LET YOUR STATE
LEGISLATORS
KNOW YOUR VIEWS
ON IMPORTANT
ISSUES – P6



BRAVE CHILDREN
REACH OUT TO
TOUCH FIGHTING
LIONS AND FIERCE
DRAGON - P15



INTERVIEW WITH LOS ANGELES CHARGERS' OUTSIDE LB JEREMIAH ATTAOCHU – P21



APRIL 28 - MAY 11, 2017 ■ VOL. 34, NO. 9

Evergreen & Silver Creek Valley Since 1982 • Evergreentimes.com

KEY VIRTUOSITY

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The 5th Annual Talented Young Musicians Competition will feature pianist **Jocelyn Horng** (inset) from Kaichi's Piano Studio who will perform at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall on April 22.

Evergreen Valley High School freshman to perform piano recital at Carnegie Hall

By William Bellou Publisher

Pianist Jocelyn Horng, a freshman at Evergreen Valley High School, is among a small group of talented students from Kaichi's Piano Studio who will perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City on April 29.

Horng was invited to perform at the historical Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall from the International



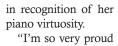
Music and Arts Society. The non-profit organization, founded in 2010, advances musical and cultural relationships between teachers and students from all over the world.

Studying piano for ten years, Horng will perform Malagueña by Ernesto Lecuona by memo-

ry. Malagueña was written in 1928 by Cuban composer Ernesto Lecuona. It was originally the sixth movement of Lecuona's Suite Andalucia to which the composer added lyrics in Spanish.

"I'm very excited about traveling to New York to perform at Carnegie Hall," said Horng. "My hope is that my performance will inspire people to live their dreams, practice hard, and strive for excellence. In turn, I hope they will also inspire others to work hard too!"

Horng will perform in front of an audience which is expected to be 500-600 concertgoers and she will receive a hand engraved gold trophy



of Jocelyn who will be performing at Carnegie Hall this coming weekend," said Kai Chi Zhu, owner of Kaichi's Piano Studio. "Performing at Carnegie Hall is a great honor and the experience will be something she will treasure for her

entire life. She is a gifted student and has worked hard at something she loves doing."

Zhu's sons Alex and Robert played a duet at Carnegie Hall last year. Alex, who attends Princeton University, plays the piano and Robert, who attends Bellermine, plays the violin.

"It was an unforgettable and moving experience to see my sons playing together at Carnegie Hall," said Zhu. "I know Jocelyn's family are so very proud of her achievements.

In addition to playing piano, Horng enjoys photography, drawing, and hiking especially around Big

D8CRT Summer Information Fair slated for April 29

Information Fair at Evergreen Village Square from 11 am. - 3 p.m. on April 29.

The event will include food trucks and a variety of summer program providers will be available to answer questions.

Good Karma Bikes is providing safety checks and minor adjustments for bicycles. Good Karma Bikes is a nonprofit social enterprise full-service bike shop. The organization reinvests its earnings into programs targeting at-risk and emancipated foster youth, as well as those whose bicycle is their primary means of transportation.

D8CRT's purpose is to improve the quality of life within District 8 and the surrounding neighborhoods. It serves as a representative voice for this diverse district, functioning as a means to research important issues and provide communication for community views.

For more information, email info@d8crt.org.



The Tribal Blues Band will perform Friday evening, 5 p.m. -8 p.m. on April 28 at Evergreen Village Square.

Tree lighting celebration at Evergreen Village Square at dusk on April 28

By William Bellou

Publisher

he community is invited to attend a special tree lighting ceremony on Friday April 28 when 16 palm trees at the Evergreen Village Square are lit up at dusk.

Local schools and community

arts groups are providing a full program of entertainment from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The idea to light up the trees was spawned several years ago since Evergreen Village Square is a hub of activity in the evening hours, including concerts and See LIGHTING, page 3

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Times Local News

Lighting

Continued from page 1

movie nights during the summer. The new lights replace the old non-working lights and are brighter, cost less to operate and provide more security.

"I was asked by members of the community to light the palm trees in the Square for the holidays, said former San Jose Vice Mayor Rose Herrera. "Many cultures celebrate holidays by hanging lights and so lighting the trees is great way to bring the Evergreen Valley community together. The event this Friday is a great way to celebrate spring with the Light Up the Palm Trees ceremony."

Herrera explained she worked on a solution that would provide festive lights, improve security at the square and be environmentally sound. "Lighting up the Palm trees doesn't sound very difficult after all we see trees with lights on them all around the city," said Herrera. "It turns out we are not allowed to use home style holiday lights on city trees. The city requires a more permanent light installation and so the light project went on the list of unfunded city projects."

Entertainment

Boy Scout troop 600 will lead a color guard, Carolyn Clark Elementary School, Kriyaa Dance Academy, Achieve Dance Arts Academy, Lokahi Polynesian Dance Troop, Tom Matsumoto school, McKon dance Group and the San Jose Sikh Gurdwara martial arts group will all feature their talented student performers for the tree lighting event. The Tribal Blues Band will be playing rhythm and

Herrera explained that the end of last year she utilized some savings from her city council office budget to provide most of the funding for the project. "We also received generous donations from the San Jose Sikh Gurdwara, Involved Evergreen, Shapell and Summerhill we were able to complete the light installation on all of the palm trees.'

Evergreen senior citizen property owners are eligible for Measure H Parcel Tax exemption

vergreen property owners age 65 by June 30, 2018 or older are eligible to I file for exemption from the annual \$100 Evergreen School District parcel tax for parcels they occupy as their principal residence.

For joint owners of a principal residence, only one owner needs to be age 65.

More information regarding the parcel tax exemption, including a form to request exemption, can be found on our District website at eesd.org/page.cfm?p=2896.

Forms are also available for Village residents at the Senior Resource Services office.

To complete the exemption, the form and supporting documents may be brought into the District Office located at 3188 Quimby Road, San Jose.

District representatives will be at The Villages Golf and Country Club Forum Room, located at 5000 Cribari Lane, San Jose, CA, to accept new exemption requests for Village Residents on May 5, 2017 and from 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Residents must file for the exemption in person with documents to prove their home ownership, residency, and age eligibility.

Those who have previously been granted an exemption from the parcel tax, their exemption will be automatically renewed each year as long as you remain eligible for the exemption.

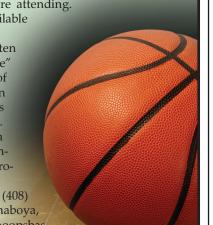
Resident unable to submit the application in person or for additional information, contact Pearl Casey or Janet Ayers at (408) 270-

Youth basketball begins March 17th thru May 26th at Chaboya Open to all 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th graders

een Basketball at Chaboya Middle School begins Friday, March. 17th, for all interested Evergreen-area boys and girls in sixth and seventh grade regardless of the school they are attending. Sign-ups will continue until the 80 available slots are full.

This is a co-ed league with no more than ten players on each team. This is a "funpetitive" league and everyone receives 2 full quarters of playing time. Practices are usually no more than once a week and we are looking for coaches (most coaches practice right before their game). Cost for the league is \$130 which includes a game jersey, 6 games and play-offs, personal lanyard, participation medal, 1st and 2nd place trophies and gym rental.

For more information or to register, phone (408) 605-1513, John Franza. You can also stop by Chaboya, or e-mail E.A.S.Y. Hoops Basketbaball at easyhoopsbasketball@yahoo.com to obtain a registration form.







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This Week:

NEWS

Existing home sales surge; highs not see since 2007: PAGE 7

COMMUNITY

Celebrate spring and light up the square April 28: PAGE 8

Evergreen School Board Trustees make no decision regarding school 'repurposing': PAGE 11



ENVIRONMENT

First car charging installation at religious site celebrated: PAGE 18

ALSO

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Meeting Times: PAGE 22

EvergreenTimes

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Valley Currents

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

Education forum sponsored by D8CRT to be held May 4

he District 8 Community Round Table (D8CRT) is inviting the public to an Education Forum on Thursday May 4th from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Evergreen Village Square Library.

There will be a panel discussion on education identifying current and future issues affecting public education and is intended to provide an opportunity for the community to explore new solutions to a better future for public education.

The D8CRT is expecting as many as six local school districts to participate in the panel discussion with the community including Evergreen, Mt. Pleasant, Berryessa and East Side Union among the possible districts.

The moderator for the Education Forum will be Dr. Mary Ann Dewan, Deputy Superintendent, Santa Clara County Office of Education. The general discussion for the panel will be centered on current and future challenges for local school districts and how Sacramento can and should assist our local schools.

Possible topics for the May 4th Panel Discussion include:

• How schools may adapt to declining enrollment in order to keep neighborhood schools open?

See FORUM, page 7



Philanthropy Live

Philanthropist **Linda L. Lester** presented a \$50,000 check to Unity Care Founder and CEO **André Chapman** on April 18th. Ms. Lester is Presenting Sponsor of 2017 YouthLive!, Unity Care's annual fundraising gala to benefit foster and at-risk youth, on May 6.

OP ED

Public Education: priority or fiasco

"Every child in America deserves an education that opens opportunities!" (Barack Obama while in office.)

"We need to fix our broken education system!" "As president, I will establish the national goal of providing school choice to every American child living in poverty. (Donald Trump 2016)

Utah's Governor, Gary Herbert, told reporters assembled earlier that he was working on his upcoming budget presentation to the state's legislature and that primary and secondary education funding would continue to be his top budget priority! (An article in the *Salt Lake Tribune* on April 18, 2017 places Utah as #41 in the rankings of all the states in education.)

