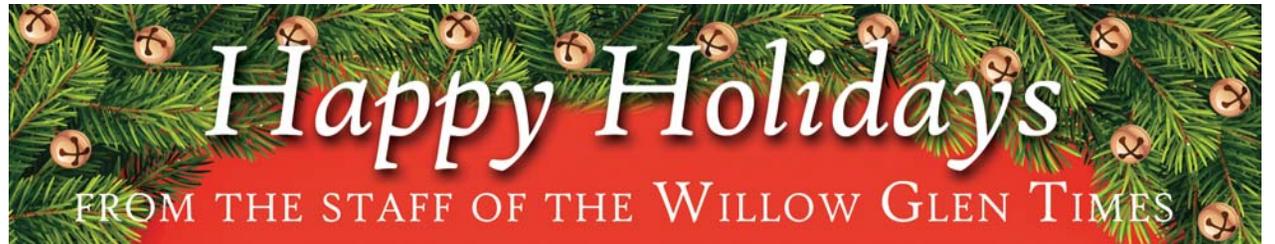


PIPES AND DRUMS OF THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RECEIVE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COMMENDATION - PAGE 4



DECEMBER 2015 ■ VOL. 11, NO. 2

# Willow Glen Times

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## THE 'BUCK' STARTS HERE



Ryan Teeple, a fifth grader from San Jose, poses with a toy representing "Young Buck," the character he voices in Pixar's latest film "The Good Dinosaur." Above: Teeple poses with Peter Sohn, the director of "The Good Dinosaur." Photos used courtesy of the Teeple family.

## San Jose's Ryan Teeple lends his voice to Pixar's 'The Good Dinosaur'

By Jeff Baham  
*Special to the Times*

Becoming one of Disney's animated characters is a goal to which nearly all movie stars aspire. In fact, Tom Hanks has said that he's the "luckiest man in the world" for voicing a Pixar character.

But for 10-year-old San Jose resident Ryan Teeple, becoming the voice of an animated character for Pixar's latest film "The Good Dinosaur" was just another successful venture along life's journey.

"I've been auditioning and acting since I was five," Teeple explained. "Pixar calls people from everywhere to try out, and it just so happened that I was the person they wanted for this role."

The role in question is a dinosaur hatch-

ling by the name of "Young Buck," an Apatosaurus who, along with his siblings Libby and Arlo, lives in an alternate universe in which the asteroid that caused the extinction of the dinosaurs passes Earth in a near-miss, allowing the dinosaurs to flourish and establish civilizations.

While Teeple's character only appears in the movie's early scenes, his vocalization was used to portray the foundation for the older version of Apatosaurus Buck. But for such a young actor, thinking and acting like a reptile couldn't have come easily – or could it have?

"I thought about it like he was a kid," said Teeple, who himself is a fifth-grader at Simonds Elementary School. "They showed

See DINOSAUR, page 8



## Tree Amigo planters come out in force

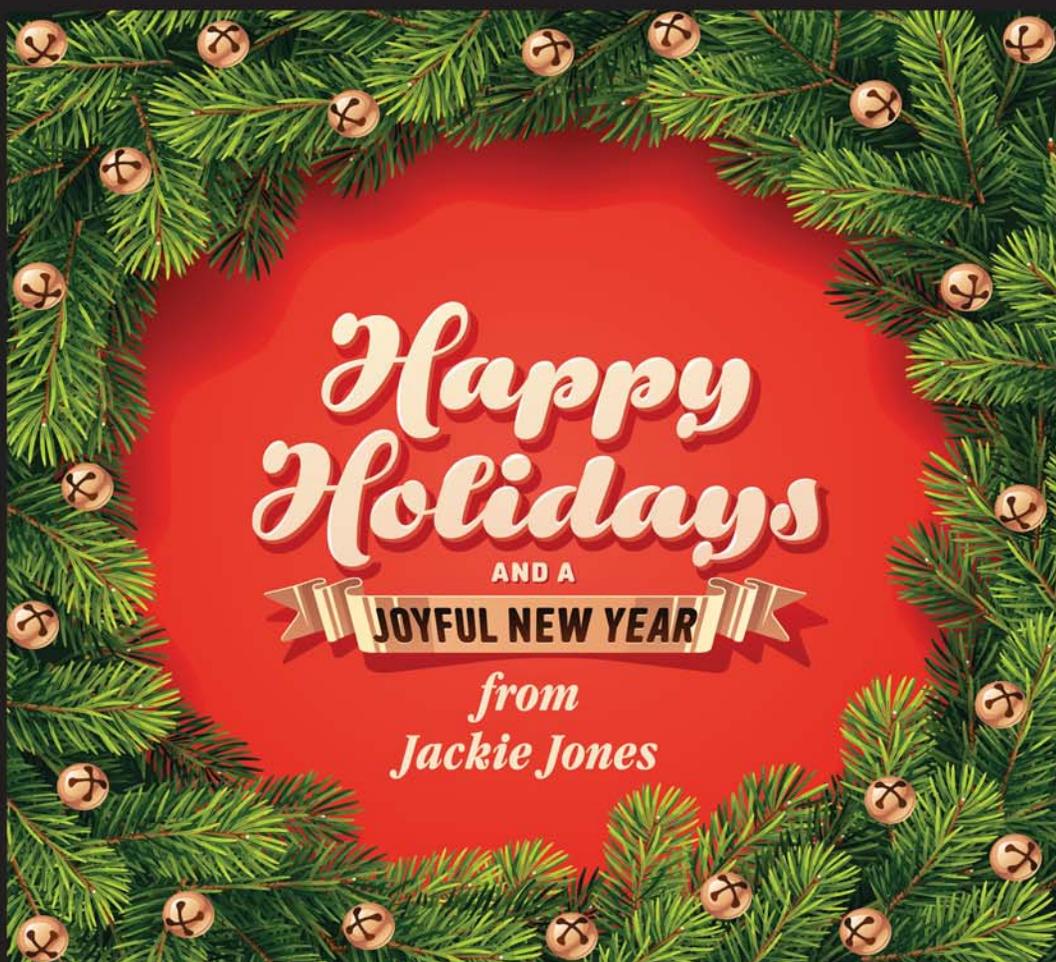
Thank you to all of the Our City Forest volunteers who came out during the month of November. Here's Tree Amigo Thi with happy volunteers at a Willow Glen neighborhood planting. See page 3

