

Leland Bridge Night's annual Chinese New Year celebration. Photos by Jeanne Carbone



# EDUCATION 'Cash for College' workshops offered

**By Jim Beall** Special to the Times

E ducation has the power to transform lives and I believe every student who is qualified to attend college should have that opportunity. But too many times, cost is a barrier.

This year, I have made it my mission to inform students and families about the resources available to them to pay for college.

I am sponsoring a series of "Cash for College" workshops in February to help students and their parents complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid form – commonly referred to as FAFSA, a form that determines how much federal, state, and other college financial they can receive. *See BEALL, page 6* 

# Leland Bridge Night presents annual celebration

By Jeanne C. Carbone Managing Editor

The Year of the Sheep was celebrated with panache and style as a crowd of more than 300 attended Leland Bridge Night on Jan. 31 in the school's auditorium.

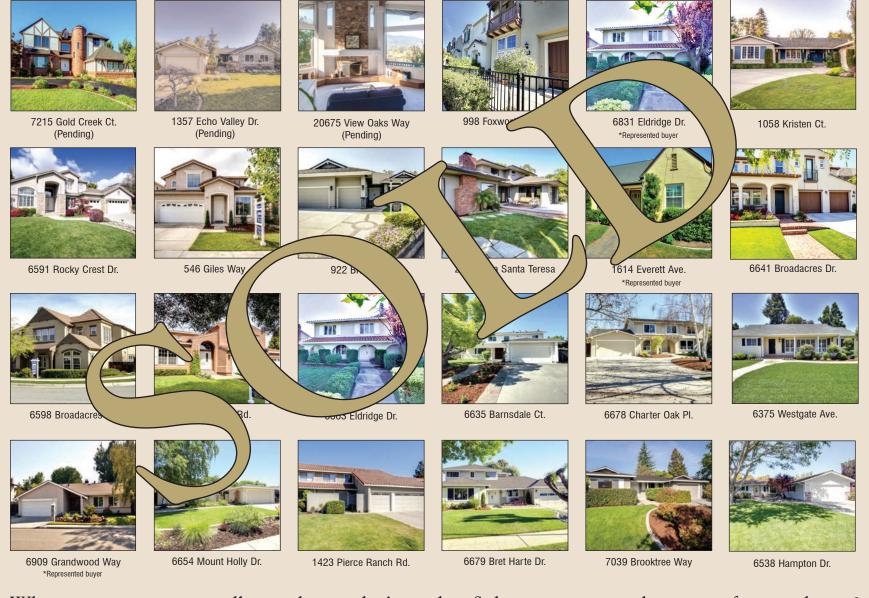
From the spectacular Lion Dance opening to song and dance and even Chinese Yoyo performers, the Lunar New Year was a feast for the eyes as well as the dinner served. A two-part fashion show was featured as well and there was a first ever ballet by Leland senior, ballerina Rebeca Wong, at the event.

"The talent never fails to amaze me," said Councilmember Johnny Khamis who was in attendance and presented a commendation to Leland Bridge and a donation to President Annie Liu. "Thank you to the *See BRIDGE NIGHT, page 20* 



Colorful centerpieces with sheep celebrated the Lunar New Year and were available for purchase to raise more funds for Leland Bridge sponsored school events.

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# Valley Currents

# State of the County: Year of opportunity declared

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

# Upbeat address highlights accomplishments and goals

By Jeanne C. Carbone Managing Editor

he state of the county is good and getting better," said Board of

Supervisors President Dave Cortese at the annual State of the County address at the Montgomery Theater in downtown San Jose on Jan. 27.

Cortese announced that the county has come through the recession after cuts totaling \$1.8 million were made. He thanked the 15,000 county employees who agreed to cuts in wages and benefits during those years. With a balanced budget with a small surplus, Cortese expects the 2016 budget to hold steady.

"Our economy is strong and Silicon Valley is booming," he said. "As home to the largest companies that change the world on a daily basis, Santa Clara County captures the heart of Silicon Valley—the epicenter of this daily innovation revolution; A new Valley of Heart's Delight."

Though his speech was upbeat, Cortese recognizes that many still struggle to make a better life for themselves and their families and that is what the county is focused on—to create opportunity and quality of life for the residents. He declared 2015 to be the Year of Opportunity by working together to improve the community.

"That's not too much to ask of the community that boasts to being among the highest per capita productivity in the world," Cortese said. "... [the] county must ensure we take every opportunity to support businesses so they can thrive, grow and succeed."

He also stressed the need to avoid political posturing of rejecting ideas or solutions based on where or who the ideas are presented. "Too often, we choose sides instead of choosing solutions," Cortese said.

He challenged the county and community partners to be open to ideas and solutions no matter from where they are suggested that will improve services to residents.

In a show of solidarity, San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and councilmembers, and other noted officials attended the address that was well received by attendees who



Board of Supervisors President **Dave Cortese** presented the State of the County address at the Montgomery Theater on Jan. 27. *Photos by Jeanne Carbone* 

neighborhood," said Cortese.

Under county government, is

the Sheriff's Office, prosecutors

and firefighters. Steps have been

taken to fill the vacancies at the

Sheriff's Office. There were 215

vacant badge positions out of

1,320 at the beginning of 2014.

Cortese expects to have fewer than

The county invested \$850,000 to

step up efforts in the Sheriff's

Office and the District Attorney's

Office with the support from the

South Bay Coalition to End

Human Trafficking for this crime

of modern day slavery. A Human

Trafficking Commission was creat-

ed to support law enforcement and

collaborate with regional, national

Cortese wants to create an

Office of Neighborhood Safety to

reduce violent crime by working

with offenders and victims through

mentoring and intervention servic-

es. Also, a Juvenile Fellowship

Program will be created for youth

offenders who engage in violent

activities or use firearms. The

and international partners.