In California: Awash in another budget deficit expected to hit \$2 billion by this summer, Brown "decided to trim education expenses" which includes a roll back of planned spending increases for education! He had stated early on that Education was his top

priority. It seems that becoming a sanctuary State for illegal immigrant criminals is more of a priority to California lawmakers than the education of their children. California ranks as the 42nd state at 69.2 with a grade of D+.

Each time the question of educating our children comes up the same buck-passing occurs as happened in the Garden of Eden. The man said, "The woman offered the fruit to me and I ate it!" The woman said, "The Serpent offered the fruit to me and I ate it!" The Serpent said, "Surely"!! The Federal Government says, "We allocated funds (after administration costs) for each state to insure children's education!" The States say, "We took out our share of funds to help defray the cost of administering the Federal mandates and passed the rest on down to the local School Districts!"

The local School Districts are controlled by a School Board, who according to their political leanings, allocate funding to the separate departments watched over by a District

Superintendent. The Superintendent decides to send a fact-finding committee, chosen according to his/her political leanings, to some fancy resort to weed out the needs of the District. Each member of this committee is given a voucher to be able to buy food and lodging for the stay at the fancy resort. By the time State and Federal monies filter down to the classroom there is nothing left for the poor children. Parents end up having to buy pencils, paper, color crayons, and passing local bonds to finance the local school. There have been Bond measures passed, Lottery funds supposedly allocated to education, but the schools continue struggling, and in a state of disrepair. Does this all sound familiar?

Why then isn't education our first priority in the US? It's almost as if officials want the US to become more and more stupid, as countries with much smaller economies are surpassing us in education. (Much has been written about the dumbing down of society!)

See OP ED, page 7

LET THE EVERGREEN TIMES HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your letters to editorial@ timesmediainc.com or mail to: Evergreen Times, Silicon Valley Business Center, 1900 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95124

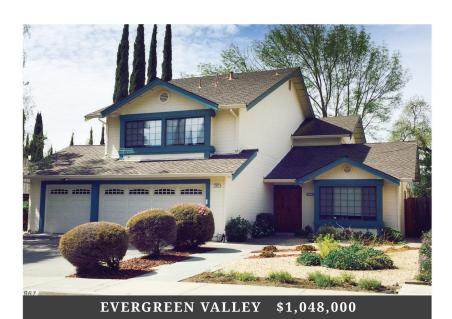
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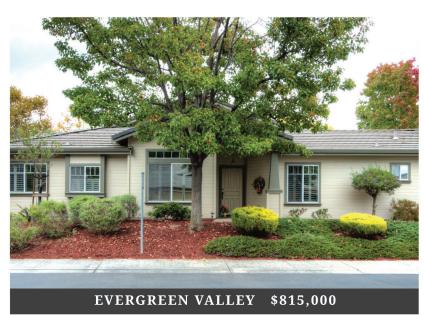
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PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Citizens Watchdog Committee on 2000 Measure A Program Expenditures



RESULTS OF INDEPENDENT COMPLIANCE AUDIT 2000 Measure A Program Expenditures for FY 2016

VTA is delivering transportation solutions that are critical to the vitality, prosperity and quality of life for all who live, work and play in Santa Clara County. In November 2000, Santa Clara County voters approved Measure A, a 30-year half cent sales tax devoted to specific public transit capital improvement projects and operations. Most of the ballot-defined projects are massive and very complex, requiring years to plan, design and construct. Although in just the 10th year of a 30 year program (tax collection started mid-2006), VTA has achieved significant results toward meeting Measure A goals including:

- Extending BART to the Santa Clara County cities of Milnitas, San Jose and Santa Clara - extension to Berryessa currently trending ahead of schedule and under budget, with opening projected for late 2017.
- Extending and improving light rail service new line from Mountain View to Alum Rock is being established to connect with Caltrain and the new Milpitas BART Station to integrate VTA's BART to Silicon Valley Berryessa Extension. Several integral projects, including Mountain View Double-Track and Santa Clara Pocket Tracks, have been completed.
- Increase Caltrain service and electrify the system from Palo Alto to Gilroy - VTA has partnered with Caltrain on implementation from Palo Alto to the Tamien Station. Environmental process has been completed and contracts awarded for design and construction and for

PUBLIC HEARING: The Citizens Watchdog Committee (CWC) for the 2000 Measure A Transit Sales Tax Program is holding a ballot-required public hearing on FY 2016 Measure A expenditures to receive input from the

Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. VTA Auditorium 3331 N. First Street, San Jose, CA 95134

(This location is se rved by VTA Light Rail and Bus Line 58.)

The public is encouraged to attend but for those unable, written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on May 10 by email to: board.secretary@vta.org or by mail to: Office of the Board Secretary, 3331 N. First Street, Building B-1, San José, CA 95134-1927. Sign language and additional interpreter services will be provided upon request by contacting VTA Customer Service at least five days prior to the meeting at (408) 321-2300, TTY (408) 321-2330.

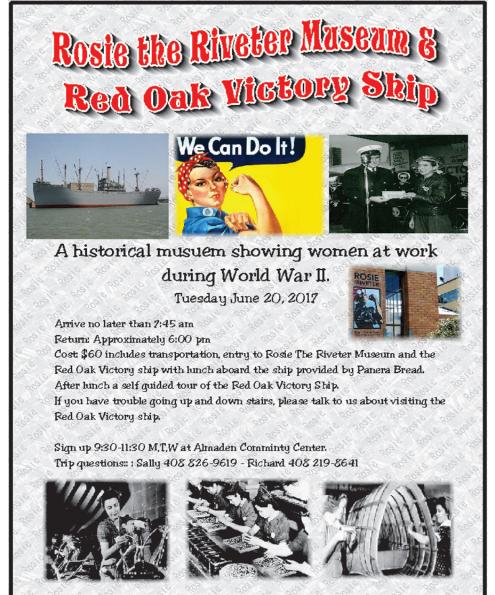
Copies of Measure A Program documents and reports are available for public inspection from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays at the Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) offices at 3331 N. First Street, San Jose, CA in the Building B lobby. They are also available for viewing at local public libraries and at VTA's website: www.vta.org (which includes accessible versions). Questions on the public hearing should be directed to: Stephen Flynn, Advisory Committee Coordinator, at (408) 321-5720 or to stephen.flvnn@vta.org.



INDEPENDENT AUDIT: Fulfilling its ballot-defined responsibilities, the CWC commissioned an audit of the Measure A Program financial records and schedule for Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016). Macias Gini & O'Connell LLP, independent certified public accountants.

conducted the compliance audit in ccordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. They issued an unqualified ("clean") opinion on Measure A
Program compliance with the ballot, making this the 11th consecutive audit receiving a clean opinion. Copies of the audit results and other related reports are available at the cations stated above and at www.vta.org.





Times **News**



Student Anothony Zito practices asking questions with Supervisor Dave Cortese at the 2016 Bus Trip

Let State legislators know your views on important issues

By Supervisor Dave Cortese

Special to the Times

ew things are more important to the future of our children than health, housing and education. That's why I am happy to invite you to our 15th annual Bus Trip to Sacramento. Please join me on Wednesday, May 31, 2017.

Since its inception, the Bus Trip has increased from a handful of concerned residents advocating for public education funding to more than 200 in 2016 who were navigating through the new local control funding formula.

Here are a few details and a way to register for the trip:

What is the Sacramento Bus Trip for Education?

Each year, my office coordinates the Sacramento Bus Trip for Education, which takes education advocates, parents, students, community leaders and residents from our County to the state's capitol to meet with their state legislators. Last year, more than 200 people filled four buses and spent the day meeting with a dozen state officials, senators and assembly members. The Bus Trip is sponsored by my office and the Silicon Valley Education Foundation.

Why is it important?

Bus Trip participants gain an in-depth knowledge of public education issues ranging from grades K-12 to community colleges and four-year universities. Participants receive updates on current legislative proposals, a status update on school funding and other key public education efforts. More importantly, Bus Trip participants have an opportunity to voice their interests and concerns directly to state legislators about issues relating to public education. Given changes in the Federal Administration, issues such as immigration, housing, health care, infrastructure and how they relate to education will also be discussed.

When is the Bus Trip and where do the buses leave from?

This year's Sacramento Bus Trip will be on Wednesday, May 31, 2016. The buses will leave at 6:30 a.m. from the VTA Transit Center at Eastridge Mall, 2200 Eastridge Loop, San Jose, and return to the same location around 5 p.m.

How much does it cost to attend?

The Bus Trip is **FREE** for everyone. It also includes a light breakfast and lunch.

How do I sign up?

To register, please sign up online on the Sacramento Bus Trip for Education page by visiting www.sccgov.org/sites/d3 and clicking on the Events tab at the top of the page. For further information, please contact Mario B. Lopez at 408-299-5030 or email Mario.Lopez@bos.sccgov.org.



2016 Bus Trip Participants pose for a group photo.

Times **News**



Existing home sales surge; highs not see since 2007

S. home resales rose to the highest level in more than a decade in March, as reported by The National Association of Realtors (NAR)

Existing home sales climbed 4.4 percent for the month, while economists were expecting a smaller increase of 2.5 percent, according to Thomson Reuters consensus

It has been said that "An educated popula-

tion is essential to our Nation's prosperity, yet

some politicians are demonizing our educa-

tional system for political advantage. They are

for every other option, such as, vouchers,

charter schools, parochial schools, etc. etc. but

neglect the public school system as set up by

In Spain, (a poverty stricken country)

where education is stressed heavily, there are

so many college graduates that they must go

been ripe for several years. American policy-

makers, educators, and the general public are

divided in their perceptions of the problems

Although the environment for change has

to other countries in order to find a job!

estimates

Home sales have now increased to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.71 million units, the highest level the gauge has seen since February 2007.

