

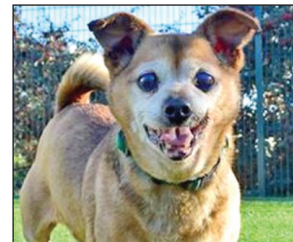
**DARYABARI IRANIAN COMMUNITY CENTER CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING IN SAN JOSE - PAGE 4**



**LELAND HIGH WINS SERIES WITH THREE WINS; BRENDT CITTA DELIVERS TWO HOMERS - PAGE 6**



**HUMANE SOCIETY OF SILICON VALLEY BESTS UNICEF, AT&T TO WIN 'SHORTY AWARD' - PAGE 14**



APRIL 24-MAY 7, 2015 ■ VOL. 28, NO. 8

YOUR BEST SOURCE OF COMMUNITY NEWS FOR OVER 28 YEARS

# Almaden Times

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## A VISIT FROM LICCARDO



"Things are getting better in this city, but we still have a lot of work to do," said Mayor Sam Liccardo. Photo by Lorraine Gabbert

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### A SCENIC JOURNEY Quicksilver Running Club strives to be one of the 'best runs for your buck'

The Quicksilver Running Club of San Jose was formed in the late 1970s and has been hosting an ultra-marathon race in Quicksilver County Park in South San Jose since 1983.

The race this year is scheduled for May 9 and has historically consisted of a 50K and 50 mile race, however, in 2014, after 30 years of hosting the race, the club replaced the 50 mile distance with a 100K race.

The 100K takes brave runners on a scenic journey from New Almaden through Quicksilver County Park into the Sierra Azul Open Space and over to Lexington Reservoir  
*See QUICKSILVER, page 5*

### Public safety and pension reform focus of Mayor's address in Almaden

By Lorraine Gabbert  
Senior Staff Writer

Mayor Sam Liccardo spoke about public safety, pension reform, jobs, and housing at a recent State of the City address hosted by the Almaden Valley Community Association on April 13.

Councilmember Johnny Khamis also informed the standing room only crowd about expanded library hours, pavement maintenance, and other issues affecting District 10.

"Things are getting better in this city, but we still have a lot of work to do," said Liccardo.

Regarding public safety, Liccardo said that  
*See SAFETY, page 16*



Mayor Sam Liccardo and Councilmember Johnny Khamis answered questions with an easy-going camaraderie.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Cities and counties should seriously consider using desalination to supply desperately needed drinking water." - Dave Cortese, p. 14**



OPEN SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Just Listed



## 6908 Bret Harte Drive in Desirable Almaden Valley

Beautiful 5 bedroom home with approximately 2496 square feet in much requested Shadowbrook neighborhood! Gorgeous remodeled kitchen with custom cabinetry, six burner Viking cooktop, and Sub-Zero refrigerator. Stunning hardwood floors, newer interior doors, crown molding, dual pane windows, updated baths, new carpeting. Fabulous backyard with outdoor kitchen, firepit, in-ground trampoline, and attractive newer travertine. Neighborhood cabana club with activities and three pools. Convenient to outstanding schools: Graystone, Bret Harte, and Leland. Offered at \$1,415,000.

OPEN SATURDAY 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Just Listed



## 1208 Copper Peak Lane in Desirable Almaden Valley

Absolutely gorgeous panoramic views! Outstanding location with much requested end unit for extra light. Three bedrooms, three baths, approximately 1585 square feet, with one bedroom on the main level. Remodeled kitchen with granite counters, recessed lights, newer appliances. Newer flooring and paint, updated baths, vaulted ceilings, and lots of decks and windows to enjoy the fabulous setting. Popular California Ridge community surrounded by prestigious homes and natural beauty. Outstanding schools: Williams, Bret Harte, Leland. Offered at \$838,000.

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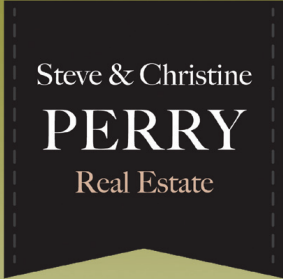
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**1177 STARLING VIEW DRIVE,  
 ALMADEN**  
 List price: \$1,998,000

Exquisite designer showcase home with many upgrades throughout! Well appointed gourmet kitchen with 5 burner gas range, granite counters, large island w/ veggie sink & large walk in pantry. Four spacious bedrooms upstairs with office/possible 5th bedroom and full bath downstairs. Recently installed new carpet, hardwood floors and paint. Quiet location on top of knoll with gorgeous views from every room. Beautiful and private backyard with expansive lawn and raised vegetable boxes. Stunning!



**13506 DEER TRAIL COURT,  
 SARATOGA**  
 List price: \$3,500,000

You'll love this beautiful Estate built by Dave Flick Enterprises. A lovely traditional style two story home offers 4,041 of living space with five bedrooms including a lower bedroom/office on the ground level. Upon entering the foyer you are greeted with grand spiral staircase, limestone floors, and Venetian plaster detailing in the living and dining rooms. The kitchen is well appointed with all the top of the line amenities, including a Thermador range, Subzero refrigerator and large walk-in pantry. Adjacent to the gourmet kitchen is the family room and wet bar. The family room is walled with French doors and offers a tranquil transition to the outdoor living space, which includes a classic pool with spa, built in BBQ, built in fireplace and a beautiful setting underneath the oak trees.



**59 ELLENWOOD AVE,  
 LOS GATOS**  
 List price: \$2,995,000

Stroll to town from this Authentic Craftsman Residence in the Historic Glen Ridge neighborhood of Los Gatos! A rare and secluded private setting awaits you as you enter through the gated driveway. The interior is defined by the extraordinary use of rich woods establishing a meditative tone that works in harmony with the beauty of the setting. Tremendous walls of glass provide a bright and airy connection with the outdoors. Built in 1997, this 3,200 square foot home has four spacious bedrooms and three and half bathrooms. It offers an open floor plan with a gourmet kitchen, yet cozy enough for family gatherings. Completing the appeal are the outdoor living spaces. Flagstone patios and walkways meander through the lush landscape with plenty of unique spaces for dining in private; al Fresco.



**20689 VIEW OAKS WAY,  
 ALMADEN**  
 Sales price:  
 \$2,765,000



**20425 HUNTERS HILL ROAD,  
 ALMADEN**  
 Sales price \$1,800,000  
 \$125,000 over asking price



**1169 STARLING RIDGE COURT,  
 ALMADEN**  
 Sales price \$2,109,000  
 \$309,000 over asking price



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## This Week:

### COMMUNITY

Silicon Valley CTE seeks exhibitors for 11th annual Custom & Classic Car Show benefit: **PAGE 6**

### FEATURES

Staying active is important for older adults: **PAGE 8**

### ADVICE

Computer hacking to spy on others not a good idea, can lead to imprisonment: **PAGE 10**



### ↑ EVENTS

Wells Fargo Center for the Arts welcomes Harry Connick Jr. for summer concert: **PAGE 13**

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Worship Guide: **PAGE 19**  
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## Almaden Times

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# Valley Currents

cur·rent (adj.) Present, topical, timely, newsworthy. (n.) Movement in a definite direction, a flow.

## Daryabari Iranian Community Center celebrates grand opening in San Jose

Pars Equality Center (PEC), a Bay Area-based non-profit organization providing social and legal services to the Iranian-American community celebrated its 5th Anniversary with the grand opening of the new Daryabari Iranian Community Center.

PEC is now headquartered in the new facility, making it the first and most comprehensive non-profit legal, social and community support center, providing direct services to Iranians and Persian speakers in the United States. The opening was especially meaningful this year, as 2015 marks Pars Equality Center's 5th Anniversary since the 2010 inception by founder and executive director, Bitá Daryabari.

California State Assembly member Evan Low presented a Certificate of Recognition on behalf of the State of California. San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and Dave Cortese (President, Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors) presented commendations to founder and executive director Bitá Daryabari and her team for the new

Community Center. Daryabari welcomed guests—thanking the Silicon Valley Monterey Bay Council of Boy Scouts of America represented by 9-year-old cub scout Daniel Polous and 7-year-old daisy scout Abigail Polous of Almaden Valley to lead guests in the pledge of allegiance, stating, “It is through organizations like yours that the next generation of minds can be shaped to increase better cross-cultural understanding.”

Low, the youngest assembly member in California State Legislature, stated, “For the young people in the audience here today, let this be a symbol and a reminder about the importance and strength of our diversity and the continued work to ensure that we understand the meaning of culture and what it means to be a resident of California—and what it means to be an American.”

Mayor Liccardo stated, “We are so proud to have this Center here. In the City of San Jose, 40 percent of our adult population was born in a foreign country and that is the secret sauce of our success in Silicon Valley. We have a community that is very much the front



San Jose Mayor **Sam Liccardo** speaks at the opening of the new Pars Equality Center's Daryabari Iranian Community Center held April 16 in downtown San Jose. (L-R) **Sam Liccardo**, **Matt Mahood**, President and CEO of San Jose/Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce, **Evan Low**, California State Assemblyman, and **Dave Cortese**, President of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

Photo by Steve Jennings/Getty Images for PARS EQUALITY CENTER

door for the United States. It imposes on us an obligation to reach out to ensure that whatever extraordinary opportunity is available here is communicated in multiple languages and made available to all regardless of cultural and

economic barriers. And the Persian community has been so incredibly important in this valley

and has enriched our community in so many ways.”

