

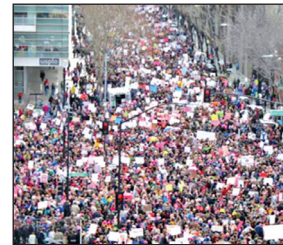
VOLUNTEERS GIVE THOUSANDS OF SCHOOL UNIFORMS TO LOW-INCOME CHILDREN – PAGE 4



LICCARDO AND ARENAS SPEAK AT D8 COMMUNITY ROUND TABLE MEETING – PAGE 3



ELLIE PLANE HELPED PLAN SAN JOSE WOMEN'S MARCH IN SAN JOSE – PAGE 6



FEB. 17 – MARCH 2, 2017 ■ VOL. 34, NO. 4

EvergreenTimes

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Point Church Christian parishioners and Gurdwara Sikh members work together to help the less fortunate.

Paper houses and dreams held together

By Kevin Larsen
Times Staff Writer

Hands get cold when you sleep outside, and those without a place to stay strive to survive, and that's why the Point Church Christian parishioners and Gurdwara Sikh members work together to push back the cold.

On a regular basis both organizations plan and work together to get things done, and they have young adults participate to learn how to carry on the helping of the less fortunate.

Early in the morning on weekends the two organizations drive to sites where people chose to live in the cold. Many sites are near forests or creeks but some are along highways too. They take the kind time to unabashedly ensure that each human being is given some little things to help them survive.

Those attending the Point Church believe deeply in Jesus and these caring principals stated on their website:

"We believe a have a special calling and commitment
See PAPER HOUSES, page 18

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS



Mayor Sam Liccardo held the audience spellbound during his State of the City address.

Mayor Liccardo's 'Tale of One City' showcases innovativeness and unity

By Kevin Larsen
Times Staff Writer

In his third State of the City address held at Gunderson High School on Saturday, Feb. 11, the most noticeable thing was that the presentation by San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo was electric and held the audience spellbound.

In his speech, Liccardo offered support to immigrants, acknowledged the increases in police staffing, vowed to create a state-of-the art transportation system, com-

mitted to providing housing for the homeless and promised a more beautiful San Jose.

Hundreds of residents along with city staff packed Gunderson High School's gymnasium to listen to the mayor's stunningly vibrant vision for the city. Dressed like Steve Jobs (no tie, casual sports jacket, brown leather belt and jeans), the San Jose mayor held the entire audience spellbound with words and views that resonated with the audience

See ADDRESS, page 17

NOTHING BUT Cakes

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LeyVa Boys Basketball team wins Section Championship

The 7th Grade LeyVa Boys Basketball team beat Chaboya in the Section Championship game with a score of 39-33 on Feb. 9.

This Evergreen match up was highly contested during the season as they both met undefeated in the middle of the regular season and Chaboya took the win by three at Chaboya.

The LeyVa Bulldogs continued their winning ways in order to meet the Colts again in the final and taking the win when it really counted.



The basketball team is coached by a kind, dedicated, and long-time PE teacher and coach at Leyva named Dan Spencer.

"This year's 7th grade boys basketball team was truly one of a kind," said Spencer. "Our motto all season was to outrun and out-work every team we played."

Spencer said he appreciates the dedication, work ethic, and the commitment to excellence the team displayed that carried us all season and in the end helped us win a section championship.

"I am so proud of what they accomplished," said Spencer.

SEE OUR LISTINGS OF EVERGREEN AREA MEETINGS, PLACES OF WORSHIP AND CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER

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Times **Local News**

Mayor Liccardo and Councilmember Arenas speak at District 8 Community Round Table meeting

More than 50 Evergreen residents braved the rainy weather on Feb. 9 to attend the monthly District 8 Community Round Table at the Village Square Library, where Councilmember Sylvia Arenas and San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo spoke.

Councilmember Arenas led off the evening with remarks about her first month in office, including helping with a cleanup day for the Meadowfair community. She also explained a new city program offering up to \$15,000 of assistance to ground floor space businesses and announced that a bike park adjacent to the Lake Cunningham skate park would be opening, with a late May ribbon cutting ceremony in the works.

"I look forward to serving the people of our community," she concluded, thanking the audience for their support.

The Mayor's Budget Director, Lee Wilcox, led the group through a participatory budget exercise using an interactive web polling software that allowed real time voting by audience members. 56 people logged on to the system and answered questions about their favorite sports team (the Warriors won by a hair over the Sharks), and their top priorities for city services (public safety, unsurprisingly topped the list).

Liccardo focused on the 2017 – 2018 budget which is currently being developed.

"We would like to restore core services to their January 2011 levels," said Liccardo. He explained that while January 2011 service levels were not at the highest level San Jose had experienced, "it's a service level that we think is attainable given our budget constraints."

Liccardo noted that progress is being made, especially since the passage of Measure F. "We have a four times increase in cadets for the upcoming police academy and we paved \$109 million in streets last year," he said. "We are working hard to increase our core services: police, fire, community centers and street maintenance."



The Mayor also announced the BeautifySJ initiative, a focus on "doing what San Jose can do." In support of BeautifySJ, the city will soon announce free, unlimited large item pickup and grants for neighborhood beautification. Liccardo cited the city's work with CalTrans to accelerate graffiti cleanup around San Jose's highways. "We're also releasing a new smartphone app for incident reporting that will make it easier for residents to notify the city of areas needing our attention."

The Mayor's Budget Director Lee Wilcox wrapped up the meeting with an interactive session focusing on two questions: what would help make your neighborhood great and how might we make these ideas a reality?

Rex Randles, former candidate for the San Jose/Evergreen Community College Board pointed out that "We ARE a community. San Jose needs to view us as that instead of a collection of individual neighborhoods."

The next District 8 Round Table meeting will be held Thursday, March 2 at the Village Square Library Community Room. The meeting, starting at 7 p.m., will focus on mental health issues. A panel of experts from a variety of organizations, including the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the San Jose Police Department and Uplift Family Services will answer questions about recognizing persons with mental health issues, and what services and types of assistance are available.



OVER THE RAINBOW

A bright rainbow could be seen directly over Carolyn Clark Elementary School the afternoon of Carolyn Clark's funeral services on Saturday, Feb. 4. Celebration of Life to be held March 25, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Carolyn A. Clark Elementary School is located at 3701 Rue Mirassou, San Jose, CA 95148. Photo by Victoria Kiy

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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.*

Volunteers give thousands of school uniforms to low-income children

The Assistance League of San Jose (ALSJ), an all-volunteer philanthropic organization, presented 9,210 new school uniforms to 5,434 low-income students in 39 elementary schools in San Jose.

The schools served are within the Franklin McKinley, Alum Rock Unified and San Jose Unified school districts.

"The new uniforms provided by Assistance League helps our students think more positively about themselves which results in increased confidence," said Patricia Hernandez, student support counselor at Anne Darling Elementary School. "Attendance is improved because students who wear clothes that fit them are more motivated to come to school."

This was an increase of 567 uniforms over last year for low-income children in kindergarten through sixth-grade. The uniforms were distributed in two waves; at the beginning of the school year in September and again in January to provide uniforms to students who entered school in the middle of the year.

"Local families living below the poverty line and struggling just to get by can't always afford new school uniforms for their children," said Jerri Kazmierczak, president of the Assistance League of San Jose. "For many of these children, our uniforms will be the only new clothes that they will receive during the year."

The results of the most recent ALSJ annual survey show that 96 percent of the 256 teachers surveyed feel that the uniforms have a positive effect on the students' self-confidence, 82 percent feel that the uniforms help with inclusion in peer groups, while 78 percent notice improved behavior at school in students who receive uniforms.

For 24 years, ALSJ volunteers have managed the entire program, from ordering uniforms in March, to unloading the truck full of uniforms in July, to arranging for storage, planning packaging sessions, assigning liaisons to each of the schools served, and organizing teams to go to



The new uniforms help students think more positively about themselves which results in increased confidence.

the schools to measure the children and deliver the uniforms.

The elementary schools served include:

Franklin McKinley School District: McKinley, Dahl, Los Arboles, Hellyer, Santee, Franklin, Kennedy, Lairon, Meadows, and Shirakawa elementary schools.

San Jose Unified School District: Gardner, Washington, Grant, Lowell, Empire Gardens, Almaden, Galarza, Anne Darling, Olinder, Allen, Horace Mann, Bachrodt, Canoas, Terrell, and Trace elementary schools.

Alum Rock Unified School District: Chavez, Cassell, San Antonio, Hubbard, Painter, Dorsa, Ryan, Lyndale, Russo/McEntee, Cureton, Meyer, McCollum, Goss, and Arbutle elementary schools.

ALSJ depends entirely on grants and donations to purchase the school uniforms. Major

contributors to this program include: San Jose Sharks Foundation, George and Jeanette Stuart Family Trust, SanDisk Foundation, Western Digital Foundation, First Days of School Foundation, Deborah and Henry Pao Foundation, William Cilker Family Foundation, TJX Foundation, San Jose Councilmembers Johnny Khamis, Magdalena Carrasco, Ash Kalra, and Raul Peralez.

About Assistance League

Assistance League of San Jose (ALSJ) is a 100 percent volunteer 501(c)(3) organization with no paid staff. We have served the greater San Jose area since 1983 as a chapter of national Assistance League®. Our mission is to put caring and commitment into action to improve the quality of life for those in need through our philanthropic programs. For more information, please visit: www.assistanceleague.org/san-jose.

Venkatraman appointed to Evergreen School District Board of Trustees; fills vacancy of Sylvia Arenas



Balaji Venkatraman

By Charles Crosby
Special to the Times

Balaji Venkatraman joined the Evergreen School District Board of Trustees, the second time he has stepped in to fill a vacancy on Feb 8.

The chair became available upon the election of Sylvia Arenas to San Jose City Council. Venkatraman previously filled a Board seat vacated by the late Carolyn Clark.

The selection of a new Board member was a choice from among 20 candidates, with Venkatraman

ultimately selected after three rounds of voting by Board members.

Venkatraman decided to stand again for a Board seat because he feels he is well positioned to help the District meet the challenges it's facing. "With declining enrollment and consequently reduced ADA based revenue, impending contract negotiations with the teachers and classified, I feel that I have the experience to understand the issues, work with the existing trustees to find common ground, build consensus on policy, allocate

budget to the priorities and work with the various stakeholders," he says. "Above all, I am committed to our student success and giving our community a voice in the governance of Evergreen School District."