Demand for existing homes is outweighing supply, as housing inventory is down 6.6 percent from one year ago.

Properties typically remained on the market for 34 days in March, compared to 45 days in February, the NAR added.

The NAR's existing home sales data measures sales and prices of existing single-family homes for the nation overall, providing breakdowns for the West, Midwest, South and Northeast regions of the U.S.

plaguing the Educational system. Currently there are four conflicting perspectives regarding the deficiencies of the educational system

and proposed solutions:
1. Improve existing public school system by increasing national standards.

- 2. Improve existing public school system by providing adequate funding. (having safeguards to insure that the funding goes where it is intended)
- 3. Challenge the existing public school system by offering educational choices. And,
- 4. Reform the existing public school system by creating student-centered schools.

Whatever happened to good old Tech-Schools teaching industrial education? We are not all meant to be brain surgeons or rocket scientists!

Frank Shortt

Evergreen resident

Forum

Op Ed

Continued from page 4

our founding fathers!

Continued from page 4

- How to reduce the cost and risk of creating magnet, accelerated learning, STEAM, dual language immersion, performing arts, or other special interest programs?
- Is the local funding formula fair to local school districts considered rural?
- How to keep "kids being kids" out of police handcuffs?
- How to keep land purchased for educational purposes from being sold for temporary

gain?

- How to mitigate the increasing costs of health care and retirement benefits?
- What law/policy changes might help school districts attract new teachers when the cost of housing is not affordable to young and single teachers?

About the D8CRT:

Community Meetings are normally held the first Thursday of every month, 7 - 9 PM, at the Evergreen Village Square Library, 4001 Evergreen Village Square, San Jose, CA 95135. Website: d8crt.org

PACE Financing "Makes Cents" For Property Owners in San José



PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) is a simple and effective way to finance energy and water efficiency upgrades to buildings.

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Press day: May 10, 2017 Deadline: May 8, 2017

Write to editorial@timesmediainc.com



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Times Local News

Celebrate spring and light up the square April 28

By Rose Herrera

ACURA

Los Gatos Acura

Former Vice-Mayor and District 8 Councilmember

ver the past eight years Evergreen Village Square has become a central gathering place for com-

All year round the square is alive with community activity, from morning Tai Chi classes, to a farmers market on Wednesday and Sundays, to concerts and movie nights in the summer; The square is where our diverse community comes together.

I have been asked by community members for several years to light the palm trees in the Square for the

holidays. Many cultures celebrate holidays by hanging lights and so lighting the trees is another way to bring the Evergreen Valley community together.

On April 28, I'm inviting everyone to come to the square to celebrate spring and light Up The Palm Trees at Evergreen Village Square.

Lighting up the Palm trees doesn't sound very difficult after all we see trees with lights on them all around the city. You might wonder why we couldn't just buy some lights at our local hardware store and hang them up. It turns out we are not allowed to use home style holiday lights on city trees. The city requires a more permanent light installation and so the light project went on the list of unfunded city projects.

We sought a solution that would provide festive lights, improve security at the square, and be environmentally sound. At the end of last year I was able to utilize some savings from my council office budget to provide most of the funding for the project and with generous donations from the San Jose Sikh

Gurdwara, Involved Evergreen, Shapell and Summerhill we were able to complete the light installation on all 16 palm trees.

New LEDs

The new lights replace the old non-work-

ing lights at the bottom of the trees. The new LED lights are brighter, cost less to operate and provide more security. I want to thank the city of San Jose Public Works and the Department of Transportation who have been instrumental in making this project happen.

Of the many projects that we completed during my eight years on the city council, the lighting of the Palm trees at Evergreen

Village Square is small by comparison to building the library or completing the Capitol and Tully highway improvements. However, the Palm Tree Lighting Project has special meaning for our community and for me personally. I'm very excited that it is finally completed and will be officially lit on Friday, April 28 at sundown.

Our local schools and community arts groups are providing a full program of entertainment from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. when the lighting ceremony will take place.

Boy Scout troop 600 will lead a color guard, Carolyn Clark Elementary School, Kriyaa Dance Academy, Achieve Dance Arts Academy, Lokahi Polynesian Dance Troop, Tom Matsumoto school, McKon dance Group and the San Jose Sikh Gurdwara martial arts group will all feature their talented student performers.

The Tribal Blues Band will be playing rhythm and blues. So Join your neighbors, bring the kids and come down to the square to celebrate springtime and Light Up the Square



Rose Herrera

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Audit of Santa Clara County elections proceeding

he state's Joint Committee on Legislative Audit recently approved Assemblyman Evan Low's request to investigate the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters (ROV) administrative mistakes and errors that date back to 2010.

"We need to ensure all voters have access to an open and accessible electoral process that is free from barriers," Low said in a March 17 letter.

Low said the goal of the audit is the assessment of various mistakes in previous ballots to determine if the errors are part of a systemic failure.

"An independent comprehensive audit of Santa Clara County will safeguard voters' constitutional right to vote and ensure these voters are not disenfranchised due to administrative errors or practices that are not in compliance with current law," said Low

Low's letter sent to County Supervisor President Dave Cortese denotes six election mishaps by the ROV:

• In October 2016, the county elections official sent residents in the Campbell Union High School District a county voter infor-

mation guide containing the wrong ballot argument against Measure AA, a local

• Additionally, in November of last year, the elections county staff incorrectly counted 31 votes by mail (VBM) ballots that should have been disqualified because the signature on the VBM ballot envelope did not match the signature on file for the voter.

- In October 2014, the Registrar sent out 100,000 sample ballots that were missing entire sections of candidates from the Santa Clara Unified School District and the Gavilan Community College District.
- In the same election, over 1,000 VBM ballots were printed and mailed missing the same candidate information.
- In April 2014, the Registrar mailed county voter information pamphlets missing the text of the opposition argument to Measure 8 to more than 400,000 voters in the City of San Jose.
- During the June 2010 Primary election for Santa Clara County, over two thousand VBM ballots were mailed to individuals who were not eligible to vote.

Shape up with Mocktails!

By Cherie Calbom

Special to the Times

ocktails are non- alcoholic cocktails and offer a wide range of ingredients like fruit juices, veggie juices, spices, herbs, mineral water, ice and sweetener.

Also known as mock cocktails, the drinks are a delicious, refreshing alternative to an alcoholic drink. and for people who don't want to broadcast that they're avoiding alcohol, Mocktails are the perfect answer.



But that's just the beginning. They're also the perfect answer for weight loss. If you ditch the alcohol and choose healthy ingredients, including a healthy low-calorie sweetener such as stevia, you can avoid a boatload of calories not to mention a hangover.

Alcohol is one of the worst options when it comes to belly fat. Just one alcoholic drink per day can cause you to gain weight. Though studies are conflicting as to just how much weight or belly fat is gained from how much alcohol, alcohol does cause weight gain. That's because alcohol is a toxic substance that puts a big strain on the liver. It can clog this major organ and even contribute to fatty liver. A challenged liver can make it difficult to lose weight.

So if you want to get rid of the winter "pudge" and that muffin top, add Mocktails to your spring shape up plan. You should also feel a lot better when you wake up in the morning.

You may also want to try a short juice fast with Mocktails before dinner. You can lose at least a pound a day juice fasting, get rid of foggy brain, and recharge your energy.

Here are three recipes, one savory and two sweet Mocktails to enjoy!



Icy Spicy Gazpacho

2 tomatoes, cut in chunks

1 cup fresh carrot juice (about 5-7 carrots)

1 lemon, juiced, peeled (if putting it through a juice machine)

1/4 cup cilantro, rinsed and chopped

1/4 teaspoon Celtic sea salt

1/4 teaspoon ground cumin

1/4 small jalapeño, chopped (more if you such as it hot)

3 radishes

Place the tomato chunks in a freezer bag and freeze until solid. This is optional.

(Or you can use fresh tomatoes placed in the blender; then you would need to add ice cubes.) Pour the carrot and lemon juices into a blender and add the frozen tomato chunks, cilantro, salt.

cumin, jalapeño, and radishes. Blend on high speed until smooth but slushy; serve immediately. Serves 2.



Twisted Ginger Berry

2 green apples juiced or 1 cup apple juice 1 cup blueberries

1-inch-chunk ginger root (peeled)

4-6 ice cubes

Pour apple juice in a blender along with the berries and ginger root. Add the ice cubes and blend. Serve your icy cocktail with a



Lemon Sipper

With less than 10 calories, this is an ideal low-calorie, vitamin C-rich thirst

1/2 lemon, washed or peeled if not organ-

1 cup unsweetened mineral water

2-3 drops liquid stevia

4 ice cubes

Juice the lemon and pour the juice into a glass over ice. Add the mineral water and stir to combine. Sweeten with stevia to taste.

About Cherie Calbom

Cherie Calbom holds a Master of Science degree in whole foods nutrition from Bastyr University. Known as "The Juice Lady" for her work with juicing and health, she is the author of 32 books including her latest The Juice Lady's Guide to Fasting and Sugar Knockout. She and her husband offer juice cleanse retreats throughout the year, 30-Day Detox online and Garden's Best Juice Powder. She has lectured worldwide on juicing, detoxing and fasting including consulting for the Royal Family of the UAE. Winner of the TTAC Lifetime Achievement Award for her work with juicing and detoxification, her blogs and books on juicing, cleansing and health have helped thousands of people live healthier lives. You can sign-up for her free newsletter at juiceladycherie.com.



Amber Iman takes some selfies with sixth graders from Carolyn Clark Elementary School.