President Cortese echoed the Mayor's sentiment commenting on the region as a global portal and how this Center is helping those who are arriving here.

Additional elected government officials and dignitaries were in attendance, including San Francisco Sheriff Ross Mirkarimi; Edesa Bitbadal (San Jose Planning Commissioner); Council members Ash Kalra (District 2), Johnny Khamis (District 10), Tam Nguyen (District 7), Pierluigi Oliverio (District

6), and Raul Peralez (District 3); and Matt Mahood (President & CEO Silicon Valley San Jose Chamber of Commerce).

A coffee and tea reception was held as guests arrived for the 6 pm ceremony. Immediately following the ribbon cutting ceremony, guests were invited inside the Center for catered Persian cuisine and pastries.

The new community center spans 13,000 square feet, and now houses the San Jose Pars Equality Center offices, becoming the organization's central office, while also offering extensive community programming. A new addition is the Senior Citizens Program, which includes yoga, meditation, cooking, backgammon and philosophy classes. The center is also proud to have an incredible roster of VIP Founding Members. The new facility is located at 1635 The Alameda, San Jose.

Founded by Bitá Daryabari in 2010, the Pars Equality Center (PEC) is the first non-profit organization of its kind, supporting the full integration of people of Persian (Iranian) origin in the United States. PEC provides social and legal support for all members of the Iranian-American community, including refugees, immigrants and the American-born. The Center advocates for more positive perceptions of Persians in the U.S. media, while offering services and programs that help establish, integrate and support Iranian-Americans so that they are able to function responsibly and productively in American society. Daryabari's aim is to create a more just and compassionate community in which Iranians of all cultures and beliefs participate.

## Mailbox



### Saving Echo Lake

Editor,

I want to thank Lorraine Gabbert for making the time to visit with our group to save Echo Lake, and for a well written and balanced article. As you witnessed, there is a lot of passion and emotion regarding the health of the lake and the wildlife that depends on it.

I believe your article will play a part in the country club and community finding a good mutual long term solution. Once we get past this darn lawsuit of course.

**David Meidinger**  
Almaden Valley

**LET US HEAR FROM YOU!**

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Times **Cover Story**



Quicksilver runners enjoy the peaceful oak forests along the course.

## Quicksilver

*Continued from page 1*

before returning while the 50K race explores Quicksilver County Park's beautiful trails.

Because of the challenging nature of the course, the 100K race distance has been chosen as one of only two bay area qualifying races for the Western States 100 Mile Endurance Run and it was also chosen as a Ultra-Trail du Mont-Blanc qualifying race.

The courses take runners through peaceful oak forests, wide-open meadows, and along ridges with spectacular views of the Santa Clara Valley and the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Although the courses are very challenging and the 100K race is for experienced ultra-runners, the friendly aid stations and beautiful scenery make the Quicksilver 50K race an

excellent choice for a first trail ultramarathon. And, the outstanding and highly regarded post-race barbecue is a fitting reward after runners have met the challenge.

The organization is 100 percent volunteer and nonprofit. There are many volunteer hours needed to run the race and no one gets paid. And both runners and volunteers can feel good as most of the proceeds go to charities and good causes. For example the club funds schools for sports equipments and foundations to keep parks open and create more trails.

So, the club welcomes any runner that wants to enjoy a beautiful day on the trails and volunteers to help the runners enjoy the day and help local charities and open space organizations. If you want more information you can check out their website at [quicksilver-running.com](http://quicksilver-running.com).

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**6704 Crystal Springs Drive**

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**6826 Lazy River Way**

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**6971 Hollow Lake Way**

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Times **Community News**



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**Leland wins series with three wins; Citta delivers two homers**

Leland baseball catcher Brendt Citta is making quite a name for himself.

Just two days after Citta cracked a home run to give the Chargers a 4-2 win over Del Mar in the Baseball Battling Cancer Tournament at Leland, Citta delivered a homer over the same left field fence resulting in a 4-3 win over Lincoln on April 16.

This time the homer came in the top of the seventh with Leland trailing Lincoln 3-2, and with the Lions just an out away from a possible upset.

In Leland's battle with Del Mar on Tuesday, Citta crushed the first fast ball pitch in the bottom of the seventh for a two-run walk-off home run.

**Leland vs. Willow Glen**

In the last game played April 18 in the series Leland beat Willow Glen 1-0 on Saturday. Leland's senior left fielder, Matt



Skinner, made three great defensive plays title clash with Willow Glen which kept the game a scoreless tie until the Chargers scored the game winning score in the bottom of the eighth with a run on a walk to Hunter Christensen and singles by Andrew Meggs, Kevin Cance and freshman Albert Hsiao, whose line shot up the middle drove home Christensen for the walk-off win.

—Photo courtesy Prep2Prep.



**Silicon Valley CTE Seeks Exhibitors for 11th Annual Custom & Classic Car Show benefit**

Mark your calendars for Silicon Valley Career Technical Education's (SVCTE) 11th Annual Custom and Classic Car Show, benefiting SVCTE's SkillsUSA Club on May 1, from 5-8:30 pm, at 760 Hillsdale Avenue, San Jose.

A \$20 tax deductible donation in the form of a fee is all it takes to exhibit a custom, classic or vintage car, truck, motorcycle or bicycle in the SVCTE's auto show. Exhibitors will also receive one free meal. Pre-registration is not available. Exhibitors pay at the gate on the night of the event.

More than 1,000 spectators attend the annual event each year and this year SVCTE hopes to top more than 300 entries. All proceeds go directly to support students competing in annual SkillsUSA regional, state, and national competitions.

Spaghetti and soft drinks will be available for purchase by spectators. Spectators'

admission to the car show is free. No pets please.

SkillsUSA is a national organization for Career Technical Education (CTE) students within trade, technical, industrial and health occupations. SkillsUSA provides educational experiences for students in leadership and teamwork and helps build self-confidence, professional work attitudes and communication skills. Many of SVCTE's SkillsUSA club members compete in annual SkillsUSA championships at the Regional, State, and National level.

MetroED provides career technical education and adult education programs to over 11,500 students in Santa Clara County. MetroED's programs include Silicon Valley Career Technical Education Center (SVCTE), formerly known as Central County Occupational Center (CCOC), and Silicon Valley Adult Education (SVAE), formerly known as the Metropolitan Adult Education Program (MAEP).

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| <b>Omelets</b>         | <b>Moussaka</b>            |
| <b>Waffles</b>         | <b>Butter Chicken</b>      |
| <b>French Toast</b>    | <b>Gyros &amp; Falafel</b> |
| <b>&amp; Many More</b> | <b>&amp; Many More</b>     |

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*Sold over list price with multiple offers*  
**4432 Lynfield Lane**  
**Glenmoor Estates**

Stroll up the lighted walkway to a covered patio perfect for warm summer nights. This beautiful single story home has been updated throughout, offering 1,512 square feet of functional living space, 3 bedrooms and 2 full baths situated on a low maintenance 6,060 square foot lot. *Offered at \$828,000*



*Sold over list price with multiple offers*  
**6562 Edgebrook Court**  
**Pierce Ranch Home**

This beautiful Tri-level Pierce Ranch home is designed for style and livability and is situated on a 7,455 square foot cul-de-sac lot. 2,450 square feet of living space boasts 5 bedrooms and 3 baths with the 5th bedroom and a full bath on the lower level. *Offered at \$1,315,000*



*Sold over list price with multiple offers*  
**1128 Trevino Terrace**  
**Country Club Village Town Homes**

This charming home is situated in one of the most sought after developments in Almaden Valley. 1,998 square feet of open living space features 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms plus a bonus room/office and one of the largest backyards in the complex. *Offered at \$889,000*



*Sold over list price*  
**6545 Cobblestone Court**  
**Copperwood Town homes**

Once in a great while a single level unit comes on the market... This amazing home is special. Remodeled from the ground up with elegant custom interior design elements. Endless upgrades reveal the premium value of this home. 1,224 square feet offers, 2 bedrooms and 2 full baths. *Offered at \$728,000*



*Jackie Jones*

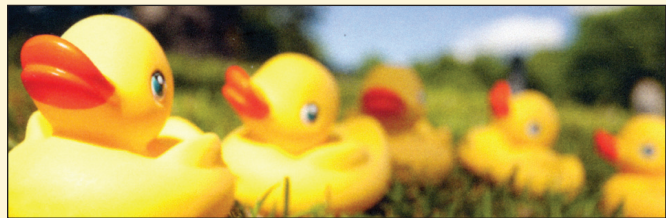
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## Times Feature



## ARE YOUR DUCKS IN A ROW? DON'T LET THE STATE ROB YOUR CHILDREN OF THEIR INHERITANCE!

**Y**ou are probably thinking “Yes, of course, my Ducks Are In A Row!!!” Really? This is only true in the minority of cases so perhaps it is time we revisit the issue.