30 vacancies at the end of 2015.

applauded throughout the address.

Cortese laid out a plan for the toughest problems that are faced—homelessness, affordable housing, public safety and access to quality health care.

#### Homelessness

On any given day, 7,600 homeless reside on the streets of Santa Clara County with more than 5,000 in San Jose alone. "Stunningly, nearly 1,000 are veterans and another 25 percent are children," said Cortese.

A Task Force will be organized with a report due to the Board Supervisors in 10 months and addressing affordable housing and homelessness in the short term. The Task Force will be co-chaired by San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Matt Mahood South Bay Labor Council Chief Officer Ben Field (who were also emcees at the address) as well as Supervisors Mike Wasserman and Cindy Chavez, a City of San Jose representative chosen by Mayor Liccardo, and others.

Public safety

"... every family deserves a safe

**Public health** Cortese wants to reverse the growth of Type 2 Diabetes in

their lives through education, job

training and a resolution to the

pain and damage they caused their

victims

Santa Clara County by ensuring that the county's 1.8 million residents have access to screening to prevent Type 2 from occurring. Supervisor Ken Yeager will lead the effort that no metro area in the county has undertaken. A similar assessment of the health of children in the county is also planned that Yeager will head.

With funding increased for the Senior Nutrition Program that began this month to insure meals were cooked onsite at their community centers, Cortese wants to move toward the goal of becoming a World Health Organization Age Friendly Community.

Immigration

The Board of Supervisors is exploring creating a County Office of Immigrant Relations to better serve these populations. They are also looking to form partnerships with the City of San Jose and community foundations to research the impact of changes in our area and coordinate services such as an education campaign to stop fraudulent *notarios* from preying on immigrants who are navigating though complex legal matters.

#### Economic development

Create a County Economic Development Office that will seek out opportunities in each city within the county to use the land and provide incentives to builders and businesses such as for affordable housing for the homeless. An economic summit is also planned for this year as was organized in 2012.

Plans are being made to create a pilot tourism program that will offer boating field trips around the Don Edwards Wildlife Refuge at the Alviso Marina.

To read the entire transcript of the State of the City visit http://www.sccgov.org/sites/scc/Pages/State-ofcounty-address-dave-cortese.aspx.

# LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your letters to Jeanne Carbone, Managing Editor, at jeannec@ timesmediainc.com or via postal mail to: The Almaden Times, Silicon Valley Business Center, 1900 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95124

#### youth participants will take part in the program, work on improving



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#### **Times Community News**

# Beall

#### Continued from page 1

The workshops will also furnish essential information about applying for Cal Grants, the Middle Class Scholarship, and more.

It has become clear to me that many

students, especially those who are the first members of their family going to college, do not know what free financial aid is available to them or understand how to apply for it. What they don't know can hurt them.

Two years ago as tuition fees rose, over \$396 million in Pell Grants, free federal money earmarked for college-bound students from Califor-nia's working families, went untouched. About 108,000 students eligible for the grants simply did not apply for the

money, leaving on the table grants that were worth on average about \$3,640 each.

Many officials believe this mistake was largely the result of parents and students being unaware of the requirement to fill out the FAFSA. The mistake can cost a student the chance to attend college or severely delay entrance. That's why I am holding the "Cash for College" workshops throughout my Senate District.

Recently, I held an evening workshop



nearly 90 people. Represent-atives from the California Student Opportunity and Access Program and the Cash for College program spoke to families about their options for scholarships, grants, and loans.

at James Lick High School that drew

Madeline Villa, who accompanied her 18-year-old daughter, Jecelyn, a James Lick senior, told my staff

that the workshop provided her with solid information on new alternatives for paying for college.

"We basically thought we'd have to pay for college ourselves,'' Villa said. "Now I see a lot of programs out there to help our kids get the education they need for a great future. This is something new to us."

Ensuring every eligible student can get into college and graduate without bur-

densome loans is a priority. Studies show that students who carry heavy college loans are less likely to purchase a home or open their own business. Their career choices are also affected.

Sponsoring local workshops is just one way I'm trying to help. Taking action on a larger scale, I am co-authoring legislation, Senate Bill 15, to expand college access and affordability. The bill would eliminate University of California regents' plans to hike tuition by 5 percent.

SB 15 provides \$50 million each to the UC and California State University systems to expand support services, such as counseling, to help students complete their degrees and augments the UC and CSU budgets by another \$25 million to increase course offerings. The bill also adds 10,500 more enrollments slots at CSU campuses and creates an additional 7,500 competitive Cal Grants.

The plan will be financed through three sources: increasing UC non-resident student fees; transitioning the Middle Class Scholarship program; and a \$150 million general fund investments that declines to \$66 million by the 2017-18 fiscal year.

Government must take the leadership role in seeing that our colleges are open to all. Perhaps the best example is the original G.I. Bill of Rights, passed by Congress in 1944. The bill covered the college tuition for 2.2 million World War II vets, many of whom could not have afforded it. The bill had another effect: It opened the doors of higher education for those groups – such as minorities — who had been customarily denied entry. The sudden influx of these new college-educated students would fuel America's postwar prosperity.

Investing in education makes sense because it is about investing in California's greatest resource – its people.

Jim Beall is the elected representative for the 15th District of the California State Senate. The district is comprised on San Jose, Cupertino, Los Gatos, Saratoga, Campbell and Monte Sereno.