Broadway singer Amber Iman visits 6th grade classroom in Evergreen

By Bernadette Marcias, Parminder Grewal and Sanobar Mehta

Special to the Times

aking time out of her performance schedule from the popular play "Hamilton," top singer and actress Amber Iman came to Carolyn Clark Elementary School and recently visited with the students and staff.

Students love musicals

For the 6th graders in my classroom, "Hamilton" is a class favorite. They were disappointed when I informed them that SHN San Francisco would not have group sales for this show, hence no field trip to see Hamilton. So I decided to research who the female cast members of the show were, and maybe one would interested in speaking to my students about the importance of the Arts in schools, or about the role of women in theater for Women's History Month.

Why not give it a "shot"

From the words of creator Lin Manuel Miranda, I thought I would give it "My Shot!" And to my pleasant surprise, Amber Iman, actress playing the role of Peggy Schuyler and Maria Reynolds replied back to me! We had a short correspondence about how we could make her visit a reality for my students. She had been extremely busy, with the show almost getting ready to open, and intense rehearsal schedule. Even with the demands of Broadway, Amber Iman made time to spend a couple of hours with a group of 6th graders.

Famous singer says yes to invitation

Once the date was finalized, there was a mad frenzy to make sure this visit was something that would be memorable for Iman as well as for the students. This visit was literally put together within 24 hours, with the help of a few parents and two local small businesses. A large, "Welcome

Peggy! Amber Iman" poster covered the class door to the office. A personalized balloon column that read "AMBER", donated by Paradise, Sweets Balloons and Gifts owner LisaMarie Sablan stood at the door entrance. HELLA TEES owner AJ Floro donated and printed over 30 Hamilton inspired "Peggy" shirts, worn by student performers. Iman was serenaded by students with the song "Schulyer Sisters" as we waited for lunch to arrive. After lunch was, a Q and A session.

Inspirational advice given

Given the opportunity to have Amber Iman speak to our 6th grade class was not only memorable but inspirational in many ways. Her message of "believing in you, following dreams and heart, and never giving up" was a message that resonated and provided a positive impact to many of our students. She interacted with the students in a manner in which they could relate not only through theater but through life. The message of do what you feel is right and if it's right great, but if it isn't that's ok too as you will learn from it and make a better choice next time was a life lesson.

Students sing for a Broadway star

She was able to connect with the kids in a way that made them feel like she was one of them. How many 6th graders can say they sang for a Broadway Star! It had become more that just listening to a guest speaker for "Women's History Month" or "Music in Our Schools Month". The kids did not just meet a celebrity, today they met someone who showed them that through hard work, learning from your mistakes and taking advantage of every opportunity you're given will make you succeed in whatever you choose to do!

Editor's note: The play Hamilton is playing at the Orpheum Theatre in San Francisco today through August 5th, 2017 (average price per seat a bit over \$300).



Times Local News



Easter Sunday celebration filled with eggs, bikes and joy at Grace Church

n Easter egg hunt with more than 30 Easter baskets, 15 Bike giveaways, games, plays and music were all part of the Easter celebrations on the grounds of Grace Church of Evergreen on Easter Sunday, April 16.

The joyful activities emphasized that fulfilled lives are built on grounding principles of truth and fact which launch us forward," said John Goldstein, Lead Pastor, Grace Church.

Harvest of Harmony and Grace Church collaboration brought the Christian story of hope and promise together in an extended series of activities.

Evergreen Valley Youth Orchestra performed. Music from classical to Christian and rock to blues was also presented.

For more information, call 408) 274-1200. Grace Church, 2650 Aborn Road San Jose, 95121 Email: Info@GraceChurchsi.net

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Times Local News

Evergreen School Board Trustees make no decision regarding school 'repurposing'

By Frank Shortt

Times staff writer

The word "repurposing" is defined as closing a school and possibly reopening it for a new use.

As children played outside the Multi-purpose room at Laurelwood Elementary School on Thursday April 13, a drama developed inside.

An overflow crowd showed up at the regular meeting of the Evergreen School Board on Thursday. The public address system, in need of district attention, began failing at the start of the meeting.

The main attraction of the regularly scheduled board meeting, drawing the orderly but sometimes somewhat angry parents, was item 5.6 on the agenda having to do with school closures or "repurposing."

For almost a year, ESD has waited for final findings of a Facilities Advisory Council to show reasonable cause for repurposing schools. The FAC's recommendations came as a bombshell Thursday evening triggering outrage by parents, area homeowners, and even children. It seems that ESD had set up a committee consisting of several district personnel with few homeowners being invited to sit on said Council. This led some homeowners to think that things could have been rigged in the District's favor.

As parent after parent took to the mike, sometimes working and sometimes not, the District Board got an earful of how the winds of war were brewing. There were remarks like, "what has happened to all the money appropriated by bond elections and the different measures passed by local citizenry to insure smaller class sizes and to insure a proper education of all students?" As one ardent parent questioned Jim Zito, the Board president, he was told that "the board did not have a plan in place yet for proper use of any funds gained by the district even if District property was used for generating funds.'

Terry Higgins, father of second grader at Laurelwood and local homeowner stated as he took his turn at the mike, "Hello, thank you for this time. My name is Terry Higgins and I am a parent of a Laurelwood student. I would like to address our (precious) land resources and a different solution to declining enrollment. Land set aside for our schools is a limited and precious resource, intended for the most precious resource of allour children! Our city does not need another housing development or more office space, nor do we need to assist land developers by tearing down our schools and giving them land to build upon and make enormous profits, profits that will never be seen by our children.

Rather, let us use the land as intended, as a promise to this and future generations of children. The solution at this time of declining enrollment is not to tear down schools, but make them better. Address the problems of declining enrollment by crafting a better educational product. Many solutions have been suggested by many parents, although none of them have been seriously studied by the FAC. Keep the promise made to generations of children!" Higgins sentiment was echoed by most of the parents that addressed the Board, reminding them that appropriations had been made throughout the years for such an emergency and the District could not produce any evidence of a reserve to this One parent even said, "Remember! We vote!"

One adamant young lady took to

• Medical College of Virginia – Dental School.

• Fellow and Diplomate of ICOI.

• Baylor College of Dentistry - Advanced Dentistry Residency.

• Specializing in Implants/Cosmetics for more than 25 years.

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• Temple Dental School - Implant Surgery Residency.

the mike and said, "I have attended Laurelwood School since kindergarten. "I would appreciate the fact that my younger brother could enjoy the same privileges that I have had." Her parents also told the board they wanted their child to attend Laurelwood.

Zito thanked the FAC for a job well done and then stated, "Is there a motion from the Board as to how we should handle this situation?"

A motion was made by Bonnie Mace and seconded by Leila Welch that until such time that the Board could seek additional council and fact finding, they should postpone any decisions regarding closures or repurposing. The entire Board consented to her proposal.

This should prove interesting in the future to see how Evergreen School District will come up with the funds to keep the schools open and also to see if the 'tail wags the dog.'

Board members speak out

All school board meetings are audio recorded and one can listen to all comments made by going to the Evergreen School District website and clicking on "Trustees" and then clicking on "Minutes of School Board Meetings," then on audio.

The report from the Facilities Advisory Committee was voted on by the school board members to be received by the school board but that it be known that the board has not made any decisions on the matter. Thus the report was accepted without any approval on any suggestions contained inside it.

The following is a transcript was from the audio file from the school board meeting and can be heard by all by going to minutes (April 13,

2017). Note too, many parents and stakeholders also spoke out before these responses by each school board member contained in the recording.

School board member Jim Zito (chair) regarding item 5.6 of April 13 school board meeting, (Acceptance of Facilities Advisory Committee Report): "The board now will debate and discuss the situation and we will hopefully come up with what we believe are our next steps. First of all is there a motion..."

School board member Bonnie Mace: "I am going to make a motion for the purposes of discussion...I'm going to make a motion that we do no action tonight on any recommendations in the report and that we accept the report as a report. Essentially what that

See TRUSTEES, next page



"In the very beginning the

charter of the FAC was to

present the board with the

opportunities and further

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they could with the data they

had and ... we now need to

take the next step."

look at opportunities and to

Times **Feature**

Trustees

Continued from previous page

means we thank the committee for their work, we accept the report but there is no action taken on the report at this time."

Zito: "Does anyone what to speak on the issues that we heard tonight with the report?"

School board member Silvia Alvarez: "The process is that we will accept the report and then we will have to read the report and we will have to study the report and there will be a lot of deliberation among us...with a lot of study and we will bring more people to address parts of it where we may not feel there is not enough clarity there, so for us it is just the beginning for us to do our work."

Mace: "So, I want to speak...I myself gave a list of questions to the FAC and none of the questions were answered. None of them were responded to which is fine...but those questions including...

Why did we choose the size of the school, could there be innovative programs...

What is the market size of the people going to charters

What happens with the first right of refusal if we decide to lease the property and we have to give to someone else.

All those questions are questions that were not addressed and I feel that there was a long term vision that was lacking here... so my reason for taking no action"

School board member Leia Welch: "I want to ditto what Bonnie said, I don't feel that I have enough information and one of the things I asked about, and I am a former principal and school counselor was the optimal number, how did they come up with the optimal number..., Also I am still concerned about, if a school has to be closed, how much will that really save and what effect will that have on... whatever... and also I also I am also concerned about being fiscally sound because if we are not fiscally sound the state will come in and they will close us down and they will decide what schools get closed and believe you me we won't have a vote...they will come in if we don't meet our fiscal responsibilities and they won't ask any of us they'll say, this is what's going to happen so as a board member we have a lot of work to do, this is the first test for us and I just need a lot more information but I do want everyone to know that we are thinking about what's best for the children of Laurelwood, Cadwallder, Dove Hill, all students the entire Evergreen Community we are not just looking at certain areas we have to consider the entire school community and I would

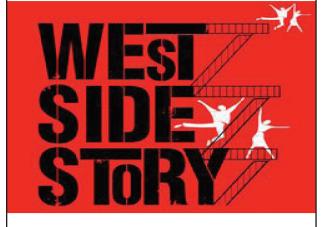
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like parents to work with us on this, if it comes down to a closing a school we need to maybe have a parent survey, put it out there to the parents, which schools do you think would be the best to close, so we have a lot of work to do, but mainly we want to make sure every student in our community gets a quality education and we certainly cannot do that if we are not fiscally responsible we don't know that information and we still need to look into some things, I'm am not ready to make any

decision because I don't feel like I have enough information, and we have some work to do and we will be doing it, thank you."