Your Ducks are in a Row if you have put the proper planning in place. Take a look at the scenario, where you and your spouse have raised a family.

Perhaps you are fortunate to have grandchildren, free of financial worries because there is no mortgage on the home or vehicles. You have retirement plans in place and cash in the bank.

Now you can travel and enjoy your Golden Years. Where in the world does the term “Golden Years” even come from? I suppose people like to say it or at least think it because it brings a form of inner peace and tranquility.

All of a sudden a catastrophic illness strikes and you go into a panic mode. Things are happening so quick you can hardly maintain your balance. Your spouse just had a stroke and is still at the acute care hospital. You are waiting for word from the physicians whether or not your spouse will be allowed to return home or if your spouse's stroke is so severe that your spouse is going into custodial care for the rest of his/her life. By custodial care, I'm talking about a skilled nursing facility. The care could be one of short duration or it could be one for the remainder of your spouse's life-time depending on the severity of the stroke or other serious illnesses.

Panic increases because the questions becomes “how am I going to pay for my spouse's care?”

There are three ways to pay for the care as follows: Medicare does not cover this.

1. Private Pay (It comes from your savings or other assets) about \$9,500.00 per month (very few individuals have the ability to do this).

2. Long Term Care Insurance (LTC) which means you would have had to purchase it when you were younger and healthier. (only a minority of individuals have this option).

3. Medi-Cal: The State and Federal Government pick up the largest portion of of this expense but you pay for what is known as share of cost depending on your ability to pay.

If you do not have the resources for choice 1 or 2 above, then number 3 becomes your option.

However, this has to be navigated very carefully because you could run head on against spend-

down requirements. (Spending your assets unnecessarily). This the first sign that the State of California is Robbing your Children because this is unnecessary if the correct planning is in place.

But you say I don't have a problem because I have a trust!!! While it is good that you have a trust, you should also realize this is a Probate Avoidance Device and not an Asset Protection Device, therefore, as good as Living Trusts are it will not protect you from Nursing Home expense. It is also great that you have the powers of attorney for property management and finance and also the Advance Directive for medical care.

When there is still a well spouse at home and the other spouse is institutionalized, Medi-Cal planning needs to be done immediately.

The fact is most of the Elderly Community does not realize that the State of California, Recovery Section, is poised to put a lien on your home in the event one spouse dies in custodial care. It does not happen immediately but it will happen if proper planning does not take place. This is the point where the State of California continues to “Rob your children of their inheritance” by taking the home. These are some of the methods the State of California uses to complete the job or Robbing your children by taking the home away from them, along with unnecessary spend-down dissipation.

As parents, when you no longer need your assets, you want your assets to go to your children, grandchildren, other loved ones or a charity of your choice but not to the State of California. However, if you fail to plan properly, this is what happens.

Don't let the State Rob Your Children Of Their Inheritance. THE TIME TO ACT IS NOW!!!! NOW DO YOU STILL THINK YOUR DUCKS ARE IN A ROW? IF NOT, I CAN HELP.

Let us put the proper planning in place to get your ducks in a row.

Contact me today for a FREE home visit to review your trust, powers of attorney, Wills, other documents or legal instruments.

Please contact me at:

**Ray W. Sowards,**  
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Ray W. Sowards is A House Call Attorney who does Medi-Cal Planning for Asset Protection. Keeping Assets in your Family is what you desire and my job is to make it happen.

# Staying active important for older adults

**Z**umba class? You bet. Tennis? Most definitely. Biking? Absolutely. Getting older and reaching retirement doesn't mean you retire your body. Saying active in the golden years looks like everything from a brisk walk in the neighborhood to a mountain hike and everything in between.

Now that winter is over and longer, sunnier days are ahead, older adults can participate in a plethora of outdoor activities. Most people can exercise throughout their lives, even with conditions like arthritis, heart disease and diabetes. In many cases, physical activity may improve these health conditions. For each decade past age 30, inactive people can lose an average of 3 to 5 percent of their muscle mass, translating to loss of strength and mobility.

Regular exercise for the elderly (not just a batch of spring cleaning) is worth its weight in healthful benefits, including:

- Less pain
- More flexible joints
- Increased blood circulation
- Improved heart health
- Strengthened bone density
- Weight maintenance or loss
- Better sleep
- Increased mental sharpness

“We see time and again how planned exercise and even the everyday activities like gardening and household chores keep senior adults moving and engaged in life,” said Gene Lennon, Owner of Right at Home Santa Clara County. “Plus, routine physical activity is mood-boosting and can make a person happier and more relaxed to be around; in a way, staying active benefits everyone.”

Those ages 50 and older are advised to check with their doctor before starting a regular activity routine. Seniors who experience issues with a heart condition, breathing, joint inflammation, blood pressure, dizziness or fainting should receive medical approval before increasing physical activity. A balanced fitness approach for older adults includes the following:

**Endurance** – Cardio or endurance activities such as brisk walking, jogging, biking, swimming or dancing builds physical resiliency. If needed, break exercise into 10-minute intervals.

**Strength** – Resistance bands, weight lifting and wall pushups are ways to build muscles. Seniors with increased strength experience greater mobility and vitality for activities like mowing the yard or walking the dog.

**Balance** – Tai chi, Pilates and yoga are excellent balance exercises



Now that winter is over and longer, sunnier days are ahead, older adults can participate in a plethora of outdoor activities.

es as well as simply balancing on one foot behind a sturdy chair. Walking heel to toe and steady on an exercise ball also are practical ways to increase core body stability.

**Flexibility** – Stretching one's muscles helps the entire body stay limber and move more freely.

For those recovering from surgery or illness or restricted from walking or putting undue strain on their joints, chair exercises can help. Simple chair exercises include doing arm circles, toe taps, and tummy and gluteus squeezes. Chair exercises can even be done outdoors on the patio or in the flower garden, all while absorbing essential vitamin D from the sun.

Whether a person is 18 or 88, staying consistent with exercise is a challenge of motivation and discipline. What if an aging loved one brushes off the idea of routine exercise? Lennon notes several ways to coax older adults on to greater fitness health:

**Explain the healthful benefits.** Encourage seniors with the facts of how regular physical activity is essential for better living as they age. No one is too old to exercise. Highlight the exercise advantages of easing joint stiffness and pain and improving energy and outlook.

**Start small.** Instead of overdoing it the first week and giving up entirely, opt for moderate pacing with activity. Seniors who have been inactive or have slowed down over the years need to gradually increase exercise challenges.

**Be realistic.** Heading to an aqua aerobics class several days a week will not match every older person's interest or ability level. Make a written exercise plan that is doable and attainable and modify it as needed. Instead of aiming for half marathons in six months, just begin with strolls, then vigorous walks.

**Choose the enjoyable.** Exercise can be fun and something older

adults truly look forward to each week. Suggest a variety of options and let your senior choose their top two or three preferred activities.

**Garner the support of others.** Enlisting an exercise buddy helps with exercise consistency and lifts the spirits with conversation and friendship. For seniors who receive a doctor-approved exercise program, Right at Home adult home care professionals can offer safety supervision.

A little soreness and discomfort is normal with active exercise, but if a person feels pain, it's time to stop the exercise and rest. If the pain persists, consult with a fitness or medical professional before continuing physical activities.

The National Institute on Aging provides a list of fitness and nutrition resources including organizations, publications and websites designed for the wellness of senior citizens. Hospitals, senior and community centers, city recreation departments, fitness clubs and area parks often provide a variety of safe, affordable exercise options for older citizens including group classes, exercise stations and modified hiking trails.

With nature greening up for an active summer ahead, now is the time for older adults to refresh a regular physical exercise routine to keep up with the grandkids at the park or dance at the high school reunion. Zumba or tennis, anyone?

### About Right at Home

Founded in 1995, Right at Home offers in-home companionship and personal care and assistance to seniors and disabled adults who want to continue to live independently. Local Right at Home offices are independently owned and operated and directly employ and supervise all caregiving staff, each of whom is thoroughly screened, trained and bonded/insured prior to entering a client's home. Right at Home's global office is based in Omaha, Nebraska, with franchise offices located in 45 states nationwide and throughout the world. For more information on Right at Home, visit About Right at Home at <http://www.rightathome.net/about-us> or read the Right at Home caregiving blog at <http://www.rightathome.net/blog>. To sign up for Right at Home's free adult caregiving e-newsletter, Caring Right at Home, visit <http://caringnews.com>.

### About Right at Home of Santa Clara County

The Santa Clara County office of Right at Home is a locally owned and operated franchise office of Right at Home, Inc., serving the communities of Santa Clara County. For more information, contact Right at Home, 408.496.0833 or by email at [generah@sbcbglobal.net](mailto:generah@sbcbglobal.net).



