

**JOY BARNEY  
CONNECTS WITH  
YOUTH AND NATURE,  
WINS NATIONAL  
AWARD - PAGE 10**



JAN. 1-JAN. 14, 2016 ■ VOL. 29, NO. 1

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## A MIGHTY MISSION



**Mackenzie Mossing** and her parents with Mackenzie's photograph of a bull elephant. "Mackenzie's always been an animal lover," says her mother, **Pam**. *Photo by Lorraine Gabbert*

## From the heart of Almaden to the heart of Africa

By **Lorraine Gabbert**  
*Senior Staff Writer*

**A**lmaden resident Mackenzie Mossing is on a mission to save the world's remaining wildlife.

Mackenzie spent seven weeks with the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia to learn how to protect cheetahs. Now she's set her sights on protecting elephants.

While completing an undergraduate degree in Animal Science at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Mackenzie became aware of threats affecting species and their survival. "Instead of standing by and watching endangered species disappear, I decided to take action," said Mackenzie. Her first step was completing an internship at the Cheetah Conservation Fund in 2014. She also raised \$3,000 towards saving the world's remaining 10,000 cheetahs.

Mackenzie leaves for a seven-week internship with Save the Elephants in Samburu this month. Save the Elephants conducts research on elephant behavior and ecology, and works to defend elephants against ivory poachers and traffickers, and end the demand for ivory.

"Elephants are among the most intelligent and sensitive animals on the planet, known for their strongly bonded fam-

ilies and their ability to empathize deeply with one another," says Mackenzie. "The poaching epidemic and ivory trade has been tearing these families apart, leaving behind a dwindling population. Every twenty minutes, an elephant is killed in Africa for its ivory tusks. If we do not do our part to protect these animals, they will be gone within the next few decades."

"In Kenya, in 1960, there were about 160,000 elephants," says Mackenzie's father, Chris, "and it's down to 30,000 or 40,000 now."

Mackenzie is raising funds for her trip through [www.gofundme.com/gyd79xtt](http://www.gofundme.com/gyd79xtt) and hopes the community will lend their support to help secure a future for elephants.

Mackenzie developed a passion for wildlife conservation following a family trip to Kenya in 2012. "Just like it's an everyday thing here to see a deer crossing the road, there it's elephants or lions," she says. "Having seen elephants outside my tent door in Africa, I can't imagine them being gone. I'd hate to look back and tell other generations, 'Yeah we used to have elephants, but we let them die.' It's my personal mission to do something about it."

Mackenzie says her life has been  
*See AFRICA, page 20*



With Conservation Ambassadors, Mackenzie took endangered species like lemurs to schools for educational outreach. *Photo courtesy of Mackenzie Mossing.*

## Almaden Girl Scouts honored with prestigious awards

By **Mariann McGee**  
*Special to the Times*

**B**ronze, Silver and Gold; these represent the highest awards a Girl Scout can earn.

These prestigious awards represent dedication and commitment to Girl Scouting and the community.

The Almaden based scouts received their awards in an inspiring ceremony held at Holy Spirit Church where more than 200 friends and family showed their support for the Girl Scouts being honored.

For many, the leadership and organizational skills, sense of community and commitment

that come from earning these awards can set the foundation for a lifetime of active citizenship.

The scouts that earn awards are poised for leadership throughout their lives and leave a meaningful legacy in their community - and maybe even beyond. The scouts believe the

*See SCOUTS, page 6*

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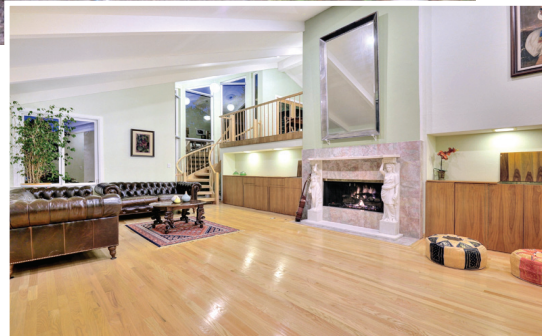
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## Almaden Times

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# Valley Currents

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



Karlie Anderson restored this rose garden: before (left) and after (right). Inset below: Karlie Anderson (center) with helpers Maddie Manriquez (left) and Emily Nickolas (right).

