembling campaign material promoting Measure A. The No on Measure A campaign is demanding the County repay all taxpayer funds used in what appears to be an alleged covert campaign. The committee will seek restitution by requiring the County to refund ten dollars for every taxpayer dollar misused—returned directly to Santa Clara County households.

"The County has launched a sleightof-hand campaign—funded entirely by taxpayers—to push the Measure A narrative without directly naming it," said Rishi Kumar, chair of the No on Measure A campaign. "It's a deliberate attempt to influence voters using public funds, which is not only unethical but potentially unlawful."

Mailers allegedly have been sent across Santa Clara County, paid for by the County itself—not

COMMUNITY UPDATE

FEDERAL BUDGET CUTS OF \$1 BILLION EACH YEAR THREATEN SANTA CLARA COUNTY SERVICES



Families throughout our community rely on our four Santa Clara Valley Healthcare hospitals. Some count on us for most or all of their health care, while others need our renowned trauma and burn cente during an emergency. Every 11 minute someone in our county is taken by ambulance to a County-run hospita

A mailer sent out by Santa Clara County. Santa Clara County Executive James Williams warned in the mailers that looming federal cuts could shut down - just as voters weigh a proposed sales tax increase.

> the Yes on Measure A campaign—yet carrying messaging that aligns closely with Measure A's central arguments. Kumar noted that this mirrors political campaigning and undermines fair electoral practice.

> At issue is a letter from Santa Clara County Executive James Williams to residents that

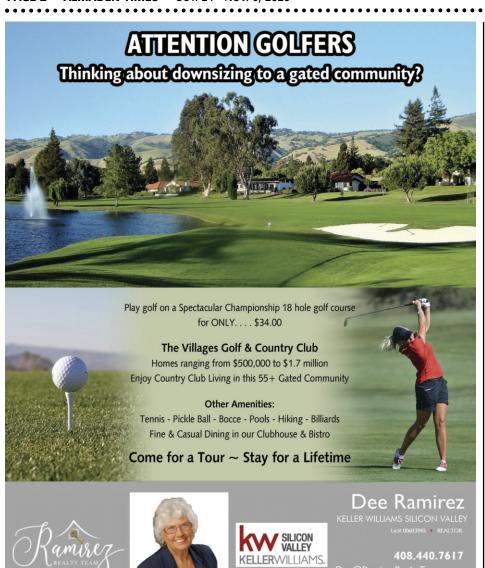
warned local hospitals and clinics could close as a result of the federal budget cuts approved by President Donald Trump earlier this year. The letter arrived in mailboxes last week — just as voters are deciding on Measure A, a 0.625% sales tax increase touted by county leaders as a way to keep hospitals open and soften the blow of those federal cuts.

Local government officials are not allowed to use taxpayer dollars to explicitly advocate for or against a ballot measure or candidate, but they can provide residents with informational materials about issues on the ballot.

'This doesn't even do that — it doesn't mention the measure," Williams said. "This is talking about the federal cuts, and we unquestionably have

the ability to do that, but more importantly, the responsibility."

California's Supreme Court has ruled that judges should evaluate claims of illegal electioneering by analyzing whether the "style, tenor, and timing" of the communication makes See LAWSUIT, 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.

Almaden Seniors Monthly Meeting, Wednesday November 5, 10am: You are invited to attend the next Almaden Senior Association meeting on Wednesday November 5th, 10am. At this month's meeting we expect to get an update from our District 10 city councilmember, George Casey plus information about helping your grandchildren get into the college of their choice. The meeting will be held in the upstairs classroom 1 at the Almaden Community Center at 6445 Camden Ave. Come at 9:30am for snacks and to socialize before the meeting.

Poinsettias Nursery and Lunch, Tuesday, December 2, 2025:

A bus trip to the Duarte Poinsettia Nursery in Hughson, CA (near Modesto). Come see 60,000 colorful poinsettias where they are grown. You can purchase them and take them with you. After visiting the nursery, we will go to the Grizzly Rock Café for an included buffet lunch. Depart ACC 7:45am. Return around 5 pm. \$80 Cash or Check. Contact Rich at 408-219-8641 for more information.

For events and trips, sign up M/W/F from 8 to 10am in the Almaden Community Center Lobby. All events and trips are for those 50 years and over 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

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Times Local News

Santa Clara County prepares for human trafficking uptick

By Joyce Chu

San José Spotlight

s Santa Clara County prepares for a potential increase in human trafficking at major sporting events next year, security planning may be challenging with personnel stretched thin due to federal cuts.