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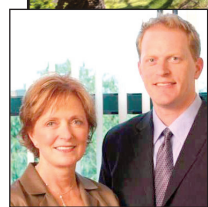
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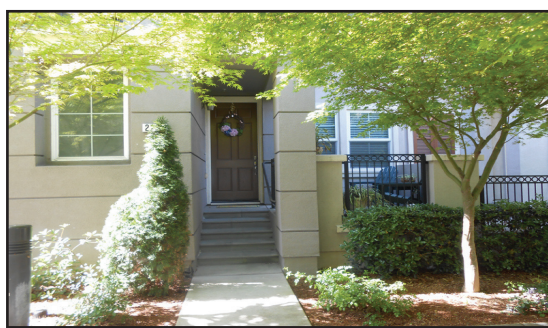
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Times Feature

# Computer hacking not a very good idea

This week's question:  
I have some pretty good reasons to believe my husband is cheating on me at work. He may even be giving her money. What do you think about a friend of mine or even me getting into his computer to look around a little?

**Candice C.**  
Almaden Valley

Dear Candice,  
That is not a very good idea, Candice, for a number of reasons.

What you have in mind to do is probably called computer hacking. This could involve both civil and criminal penalties, including fines and/or imprisonment.

For example, California Penal Code §502(c) states that it is a public offense for anyone who knowingly

accesses and without permission takes, copies, or makes use of any data from a computer, computer system, or computer network, or takes or copies any supporting documentation, whether existing or residing internal or external to a computer, computer system, or computer network.

And, of course, "public offense" could mean time spent in a county jail or state prison. I do not believe you are interested in that.

There are also misdemeanor criminal penalties for unlawful recording, such as California Penal Code §632.7.

The thought of electronic tracking may have occurred to you, but that could also involve a breaking of the law. Once again, the California Penal Code comes into play. §637.7 provides that, with certain exceptions, no person or entity in this state shall use an electronic tracking device to determine the location or movement of a person.

Still another approach that an unscrupulous person might employ is pretexting. This could involve the creation of an invented scenario (the pretext) to engage a target victim in a manner that increases the chance the victim will divulge information or perform actions that would be

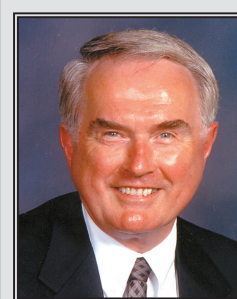
unlikely in ordinary circumstances.

Feel free to bring the above citations up on your computer screen and check them out for yourself. Enter "California Penal Code" in your search box and the index should come up on your monitor. Then, scroll down to the particular section involved.

Another option might be to employ a licensed private investigator to look into things a bit for you. I have found that they are quite good at what they do. Make sure he or she is licensed by the State of California. You will also want to check into their experience in a case like yours.

Instead of considering any of the above measures, you might want to consider marriage counseling to see if you can patch things up with your husband after all. If that does not work, then you may be looking at a dissolution of your marriage or perhaps a legal separation.

At the time of filing papers with the Court, you would need to state that you and your spouse have



## Ask The Lawyer

**Donald J. DeVries,**  
Attorney at Law

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"irreconcilable differences". In plain language, that means you have differences, you have tried to work it out, and there is no hope of working it out.

If either a petition for dissolution of marriage or a petition for legal separation is filed, you would have a broad range of "discovery" options available to you.

For example, you could have deposition subpoenas issued for the production of business records, such as bank statements, credit

card bills, and the like. This kind of information is certainly available and it is quite legal. If you think that financial wrongdoing is going on, you may be able to confirm it that way.

After the other party is served with the initial court papers, your attorney could take your husband's deposition. This is a question and answer session usually conducted in a lawyer's office where only the parties, their attorneys, and a certified court reporter are present.

During the deposition, a wide range of questions is usually asked, dealing with various financial and other issues. It usually lasts for a few hours, after which the court reporter prepares the transcript. The party giving the deposition is called the deponent. He or she has an opportunity after the deposition to make any corrections in the deposition transcript.

Thank you for emailing in your question, Candice. I hope these comments are helpful.

**Donald J. DeVries**  
Almaden Valley

You can reach Mr. DeVries with your questions by email at [don@almadenvalleylawyers.com](mailto:don@almadenvalleylawyers.com), with "Almaden Times" in the subject line, fax at (408)268-6502, telephone at (408)268-9500, or mail at DeVries Law Office at 6475 Camden Avenue, Suite 200, San Jose, CA 95120. Your name will not be used. No attorney-client relationship is created by these articles.

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**Dance Boulevard / 1824 Hillsdale Avenue / San Jose, CA 95124 / Email: [info@sjdsc.com](mailto:info@sjdsc.com)**

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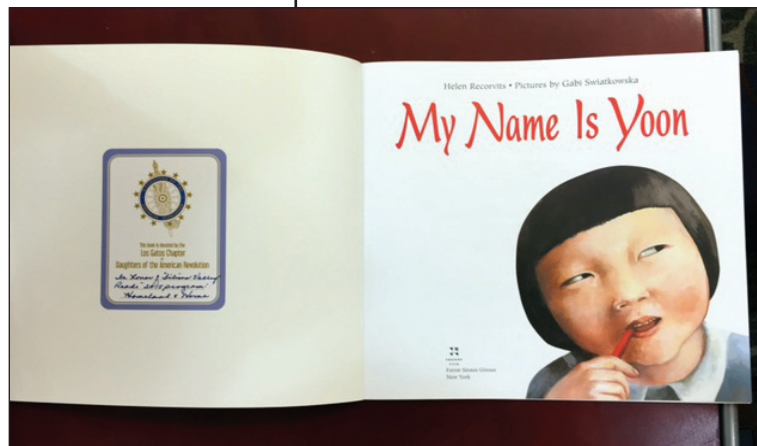
## ‘My name is Yoon’ author visits Almaden

Author **Helen Recorvits** (pictured, right) presented her book “My Name Is Yoon” at the Almaden Public Library last month.

Recorvitz travelled from Rhode Island to read her book to 20 children and their families. The book is about a young Korean girl named Yoon, (meaning shining wisdom) who comes to America with her family.

In the story, Yoon is not happy with her new life in America. Disliking her name as written in English, Korean-born Yoon, or “shining wisdom,” refers to herself as “cat,” “bird,” and “cupcake,” as a way to feel more comfortable in her new school and new country. Eventually children are kind to her and she learned to love America.

After the reading, Helen asked children how they make new friends when someone is new and she received a lot of positive responses. Recorvitz signed autographed books at the event. The books were a dona-



tion of the Los Gatos DAR with Jill Hygelund in charge of the reading program.

*Helen Recorvits is the author of two books for older readers, Where Heroes Hide and Goodbye, Walter Malinski. She lives in Gloucester, Rhode Island.*



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Write to [editorial@timesmediainc.com](mailto:editorial@timesmediainc.com)

# Almaden Times



# CommunityCalendar



## May 5 Almaden Community Center to host Cinco de Mayo festivities featuring food, music, prizes

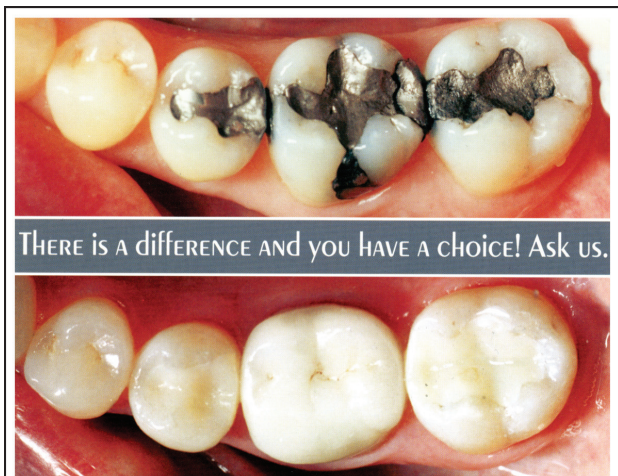
Join the **Almaden Community Center** for a fiesta celebrating the Battle of Puebla's victory over France on Tuesday, May 5th at 2 pm. The festivities include Authentic Mexican food, a live mariachi band and raffle prizes.

Tickets will go on sale beginning April 13th through 27th on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:40 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the community center lobby. Ticket prices are \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members. Almaden Community Center is located at 6443 Camden Ave.



## July 12 Wells Fargo Center for the Arts welcomes Harry Connick Jr. for summer concert

Following a successful winter tour and his second season as a judge on American Idol, Harry Connick, Jr. announced a 20+ city summer concert tour including a stop in Santa Rosa at Wells Fargo Center for the Arts on Sunday, July 12, 2015. Tickets for Harry Connick, Jr. are \$129 and \$89 and go on sale Friday, April 10, 2015 at noon. They will be available online at [wellsfargocenterarts.org](http://wellsfargocenterarts.org), by calling 707-546-3600, and in person at the box office at 50 Mark West Springs Road in Santa Rosa. The shows will feature music from Connick's vast musical catalog, including songs from his most recent releases "Smokey Mary" and "Every Man Should Know." Tickets for Harry Connick, Jr. are \$129 and \$89 and go on sale Friday, April 10, 2015 at noon. They will be available online at [wellsfargocenterarts.org](http://wellsfargocenterarts.org), by calling 707-546-3600, and in person at the box office at 50 Mark West Springs Road in Santa Rosa.