SEE OUR LISTINGS OF LOCAL PLACES OF WORSHIP AND CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER

# Coming Soon!



Welcome home! This beautiful home offers approximately 2,019 square feet of living space boasting 4 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms. Enjoy entertaining in the naturally bright living, dining and family rooms, wonderful eat-in kitchen and spacious backyard. The home is situated on a 5,663 square foot lot located near schools, shopping, restaurants and freeways. Offered at \$1,198,000



*Jackie Jones*

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Times **Community News**



Prune this season to increase the health and longevity of your tree.

# Winter tree care advice: 'Tis the season to prune

### Does your tree need pruning?

Winter is the best time to have your trees pruned, because deciduous trees have lost their leaves and it's easier to see the structure. Here are some common structural defects that may need attending to: dead, dying, broken, or diseased branches. Young tree pruning done by professionals will increase the health and longevity of your tree. Our City Forest can assist you with young tree pruning on a donation-basis.

Email [trecare@ourcityforest.org](mailto:trecare@ourcityforest.org) for more information. For mature trees, consult an ISA certified arborist.

Often during the stormy season, we see trees that are topped. Topping is the improper pruning of trees, most often done by people with little to no training on working with

trees. Topping often introduces decay and causes trees to overcompensate by creating many weak, hazardous branches. We've heard stories of people who are trying to make a quick buck by going door to door and convincing residents to let them top their trees. So remember, if you're going to get your trees pruned, make sure it's done by an ISA Certified Arborist! Visit our Tree Care page to learn more.

### Understory advice:

Add a thick layer of mulch to all tree berms and around your garden to protect against soil erosion from the coming rains. This will also provide nutrients for your plants over time.

For winter shrub care advice, contact our Lawn Busters team at [lawnbusters@ourcityforest.org](mailto:lawnbusters@ourcityforest.org).

## GIRLS SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS

AGES 4 to 14

2016 Almaden Valley Girls Recreational Softball

Registration is **OPEN!**

Everyone is Welcome in Our League!

**SIGN-UP TODAY at:  
WWW.AVGSL.ORG**

## Lincoln Glen Little League registrations start

The Lincoln Glen Little League is holding online registration through Dec. 31 for the 2016 spring season. Players ages 4-16 are eligible. For more information, visit [lincolnglenbaseball.com](http://lincolnglenbaseball.com).

## Municipal Rose Garden needs 500 pruning volunteers

The San Jose Municipal Rose Garden needs more than 500 volunteers on Jan. 9 to help prune more than 3000 rosebushes. The mass pruning is vital for roses to bloom in the spring.

Some training will be provided, and high school students can earn community service hours for volunteering. Volunteers are asked to bring gardening gloves and hand pruners if they have them, and to dress in long-sleeve layers and wear closed-toe shoes.

Registration starts at 8:30 a.m., and pruning takes place from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information, email [ParkVolunteer@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:ParkVolunteer@sanjoseca.gov) or call 408.595.3483.

## Sacred Heart holiday book drive

Hicklebee's Book Store in Willow Glen is now accepting donations of new children's books in a partnership with Sacred Heart Community Services' Holiday Program.

Sacred Heart will distribute age-appropriate books to youths from newborn to age 18 whose families use the nonprofit's various services. Donated books are often the first in low-income family homes.

The goal of the drive is to provide books for more than 6,000 children this Christmas.

For more information, email Cynthia Towle at [cwtole@gmail.com](mailto:cwtole@gmail.com).

