

**CAMBODIAN ENTREPRENEURS
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DEC. 5-DEC. 18, 2014 ■ VOL. 31, NO. 25

EvergreenTimes

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SIGNS OF THE SEASON



The Evergreen Community Center brought the wonder of the holidays to the young visitors at the Cookies with Santa event on Nov. 22. Photos by Bill Bellou

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WON'T BE FOOLED BY RAIN

Water reduction target of 20 percent extended until June 2015

County's water use has dropped 12 percent

By Marty Grimes
Special to the Times

On Nov. 25, the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors unanimously passed a resolution extending its call for a countywide reduction of water use by 20 percent compared to 2013 water use until June 30, 2015. Further, the board approved budget adjustments of \$3.8 million to extend augmented water conservation programs and outreach campaigns.

On Feb. 25, 2014, the board approved a
See DROUGHT, page 3

Evergreen Community Center welcomes the holidays with 'Cookies with Santa'

Sugar and spice and everything nice were in abundance at the Cookies with Santa event for children and volunteers who participated.

The event was a huge success thanks to the more than 100 volunteers participating at the Nov. 22 event held at the Evergreen Community Center.

More than 200 children ages 2-12 decorated more than 500 cookies using 10 tubs of frosting. Children also enjoyed 225 cups of hot chocolate and made crafts at the event. Santa arrived during the festivities and parents took photos of their excited kids as they welcomed the holiday season. —Bill Bellou



"We love making cookies," says Marcena with (left to right) Maria, Eliana and Anna.

More photos, page 6

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "Common Core is... not a prescribed curriculum or set of lessons and materials teachers must deliver in lockstep." – Olaf Jorgenson See page 13

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COMMUNITY

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EvergreenTimes

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Valley Currents

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

Hair donated to Locks of Love

By Jeanne C. Carbone
Managing Editor

Just in time for the season of giving to others, Tonia Maclean of Evergreen has donated 27 inches of hair to Locks of Love.

"I've been meaning to do it ever since the schools went back in September to be honest," says Maclean. "I home school my two boys as well as attend Kung Fu class three times a week. All that hair and the upkeep was starting to get on my nerves."

Actually, it's the second time that Maclean has donated hair to Locks of Love. The first time was just after the birth of her eldest son 13 years ago. She had seen a promotion for the charity on TV and thought it was "a great idea for anyone thinking of changing their look. It seems a shame just to throw it away."

Locks of Love is a non-profit organization

that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children in the U.S. and Canada under the age 21 suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis.

Most of the children helped by Locks of Love have lost their hair due to a medical condition called alopecia areata, which has no known cause or cure. The prostheses provide help to restore their self-esteem and confidence, enabling them to face the world and their peers.

Maclean's best friend, who has a cosmetology license, cut her mane. And as an added benefit she says that her husband and two sons tell her she looks younger now.

For more information visit: www.locksoflove.org.

Pictured, right: Tonia Maclean has donated 27 inches of her hair to Locks of Love—for the second time. Photo courtesy Maclean family



Punjab Lok Rang to perform at EVHS Dec. 20

By Monica Uppal Popli
Special to the Times

A vicarious home 10,000 miles away from home, a feeling of déjà vu, an outpouring of nostalgia, a gut-wrenching familiarity of emotions, an irony of soaring exuberances jolted by volte faces of life—all steeped in the vibrant Punjabi culture and traditions—will come alive at the Evergreen Valley High School Theater on Dec. 20.

Written, directed and produced by Surinder Dhanoa, an iconic Punjabi theater personality in the country, "Umran Langhian Pabban Bhaar" is the title of the latest play that will be performed by his theater group Punjab Lok Rang on that Saturday evening.

A sensory experience, embellished with music, folk dance and a rich visual vocabulary, the play is designed to take the audience beyond verbal communication. Spoken language is just one dimension of the theatre.

Other elements of art and stagecraft like emotions, language of images, props, costumes, lighting and sound have been tapped befittingly to amplify the mesmerizing theatrical effect.

The story is a sharp observation of the life of a man and portrays the subtle nuances of systole and diastole of his relationships, the chasm between familial expectations and harsh reality of life compounded by ruthless circumstances

and the ensuing internal and external conflicts. An undercurrent of tragedy deftly punctuated with satire and humor tautly threads the scenes together. Laced with idiosyncrasies and eccentricities, the characters bring to life a story that is likely to touch a chord with every heart.

The cast comprising of Surinder Dhanoa, Jaswinder Dhanoa, Amritpal Sra, Shakti Manak, Ramneet Ahluwalia, Sonu Rana, Pali Dhanaula, Jassi Saggi, Monica Uppal, Dimple Joshi, Kanwar Sra, Darshan Aujla, Sonia Cherra, Sewa Singh Sra and Sukhi Cheema; Lovy Sra (costumes and stage coordinator); and Vivek Popli and Inderjit Singh (light and sound coordinators) all work in unison to take the audience on a theatrical rollercoaster ride.

In the avant-garde world of technology, keeping the medium of theater alive is a challenge in itself. To top it, striving to preserve and propagate folk traditions and the opulent heritage of the North Indian state of Punjab, in California, exemplifies sheer rever-



The story is a sharp observation of the life of a man and portrays the subtle nuances of systole and diastole of his relationships, the chasm between familial expectations and harsh reality of life compounded by ruthless circumstances and the ensuing internal and external conflicts.

ence for one's roots.

Punjab Lok Rang comprises a group of dedicated members who are carrying the torch with aplomb. Writer and director Surinder Dhanoa has been tirelessly stoking his passion for Punjabi culture first through Bay Area Punjab Culture Society and then Punjab Lok Rang. Supported by his cast, crew and volunteers he has been successfully presenting his creative enterprises to audiences in India and the U.S. A wide range of plays hinged on thought-provoking socially relevant themes

have rolled out of their repertoire—Mitti Rudan Kare, Bari Barsi Khattan Gaya Si, Sardal De Aar Paar, Shaheed, Guru Manyo Granth, Gaddar Express and Patna Te Rohn Khariah.

"We are thankful to the community for receiving the premier of this play with a full-house presence at the James Logan High School, Union City on Nov 8. The positive response and demand is propelling us to stage frequent performances in the Bay Area, East Coast and possibly abroad in the coming months," said Dhanoa.

For more information visit: www.punjablokrang.org. For tickets visit

www.eventcombo.com/umran or contact the play's organizer Pali Dhanaula at (408) 661-5879.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

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

Times **Local News****Drought***Continued from page 1*

resolution setting a countywide water use reduction target equal to 20 percent of 2013 water use through Dec. 31, 2014, and recommended that retail water agencies, local municipalities and the county of Santa Clara implement mandatory measures as needed to achieve the 20 percent target.

Since then, the county's water use has dropped by approximately 12 percent compared to 2013, short of the 20 percent target. As a result, groundwater storage has dropped to a range of 200,000 to 250,000 acre-feet, which places the county in the "Severe" stage of a five-stage scale, as defined in the district's Water Shortage Contingency Plan. This plan, part of the district's Urban Water Management Plan, calls for short-term water use reductions of increasing levels as projected groundwater storage levels drop to certain thresholds.

One of the key measures the district has taken to encourage short- and long-term water use reductions is to augment water conservation programs. The board also approved a budget adjustment of \$3 million to continue increased rebate amounts until June 30, 2015. The district's landscape rebate program offers a rebate of \$2 per square foot for converting to low water use landscapes. This amount is higher in some areas that are cost-sharing partners, such as in Palo Alto, Morgan Hill and in the San José Municipal Water System.