Venkatraman says his priorities going forward will center on student success. "Our District's mission is to provide an excellent education in a safe and nurturing environment. That is my goal," he notes. "My only addition to this would be to emphasize and focus

See VENKATRAMAN, page 14

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Ellie Plane helped plan San Jose women's march in San Jose

By Charles Crosby
Special to the Times

A seventeen-year veteran of the Evergreen School District, Ellie Plane recently played a key role in helping to organize the San Jose Women's March, held January 21.

Currently at Laurelwood, she previously spent 13 years at Matsumoto, coming to the District straight from the credential program at Notre Dame de Namur University.

"I knew Evergreen was the right place being that there was a competitive salary schedule, good medical benefits, the trust, and that it was still in the Bay Area. I grew up in San Mateo and didn't want to live too much farther from family," she says.

She describes her teaching style as "more of a flexible, workshop approach." She says, "I have been trained in Reading and Writing Workshops at Columbia University. I prefer to have my students pushing themselves at their own individual level, and knowing what their levels are. I think that the most important part of education is getting students to buy-in to what they are learning. If they have a better understanding of what their level actually is in all subject areas, they're more likely going to succeed and not get overwhelmed."

Late last year she had planned to attend the Women's march in Washington but the trip proved unworkable. Instead she turned her attention to the local march. "On the website, I saw they were looking for volunteers, so I signed up thinking I would be a day-of volunteer," she says. Before she knew it, however,



When not stage managing 38,000-person events, **Ellie Plane** is hard at work teaching fifth graders at Laurelwood. Above right: the crowd size beat all estimates.

she was playing a more significant role than she ever imagined. "At the first meeting once committees were established, it was clear many of us were organizing something for the first time," she points out. "Not ever having worked in the corporate world, I felt that I was at a bit of a disadvantage for a while, but soon realized that the team I was working with was a wealth of knowledge and that we were in it together. I went from 5th grade teacher during the day to stage manager at night."

Initially anticipating two to five thousand people, the organizers were shocked to see as many as 38,000 turn out in downtown San Jose. "At one point, around 10:30, my friend and I heard that there was confusion at City Hall," she says. "We decided to walk over there to offer support. When we got there, we were completely overwhelmed by the masses

of people. Seeing something on which we worked hours upon hours for the past six weeks come together which such force, peace, and absolute support was overwhelming." She says she had to fight back tears several times through the day. "When the rally started, we have 'our future leaders' up on stage to take an oath. Those leaders included former students from grades 6-12, including my own 5th grade son and his friend. They stood up on stage as a group of 20 future leaders, from all different backgrounds, races, religions, and explained why each one of them were marching and were going to take The Oath. Those kids, completely on their own, identified their reasons with such poise: fighting to stop gender inequality, for equal treatment of Muslim Americans, for women's right to choose, for LGBTQ rights; seeing those kids on stage, and

having former students now in high school leading the march into the plaza, was emotional and overwhelming." She adds, "I don't know that I have ever been as proud to be a part of anything else in my life."

But of course, when not stage managing 38,000-person events she's hard at work teaching her fifth graders. She says biggest advice she can offer potential teachers is to focus on the difference that can be made in the classroom. "As we continue to fight for public education, we need to remember, the students are the ones who need us. Teachers are amazing people who are able to overcome so many obstacles while still taking on the individual needs of 30+ kids every day. It is not an easy profession, but it is by far the most rewarding, especially when you can see the impact that you make as those kids get older."



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Times **Community News**

Evergreen Medical Center is located at Eastridge loop near the VTA transit center.

Ventana Medical Group opens at the new Evergreen Medical Center

By Kevin Larsen
Times staff writer

Dedicated to excellence in women's health care, Ventana Medical Group Obstetrics and Gynecology opens its doors on March 1 at the new Evergreen Medical Center at Eastridge loop near the VTA transit center.

Ventana Medical Group is a Ob/Gyn health clinic run by women physicians, midwives, and nurse practitioners. This group has been providing medical care in Silicon Valley for more than twenty years.

The Evergreen Valley location is the newest Ob/Gyn facility for the busy practice in Campbell where Dr. Mary Kilkenny provides medical care. Dr. Kilkenny has been providing obstetrics and gynecology in Silicon Valley since 1989.

The new Evergreen Medical Center is the visionary plan of community leaders in Evergreen Valley coordinated San Jose City planners to provide a state-of-the-art facility specializing in providing medical and health care by various practitioners.

Dr. Kilkenny shared a mission statement regarding the opening of the new Ventana Medical Group location: "As a woman, your choice of an Ob/Gyn healthcare provider is a personal one. Finding a physician you feel comfortable with and attuned to your needs, and providing quality services with understanding and respect."

Kilkenny said the group's philosophy is built on the fact that "the patient and her needs always comes first, and everything we do is aimed towards what is in the best interests for a woman, a mom, a daughter, a sister or a wife."

Ventana Medical Group's staff is committed to bringing women's obstetrics and gynecological care to the Evergreen Community. The new location is welcome by women living in Evergreen Valley who have had to travel 30-45 minutes to their Ob/Gyn appointments for birth control, cycle problems, prenatal care, and other gynecological issues. Lunchtime, early evening, and Saturday hours are offered for patients in

order to meet specific scheduling needs.

"We are committed to helping young women plan their families from birth control, to fertility care, to prenatal care, and then delivery," said Kilkenny. "Our walls in Campbell are covered with pictures of babies delivered in our practice."

The practice cares for all women with full attention and care and they will now continue to provide such care for the generations of women from adolescence to post menopause now in Evergreen Valley.

Kilkenny said that Ventana Medical Group location accepts all major and regular insurance plans, including Blue Cross, Blue Shield, HealthNet, Cigna, Aetna, United Healthcare, and Medicare, as well as reasonable cash payment programs for uninsured patients.

About Dr. Mary Kilkenny

Dr. Kilkenny enjoys the full spectrum of general Ob/Gyn but has special expertise in advanced operative laparoscopy, colposcopy, menopausal care and pelvic pain as well as routine and high-risk obstetrics. Dr. Kilkenny grew up in San Jose and attended Notre Dame High School and Silver

Creek High School. She graduated from San Jose State University with a degree in Molecular Biology and Chemistry. She lived abroad in South America for a year in between high school and college and speaks Spanish fluently. Dr. Kilkenny began private practice in downtown San Jose in 1989. Dr. Kilkenny has been honored as "Best Physician" by Willow Glen residents, San Jose Magazine and KTVU Channel 11. She has also received awards for highest patient satisfaction.

Education and memberships: Board-Certified; American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology; Fellow: American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; Residency: Stanford Medical Center; MD University of California, San Francisco; BSc: San Jose State University; American College of Ob.

For more information, visit www.ventanawomenhealth.com, or call 408.708.9988. Note: the website goes live March 1.



Dr. Mary Kilkenny

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NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

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DEALER DISCOUNT OFF MSRP: -\$10,827
RAM CA 2017 BONUS CASH* -\$1,000
RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH* -\$1,750

NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

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RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH* -\$1,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH** -\$500
RAM 2017 ON-THE-JOB COMMERCIAL GRAPHICS*** -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

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RAM 2017 ON-THE-JOB COMMERCIAL GRAPHICS*** -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

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Ask About Our Discount Massage Package!****Cunningham Park grass meadow area collecting rain water**

Bike riders and walkers are noticing that the "The Meadow" at Lake Cunningham Park is flooding.

San Jose Park manager Alex Pearson said that "the rain water is ponding, which happens about every ten years." The meadow is designed to be a "low-line" low level elevation area to collect rain water.

Once the water collects it is pumped out. The public water works department also lends a hand in the process of pumping the water by bringing in an additional pump on such winters of heavy rains.

The rangers need to get the park ready for the high use period of April, however new storms bringing more rain this week could impact the park's readiness.

Evergreen Valley College accreditation reaffirmed**E**vergreen Valley College (EVC) along with its sister college San Jose City College (SJCC) have received reaffirmation of their accreditation status for 18 months.

The San Jose – Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD) made the announcement on Feb. 7. The reaffirmation is based on a comprehensive evaluation by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC).

"Reaffirmation for 18 months indicates that the Commission has determined that the institution is in substantial compliance with Standards," letters from ACCJC to the College presidents read.

Both EVC and SJCC completed accreditation site visits in October, during which time teams of evaluators from ACCJC spent multiple days on the campuses analyzing data and reviewing reports and operations at the Colleges and District.

"The accreditation process is vital to the ongoing improvement of our Colleges and we

are grateful for ACCJC's work in ensuring that we continue to meet their high standards for institutional effectiveness," said Dr. Deborah Budd, SJECCD chancellor. "The fact that both Colleges have had their accreditation reaffirmed reflects the hard work taking place on our campuses, our commitment to continuous improvement, and the dedication of our faculty and staff to serving students."

The visiting teams noted numerous commendations at each College and the District, including diverse services designed to engage the student population; a focus on equitable access; cultivation of a welcoming environment and an inclusive campus culture; well-developed and documented basic skills and student equity programs; innovative cross-disciplinary and contextualized curriculum; a notable "esprit de corps" and commitment to serving students; and efforts to improve campus safety, security, and emergency preparedness.

"Our accreditation is critical to ensuring that our students and the public are aware that the quality of our instruction and student support services have been recognized as meeting the very high standards set by ACCJC," said EVC President Henry Yong. "The fact that the evaluation process is peer-led confirms that community college educators and administrators from throughout the region have recognized the value of a degree or certificate from EVC."

While the accreditation process was time consuming and required many resources at both Colleges, SJCC President Byron D. Clift Breland indicated that it was very much a team effort that involved all constituency groups at the College. "Having our accreditation reaffirmed is a great achievement and I am proud of our faculty, staff, and students for their efforts in making San Jose City College a great institution of higher learning," Dr. Clift Breland said. "It's important that we always work to improve upon and adapt the programs and services of the College to meet the needs of today's learner as well as the education and job training requirements of the new economy."

The colleges will provide additional information and evidence of changes made since the accreditation team visits last October in a follow-up report to ACCJC in spring 2018.