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# Valley Currents

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

## 'BACH' TO NATURE



The Pipes and Drums of the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office marched to the podium playing a tune to receive their commendation from the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. Pictured (l-r) are: **Dave Maich**, side drum; **Fred Cormier**, pipes; **Lettie Smith**, Pipe Major; Supervisor **Mike Wasserman**; **Susan Schultz**, tenor drummer; **Dennis Ward**, piper; and Santa Clara County Sheriff **Laurie Smith**.

## Pipes and Drums of the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office receive Board of Supervisors commendation

Dressed in uniform shirts with full Scottish regalia, including kilts and sporrans, members of the Pipes and Drums of the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office received a commendation from the County Board of Supervisors at its Dec. 15 meeting.

Band members partnered this fall with the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department to further its program to bring music "Bach to Nature" by offering exceptional musicians to perform outdoor concerts in County parks.

The 20-member band is an all-volunteer group, and it plays at more than 50 com-

munity events annually. This year's highlights include the memorial service for San Jose Police Dept. Officer Michael Johnson, *Every 15 Minutes* presentations at local high schools, the *Rose White and Blue Parade* on Independence Day, and escorting WWII vets returning from an Honor Flight at San Francisco International Airport.

Sponsored by the Sheriff's Advisory Board, the Deputy Sheriffs' Association of Santa Clara County and the Peace Officers Research Association of California, band members have logged 892 hours of volunteer time so far this year.



Photo: [jpellgen \(flickr.com/CC\)](http://jpellgen.flickr.com/CC)

## Dead cat with missing head found at Booksin renews animal abuse fears

By Sean Eastwood  
*Times Staff Writer*

Just two months after a man was arrested on suspicion of killing and abusing cats, a gruesome find on Dec. 8 was discovered at Booksin Elementary School in Willow Glen.

Captain Jay Terrado of the San Jose Animal Care & Services was called to the campus to

recover a dead cat with its head and paws missing. San Jose police are assisting in the investigation, and a necropsy will be performed to help determine the exact cause of death. There are no witnesses to the crime.

Whether the assault on the cat was from a "serial animal killer" or a coyote, spotted recently by neighbors in the neighborhood, the

impact on students finding the gruesome find is unfortunate.

Terrado said there is no way we can be certain 100 percent that it's one thing or the other at this point. "The situation is suspicious, but at this point we're still trying to gather evidence in order to determine the cause of the death of the cat," he said.

## LET THE WILLOW GLEN TIMES HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your letters to [editorial@timesmediainc.com](mailto:editorial@timesmediainc.com) or via postal mail to: Willow Glen Times, Silicon Valley Business Center, 1900 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95124

Times **Local News**

# Land for parks acquired in South County

By Ken Yeager  
*Special to the Times*

I have long been an advocate for increasing access to trails and parks throughout the County. This is why I am proud the Board of Supervisors took action last month to eventually link three parks and open up 170,000 acres of continuous open space.

The Board voted unanimously on agreements that will allow County Parks to buy 2,748 acres just southeast of Morgan Hill. Based on the location of the land, it will serve to link Coyote Lake-Harvey Bear Ranch and Anderson Lake County Parks to each other and to Henry Coe State Park.

The purchase will form the largest recreational land holding in the California Park System, adding to a total of more than 170,000 acres of publicly owned and protected open space along the Diablo range. This move by the Board opens the way for a trail network linking the vast state park with two of the County's premiere parks.

Elevation across the property ranges from 600 to 2,200 feet, offering spectacular views of Santa Clara Valley, Coyote, and Anderson reservoirs and locally known Finley, Palassou, Sheep, and Timber Ridges. The land also contains a natural wildlife sanctuary for black tailed deer, mountain lions, rabbits, coyotes, bobcats, and a variety of small birds and other mammals.

I am excited by this acquisition, and I look forward to a greatly expanded trail system throughout this beautiful and rugged corner of the County. For more information, contact County Parks at 408-355-2215.

## EL NIÑO FLOOD PREPARATION

Longtime County residents may associate the "El Niño" forecast with memories of dangerous floods in San Jose and other parts of the region. With what is believed to be an unusually strong El Niño on its way, now is the time to begin preparing for the possibility of flooding this winter and spring.

The first step recommended by federal and state officials is for homeowners to acquire flood insurance. Flood damage is not covered by traditional homeowners' insurance and is only available through the National Flood Insurance Program. There is a 30 day waiting period before policies become effective, meaning, residents should act quickly to be insured in the event of flooding.

Beyond obtaining flood insurance, these are the primary ways in which residents can prepare for the possibility of flooding:

1.) Safeguard your possessions. Create a personal flood file containing information about all your possessions and keep it in a secure place, such as a safe deposit box or waterproof container.

2.) Prepare your house. Make sure your sump pump is working and install a battery-operated backup in case of a power failure. Move furniture, valuables, and

important documents to a safe place.