In 2014, the landscape rebate program has seen a 500 percent increase in applications and rebated for the conversion of approximately 675,000 square feet of turf. Another 1.4 million square feet of converted landscape is in progress. The \$3 million increase follows three earlier budget adjustments in 2014 totaling \$8 million.

The board also approved a budget adjustment of \$800,000 to fund a water conservation campaign in 2015. Previously, the board approved \$750,000 for the district's summertime "Brown is the New Green" campaign. An immediate campaign would be aimed at encouraging residents to continue conservation efforts through the winter months. A more aggressive marketing campaign will be developed in the event the drought continues for a fourth year in 2015.

District staff also reported to the board on groundwater pond maintenance activities that have been enabled by the drought. Because of the scarcity of surface water, many groundwater recharge ponds are currently empty. The district has taken the opportunity to perform maintenance on 40 of these ponds, removing more than 91,000 cubic yards of accumulated sediment, and 600 kilograms of mercury. This has allowed the district to meet a mandated Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) in the Guadalupe Watershed five years ahead of schedule.

"I think this is a wonderful success story. It falls in that category of 'when life gives you lemons, make lemonade,'" said board member Barbara Keegan. "I think the story of how we were able to remove over 600 kilos of mercury and meet our TMDL five years ahead of schedule...I think that's something really we should be very proud of."

Furthermore, by removing excess sediment in recharge pond facilities, the district anticipates that those 40 ponds will recharge groundwater at three times their previous rate. This will help to expedite the recovery of groundwater basins that have dropped during the drought.

Current water conservation program details, a monthly water supply outlook and a monthly drought report are included on the district's website www.valleywater.org/Drought2014.

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Times **Your Community**

Life is sweet for Cambodian immigrants

Entrepreneurs succeed in Evergreen

By Frank Shortt

Special to the Times

Every morning, patrons' line up to appease a sweet tooth or a craving for coffee at the Evergreen Donut Shoppe, located at the southeast corner of Quimby and White roads.

Founders and owners, Chanthoeun (John) and Rady To

make sure that each need is met. By their own admissions, Rady is a much faster server than John.

Both John and Rady are natives of Cambodia. They were married in 2001 and have produced three beautiful children.

Life was not always so sweet for the couple. During John's childhood, he was not allowed to attend school in Cambodia because in the Khmer Rouge regime, the educational system was abolished. John was put to work in the fields with other children. Finally, in 1980 at the age of 10, he was allowed to



Above: John and Rady To came to America with a dream. Below: Yummy treats are beckoning at the Evergreen Donut Shop. Photos by Frank Shortt



attend first-grade under the Vietnamese invasion. At age 19, John was sent by the Cambodian government to attend school in the Soviet Union. His studies were cut short after only a year because of the collapse of the government there.

In 1992, John came to Hawaii and began study in an ESL program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He finished a year and a half there and immediately tried to enroll in a credible college. Without funding, he was referred to Hawaii Tokai International College of Honolulu. Provisionally, he was allowed to talk to the dean, Melvin Sakaguchi, who realized John's potential and helped him to secure funding for the two years he was to attend there.

John worked as a gardener, busboy and waiter to supplement his school needs. He was told that he must maintain a B or better in order to be allowed for the funding provided. Through lots of hard work, John was able to stay in the program with an A average and obtained the two year degree.

John then attended the University of Hawaii where he obtained a BBA degree in Management Informational Systems. This took another three years.

After college, in 2000, John was offered a job as a web application developer at Environmental Software Co. in Half Moon Bay, Calif. This job lasted for four years, during which time in 2001, John married his sweetheart, Rady, also from Cambodia.

Rady had been working at Dawn's Donuts in east San Jose and had a feel for the donut business, so the couple began plans for their own business and as Rady already knew the ins and outs of the industry, they opened the Evergreen Donut Shoppe. The grand opening was in 2004 and remained at that location until 2014, when they decided to move into a larger building in the same shopping center two doors down.

Meanwhile, as Rady ran the donut business, John, who was an experienced User Interface Engineer, helped start another business, buying and selling online. This business expanded to 600 employees internationally and was acquired by a Nasdaq listed company four years later.

In 2012, this industrious couple began another business called Moonbeans Inhouse Coffee Roasting Shop in the Blossom Hill Road area of San Jose. John sold this business to another Cambodian entrepreneur in 2013 as he was interested in expanding his business in Evergreen.

The new location serves, not only donut related items, but also sandwiches, drinks of all kinds including milk tea, and with John's extensive knowledge of coffee, they also serve a line of exotic coffees including mochas, Mexican mochas, espressos, and lattes.

John and Rady are very active among Cambodians, through their temple and other ways to help struggling members of their community. This is another good example of someone, who against great odds took advantage of the opportunities offered in America.

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Times **Your Community**

Construction on the new San José library branch has been well underway since the beginning of September. Photo courtesy District 8

Naming District 8's newest library

By Councilmember Rose Herrera

Special to the Times

Have you seen that tower crane rising up over the south end of Evergreen Village Square? Construction on the new San José library branch has been well underway since the beginning of September, and is on track for its projected opening in early 2016. Soon we will have a 16,000 square-foot state-of-the-art library with a story-telling area, teen room, group study rooms, quiet room, a large tech-center area, and a fantastic community room that will open up to the patio area. It will be a library that the community can enjoy for generations to come.

The next item on the library to-do list? Give it a name.

The public was invited to submit ideas for names for the new library using the official nomination form by Oct. 31. Many wonderful suggestions were provided by our residents, including the following:

- Evergreen Dream Library
- Evergreen Hills Library
- Evergreen Village Square Library
- Fowler Creek Branch Library
- Jane E. Light Library
- Henrietta P. Mirassou Branch Library
- Mirassou Library
- Mirassou Vineyard Library
- San Jose Village Public Library
- Village Square Library
- John J. Montgomery Library

It's wonderful to see that the public was so engaged in this naming process and that so many thoughtful and meaningful ideas were submitted.

In accordance with City policy, a public hearing was scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, Nov. 19 at the Dr. Martin Luther King Library as part of the Early Care Library Commission meeting to review all submissions and nomination forms. At the hearing, a new name was proposed (city policy allows submissions to be presented at the designated public hearing), and the name was "John J. Montgomery Library". A group of speakers spoke in support of that name and the legacy of John J. Montgomery, who was an aviator pioneer who developed an aircraft glider called "The Evergreen" and who died in 1911 when the

glider crashed on the hill (now known as "Montgomery Hill") just behind Evergreen Valley College. After discussing the submissions, the commission members voted to request that the City Council consider the name "John J. Montgomery Village Square Library." Staff will develop a memorandum with this recommendation and will present it to the City Council for discussion. The date for this item to be heard by the City Council has not been determined yet, but I will keep you informed when it is announced and send out an invitation to come to council and voice your opinions.

Now that the library is one step closer to having a name, we encourage you to consider donating to the library. Your donation will help to strengthen the library and help to expand upon the library collection and support the latest technology and educational programs. As part of my ongoing support of our city's libraries, my office has already pledged \$10,000 to the library, and the San José Public Library Foundation is looking to raise thousands more to make this library the best it can be.

Gifts of \$5,000 or more will be permanently recognized on the Laureate Donor Wall in the library; gifts of \$1,000 to \$4,999 will be permanently recognized on the library's Legacy Donor Wall; and gifts of \$100 to \$999 will be permanently recognized on the library's Community Donor Wall. Also, pledges of \$1,000 or more may be paid over three years. Gifts may be matched by your employer and can be made anonymously or in memory of a loved one.