# **HSSV and vets celebrate Spay** and Neuter Month in February

The Humane Society Silicon Valley has partnered with 20 local veterinary offices to pro-

vide reduced spay and neuter services throughout the month of February. Sterilized pets have a higher chance of living a healthier and longer life, while reducing the overpopulation of homeless animals in the community. Clients can receive up to 40 percent off regular price by appointment only.

"Increasing spay and neuter efforts at this time of year heads off hundreds of homeless litters in the spring and summer months," says Dr. Cristie Kamiya, HSSV Chief of Shelter Medicine. There are a number of added benefits to spay or neuter your pets. It can completely eliminate the risk of testicular cancer in male animals and also reduce the risk of ovarian and other cancers in females. There is less desire for animals to roam, minimizing the interest to mate, spray or mark territory while also decreasing the chances of an accident with a vehicle and fights with neighboring animals.

Visit hssv.org/snmonth to find a participating veterinarian near you and schedule an appointment today.



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Times Community News

# **OBITUARY Vallie Wang Chan** Aug. 16, 1932 - Jan. 26, 2015

Allie Wang Chan passed away from congestive heart failure at her Almaden Valley home on Jan. 26. She had lived there for more than 50 years.

Vallie was born Shanghai, China to C.H. Wang and Annie Sung Wang and was the oldest of five children. She studied journalism and English literature in college. And she deeply admired the U.S.

Her father was a journalist, and Vallie followed in his footsteps by studying journalism in college. After three years, she left college to work to support her family and became a daily news reporter. She did this for about a year until her father secured a job with one of the top newspapers in Taiwan. The family then moved to Taiwan in 1952 and Vallie became a stewardess for a Taiwan airline. She was motivated by the higher pay and the experience of flying the world. "As an adult, she often spoke of how the U.S. values of freedom and independence resonated with



Vallie Wang Chan (Photo courtesy Chan Family)

her," said her daughter Felicia Chan. "She began speaking of her desire to move to the U.S. when she was 17."

That dream came true when Vallie emigrated from Taiwan to the U.S. on New Year's Eve in 1956. She procured work within a week or so as a reservationist at Western Airlines even though her English was still nascent, but she was very resourceful and enlisted the help of a friend to help her stay employed.

Another achievement in Vallie's life is uniting and safeguarding all five members of her immediate family to the U.S. She was frugal and was able to sponsor, support and settle all four of her siblings plus her dad (her mother died in 1969) when they were old enough to start college and begin a life here.

Vallie was always interested in the arts, literature and music. She became a member of the National League of American Pen Women

Santa, Clara County Branch, with a designation in both art and letters in 1979. She continued writing most recently Haiku poems that were published. Many of talents were self-cultivated, educating with books, teachers, and spent hours patiently progressing and mastering her craft. She was not one to conform, pursued discipline, and believed that a brush painting was only truly masterful when it is created from one fluid stroke, said her daughter. Vallie was an award winning artist and showed her work at many galleries in the Bay Area throughout the years. Currently, she has a painting on display at La Petit Trianon Theater gallery in downtown San Jose through April 17, 2015.

"If there is a silver lining, John and I had just seen her and my dad the day before," said daughter Felicia Chan. "She was in great spirits, and we very much enjoyed our time together. We are comforted that Maynard, my father and her inseparable companion of 56 years, was by her side and that her passing was brief and without suffering. We are also grateful that she was in her home in the community that she loved for more than 50 years."

Vallie is survived by her husband Maynard Chan, daughters Felicia Constance Chan and Irene Celeste Chan, son-in-laws John Slater and Robert Wolfe [respectively], siblings Julia Tung, Sally Tantrophol, Frank Wang, Eugene Wang, their spouses and children.

A memorial service will be held at St. Stephens-in-the-Field Episcopal Church later in February. *–Jeanne Carbone* 



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#### Times Local News



The National League of American Pen Women, Santa Clara County Branch honored Carolyn Larsen, Melody Sheppard, Patricia Sherwood, Marie Cameron, Ann Bridges, Clare Mullin, Deanna Grenier-Mullins and Patricia Dennis for their achievements in the arts at a gala held at the Elks Club on Feb.7. Photos by Judy Bingman

# Women in the arts honored at luncheon

#### By Jeanne C. Carbone Managing Editor

The arts were celebrated as local women with excellence in art, music and writing were honored at the Santa Clara County Branch of the National League of American Pen Women celebrity luncheon at the Elks Club on Feb. 7.

With a theme of Unleashing the Creative Women, the luncheon honored in art: Patricia Dennis, Carolyn Larsen, Patricia Sherwood, Marie Cameron, in letters; Ann Bridges, Clare Mullin, and for music Melody Sheppard and Deanna Grenier-Mullins. The celebration of these talented women was also a fundraiser for scholarships for local high school senior girls.

The luncheon program featured the national president of the NLAPW, Candace Long, who sang and presented a lecture on her personal journey in the arts.

One of the achievers is Melody Sheppard who is a Castillero and Pioneer High alumna and attended San Jose



**Melody Sheppard** and **Deanna Grenier-Mullins** on stage awaiting their awards as achievers at the Santa Clara County Branch celebrity luncheon.

State University. She plays the guitar with the Night Owl Quartet and in the past with the South Bay Guitar Society Guitar Quartet with Jerry Snider.

"I have been a teacher of music for eight years and have never dreamed of performing with the South Bay Guitar Society," says Sheppard. "I knew I wanted to be a part of something bigger, but didn't know what. After attending San Jose State University. I found n The celebration of these talented women was also a fundraiser for scholarships for local high school senior girls.

State University, I found myself loving music so much more. Once the Night Owl Quartet came about, we all realized that all four of us were teachers."