The U.S. Department of Justice through the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) provides grant funding to combat human trafficking, but the monies expired last month. Applications to renew funding are not available at present. The grant covered funding for advocates, training for traumainformed interviewing and overtime, hampers the county's ability to fund operations during the sporting events, according to attorney Bryan Slater, who oversees human trafficking prosecutors in the District Attornev's office.

"We do not currently have dedicated funding to cover overtime for investigations or extended operations that would be needed," Slater said at the Santa Clara County Human Trafficking Commission meeting last month. "Our heavy reliance on this grant funding jeopardizes continuity of staffing ... it creates a turnover at critical moments such as now.'

Santa Clara has two major sporting events happening in the first half of 2026, including Super Bowl 60 in February and FIFA World Cup starting in June at the Levi's Stadium. In March, San Jose State University will host March Madness — the NCAA West Regional Men's Basketball tournament at the SAP Center.

Sharan Dhanoa, director of South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking, is worried about officer burnout. There could also be a shortage of emergency housing for survivors as tourists fill up hotels. But $she \ said \ the \ coalition \ is \ well-equipped \ with$ expertise on combating human trafficking, having coordinated services during the Super Bowl in 2016.

"Having three events brings challenges that I'm not sure any jurisdiction could be prepared for," Dhanoa told San José Spotlight. "Our human trafficking protocol for law enforcement is very survivor informed. It really does prioritize connecting survivors to services. And so those are the things that I feel very good about."

Though research is inconclusive on whether there is a rise of human trafficking incidents during major sporting events, Dhanoa said there is often a flood of advertisements for people selling sex.

"Our core messaging is that sporting events don't cause trafficking, but economics drives exploitation," Dhanoa said.

Josh Singleton, commander at the Santa Clara County Human Trafficking Task Force, said they have been rolling out training for law enforcement through written material and site training. They are also on the lookout for industries where labor



Santa Clara County law enforcement agencies are preparing for an increase in human trafficking during major upcoming sports events in 2026. File photo.

exploitation is more likely to happen, such as hospitality.

"Our number one goal is to provide resources to victims of human trafficking," Singleton told San José Spotlight.

On Oct. 1, the task force in partnership with the San Jose Police Department's Special Victims Unit uncovered a trafficking operation at a hotel. They arrested three people, cited two sex buyers and connected six survivors with services, according to the police department spokesperson.

"In the months ahead, (the Special Victims Unit) will continue with targeted undercover operations against traffickers and sex buyers, increased monitoring of online exploitation and close coordination with community-based advocates to ensure survivors receive immediate and long-term support," the SJPD spokesperson told San José Spotlight. "On game day, rapidresponse teams will remain on standby to respond to incidents in real time."

With the San Jose police department having the highest vacancy rate since 2012, the spokesperson said they will reassign officers from other divisions to the special unit to tackle human trafficking. The police department has secured grant funding that will be unaffected by federal and state cuts to cover overtime and specialized train-

The Santa Clara Police Department is also working with the task force to prepare for the sporting events.

"We have a comprehensive public safety steering committee responsible for various planning areas, which includes a dedicated anti-trafficking sub-committee," SCPD Lt. Eric Lagergren told San José Spot-

County officials are looking for ways to funnel more resources to organizations working to tackle human trafficking despite the tight budget, District 2 Supervisor Betty Duong, who sits on the Human Trafficking Commission, told San José Spotlight.

One of those ways is to get Measure A passed during the special elections this November, she said, which will help fund county-owned hospitals by temporarily increasing the general sales tax by 0.625%.

"We are at an inflection point right now where we are challenged budgetarily because of the impacts of H.R.1," Duong told San José Spotlight. "But if we don't fill that health system gap (through Measure A), we have to pull from (the general fund). So then now we have a smaller pot of money that we then have to stretch to cover both public safety and health."

Times Community

Lawsuit

Continued from page 1 it campaign-related or informational.

Violations of Election and Communications Law

There are clear laws and precedents that prohibit the use of taxpayer funds for electioneering by public officials and agencies. Under federal and state standards:

- Elected leaders are barred from using taxpayer-funded offices or resources to distribute promotional or campaign-related materials within 90 days of an election.
- Members of Congress, for example, may only use their "franking privilege" for official, nonpartisan communications relating to policy, governmental programs, or con-

stituent services—not campaign advocacy (Committee on House Administration; Legal Information Institute).