School board Member Belaji Venkatraman: "So. I do agree with what has been said before...that this is a first step in our process, we do not have all the information, but that said there is a lot of good work. I appreciate the feedback from the community and the parents and the teachers, and the work done by the FAC committee, I served on a school consolidation committee for this district in 2010-11, it is not easy so I do want to publically acknowledge the hard work they put into it and the feedback from the community, and as trustee Welch and Mace and Alvarez said...this is not an easy process, we have a lot of homework to do here, but this is a first

step...and we need to balance the fiscal health of the entire district verses the needs of the community... and it's not just a school as everyone has said here, around the school is built the community and so we have a lot of work to do here, thank you."

Welsh: "I forgot to say thank you to the FAC committee because you guys have taken a lot and you have worked really hard and you've given us a lot of good information but myself I need a little bit more, thank you."

Mace: "One quick thing, which is, the FAC did talk about problems but as many of you have said, they have not talked about more than one solution, and one of the things that I as a board member have to know is what are the many variable solutions we have , it is not binary there isn't just one solution, there can be many ways to raise revenues."

Alvarez: "I would also like to thank the FAC committee. I know it took a lot of time and effort on their part and I truly appreciate they took... it wasn't an easy task that we gave them. It took a lot of information and they did the best they could with it... and technically we should have no right to ask them questions. As a board member, my job was to let the process take its place and they were to gather the information and then when we get that information then we begin to look and ask questions and bring in more experts, other people to come forward and ask the questions we have - but the whole process was for the community, and they put together the information for us and we take a look at it, we study it and then we add more questions and bring in people to address those questions."

Zito: Thank you board, I want to thank the FAC for all their work, like trustee Belagi said, he and I sat on that committee together for both consolidation and also sat on a district committee on boundaries, it is very, very difficult work and so I really acknowledge and appreciate all the work they did. For me it always comes down to the question of what is the problem you are trying to solve and the problem we are trying to solve and the problem we are trying to solve is how is to stay fiscally sound, as my colleagues say, there is many ways to have that problem addressed ... In the very beginning the charter of the FAC was to look at opportunities and to present the board with the opportunities and further investigate, they did what they could with the data they had and as trustee Alvarez said...we now need to take the next step. And as some of the questions I believe the Van Kleefs asked is what are the solutions and we don't have that solution and the reason why I asked...him to wait for this answer is because I know that this board needs to sit and do a lot of deliberation and get more information from professionals and from the community and decide what is the best way to move forward. I fully and personally believe there are a lot of opportunities to increase enrollment in this school district. I believe that we'll have to be competitive. We are competitive, but we will need to do a lot more because I can tell you that my knowledge of even the charter schools is they are basically cannibalizing each other, that is the heavy competition there are for students. I've seen it and I know it is happening and we need to meet that challenge, so for me the question is... how to meet that challenge because that is where we need to go so we know that our schools are competitive. The amount of money we save by closing schools, I need to understand that to see if it is even worth it, and of course no matter where the student lives...so whether we keep

Dove Hill or Laurelwood or not... they're all going to get a high quality education from Evergreen because they are going to a school that's going to have great teachers and hopefully great programs but even better programs as we move forward. So that's what I look forward to seeing the board do. I know we're going to be putting workshops together. They will always be open and transparent to the public... we want the public to attend, we want the public to participate so please support the district, support the schools and when we have these meetings, show up to give us your input. Because when we work collectively together, we come up with a better answer. So I appreciate your time...there is a motion from the floor to accept but not act on the report.. And I will work with

the board to come up with the next steps with the district... so we can put together more workshop or workshops to see where we are going forward. Thank you all. The motion is to accept the report and move forward with additional work.

Mace: The motion is to accept the report without action Zito: The motion is to accept the report without action and go to the next step and do more work.

Mace: Correct

—School board

member Jim Zito

Zito: That motion passes...We will be moving forward with that action, thank you... We are going to take a five minute break and continue with the agenda.

Final report is now posted on school district website

The following information is shown in the final report presented to the school board by the Facilities Advisory Committee representatives at the April 13th school board meeting. To read the full report, go to the Evergreen School District website, scroll down to Facilities Advisory Committee, scroll down to read "Final Recommendation" April 13, 2017. Page 22 states...

MULTI YEAR BUDGET PROJECTION 2017-18......Deficit projected of \$ 3,271,241 2018-2019......Deficit projected of \$ 6,655,897 2019-2020......Deficit projected of \$10,426,026

Further into the report it is stated under recommendations.....

Laurelwood Elementary School: Repurpose and consolidate with Cadwallder and other neighboring schools

Dove Hill Elementary School: Repurpose and change boundries to accommodate students at neighboring schools.

OB Whaley Elementary School and Katherine R. Smith Elementary School: Change boundries to absorb Meadowfair students that are currently bussed.

District Office: Relocate district office to a repurposed site and develop existing DO site for revenue generation. Or, put a two story on the existing site and redevelop remaining portion of site for revenue generation.

Rationale for recommendations:

Recommendations are based on a projected shortfall of revenue and information presented by the demographer's report.

Additional Comments:

While the committee understands the charge to assess how the Board of Trustees might maximize the use of its facilities to include revenue generation, the committee has determined they are not equipped to access the development potential for properties that might be considered for repurposing.

The committee along with the community, encourages the Board of Trustees to persue investigating new programs for ESD (Evergreen School District) which could attract students and provide options for the repurpose of a school site.

To contact and offer suggestions to Evergreen School District one can go to the school district website and e mail each trustee. The trustees have the final power of decision-making.



Great American Litter Pickup a success in Evergreen Valley on Earth Day, April 22

By Kevin Larsen

Times staff writer an Jose City councilmember Silvia Arenas, District 8 Evergreen, and her team planed a well-executed neighborhood event which took place

Starting at 8:30 a.m., The Great American Litter Pickup attracted many volunteers who enjoyed a cup of coffee and pastries provided by Le Boulanger restaurant as they signed in to participate in the cleanup. The District 8 office issued bright yellow vests, gloves, big green bags and pick up tools to

Saturday, April 22.

Many neighbors shook hands, some for the first time, and formed teams and disbursed into Evergreen neighborhoods to pick up trash, including the creek areas and beyond.

Out the volunteers went and by days end a vast amount of trash was placed on the parking lot for pick up. There were three shopping carts and some were from the flood and filled with debris. There were over 50 large green bags of trash





Back row (from left): San Jose Firefighters from Fire Station 31, Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas, Chelsey Seagraves, Field Representative, Office of Assemblymember Ash Kalra, San Jose District 8 Youth Commissioner Anoshree Sengupta, and Joshua Barousse, Council Assistant, Office of Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas. Front row: Cub Scouts of Pack 265, Den 7. Right photo: From left: Assemblymember Ash Kalra, San Jose District 8 Youth Commissioner Anoshree Sengupta, Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas.

that were filled by teams. Chairs,

refrigerators, metal and more were gathered up to let nature return to her graceful environment.

> Many community groups participated, including the Boys and Girls Club, and the San Jose Fire Explorers. Charli, a member of the San Jose Fire Explorers stated, "I feel this is a great way to bring our community and fellow neighbors together."

"We celebrated Earth Day with

more than ninety volunteers from

our community and picked up litter

to beautify our streets," said

Arenas. "It was wonderful to see

residents take matters into their

own hands and be great stewards of

our community."

Other community members commented, "This is our Mother Earth and she is everybody's mother and we have to respect and take care of

her." A city worker said, "we are really working hard on the Mayor's initiative to beautify San Jose." Still others stated, "It's a good and right thing to do!"

One parent made a suggestion and stated," We want what is best for the Earth; with removal of pollution we can all live longer...we have to be examples for the children. We need next year to get more schools involved by having more coordination with the P.T.A. and coordinators so more can come out to Evergreen and be a part of the experience."

California State Assembly member Ash Kalra and his team from District 27 pitched in at the event and he stated," The Great American Litter Pick Up is an event that San Jose enthusiastically supports. I love seeing hundreds of neighbors through the city coming together to make our neighborhoods clean on Earth Day."

As the event concluded the Arenas Team ordered a large number of Mountain Mike's Pizzas, including refreshments to be placed on the tables for all to enjoy.

Many smiles and statements of "job well done," were heard by all "After all, who wouldn't want to return next year to do it all again!"

Editor's Note: For more information on Mayor Liccardo's Beautify San Jose initiative go to this website: beautifysj.org (For large item pickup, such as appliances and mattresses, etc., you can call the city to pick them up for free).





The annual Great American Litter Pickup, held in celebration of Earth Day on Saturday April 22, took huge amounts of junk off the streets of the community

Times Features

Brave children reach out to touch fighting lions and fierce dragon

By Kevin Larsen

Times staff writer

The dragon's mouth gasped for air and fiercely let all know in both our world and the spirit one that it meant business and was not to be treated lightly.