3.) Develop a family emergency plan. This can include creating safety kits, teaching children how to use emergency numbers, and planning and practicing a flood evacuation route.

I encourage all residents to take the necessary steps to make sure you, your loved ones, and your possessions are safe during this El Niño season. To learn more about these steps and for more information on flood protection, visit [www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/](http://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/).

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

The upcoming Super Bowl at Santa Clara's Levi's Stadium is expected to bring an enormous influx of visitors to the County, increasing the threat of human trafficking throughout the region. In order to help residents identify and report signs of this horrendous crime, the County recently launched a countywide Human Trafficking Awareness Campaign.

The campaign focuses on spreading awareness of the issue with multiple images

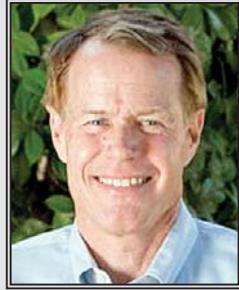
**The purchase will form the largest recreational land holding in the California Park System, adding to a total of more than 170,000 acres of publicly owned and protected open space along the Diablo range.**

and messages in busy public spaces. These are displayed in light rail cars, buses, and bus shelters throughout the county to show residents how to effectively play a role in preventing human trafficking.

The messaging for the campaign is provided by Andrew "A.J." Wassell, winner of the District Attorney's "Justice for All" high school poster contest, and the National Human Trafficking Resource Center. Led by Supervisor Cindy Chavez, Valley Transit Authority, and the County Offices of Women's Policy, the Sheriff, and the District Attorney, this campaign was launched last week and will continue through the New Year.

The more that residents and visitors play an active role in combating human trafficking, the more equipped we are to identify perpetrators, break down criminal networks, and empower survivors. For more information on human trafficking in Santa Clara County, visit [www.southbayendtrafficking.org](http://www.southbayendtrafficking.org).

I had a blast at the 11th Annual Silicon Valley Turkey Trot. In what has become a Thanksgiving tradition, I joined 26,000 runners from around the world in a 10k through beautiful downtown San Jose. Much like the



## County Report

Ken Yeager,  
County Supervisor

## Mt. Umunhum's Tower Needs Your Help! SOS - Save Our Skyline!

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South Bay Landmark

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[www.umunhumconservancy.org](http://www.umunhumconservancy.org)

The Umunhum Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit founded by local citizens who want to preserve the historic tower. Contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. EIN 46-1438547.



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## Times Features

# JOY TO THE WORLD: A miracle takes place at Hayfork

By Terry Denevan  
*Special to the Times*

Isolated in the beautiful northern California woodlands is a small logging community named Hayfork.

In the fall of 1964, during my eighth week as a beginning teacher, I was recruited by my elementary school principal to help the music teacher put on the annual Christmas program. It was to include students from kindergarten through grade 12 from the town's two schools.

Before rehearsals began, I asked the science teacher who the audience would be. His answer surprised me: "The whole town and everyone beyond. There aren't many events in Hayfork."

The fairly ambitious undertaking would depict the origin of Christmas customs that are practiced by several cultures around the world. It called for an orchestra, a choir, and a dozen or so actors. Production staff members consisted of a few parents, the music teacher, his wife (who played the piano), and me, overseeing lighting.

The number of students who signed up to participate was disappointing, and the few who turned out showed little interest, but we forged ahead anyway.

During the next six weeks, after-school rehearsals took place almost daily. Not one went smoothly. Attendance was erratic, and students were more inclined to socialize than to listen to instructions.

As an example, Bill Thompson, a high school senior, found time to attend only about half of the choir rehearsals. His voice was better suited to chatting and laughing than to singing, and he had trouble remembering the words to the songs. He put the bulk of his energy into cutting up and getting the attention of the girls. Even I could sense his charm, but it did not enhance either his attitude or his musical ability.

Blonde Emma Gillespie, a freshman, had been chosen to play the Virgin Mary in one of

our program's pivotal scenes. The quiet decorum of a silent, holy night seemed utterly beyond her reach whenever Bill was around because our "Mary" was in the grip of an unabashed teenage crush.

Solemn Susan Eisner, a gifted sixth-grader, played the clarinet. Despite the intensity of her focus, she simply lacked the skill to deliver a mature, melodious performance on the complex instrument.

As the night of the performance approached, student participation picked up, but attendance continued to be inconsistent. Most disheartening was that the kids' cooperation with the music teacher, one another, and me never did improve. Disaster loomed, but the faculty had no alternative except to soldier on.

Finally, we ran out of practice days. We held the first and only dress rehearsal on the morning of the performance. There were no surprises. The orchestra sounded terrible, the choir wasn't much better, and most of the student actors couldn't remember their lines. Our entire teaching staff was ready for the worst.

Almost unobserved, the principal stood silently just outside the hall's back doorway, watching the rehearsal with mounting dismay. Should he just call the whole thing off? He didn't tell us so at the time, but that's what he was thinking. It was too late, though: parents would start arriving in a few hours.