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Times Local News

## Cortese embraces water desalination technology

By Bill Bellou  
Publisher

The president of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, Dave Cortese, says the county should start looking at desalination technology; the process of removing salt from sea water to make drinking water.

"Cities and counties should seriously consider using desalination to supply desperately needed drinking water," said Cortese. "We can't get to a situation where people can't turn tap water on in their homes," he said.

It's a potentially controversial idea. Some environmentalists have expressed concern saying desalination can harm marine life due to the deterioration of water intake pipes and the possible discharge of waste-water. Desalination plants also require a huge amount of power to operate efficiently. However, given the current drought and with no recharge in sight for the already taxed and damaged water table, the bay should be considered an alternative source to be tapped said Cortese.

"It's not the kind of solution that we can wait any longer, because it's not an immediate fix," Cortese said. "I don't want to get to another low snow winter and find out we should have been working on this, when people aren't getting water in their homes."

The supervisor claimed a desalination plant could generate 10 percent of the region's water supply. Governor Brown has recently mandated a 25 percent cut to water use.

"There have been a lot of good ideas out there," he said, "but not a lot of action to date." Cortese said he plans to bring the matter to a committee meeting sometime this month. Cortese added there may be a way to bring a floating plant to the bay, which would meet more immediate needs than constructing a permanent facility.

In early 2004, the Santa Clara Valley Water District and other Bay Area agencies announced the findings of a study that concluded such a treatment plant is feasible.

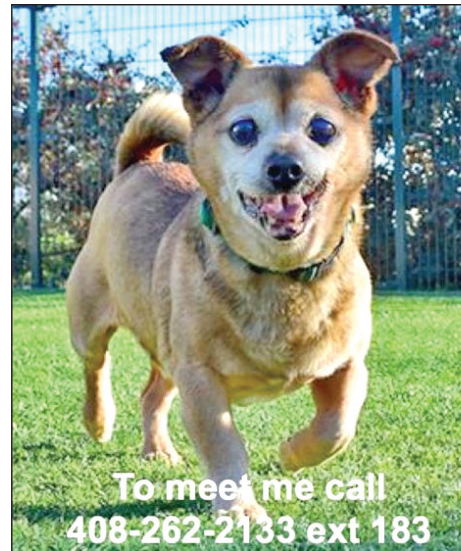
## McHarris selected as new San Jose planning official

Harry Freitas, Director of the Planning, Building & Code Enforcement Department, announced today that he has selected Steve McHarris to serve as the department's new Planning Official.

McHarris will head the Planning Division, staffed by approximately 45 planners and support staff who work on San José's long-term planning projects, associated ordinances, and review zoning, development, and building project proposals.

McHarris has overseen award-winning planning projects and brings deep experience in guiding teams on the complexities of mixed-use, transit-oriented developments, planning for a BART station, and managing capital and operating budgets. "Importantly, for our organization and community, Steve has also demonstrated that his leadership begins with positive employee relations and successful community engagement," said Freitas.

Steve holds a B.S. from California Polytechnic State University-Pomona and a Masters in Public Administration from Cal State Fullerton. He is a registered planner with the American Institute of Certified Planners.



## Humane Society of Silicon Valley wins 'Shorty Award'

The Humane Society Silicon Valley (HSSV) has won "Shorty Award" with their Eddie the Terrible outreach and successful adoption story in the "Best Social Good Campaign" category. Up against heavy hitter finalists like UNICEF, American Red Cross, and AT&T, HSSV's in-house plucky Marketing team could not be more excited to be honored for the lifesaving work they do.

This win is made possible by the amazing collaborative efforts between the in-house Marketing, Adoptions, Foster, and Behavior and Training teams, as well as volunteer help. Eddie the Terrible is a small, two-year-old tan Chihuahua that, at the time, was having a hard time finding a family after over fifteen months in HSSV's care.

The teams knew something rather extreme needed to take place. The "Eddie the Terrible"

campaign launched with a brutally honest and humorous blog post included a satirical press release, social media posts, and videos showcasing Eddie's 'terribleness.' Financially supported only by \$45 in Facebook Boosts, his story garnered national attention after HuffingtonPost.com took notice. From there, the story grew legs and took on a life of its own with features on ABC's "Good Morning America," "Inside Edition," and SiriusXM's "Jay Thomas Show," just to name a few.

"This campaign highlights the unique approach HSSV takes in marketing our organization and the animals in our care, as well as the programs and services we provide the community," says HSSV president Carol Novello. "This win solidifies HSSV as a trend setter in the animal welfare industry, embracing the paradigm shift towards less barriers and debunking the age old myth of animals in shelters being broken, beaten down and not worthy of a second chance."

*Humane Society Silicon Valley is a privately funded, non-profit organization with an Animal Community Center in Milpitas, and three Neighborhood Adoptions Centers in West San Jose Petco, Sunnyvale Petco, and Mountain View PetSmart. They have been connecting people and pets in the Silicon Valley community for over 80 years.*

HSSV opened its state of the art, 48,000 square-foot Animal Community Center in 2009, which includes an impressive shelter medicine program, exemplary volunteer and educational programs, as well as progressive behavior and training programs to support adopters. For more information, visit [www.hssv.org](http://www.hssv.org). Follow HSSV on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram.

### About The Shorty Awards

The Shorty Awards honor the best of social media, recognizing the people and organizations producing real-time short form content across Twitter, Facebook, Tumblr, YouTube, Instagram, Vine, and the rest of the social Web. The 7th Annual Shorty Awards ceremony will take place in New York City and will be livestreamed on the web on April 20, 2015.



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## Annual Evergreen College Poetry Festival April 29

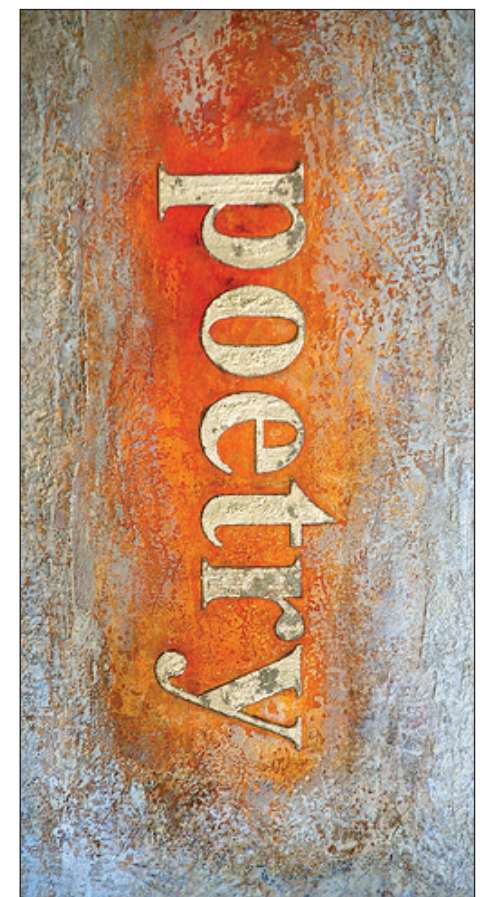
The annual Evergreen College Poetry Festival will be held on April 29, 2015 at Montgomery Hall.

Festivities are scheduled to begin with a reception at noon with refreshments being provided. At 12:30 pm, live readings will begin and will last about an hour, at which time there will be a short intermission with refreshments.

The new 2015 issue of Leaf by Leaf, the annual Evergreen College review of literature will be available for purchase as one enters the theater. This year's issue promises to be very exciting, to say the least.

After the intermission, live readings will begin again and at 3 pm there will be an open mike session for all contributors of the Leaf by Leaf to read or recite their works.

"Our festival promises to be one of the best ever and we encourage the general public to attend and participate" said Sterling Warner who is largely responsible for this year's event.





## County kicks off youth jobs program for teens and young adults

The County is kicking off a new program to provide up to 500 summer job placements and career preparation for youth ages 16 – 21 years old with training and counseling.

Initially proposed by Board President Dave Cortese and Supervisor Chavez, "Santa Clara County Youth Works" was created by the Board of Supervisors in February 2015 as a tool to address the opportunity gap for low-income and at-risk youth with a \$1 million investment.

Youth Works Program is contracting with Work2Future to place 200 16- to 21-year-olds with nonprofits and arts groups, and plans to place another 300 with other employers, including Target, Home Depot, Lowes, Wendy's, Goodwill Industries, Local 393 Plumbers and Earthquakes Avaya Stadium.

Successful job applicants are scheduled to begin working in early June for five- to 10-week stints. They will also receive training and counseling to help prepare them for future careers.

For more information, contact the Office of Supervisor Dave Cortese at 408-299-5030 or the office of Supervisor Cindy Chavez at 408-299-5020.

## Shared aquatic and theater center identified from Measure H bonds

The San Jose Unified School District blue ribbon panel is looking into the viability of spending \$19 million on a districtwide aquatic center, a performing arts center or both. The projects' budget has been set aside from Measure H bonds approved by voters in 2012.