## Renovation project earns Girl Scout Gold Award for Karlie Anderson

Karlie Anderson, a senior at Presentation High School, recently completed her Girl Scout Gold Award. The Gold Award is the Girl Scout equivalent of the Boy Scout Eagle Award.

Karlie chose to renovate the St. Frances Cabrini Parish Rose Garden and the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The project included removing and replacing many dead and overgrown plants with drought tolerant plants, pruning fruit trees, adding wood chips, removing and rebuilding the shrine that housed the statue of Mary, and restoring and repainting the statue.

Before submitting her project proposal, Karlie completed the prerequisites outlined

by Girl Scouts USA. The project itself required at least 80 hours and included identifying an issue, writing up a proposal for approval from the Girl Scout council, putting together a team, and carrying out the project. Karlie and her project advisor, Joan Schenck, worked with Fr. Michael Hendrickson, Pastor at St. Frances Cabrini Church, from project proposal to completion.

Karlie worked on the project for more than 125 hours and led her team over several workdays totaling 160 volunteer hours. Her team consisted of Presentation High School students, St. Frances Cabrini alums, SFC Parishioners and members of the surrounding community.



The statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary before renovation (left), and after (right).

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Times Feature

# Scouts

Continued from page 1  
possibilities are endless.

Service Unit 642 recently honored 53 remarkable Girl Scouts for earning one of these awards. In addition, five outstanding scouts were presented with 10 Year Pins.

The Bronze Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Junior (grades fourth and fifth) can receive. Three troops worked hard to earn this award. Troop 60749, led by Emma Raguine, Suzanne Paulazzo, and Amy Sarringhaus, had eleven girls receive the Bronze Award for their work on the "Get Your Feet in the Game: A Walking Club." Girls in the troop include Alex Sullivan, Catherine Paulazzo, Kayla Gutierrez, Sofia Valdez, Alyssa Hartzheim, Courtney Yick, Kaylin Vasanji, Yong Ooi, Ashley Muraco, Grace Kenyon, and Megan Sarringhaus.

Troop 61372, led by Mariann McGee and Gabriela Guzman, had ten girls receive the award for



There were plenty of smiles from the Girl Scouts being honored recently with Bronze, Silver and Gold awards at Holy Spirit Church.

their work on the "San Jose Family Shelter." These girls are Paige Biester, Faith Fletcher, Natalia Guzman, Rebecca Johnson, Brynn McGee, Sierra Morkal, Hailey Schutt, Anika Sabharwal, Stephanie Stanton, and Chelsey Wang.

Troop 60826, led by Diana

Southern, Tilena Kern, and Tracey Maytum, had sixteen girls earn the award for their work on "Stanford Children's Hospital." The troop consists of Alexia Southern, Audrey Davis, Danielle Toy, Diya Thakkar, Kayla Blunt, Madison Scott, Megan Campagna, Meghan DeVaughn, Meena Thomas,

Miranda Kline, Natalie Enman, Sarah Thompson, Taryn Kern, Lauren Sno, Claudia Zacarias, and Taylor Maytum.

The Silver Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Cadette (middle school) can earn. The projects the girls work on are truly a culmination of many hours of hard work

for the scouts, leaders and advisors who guide them.

Sixteen girls have earned The Silver Award. "Imagination Box" was the project of Brianna Smith and Mari Beazley, from Troop 60881. Their leaders are Marianne Bristol and Amy Keller. Zoe Crowe and Audrey Pesek, from Troop 60041, earned the award for "Enrichment Items for Special Needs Preschoolers". Also from Troop 60041, were Hallie Dugar, Lia MacEwen and Nicole Stadelman, earning the award for their work on "Brasilia Way Land Development." Lesley Pesek, with Jayne Crowe as their project advisor, leads these five girls.

Sammie Keith, from Troop 60147, earned her Silver Award for working on the "Swim Team Record Board". Her leaders are Renay Rosckes and Marie Keith. Mary Nicholson is her project advisor.

Troop 60114, led by Marlene Muraco, Carole Roberts, and Laura Braun, had six scouts earn the award by working on three different projects. Catherine Roberts, Annabel Klaben and Alisha Vasanji worked on the "Los Alamitos Science Garden." Kaylen Tate and Gia Tudish earned the Silver Award for "Golden Gardeners" and Stephanie Braun for "Coloring Books for Kids."