The Santa Clara County Branch was founded in 1922 and is part of the National organization that began in 1897 to promote the development of the creative talents of professional women artists, writers, dramatists, lecturers and composers.

For more information, visit www.nlapwsantaclara.org.

# More plans for 'Welcome to Almaden' sign

By Jeanne C. Carbone

Managing Editor This past December, the "Welcome to Almaden Valley" sign was unveiled by the Rotary Club of Almaden Valley at the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Coleman Avenue.

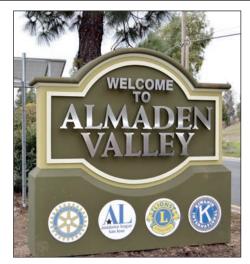
For 10 years, the Rotary Club had talked about the possibility of organizing the effort of the sign says past President Ken Tavernier.

"Five or six years ago, we said we should really do something," said Tavernier in a phone interview. "About two and a half years ago, we asked again 'what happened to the sign?""

But at a cost of \$50,000 to \$60,000, the project was prohibitive.

Again the sign came up last year and the group decided to talk to Councilmember Johnny Khamis. Khamis was all for the welcome sign and introduced Tavernier to Colin Gray of JSM Enterprises and the builder of the 10 home development on Brasilia Way nearby. He was in and the sign was made available at cost—\$18,000—with JSM Enterprises donating \$5,000 and the Rotary Club the same. The rest of the \$8,000 was donated by the Assistance League of San Jose, Almaden Super Lions Club and Kiwanis Club of Almaden Valley.

With the Expressway owned by the city but the county also involved, County Supervisor Mike Wasserman was contacted and he gave the okay to proceed. The city



and county approval, and the money in place, they were ready to proceed and the

sign was unveiled in December with a stucco façade with metal lettering and backlit with LED lights fed from a solar pole that will light up at night. The dimensions of the sigh are 7.5 feet wide and 8 feet tall.

But the Rotary Club has more plans for the Welcome to Almaden Valley intersection—a mural, art boxes and landscaping at the cost of \$150,000.

"It's actually three different projects—the sign, the mural and the landscaping. The mural would portray Almaden Valley—the Quicksilver park, parks and so on," says Tavernier.

Tavernier also says they'd like painted art boxes of the utility boxes arranged through San Jose's Art Boxes. The Club plans to look into the murals and art boxes in the next few months. "We'll make sure it looks fantastic," says Tavernier.

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If you were thinking of putting your home on the market this year, you may want to consider the next few months instead and take advantage of the current low inventory. Interest rates are still low and there are many buyers looking, especially with the San Jose Unified currently starting enrollment for next school year.

As a long time Almaden resident, I have been selling homes here for 20 years. Please contact me if you would like a Competitive Market Analysis.

# COUNTY UPDATE Senior Winter Walk, measles, healthcare services

By Mike Wasserman Special to the Times alling all Seniors! Please join me for the eighth annual Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk and Resource Fair. The event will be held on Friday, Feb. 27, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the Macy's courtyard.

Hosted by Councilmembers Johnny Khamis, Don Rocha and Ash Kalra, this very popular event brings together vital information for seniors and their families in a fun and educational environment. Registration is free and begins at 8:30 a.m. The Resource Fair will feature helpful health information for seniors followed by a walk around the mall, fun activities, healthy treats and more. For more information about attending, please contact the office of Councilmember Johnny Khamis at (408) 535-4910 or district10@sanjoseca.gov.

The Santa Clara County Public Health Department recently confirmed two cases of measles in Santa Clara County. These cases raise the possibility that some Santa Clara County residents may have been exposed to measles since the patients visited public locations while infectious. On Sunday, Jan. 18, a person infectious with measles visited two locations in Gilroy: Costco and Walmart between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. On Monday, Jan. 19, this person also visited Dave & Busters in Milpitas between 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. The risk of developing infection after a brief encounter with a person with measles is low, but as a precaution, people who find that they may have been exposed to measles should review their vaccination history and monitor themselves for symptoms. If you have any questions about your vaccination status, consult your doctor, who may elect to give you another

measles, mumps and Rubella Vaccine shot or perform a blood test to check for immunity to measles. For more information about



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County Report Wike Wasserman, County Supervisor measles please visit the County Public Health Department at www.sccphd.org.

Continued healthcare access is critically important for Santa Clara County residents. On Feb. 20, Attorney General Kamala Harris is due to reveal her decision regarding the proposed sale of the Daughters of Charity Health System to Prime Healthcare Services which includes O'Connor Hospital in San Jose and Saint Louise Regional Hospital in Gilroy. While the decision to allow the sale or not rests solely in the hands of her office, my concern

continues to be maintaining healthcare services in Santa Clara County, especially for our most vulnerable population.

The county is committed to ensuring continued access to these vital services regardless of the outcome of the sale. Both hospitals provide critical emergency services as part of the County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system. Current county contracts require a 180-day notice of possible emergency services reduction, allowing the county to intervene to ensure that they remain open. State law also requires notices before other planned service reductions. Should the sale be rejected, hospital services will continue in some capacity.

# Winter Walk and Senior Resource Fair Feb. 27

Mark your calendar for the eighth Annual Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk and Senior Resource Fair. This year's event is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 27 and will be held at Westfield Oakridge Mall in the Macy's courtyard. There will be several new vendors in addition to everyone's favorites from previous years. Plus great prizes for a free door prize drawing. The event is held jointly by Councilmembers Johnny Khamis, Don Rocha and Ash Kalra. For more information please contact Michele at michele.dexter@sanjoseca.gov or call (408) 535-4910.