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Times **Local News****OFF THE SHELF****Silicon Valley Reads engages the public with welcoming forums**

By Edith Sutterlin
Special to the Times

San Jose Public Library is participating in Silicon Valley Reads, an annual program that selects books focused on a theme and offers events to engage the public in reading, thinking and discussing contemporary issues.

We are excited to announce library events that offer a welcoming forum where our diverse community can come together to share different perspectives.

Explore the 2017 theme, "... And justice for all," by sharing conversations with your neighbors about this topic. This year's books are *Unfair : the new science of criminal injustice*, by Adam Benforado, a legal scholar, and *Writing my wrongs : life, death, and redemption in an American prison*, by Shaka Senghor, who wrote about his life transformation during 19 years in Michigan prisons.

Both Village Square and Evergreen Branches are taking part in Silicon Valley Reads Film Screenings:

Film: *Twelve Angry Men* (96 mins.)

Evergreen, Tuesday, February 28, 1:00 p.m. This 1957 classic movie is as timely as ever, as shown by the popularity of *Bull*, a new TV series about influencing the outcome of trials based on analyzing and predicting juror behavior.

Film: *Scenes of a Crime* (88 min.)

Evergreen, Tuesday, March 14, 1:00 p.m. This documentary led to new standards for police interrogation by asking, Why would any innocent man confess to something he didn't do? Police investigating a baby's suspicious death secretly video-recorded hours of their interrogation of the boy's father.

Film: *Central Park Five* (120 min.)

Evergreen, Tuesday, March 21, 1 p.m. This Ken Burns' documentary tells about a 1989 crime trial and aftermath in which five black and Latino teenagers spent five years in prison after being falsely convicted of raping a white woman jogger in New York's Central Park.

Film: *Scottsboro: An American Tragedy* (84 mins.)

Village Square, Wednesday, March 29, 5:30 p.m. In 1931, two white women accused nine black teenagers of a gang rape on the train. The Scottsboro case led to landmark Supreme Court decisions and was a strong influence on the civil rights movement.

Evergreen will host an ESL Class and discussion, Tuesday, March 7, 1:30 p.m. An English as a Second Language class introduces vocabulary and discussion related to this film series and the U.S. criminal justice system.

These children's programs encourage fam-

ily conversations about justice. **The ABC's of Social Justice**, Evergreen, Saturday, February 25, 11 a.m. Children ages 5-10 will discuss what "fairness" and "social justice" mean, then create and illustrate their own books. **Unity wreath**, Village Square, Wednesday, March 1, 5:30 p.m. Children ages 2-5 will create a wreath of handprints of different sizes and colors to take home. **Community Kindness Quilt**, Evergreen, Thursday, March 16, 4:30 p.m. Each person will create quilt squares sharing expressions of kindness and assemble them for display.

Contests for teens / tweens

Youth ages 12 to 18 are invited to enter an SJPL essay contest with cash prizes. Essays should describe a social injustice and propose a solution. Pick up a form at any branch to enter by March 17. An online county-wide Creative Challenge asks 6th to 8th graders to interpret the theme by a March 15. Contest entries may be Poetry; Essay/Written Speech; Narrative; or Visual.

Additional Events

All branch library locations' event listings may be viewed online at events.sjpl.org. Updates on library events are also available via our RSS feeds (sjpl.org/updates) and our Facebook page (facebook.com/sanjoselibrary)

Edith Sutterlin is a librarian at Evergreen Branch Library, located at 2635 Aborn Road, between Capitol Expressway and White Road. (408) 808-3060. Village Square Branch is located at 4001 Evergreen Village Square. (408) 808-3093. Both are part of the San José Public Library System. For more information, visit the library website, sjpl.org.

Duong named to Dean's list at University of the Sciences

Brian Duong of Evergreen Valley has been named to the Dean's List at University of the Sciences. Duong is a doctor of pharmacy student.

Selection for this award is based on completing and passing all assigned courses with no grade below a "C" and attaining an academic average of at least 3.4 for courses taken in the fall of 2016.

University of the Sciences has prepared students to be leaders and practitioners in the healthcare and science fields for nearly 200 years. Key to its distinctive education is a tradition of hands-on research and experiential learning that is evident in every graduate who has walked its campus.

Since its founding in 1821 as Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, the first college of pharmacy in North America, USciences has grown to more than 30 degree-granting programs from bachelor's through doctoral degrees in the health sciences, bench sciences, and healthcare business and policy fields.



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Times Local News

'CONSERVATION MUST REMAIN A WAY OF LIFE'

Water board continues water reduction target

On Tuesday, Jan. 24, the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors voted to continue its call for water use reductions of 20 percent compared to 2013 water use.

While statewide and local conditions have improved significantly, the board emphasized that dry conditions could return, and the community's water savings achievements should be continued.

Vice Chair Santos said, "Water conservation is a way of life. It's not going to change. We're an arid region for the rest of our lives. History will repeat itself. Like all good people, we put money in the bank for those rainy days that don't come."

A new resolution, which will be brought back to the board for adoption at its Jan. 31 meeting, will include a call for a continued limit on watering ornamental landscapes to no more than three days a week. It will drop the prior call for retail water agencies, local municipalities and the County of Santa Clara to implement mandatory measures, as needed, to achieve the 20 percent water use reduction target.

The water district does not have the authority to enforce mandatory water use restrictions on the customers of each local water provider. Since 2014, the board's resolutions have instead requested that water providers implement their own mandatory water restrictions to reach the target.

"Mandatory" language dropped

By dropping the "mandatory" language now, the board expects that local water providers will not use drought surcharges or penalties to motivate customers to meet the 20 percent goal.

The board's resolution will incorporate explicit reference to the State Water Resources Control Board's permanently prohibited practices that waste potable water: hosing off sidewalks, driveways and other hardscapes; washing automobiles with hoses not equipped with a shut-off nozzle; using non-recirculated water in a fountain or other decorative water feature; watering lawns in a manner that causes runoff, or within 48 hours after measurable precipitation; and irrigating ornamental turf on public street medians.

Estremera motion carries

Director Tony Estremera, who made the motion to continue the 20 percent water use reduction target, said, "[We should] be very clear that we support the public maintaining all of the great behavior that they've adopted."

Local water supply outlook

In 2016, Santa Clara County used 28 percent less water than was used in 2013, exceeding the board's water use reduction target of 20 percent. This achievement, along with the water district's groundwater replenishment program, resulted in groundwater storage ending the year in the "normal" zone for the first time since the beginning of 2014.

Local reservoir storage is currently at 161 percent of the 20-year average for January. Several reservoirs have exceeded their capacity and excess water has been flowing from their spillways. Rainfall totals exceed 200% of normal for this time of year in the wettest parts of the county.

The board will re-visit its water use reduction target in May, after the amount of water supply avail-

able to Santa Clara County is finalized.

Editor's note: The Santa Clara Valley Water District manages an integrated water resources system that includes the supply of clean, safe water, flood protection and stewardship of streams on behalf of Santa Clara County's nearly 1.9 million residents. The district effectively manages 10 dams and surface water reservoirs, three water treatment plants, an advanced recycled water purification center, a state-of-the-art water quality laboratory, nearly 400 acres of groundwater recharge ponds and more than 275 miles of streams. We provide wholesale water and groundwater management services to local municipalities and private water retailers who deliver drinking water directly to homes and businesses in Santa Clara County.

Water District awards two projects grants

The Santa Clara Valley Water District recently awarded \$87,440 in grants to two innovative projects expected to help the district meet its long-term goal of saving more than 32 billion gallons of water each year by 2030.

The two awardees were selected from a pool of eight applicants in the fourth round of competition for grants from the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection Program, a parcel tax approved by voters in 2012. Projects granted funding must be completed by June 30, 2019.

"We are excited to support these innovative projects," said John L. Varela, chair of the district's board of directors. "These projects can help save water locally, but also serve as a model for water conservation nationwide."

Fisher Nickel, Inc.

Fisher Nickel Inc., of San Ramon,

was awarded a \$37,500 grant to replace dipper wells at multiple food service sites in Santa Clara County with different business models to showcase the efficacy of each replacement technology.

Ecology Action

Ecology Action, of Santa Cruz, was awarded a \$49,940 grant to investigate water savings from using captured rainwater for indoor purposes such as toilet flushing and clothes washing. They will partner with residential, commercial, and institutional property owners in Santa Clara County to construct and monitor water use and water quality of rooftop rainwater harvesting systems for indoor, non-potable uses.

The water district expects to distribute nearly \$35 million in grants, partnerships and rebate programs over the life of the 15-year Safe, Clean Water Program.

New 'U.F.O.' houseboat design ready for Kickstarter

The Italians, known for their exotic cars, have come up with a new houseboat design from the mini-yacht company, Jet Capsule.

The new houseboat design called UFO is a floating circular houseboat with a large disk around it. It's made mostly of fiberglass and carbon fiber, relies on solar panels, and has a dome containing bedrooms, bathrooms, and a kitchen.

The craft has three levels with an upper area with the controls and hot tub; a central room with a kitchen and bathroom and a submerged bedroom; and its twin 80 horsepower engines allow the UFO to travel at 10 mph.

In addition to utilizing solar panels, the houseboat uses water turbines to juice up its 16 batteries. It can theoretically travel the universe



(or at least the aquatic one) for an infinite amount of time.

Meant to be used as a floating spa, restaurant or the coolest water home on the planet, Jet Capsule plans to launch the UFO 2.0 on Kickstarter in the next few weeks, and supporters will have the chance to make a reservation to stay in the prototype once it's complete in 2018.

Varela, Santos elected chair and vice chair of water board

The Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors unanimously elected John L. Varela, District 1 representative, to serve as board chair in 2017. Richard P. Santos, representing District 3, was elected vice chair.

Chair Varela, who represents Evergreen Valley, was appointed to the water district board in December 2015, filling the vacant District 1 seat following the resignation of Dennis Kennedy.

Varela was subsequently elected

in November 2016 to serve the remainder of Kennedy's original term, which expires in December 2018. He has served as mayor and council member of Morgan Hill. He has been an entrepreneur in the solar/clean energy, bio-fuel and toy industries. He volunteers with several community organizations and is co-founder of South Valley Angels, an organization helping people start small companies.