From Troop 60881, Emily Keller and Arianna Renteria earned the Silver for their work on "Toe Bean Towers." The girls are led by Marianne Bristol and Amy Keller. Their project advisor was Jamie Allen.

Ten Year Pin Recipients were also recognized at the ceremony. Troop 60889, led by Heidi Imobersteg, had two Girl Scouts receive this award. They are Taylor Edington and Karoline Imobersteg. Troop leader Judy Renteria, from 61609, had three girls from her troop also receive the award. They are Cassidy Lee, Jessica Nguyen and Emily Renteria.

*Editor's note: To find out more about Girl Scouts, or to find a troop in your area, please contact the Girl Scouts of Northern California at 408.287.4170.*

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## Leland girls selected for Mercury News First Team

Junior Avalon Gook and freshman Nina Flynn have been selected to the Mercury News Girls Water Polo First Team.

The first team is comprised of the top 7 players in Central Coast Section (CCS).

The seven "First Team" players are: Maddy Johnston, Sacred Heart Prep; Malaika Koshy, Sacred Heart Prep; Isabella Mandema, St. Francis; Nina Flynn, Leland; Crystal Huang, Los Gatos; Avalon Gook, Leland; and Crystal McCarrick, St. Francis.

Pictured at right: Freshman **Nina Flynn**, a rising star for Leland Girls Water Polo.



## Chargers defeat Rams to finish third at Wildcat

Leland Chargers Boys Basketball team defeated the Willow Glen Rams in the annual Los Gatos Lions Club Wildcat Shootout, 74-49, to finish third Dec. 11.

The Rams were shocked with a quick start by the Chargers, with Leland up 26-7 by the end of the first quarter and upped that to a commanding 42-13 advantage. In the second half, Willow Glen could only cut their lead by four points.

Los Gatos Lions Club raises funds for a variety of project and local charities to help and support the community. Last year, the club raised \$160,000 to give back to the community and to Lions sponsored International programs.

## Leland Chargers Boys Basketball defeat Pioneer

In a non-league Boys Basketball challenge between the Leland Chargers and the host Pioneer Mustangs on Dec. 22, Leland's basketball to charge of the game over Pioneer with a 63-47 win.

Leland senior James Kelbert led the team with impressive 29 points. With the victory, Leland improves its record to 5-2 on the campaign.

Leland Boys Basketball national rank has moved +787 and the state rank has moved +66.



## Leland Chargers Scoring

No.	Athlete Name	Points
<b>Team Totals</b>		<b>63</b>
15	Anthony Lin (Sr)	6
20	Justin Wong (Sr)	3
21	Matt Myrick (Sr)	7
22	Josh McMillan (Jr)	3
24	Jonathan Liu (Sr)	2
31	James Kelbert (Sr)	29
32	Joseph Chen (Fr)	7
40	Doug White (Jr)	3
42	Raihan Bal (Sr)	3



## GIRLS SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS

AGES 4 to 14

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**COUNTY REPORT: EL NIÑO GOOD NEWS FOR DISPOSABLE AND HOMELESS - PAGE 5**

**RELIEF TRAFFIC LIGHTS 'STUCKUP' AT UNCLE BEN'S AND WILLOW ST. - PAGE 5**

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### Willow Glen Times

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#### ROBOTICS WIZARDS

Wizbotics team strive for a greener, cleaner, and zero-trash future

The Wizbotics are a Willow Glen-based robotics team that competes in the 2015-2016 season. The team is made up of students from Willow Glen Middle School and Willow Glen High School. They are currently working on a project to create a robot that can sort and recycle trash. The team is also working on a project to create a robot that can detect and remove litter from the ground.