• House rules also impose a moratorium on unsolicited mass communications during the 60 days preceding any primary or general election in which the official is a candidate (Committee on House Administration; New Jersey Globe).

"These laws exist to keep the government honest and elections fair," Kumar stated. "Santa Clara County's mailer violates the spirit, if not the letter, of these rules. People are very upset with this dishonest tactic that reeks of desperation"

Demand for Accountability

"We will not allow public dollars to be weaponized for election influence," said Kumar. "Voters deserve transparency, not manipulation. The law is clear: taxpayer money cannot and should not be used for political promotion."

The campaign is calling for an immediate independent audit of all Measure A-related county communications and an injunction against further taxpayer-funded materials during the election period



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Times Local News



Power meets hybrid efficiency in the 2025 Mercedes-AMG GLC 63 SUV

By Sean Eastwood

Times staff writer

ercedes-AMG has pulled the cover off its latest high-performance model, the 2025 GLC 63 S E Performance SUV, a hybrid-powered machine that blends practicality with the kind of speed usually reserved for exercise care.

Under the hood, the GLC 63 carries a 2.0-liter turbocharged four-cylinder engine paired with an electric motor. Together, the system produces 671 horsepower and 752 pound-feet of

torque, numbers that push the midsize SUV into supercar territory. Mercedes says the vehicle can accelerate from zero to 60 miles per hour in just 3.4 seconds.

The performance comes courtesy of AMG's 9-speed MCT automatic transmission and standard all-wheel drive, ensuring that power is distributed with precision. A small 6.1-kWh battery provides a brief all-electric range of about eight miles, though its primary role is performance, not long-distance efficiency.

Visually, the GLC 63 distinguishes itself with AMG's trademark Panamericana grille, muscular bodywork, and large alloy wheels—20-inch standard, 21-inch optional. Inside, the cabin is trimmed with Nappa leather, carbon fiber accents, and AMG-specific sport seats, while the MBUX infotainment system has been enhanced with hybrid and performance readouts.

The SUV's arrival comes at a time when rival brands, including BMW and Porsche, are invest-

ing heavily in performance crossovers. With the GLC 63, Mercedes hopes to set itself apart by marrying electrification with raw speed. Pricing will begin in the low \$90,000 range, with fully equipped models likely exceeding \$100,000.

For buyers, the appeal is clear: an SUV with room for the family and luggage, but one that can outpace many sports cars on the open road.

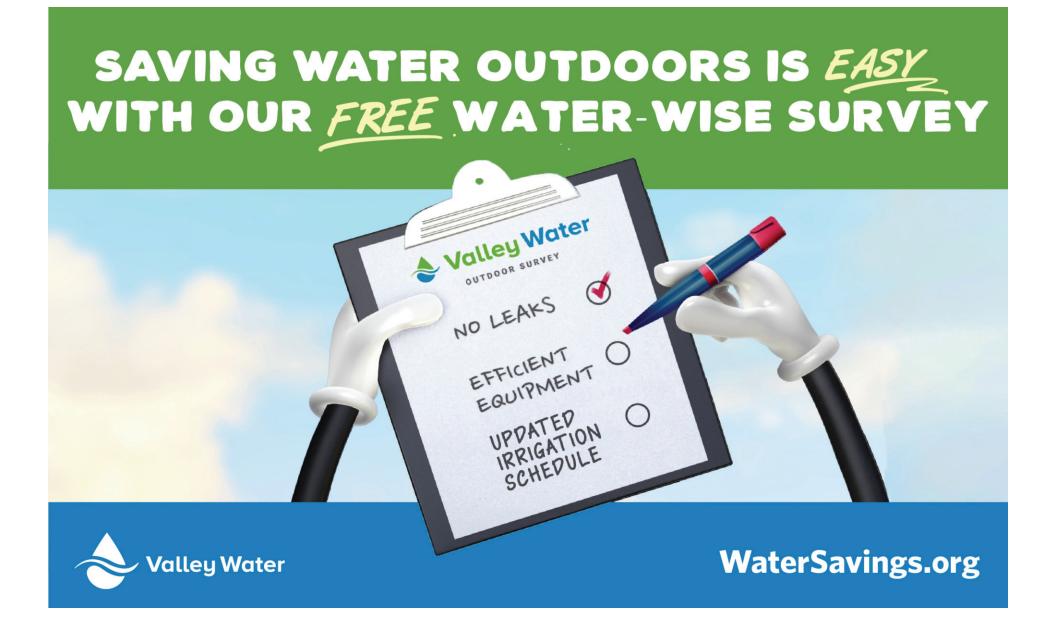
Whether the combination of hybrid technology and AMG performance proves irresistible will soon be tested in the showroom. But one thing is certain—the GLC 63 marks a new chapter in Mercedes' ongoing push to electrify without losing its performance edge.