Vice Chair Santos was first elected in 2000 to represent District 3, which encompasses the City of Milpitas, the northern portions of the cities of Sunnyvale and Santa Clara, and the Northern San Jose communities of Alviso, Berryessa, and Alum Rock. Mr. Santos is a native of Alviso, California and served in Korea with the 1st Calvary Armored Division until receiving an honorable U.S. Army Discharge in 1965. In 1968, Vice Chair Santos was hired as a San Jose Firefighter, promoted to Fire Engineer, Fire and Arson Inspector, and retired with 33 years of service as a Fire Captain in 2001.

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2017 Lunar New Year celebrated at Carolyn Clark Elementary School

Students attended an assembly on Feb. 9 at Carolyn Clark Elementary School to celebrate the 2017 Lunar New Year.

There were intermittent bursts of applause, laughter, and cheering from all of the audience comprised of students, school staff, parents and honorable guests during a performance show featuring the traditional Chinese culture.

Special guests included Supervisor Dave Cortese, President of Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors; Bonnie Mace, School Board Trustee; Leila Welch, School Board Trustee; Superintendent Kathy Gomez; Librarian Randall Studstill, Village Square Branch Library; Charles Crosby, Director of Communication & Community Engagement; Ruth Stephens Radle, Principal on Special Assignment.

The celebration performance consisted of a number of shows, including interactive Lion Dance, classical Dunhuang Flying Fairies, tranquilizing Tai Chi in Traditional Chinese Music, magical Face Changing, stunning dance of Paper-cutting Girls, and colorful Traditional Chinese Clothing Fashion Show.

At the end, Dr. Tony Qin, on behalf of of Evergreen Chinese American Association, bestowed some Chinese characteristic artwork and book to the library of Carolyn Clark Elementary School.

"It was fantastic," said Evergreen School District Superintendent Kathy Gomez, "I thoroughly enjoyed every performance and the students were very engaged." "I'm very happy our community is able to celebrate our many and varied cultures."

The celebration event was jointly hosted by Evergreen Chinese American Association (ECAA) and Carolyn Clark Elementary School, along with a few of other organizations (such as Able2Shine, Chinese KungFu Development Center, and Achieve Dance Arts Academy) and a number of volunteer students, parents, and Chinese community members.



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HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS

Symphony Silicon Valley announces the return of the popular Harry Potter Film concert series

The debut of the Harry Potter Film Concert Series returns to San Jose Center for the Performing Arts with *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, the second film in the Harry Potter franchise on March 31, April 1 and April 2.

Symphony Silicon Valley will perform John Williams' unforgettable score from *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secret*, while the film plays in high-definition on a 40-foot screen. The Harry Potter Film Concert Series, which is another magical experience from J.K. Rowling's Wizarding World, kicked off in June 2016 with *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*.

In *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, cars fly, trees fight back and a mysterious house-elf comes to warn Harry Potter at the start of the second year of his amazing journey into the world of wizardry. This year at Hogwarts, spiders talk, letters scold and Harry's own unsettling ability to speak to snakes turns his friends against him. From Dueling Clubs to rogue Bludgers, it's a year of adventure and danger when bloody writing on a wall announces: "The Chamber of Secrets has been opened." Saving Hogwarts will require all of Harry's, Ron's and Hermione's magical abilities and courage.

Earning a Grammy nomination for the score, the bewitching and incredible music composed by John Williams

became an instant classic, conjuring beautiful and soaring motifs continuing the adventures of Harry Potter on his magical adventures.

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets is part of a film concert series created by CineConcerts, in partnership with Warner Bros. Consumer Products. The concert will be conducted by its creator and Producer, Justin Freer.

Freer explained, "The Harry Potter film series is one of those once-in-a-lifetime cultural phenomena that continues to delight millions of fans around the world. It is with great pleasure that we introduced for the first time ever an opportunity to experience the award-winning music scores played live by a symphony orchestra, all while the beloved film is simultaneously projected onto the big screen. It is an unforgettable event."

Brady Beaubien of CineConcerts and Concert Producer for the Harry Potter Film Concert Series added, "Harry Potter is synonymous with excitement around the world and we hope that by performing this incredible music with the full movie, audiences will enjoy returning to this world, and to the many wonderful characters and adventures that inhabit it."

Tickets are on sale now at 408.286.2600 or online at www.symphonysiliconvalley.org for Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets. San Jose Center for the Performing Arts is located at: 255 S. Almaden Blvd, San Jose.

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Times **Local News**

City of San Jose ensures free parking on your visit for City Hall business

A city is only strengthened when its residents speak out and get involved.

Sometimes driving directly to a city office and having a discussion face to face is better than using a phone. Speaking with people in person creates connections of understanding and makes our city stronger.

San Jose City Mayor Sam Liccardo wants to spread the word that there is free parking when visiting downtown City Hall to do business.

You can drive into the parking lot located at the City Hall and park your car (you turn on sixth street and it is in the back). Then proceed to get your parking garage ticket validated for free parking when you visit the city office you have business with.

If you wish to attend any city council meetings, you can also get your parking garage ticket validated so that you do not have to pay for parking when you exit the garage.

Currently the parking meters charge twenty five cents per minute (\$15 per hour) so it is convenient to have the parking policy in effect to allow more ease for any member of our city to drive downtown to discuss any city business.

"Whether it's to speak up at a Council meeting, to meet with staff in one of our departments, or to apply for a business per-



mit, we want all of our residents have easy and convenient access to City Hall," said Mayor Liccardo. "This is just one of the many ways that we remain committed to ensuring that our city government remains accessible to our residents."

City Hall is located at: 200 E. Santa Clara Street, San Jose, CA, 95113, (408) 535-3500. Photo by CoolCeasar (Wikipedia)

Public notice of vacancy and provisional appointment

A vacancy in the membership of the Board of Trustees of the Evergreen School District has occurred due to the election of Sylvia Arenas to San Jose City Council.

Following an extensive application and interview process of 20 community members, Balaji Venkatraman was appointed February 8, effective that date.

If a petition calling for a special election containing the signatures of at least 1.5% of the number of registered voters of the District at the time of the last regular election for governing Board members held within

the Evergreen School District (November, 2016) is filed in the Office of the Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools within 30 days from the date of this provisional appointment, the District will be required to hold a special election.

The cost of a special election for the District has been estimated at \$250,000 and will be the financial responsibility of the District. If a petition is not filed and verified by the Office of the Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools, the appointment of Balaji Venkatraman to the Evergreen School District Board of Trustees shall remain an effective appointment until December, 2018.

Mortgage rate increase does not deter homebuyers

The recent increase in mortgage rates moved up last month, but lenders report that loan demand stays strong with an application increase of 4 percent.

Refinance volume did move slightly up 0.2 percent seasonally adjusted. It had jumped sharply the previous week, after outgoing HUD Secretary Julian Castro announced a quarter-point drop in the FHA's annual mortgage insurance premium.

The average contract interest rate for 30-year fixed-rate mortgages with conforming loan balances (\$424,000 or less) increased to 4.35 percent from 4.27 percent, with points decreasing to 0.30 from 0.39 (including the origination fee) for 80 percent loan-to-value ratio loans.

The FHA share of total applications increased to 13.6 percent from 13.1 percent the previous week, but that is likely to fall back next week. Mortgage rates also moved higher, but that didn't cut into refinance demand.

"While this was the first rate increase in January, rates remain about 10 basis points lower than four weeks ago," said Lynn Fisher, MBA vice president of research and economics.

Georgia Tech announce two graduates from Evergreen Valley

The Georgia Institute of Technology presented degrees to approximately 3,200 undergraduate and graduate students during the Institute's 252nd Commencement exercises at the McCamish Pavilion.

Two graduates are from Evergreen Valley: Hari Krishnam - Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Engineering and Ronodeep Mitra of San Jose (95135) - Bachelor of Science in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

One of the nation's leading research universities, the Georgia Institute of Technology is in the business of creating the next - the next idea, the next technology, and the next legion of agile minds well equipped to imagine and engineer our future.

More than 25,000 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled, and Georgia Tech is ranked in the nation's top 10 public universities by U.S. News and World Report.



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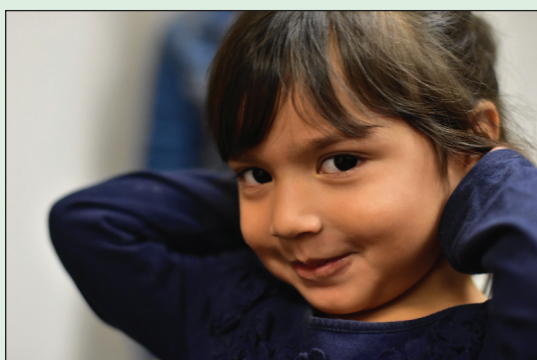
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Times **Features****GETTING KIDS 'KINDERGARTEN READY'****Evergreen launches Family Resource Center**

The Evergreen community has officially launched its new Evergreen FIRST 5 Family Resource Center on Feb. 15 at Katherine Smith School.

The Evergreen School District opened the center in partnership with The Health Trust and FIRST 5 Santa Clara County with a vision to ensure that families have the skills and capacity to promote their child's development for school, build strong family relationships, and create a connected community.

"Young children and families are at the heart of the Evergreen Family Resource Center," says Jolene Smith, Chief Executive Officer of FIRST 5 Santa Clara County. "FIRST 5 is dedicated to working with local families and the Evergreen School District to strengthen the healthy development of our youngest children and support parents and caregivers in their role as their child's first and most important teacher."

The Family Resource Center will increase access to services and provide opportunities for parents and/or caregivers to become more engaged in their children's healthy development and create a structure that supports "The Whole Child and the Whole Family." Services include fun and educational parent and child

programs, nutrition, health and wellness programs for the whole family, health insurance application assistance, parent and caregiver workshops on positive discipline, early literacy, infant/toddler care, seminars for fathers and male caregivers raising children, developmental screenings for children ages 0-5, leadership and volunteering opportunities and much more.

"We are very excited to offer this opportunity to our families," says Aaron Brengard, principal of K. Smith School. "We know how influential the first few years of life are on the rest of life and future success and strive to support our students and families in any way we can. The Evergreen FIRST 5 Family Resource Center will help our youngest community members - zero to five year olds. It is incredible to be able to offer this support and get them kindergarten ready."

"I admire the resilience of our families in the face of numerous challenges while also knowing that they live in a system in which their needs are often neglected," adds Hanh Nguyen, one of the Health Trust staff assigned to K. Smith. "I'm excited for the Family Resource Center to be a place where the needs of their communities are understood and where our families and children will thrive."