In addition, the Library Foundation is looking for those who are interested in hosting fundraising events for the library, such as cocktail party fundraisers. If you are interested in donating to the library or supporting its fundraising efforts, please contact the San José Public Library Foundation at (408) 808-2081 or by e-mail at info@sjplf.org.

Please contact my office with any questions or comments by e-mailing district8@sanjoseca.gov, or calling (408) 535-4908.

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District 8 Report

By Rose Herrera
City Councilmember



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Times **Your Community**

Evergreen Community Center welcomes the holidays with 'Cookies with Santa'



Over 100 volunteers helped make the Cookies with Santa event at the Evergreen Community Center a success. More than 500 cookies were decorated at the Cookies with Santa event on Nov 22. Photos by Bill Bellou



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Avengers score Champion's Award

Just like last year, Avengers have come out with flying colors at the FLL Qualifying Tournament held at Santa Teresa High School on Nov 23. This year they won the coveted Champion's Award.

From the FLL website "FLL's Champion's Award recognizes a team that embodies the FLL experience, by fully embracing our Core Values while achieving excellence and innovation in both the Robot Game and Project."

This co-ed team comprises of Anish Parmar and Rushil Srivastav from the Chaboya Middle School and Aarushi Nanda and Arshia Singhani from Basis Independent School. For this year's challenge, World Class, the team came up an innovative solution to "How to make hands-on learning efficient, affordable and universally accessible?"

The team agrees that they learn a lot more from hands on doing or by using visual aids. So, they tried to understand why hands on learning techniques are not used commonly in classrooms. They explored the internet, local stores, specialty teachers stores to look for available tools and aids. They did find a lot of resources but not all in the same place. They realized that a teacher has to spend a lot of time going to multiple stores to get the things for one hands on activity. And a lot of these are expensive. To address these challenges and make hands on learning more accessible, they are:

- Creating inexpensive activity boxes, targeting sub \$5 price point.
- Building a website

www.openandlearn.org, where a teacher can



The Avengers team includes (left to right) Rushil Shrivastav, Anish Parmar, Aarushi Nanda, and Arshia Singhani. Photo courtesy Sunita Anand

go and easily access these activity boxes.

- Enabling everyone to contribute their activity box ideas.

- Providing a solution that has no boundaries and can be used globally.

During an interview, the team said "Our vision is to list hundreds and thousands of such boxes on our website. We want to make this a Social Community phenomenon with millions of users buying, renting and contributing activity boxes. Not only do we want to provide these boxes locally in the United States but also provide a way for teachers all over the world to recreate them using their local resources."

We wish the team all the best for the Championship Event to be held in January 2015.

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Times **Community Notebook****TAKES NATIONAL TOP MODEL 2015 CONTEST****Teyana Yarbrough wins National Miss Jr. Teen '15**

A few weeks ago, the *Evergreen Times* reported that Teyana Yarbrough, a junior at Evergreen Valley High School, won the Miss Jr. Teen California Pageant. That title was short lived as Yarbrough has now won the National Miss Jr. Teen 2015 contest during the Thanksgiving weekend. She also won the title of National Top Model 2015.

"We are extremely excited about her future and all the traveling she will do," says proud mom Suzanne Yarbrough. "She also wants to give back and do charity work and volunteering in the community during the holiday seasons and during the rest of her reign."

Yarbrough's platform is celiac disease that she was recently diagnosed with. Her mom has it as well as her grandmother. Celiac disease is an autoimmune disorder that can occur in genetically predisposed people where the ingestion of gluten leads to damage in the small intestine. It is estimated to affect 1 in 100 people worldwide.

Equally exciting for Yarbrough, 16, a modeling spread in *Ikon Magazine* that she recently completed.

—Jeanne Carbone

At right: An excited **Teyana Yarbrough** recently posed for *Ikon Magazine*.



Teyana Yarbrough won the Miss Jr. Teen California Pageant and National Top Model 2015 during Thanksgiving weekend. Photo courtesy Suzanne Yarbrough



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Times **Your Community**

Public outreach meeting scheduled for SJPD 'Unmanned Aerial System' technology

The San Jose Police Department is exploring the possibility of using Unmanned Aerial System technology, commonly referred to as a drone, in a limited scope.

Earlier in 2014, the Police Department obtained one Unmanned Aerial System, specifically for the SJPD Bomb Unit. The UAS is a Century NEO 660 Hex-Rotor which has a Go-Pro camera for aerial video footage. The UAS is 3 feet wide and 1.5 feet tall.

If and when policies and procedures are drafted and finalized, the SJPD would ensure the UAS usage would be compliant with FAA regulations, federal and state law. The SJPD would also obtain a Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the FAA prior to using the UAS.

The SJPD is not using the UAS currently.

The SJPD made a presentation to the Neighborhoods Commission about the UAS

on Nov. 13. The purpose of the discussion was to seek input from the commissioners about whether UAS technology is appropriate for police to utilize in San Jose as well as to ask for the commission's assistance with community outreach.

The Neighborhoods Commission is hosting a Community Outreach Meeting from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014 at San Jose City Hall, 200 East Santa Clara St., in the Wing, Committee Room 120.

Police will present UAS and proposed uses, followed by a question and answer period with the public.

For more information call Ernest Guzman, City Manager's Office, at (408) 535-8171. For additional details, visit the City of San José website, <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/UAS>.

Details about additional community outreach meetings to be held in early 2015 are coming soon.



Punjab Lok Rang
presents

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Written & Directed By
Surinder Singh Dhanoo

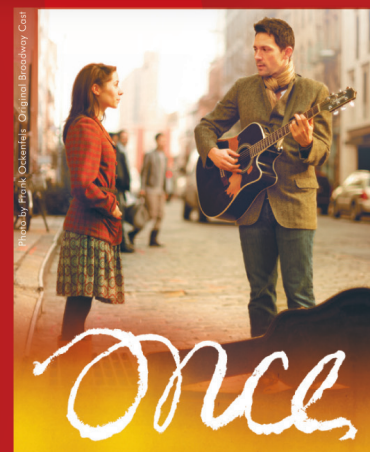
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Times **Community News****OFF THE SHELF****Holiday happenings at the local branch libraries**By **Amanda Choi**
Special to the Times

Ho, Ho, Ho! 'Tis the season for Santa to visit the San José Public Library. Santa will be a special guest at the following holiday events:

Santa Visits the Children's Room - Saturday, Dec. 6, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Martin Luther King Jr. Library (150 E. San Fernando St.)

There will be a special holiday storytime followed by a visit

with Santa. Children will receive a free book to take home.

Alum Rock Winter Holiday Party - Tuesday, Dec. 9, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Alum Rock Branch Library (3090 Alum Rock Ave.)

Make a craft, enjoy holiday music and entertainment. Visit with Santa and receive a free book to keep. Light refreshments will be provided.

Cookies and Books with Santa - Saturday, Dec. 13, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bascom Branch Library (1000 S Bascom Ave.)

Celebrate the season at a Winter Holiday Party. Make a craft courtesy of Lakeshore, visit with Santa and receive a free book to keep. There will be music from Del Mar High School students. Light refreshments will be provided.

Make sure to bring your camera to take your

**Off the Shelf****Amanda Choi**
Librarian

child's photo with Santa. Please note: Book giveaways are while supplies last.

Our regularly scheduled events and services including storytimes will take a break in December. However we do have other fun programs at the Evergreen Library this month.

Join us for a **Gingerbread Craft** on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. Celebrate the season with a Gingerbread-themed story time and then create your own Gingerbread man craft.

We're also launching our new **Basic Internet and Computer Class in Vietnamese** on Saturday, Dec. 6 at 10 a.m. If you're a Vietnamese speaker and new to the computer and the World Wide Web this is the class for you. You'll learn how to use a computer, navigate the Internet, and open an email account. You'll also

be able to receive instruction in a variety of computer applications including Microsoft Word. This class will take place entirely in Vietnamese and will meet every Saturday in December.