Parents, staff and community members identified an aquatic center and a performing arts center are identified by parents, school staff and community members as the top improvements wanted for the school district.

Input from more than 3,000 people were interviewed about the needs in the district," said Stephen McMahon, SJUSD's chief business officer. "We wanted to make sure we were building something for everyone."

The blue ribbon panel will have approximately one year to look at the feasibility of sharing an one or both of the centers among the district's 42 schools. If the projects are

## Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley performs 'Cinderella' May 8-10

Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley is presenting popular family entertainment for Mother's Day weekend with a performance of "Cinderella," complete with fairy godmother, a pumpkin turned into a coach, and a shiny glass slipper.

Raymond Rodriguez, associate artistic director of the company, is taking on the task of staging the production, choreographed by Ben Severson, with music by Sergei Prokofiev. Rodriguez is a former principal dancer for the ballet company.

The ballet takes place at the Center for Performing Arts, 255 S. Almaden Blvd on May 8 at 8 p.m.; May 9 at 1:30 and 8 p.m. and May 10 at 1:30 p.m. The May 9 matinee is a special family-priced performance.

Non-subscriber tickets are priced at \$25-\$110; family-priced tickets are \$25-\$80. Youth, senior and family pricing and other special promotions are available. For information on tickets or season subscriptions, visit [balletsj.org](http://balletsj.org).



deemed unfeasible, the funds will go toward future facility needs projects.

The blue ribbon panel is to be made up of three community members, two members of the district's board, four district staff members and representatives from school aquatic and performing arts staff.

San Jose Unified School District is also working on a plan to redesign classrooms to provide an improved learning environment and efficiency.

## Naming contest for new baby peregrine falcons

Clara and Fernando El Cohete's eggs have hatched, and San Jose's young falcon fans have an opportunity to help name the new chicks.

The naming contest is open to children 5-18 who live or attend school in San José. Artwork, essay, video, or song required for each entry. In addition to having the honor of naming the falcon chicks, the students who submitted the winning names will receive: a

commendation from Mayor Liccardo at a future City Council meeting, passes to Happy Hollow Park & Zoo, and a school assembly featuring Glenn Stewart of the UC Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group.

To enter the contest, read the rules and guidelines and enter online by midnight April 24, 2015. To watch the falcons live, see our FalconCam.

## Nine Coldwell Banker Silicon Valley agents rank in Top 1% for Northern California

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage announced that nine of its Silicon Valley agents and real estate teams have been honored for being in the top 1 percent of the company's Northern California agents for 2014 home sales.

The agents and teams earning top 1 per-

cent honors were the Mary Tan Realty Team; the Gorman Group; The Bill Lister Team; Coco Tan; the Chiavettas; Anthony Lum Realtors; Erdal Team; Yvonne Yang; and Susan Castaneda and Shawn Miller. They were among just 58 agents and teams to finish in the top 1 percent and surpassed more than 3,900 sales associates in Northern California.

"Congratulations to this very talented group of Silicon Valley real estate professionals," said Mike James, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. "Many of these agents have earned top 1 percent honors year after year due to their hard work, professional expertise and outstanding service. We're proud to have them on our team."

The agents were recognized for their international honors during a recent company ceremony. They have also been extended an invitation to Coldwell Banker's Residential Brokerage's Top 1% Retreat, which will be held later this year at the world-renowned Pelican Hill resort in Newport Beach.

## Silicon Valley traffic more congested

Is Silicon Valley traffic better or getting worse? A new survey says Silicon Valley traffic is bad and getting more congested. San Jose now ranks as the sixth most congested American city in the 'Tom Tom Traffic Index', with a 30 percent congestion level. That means our roads are considered "congested" for 30 percent of the day. But by comparison, Los Angeles and San Francisco are the two most congested U.S. cities with 39 and 34 percent congestions. The TomTom Index provides the general public, industry and policy makers with unique and unbiased information about congestion levels in urban areas.



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## Times Cover Story



Mayor Sam Liccardo has his sights set on public safety.

## Safety

*Continued from page 1*

burglary continues to be a top priority. Although burglary rates have decreased considerably in the southern division, they have spiked in Almaden with 106 arrests in a six-month period, and 56 percent of those arrested under age 18. As a result, the city has doubled its truancy abatement program.

“There’s a strong correlation between fewer absences from high school and burglary rates dropping,” said Liccardo. “We have to get the kids who aren’t in school and hold them and their parents accountable.”

Liccardo plans to hire 26 additional community service officers to respond to burglaries, taking reports and collecting fingerprints and evidence.

“Their work is beginning to pay off, and we’ve seen crime rates come down,” he said. “It’s critical to link the burglaries together. Getting one arrest is nice, but when we can link burglars to multiple houses, we can get real time on the guy.”

Khamis said that the community can help catch burglars by sharing their video or photographic evidence with police following a break-in in their neighborhood.

“In Philadelphia, it’s resulted in over 200 arrests,” said the Mayor. “It can be really effective—especially in communities like Almaden.”

Almaden residents can register your surveillance camera, sign up online at: [www.sanjose-ca.gov/Form\\_Center/Police-39/Register-your-Surveillance-Camera-244](http://www.sanjose-ca.gov/Form_Center/Police-39/Register-your-Surveillance-Camera-244)

Another city strategy is employing at risk teens during the summer through ‘San Jose Works: Youth Jobs Initiative.’ The city and the county both allocated \$1 million in seed money to leverage support from local employers. Home Depot, Bank of America, Lowe’s,

Target, and Microsoft have committed to this effort, and Liccardo hopes more businesses will join them.

“We’re hoping to get 700 to 800 teens hired this summer from the most impacted areas and hot spots of gang activity,” said Liccardo. “We’ve seen the burglary rates come down the last couple of years, but it’s still too high. We’re going to push and make sure it keeps coming down.”

The mayor is also looking to grow the police force with new recruits. He noted that 19 cadets recently graduated from the police academy, but he’d like to see as many as 45 come out of an academy class. However, more than 3,000 candidates apply regularly for each class with most being turned away.

“We’re hoping to get 700 to 800 teens hired this summer from the most impacted areas and hot spots of gang activity.” — Sam Liccardo.

“We have long had very high standards in this city,” he said, “and as result, we get much better officers. If we pay a little better, have higher standards, and have the best officers in country, we don’t need as many officers, and that formula has worked.”

San Jose has the lowest violent crime rate of any major city in the United States, and its property crime rate is fifth or sixth. “We’d all like to be number one in all categories again,” said Liccardo, “and I’ll push like hell to get us there, but our officers are doing a great job and working hard, and I just need to get more of them.”

Through a federal grant, the city plans to add 14 additional firefighters. Other public safety initiatives in the budget include an additional 250 more mobile digital devices in police officer’s cars, protective devices to harden vehicles (especially passengers and drivers side windows) and better communications equipment.

“We’re going to do our best to make sure

our officers have the tools they need to stay safe and keep you safe,” said Liccardo.

A resident expressed gratitude for the additional number of police officers in Almaden, the faster response time of the police, and information posted by the force on Neighborhood Watch and the website NextDoor.

“You promised us that, and I appreciate it,” he said.

“That’s our police officers,” responded Liccardo. “A lot of them take overtime shifts.”

The mayor said that traffic safety has been a big problem, with six related fatalities this year. He is requesting 15 additional mobile radar trailers in the budget as well as supplying each council district with funding to install crosswalks and road narrowing devices at key intersections.

After a child was hit by a car on Bret Harte last year, a neighbor requested more speed limit signs, stop signs, and speed bumps.

“For many years, we had a prohibition on speed bumps because emergency vehicles couldn’t get around them,” said Liccardo. “Now, the fire department is willing to approve them if we put slots in that are wide enough for their axles to get through.”

In a further step to improve neighborhood safety, the city has started replacing 18,000 streetlights with energy-efficient, brighter LEDs. The City Manager is currently assessing whether the city can fund the implementation of LEDs in the remaining 40,000 streetlights.

### Budget and Pension Reform

“The annual costs for all of our funds are about \$310 million a year,” said Liccardo, “and roughly 80 to 85 percent of that comes from the general fund.”

When Liccardo said that nonessential funds would be cut, a resident asked which services were considered essential.

“Essential services are those services that

Johnny and I want, and nonessential services are those other councilmembers want,” joked Liccardo. “This is a political decision involving competing values. There are plenty of arguments over what should or shouldn’t be funded, but it’s fair to say that what you see in the budget is an overwhelming focus on public safety and basic services like streets and libraries.”

Liccardo said the city is in a fiscal rut after running up huge debt in retiree benefit accounts amounting to the tune of \$3 billion.

“When you’re deep in a hole, you stop digging, and stop making promises of benefits that nobody knows how to pay for,” said Liccardo. “We have to pay off this debt over 16 or 21 years with your tax dollars, and those are dollars we won’t have to provide you with services. In the meantime, we need a more sustainable system so we don’t ever create this debt ever again for our children or the next generation.”