If the performers were short on team spirit, there was no lack of enthusiasm on the part of the spectators. The audience that gathered in our school gymnasium to see *The History of Christmas Throughout the World*, looked larger than the population of the town. Every seat was taken. People stood three and four deep along the walls. Stands filled the back of the room. The crowd hummed with excitement

and anticipation.

Risers were in place for the choir.

Behind them on the wall wide strips of muslin displayed "Merry Christmas" colorfully stenciled in a dozen languages. The only other stage scenery was half a dozen bales of fresh golden straw positioned to suggest a manger.

A large Christmas tree dominated the center of the performance area. It glowed with blue lights and sparkled with decorations made by the students. On both sides of the stage area, white picket fences stretched the width of the room, topped by white cotton to simulate snow and lit with two dozen strings of green lights. The setting was not meant to dazzle but to create an inviting mood for what was to follow.

At the back of the hall was the school's kitchen. The student performers crowded within it, nervously awaiting their call. Many stood on the lawn outside the doorway.

Muffled chatter mingled with quiet laughter.

Shoulder to shoulder with the refrigerator, the stove, and too many rambunctious youngsters, the principal, the music teacher, and I tried our best to maintain order.

The house lights flickered twice—the signal to begin. Silence followed. The kitchen door opened and the actors, all in simple costumes, entered with the orchestra and the choir and formed a ragged procession down the room's single aisle toward the stage. The music teacher and I followed close behind. Next to us stood our principal wearing a fixed grin, braced for whatever might happen.

As the house lights dimmed, orchestra members took their positions alongside their instruments at stage right. The choir filled the

risers at stage left. Some actors remained on the stage; all the others took their places behind the muslin-covered scenery flats. A student narrator, program in hand, stood before one of two microphones.

Seeming to hold their breath, students awaited their cues. Ready or not, the program was about to begin.

The principal welcomed the assembled parents and guests and followed with a few introductions. The house lights went down. After a moment's pause, spotlights came up to illuminate the makeshift stage. A solemn hush blanketed the hall as family, friends, and peers focused their expectations on the front of the room. Performers and audience alike were stilled in one, long moment of suspense.

Positioned at the lighting controls in the dark behind the scenery flats, I mentally followed the action I'd seen in rehearsal.

With a slight bow, the music director acknowledged the audience and then turned and gave a nod to the waiting narrator.

And then the program began. The narrator stepped forward and adjusted her microphone. Casting a confident smile across the room, she spoke the opening lines of the evening's presentation.

The success of the program rested primarily with the music director; but as his assistant, I felt a shared responsibility. The burden of our undertaking had kept me awake nights, and by the day of the performance I had come to feel that neither the director nor I possessed the necessary experience to pull off this production. Despite our respective degrees in music and drama, we did not have practical production experience. Maybe all we'd succeeded in doing was setting our kids up for a massive disaster.

The best I could do now was attend to my duties. Working alongside a parent, I fulfilled my tasks as lighting technician. Although I could hear everything, much of what went on was hidden from my view.

Several minutes into the program, my anxiety turned to confusion. Voices were blending in on-pitch harmony. Orchestral music was soaring in perfection. Lines were being delivered clearly and without mistakes. This performance couldn't be from our kids!

"What's going on?" I whispered to the parent assisting me. "No one notified me!"

"What do you mean?" She asked.

"Listen to that! The music teacher must have decided to use prerecorded Christmas music at the last minute."

"No," she replied with a big smile. "That's our kids! Aren't they great?"

See *JOY TO THE WORLD*, page 9



## VTA January 2016 Fare Program Modifications

### When will Day Passes change?

Effective 1/1/2016, Day Passes will generally only be available for customers using Clipper®; riders will no longer be able to purchase a Day Pass from bus fareboxes or at light rail ticket vending machines.

Paper Day Passes will continue to be issued only for riders using Day Pass Tokens distributed through public agencies and social services.

### What is Clipper®?

Clipper is the all-in-one transit card for the Bay Area. Besides VTA, transit agencies accepting Clipper cards include BART, Caltrain, AC Transit, Muni and others. For a complete listing go to [www.ClipperCard.com](http://www.ClipperCard.com).



### Where can I obtain a Clipper Card?

During a limited period of time and while supplies lasts, a limited number of Clipper cards will be distributed without charge during VTA Community Outreach activities at various cities and at the VTA Downtown Customer Service Center and River Oaks Administrative Office Lobby.

Riders may also purchase a Clipper card from:

- VTA River Oaks Administrative Office – 3331 N. First St., San Jose 95134
- VTA Downtown Customer Service Center – 55-A W. Santa Clara St., San Jose 95113
- Most Walgreens – call your local Bay Area Walgreens to confirm
- Other Retailers – visit [www.ClipperCard.com](http://www.ClipperCard.com) for a full listing

### How does the Clipper Card Accumulator Feature work?

A Clipper user's fares will accumulate for that day up to the Day Pass amount, then once reached the Clipper user may continue to ride with no additional fare charges for the remainder of the day.