# Fair seeks poster artist to capture 2015 theme 'Share at the Fair'

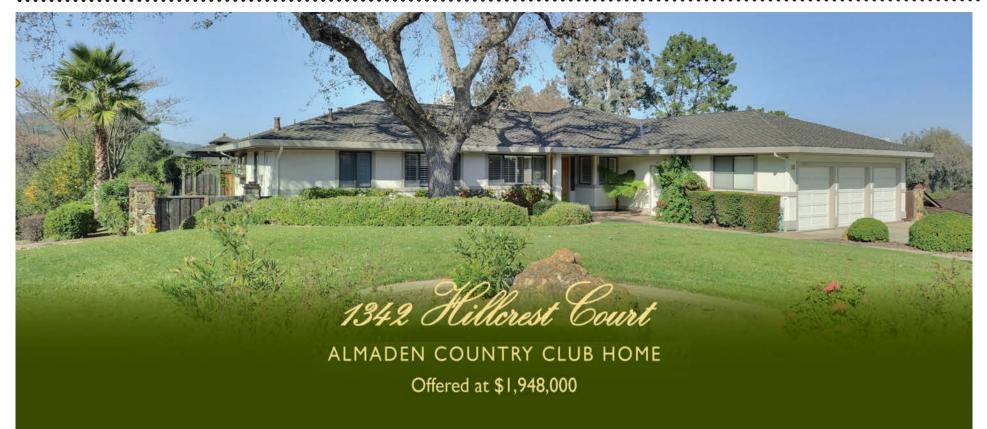
The next order of business for the 2015 Santa Clara County Fair is to find an area artist to create the poster for the county's showcase.

Artists wishing to offer their conceptualized ideas on the theme are encouraged to visit the Fair's website at TheFair.org and check out the "Attention Local Artists" banner. The concept selected will earn the artist a monetary prize along with the fame associated with creating the annual poster art.

The deadline for submitting a concept is Feb. 15, 2015 and information on the entry process as well as examples of recent posters can all be found at TheFair.org.

The Santa Clara County Fair is more fun than a family can have for a price any family can afford. The 2015 Fair will run July 30 through Aug. 2 and early vendor application forms are available now online. In addition, information on plans for the 2015 Fair will be updated starting late spring and will also be available at www.TheFair.org. SERVING ALMADEN VALLEY SINCE 1986 ONLINE: ALMADENTIMES.COM

ALMADEN TIMES FEB. 13-FEB. 26, 2015 PAGE 13





- 4 bedrooms (3 master suites), + 5th bedroom/office/nursery
- 4 full baths & 1 half bath
- Approximately 3,426 sq. ft. +/- square feet of living area
- Approximately 10,904 sq. ft. +/- square foot lot
- Elegant formal entry with oak flooring
- Light filled formal living room
- Outstanding Chefs Kitchen with a large granite work island, casual dining area that opens to the patio.
- A warm and inviting family room

- Elegant, spacious, light filled master bedroom with spacious bath
- With EXPANSIVE VIEWS of the 2nd green and hills
- Heated pool, gazebo with sun blocking awnings
- Wine closet thermostat controlled and room for 290 bottles
   with storage
- Plantation shutters throughout
- Alarm System Owned, air-conditioning, central vacuum
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Times Advice

# **Five financial mistakes** to avoid this year

re you satisfied with the financial decisions you made in 2014? If you're not so sure, this is a good time to resolve to make some changes in 2015. The California Society of CPAs offers these tips on the best ways to avoid some common pitfalls.

Letting your debt get out of control. Among Americans with credit cards, the average balance in the second quarter of 2014 was \$5,596, an amount it would take most people months or years to pay off. And every month those balances remain outstanding, the more the interest charges add up.

If you're wrestling with high credit card balances, try using cash only for your purchases so that you don't run up any more debt. Pay as much as you can each month on your credit card bills and consider shifting your balances to lower-interest accounts.

In addition, check your credit scores once every four months to be sure there are no fraudulent purchases on your accounts or simple mistakes that are hurting your credit score.

Making late payments. Whether it's your credit card or a utility, you're probably going to be charged a late fee if you don't pay that bill on time. Start by noting when payments are due on your calendar so it's easier to remember them. If you don't have the cash on hand when the bills come, contact the companies to see if your payment deadline can be moved to a few days after your paycheck arrives.

If you can't afford your payments, call your creditors. Explain your situation and see if you can work out an arrangement that allows you to make smaller payments over time. If you find yourself scrambling to pay your bills often, review your budget to determine ways to lower your spending, if possible.

Late fees are unnecessary expenses, so it's worthwhile to take some time to determine

# **Cinequest Film Festival** Feb. 26 - March 8

The 25th anniversary of the Cinequest Film Festival - Silicon Valley, will

present 91 World and U.S. film premieres, a stellar lineup of film artists and technology innovators.

The Maverick Spirit Award events are with renowned actor Rosario Dawson (Feb. 28) and directing legend John

Boorman (Feb. 26), plus a new Future of Film Showcase. Cinequest Film Festival 25 (CQFF25) occurs Feb. 24 - March 8, 2015 with more than 100,000 patrons in attendance.

Some of the highlights include:

The Opening Night Screening and Celebration on Feb. 24 at 7:15 p.m. at the California Theatre will feature Batkid Begins, director Dana Nachman's powerful documentary, chronicling the amazing response to a young cancer patient's desire to be the super hero for just one day, who "saves" San Francisco. Nachman's stirring film details the undaunted spirit of Batkid Miles Scott,

how you can avoid them.