The city is currently back at the bargaining table with the Police Association trying to reach a comprehensive settlement with pension reform, retiree healthcare reform, disability, and pay.

“We got them to the negotiating table, but we’re not hugging it out yet,” he said. “We need to resolve all of these issues comprehensively with them and with the other 10 bargaining units whose contracts come up at the end of the year and are also in litigation with us. We’re negotiating police and fire together as they have similar pension plans.”

To combat budget deficits of \$318 million in 2010, 2011, and 2012, through hiring freezes and layoffs, the city reduced its police, fire and other employees by a quarter. City employees took severe cuts in compensation, city services were steeply cut and voters approved Measure B in June 2012, enabling more than \$25 million in annual General

See SAFETY, next page



## Times Cover Story

## Safety

*Continued from previous page*

Fund savings as a result of pension and healthcare benefit reforms. The larger portion of these funds is still held up in litigation.

“It looks like a good time to settle,” said Liccardo. “We’re looking for a settlement that will give us some savings and restore police officer staffing. That’s a critical priority. These are really complex issues, and reaching an agreement will take some work. I’m hoping we can do so as quickly as possible, but I want to make sure we’re doing it right, and not putting the next council in the same position we were in, having to lay off hundreds of staff and police officers, and leaving residents without services because nobody figured out you can’t run a \$3 billion dollar debt without telling anybody.”

Liccardo said the city is looking for ways to find savings in retiree healthcare, which is an area in which the unions and the city are aligned as they’re both equally responsible for the liabilities.

“That’s where I want to get with pensions,” he said, “Where we’re both equally responsible for unfunded liabilities. Because then everyone’s aligned in getting to the table and trying to solve the problem, rather than saying someone else should pay for it.”

#### Road Maintenance

“I know it’s not sexy,” said Khamis, “but pavement maintenance is my top priority. With the City Council passing the largest city investment in pavement maintenance in over a decade [\$61 million], streets around the city will be getting the much-needed maintenance and pavement that has been deferred for so long.”

In 2015, Almaden Road, Trinidad Drive, and Camden Avenue will be paved.

“I have been advocating heavily for District 10 streets to be included,” he said, “and I am happy to see it will finally come to fruition.”

Unfortunately, looking ahead, the mayor said that the new budget reverts to a dismal number and state funding will no longer be available.

“Normally, it takes \$20 million a year just to maintain large streets like Camden, Santa Teresa, and Blossom Hill,” said Khamis. “We only have \$16 million in this year’s budget for it. The mayor’s putting aside \$2 ½ million for special projects. My hope is that you will call the city council and the mayor and say, ‘Take that money and put it towards pavement maintenance, please.’ That’s what I’m hoping.”

#### Expanded Library Hours

Due to cost savings, the city plans to expand its branch library hours from 4 ½ to 6 days a week.

“We’re making a small step forward because the library director was so effective at utilizing recommendations from our city auditor to

save costs, utilize volunteers more effectively, and better arrange staffing,” Liccardo said.

A couple of years ago, this cost estimate were \$2 to \$4 million, making it unaffordable. The current funding includes \$450,000 from the General Fund, the Library parcel tax fund and savings.

“This is evidence that when people work together and better use dollars, we can restore services much more easily,” he said.

#### Jobs & Housing

Another city challenge is the jobs-housing balance.

“On the jobs side, I spend a lot of my time hustling companies and finding out what it takes to make companies grow here,” said Liccardo. “We’re doing well attracting business right now.”

According to the mayor, BAE Systems is moving 500 employees in from Santa Clara, a manufacturing plant is moving into San Jose with 500 employees, and Barracuda is now up and running. In addition, in the last year and a half, 35 major tech companies moved downtown and within the next three months, another major tech employer may be relocating in San Jose.

“The key is making sure companies that are here are staying here and growing here,” said Liccardo. “That’s where we see the overwhelming majority of job growth and that’s why it’s critical for me to be spending my time talking to CEOs to find out what they need to be successful and how we can help.”

On the housing side, Liccardo said that the only way to add housing to the city and not exasperate its fiscal challenges (the city only gets 12 percent of property tax and a penny of sales tax) is to generate positive fiscal impacts from employers.

With a projection of 400,000 more people living in San Jose in the next 25 years, housing becomes a challenge and the city is obligated to plan for them.

“If we think we can build a wall and keep them out, we have to think again,” said Liccardo, “because two thirds of them are our children or grandchildren, so we’re stuck with them. The question isn’t ‘Are we going to grow?’ it’s ‘How are we going to grow?’”

Faced with continuing a sprawl onto hillsides or Coyote Valley, with new residents using more gas and water and clogging the freeways, the city opted instead for high-density housing, building apartment towers downtown. This way, the city also saves money as it doesn’t have to build more sewers and roads, and there’s less water consumption as the majority of water usage is landscaping and downtown apartment towers don’t have lawns. In addition, as residents will be close to work, and they are more likely to walk or use public transit.

“It’s the most sustainable way,” said Liccardo, “and better for us fiscally.”

## San Jose’s College Prep among Samsung’s grand prize winners nationwide

Samsung has announced the five grand prize winners in its nationwide Solve for Tomorrow contest, a competition to raise enthusiasm for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education among U.S. public school students.

The five grand prize winners, listed below, were chosen from more than 3,100 schools from across the country. They will receive technology and other prizes from Samsung, Adobe, DIRECTV, Fortune, PBS TeacherLine, the National Environmental Education Foundation and Digital Promise.

**Downtown College Prep, San Jose, CA**

**Nicholson Elementary School, Picayune, MS**

**Galena High School, Reno, NV**

**Northwest Pennsylvania Collegiate Academy, Erie, PA**

**Hudson’s Bay High School, Vancouver, WA**

Each of the five winning schools receive more than \$138,000\* in technology products such as LED TVs, laptops and tablets. Each school will be honored in a special Washington, D.C. ceremony on April 29. More than 3,100 schools from every state across the country entered the contest in August with an essay response on how STEM can help



Downtown College Prep (San Jose) graduates

their community.

This group moved onto the next phase of the contest where 51 State Winners were selected to receive a camera, laptop, and Adobe Premier Elements software to create videos to compete in the video phase of the contest that answered the challenge: Show how STEM can improve your community. Then 15 National Finalists were selected to present their projects in person to a live panel of judges at the Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum in New York City in March and their performance was part of the consideration in selecting the five National Winners. The prize package for the National Finalists includes a special service plan with a dedicated school support contact, on-site product training, online support, and an extended warranty plan.

## Homeowners rally against fireplace retrofit proposal

Homeowners and local Realtors are rallying together to fight a proposal from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District that would ban any home in the Bay Area with a wood-burning fireplace from being sold or rented.

Under the proposal, a home with a wood-burning fireplace could not be sold or rented until the fireplace is replaced with an EPA-approved option such as natural gas or electricity. The other alternative would be making the fireplace inoperable.

Homeowners would incur the cost of replacing the fireplace or making it inoperable. Retrofit costs homeowners several thousands of dollars, depending on the home and the type of fireplace that is installed and the complexity of the retrofit.

If the ordinance were to pass, some homeowners might decide to postpone selling their property because of the added cost to them.

#### Groundwater Recharge

As the county’s groundwater storage was depleted by 80,000 acre feet in 2014, the city is taking proactive steps to address its long-term water needs. They are looking to recycled water and have recently launched an advanced purification treatment facility. Their plan is to use highly-purified recycled water to recharge the aquifers which would boost the long-term potable water supply.

“The only reliable water we have is right beneath our feet in underground aquifers,” said Liccardo.

The city currently recycles about 15 million gallons of water a day for landscaping and industry, and according to Liccardo, uses an advanced water purification plant to recycle 8 million gallons a day to a level above state drinking water standards.

“We think we can start to recharge Ford Pond within 24 months,” said Liccardo, “and as we get other replenishment facilities onboard, we could be recycling as many as 35,000 acres a year.”

However, to do so, they would have to receive permits from the state and satisfy the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

“We’d have to get the state and CEQA out of the way,” said Liccardo. “I’m going to Sacramento to ask the state to get out of the way. The Water District’s on board and we want to make this happen.”

#### San Jose Gateways

Through a new program started by the mayor, private sector partners like Ernst & Young, TiVo, and Wells Fargo are sponsoring key entrances to the city and funding

“We can all agree that clean air and public health is important, but we disagree on how to get there,” said Craig Gorman, President of the Santa Clara County Association of REALTORS®. “Clearly, this is an infringement on property owner’s rights. We would like to receive education and financial incentives for those who choose to retrofit.”

Many of the nearly 100 people who attended a public meeting about the proposed ordinance in Morgan Hill late last month expressed their concern. Some said they don’t even use their wood-burning fireplace but that they would still like to have the option to use it.

Others were shocked learn that their EPA-approved fireplace would no longer be approved and that they would have to retrofit with a device that meets the higher EPA standard. Still, others expressed their discontent at having to pay a fee to register their wood-burning device.

the efforts of the San Jose Streets Team to engage homeless men and women to beautify San Jose Gateways. Participants receive housing, food vouchers, and job training in exchange for cleaning trash, eliminating graffiti, planning murals and planting vegetation.