This scene is just one example of the activities on display as part of the eleventh annual *Children of the Dragon*, a celebration of Vietnamese culture; an exciting and colorful two-day event highlighting music, dance, and art at the Children's Discovery Museum held earlier this month.

"It is not entertainment, it is education and knowledge of importance to the cultural significance it has for our culture," said Sunny Nguyen master lion dancer from Vietnam with his daughter standing near. "We want to keep our culture alive and spread awareness of it to the newer generation."

"I take my family to this place about once a month because it's a great way for children to learn about world cultures while playing," said one parent.

The mission of the Children's Discovery Museum

Fostering creativity, curiosity and lifelong learning is the focus of the museum and also to help today's children become tomorrow's visionaries. Cecilia Clark, Public Relations Manager of the museum states, "Our celebration series brings families together from all the different communities to share and learn from each other. Once people come together the differences fade away... then there is understanding and this fosters acceptance and tolerance. Isn't that what we want for all children; to live in a world with those values? We see that many customs and traditions in one culture are celebrated in other cultures in different ways."

Autumn Young, Marketing Manager said, "I am proud to work for an organization (Children's Discovery Museum) that truly values cultural competence and inclusion. We all have awareness and come from differ-

With the Dragon resting,

two lions took the stage

and owned it. These are

two people animals and

one lion transformed to

twelve feet in height due

to the expert balance of a

performer standing on

the shoulders of another

while hoisting the lion's

head up to the sky.

ent backgrounds. We present in three languages at the museum. Silicon Valley is one of the most diverse places in the world with over 150 different languages spoken here." She also stated with regard to the term cultural competency, "The way we do this is to host events so all can experience the cultures and traditions of our community."

Rice cakes, conical hats, scrolls and puppets

Upon walking into the hands-on museum, both parents and children are seen working together to discover and make things operate. It is a two storied building and a myriad of exploration stations are jammed into every nook

and cranny. A special area was set up for hands on crafts which reinforce and highlight the theme of the event.

"This makes me feel good about my culture," said one volunteer creating traditional rice cakes, while skillfully wrapping banana



The annual Children of the Dragon event became more than an exhibit and transformed into a spiritual educational experience which helps everyone!

leaves in box holders to craft a box to slowly cook rice in a unique way. The volunteer explains it is all part of a fable. "It is said the

king gathered his children and gave them the challenge of each creating the best tasting food in the world...one child created the rice cake by mixing just the right amounts of sticky rice with mung beans and pork. This was then carefully wrapped in either a round or square banana leaf box and then cooked for ten hours." That day Bang Chung was created. All were encouraged to look up "The story of the rice cake," and read more.

Other learning stations included the making of scrolls, conical hats (with decorations of art earlier made with coffee filter cut outs of beautiful hand dyed flowers made weeks before by children at other events and put to use well on this day) and dragon puppets. An eight foot by eight foot enlarge historical color photo of a Vietnamese market place was posted a wall. This allowed all children from all cultures to dress in slip-on Vietnamese clothing and pose for a photo while carrying baskets of simple staples such as plastic fish and vegetables held in authen-

tic baskets. The children were made aware of a more simple time when buying food was done at an open door market-place with a nod of the head and a shake of the hand

Make way for the Dragon and two Lions

The Twin Golden Temple Dragon Dance mesmerized a11. Suddenly, out nowhere, drums pounded and just a second later a creature entered. Children stopped what they were doing and took heed of the animals coming their way. It was leading the two lions and came shuddering without hurrying and its body language spoke without the need for words. With

the pounding of drums and four girls in costume walking besides smashing skillfully their small cymbals together in measured time, it jumped and quaked, jutted and shook. Its little ears began to wiggle as if to say, I may be tough but I am in some ways

like you... and its head communicated too along with the nine arches of its long tail which swung and writhed moving smoothly like the compartments of a train rounding a turn

This was a display of superior unmatched dancing expertise where each of the ten dancing performers had to move in unison below the poles they held as the dragon slithered in directions given by the master dragon dancer under the dragon head. It slammed its way through the isles, whirling, twirling and undulating as if it was digesting a foe and then through the outside doors it skittered to the stage. The Dragon bestowed the power of creating wonderful memories for the children out of thin air. Whatever was sad that floated in the wind was banished from the building so all could enjoy the festivities!

The man who led the Dragon performed with honors this same dance in Vietnam at the Buu Kim Tu (Buddhist Temple) decades ago. He stated with deep conviction and sincerity in his voice that the dance is not to be considered entertainment... instead it represents deep beliefs of fearlessness, endurance and expresses important values of the Vietnamese culture. Then he kindly asked his daughter to explain the cultural interpretation of what the group does. Janet Nguyen said," the Dragon dance is popular and we see it at important events but we also need to know the history behind it all... essentially the lions are there for us to bring blessings and good fortune and scare away bad luck but there is much greater depth in what it means.

With the Dragon resting, two lions took the stage and owned it. These are two people animals and one lion transformed to twelve feet in height due to the expert balance of a performer standing on the shoulders of another while hoisting the lion's head up to the sky. However, the other Lion did not back down and instead showed courage and bravery by standing it's ground over and over again. In time they avoided a fight and each drank from an ornate vase. Two confetti cannons exploded tiny bits of colored paper into the sky to announce the conflict was over. Many children were not fazed and reached to bravely touch the fir of the lion's mouth and follow both of them with newly found exhilarating courage!

The cultural dance troops grace the stage

As the day progressed there were four presentations from 1 p.m. 4 p.m. This allowed

parents to watch a performance and go back inside the museum to have a snack or play. There was a common thread in all the groups to welcome youth to join them and share more of the Vietnamese culture to those born here. "It builds their confidence and teaches them discipline," said one leader. "We want to preserve Vietnamese culture for the younger generations and we welcome all cultures to join our groups."

Wing of the Hundred Vet

Founded in 1993 this dance group fosters the spirit of Vietnam. The presentation was warm and educated with poise. Not unlike a fashion show, traditional Vietnamese dress was seen and the show moved along with music and style. The dancers over many years perfected a movement with their hands that was like that of flowing water. Such skills are a part of the learning of the cultural dance skills passed on from one generation to the pext.

Dance by Tuoi Than Tien

Spell bound. That was the expression seen by tiny tikes sitting with feet flexibly bent back with their knees firmly placed on the front of the chairs while taking in the performance. The reason for all the little mouths held wide open with awe was because of the hand held microphone the stage performers used while belting out the songs without any lip-sink. "They are really singing and it sounds great," was heard by an audience member.

Intricate choreographies moved those on stage to interpret songs with beautiful spring traditional Vietnamese dress (I Dream of Jeanie pants, flowered blouses, and Khan dong head dress). Then mixed in for style an old American song was beautifully sung (I'm on top of the world by the Carpenters). Seven year olds performed with grace on stage and waved flags. Mischievousness of healthy boys was seen as they waited in the wings pushing each other a bit and laughing without any cares in this world of ours.

The Facebook for this group is: facebook/tuoi than tiensj

Drumming and dance by the Vietnamese Lasallian Dance Troup

Boom! The lead drum for this important elegant drum presentation group shattered the silence and initiated the cacophony of cadence with leadership to the synchronized beating of twenty drums.

Each drum had to be struck in a certain way at a certain angle and strength to trigger See DRAGON, page 17



CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1675 Winchester Boulevard (near Hamilton), Campbell, 95008. Church Office: 378-3472. www.campbell-umc.org. E-mail us

campbell_umc@earthlink.net. SUNDAY WOR-SHIP: 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 fellow-

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other "joy" Occasions

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Wednesdays, 9:30 AM.,

Women's Study Group

8:15-9:15 PM

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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.c om) 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 - Alvssa 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@eastvallevchurch.c om

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

FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN

Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.co

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.N See you on Facebook 2650 ABORN ROAD at Kettmann, across from **Everareen Public** Library, Serving Evergreen for over 50 Years. John S Goldstein, Pastor Christian Worship every Sunday at 11.00 am Together let us build lives toward excellence! Music Institute (408)791 7772 After School lessons on Piano, Violin, Viola, Flute PreSchool Age 2-6 years caring for your child with God's love and affection

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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.

experience Holy Spirit

Parish Community. All

are welcome! We are

THE POINT CHURCH www.ThePoint.Church 3695 Rose Terrasse 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 Sundav 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) 9974800. or visit our website at www.churchstanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.

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6430 Bose Lane, San Jose, CA 95120 Church Office 408-268-3214 Clergy: Fr. Allan Boyd

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ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

5111 San Felipe Rd. San Jose, CA 95135 408-223-1562 www.stfrancisofassisi.c

www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr.

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 quali-

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ice 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

> (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday11:00AM, 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

Center open M-F 9:00

AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us

and share your presence

with us so that together

we may grow and share

our gifts to help build

God's Kingdom!

the Parish Mission

Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM

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



Times **Feature**

Events at New Seasons Market Evergreen

Every Mon, Tues, & Thurs, 12-6pm: Weekdays Tastings at the Solutions Counter. On Mondays sample delicious meatless recipes. On Tuesdays discover 5-ingredients-or-less meal ideas. On Thursdays enjoy tastes of some of our favorite glutenfree foods and treats, and inspiring G-F meal ideas to nourish your family. Free.

Every Wednesday, 8am-9pm: Wellness Wednesdays. Join us at our Solutions Counter and sample a new wellness product, healthy meal recipe, or featured healthy item from our deli and juice bar. Free.

Every Friday, 5-7pm: Wine Tasting & Cheese Pairing. Different wineries are featured each week. May 5: Epic Wines, May 12: Titan Wines, May 19: De Rose Winery. Complimentary.