Venkatraman

Continued from page 4

on providing equitable access to each student attending our schools."

Venkatraman has lived in the Evergreen community for 15 years. His two sons attended Clark Elementary and Quimby Middle where he became involved with various co-curricular and extra-curricular activities like Cornerstone ABC Reading, Arts Attack, Odyssey of the Mind, and Science Olympiad. He has a PhD in Computer Science from University of Florida and a MBA

from Santa Clara University. In addition to his new Board duties, he serves as an Adjunct Faculty in the Electrical Engineering department at San Jose State University, teaching graduate courses.

Venkatraman is excited about his new role and has an eye squarely on the future of the District. "ESD is one of the top school districts in Santa Clara County," he points out. "We provide an excellent education, we have great teachers, classified and administrators, we offer innovative learning programs like PBL, we manage our budgets in a fiscally prudent manner and we provide a clean and

safe environment for our students. That said, we can do better in delivering our services and to bridge the obvious achievement gaps; to provide equitable access in all 20 school sites, to continue to innovate, to invest in technology in the classroom to augment the teachers, to continue to engage our community as a partner in our mission to educate our students." Venkatraman knows the challenges we face but feels strongly we're prepared to do so with creative thinking and a commitment to our families. It's with that commitment in hand that he gears up to take on another term on the Board.

**California state soap box derby championship**

The International Soap Box Derby (ISBD) is announcing a new gravity racing program for residences (ages 7-20) of California on Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 8 a.m.

The championship will be held at Hanover Street off Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304. Free parking will be available at Varian Parking Lot at the bottom of the hill. Trophies will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for all divisions.

"We're thrilled to be able to offer this new racing program" said Derby President & CEO Joe Mazur. "We're excited to have another opportunity for children to experience gravity racing and to further promote the Soap Box Derby's mission to build knowledge and character, and to create meaningful experiences through collaboration and fair and honest competition."

A registration fee of \$25 is required to participate, and all racers need to be registered by Friday, March 10, 2017. You can register

at california.soapboxderby.org.

For further information about the California State Championship, please visit the Soap Box Derby's website at california.soapboxderby.org or contact them by email at soapbox@soapboxderby.org or by call 330.733.8723 x20.

About International Soap Box Derby, Inc.

The Soap Box Derby is an international nonprofit organization whose mission is to build knowledge and character, and to create meaningful experiences through collaboration and fair and honest competition.

The Derby's Core Values and Drivers include: Youth Education and Leadership Development; Family Engagement and Enrichment; Honesty, Integrity and Perseverance; Innovation and Entrepreneurship; Teamwork and Collaboration; Mentoring; Volunteerism, and Commitment to Community.

The Derby's two youth initiatives are the FirstEnergy All-American Soap Box Derby racing program and the STEM-based Education Program, which provides educational opportunities for K-12 youth worldwide through Soap Box Derby racing. The Derby dates back to 1934, when the first All-American race was held in Dayton, Ohio. Photo credit: TheGForcers (via Flickr)

HP smartphone turns into a Windows 10 desktop

The Hewlett Packard P Elite x3 is an ambitious attempt to turn a smartphone into a desktop PC; but does it work?

The HP Elite x3 smartphone has an innovative design that's fast and topped with a 6-inch OLED display sporting an attractive matte black back-side (not unlike the iPhone 7 Plus standard black model), Qualcomm's latest 820 processor, 4GB of RAM, 64GB of storage, and a dual SIM tray.

The phone is not designed to be an outright replacement for your laptop or desktop PC, but rather an alternative for those on the go.

The Elite x3 is meant for the hyper-mobile business user who wants the functionality of having access to full-blown Windows applications. HP says the phone is not meant for non-business consumers, but main stream consumers are also purchasing the phone as well.

Other notable features are a 16 megapixel front camera and an 8 megapixel rear camera. And you can unlock the x3 with an integrated iris scanner and fingerprint reader.



HP Elite x3 with display (HP)

Times **Feature****Shopping for a Realtor?**
Tips and strategies**Fred Lettenberger****Evergreen realtor authors self-help book 'Shopping for a Realtor'**

In our sleepy Evergreen Valley the times are changing and selling of homes is changing too.

During the past thirty years there has been new home building in places like Silver Creek Country Club, Meadowlands (each home on about on third acre), Hillstone, Belle Air, California Oaks and many more developments.

Realtor Fred Lettenberger decided as a labor of love to write a book titled "Shopping for a Realtor," and in this book he describes how to sell one's home the correct way getting back to basics and as a result, make the most money.

Lettenberger has been successfully selling homes in Evergreen for more than thirty years and he has seen many changes; Housing has become dense. Houses are often built on smaller lot sizes, and land has become more valuable.

Lettenberger has a strong background and wishes to share with others because "sharing helps me in my own learning experiences."

Fred's upbringing has taught him a few things

Fred grew up in the small Midwestern town of Manitowoc and was one of four siblings (older brother, older sister and younger brother). "We always had someone to play with and growing up was awesome... I learned growing up about something very important..."

The Golden Rule and football go together

Fred said that when he grew up he was taught the most important thing in life is to treat others the way you would like to be treated. He also played all sports and was out all day after school to come home when it got dark. He played all sports, football, basketball, baseball, tennis and more. While playing football he looked up to the famous

See REALTOR, page 19

**PRESIDENT TRUMP APPROVES EMERGENCY FUNDING****Oroville Dam erosion repairs continue around the clock**

President Donald Trump approved federal emergency aid for California as a result of the potential failure of the Oroville Dam's emergency spillway, and separately to help recovery efforts from recent storms.

As of Wednesday afternoon, crews were continuing to make repairs on the eroded emergency spillway in an around-the-clock operation as a new storm was forecast to reach the Oroville Thursday morning.

Residents in the evacuation areas began started returning to their homes Tuesday afternoon. Many businesses started to reopen.

The approval of the emergency declaration provides money for the area and authorizes the use of federal equipment and resources to alleviate the impact of the dam incident. That allows the state to potentially get up to 75 percent federal reimbursement for "required emergency protective measures," which might include the cost of repairing the dam's emergency spillway.

The *Evergreen Times* received exclusive aerial photographs of the damaged spillway. *Photos by Christopher Leipelt*





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

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
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
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:
Coffee and Conversation 9:15am
Worship 9:45am, Sunday School for all ages 11:15am
Childcare is provided for all our Sunday Services. Our NEW Children's Building is Open!
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)
VBS: June 13th – 17th (5:45-8:30pm) & Sports Camp: July 18th – 22nd (9am -12:30pm)
For more details or to register please visit our website

Senior Pastor – Pastor Ron Johnson,
Community-Life Pastor - Pastor Patrick Boyd,
Children's Ministry Co-Directors – Alyssa Friend and Kristen Pearson
We are located at 2827 Flint Ave (Between Tully & Norwood) San Jose, CA 95148, Phone 408-238-0231, e-mail info@eastvalleychurch.com
We are associated with Converge Worldwide www.convergeworldwide.org

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN
6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector

Phone: 408-268-0243
Web: www.eca-sj.org
At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, 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 10:45AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.

EVERGREEN VALLEY CHURCH
Visit our Web Site at www.evcsj.com
2750 Yerba Buena Rd. San Jose, CA 95121.
Phone: 408-274-7422.
Saturday worship is at 5 pm. Sunday worship services at 9 am and 11 am.. Excellent contemporary Christian music and Bible-based teaching. Nursery care and Children's Sunday School programs at 9 am and 11 am. Junior High students meet at 9am and High School students meet at 11am. Nuevo Comienzo: Servicio en español, Domingo 4pm.

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

life, based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, 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!

GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN
www.GraceChurchSJ.net
See you on Facebook
2650 ABORN ROAD at Kettmann, across from Evergreen Public Library. Serving Evergreen for over 50 Years. John S Goldstein, Pastor
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After School lessons on Piano, Violin, Viola, Flute
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(408) 791 7772
Immigration Services
Call for Appointment (510) 584 1824

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.

THE POINT CHURCH
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.

SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH
We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call 1+ (408) 997-

4800, or visit our website at www.churchstanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.

ST. BASIL THE GREAT GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
6430 Bose Lane, San Jose, CA 95120
Church Office 408-268-3214
Clergy: Fr. Allan Boyd
Experience our Lord Jesus Christ after the manner of the earliest Christians. All are welcome to our warm, multicultural Church community, where services are done primarily in English. What happens when you reunite created matter to its Creator? Come and see! Sunday worship: Orthros – 8:30 am
Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am
We also celebrate Liturgy on most feast days.

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH
5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135
408-223-1562.
www.stfrancisofassisi.com
www.stfrancisofassisi.org
We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr.

High, IGNITE - High School and North Star - Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations:
St. Francis of Assisi Chapel
Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass
St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall
Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM
Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road
Sunday 9:30 AM
The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium)
Sunday 8:15 AM
For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

Worship listing advertisements are \$495 annually. (408) 898-7534.

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Times Features

Address

Continued from page 1

which called for plans of action.

Even if one disagrees with Liccardo's views there is no mistake that his ability to communicate builds bridges with the community which helps get things accomplished in a turbulent world of politics.

The Saturday event was professionally organized by those at Gunderson High School, with coffee and other snacks outside before the doors opened.

Event rocked by talent

Upon entering the facility, the house band from The School of Rock played. Members Stevie Chuck, Abby Chuck Emma Preston, Annapurna Tobler, David Dobrzynski played rock music that was as good or better than the original bands who created it.

The teen band channeled their talent with great energy and zeal. Camposanto, the director of the house band from School of Rock ensured all songs were well rehearsed and this band called "The Drought" ignited the event better than any pyrotechnics could have.

Chaudhry master of ceremonies

The master of ceremonies for the event, Muhammad Chaudhry, president of the Silicon Valley Educational Foundation, said that his non-profit organization is "obsessed with preparing San Jose high school students for their careers."

The principal of Gunderson High School, Kelli Knapp made everyone feel comfortable.

San Jose Unified School Board president Pamela Foley spoke and introduced a role model student named Auria Kamal. He spoke of his overcoming challenges and how the school made him a better person as well as opened the doors of great opportunities for his future.