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Times Local News

San Jose Museum of Art presents 'ektor garcia: loose ends'

In the artist's first solo museum exhibition in California

he San José Museum of Art (SJMA) will present *ektor garcia: loose ends,* the first solo museum exhibition in California by Mexico City-based artist ektor

garcia (artist's spelling) from Oct. 17 – June 7.

This exhibition marks a homecoming for Garcia, who was born in California and spent his formative years in the Bay Area. It brings together existing and newly created sculptures in a single installation that reflects Garcia's ongoing exploration of transformation, labor, and identity through material and process.

Garcia's work is shaped by a rich and eclectic array of influences, from Mexican handcraft traditions passed down by his grandmother to a DIY sensibility shaped by his Bay Area upbringing. His practice also incorporates techniques learned through YouTube tutorials

and global travel. He often weaves in symbols from Mexican folktales and colloquialisms, queer subcultures, and transitional architectural forms like portals, windows, and curtains. Through this layered approach, Garcia challenges social and cultural hierarchies, particularly those tied to gendered and racialized labor, while rejecting fixed definitions of existence or identity.

As part of SJMA's partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies, the exhibition will also feature new and original multi-



media content hosted on the free Bloomberg Connects app. The arts and culture app will host a digital guide of the exhibition, which will include an interview with the artist and commentary relating to the new installation.



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OSC has opened a new program for women based upon equine interaction and equine-assisted-learning, designed to develop self-awareness and self-acceptance, confidence and resilience, and safe boundaries.

G.R.I.T. is for adult women led by OSC founder Landa Keirstead.

The small group meets in 2 hour sessions, once per week for six-weeks

Contact One Step Closer for more information and to enroll one.step.closer@sbcqlobal.net 408-778-3567



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Times Local News



CAREER CORNER

Al and your job search

By Angela Copeland

ne of the hottest topics this year is artificial intelligence. Companies are desperate to find ways to use AI in all aspects of their



business. They hope that AI will produce better, faster results that will ultimately increase quality and decrease costs. Many companies look at AI as the key to their future success.

Personally, I like to stick to the old-fashioned way of writing emails, for example. However, I've seen employers who require employees to install AI on their email platform, to be sure they sound just as smart as possible.

Employers also use AI in their hiring practices. Technologies exist to find candidates online who fit a certain profile. In other words, the employer can give the AI tool the profile of a person they like. The employer can ask the AI tool to find other candidates who look similar. When AI identifies those candidates, AI can then begin an automated email conversation with the candidates to find out if they might be interested in the available job.

AI tools like the one described above allow companies to evaluate large numbers of candidates quickly, and at a lower cost. Companies find these tools helpful, as they receive large volumes of applicants today. The large volume of applications makes it hard for a company to review applications by hand.

In the same way that companies receive large volumes of applicants, job seekers must submit many applications to receive a job offer. Job seekers must also make it through complex AI systems that are weeding them out. It's a numbers game.

To cope with the complex world of job searching, job seekers are also turning to AI. They use it to help write cover letters. They also use it to help optimize their resumes. It's not uncommon for a job seeker to feed a job description and their resume into an AI tool, and to ask for feedback. Companies, after all, are using AI to screen the resumes and to look for specific keywords to be mentioned in each resume.

As I shared, I don't prefer to use AI for my work. But, I don't take issue with those who do. Frankly, it can be smart. It can help to save time, and to increase the odds of being seen by a company.

What's ironic is the double standard that companies want to hold job seekers to. Many companies include information in applications about how the use of AI is not allowed. I have seen a company go so far as to say that they will scan application documents for the use of AI and will eliminate candidates who use it.

AI should be a two-way street. If companies are going to use it to process many applications at one time, job seekers need to submit many applications at one time. We should all be allowed to play by the same rules to get the best results.

Angela Copeland, a leadership and career expert, can be reached at www.angela-copeland.com.