“If you happen to be an employer and have any interest in joining us, we’d love to hit you up,” Liccardo said.

Liccardo and Khamis partnered in answering questions throughout the address from the crowd with an easy-going camaraderie.

“Thanks for supporting Johnny,” said Liccardo, “He’s doing an incredible job. Not too many days go by at City Hall before we hear what they need in Almaden and Blossom Valley. Johnny’s a great advocate for this community.”



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W. Smith San Francisco

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46 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$17,790
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$5,791
SALE PRICE	\$11,999
CHRYSLER CALIF. B.C. CASH	-\$2,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH*	-\$1,000

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$10,999**

\*MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL. SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL. 2 AT THIS NET PRICE #528577, 528578

**2015 JEEP COMPASS**

9 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$19,990
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$2,852
SALE PRICE	\$17,138
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CALIF. B.C. RETAIL CONSUMER CASH	-\$2,250

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$13,888**

\*MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL. SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL. 1 AT THIS NET PRICE #273808

**2015 DODGE DART**

9 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$18,265
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$2,872
SALE PRICE	\$15,393
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER RETAIL CONSUMER CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH*	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$13,888**

\*MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL. SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL. 1 AT THIS NET PRICE #330926

**2015 DODGE JOURNEY AUTOMATIC**

29 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$21,290
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$2,791
SALE PRICE	\$18,499
CHRYSLER CONSUMER CASH	-\$1,500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNT AND REBATES**

**\$16,999**

1 AT THIS NET PRICE #650356

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7-PASSENGER

46 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$22,190
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$2,913
SALE PRICE	\$19,277
CHRYSLER CONSUMER CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH*	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNT AND REBATES**

**\$17,777**

\*MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL. SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL. 3 AT THIS NET PRICE #635117, 600220, 615292

**NEW 2015 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT AUTOMATIC, A/C**

62 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$23,990
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$3,491
SALE PRICE	\$20,499
CHRYSLER CALIFORNIA BONUS CASH	-\$500
CHRYSLER RETAIL BONUS CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER RETAIL CONSUMER CASH	-\$1,000

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$17,999**

2 AT THIS NET PRICE #660752, 660751

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39 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

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DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$3,991
SALE PRICE	\$23,999
CHRYSLER CALIF. BONUS CASH	-\$1,000

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNT AND REBATES**

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2 AT THIS NET PRICE #775578, 761785

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23 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$28,990
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$3,102
SALE PRICE	\$25,888
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**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNT AND REBATES**

**\$23,888**

2 AT THIS NET PRICE #721566, 754503

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**SALE PRICE**

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DEALER DISCOUNT	\$4,036
SALE PRICE	\$29,499
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CHRYSLER CALIFORNIA BONUS CASH	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$27,999**

1 AT THIS NET PRICE #693025

**2015 DODGE DURANGO**

7-PASSENGER AUTOMATIC

18 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$31,490
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$3,741
SALE PRICE	\$27,749
CHRYSLER RETAIL CONSUMER CASH	-\$750

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$26,999**

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**\$11,288**

1 AT THIS NET SAVINGS #628228

**2015 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE SUMMIT 4X4**

NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

**\$7,000**

1 AT THIS NET SAVINGS #753680

DEALER DISCOUNT OFF MSRP	\$6,500
CHRYSLER CALIF. B.C. RETAIL CONSUMER CASH	-\$500

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**SALE PRICE**

**\$25,888**

1 AT THIS SALE PRICE #665717

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MSRP	\$38,840
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$5,841
SALE PRICE	\$32,999
CHRYSLER RETAIL BONUS CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER RETAIL CONSUMER CASH	-\$1,500
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH*	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$29,999**

\*MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL. SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL. 2 AT THIS NET PRICE #638291, 638292

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408 268-0243  
www.AlmadenCongregational.org  
We are a welcoming Church engaged in progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local Invision Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco Night Ministry, Second Harvest Food Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End Poverty. Worship 9:00AM, Sunday School 10:00 AM Sundays.  
1st Sundays in Worship: Holy Communion  
2nd Sunday in Worship: Folk Choir  
3rd Sundays at Coffee Hour: Round Table Disc.  
4th Sundays in Worship: Blessing of Birthdays/Anniversaries/other "joy" Occasions  
Tuesday, AA Meetings, 8:15-9:15 PM.  
Wednesdays, 9:30 AM., Women's Study Group

#### CARTER AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST

5351 Carter Avenue, San Jose, CA 95118  
408.265.5837, Web: www.bibleroad.org  
You are invited to a new testament worship service to fellowship with neighborhood Christians. Experience traditional singing, study of the Bible, praying with believers who acknowledge Jesus Christ as their Savior, preaching of the Gospel message, and communion every Sunday. Sunday morning Bible class at 9:30 AM, and worship service at 10:30 AM.  
Conveniently located in south San Jose off Kooser/Camden Avenue near Highway 85 (behind the Almaden Valley Athletic Club). Come make new friends in Christ!

#### EAST VALLEY CHURCH

We are a Multicultural Christian Community committed to making Christ known to our Neighbors, Community and World.  
Sunday Schedule: Worship 10am, Sunday School for all ages 8:30am, Coffee and Conversation 9:30am  
Childcare is provided for all our Sunday Services  
Uplifting music, Biblical teaching, ministries for Children, Youth, College & Career, Small Groups for all adults, Ministries to Men, Women, Seniors, Celebrate Recovery (Please see website for details and meeting times www.eastvalleychurch.com )  
Community-Life Pastor (Youth/College & Career) – Pastor Pat Boyd, Community Life Pastor (Small Groups/Christian Education) – Pastor Alvin Lin, Children's Ministry Director – Julie Garcia, Celebrate Recovery Leader – Anne Friend  
We are located at 2827 Flint Ave (Between Tully & Norwood) San Jose, CA 95148, Phone 408-238-0231, e-mail info@eastvalleychurch.com We are associated with Converge Worldwide www.convergeworldwide.org

#### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Kate Flexer, Rector Phone:408-268-0243 Web:www.eca-sj.org  
The Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA) is a place where God stops for love and laughter. Through worship, study, fellowship 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 and valued. Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family. All junior high and senior high students are welcome to participate in our Youth Groups. During the school year we have joint Sunday School with our sister church, the Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, UCC. The Episcopal Church in Almaden offers the following regular opportunities for worship: Sunday at 10:30AM, Holy Communion service; Thursday at 7:30AM, short Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.

#### EVERGREEN VALLEY CHURCH

Visit our Web Site at www.evcsj.com  
2750 Yerba Buena Rd. San Jose, CA 95121. Phone: 408-274-7422. Saturday worship is at 5 pm. Sunday worship services at 9 am and 11 am.. Excellent contemporary Christian music and Bible-based teaching. Nursery care and Children's Sunday School programs at 9 am and 10:45 am. Junior High students meet Sunday's at 9 am. Junior High and High School students meet on Tuesday's at 6:30 pm. College/Young adults meet on Sunday's at 6 pm. Casa de Oración: Servicio en Español: Domingos 4 pm.

#### FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN

Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) www.firstchurch-downtown.com  
Telephone: (408) 294-7254  
x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a message that is relevant to real life, based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips. Come, Make a Difference and feel the difference God can make in your life!

#### HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

Faith.Knowledge.Community - this is our promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office. Information on Faith Formation for children and adults can be obtained by calling our Catechetical Office at 408-997-5115. Get in the loop with our 3sixty High School Youth Ministry by calling 408-997-5106. Holy Spirit School serves grades Pre-K through 8th, and is located at 1198 Redmond Avenue. You can reach the school office at 408-268-0794.

#### SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CRE-ATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram

Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call 1+ (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www.church-stanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.

#### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135  
408-223-1562. www.stfrancisco-fassisi.com  
www.stfranciscofassisipreschool.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!

**Worship listing advertisements are \$495 annually. Please call Brigitte at (408) 558-3623.**

## Classifieds

### Employment

**DIRECTV** is currently recruiting for the following positions in Castroville & San Jose:

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161 Inverness Drive West, Englewood, CO 80112.  
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#### WORK WITH TROPICAL PLANTS

South Bay-based Interior Plantscape Company looking for bright, motivated individual(s) to care for interior plants in corporate environments in the SF Bay Area. Flexible hours, 20-35hr week Experience preferred but will train as necessary!

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# 6469 Little Falls Drive, Almaden Valley

*Amazing open floor plan!* This 3173+/-sf home has 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths plus an office. The home was totally remodeled recently with work completed just this year. Great room consists of family room and kitchen and is perfect for large parties. Kitchen has custom cherry cabinets, slab counters, decorative natural timber stone backsplash, center island and pantry. Enormous backyard has a park-like setting.

**Offered at \$1,599,000**

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Offered at \$1,799,000

7348 Glenview Drive

Offered at \$2,800,000

15542 Palos Verdes Drive

Offered at \$1,800,000

1188 Delmas Avenue

Offered at \$1,699,000



## Therese Swan

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