Does your child need extra help with Math? Beginning Monday, Dec. 8, we will have **Math Companions** every Monday at 4 p.m. Math Companions is an organization that provides individualized math tutoring for all levels, from Kindergarten math through Calculus AB. Interested students should sign up for tutoring by emailing mathcompanions@gmail.com. They can also be found on Facebook, facebook.com/mathcompanions.

One-on-One Job Coaching at the Evergreen Library has a new date and time. Our volunteer Job Coach will be on hand to offer resume and cover letter editing, and job search assistance every Saturday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. We recommend registering in advance to guarantee a 15-minute session. You can register either at the information desk of the library or by calling us at (408) 808-3060.

Bring the kids on Saturday, Dec. 16 at 1 p.m. to get their wiggles out and their groove on with **Catch-a-Beat Music, Dance and Culture for Kids**. Music and dance educator Tina Rogers will present an energetic movement program that incorporates a variety of music and dance styles. Feel the rhythm and get ready to move! This program is best for children ages four and up. The event is sponsored by Friends of the Library.

Parking

When the library parking lot is full, customers may find additional parking available at Grace Church on the other side of Aborn Road. We thank Grace Church for this generous offer that allows the library to better serve the Evergreen community.

Amanda Choi is a librarian at the Evergreen and Berryessa branch libraries. The Evergreen Library is located at 2635 Aborn Road, between Capitol Expressway and White Road. The library phone number is (408) 808-3060. The Berryessa Branch Library is located at 3355 Noble Ave., San José. The library phone number is (408) 808-3050. Both libraries are part of the San José Public Library System. For more information, visit the library website, sjpl.org.

Gas prices continue to drop

Average retail gasoline prices in San Jose have fallen 1.6 cents per gallon in the past week, averaging \$3.06/g yesterday, according to GasBuddy's daily survey of 427 gas outlets in San Jose.

This compares with the national average that has fallen 2.1 cents per gallon in the last week to \$2.78/g, according to gasoline price website GasBuddy.com.

Including the change in gas prices in San Jose during the past week, prices on Nov. 30, 2014 were 46.7 cents per gallon lower than the same day one year ago and are 24.7 cents per gallon lower than a month ago. The national average has decreased 21.8 cents per gallon during the last month and stands 49.9 cents per gallon lower than this day one year ago.

"Oil prices have been demolished in the last 72 hours as OPEC decided against a production cut, which will open the flood gates to even more gas price declines," said Patrick DeHaan, senior petroleum analyst with GasBuddy. "In my decade of watching oil and gasoline prices, I don't think I've seen as steep a decline in a 48 hour time frame as what we saw on Thanksgiving Day and into last Friday as OPEC put off any decrease in production. This is perhaps one of the most astonishing weeks in watching crude prices I've ever witnessed, and motorists will likely be giddy at what I see in our gas price crystal ball: a 15-25 cent drop over the next several weeks, bringing the national average down to the \$2.50s by Christmas," he noted.

Holiday Festivities

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Times **Features**

HSSV, shelters announce Home for the Holidays adoption program

Annual holiday program kicks off Friday, Nov. 28

The Humane Society Silicon Valley will once again take part in the annual Home for the Holidays program, along with five other Bay Area animal shelters.

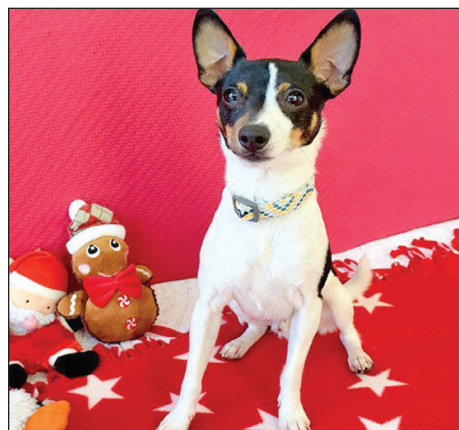
During the month of December, all six shelters will offer adoptions of adult dogs and cats for just \$12. The program aims to find a forever home for every adult animal that is available on Nov. 28 through Dec. 31.

The Humane Society Silicon Valley, Palo Alto Animal Services, San Jose Animal Care Center, Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority, Santa Clara County Animal Care and Control and Town Cats hope to raise awareness of the more than 1,300 homeless animals in Silicon Valley that are in need of loving homes.

The Home for the Holidays program encourages the adoption of adult animals by lowering



Ginny is ready for her forever home, while **Miguel**, below, is waiting to be adopted.



their fee to just \$12. Adoptable animals can be found at Humane Society Silicon Valley's Animal Community Center in Milpitas and its three Neighborhood Adoption Centers in West San Jose, Sunnyvale and Mountain View.

For adoption locations and contact information, please visit www.sheltersfirst.org.



Miu Miu is one of the cats available for the Home for the Holidays initiative. Photos courtesy HSSV

Cooperative Parenting & Divorce winter session available

How to parent as a team when you are no longer a couple

Almaden Valley Counseling Service is now accepting registrations for its Winter Session of the "Cooperative Parenting & Divorce" class. These classes are for parents who are either divorced or in the process of divorcing. The class focuses on reducing parental conflict, support for the parent, valuable tools on how to be an effective co-parent, and most importantly, how to help their child through this difficult process.

Goals of the program:

Assist parents in shifting their roles from former spouses to co-parents

Educate parents about children's issues in divorce

Educate parents regarding the impact of parental conflict on their children's develop-

ment

Teach parents anger management, communication and conflict-resolution skills

Group format provides support and information for parents going through this difficult time

The eight week course will be held on Thursday evenings from 6 -8 p.m. starting Thursday, Jan. 22, 2015.

The fee is \$265.00 and the class is limited to one parent from a co-parenting family.

If you are interested in attending this session, or would like to be included on their mailing list for future sessions, contact Rebekah Cahoon, clinical director at (408) 975-2957 or clinical@avcounseling.org.

Registration form is available on their website at www.avcounseling.org and payment can be made through PayPal directly from the website page. They are located at 6529 Crown Blvd., Suite D, San Jose, CA 95120

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Questions? Contact Elliott Bender at 408-679-1296 or elliottbender@rocketmail.com. Never played? Come to our FREE CLINIC! When: December 1 & 3 - 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm and December 6 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Where: Lone Hill Park - Vintner Way and Harwood Road, San Jose.

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

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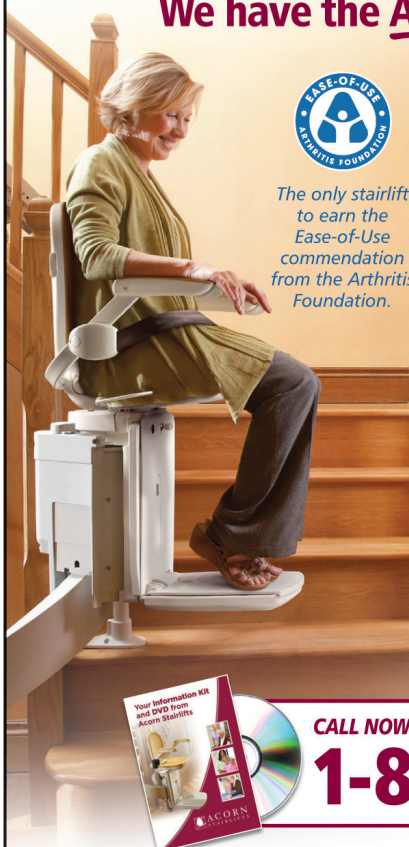
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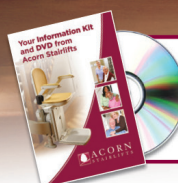
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Times **Your Schools**

Demystifying the Common Core

By Olaf Jorgenson
Special to the Times

The Common Core debate rages nationwide. Critics and supporters spout conflicting opinions about the new education standards that have been adopted by 45 states and the District of Columbia.