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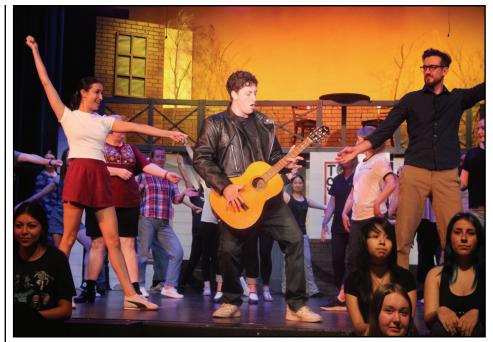
Times Local News

All Shook Up

Continued from page 1

true roustabout hoping to "profit" off a quick breeze through town. What enfolds is perhaps highly unexpected to say the least. Connor shared an elevator pitch plot summary "a man comes to town with a song in his soul, and all he wants to do is share this song in his soul. There are a couple of love stories here and there along the way, and some of the music will stick in your ear for weeks to come, it's that good and that fun. Some old hits that you love and some you might not have heard in a while, or ever; it will definitely get your toes tapping and put a smile on your face!" Connor had stepped away from performing for a bit and is no stranger to the stage or to portraying leads. "As I get older, I'm realizing not everyone has the chance to do this. So, while one has a chance to, I want to take advantage of this time that I have to perform and just give my all to this program. This is such a chance to be seen and to be heard, whether you're a lead or an ensemble member, we're all experiencing such a privilege, such an honor, such an opportunity to be part of a community - a community full of support for one another. Everyone's in your corner, everyone wants to see you succeed. That sense of community is a big pillar right there." Connor went on to share he is working full-time, going to college and then fully committed to these rehearsals four nights a week, with independent work on his lines, songs, and acting and even dancing around all of this. "It's a big commitment, and being this busy compels you to make good choices. I'm learning that it's all about the journey. The destination is great. But the journey is so much more impactful, and it shapes who you are and molds who you are along the way."

After graduating from Pioneer High School back in the teens of the 2000s and fresh off portraying the lead Fantine in their highly acclaimed high school production of "Les Miserables." Nicole Kanga struck out to major in theatre and continue to pursue her dream at university in Canada. Pairing that with a minor in Business, Nicole was ready to take on the world. That is, until the world decided to take a pause on her, 2020 spun Nicole away from theatre, for obvious reasons. She needed to make money as a fresh college graduate, and the trying times sent her back from her international pursuits to a humbler homecoming. One as she said which "all worked out for the best. I'm so grateful to my parents for making me feel welcome" and able to get her footing in an entrepreneurial adventure to start. She was able to parlay that into a Program Manager job in which she continues today. But the theatre bug never left her, even if temporarily the theatre had left her. So, when she came back to the area and ventured to see TGF's production of "The Music Man," her passion was reignited when she realized there was in fact an outlet she could pursue. Nicole approached both Steve Dini and Ashley Coleman asking if it was possible to get involved for the next year and was also welcomed back with open arms. Funny enough, it was to portray a barricade boy in last year's production of "Les Miserables." And this year, when approached to portray the lead Natalie, opposite Connor's roustabout, and that character name of Natalie is the same as her sister's, it seemed all of the stars were aligning and it was meant to be. She was "in!" and a definite yes to take it on, even while working a full-time demanding job. When interviewed towards the beginning of the rehearsals schedule for what Nicole felt was the most challenging for her, she said, "What's most challenging about this character is so far we are learning music and blocking separately - so



The All Shook Up cast is ready for prime time. Photo credit (above and below) Alexa Camahort

keeping straight (what I'm doing) is confusing. But once we put it all together and we do things in chronological order, then it will be much easier." You'll have to see this production to understand that statement.

This year brings an all-star staff, led by Ashley Coleman. "Back when I first joined the program professionally as an assistant to Steve Dini, the Advanced Drama Class staged 'C'mon Everybody' from a musical I'd not yet heard of, 'All Shook Up,' and all I could think was "oh, this is a fun number!" so I added it to the list in the back of my mind for some day." And some day has now come. "I have always just loved variety in our TGF shows. So last year we staged the great experiment of a creative production of 'Les Miserables' and music was definitely the star of that show. This year I thought 'let's have something that's more upbeat where no one dies, and everyone is happy.' The focus with this show is on the ensemble, most of the numbers are big ensemble numbers, and we have the vocalists and actors this year to do this show, so it was the obvious choice. When interviewed Ashley was just about to audition high school students and begin rehearsals for their late fall play. Those rehearsals occur right after the school day ends, and right before TGF rehearsals run through at least 10 p.m. every night. Ashley's juggling all of her regular day job along with these rehearsals while raising her young family, depending on her husband during these few months to make it all work and give back to her program, too. "It impacts the high school