Knowledge gained in diversity of religious views

The religious invocation was stated solemnly and with deep rooted meaning by Rinban Kenshin Fujimoto of the Buddhist Temple. He described a metaphor of a visual image of a net with different bells hung from each knot. If the bells were all identical then the sound in the wind would be that of a cacophony, but if the bells were all unique and special as each of us, the sound would be that of harmony. He went on to say, in our society the word oneness is often confused with the word sameness.

Police officer Michael Katherman honored

Officer Michael Katherman died in the line of duty and was honored in a meaningful way with two other officers taking the stage to accept the Pride of San Jose award. Other Pride of San Jose awards were bestowed to various city teams which included: City Manager's Budget Office Team, Illegal Dumping Mitigation and Response Team, PeopleSoft Upgrade and Budget Project Team, Sparta Student Housing Team, and the Traffic Signal/Project Lighting Maintenance Team.

Nine community honorees were bestowed with each person in a group earning a medal. The groups were Los Paseos Neighborhood Association, Desiree Barragan, Rock Canyon Circle Concerned Residents, San Jose Conversation Corps, San Jose Auxiliary for Children, Alma Neighborhood Association, San Jose Sikh Gurdwara 5K Walk for Humanity, Cambrian Park Kiwanis and the District 10 Faith Community.

Next the moment everyone was waiting for arrived, Mayor Liccardo took center stage.

As stated earlier, Mayor Liccardo took command of the event in the same way that Apple Computer makes a new product introduction and he channeled the electricity of Steve Jobs in the way he communicated to all in attendance.

He first started out by honoring his wife for "her love and patience , and for spending Valentine's Day weekend with me in this unique setting in a high school gym with 1,000 of our good friends..." He thanked his parents and to his dad whom was in attendance he stated showed him integrity in his growing up and he also thanked his sister for her love and support. From his family at home he moved to thank all members of his team, his city family, whom he expressed work so hard with him to achieve so many wonderful accomplishments to better the city!

"A Tale of One City"

"Today, our country encounters a uniquely difficult moment," said Liccardo. "Our national political discourse has disintegrated into a divisiveness that has belittled some, embittered others, and left many dispirited. The rancor pulls many people to extremes, urging some to pull up the drawbridge to exclude our most vulnerable, while others abandon any search for middle ground in a defiant resistance."

Liccardo contrasted the shiny city in the sun called San Jose in a different light from the nation. "San Jose offers our discordant nation another way," he said.

In contrasting "Tale of Two Nations" that occupies daily headlines, Liccardo said we have a different story to tell to our divided nation, and to a troubled world, San Jose unveils its 'Tale of One City.'

He went on to state that San Jose's "basic DNA is...a diverse people who work together to embrace a common future..." Thus he went on to express that all in our city work hand in hand to get things accomplished for the welfare of our future.

Restoring services

In the last ten years nearly one-third of the city's workforce was lost and this was frustrating to underserved residents and overstretched employees, he stated. "So, we worked with courageous leaders on both sides of the ideological aisle... to enable two critically-needed revenue measures and a pension reform settlement to reach the ballot...because voters overwhelming supported these efforts, "we're using those dollars today..."

He continued, " We'll need to keep tightening our belt in the years ahead, to be sure, but I am proud to see how we've pulled together to begin restoring those services."

Public safety a top priority with \$3 billion saved

Liccardo explained his team worked hard to eliminate two barriers of rebuilding the police department and resolving the battles over pension reform with reduced disparity in officer pay.

In a historic, "coalition of community leaders, our voters approved our negotiated pension settlement that will boost police recruiting and secure more than \$3 billion in savings for our taxpayers...The police pay is now becoming competitive with all other cities too. San Jose to have double the corps of community service officers to increase ability to respond to property crimes."

All police officers to wear body cameras

"...We're leading the national conversation about police accountability by expanding
See ADDRESS, page 19

**New VTA Board, Chair and Vice Chair announced**

The VTA Board of Directors has a new Chair and Vice Chair for 2017, in addition to five new board members and four alternates.

Los Altos City Councilmember Jeannie Bruins takes over as 2017 VTA Chair, and San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo becomes Vice Chair.

Among the new board members are three from San Jose City Council, Charles, "Chappie" Jones, Lan Diep, and Raul

Perez (who served as an alternate last year). Cupertino City Councilmember Savita Vaidhyathan, and Morgan Hill City Councilmember Larry Carr (a long time alternate) are also new members.

This year's four new alternates are San Jose City Councilmember Devora "Dev" Davis, Milpitas City Councilmember Bob Nunez, Los Gatos City Councilmember, Rob Rennie and Gilroy City Councilmember Daniel Harney.

New Seasons donates 1.5 tons of Smart Chicken to Second Harvest

New Seasons Market Evergreen and its partner Smart Chicken have donated 3,088 pounds of nutritious Smart Chicken to Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties.

For every 10 pounds of Smart Chicken

purchased by customers of New Seasons Market Evergreen and sister store New Leaf Community Market in Half Moon Bay during November 2016, the food bank received one pound of Smart Chicken. This year's donation brings the total donated to the food bank to 7.3 tons since 2013.

San Jose

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Times Features

Paper houses

Continued from page 1

to reach out to common people, many of whom are poor, to care for their physical, material and spiritual needs, and welcome them into the life of the Church.”

“We believe in caring for those in physical, emotional, and spiritual need to conveying the love of God for people in need and as a way for us to be formed in the character of holiness.”

“We believe participation in groups in which we hold each other accountable for good deeds and spiritual practices as we respond to God’s call of holiness of heart and life.”

The Sikh’s who attend the Gurdwara (place of worship) have similar beliefs too;

“Blessed is the godly person and the riches they possess because they can be used for charitable purposes and to give happiness.”

Guru Amar Das

“A place in God’s court can only be attained if we do service to others in this world.”

— Guru Granth Sahib Ji 26

Charity is a key component of Sikh teachings because the Sikh’s embrace the teachings that their actions and compassion are essential for their spiritual life. They believe all religions and all nations must be helped to live a good and peaceful life and it is good to share one’s earnings with the community and to remember God. The Gurdwara is open to the public and one can visit their history room to learn more.

Point Church and The Gurdwara join hands to hand out blankets together

In understated ways they get in trucks and drive over to most all the houseless encampments to offer help.

Those receiving the blankets, tarps, and more express in heartfelt ways;

“It’s a blessing from God.”

“I am very grateful.”

“We are happy they are doing this for us.”

“Nobody should have to live like this.”

“They really don’t know how much they help us for it has been extremely cold during the night.”

“We appreciate their help because our tent was taken and our things thrown away.”

Challenging issues face those without a place to live

It was explained by one person who has diabetes that when they try to use a restroom at a gas station they are often refused. The same is true for some large big box stores and discount places. They are told they are not welcome. This person expressed a situation that actually occurred:

“I was in need of going to the bathroom. I have diabetes. There was no place to go. No public restrooms near. I asked if I could use the restroom in a large store and was refused. I had to crouch down so as not to relieve myself. I think all stores should allow all bathrooms to be used by all.”

Actual examples of discrimination are expressed:

“Some small convenience stores reserve the right to not serve us.” So, if a person is without a home and wants to buy a small item from a little mom and pop store, they are told to go away and not served. This means that the houseless person has to walk for miles to find another store to buy the item.

Harassment experienced

An individual expressed that some agencies told them that they would tag their goods and



“We appreciate their help because our tent was taken and our things thrown away.”



kindly bring them all over to the houseless shelter (homeless shelter). What allegedly occurred is that the good things such as bicycles and such were missing after the move leading some to ask who took them and more importantly lose trust in others.

Hired security companies may need more training

Some complained that when they do sleep

outside the security people that patrol the areas they sleep harass them. “They saw me walking and tried to scare me by pulling the truck toward me so I would jump back because they know I am homeless.” This same person stated that they were often the brunt of slurs and that “they snicker at us.” Something profound was expressed too! “We are like anyone else. We pay like anyone

else for things. Some of the large companies spend millions and millions of dollars as members of Habitat for Humanity but don’t help us.”

Hi, I can pay you \$1700 per month for rent with City Voucher for a year and a half, can you rent to me?

No. That is the answer often heard. Seventeen hundred dollars a month in rent and turned away. This is actually the situation in our Silicon Valley right now. It is seen that the Veterans also have the same pressing need and it is said that leaders in San Jose are approaching key organizations to try to get all to help transition these paying renters. Finding rental opportunities is hard.

“I ain’t scared of work...”

This kind and strongly built man expressed and he and his wife want better conditions for those without places to stay. Such people are very gracious and intelligent often asking questions such as, “how did you enjoy the holidays,” in meaningful sincere ways. There is a joy in communication. What a wonderful change from the often rushed conversations that are experienced in our Valley with pocket phones chiming, voiced sentences in the air and frequently heard multi-tasked well dressed techi-faithfuls having lone conversations with shopping with their lit up blue electronic attachment riding along in an ear all the day waiting in anticipation of never let them wait phone calls.

Homelessness (House-less-ness) is not a nomadic way of life

It is improper to refer to those without houses as “The Homeless,” for that is a pejorative term. Instead we all must understand that to be houseless is temporary. It is not a way of life and sometimes tough to get out of it. To be homeless can happen even if people with a child and a baby hold out \$1700 in guaranteed rent monies for a year and a half to potential rental places or private parties (City Voucher after waiting often over a year and a half to be approved).

Point Church parishioners and Sikh members of The Gurdwara show strength in working together to help the poor

Tyler Wiest, member of the Point Church expresses in words the merit of two organizations joining together to help others, “I feel I am doing what I have been called to do by God. There isn’t any apprehension because it’s what Jesus would have done, and the Holy Spirit leads me to do so. I also feel The Point Church and the Gurdwara Temple of San Jose were meant to be neighbors, so that we could do great work in the community together as we grow in our spiritual relationships.”

Sukhdev Bainiwal of the Gurdwara expressed, “we are pleased to work with the Point Church and that we partner up. The Point Church has been very kind and helpful in our same mission of helping those in need.”

To donate or contact the two groups please call the following:

The Point Church

(Services on Sunday at 10:30, all welcome). Contact Pastor Greg Gates. 3695 Rosse Terrace Circle, San Jose, CA 95148. Sundays @ 10:30 AM. (408) 270-7646; info@thepoint.church

Gurdwara Sahib - San Jose (The Gurdwara)

The largest Gurdwara in the U.S.A. (Open 365 days a week, food served to all, tours available, all welcome.) Gurdwara address: 3636 The Gurdwara Ave., San Jose, CA 95148. Contact: Mohinder Singh Bajwa, office phone number: (408) 274-9373; www.sanjosegurdwara.org.