Common Core has become a political issue. The controversial standards were fiercely debated in governor's races in Wisconsin, Connecticut, Arizona, Oklahoma, New York and elsewhere, polarizing candidates from both political parties in the midterm elections.

What's all the fuss about? Let's put the politics and emotions aside, and look at what we know about the Common Core.

First of all, Common Core is comprised of *standards*. It is not a prescribed curriculum or set of lessons and materials teachers must deliver in lockstep.

Let's say I told you, "Go to New York." That's like a standard. What method of transportation you choose, what stops you make along the way, and which food you buy – that's up to you. That's your curriculum.

So, Common Core does not dictate curriculum. To the extent the standards are developmentally appropriate to children, and are manageable in their multitude and expectations for learning, they are simply "destinations." Of course, these big assumptions are part of the debate.

Common Core aims to prepare today's children for a new economy, workforce and spectrum of technologies. While they're called "state" standards, one objective of Common Core is to provide a unified, consistent set of expectations nationwide. Common Core's backers envisioned national standards to replace our historical patchwork of state standards that have varied significantly from state to state in their scope and rigor.

Proponents of Common Core hold that the new standards comprise a "staircase" design, leading children from one level to the next in a progression based on what is needed for them to succeed in the college and in the workplace.

Advocates also assert that Common Core will require more challenging curricula that feature analysis, problem-solving, application of learning, and higher order thinking skills compared with the mostly rote memorization and recall that characterized a decade of No Child Left Behind (NCLB), the legislation that shaped public education since 2001.

Further, the new Common Core assessments under development – statewide tests to gauge whether schools and districts are effectively implementing the new standards – will challenge students to demonstrate their learning in a variety of performance tasks beyond simple recall and multiple-guess answer sheets.

This is a key shift to note. While the past three centuries of American education have focused on determining what children *know* so we can figure out what they can *do*, the Common Core era of performance assessment aims to require students to apply their knowledge – showing what they can *do* as a means to demonstrating what they *know*.

Opponents of Common Core point out that NCLB failed to elevate the quality of public education with its emphasis on tougher standards, high-stakes testing, and heavy consequences for underperforming schools. Common Core promises to bring yet more challenging standards and assessments. Common Core's critics point out that NCLB set a learning goal that no nation in history has ever achieved (i.e. 100 percent of children proficient in reading and math); so what is needed now,

See *COMMON CORE*, page 17

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Times Your Schools



Educators gather at the National Connected Superintendents Summit at the White House on Nov. 19. Photo courtesy Kathy Gomez

Superintendent Kathy Gomez visits the White House

Kathy Gomez, superintendent of the Evergreen School District, was selected by the U.S. Department of Education as one of 117 top school leaders from across America to participate in the first-ever National Connected Superintendents Summit Nov. 19 at the White House.

Gomez is among exemplary local school chiefs who were recognized for their leadership in helping transition their districts to digital learning. This unique conference brought together officials from throughout America to share with one other and the Education Department promising approaches to using technology in classes.

"School districts across the country are helping teachers harness the power of technology to create personal learning environments for all students," said U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. "We want to make sure every child – whether he or she is in the inner-city, in a rural community or on a Native American reservation – has access to knowledge and the chance to learn 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

For her part, Gomez was delighted to be a part of this summit and grateful for the opportunity to emphasize the role technology plays in a future-focused school system.

"Technology allows adults and students alike the opportunity to learn anytime, anywhere," she says. "Educators access professional blogs and articles and use tools such as Google Docs to collaborate with colleagues anywhere in the world. Students use technology to follow their curiosity to learn, create and share their work with others. It's learning at its best: both authentic and meaningful."

The White House summit will be followed by a series of 12-

15 regional summits that will focus on the digital progress both made and possible by local school districts. The events will also include the unveiling of digital tools that facilitate incorporation of technology into short-term and long-range education planning.

To help spotlight the value of technology in schools, the Education Department is sponsoring a Future Ready Initiative aimed at showcasing outstanding school leadership and strategies.

"The Future Ready Initiative highlights the critical role of district leaders in setting a vision and creating the environment where educators and students access the tools, content, and expertise necessary for thriving in a connected world," said Richard Culatta, director of the Department's Office of Educational Technology.

"Technology has the potential to transform education in America, allowing students to learn more, to do so at their own pace, and to develop the knowledge and skills employers demand," Culatta said. "And yet, fewer than 30 percent of classrooms have the broadband internet to support today's education technology needs."

In June 2013, President Obama announced the ConnectED Initiative, starting with a goal of connecting 99 percent of students to next-generation connectivity within five years. Model schools and districts across the country are using technology to create personalized learning environments; technology will play an increasingly crucial role in the future.

Pumpkin Auction raises \$13K for K. Smith Elementary School

The Santa Clara County Realtors Foundation, the charitable arm of the Santa Clara County Association of Realtors, raised more than \$13,000 for Katherine R. Smith Elementary School at its 16th Annual Pumpkin Auction held Oct. 29.

"We're so glad to be able to give a helping hand to a school in need," said Myron Von Raesfeld, president of the Santa Clara County Association of Realtors. "Katherine R. Smith Elementary is very deserving and very appreciative of the money we raise."

The majority of students who attend Katherine R. Smith Elementary are from families whose household income falls below the poverty line and their parents did not finish school. As in the past, the money from the fundraiser will be used to cover field trips that the school wouldn't otherwise be able to provide. Additionally, the funds will be put toward transportation and beautifying the campus with landscaping and murals.

"Each year, SCCAOR has shown to be an incredible community partner," said Aaron Brengard, principal at Katherine R. Smith Elementary. "The event not only raises some much-needed funds to support material cost and beautification projects, but it serves as a great motivator. Every day our staff works tirelessly to prepare our students. There are no easy days, however knowing we have partners like SCCAOR brings energy to our campus. We are incredibly grateful for the consistent caring and compassion shown by [SCCAOR's] generous members. [SCCAOR's] support over the years has done so much for the Katherine R. Smith community."

This year's Pumpkin Auction raised \$1,000 more than last year. "I am very proud of our committee and everyone that participated in the event, for making it a great success and raising \$1,000 more than last year," said Gustavo Gonzalez, chairman of the SCCR Foundation and a Realtor with Valley View Properties. "It's money well deserved for students in the east side of San Jose."

About 150 Realtors and affiliates attended this year's fundraiser. Students from Katherine R. Smith Elementary and local Realtors creatively decorated more than 40 pumpkins and 13 Bloomsters arrangements also were sold.

Gloria Ashdown of Alain Pinel Realtors has participated in

the Pumpkin Auction for seven years. "I think it's an amazing cause for Katherine Smith Elementary," she said. "The creativity of the kids amazes me. It's kind of enlightening to see them do it. It's good PR for Realtors. Realtors should do more events."

The pumpkin auction would not have been possible without CBVA leaders Brian McDermott of Intero, Dave Walsh of Alain Pinel, James Nichols of Coldwell Banker, Mike Sibilia of Keller Williams, Jim Myrick of Keller Williams, Don Jessup of Silicon Valley Associates, Steve Bonafede of CSR Real Estate Services and Kelly Hunt of CSR Real Estate Services. Sherman Adams from Century 21 M&M assisted with the auction as well as one of the auctioneers.