students in both productions, so I try to remind them and their parents that for at least a handful of weeks, they and we need to all practice flexibility, as it takes flexibility to make it through this all-in-one piece." That said, you can see her respect, appreciation and love for her students. family, and productions in each and every thought she shares. It's clearly a labor of love to bring to you, her community, theater that is worthy of you to come out and support. Returning to assist Ashlev are Marissa Bacon as Assistant Director and Musical Director; Lorie Biviano leading the cast in creating perfectly complimentary sets; Jim Wolk constructing sets and set pieces following Lorie's vision; Diane Zlotziver and Kyla Blili costuming the high school cast and providing vision to the adults costuming themselves. "Other adult theater companies exist, other student companies exist. A company that exists solely of a PHS community meaning teachers, former retired staff, alumni, parents and students - that doesn't exist anywhere else. We have up to four different generations of people all able to work collaboratively together on something that just brings them all joy." said Mrs. Coleman, "That is a unicorn. That is special."

Every town needs a mayor, and every mayor needs a protective sheriff. John Berney, who you may best remember as Ali Hakim his favorite role thus far from "Oklahoma!" just a few years back, returns to portray Sheriff Earl. Earl is a quiet man by nature, but his presence ensures Mayor Matilda, played by Diane Zlotziver, gets her point across. As the town makes a bit of a

before so I didn't know anything about it, but if feels to me like a mix between 'Footloose' and 'Mamma Mia' and it's upbeat, with a lot more dancing and choreography. "This cast is a great group of people. Everyone is working very well together and are encouraging to each other. It takes a certain kind of person to put yourself out there and we all want to know we're doing a good job at something, so it's really nice when people go out of their way to let you know." John has been off and on with TGF from the early days, and he refers to himself as one of the "old dogs" from the beginning days, and shares "the talent level with the people returning from 'Oklahoma' and 'Les Mis' in the lead roles are, well the talent base is just incredible. The people doing the singing, they sing their hearts out and they're really, really good. It's such a great feeling being in a cast with them. And I'm just a minor role. But everyone, the ensemble members, the leads, everyone are just giving everything they've got" to make a hit out of this offering to their community. "It's such a great time and a great group of people - being a part of it we all sometimes forget all the commitment and long rehearsals are about giving back. But this is literally how this theater program survives and thrives at PHS. And it's great that everyone has skin in the game - the kids are here and a part of it right along with us." John admits the commitment is serious and time-consuming. He's especially grateful to his wife this year, as once you make a commitment you're supposed to be good to your word. And he takes that seriously. He committed to the role, and he will see it through. Even though his wife of 26 years had an unexpected fall and is recovering from surgery, she's supporting John to fill his cup and give back. Now that's a true "theater widow!" Fortunately this production includes some of her favorite music, so when she makes it to the performances, she will be able to throughly enjoy her sacrifice in supporting this, too.

turnaround, Earl is swept up in some of the sur-

prises along the way. "I'd never seen the show

A small town is not complete without a sassy and throaty character. This town is no different. Valerie Doyle has risen to the occasion once more, now driving herself and her trusty dog, Nola Bea, all the way up from on high at 5,174 feet altitude Lake Arrowhead to be in her production with TGF. "I grew up in San Jose. We moved to be close to our boys, all grown up now and living in Hollywood. Way back when, my neighbor, Kathy Hendrickson, had joined TGF in its early days when her student was in the program. She told me about their musical and I went to go see her. And I went right up to her afterwards and said 'what is this?!?' and she told me all about it. With my two boys about to start at PHS the next fall. I asked how I could get in. I got a hold of Steve Dini, got on the interest list, and the rest is history. I love it so much! From the first show I was involved in all the way until today (her 16th show), I just look forward to these shows. The camaraderie, the fun. the level of talent and commitment by everyone in the cast and staff, I just live for this!" Valerie gushed, "And I keep coming back because I'm crazy. I just get so much love. I just love this group, I cannot not do it, not yet." Her passion and belief in the production is more than evident both off and on the stage. And her neighbors have continued to play a big part in her involvement, both sheltering her and Nola Bea in their homes when she comes to rehearse and pouring through the doors each night to support her and everyone else for the performances. Her character, Sylvia, owns the town's honkey tonk. She's opinionated and outspoken and brings the spice. "Probably the most challenging thing for me is singing while dancing. See ALL SHOOK UP, page 10