Sidestepping saving. No matter what your age, it's always a good idea to set aside a little money in an emergency fund that will cover unexpected major expenses, a loss of income or another unpleasant surprise. The older you get, of course, the more important saving for retirement becomes; it's never too early to start.

Saving is easier when you arrange to have a set amount deposited into a savings account each week or into a retirement account. And you'll be surprised at how quickly your money grows

Losing out on retirement dollars. Did you know you can miss out on significant retirement income by retiring too soon? Full retirement age for collecting Social Security payments is above 65 for most current workers, depending on when you were born.

If you retire before then, you will receive less than your full benefit for your lifetime. Your marital situation and other financial circumstances can also affect your best retirement decision, so be sure to turn to your CPA for more details.

Failing to plan ahead. Many of life's milestones can be very expensive. Buying a house, having a child, changing careers, sending children to college or entering retirement all can have a profound impact on your financial situation. If any of these steps is in your future, be sure to begin preparing financially as far in advance as possible.

Your local CPA can help. This list of potential mistakes may seem daunting, but your local CPA can provide valuable advice that will help you make the best decisions. Be sure to contact him or her with all your financial questions or concerns.

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as the City by the Bay rallies around his "quest," and captures the astounding social media reaction to Miles's wish that exploded around the world.

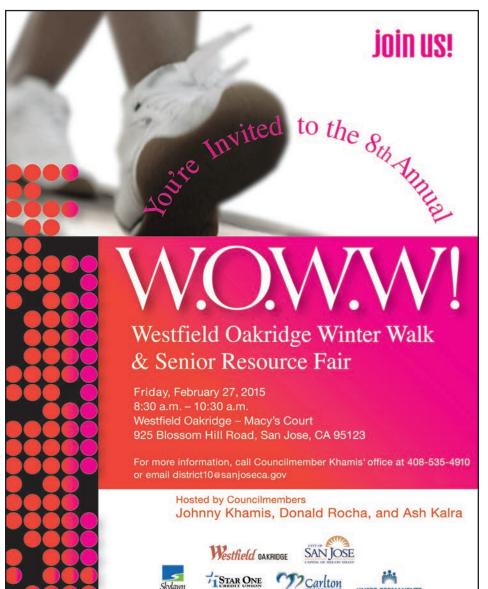
The Closing Night Screening and Celebration on March 8, at 6 p.m. at the California Theatre will feature writer/direc-

tor Victor Levin (Mad Men) and star Anton Yelchin (Star Trek) for a screening of the romantic comedy, 5 To 7, featuring performances by Yelchin and ex-Bond girl Bérénice Marlohe (Skyfall). The supporting cast includes Olivia Thirlby (Juno), Eric

Stoltz (Caprica), and screen legends Glenn Close (Damages) and Frank Langella (Frost/Nixon). Immediately following the screening, a farewell to the Film Festival will occur at the Glass House.

The Media Legacy Award Events recognizes the pivotal role journalists play in connecting audiences to films and technologies, providing insight into artists, technologists, and the collaborative nature of both disciplines. CQFF25 recipients are Anne Thompson and Richard von Busack from the Metro Newspaper.

For the full Film Festival lineup, visit www.cinequest.org.





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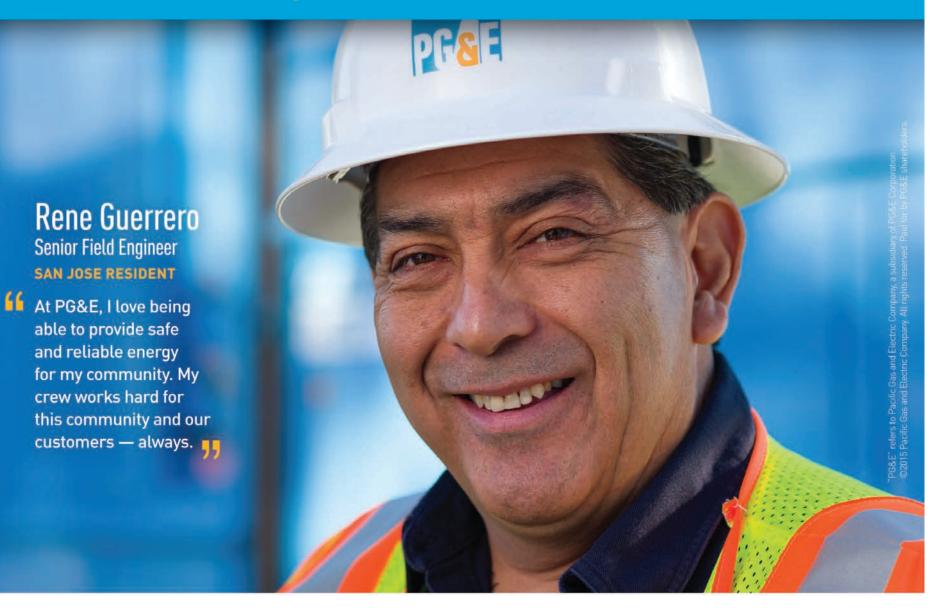


**FILM FESTIVAL 2015** 





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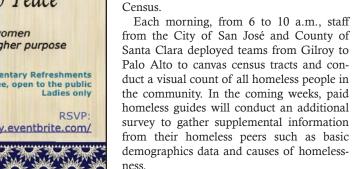


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Times Local News

#### Santa Clara County For all the advancements of the 21st century, we still live in a world filled with senseless violence, cyber attacks, international arms races and racial intolerance. How can we individually and collectively work towards the true greater good? **Homeless Census** The Ladies Auxiliary of the and Survey Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Silicon Valley cordially invites you to: teers teamed with nearly 100 homeless "My Spiritual Journey: A Pathway to Peace" guides to conduct the 2015 Homeless Come listen to the powerful stories of extraordinary women and the paths they take to define spirituality and serve a higher purpose Saturday February 28, 2015 2:00 PM-4:30 PM Santa Clara County Government Center **Complimentary Refreshments** Free, open to the public Ladies only 70 W Hedding St. San Jose, CA 95110 RSVP http://my-spiritual-journey.eventbrite.com/ Partner: Office of County Supervisor Dave Cortese



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Required by the federal government, the biennial project helps communities understand the profile of homelessness, supports requests for federal and other sources of funding for homeless services, and provides critical information to engage the community in ending homelessness. The final results from the census and survey are expected in the spring.