By having a daily fare cap, there is no longer a need to stop at a ticket vending machine or feed cash into a bus farebox. Just tap the Clipper card once for every ride.

### Where can I find out more information?

Visit [www.VTA.org/Clipper](http://www.VTA.org/Clipper).



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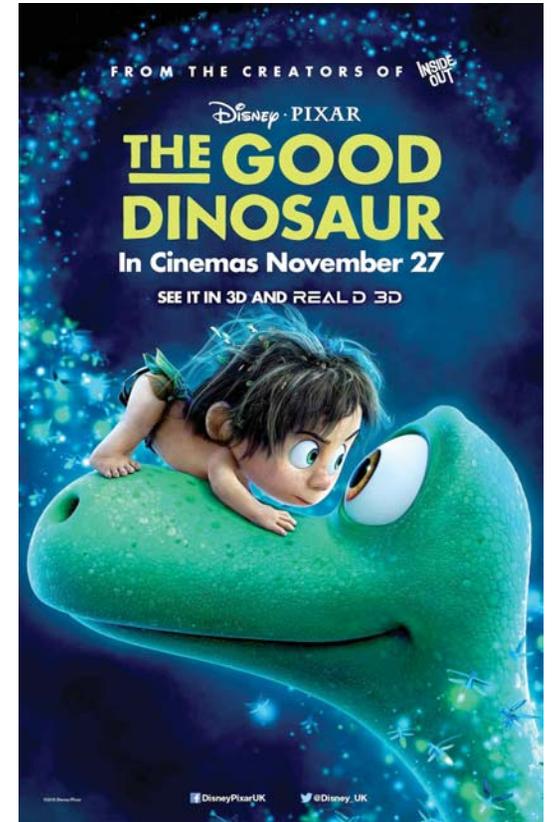
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Times **Cover Story**

Ryan Teeple poses above with some of the swag he received for voicing a dinosaur in Pixar's latest film, "The Good Dinosaur." The international release one sheet is pictured above right. (© Pixar/Disney)

## Dinosaur

Continued from page 1

me a picture of the dinosaurs and told me which one I was and I could see that I was supposed to be the 'tough' dinosaur, while Arlo (around whom the story is based) was more sensitive."

As a professional actor, Teeple performed alongside Kate Bosworth at the ripe young age of five, in the role of her son in the film "Big Sur" which premiered at Sundance in 2013. Talent runs in the family; his older sister Erica has also worked in the industry, and can be heard screaming in Pixar's "Monsters University," for which she was part of a "loop group" of actors performing background voices and sounds.

For his role as "Young Buck," Teeple had to trek up to the Pixar Studios in Emeryville to try out and record his lines. "For your first audition, you read a couple of lines to see if you're the voice they want, and then they might call you back for you to read more of the lines. After that they might want you for the job, or they might want you to keep coming back," Teeple explained. "But the second time I went, they had me read all the lines for the character, and the third time we went to Pixar, we found out that I was cast in the movie," Teeple said. Director Peter Sohn knew he liked Teeple's voice, so the process was streamlined. Sohn has a lot of experience in discovering Pixar voices, since before he directed a Pixar film, he also voiced characters himself, including Emile in "Ratatouille" and Squishy in "Monsters University."

Sohn knew how to help Teeple discover his inner dino. "Peter is really nice," Teeple said. "We had to do many takes, but Peter told me



Ryan Teeple poses above with his sister Erica, who has also worked as a voice for Pixar. They are leaning on a giant Pixar ball, which is located on the Pixar campus in Emeryville, CA. Photo courtesy the Teeple family

how he wanted each one, and he had a really good process for getting it done. I think he was perfect for directing this movie."

Back in real life, as opposed to his "reel" life, Teeple plays the piano, drums and trumpet, though he only brings the trumpet out

occasionally ("because I don't really practice it a lot," Teeple admitted.) He might be forgiven that slip, however, since he also plays a lot of soccer and baseball, makes a mean paper airplane, and swims three days a week (but "I get the day off on Wednesdays," Teeple said,

which he uses with his own discretion, often playing his favorite video games or building extravagant LEGO models and kits.)

When asked about his future acting plans, Teeple demurs humbly. "I haven't really thought about that much," he said. "I don't think I

**As a professional actor, Teeple performed alongside Kate Bosworth at the ripe young age of five, in the role of her son in the film "Big Sur" which premiered at Sundance in 2013. Talent runs in the family; his older sister Erica has also worked in the industry.**

would want to become an actor when I grow up, but it's always a possibility." Teeple enjoys math in school, and due to his experience with LEGO toys and similar pursuits, also is considering a future in engineering or architecture.

And why not? As Tom Hanks might even admit, once you've voiced a Pixar character as an actor, you're at the top of your game. Whatever else the world may have in store for this accomplished fifth grader is anyone's guess.