Rib licking good plus funds for Silver Creek Booster Club



Ribs were enjoyed at the annual Rib Cook-off at Silver Creek High in support of the Booster Club. Photo courtesy Juanita Ortiz

More than \$2,000 was raised at the second annual Rib Cook-off sponsored by the Silver Creek Athletic Booster Club with all funds donated to the athletes of the high school.

More than 100 guests attended the Rib Cook Off this year to taste ribs and support the Booster Club. It was a difficult decision but after the three judges indulged in the contestants ribs they finally chose a winner and a runner-up. Congratulations to Rico Flores for winning the cook off and to Javier

Tovar for being the runner up. Both winners are parents from Silver Creek and were very proud to have been the winners. It was a fun night by all who attended and the Booster Club says they can't wait to host it again next year.

Katherine Smith School named 21st Century Learning Exemplar School

Educators, communities, and students to be featured online in 'Patterns of Innovation'

The Partnership for 21st Century Skills, the leading organization advocating for 21st century learning for every student, has designated Katherine Smith School as an exemplar school, as part of a program to highlight exemplary 21st century learning practices that are improving schools and student learning in classrooms and communities across the U.S.

Patterns of Innovation: The 21st Century Learning Exemplar Program showcases schools, educators, and students from around the country that have embraced the P21 Framework for 21st Century Learning to increase educational options and outcomes for all students.

Patterns of Innovation shares the experiences of schools that have successfully transformed their students' learning by incorporating elements of the P21 Framework into teacher practice, curriculum, assessment, and professional development.

The 2015 21st Century Learning Exemplars, including Katherine Smith School, part of San Jose's Evergreen School District, were selected along with 14 schools through a rigorous application process, and evaluated for educational excellence and 21st century learning implementation. The schools are part of P21's ongoing initiative to identify, document, and showcase exemplary 21st century learning in action.

"When we set out to reinvent our school in 2012, we aimed to be a model of excellence for 21st century learning," says Katherine Smith Principal Aaron Brengard. "Being recognized by P21 as a 21st Century Skills Exemplar School validates the dedication of our staff, students and parents. It's an incredible honor, and we look forward to working with P21 and sharing our work."

"We are very proud to continue sharing the *Patterns of Innovation* to highlight strong learning communities, leadership, and the importance of student voice," said Dr. Helen

See KATHERINE SMITH, page 16

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ART

Ongoing (through Feb. 22)

Momentum: an experiment in the unexpected: On display through Sunday, February 22, 2015 at the San Jose Museum of Art. This exhibition sets out to disrupt the status quo and show that art is anything but just an inanimate object. For its forty-fifth anniversary, SJMA invited creative movers and shakers from the realms of design, comedy, performance, music, writing, and dance to disrupt this exhibition of its permanent collection with their personal artistic responses to the art on view. Their interventions can take whatever form and be in whatever media, and in whatever scale, they so choose. Museum hours: Tuesday – Sunday 11AM – 5PM. Closed Monday, and all Monday holidays. Admission is \$8.00 for adults, students and seniors \$5.00. Free admission for SJMA members and children six and under. San Jose Museum of Art is located at 110 South Market Street, San Jose. For more information, visit www.sjmusart.org.

HOLIDAY

Dec. 13

Symphony Silicon Valley Chorale presents **"CAROLS IN THE CALIFORNIA"** on Saturday, December 13, 2014 at 7pm at The California Theatre located at 345 South First Street in downtown San Jose. A Family Holiday Tradition! Artistic Director

Elena Sharkova and the Symphony Silicon Valley Chorale present the 10th Annual "Carols in the California", an exciting and festive program. Come for the traditional sing-along of your favorite carols and prepare to be dazzled by a performance of John Rutter's "Magnificat", all in the warm glow of the beautiful California Theatre. PRICES: \$26 and \$36. BOX OFFICE: 408.286.2600 or www.symphonysiliconvalley.org

Dec. 22, 23, 30

Backyard railroad Holiday open house. Train lovers welcome, young and old. The Hubbard Garden Railroad will be all dressed up for the holidays and open for public viewing. See electric and live steam engines. Travel through mountain, town, and trestle. December 22, 23, and 30. 6-8 pm. Free. 6175 Meridian Ave (near Redmond). Video preview: <http://bit.ly/1xhOZHI>

Ongoing

Downtown Ice -Circle of Palms. For the fifth consecutive year, the San José Downtown Association and their partners, Kristi Yamaguchi's Always Dream Foundation and Hawaiian Airlines, will be hosting the South Bay's largest outdoor skating rink through the holiday season. People of all ages are welcome to experience the outdoor skating rink at the Circle of Palms between the Fairmont Hotel and San José Museum of Art. For admission prices and hours, please visit: <http://sjdowntown.com/downtownice>

EVENTS

Dec. 6

Silver Creek High School Clean up fundraiser December 6th 9-3pm. Do you have any household items that you don't need anymore? Donate them to the Silver Creek High School Japanese program! We will provide Tax receipts for your donations. Items that you can donate: Books, baby items, shoes, clothing, and electronics items whether working or not. Drop them off on Saturday, December 6th from 9 am - 3 pm in the Silver Creek High School staff parking lot off of Silver Creek Rd.

Upcoming New Leaf Events

Fri, Dec 5, 5-7pm: Complementary Wine Tasting and Food Pairing featuring David Bruce Chardonnay, Henriot Champagne, Tortoise creek Zinfandel, and Ancient Peaks Cabernet Sauvignon. Educate your palette and sample fine wines for the holidays.

Mon, Dec 8 -Tues, Dec 30, 10am-7 pm: Holiday Solutions Table. Simplify your holiday meal planning; stop by and sample our seasonal offerings, get cooking tips, and place your order for holiday meals all in one convenient location.

Fri, Dec 12, 5-7pm: Complementary Holiday Wine Tasting and Food Pairing with Darlene de la Cerna, owner of Classic Artisan Wines. Featuring Ca'Momi's Bianco, Rosso and Cabernet Sauvignon, and Casteller Cava. Weekly tastings are for all -

those new to the experience of tasting wine, and those who want to increase their understanding of a specific region, vintage or varietal.

Sat, Dec 13, 1-3pm: Holiday Tasting Fair. Bring family and friends to sample wine, beer and delicious, festive treats throughout the store while you shop for your holiday entertaining and gifts. Support your local Food Bank by donating non-perishable food items for a chance to win gourmet gift baskets valued over \$50. Monetary donations also accepted. Free.

Sat, Dec 13, 5-7pm: Complementary Holiday Wine Tasting and Food Pairing with Darlene de la Cerna, owner of Classic Artisan Wines. Featuring Ca'Momi's Bianco, Rosso and Cabernet Sauvignon, and Casteller Cava.

New Leaf Community Markets is located at 5667 Silver Creek Valley Rd. San Jose. 408-513-8200 ext 102. Connect at New Leaf Community Markets - Silver Creek.

HAVE AN ITEM FOR OUR CALENDAR?

Email calendar items to graphics@timesmediainc.com. Photos should be sent digitally as jpegs, minimum 300 dpi, or mailed to Calendar, Times Newspapers, 1900 Camden Ave, San Jose, CA 95124. Photos will not be returned.



Dec. 23

The Reaching Out Food Center at the Cathedral of Faith will hold their annual 'Celebration of Love' Tuesday, December 23 from 10:00 a.m. until noon. Over 1,500 grocery carts full of food will be distributed that day. During the entire month of December 3,850 grocery carts full of food will be distributed, including turkeys, fresh produce, vegetables, bread, and pastries, to needy families. The retail value of the distributed food is well over \$960,000. San Francisco Giants left fielder Travis Ishikawa will be on hand for the event, volunteering with his family and the over 500 other volunteers. For more information, call (408) 979-3048 or (408) 979-3090.