Times Features

Address

Continued from page 17

officer training on racial bias, inviting public scrutiny of arrest data, and deploying body-worn cameras on every officer. He went on to say, “Chief Eddie Garcia has set a national gold standard for building community trust.” Also, he thanked independent police auditor Walter Katz for the exceptional work done.

Equity

“...Nowhere does the yawning gap between the rich and poor appear more palpable,” the mayor stated. He went on to say he worked with other mayors of cities so all can raise the minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2019.

He stated that this year construction is to be launched to create 500 apartments for homeless. Also, an innovative micro-housing village is to be achieved and work with churches is in effect in the creation of a rotating shelter network. Schools are being helped with a new initiative to prevent homelessness among struggling families with children too.

Dave Cortese and mayor help the veterans

Destination Home, nonprofit partners and faith congregations housed close to 600 veterans last year. The mayor stated that, “Thanks to Board President Dave Cortese’s willingness to lead this effort with me... together we will end veterans’ homelessness in our valley this year!”

Our immigrant community

Mayor Liccardo stated that, “diversity is our hallmark...nearly 40 percent of us were born abroad and our immigrant neighbors enrich our culture, spur innovation and reinvigorate our collective passion for freedom.”

“To those who seek to divide new Americans from the rest of us; we denounce the politics of fear and exclusion. Our police officers will not engage in immigration enforcement that tears our families apart, and sows mistrust in our community. We will fight for our Muslim neighbors. We will fight for our Dreamers. We will fight for any community member earnestly striving to better their families’ lives...Los vamos a respaldar. We’ve got your back.”

The city of thinkers

San Jose continues to shape the future of the world through technological innovation and new ideas. In addition to new inventions transit and infrastructure will make our future bright.

The mayor made an amusing statement



Mayor Sam Liccardo delivers his address.

which again was refreshing in its truthful resonance. He said, “To get to our bright future, we better not take 101, 85, 680 or 280, because the crippling traffic will make us miss it...We’ve got to find a better way to move our fast growing city.” He thanked Mayor Gonzales in realizing his dream of launching BART service from North San Jose to Berryessa Station.

Like New York, we are going to have a Grand Central Station

The mayor stated that the transit systems will converge in the future at a single place called “Diridon Station.” It will be “the Grand Central Station of the West.” It will become a “memorable, vibrant, and iconic destination for our downtown.” Construction will begin this year on several million square feet of new office space, restaurants, retail and housing surrounding the station. This is the vision.

Transit infrastructure continues

The mayor will push forward with building light rail connection along Capitol Expressway to Eastridge. There will be a link from Diridon Station to the airport and in the future with planning an innovative transit solution for West San Carlos and Stevens Creek.

Data analytics enlighten

The future will be shaped more with innovation, leveraging technology, and fresh thinking. Data analytics is used to combat illegal

trash dumping, and to help policing and park maintenance. Permitting processes is shifting to on-line more and it enables 23,000 permits to be issued without people leaving their chairs.

Facebook uses San Jose to launch Terragraph

“We’re transforming our city into a platform for testing and demonstration of the most innovative technologies with civic impact, working with partners like Prospect Silicon Valley and Joint Venture Silicon Valley...Facebook will launch Terragraph, bringing free gigabit-speed internet service to small businesses and visitors downtown.” Mobility innovations will be explored such as autonomous vehicles and sensor networks with new lighting safety.

Unleash your Geek

The mayor is asking all people to share new ideas and join in efforts with an “Unleash Your Geek” initiative. He wants residents to help tackle urban problems and to make San Jose, “America’s most innovative city.”

You might get to choose your electrical source

Mayor Liccardo spoke on building upon “Green Vision” with urging the San Jose city council to give all residents and businesses “a choice in their source of electricity, by moving forward with Community Choice Energy...Let’s become the first major U.S. city to draw 100 percent of our electricity from renewable sources for the next decade.”

He spoke on increasing solar energy use and stated, “lets create a robust trail and on-street system that makes two wheels a viable commuting alternative to four.” He wished to create pathways for water conservation and “leave our children with a planet, and a legacy of stewardship, that makes all of us proud.”

Future belongs to the children

The mayor states, “and since they’ll be choosing our nursing home, we should be nice to them.”

He wants to nurture strong after school learning programs, great libraries, new pathways to high school diplomas through increased opportunities with programs such as G.E.D. diplomas, increase 1,200 at risk teen jobs to give first workplace experience, and the launce of San Jose Promise.

San Jose Promise will push to eliminate financial barriers for struggling college students.

“Everyone can be great because everyone can serve”

The mayor attributed the value of the above quote from Martin Luther King Jr. in wishing to expand opportunities for older people to serve from volunteering in schools to “leveraging their professional experience in City Hall fellowships.”

Mayor wishes for city to sparkle

“But fundamentally,” stated the mayor in announcing a new program for our city, “#BeautifySJ is about unleashing the energy of our won residents to take back our city.” This program you can join by taking out your smart phone and go to WWW.BEAUTIFYSJ.ORG and signing up. It is a new effort. People will be encouraged to tweet about all the wonderful things going on in this campaign.

Resource Fair brings added bonus after event

The standing room only gym applauded loudly with standing ovation to Mayor Liccardo for it was seen he is truly working hard to make San Jose the very best it can be. He energizes all and credit is due to his wonderful smile and the kind way he treats all. He is a dynamic individual just like those who have put San Jose on the map as one of the greatest places to bestow technological advances to our world.

When the crowd was leaving the Mayor graciously shook hands with many children and posed for photos at the stage. The entire event was so well organized and things ran smoothly that after the event concluded a bonus of a public resource fair was easy to enter as all exited.

Liccardo like Steve Jobs is driven to innovate and this quality is very appealing for one never knows what grand vision he and others on his team combined with outside corporate leaders will accomplish each month, year and decade.

The parting words of Mayor Liccardo had a nice ring to many when he stated, “friends, this will be our story of a community uniting to tackle our challenges...as we share a troubled nation, we demonstrate the possibilities of collaboration – the power of working together to create the most successful multicultural community on the planet...I invite each of you to join me in writing the next chapter of our story...together we can inspire the next generation to join our work... Together, We Are San Jose.”

Realtor

Continued from page 15

coach Vince Lombardi and began to admire his views on knowing the basics in becoming a champion.

Philosophy of the basics

“In life we must never skip the basics,” said Lettenberger. “We must do the hard work that comes with the basics and not take the shortcuts. Hard work is important in life. The same is true in the process of selling a home. Some people expect a magic formula to solve all their problems, but sometimes, simple things can solve seemingly impossible situations.”

Lettenberger emphasizes how important the basics are in real estate sales. “You can bombard social media, list your home on every website imaginable, beg your friends to put up flyers on the notice board at

their work and so on. But, if you don’t start with the basics, then everything else may be a waste of time.” Fred goes over these principals in his book and says, “even a great home cannot sell itself without proper marketing.”

Trends changing in valley

Today many new factors are influencing how homes are sold. Often parents moving in are from new cultures and they look for different things in the selection of a neighborhood they choose to shop for a home in. Often the school test scores make up a strong factor in the selection of where people wish to live.

Cost of homes push some young adults away to other areas

Since home prices are very high, many children who grew up in the area are moving away so they can buy a home that is less expensive in a different city or state. This often means that the parents follow in time

so as to move and be with not only their children but to see the grandchildren more often. Thus, many homes are selling for this reason.

It is important to do good planning before selling your home to make the most profit in the sale

Lettenberger’s book is available on Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble. The thirty four chapters cover all that he knows in the selling of homes. He said in the creation of the book, “I told no one I was writing a book until the very end of the process. I had so many ideas on so many pieces of scratch paper that I had to figure out how to put the information in a book that was easy to read and understand.”

The tips and strategies Lettenberger goes over in his wonderful book cover the “basics of selling” just as coach Vince Lombardi covered the “basics of football.”

Why share the secrets

He states, “Another reason why I wrote the book was to share with the readers why two identical homes will sell for different prices.” Some sell for more than \$50,000 more but they are the same as the other. In his book he explains the reasons why. He also wants to help people avoid selling and negotiating mistakes. He cares and lives by the golden rule and says, “When I help other people I help myself.”

Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would write a book

“In my thirty years of selling homes in the Evergreen Valley, we raised three beautiful children who are our pride and joy... we have also taught them the golden rule and to have respect for all around them. Another reason why the book came about is my belief that the process of putting the book together falls into a philosophy I have of never to stop learning. It’s always good for all of us

to keep up with our critical thinking that allows us all to grow each day.”

Shopping for a Realtor Book

The quality of the writing is reminiscent of the locker room talks by the famous football coach Lombardi as the information is presented in a simple straight forward way. He hits the basics well.

The chapters cover how to sell your home for more money, creative marketing strategies, negotiation tips, pricing methods and humor. The twenty investment in the new book could be worth \$50,000 by gaining extra profit for the sale of your home.

This Evergreen Times reporter has read the book and rates it 5/5 stars “Excellent.”

Editor’s note: Relator Fred Lettenberger has been named one of San Jose’s top producers by San Jose Magazine. He can be reached at (408) 238-8800; Fred@BrokerFred.com

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Times Local News

Former San Jose Vice Mayor Madison Nguyen to lead non-profit Hunger at Home

The Board of Directors of Hunger at Home officially named former San Jose Vice Mayor Madison Nguyen as its new Executive Director.

Hunger at Home is a nonprofit corporation that focuses on addressing the hunger crisis, homelessness and malnutrition. The organization partners with homeless shelters, charitable organizations and the business community including convention centers, hotels, resorts, stadiums and entertainment venues to donate surplus food from banquets and special events and other household necessities to needy individuals and families.

Hunger at Home was founded in 2008 by Ewell Sterner and his son, Cassidy, in response to the global epidemic of hunger and homelessness in San Diego. In 2015, Hunger at Home chose San Jose as its new home.

In 2016, Hunger at Home successfully partnered with The Salvation Army and Martha's Kitchen to host a gala. The Bridge the Gap Gala raised more than \$1 million in cash and in-kind revenue with about 1,000 guests in attendance. The success of the event sent a strong and urgent message to the Board that Hunger at Home is much needed in Santa Clara County. Hence, the Board began a search to find an Executive Director to lead the organization.