The Lion King is coming to Broadway San Jose

# **Broadway San Jose** announces 2015-16 season lineups

Following a record-breaking 2014/15 season, Broadway San Jose, a Nederlander Presentation, announced Feb. 9 the six productions that will comprise the lineup for the 2015/16 season.

Highlights include the triumphant return engagement of Disney's The Lion King, Andrew Lloyd Webber's enchanting adaptation of the all-time classic The Wizard of Oz, the smash hit Motown the Musical, Disney's News and more. In addition, a limited engagement of Disney's beloved classic musical Beauty and the Beast will be available as a special season add-on.

"Broadway San Jose's 2015/16 season is filled with Tony Award-winning blockbusters featuring magic, puppetry, dance, and some of the most beautiful music every written," said Broadway San Jose General Manager Nanci Williams. "Led by the return engagement of Disney's landmark musical The Lion King - last seen at the Center for the Performing Arts in 2006 - our season will showcase a wide array of theatrical productions that will delight, entertain and surprise the whole family!'

All performances for Broadway San Jose's 2015/16 season will be held at the 2,700-seat San Jose Center for Performing Arts, a midcentury modern architectural showcase designed by the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, at the corner of Park Avenue and Almaden Boulevard in downtown San Jose

Broadway San Jose season subscriptions range in price from \$223-\$513 for the basic 6-show package and can be purchased online at broadwaysanjose.com, or by calling (866) 395-2929. Single ticket on-sale dates will be announced at a later date



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### OPEN HOUSE: MEET OUR TEACHERS

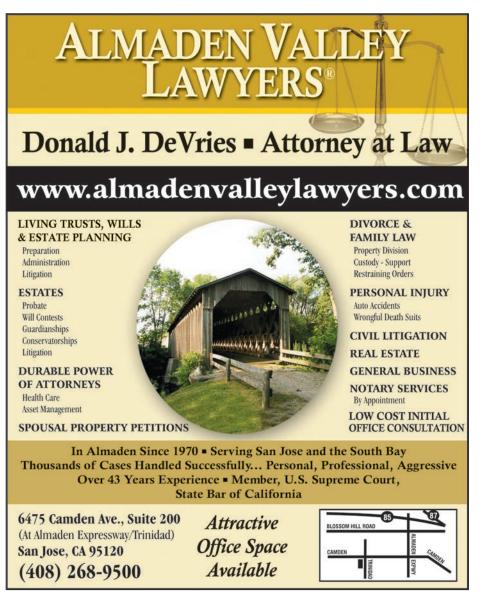
Sunday, February 22 Grades 5–7, 12:30–1:45 p.m. Grades 8–12, 2:30–3:45 p.m.

APPLY FOR FALL 2015 | GRADES 5–12 1290 Parkmoor Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126 (408) 489 8264 BASISIndependentSiliconValley.com

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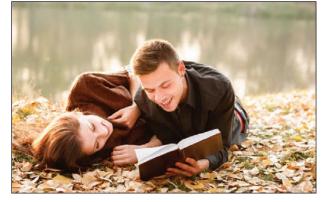
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Prescription price comparison above is valid as of November 1, 2014. All trade-mark (TM) rights associated with the brand name products in this ad belong to their respective owners. "Generic drugs are carefully regulated medications that have the same active ingredients as the original brand name drug, but are generally cheaper in price. Generic equivalents are equal to their "brand" counterparts in Active Ingredients, Dosage, Safety, Strength, Quality, Performance and Intended use. It may vary in colour, shape, size, cost and appearance.

# Community Calendar



# **February and March**

Silicon Valley Reads 2015 kicks off 140 free public events in February & March for all ages. The program includes dozens of events in Santa Clara County for NoViolet Bulawayo, author of We Need New Names, Cristina Henriquez, author of The Book of Unknown Americans, and Bich Minh Nguyen, author of Stealing Buddha's Dinner. Each will appear at public libraries, schools and community centers between now and the closing event on Saturday, March 28, at 1 p.m. at Cupertino Community Hall. Silicon Valley Reads will offer 140 free public events in 12 cities throughout Santa Clara County in February and March, including films, panel discussions, book groups and activities for children and families. The complete schedule of events is listed on the website SiliconValleyReads.org. The authors of the four books for children and teens selected for Silicon Valley Reads 2015 will also visit schools, public libraries and bookstores in February and March. Maria Testa, author of Something About America, a book written in free verse for ages 12 and up, will be in town Feb. 19-22. Alma Flor Ada and Gabriel Zubizaretta, the co-authors of Dancing Home, a novel for ages 8-12, and Helen Recorvits, author of My Name Is Yoon, a beautifully-illustrated picture book for ages 4-8, are also scheduled for multiple appearances. Todd Parr, author of The Peace Book for preschoolers, will be at public libraries Feb. 21-22 and March 21-22, and the first 40 families at each location will receive free copies of his book, compliments of FIRST 5 Santa Clara County. For further information, visit the website SiliconValleyReads.org or email SVReads@aol.com.