Times Local News

				24	25
Alm	aden Branch Li	brary Calendar -	October 20	25	10:15 a.m. VAYF 11 a.m. Fiber Arts Circle
27	28 10:30 a.m. Basic English 4:30 p.m. After-School STEaM 5:45 p.m. Hindi Storytime	29 10:30 a.m. ELL Conversation Club	30 10:15 a.m. Halloween Storytime	31	1 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Yoga & Meditation 11 a.m. Fiber Arts Circle
	Almaden I	Branch Library Ca	lendar - No	vember 20	025
3 2:30 p.m. Read to Succeed w/ SJPD	4 10:30 a.m. Basic English 4:30 p.m. After-School STEAM	10:30 a.m. ELL Conversation Club 10:30 a.m. Tea & Toys 4:30 p.m. Teen Program Incubator	6 10:15 a.m. Storytime	7	8 9 a.m 2:30 pm Friends Fall Book Sale 10:30 a.m. Storytime w/ AAC 11 a.m. Puppets w/ Ms. Andrea 11 a.m. Fiber Arts Circle 4 p.m. Intro to Scratch Catcher Game
4:30 pm. Wee Love Science	Closed for Veterans Day	12 10:30 a.m. ELL Conversation Club 4:30 p.m. Reading to Furry Friends 4:30 p.m. TeensReach Orientation	12 10:15 a.m. Storytime	14 4:30 pm <u>TeensReach</u>	15 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Yoga & Meditation 11 a.m. Fiber Arts Circle 2:30 – 5 p.m. Teen Book Sale
17 2:30 p.m. Read to Succeed w/ SJPD	18 10:30 a.m. Basic English 4:30 p.m. After-School STEAM	19 10:30 a.m. ELL Conversation Club 1 p.m. Readers Book Club	20 10:15 a.m. Storytime	3:30 p.m. Persian Stories & Songs	10:30 am - 1 p.m. SAT Practice Test??? 11 a.m. Fiber Arts Circle
24	25 10:30 a.m. Basic English 4:30 p.m. After-School STEaM 5:45 p.m. Hindi Storytime	26	Closed for Thanksgiving	Closed for Thanksgiving	10:15 a.m. VAYF 11 a.m. Fiber Arts Circle
Monday 2pm-6pm	Tuesday 10am-7pm	Wednesday 10am-7pm	Thursday 10am-7pm	Friday 2pm-6pm	Saturday 10am-6pm

Almaden Branch Library, 6445 Camden Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120 t: 408-808-3040 hours: M/F 2pm-6pm, T/W/Th 10am-7pm, Sat 10am-6pm, closed Sunday Please check our online events calendar for the most up to date information.





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



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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/crime-prevention/security-camera-registration





Sit back and relax on a bus ride to see Poinsettias in Hughson, CA (near Modesto)

Lunch Included!

Tuesday December 2nd
Arrive Almaden Community Center (ACC) 7:30am
Depart ACC: 7:45am
Arrive Duarte Poinsettia Nursery around 10am

During your visit, you'll have the opportunity to tour their greenhouse, learn about their growing process, and find the perfect poinsettia for your home or as a thoughtful holiday gift. Whether you're a long-time customer or stopping by for the first time, their friendly staff will be happy to answer your questions and help you pick out just what you need.

Your self-guided tour promises a delightful and immersive experience for plant enthusiasts and holiday shoppers alike. As you explore the greenhouse, you'll discover an array of poinsettia varieties in full bloom like you have never seen before, each cultivated with care to ensure vibrant color and lasting freshness.

Look around the large warehouse of Poinsettia plants and decide if you would like to buy. They will label your purchase with your name & place them in the storage area of the bus to be transported home.

After we leave the nursery, we will travel a short distance to the Grizzly Rock Café where you will have a buffet lunch of tri-tip steak, chicken, vegetables, potatoes, salad, rolls and iced tea. Coffee, soda, beer, wine and dessert will be available to purchase, cash preferred.

We will return to Almaden Community Center around 4:30pm.

Tickets are on sale, 8am to 10am M/W/F in the Almaden Community Center lobby. Cost of the trip will be \$80.00. Cash or check (sorry no refunds). Almaden Senior Association trips are for Active Adults 50+.

For more information contact Rich Sanders at 408 219-8641

a later date.