"The Good Dinosaur" is now playing in theaters nationwide.

## Joy to the World

Continued from page 6

“Great” hardly began to describe the grandeur of their performance. Beautiful notes rose from Susan Eisner’s lone clarinet. Bill Thompson sent forth the right lyrics in an exquisite baritone that seemed to come from somewhere celestial. Emma Gillespie played her crucial part with tender reverence. Love and appreciation radiated from the audience. Our principal beamed.

For the next two hours, the children acted, played, and sang like angels, with unrestrained exuberance. I kept busy with our primitive lighting system, shifting the emphasis to follow the onstage action.

The stage lighting dimmed, and a single spotlight shown upon the narrator. As she spoke the evening’s concluding lines, I put two extension cord plugs into wall sockets, creating a magnificent spectacle. The blue and green lights on the tree and fences were augmented with an additional two hundred multicolored lights. Instantly, a kaleidoscope of festive brilliance illuminated the entire hall.

The music director smiled broadly and raised his baton. He swept the choir and orchestra with a glance that seemed to connect with every single member. On the exaggerated down-thrust, the evening’s closing music began.

Silently, I slipped out a doorway

and headed to the opposite side of the building. The last part of my evening’s work was to turn on the house lights the instant the music stopped playing.

Beyond the interior of the hall was a different world, still and quiet and dark. Faintly but clearly, I heard the music of the grand finale, a heavenly rendition of “Joy to the World.” The sound could not have been more glorious if the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra had come to our little town. I felt myself choke up. Glancing up into the black sky I saw snowflakes for the first time falling gently like a perfect Christmas card.

I could have lingered a long while and savored the moment, but I had one more duty to perform. I hurried around the outside of the building to the rear door.

Just as the music reached its last crescendo, I eased the door open, reached into the electrical box, and threw the switch. The house lights came up. The audience rose to their feet, grinning and beating their hands in vigorous applause. The music director motioned for me to join the others at the front and receive the joyous ovation.

The crowd’s obvious pleasure in our performance was gratifying. But no external reward could exceed my privately cherished delight in the small miracle that I had witnessed that winter’s night in Hayfork.

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# EL NIÑO

**has had disastrous effects on our county before.**

**Are you flood-safe?**

El Niño conditions don’t always guarantee heavy rain storms, but our county has been affected by heavy storms during past El Niño winters.

As the county’s flood protection authority, the Santa Clara Valley Water District has invested approximately \$900 million in flood protection programs and protected almost 100,000 parcels from flooding in the past few decades. There are an additional 18 flood protection projects underway in our county.

You too can take action to protect your family and property from the risk of flooding.

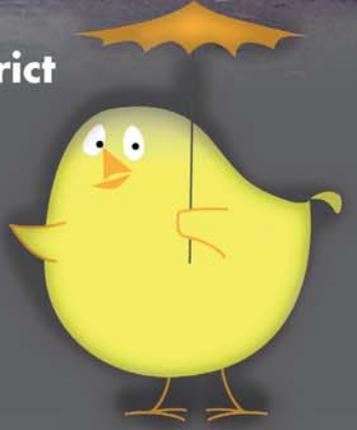
 **Santa Clara Valley Water District**



Coyote Creek, San Jose | January 1997

### Tips from the Santa Clara Valley Water District

- Don’t drive through flooded areas. Just one foot of water will float away most cars.
- Know the locations of your neighborhood streams and drainage channels.
- Examine your house and seal any cracks in the foundation, exterior walls and small openings around pipes.
- Keep rain gutters and drainage channels free of debris.





For more flood safety tips, text the word **WATER** to **84444**, or visit [valleywater.org](http://valleywater.org).

# Places of Worship

**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC**  
 6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120. Pastor, Rev. Dr. Michele Rogers Brigham. 408 268-0243  
[www.AlmadenCongregational.org](http://www.AlmadenCongregational.org)  
 We are a welcoming Church engaged in progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local Invision Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco Night Ministry, Second Harvest Food Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End Poverty.

Worship 9:00AM, Sunday School 10:00 AM Sundays. 1st Sundays in Worship: Holy Communion; 2nd Sunday in Worship: Folk Choir; 3rd Sundays at Coffee Hour: Round Table Disc. 4th Sundays in Worship: Blessing of Birthdays/Anniversaries/other "joy" Occasions. Tuesday, AA Meetings, 8:15-9:15 PM. Wednesdays, 9:30 AM., Women's Study Group

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
 5351 Carter Ave., San Jose 95118 408.265.5837  
[www.bibleroad.org](http://www.bibleroad.org)  
 We strive to be a group of Christians that love and honor God and Jesus Christ in

our daily lives. We assemble each Sunday to encourage each other through singing, studying, praying and sharing in the Lord's supper. Simple—just like what one reads about in the New Testament. Bible class at 9:30 AM Worship at 10:30 AM Located in south San Jose near Kooser Rd. and Camden Ave. (behind the Almaden Valley Athletic Club). Come make new Christian friends!