Your kids won't want to get out of the pool at ClubSport San Jose.

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Contact the Aquatics Office at (408) 574-2405 for more information

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Times **Community News****Katherine Smith***Continued from page 14*

Soulé, P21 Executive Director. "P21 is working with our many members and partners to make 21st century learning a reality for schools and students everywhere, regardless of zip code, because every student deserves an exemplar school."

Case studies on schools just announced, including Katherine Smith are currently in development and will be unveiled in early 2015. All schools are encouraged to apply to be considered for the 2016 round. Applications will open Dec. 10, 2014.

Check out www.p21.org/exemplars for completed case studies, powerful learning stories, podcasts, videos and more. #PatternsofInnovation.

Children's author John Flanagan of 'The Ranger's Apprentice' series to sign books at B&N Eastridge

New York Times Bestselling Children's Author of "The Ranger's Apprentice" series of books, John Flanagan will be visiting the Barnes & Noble Bookstore at 2200 Eastridge Loop on Wednesday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m. After thrilling the crowd with a reading from the latest book in the Ranger's Apprentice/Brotherband Universe, "Scorpion Mountain", he'll be on hand to answer questions and autograph books.

Flanagan is best known for his New York Times Bestselling Series "The Ranger's Apprentice" and its spin-off, "Brotherband", both resulting in more than 12 books combined. He began writing "Ranger's Apprentice" for his son, Michael, 10 years ago, and is still hard at

work on the series and its spin-off, "Brotherband Chronicles". He currently lives in the suburb of Manly, Australia, with his wife. In addition to their son, they have two grown daughters and four grandsons.

Everyone is invited for a spectacular evening event with John Flanagan.

For additional details contact Michael Koller, community business development manager at (408) 270-9477 or crm2247@bn.com.

Barnes & Noble hosts fundraising Bookfairs for local schools in December

Barnes & Noble at Eastridge Mall is pleased to announce several Bookfair fundraisers for local schools, libraries and not-for-profit groups this holiday season. They are:

1. Valle Vista School PTA - Wednesday, Dec. 3 - 5 -Bookfair ID # 11501236
2. Tom Matsumoto School PTA - Friday, Dec. 5 -Bookfair ID #11490158
3. Friends of the Seven Trees Library - Friday, Dec. 5 -Saturday, Dec. 6 -Bookfair ID 11498797
4. Friends of the Educational Park Library - Friday, Dec 5-Saturday, Dec. 6 - Bookfair ID 11493855
5. Meyer School - Saturday, Dec. 13 and Sunday Dec. 14 -Bookfair ID #11500808
6. Reading Partners Silicon Valley - Friday, Dec. 12 and Saturday, Dec 13 -Bookfair ID #11501228
7. Quimby Oak Middle School PTSA - Monday, Dec 15 - Bookfair ID #11515855

Barnes & Noble Bookfairs are a great way for the community to give back, simply by making their purchases on the organizations assigned date or dates.




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Times **Community News****Holiday and Festival of Lights Dec. 6**

You are invited to Festival of Lights to come celebrate the holidays at the Evergreen Village Square on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

There will be fabulous holiday entertainment, photos with Santa, face painting and many cultural performances. The Festival of Lights, sponsored by Involved Evergreen, will begin at 4:30 p.m.

**Common Core**

Continued from page 13

they assert, is definitely not more difficult standards and testing.

It does seem likely that the Common Core standards will be harder to attain for children in many schools, and particularly those impacted by poverty, lack of resources, or less stable, qualified faculties.

Critics also observe that the Common Core standards were designed by academics and assessment specialists, with little input from parents, teachers or school administrators. Hundreds of millions of dollars have been directed to developing the Common Core standards and assessments, and the Common Core era will divert hundreds of millions more in taxpayer dollars toward a profitable cottage industry supported by the new standards and tests.

Whatever side of the Common Core debate you side with, it may be instructive to consider a third viewpoint as well.

In our decade-long obsession with educational outcomes like standards and testing, we've drawn America's attention (and enormous amounts of taxpayer funding) away from

what's actually happening *inside* classrooms.

Rather than focusing on the variables that study after study demonstrate will improve student learning – better teacher preparation, for example, or making sure children's basic needs (nutrition, safety, health care) are met – policy-makers and politicians insist on setting tougher standards and measuring more outcomes in an effort to somehow leverage student achievement through new and better and more benchmarks and measurements, No Child Left Behind and now the Common Core State Standards.

From an educator's standpoint, it makes sense first to invest in and commit to improved teacher preparation and training, student wellness, and innovative curricula, and *then* take reasonable steps to measure the outcomes.

Milton Chen, senior fellow at the George Lucas Education Foundation, relays a compelling perspective from an educator from India, remarking on America's preoccupation with measuring outcomes: "Here, when we want the elephant to grow, we feed the elephant. We don't weigh the elephant."

Olaf Jorgenson is head of school at Almaden Country School.



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EvergreenAreaMeetings

Adlibmasters Toastmasters Club

A group dedicated to helping develop communication and leadership skills. The group meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 5:15 - 7 p.m. at HGST, a Western Digital Co. and the second and fourth Tuesdays from 12 - 1 p.m. at IBM. For more information, go to www.adlibmasters.org or call Lorraine Myers at 1(408) 717-5552 weekdays or 1(408) 238-4580 weekends.

District 8 Community Roundtable (D8CRT)

The District 8 Community Round Table (D8CRT) meets the first Thursday of the month from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Community Room in the new Evergreen Branch Library on Aborn Road. <http://d8crt.org>

CalRTA-Area V-Div. 70 Retired Teachers Organization

Meets bi-monthly at various eastside cafes also conducts a variety of holiday socials/activities and scholarship fundraisers. Established in 1983! All teaching levels and others welcome. This organization supports the goals and purposes of the California Teachers' Retirement System. For more information call E. Paros at (408) 274-1609 or email parosej@sbcglobal.net.

East Side Union High School District Board of Trustees

Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in the ESUHS Education Center, 830 N. Capitol Ave. 347-5000. Check the web site for agendas and updates: www.esuhd.org

The Evergreen Al-Anon meetings held at St. Francis of Assisi Church on Thursdays at 7 p.m. have been cancelled indefinitely due to lack of attendance.

The Evergreen Business Association

is intended to allow business owners and leaders in the Evergreen community to meet, connect, and network with each other in this fast growing part of San Jose. We believe that doing business with local business serves everyone in the community. The group held its first meeting

in October and will meet each month on the third Thursday. The group invites owners and leaders of B2B and B2C businesses in the Evergreen area. There is no cost for membership. For more information please refer to our Meetup page here: <http://www.meetup.com/Evergreen-Business-Association>

Evergreen-East Valley Realtors Marketing Meeting

Meets each Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The EEVRMM invites realtors, brokers, lenders and related affiliates to its breakfast meeting. Market your listings, match buyers with sellers and share real estate success stories. Meetings are held at MegaByte Pizza Co., 5623 Silver Creek Valley Rd., San Jose, CA 95138. \$3 admission, coffee and pastries included. For more information, call David Castillo at 238-2000.

Evergreen School District Board of Trustees

Meetings are typically held on the second Thursday of every month, in the district boardroom at 3188 Quimby Road. For more information, call (408) 270-6800.

Evergreen School District Parent Advisory Committee

The Parent Advisory Committee Meetings for 2011-12 will meet on the first Wednesday of the months of October, December, January, February, March and May. The meeting is held in the Evergreen School District boardroom, 3188 Quimby Road at 9:30 a.m.