"We are beyond excited to have

Ms. Nguyen join our team. With more than a decade of civic experience coupled with her education and expansive network in Silicon Valley, she's a game changer for our organization, said Sterner. "Our mission is to build and expand this



Madison Nguyen (via Twitter)

model across the globe to eventually end homelessness and she will help us lead this effort."

"I am grateful for the opportunity to work and lead an organization that focuses on some of the most pressing issues of our time. While we see an abundance of first world wealth in this region, we also have families and children who are living in conditions that rival the third world countries. While we cannot solve the issue of homelessness and hunger overnight, we can certainly provide nutritious meals, clothing and other necessities to those in need immediately," said Nguyen.



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Times **Features**

A view from Villa Montalvo's Lookout Point. Photo: Meg Lauber (via flickr)

HIKE THE 'MAGNIFICENT SEVEN'

#PixInParks adventure hikes promotes hidden hiking trails at Santa Clara County Parks

By William Bellou

Publisher

It's time to explore the hidden hiking gems located at your Santa Clara County Parks and receive a commemorative #PixInParks t-shirt by hiking seven trails.

The #PixInParks adventure hikes have been handpicked to motivate people to get outside and experience new terrain and spectacular vistas right here in Santa Clara County. The #PixInParks challenge began last week and ends on December 1, 2017.

Each of the seven hikes presents a picturesque setting at a specific destination point that is photo worthy. Hikers must take a selfie or group photo at the designated location as proof of completion. When hikers submit photos of all seven hikes they will be rewarded with a #PixInParks t-shirt.

Hikers are encouraged to share pictures using the hashtag #PixInParks, as well as the hashtag for the particular location where the photo was taken. Follow @santaclaracountyparks on Instagram to view the #PixInParks gallery.

Here are the #PixInParks Magnificent Seven Hikes

1. #Lookout

Villa Montalvo – Lookout /Lookout Point/ Redwood Nature Trails - 2.0 Miles

This is a short but slightly moderate hike where you will hike through diverse habitats and majestic redwood groves. Once you make it to the Lookout Point destination, you will see spectacular views of west Santa Clara Valley and South San Francisco Bay Area.

2. #BarnTrail

Joseph D. Grant – Hotel/Lower Hotel/Barn/Snell 2.4 miles

This easy hike will take you through beautiful grasslands, wooded habitats, and permanent wetlands. Your destination, the Snell Barn, was once used by Joseph D. Grant for farming and hay operations.

3. #MummyMountain

Coyote Lake Harvey Bear – Mendoza/Mummy Mountain/Coyote Ridge Trails – 3.7 miles

You will meander through large oak trees, pass by a huge sandstone cliff pockmarked

with caves and see spectacular views of Coyote Valley. Your destination will be a picnic table at the summit overlooking beautiful Coyote Reservoir.

4. #TieCamp

Mt. Madonna – Ridge/Tie Camp/Merry-Go-Round Trails – 3.4 miles

Travel through diverse habitats from mixed oak to coast hardwood, redwood, serpentine, chamise, and mixed chaparral. The Tie Camp Trail destination features spectacular views. Be careful as there are some short steep ups and downs on loose soil.

5. #BaldPeaks

Calero – Longwall Canyon/Needlegrass/Bald Peaks/Little Llagas Trails – 3.9 miles

This hike offers a little bit more of a challenge, but you will see gorgeous views of Santa Clara Valley. Especially at your destination on the Bald Peak Trail.

6. #TonyLook

Stevens Creek – Lookout/Tony Look/Loop Trail – 5.8 miles

This moderately long hike will take you through scenic views overlooking Stevens Creek Reservoir and lush valley. The Loop Trail destination is a popular place to stop and admire the views and have a picnic.

7. #JohnNicholas

Sanborn – John Nicholas Trail – 7.2 miles

This is our longest hike but probably one of the most beautiful hikes of all. A winding trail will take you around great boulders, rock outcroppings, and amazing views of the San Francisco Bay Area. Your destination is a newly crafted bridge that crosses a seasonal creek. This hike is worth every mile.

The Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department has provided recreational opportunities, beautiful parks and precious natural resources for Santa Clara County residents for more than 50 years. This golden legacy has resulted in one of the largest regional park systems in the State of California.

The #PixInParks webpage at www.parkhere.org provides instructions on how to complete the challenge. You will also find trail maps and hiking tips to prepare you for your adventure.

Symphony Silicon Valley present Mozart piano concert and Requiem March 17 - 19

Two great pianists team up to perform Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos in E-flat major, a work filled with sparkling repartee as the two instruments vie with each other, then unite to suggest "some transfigured, heavenly barrel-organ."

The concerto will follow with Saint-Saëns' Carnival, also with double piano and surely one of the most entertaining classical works ever written. The mood changes in the second half of the program as vocal soloists and chorus join the orchestra in Mozart's sublime Requiem.

Founded in 2002, Symphony Silicon Valley has progressed from daring idea to exciting reality, rapidly becoming the greater South Bay's premiere orchestra and a notable community success story.

The Symphony's artists, nationally recruited, locally resident, with an average performance tenure in San Jose of over 20 years, are recognized as among the best in the greater Bay Area. Led by an exciting roster of distinguished guest conductors on the European model, the Symphony is an anchor tenant of San Jose's magnificently restored downtown



California Theatre, one of Northern California's most outstanding music halls. There, audiences and critics alike greet its concerts with enthusiasm.

The Program:

Conductor: Constantine Kitsopoulos; Soloists: Alessio Bax and Orion Weiss, pianists; Symphony Silicon Valley Chorale; and four vocal soloists. The performance will be held on March 17, 18 and 19, 2017 (Friday at 8pm, Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 2:30pm) at the California Theater, 345 So. First Street in downtown San Jose.

Photo: Alessio Bax by Lisa-Marie Mazzucco

Cathedral of Faith hosts leadership roundtable

Cathedral of Faith welcomed Mayor Frank Liccardo and Carl Guardino, CEO/President of Silicon Valley Leadership Group to their weekend service February 11 and 12.

Carl hosted a roundtable discussion between Pastor Ken Foreman and Mayor Liccardo, and walked them through a series of questions on the subject of good community involvement and participation.

A few of the questions put to these two public spirited men:

What is it that you are most proud of as we begin this new year?

Pastor Ken: I am most proud of our Reaching Out program; which was able to serve over 160,000 people with food last year.

That came to over \$15,000,000 our congregation and partners were able to provide San Jose communities.

Mayor Liccardo: I am so proud that the city and our amazing law enforcement have worked to bring down the number of burglaries throughout our neighborhoods. One of the programs, SJ WORKS, that aims to reach our 18 year old and younger kids before they can become involved in gang activity. Our goal is to address the issues of education, financial literacy and job readiness for about 1200 young people this year.

Is there something you are working on now you are excited about?

Pastor Ken: Instead of spending millions of dollars on a renovation to our church facility, we decided to redirect that into our Charter School; which is free to qualified

students, and is currently a top rated school throughout the U.S and ranked in top 10 for California.

Mayor Liccardo: By asking people to personally engage in their city and build a connection through a year of service; say with Americorp or City Year as a way to come together. And we have a broader ini-



Foreman, Liccardo and Guardino

tiative with BeautifySJ.org that encourages neighbors to get involved in your parks, freeways and roadsides to report trash and graffiti. Grants are available to those who organize to say, convert a vacant lot into a park.

What is your favorite quote?

Pastor Ken: Treat others as you would like to be treated. An oldie but a goodie.

Mayor Liccardo: Everybody can be great. Because anybody can serve. From Martin Luther King, Jr.

To thank the participants for taking the time to agree to being put on the spot so publicly, Carl handed each a Power Bar and then a Kind Bar.

Carl Guardino is the host of the CEO Show on KLIV. The full interview will be on-air Tuesday, February 21 at 6 p.m.

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

1st Thursday of every month from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Location: Evergreen Library. (For information, visit 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@sbcbglobal.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.esuhdsd.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 a free networking group for business owners who live and work in the Evergreen and nearby areas. The purpose of the Evergreen Business Association is to develop and foster connections and to provide a forum for members to share knowledge, promote growth opportunities, and encourage referrals. The group meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 a.m. at the Village Square Branch Library, 4035 Evergreen Village Square, San Jose. The group invites business owners and leaders. There is no cost for membership. For more information, please refer to our Meetup page here: <http://www.meetup.com/Evergreen-Business-Association/>

up.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 2015-16 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.sanjose-ca.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 friendsofevergreenlibrary.org or call 408-808-3060 for more information.

Hidden Glen Community

To join a neighborhood discussion egroup, go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HiddenGlenSanJose/>

The Kiwanis meet regularly every 4th Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster (12:00 noon). For more information, please contact:

President of Kiwanis East San Jose Mr. Bud Lomonaco, Phone: (408) 903-7526

LeyVa Community Action Team Association

This group is bounded by Barberry 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.

Reid - Hillview Airport Association

3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Location: Hillview Airport Terminal. (For information, call (408) 251-4939 or visit 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 Prusch 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 Office, Board Room, 40 S. Market St., San Jose, CA 95113.

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 summer. 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 12:30 p.m. speaker open to all Villagers and friends. For more information, call Lou Figone, SIR 114 BIG SIR at (408) 966-4175.

Tully Ocala Capitol King Neighborhood Association

1st Monday of every other month from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Location: Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley - Smythe Clubhouse

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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Employment

Evergreen Valley High School has the following
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Contact AD Joe Te at TeJ@esuhsd.org or (408) 347-7059

Opportunity



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Measure H Citizens' Oversight Committee

The Evergreen School District is accepting applications from parents/community members interested in filling a vacancy position on the Measure H Citizens' Oversight Committee. This committee will oversee the expenditure of Measure H Parcel Tax funds, ensuring they are spent as approved by the voters. It is expected that the committee will meet twice a year.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please submit a **letter of interest** to:

Evergreen School District
3188 Quimby Road
San Jose, CA 95148
ATTN: Dan Deguara

Your letter should include a brief introduction of yourself, your contact information, and an overview as to why you are interested in serving on the committee. **All letters must be received at the District Office by 4:00 p.m. on March 10, 2017.** Applicants will be contacted for follow-up interviews.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Karen Wevers at 408-270-6827.



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