# March 15

**RealOptions' upcoming Walk for Life & 5K Run** will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2015 at Bellarmine College Prep. The event raises funds to support RealOptions' Pregnancy Medical Clinics. Proceeds will allow us continue to offer FREE professional medical services including: pregnancy testing, ultrasound imaging, prenatal care, adoption support, maternity clothing, baby clothing, as well as prevention services of our abstinence education program, and redemptive services of our abortion recovery programs. For more information, visit http://bit.ly/1z800U3 or call (408) 229-9836.



# Feb. 14 and 15

The weekend of love, Symphony Silicon Valley will be performing live on stage the classic music from the original 1940 Walt Disney film and Disney's Fantasia 2000 update while the movie is projected in high definition on a huge screen. Disney shares one of its crown jewels of feature animation with Symphony Silicon Valley, accompanying scenes from both the 1940 original version by Walt Disney, as well as Disney Fantasia 2000, highlighting selections from each, including Tchaikovsky's The Nutcracker Suite. Other iconic moments include Mickey Mouse as he dabbles in magic in Paul Dukas' The Sorcerer's Apprentice and the mythical unicorns and winged horses that accompany Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony. The screening and concert of Fantasia will be on Saturday, February 14 at 8 PM and Sunday, February 15 at 2:30 PM at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts, located at 255 S. Almaden Blvd, San Jose, CA 95113. Advance tickets are from \$44 to \$80 and available by calling the box office Monday - Friday 10 AM to 5 PM at 408 286 2600 or visit www.fantasiassv.org. Photo ©Disnev

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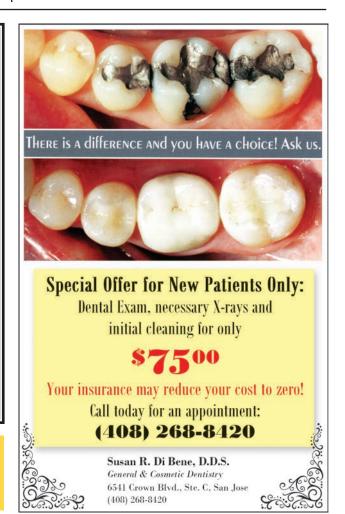
# Girls softball signups

Ages 4 to 14. 2015 Almaden Valley Girls Recreational Softball Registration is OPEN! Everyone is welcome in our league! Sign-up today at **WWW.AVGSL.ORG.** 

# Spring Recreational Soccer Sign-ups

Ages 4-14, Registration for Almaden Valley Youth Soccer League Spring Recreational Soccer is now open! Visit: www.almadensoccer.org/spring for more information.

*To advertise your sports-related event, call (408)* 494-7000. *Listings are \$25 per issue.* 





# **Did You Know?**

Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2008 National Crime Report http://www.fbi.gov/news/storie
 FBL 2008 National Crime Report http://www.fbi.gov/news/storie

- A burglary occurs every 14.6 seconds.<sup>1</sup>
- 1 out of every 5 homes will experience a break-in or home invasion.<sup>2</sup>
- A home without a security system is **3 times more likely** to be burglarized.<sup>3</sup>
- 85% of Police Officials surveyed believe home alarms deter burglary attempts.<sup>4</sup>





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## ALMADEN TIMES FEB. 13–FEB. 26, 2015 PAGE 23



**CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH** 

1675 Winchester Boulevard (near Hamilton) Campbell, 95008. Church Office: 378-3472. www.campbell-umc.org. E-mail us at: campbell umc@earthlink.net. SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Handicapped, hearing-impaired friendly facility. (Nursery Care available). SUNDAY SCHOOL for every age at 9:00 a.m. WHAT YOU WILL FIND: Youth/Young Adult programs, Choirs for all ages, Active Senior Fellowship, a dynamic and diverse congregation of seekers motivated to explore the guestions of faith and life; opportunities for fellowship study, spiritual growth and outreach. Campbell UMC is a Reconciling Congregation ~ ALL ARE WELCOME! Campbell UMC sponsors Bright Days preschool, offering a play-based, developmentally appropriate curriculum. Call 378-8422 for information.

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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 affirm ing (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local Innvision 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

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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 wel-
- comed, loved and valued. Children are especially wel-

comed and cherished as an important part of God's family. All junior high and senior high students are well come 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 wwww.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 Espa?ol: Domingos 4 pm.

#### **FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN**

Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) www.firstchurchdowntown.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, coun-seling, 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 (CREATE); 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.churchstanthonv.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.

Worship listing advertisements are \$495 annually. Pleas call Brigitte at (408) 494.7000.





Coming Soon!

# TOTAL CIENTIEU DRIVE

# ALMADEN VALLEY

This exceptional home in the desirable Country View Estates boasts the finest materials & craftsmanship. Views from almost every room in the house from this stunning 4741+/-sf home on an expansive 30,492+/-sf lot. 5bd/4.5ba, huge gourmet kitchen, library, children's study room, large game room. Grand formal entry with 23' ceiling, beautiful polished limestone floor with inset medallion and sparkling chandelier. Gleaming hardwood floors throughout the entire home. Beautifully coffered ceilings, wide crown molding, high baseboards, wainscoting and recessed lights show the attention to details. Cabinetry throughout the home has been custom made with the finest wood. Beautiful flagstone walkways and slate covered stairs connect the 3 separate patio areas including a fully functional outdoor kitchen. The sweeping driveway leads to an impressive, 4-car, oversized garage. Top Almaden schools: Graystone, Bret Harte, Leland.

Offered at \$2,800,000

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