The Evergreen Senior Advisory Council

meets the third Thursday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Get involved in helping plan events for seniors, volunteering for a good cause, and getting to know your fellow seniors. For more information, call the Evergreen Community Center at (408) 270-2220.

Evergreen Valley Garden Club

Meets at the Evergreen Library on Aborn Road, San Jose the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Each meeting will feature a monthly gardening class FREE to the public. For further information

contact Arvind Kumar at (408) 715-7020 or email chhaprahiya@yahoo.com

Evergreen Valley High School Athletic Booster Club

meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the school's administration office.

Evergreen Valley High School Site Council

Meets the first Wednesday of every month on the EVHS campus in the administration building D, 3300 Quimby Rd., San Jose. Confirm meetings by visiting the school's web site, <http://ev.ca.campusgrid.net/home> and clicking on school site council in the left hand toolbar or calling the school at (408) 347-7000.

Evergreen Valley Service Organization

For more information, call (408) 274-6756.

Falls Creek Neighborhood Association

Homeowners from the Madison and Pulte area developments are welcome and encouraged to attend future meetings. For more information go to the Web at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fallscreekneighbors> or call Dave Zenker at (408) 238-2591.

The Evergreen Community Center

offers a variety of classes and special events, for kids, adults, and seniors. For more information on our activities visit: www.sanjoseca.gov/prns. The Senior Nutrition program serves a delicious and well balanced meal to seniors 60 and over every Monday - Friday at noon. The suggested donation is \$3 per person. Please make reservations at least one day in advance by calling (408) 270-1244. The center is located at 4860 San Felipe Road.

Friends of Evergreen Library

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of February, April, June, August, October and December from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in Group Study Room A at the Evergreen Branch Library, 2635 Aborn

Road, San Jose. Visit their website at friendsforevergreenlibrary.org or call 408-808-3060 for more information.

Hidden Glen Community

To join a neighborhood discussion group, go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HiddenGlenSanJose/> **LeyVa Community Action Team Association** This group is bounded by Barbary Lane and Monrovia Drive, Capitol Expressway, Aborn Road, and South King Road. For meeting time and location, please contact the association at (408) 795-5855.

Lions Club - San Jose East Valley

This group meets Tuesday evenings from 6 pm to 8 pm for a dinner meeting at Carrow's Restaurant, 1696 Tully Rd. near the corner of Tully Rd/King Road. For more information, contact Lions Club member Bill Evans at (408) 274-4728.

McLaughlin Corridor Neighborhood Assoc.

Meets second Thursday at 7 p.m. at Tully Library. 365-1300.

Meadowfair Neighborhood Association

Meets the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months at 7 p.m. at Meadowfair Center, 2696 King Rd. For more information, call 539-2308.

POWERPartners is a dynamic group of small business owners with the mission of providing a positive and supportive environment to empower female sole proprietors to be their personal and professional best. By supporting each other, we can leverage each other's expertise, collaborate and provide services - some community service contributions and others for profit - to other women in the areas of health, wellness and aesthetics. In essence, help women learn how to take impeccable care of themselves as their life expectancy increases as well as to help people increase the quality of that life.

Reid—Hillview Airport Assn
Meets third Wednesday at 7:30

p.m. in the Reid Hillview airport terminal, 2350 Cunningham Ave. 251-4939. For more information visit www.rhvaa.org.

Rotary Club of San Jose East/Evergreen

Meets every Thursday from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. at the Ranch Golf Club, 4601 Hill Top View Lane. (408) 270-0557.

Story Road Business Association

Meets third Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. at Prusich Park, South King Road at Story. For more information, call 238-5422.

San Jose/Evergreen Community College District Board

Normally meets second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Meetings in the district board room on the Evergreen Valley College campus, 4750 San Felipe Rd. 270-6402.

San Pedro Squares Toastmasters Club

Meets every Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. at Jimmy's Restaurant, 222 W. Capitol Expressway in San Jose. Contact Barbara at 373-2815, or email barbaramcchesney@sbcglobal.net for further information, or check out the website at <http://www.sanpedrosquares.freetoasthost.org>. **Silver Creek (PTSA) Parent, Teacher, Student Association** Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday in the Silver Creek High School Principal's Conference Room, 3434 Silver Creek Road. For more information, call 347-5830. Silver Creek School Site Council Meetings: Second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in room V-1.

Silver Oak Educational Partnership

The Silver Oak Educational Partnership is now called the Silver Oak Elementary PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). SOEPTO will not be meeting over sum-

mer. Meetings will resume in September. New meeting schedule will be posted in August.

SIR Branch 114 at the Villages

Sons in Retirement (SIR) Branch 114 meets every first Tuesday of the month in the Villages' Clubhouse Fairway Room. The meeting agenda includes a noon luncheon for all SIR Branch 114 members and a 1 p.m. speaker open to all Villagers and friends. For more information, call Jim Brady, SIR 114 BIG SIR at 408-274-4850.

West Evergreen Neighborhood Association

This group represents the area bounded approximately by Flanigan Drive, South King Road, Aborn Road, and Alvin Avenue. Meets the third Tuesday at O.B. Whaley Elementary School, 2655 Alvin Ave., 7 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact the association at 535-8613.

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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
BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE on DEC. 7TH. 7:00PM
A service of healing and remembrance, with special music and candle lighting.

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Sunday Schedule: Worship 8:30am & 11:15am, Sunday School for all ages 10am,

Coffee and Conversation 9:30am
SUMMER HOURS beginning June 1st — Sunday School 8:30am, Coffee and Conversation 9:30am, Worship 10am
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.east-valleychurch.com)
VBS: June 23rd — 27th (5:45-8:30pm) & Sports Camp: July 21st — 25th (9am -12:30pm) For more details or to register please visit our website
Lead Pastor: Dr. John K. Helveston, Community-Life Pastor (Youth/College & Career) — Pastor Patrick 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@eastvalley-church.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
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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 OraciOn: 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, worshiping, 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 (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 summer Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sundays at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. at the McKean Road location. We also celebrate Mass outside under the Oak Tree at McKean on the last Sunday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Our Parish Office is open Mondays thru Thursdays, 9 am - 12 pm during the months of June, July and August. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call 1 + (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www.churchsanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.

SOUTH HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH
6601 Camden Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120
408.268.1676 www.south-hills.cc
South Hills is about people — people who are learning to live a new life for the glory of God, people who are growing in His love and sharing that love with others in our community and people just wanting to get their questions answered. Our desire is to meet the needs of people wherever they are in their spiritual journey. We provide ministries for all ages — from Cornerstone Preschool and Kindergarten to seniors, plus thriving children's and student programs. We offer ESL classes, both Men's and Women's Bible studies, as well as counseling and support groups. Whether you're searching for answers to life's perplexing questions or looking for a church home, we pray that South Hills is a place where you can experience God's love. Join us Sunday at 10:00am for life-related Biblical teaching and contemporary music in a relaxed atmosphere; we offer nursery, children's and youth programs as well.

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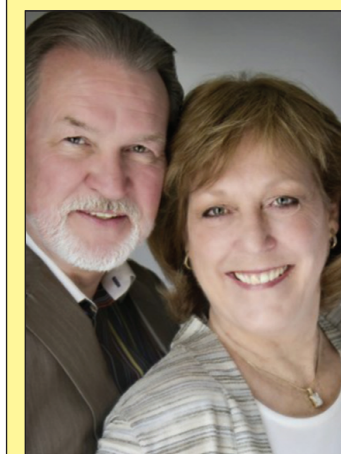
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