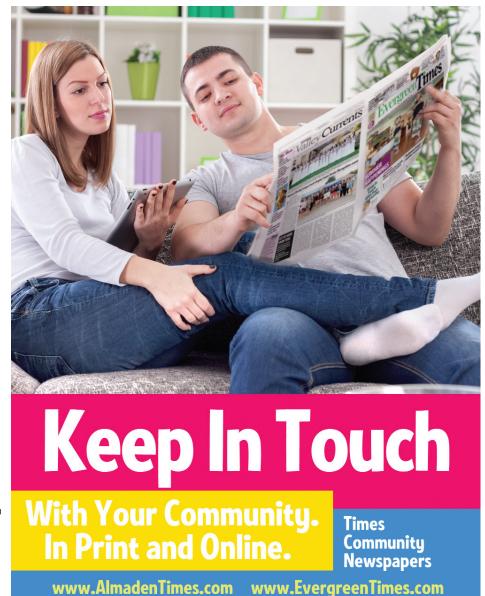
Tues, May 9, 5:30-7pm:
Teens' Healthy Eating
Class. Support your teen in
making good food choices.
Teens will learn about the
negative impact of sugar,
how to reduce sugar in
smoothies and other afterschool snacks, and what 100
calories of some of their
favorite foods looks like so
they can practice healthy
portion control. \$10.
Preregistration required.

Sat, May 13, 4-6pm: Mother's Day Rosé Wine Tasting. Sample a variety of delightful rosés, from flat to sparkling, and discover which would be perfect for mom. Complimentary.

Thurs, May 18, 6-7:30pm: Grilled Foods & Pairing Perfect Wines. Join Certified Sommelier and

Certified Sommelier and New Seasons Market wine buyer Robert Thompson for a fun, educational class on how to pair wines with grilled, summertime foods. Enjoy a complete meal of grilled appetizers, entrées and desserts. \$35. Preregistration required.

Register for classes at the Solutions Counter in New Seasons Market, at 5667 Silver Creek Valley Rd, San Jose or at: www.newseasonsmarketevergreen.eventbrite.com. 408-513-8200.



Dragon

Continued from page 15

the matched sound from all performers. The culture of Vietnam was honored by the depth of practice that went into this group and in the construction of the handmade drums. Each of the 21 drums was a unique work of art done in the same theme with finely hand engraved birds of some kind inlayed into the red shined wood of carefully tuned drums all aligned in their sounds. Such success is accomplished through pride of one's cultural background.

When the quiet came, the troop picked up their drums in unison and put the collapsible wood stands over their arms like a satchel as they quietly exited to make way for another group to perform.

Barefooted, the second group performed a traditional Vietnam mountain dance in which the boys held the girls hands and joyously with simple ways of dancing of very high quality showed all how life is lived in deep mountain regions. The girls wore green dresses and the boys wore checkered clothing. The audience applauded and smiled as they concluded and educated all on the importance of simplicity in life.

Bring your children or grandchildren to the Discovery Museum

Located in downtown San Jose, this organization has a team that works together to put on such events in an annual way that enchant the general public. "It's great for all children and they seem to have new events each month so we come here often," said one parent

Steve Zbin who works as part of the team that orchestrates how exhibits are planned and come together manned the audio feed for the outside performances and he stated, "it's great for all to come for there are lots of special events."

This annual Children of the Dragon event became more than an exhibit and transformed into a spiritual educational experience which helps everyone! It was seen that to make the Dragon and two lions came alive at the event the performers needed to bring forth their deep pride and conviction for their heritage.

The power and strength of the human touch combined with voice, instruments, dance and costume overtook the dark theatre world of Dolby sound and CGI digital presentations. The children were taken by the live performances and their hands on activities and given fond memories.

The man who controlled the head of the Dragon (Also referred to as The Lion Dancer), Nguyen and his daughter Janet, made a statement that perhaps describes the purpose of the entire event. "The message we want to convey to the public is related to our culture, a philosophy of life, historical events and Vietnamese mythology."

The San Jose Community is working as a team with the museum

The Children's Discovery Museum has many cultural events and have been educating our Silicon Valley for more than a decade. Its tremendous TEAM continues to shape and develop the finest presentations. The volunteer performance groups exceed expectations for they fervently wish to shine the light on their culture and pass down traditions to all. Thus, each event is well run and this means it is encouraged for all children come and experience as many of these wonderful festivals and cultural events as possible during each year. See website for more information.

For more information on the Dragon and Lion Dance Association, go to: www.buukimtu.com

For more information on The Wings of the 100 Vet Group, go to: wingsof100viet.org/home.htm For more information on the Vietnamese

Lasallian Youth Troop, go to: facebook.com/vlyt-sj/?ref=py_c

To learn more about the San Jose Children Discovery events, go to: cdm.org

Editor Note: All of the above organizations welcome contributions. Remember too, they welcome future cast members in their productions and you can explore that by speaking with them.





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Times Feature

SIKHISM AND THE ECOLOGY

First car charging installation at religious site celebrated

By Kirpal Singh Atwal and Dr. Gurinder Pal Singh

Special to the Times

The first installation of a car charging station at a religious site was celebrated on Sunday, April 9 at San Jose Gurdwara in Evergreen Valley.

Many dignitaries and priests came to offer their blessings in the celebration of the first use of the six electric car charging stations which are also open to the general public. Two of the cars charging stations are specially designed for the handicapped.

The relationship between nature and human beings is of great importance in Sikhism. More than 500 years ago the first teachers of the Sikh religion thought deeply about how nature was to be respected. The Sikh Gurus taught that the nature is manifestation of the divine power and we need to respect the nature. They wrote sacred words in a book called the Granth which is still used and revered by all Sikhs and makes up the foundation of their beliefs.

Comments made by those who created the car charging stations

Arvind Singh, Project lead for Gurdwara-EV (electric volt) car charging stations stated, "I had been noticing that those coming to the Gurdwara were traveling from far away and there was a lack of electric car charging stations in the Evergreen Valley. Providing the stations fit nicely into the objective of the Gurdwara which Green building which operates at 100 percent by solar power...We now run our surplus energy into the charge car stations, so what could be a better

Co-Director Manmohan Sing Mahal stated, "My heart is feeling real good today, I am from New Deli, India and I have seen a lot of pollution over there. To help the world minimize pollution I wanted to help in offering electric charge stations at the Gurdwara for all to use. Our installation sets a great example for others to offer charging stations in public places. I am also glad that we have two stations out of the six devoted to handicapped drivers."

Ken Mak (Acting Supervisor and Staff Specialist for Bay Area Air Quality Management said, "We provided a grant and are honored to support the install of charging stations at this beautiful Gurdwara. We hope by installing these charge stations that they encourage all to support the adoption of electric vehicles throughout the Bay Area."

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo stated, "The Sikh Community has provided a great example for how we can better care for our Earth."

Bob Gill, humble servant of God, Seva, Housing Commisioner



Many dignitaries and priests came to offer their blessings in the celebration of the first use of the six electric car charging stations at San Jose Gurdwara, which are also open to the general public.

and Santa Clara County Mental Health board member, gave thanks to the charging station project managers, Mayor Liccardo and all others for their hard work, participation and assistance with the proj-

Silvia Arenas (San Jose City Councilmember of District 8) stated, "This community is generous in nature and always has its doors open to the community. (The Gurdwara Sikh Community) are self-contained, you feed others, have doctors, and have the most wonderful events that are open to the community...you are doing it all!"

Pasquale Romano, President and Chief Executive of ChargePoint, stated," I am awed by this community. You are making an investment in our community and it is a real honor for my company" ChargePoint donated two charge stations of the six at the Gurdwara.

Bob Dhillon of the Gurdwara, thanked all and said, "Our Guru told us over 500 years ago to be friendly with the environment..."

A sacred book focuses on ensuring we maintain harmony with nature

Sri Guru Granth Sahib: The sacred text that is the present and eternal Guru, says that the purpose of human life is to achieve a blissful state in harmony with everything around them, including other people, animals and nature. Human beings are stewards of the divine gift of creation and must have mastery over their own desires so as not to harm it.

There are several hymns in Sri Guru Granth Sahib (abbreviated as SGGS) that illustrate this relationship. Guru Nanak, the first guru and founder of Sikh faith wrote: ਪਵਣ ਗੁਰੂ ਪਾਣੀ ਪਤਾ ਮਾਤਾ ਧਰਤ ਮਹੱਤ. This Punjabi language statement translates to the following:

Air is the Guru, Water the father



Great Earth is the mother, Nurses, night and day In whose lap the world does play (SGGS p8)

The second guru, Guru Angad wrote:

This world is the abode of the almighty, The almighty dwells in this (SGGS p463)

It is therefore of utmost importance for the Sikhs to take care of the nature including earth, air, water, all humanity and rest of living beings. In respect of nature, killing for the sake of killing e.g. hunting or to eat to excess is prohibited. Vegetarianism is encouraged.

Guru Nanak wrote:

Nature we see Nature we hear Nature in the whole creation Nature in the skies Nature in the nether worlds Nature in the species, kinds, color Nature in life forms Nature in pride and in ego Nature in air, water and fire Nature in soil of the earth All nature is yours, O' powerful Creator, You command it, observe it and pervade within it. (SGGS 464)

The seventh guru, Guru Har Rai, is known for his actions to preserve the nature. He planted beautiful gardens and while walking through these gardens, he took

extra care that his flowing robe did not disturb the tender petals of the flowers. His birthday that falls in the month of March is celebrated as the Sikh ECO day.