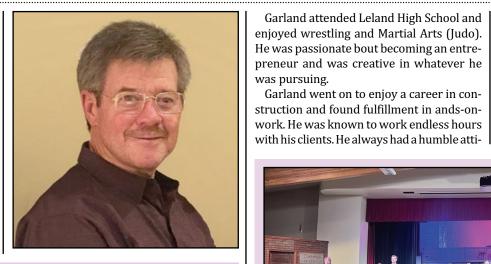
Times Local News

IN MEMORY

Garland Lani Peterson 1962 -2025

Graduate of Leland High School

arland Lani Peterson passed away on July 23, 2025 due to heart complications. Garland is survived and missed by his loving mother June Peterson, sisters Jill Reynold's (Barry), Cindy Peterson, Jennel Pappas (Ted), and brother Eric Peterson. His memory lives on with his nieces and nephew: Sarah, Jennifer, Kimberly, Lauren, Claire, Emma, Veronica, and McKinley.



Music, History & Community Upcoming Events for October

Free architectural history presentation and Q&A First Unitarian Sanctuary, 160 N. Third St., San

7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 25 Nova Vista Symphony – From Formosa to Vienna

Featuring international violinist Richard Lin 林品 任 in the Bay Area premiere of Tyzen Hsiao's Violin Concerto in D De Anza Visual & Performing Arts Center, Cuper-

2:30 p.m. Sunday, October 26

Featuring Ricardo Martinez, saxophone, performing Lee Actor's Saxophone Concerto With guest performers from Piedmont Hills High School

San Jose

Noon Thursday, October 30 *FREE* American Beethoven Society Noon **Concert Series**

Beethoven's Song Cycle An die ferne Geliebte, op. 98 Featuring: Christine Brandes, soprano Nicholas Mathew, fortepiano Birgit Lodes, musicologist The Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies MLK Jr. Library, Schiro Hall, 150 E. San Fernando St., San Jose

Mission Chamber Orchestra – New Horizons

Hammer Theatre, 101 Paseo de San Antonio,

All Shook Up Continued from page 8

Photo Credit Ashley Coleman

There are 28 songs and so many choreographed dances. That is my personal challenge - and I usually get it - right at the start of the live shows!" This is a new show for both

Garland attended Leland High School and

Garland went on to enjoy a career in con-

TGF and Pioneer. "I love that Pioneer has never done this show. TGF has always done shows that the kids-only shows have done. But this is different. It's not about Elvis, but it does have Elvis' music in it. I really think the crowd is going to love it as a super fresh, fun musical!" So much so, her husband and sons will make the journey north to support Valerie and the cast, too.

Each and every one of the cast members interviewed couldn't hold back their enthusiasm for this show. "I want the audience to just have a good time with it, it's just fun," John said. "It's comedic. I'm so excited to see and feel all the energy on stage. I want the audience to tap their feet to the beat of the music and sing along. Even the younger audience members will know some of the more popular of Elvis' songs. I hope they'll walk away

feeling energized, having laughed and smiling. I'm just excited, it's a great show!" shared Natalie. Mrs. Coleman summed it up "it is a funny, happy, uplifting musical about a love trapezoid gone wrong, but in the end, everything turns out exactly as it should, and every-

thing is made beautiful in its time. Add to that

Elvis' greatest hits and you have a recipe for

tude and found solitude in helping others.

He enjoyed fishing, cooking, and time with

his friends. Spending time with family at

events and the holidays were always a high-

light or Garland. He will be deeply missed,

remembered with love, and forever in our

A Celebration of Life will be scheduled at

a very, very fun uplifting evening."

As Ashley shared, "There's a lightness and predictability that allows you to be transported to this perfect little world, if only for a couple of hours of being distracted or transported to a place where everyone is happy and everything is upbeat. It's a welcomed change and a welcomed escape

from the mundane or the seriousness of everyday life."

Well worth the time to support a worthy community program and achieve a fun and memorable night out for you, too.

Tickets are available in advance online: https://phsdrama.ludus.com/index.phporat the door each night. Doors open 6:30 p.m., November 5th to the 8th at Steve Dini Stage located at 1290 Blossom Hill Road.

Photo credit (inset) Alexa Camahort

Noon Friday, October 24 FREE - Noon Arts & Lectures

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Prepare to be swept away by iconic songs from Wicked. Sweeney Todd. The Phantom of the Opera, Little Shop of Horrors, Jekyll & Hyde, Into the Woods, Cats, The Little Mermaid, the unforgettable Thriller from MJ: The Musical and many others! These beloved Broadway anthems are just the beginning of a night filled with the perfect mix of mystery, magic, and Halloween mischief.

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www.symphonysanjose.org





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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

quides Muslims to

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



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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

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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 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

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

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Our Chapel, Gathering

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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 Mass on Sundays at 8:15 AM at the Cribari Auditorium. For more information, the Parish Office open

please call or visit us at M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and

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



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