**EAST VALLEY CHURCH**  
 We are a Multicultural Christian Community committed to making Christ known to our Neighbors, Community and World.

Sunday Schedule: Worship 10am, Sunday School for all ages 8:30am, Coffee and Conversation 9:30am Childcare is provided for all our Sunday Services. Uplifting music, Biblical teaching, ministries for Children, Youth, College & Career, Small Groups for all adults, Ministries to Men, Women, Seniors, Celebrate Recovery (Please see website for details and meeting times [www.eastvalleychurch.com](http://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](mailto:info@eastvalleychurch.com) We are associated with Converge Worldwide [www.convergeworldwide.org](http://www.convergeworldwide.org)

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN**  
 6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector. Phone:408-268-0243  
 Web:[www.eca-sj.org](http://www.eca-sj.org)  
 At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. 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, valued and empowered to serve. 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 7:30AM and 10:30AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.

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# Places of Worship

**EVERGREEN VALLEY CHURCH**

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

**FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN**

Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurch-downtown.com  
Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a message that is relevant to real life, based in the Bible, and

meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips. Come, Make a Difference and feel the difference God can make in your life!

**HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Faith.Knowledge.Community - this is our promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office. Information on Faith Formation for children and adults can be

obtained by calling our Catechetical Office at 408-997-5115. Get in the loop with our 3sixty High School Youth Ministry by calling 408-997-5106. Holy Spirit School serves grades Pre-K through 8th, and is located at 1198 Redmond Avenue. You can reach the school office at 408-268-0794.

**SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (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 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish

Office or call 1+ (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at [www.churchsthanthony.com](http://www.churchsthanthony.com). Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH**

5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135  
408-223-1562. [www.stfrancisofassisi.com](http://www.stfrancisofassisi.com)  
[www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org](http://www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org)  
We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr. High, IGNITE - High School and North Star -Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations:

St. Francis of Assisi Chapel  
Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass  
St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall  
Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mass -

Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM  
Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road:  
Sunday 9:30 AM

The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium):  
Sunday 8:15 AM  
For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

**THE POINT CHURCH**

[www.ThePoint.Church](http://www.ThePoint.Church)  
3695 Rose Terrace Circle. San Jose CA 95148  
Located at the top of Aborn Rd and Murillo Ave. Come be inspired and build your faith as we worship together this Sunday @ 10:30 AM. KidsPoint is our children's ministry, serving infants through 5th grade. It is a fun and safe experience for kids as they grow in their walk with God. ONE is our student ministry, serving 6th through 12th grades. We help lead students into a growing relationship with Jesus through conversations, fun and service. Because of the diversity of Evergreen we offer church services in 5 languages, each with their own auditorium and pastor. 10:30 AM English, Mandarin, Cantonese and Cambodian. Spanish at 1:00 PM.

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

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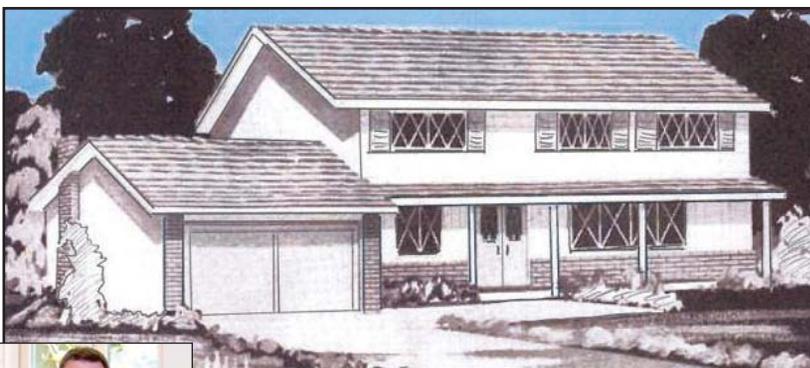
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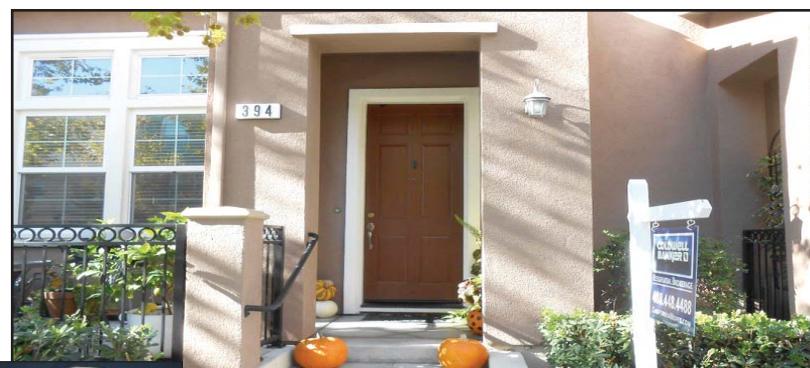
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