Great efforts continue to honor nature

As in the past, today Sikh Gurdwaras around the world are now taking steps to preserve the environment. Many of these efforts are described in the website: ECOSIKHs.Org. In practice these efforts are focusing on trying to repair the damage that humans have done to the environment challenging Sikhs to support all environmental programs, especially those which use recycling, clean and renewable energy supplies and locally grown food sources teaching that all lifestyles should be based on sharing the world's resources fairly and a simple lifestyle allows this to happen more easily working to ensure all forms of exploitation of people and of resources are ended, and that a lack of social justice is the underlying root problem that is reflected in the misuse of the environment.

Harnessing the use of the sun and other Green ways of providing energy

Members of the management committee of Sikh Gurdwara San Jose play an active role in nature preserving activities. Beautiful flowering bushes and trees adorn the Gurdwara site in the Evergreen hills of San Jose. President Hardev Singh Takhar, General Secretary Bhupindar Singh Dhillon (Bob Dhillon), Stage secretary Pritam Singh Grewal and many others have worked hard to have solar panels installed so that entire electricity need for the Gurdwara is met from the solar energy.

Running with the sun

San Jose Gurdwara has one of the largest solar panel installations in the Bay Area. The Gurdwara produces all of its energy needs by tapping the sun with use of solar collectors. The energy required for charging the cars also comes from the solar panels located on top of the building. If any organization wish to learn more about how this group succeeded in going Green, The Gurdwara welcome inquires and visits to honor their religious tenants of helping the world.

Kirpal Singh Atwal and other langar (community kitchen) committee members have successfully eliminated use of Styrofoam plates. Food is now served using stainless steel plates. On special days when there is large congregation, food service is augmented with paper plates

Vice president Dr. Gurinder Pal Singh who is also a scientist has been volunteering his time in India

See GURDWARA, next page

Times **Features**

Gurdwara

Continued from previous page to encourage research on Lithium Ion batteries to enable electric vehicle technology there. "Mother Nature is given respect as taught today to our youth

Every year the Sunday school teachers and students plant beautiful flowers on the Sikh Eco day," he said.

Manmohan Mahal, Arvind Singh, the Sikh Scouts coordinator and others have now worked hard to get the electric vehicle charging stations installed. We are also thankful to our industry partners Charge Point and Green Leaf and government agencies for their support in these environment preserving efforts.

Did you know that all prayers in the Gurdwara ends with seeking wellbeing of the whole creation. Thus, Sikhism has and always will honor cooperation with nature and creating harmony in using energy in ways that do not harm the environment. The following prayer line states that and reflects the intent of caring for the wellbeing of all in the world.

(Nanak Naam Chardikalaa, Tere Bhane Sarbat da Bhalaa)

About Gurdwara Sahib (The Gurdwara)

Gurdwara Sahib (The Gurdwara), the largest Gurdwara in the United States, is open 365



San Jose Mayor **Sam Liccardo** speaks at the April 9 celebration.

days a year. Tours are available and all are welcome. Food is served daily. Gurdwara is located at: 3636 The Gurdwara Ave. San Jose, CA 95148. For more information contact: Mohinder Singh at the Bajwa Office: (408) 274-9373, or visit the Gurdwara website: sanjosegurdwara.org.

Editor's Note: Those involved in the installation of the electric car charging stations made sure that two were designated for handicap use and want the Evergreen community to know that the Charge Point car charging stations are open for all to use in the Evergreen Valley. One only needs to sign up for Charge Point. The cost of charging a car is minimal

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Times Local News

OFF THE SHELF

Get a free comic book May 6 at the library

By Edith Sutterlin Special to the Times

Adults read and play too!

There is always something going on at our San José Public Libraries for adults as well as for children and teens. In addition to our local offerings, visit Evergreen's librarian Shih-Fa Kao as he promotes to full time and moves to SJPL's BusinessWorks, open 7 days/week at the King Library, 150 East San Fernando Street, the 3rd Floor. SJPL Works unites the expertise of top leaders in economic and workforce development to create an extensive network of resources for employment seekers, small business owners, and entrepreneurs. The library's business center features collaborative workspaces with technology and productivity tools, meeting spaces with videoconferencing, specialized collections and classes, and more. Meanwhile, Shih-Fa's legacy continues in Evergreen Branch Library's monthly Board Games Meetup for adults and teens, next meeting on Saturday, April 29, at 3 p.m.

Monthly book clubs for adults meet the first week of each month. Discuss The Boston Girl, by Anita Diamant, on Wednesday, May 3, 6 p.m., at Evergreen. Gather at Village Square on Saturday, May 6, 10:30 a.m., to share Everything I Never Told You by Celeste Ng. Adults can get ready to spend more time outdoors now that spring is here by coming to the Evergreen Valley Garden Club's program, Attracting Birds, Bees and Butterflies, Saturday, May 13, 10:30 a.m. Special collections at all branches offer further home and garden resources.

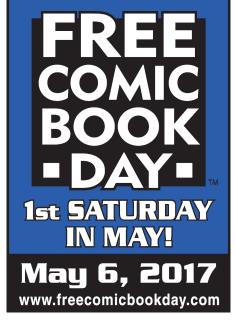
Something for Everyone?

Stop by on Free Comic Book Day. On May 6, stop by Evergreen at 11:00 a.m. or Village Square at 4:00 p.m. and receive a free comic book while supplies last.

Visit Village Square as they host the Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Fest, Saturday, May 13, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Teens

Do you de-stress during AP exam week or while preparing for finals? Come make Tub Teas for Teens at Evergreen Branch on Wednesday, May 10, 4:00 p.m. Put together soul soothing herbs to turn bathwater into an herbal infusion. Make a gift for a family member, friend or yourself and then take time to relax



On May 13. Evergreen Teen Book Club will meet in the Teen Room at 3 p.m. to discuss Brave New World, by Aldous Huxley, over refreshments, and talk about their favorite genre to read.

Children's Crafts

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo and Mexican culture. After you hear the book, "Niño Wrestles the World," by Yuyi Morales, and make a Lucha Libre mask, at Evergreen, Wednesday, May 3, 4 p.m. or at Village Square, Friday, May 5, 4 p.m.

Children ages 3 and up may make a Mother's Day Craft at Village Square, Friday, May 12, 4 p.m., or at Evergreen, Saturday, May 13, 2 p.m. Create a unique hand-print tree to give to Mom on Mother's Day.

Additional Events

Browse all San José Public Library event including storytimes, 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 the Evergreen Branch Library, 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,



Times Feature

Interview with Jeremiah Attaochu, inspirational professional football player

By Sunay Sanghani Times staff writer ecently I had a chance to catch up with Jeremiah Attaochu, Linebacker for the Los Angeles Chargers.

He had a breakout year in 2015 but things slowed down for him in 2016 because of a devastating injury. However, off the field. Jeremiah continued to be an active participant in the community which resulted in a Walter Payton Man of the Year nominee.

Recently, his team decided to move to Los Angeles.

Here's an excerpt from my interview with him:

Sunay Sanghani: Jeremiah, you're going to be a four year player now, and you are the all-time sack leader for GT. Out of all the quarterbacks which one has been your most favorite quarterback to sack?

Jeremiah Attaochu: Got to be Carson Palmer which was on Monday Night. It was my first game and it was a strip sack too!

SS: This year, you were a Walter Payton Man of the Year finalist; you are an active man on social media encouraging and helping people and fans a lot. What is your motivation to help fans out and make them feel happy?

JA: I always remember that I'm a role model for people. I think trying to be positive is the best thing to give to people and make them happy. I want to use sports as an avenue to help out people's lives.

SS: This offseason one of the biggest headlines was owner deciding to move this franchise to LA. The city of San Diego obviously hated it and even a lot of players even your own quarterback was shocked. I can't help but ask, what are your thoughts on the move?

JA: As a player, shouldn't matter at all. We have to make the most of the move. It doesn't and shouldn't affect us



on the field. We can make it exciting for us and turn a leaf together as a whole team.

SS: Your team had a challenging year, but now you have a new city, a new coach and more importantly a whole new system you'll play under. How are you preparing to get back up into playoff picture?

JA: Mentally, just embrace the newness and new opportunities we have ahead of us. We have to be ready to do work with the new coaches. And physically, I'm trying to get my body in right shape. It kind of reminds me of life because in life we all have to adjust someday.

SS: As a whole defensive group, you're extremely close with guys like Jason Verrett and Melvin Ingram. At a tough time like this, how do you to keep everyone pumped and charged up for next season?

JA: By remembering that we are in this together. We are brothers so we have to fight together. I know a lot of people weren't happy with the move but we got to keep it moving together as a team.

SS: Being from Nigeria, if football hadn't worked out, what other profession would you have chosen?

JA: [Laughs] Probably a soccer play-

SS: What about teaching? I saw you were teaching kids on your Instagram.



JA: Yeah, maybe even teaching, who knows.

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Evergreen Areal Meetings (1)

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@ sbcglobal.net.

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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 ESUHSD Education Center, 830 N. Capitol Ave. 347-5000. Check the web site for agendas and updates: www.esuhsd.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/

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 201516 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

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

Evergreen Valley High School Site Council

Meets the first Wednesday of every month on the EVHS campus in the administration building D, 3300 Quimby Rd., San Jose. Confirm meetings by visiting the school's web site.

http://ev.ca.campusgrid.net/ home and clicking on school site council in the left hand toolbar or calling the school at (408) 347-7000.

Evergreen Valley Service Organization

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

Falls Creek Neighborhood Association

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

The Evergreen Community

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

Friends of Evergreen Library

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of February, April, June, August, October and December from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in Group Study Room A at the Evergreen Branch Library, 2635 Aborn Road, San Jose. Visit their website at friend-sofevergreenlibrary. 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/

The Kiwanis meet regularly every 4th Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster (12:00 noon). For more infor-

mation, 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.

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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