**Six-story apartment proposed for Almaden Road 'too big'**

By William Bolten

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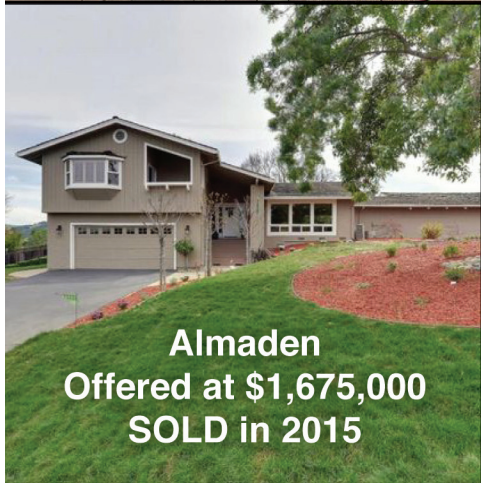




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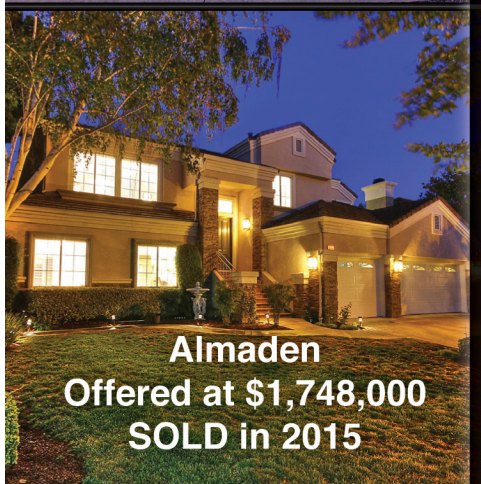
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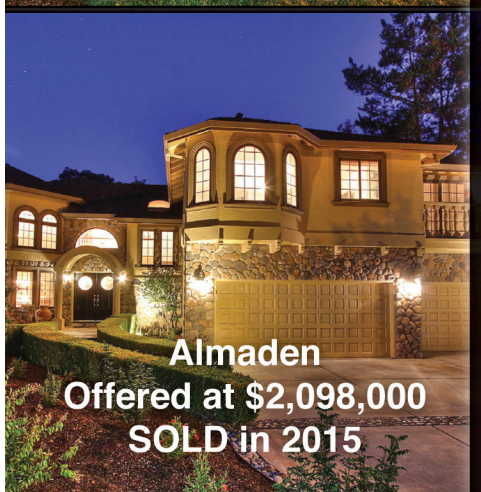
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## CONNECTING YOUTH AND NATURE

# Joy Barney of Almaden Valley wins national award

## US Forest Service's Barney inspires others for careers as land stewards

By John C. Heil III  
*Special to the Times*

Joy Barney of Almaden Valley has dedicated her life to connecting youth to the land working for the US Forest Service. In the process, Barney has touched many lives; so it comes as no surprise that winning a national award for her, is all about inspiring others.

The Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit's (LTBMU) Conservation Education Program Specialist since 2007, Barney received regional and national recognition with the *Gifford Pinchot Pacific Southwest Region* and the *National Interpreter and Conservation Educator of the Year Award for 2015*. Named in honor of the first Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, the annual award is a national honor given to employees for achievement in environmental interpretation and conservation education.

"I hope that winning this award will help inspire others that I am mentoring to continue on with this kind of work," said Barney. "It is important to see that the Forest Service feels like this is important work."

"The reason this is such a big accomplishment for Joy, is that she doesn't even have interpretive services in her job description – she is a conservation education specialist," said Timothy Williams, regional coordinator for the Interpretive Services Program (conservation education specialist). "When she delivers with the conservation education program, she excels at telling the story and interpreting why it is so important to connect youth with nature."

"She is very deserving of this award and I am thrilled to get to work with her on a regular basis," said Beth Quandt, science outreach coordinator for the Lake Tahoe Unified School District. "She has been

instrumental in bringing so many wonderful programs to the students of the Lake Tahoe Unified School District."

Barney, 52, always had a keen interest in wildlife or being in nature from camping trips in the summer growing up. The Almaden Valley native said that was where she felt the most whole.

After receiving a bachelor's of science degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology from UC Davis in 1985, Barney started her career with the Forest Service shortly thereafter as a forestry technician in silviculture. Even though she wasn't technically in a Conservation Education position, she started programs such as the Little Children's Forest in Groveland and Earth Day events on the Stanislaus National Forest. She picked up her love of interpretation on the Pinecrest Ranger District with wildflower walks, guided hikes and leading campfire programs.

At the LTBMU, Barney created a partnership group called South Tahoe Environmental Education Coalition (STEEC, <http://www.steec.org>). Under her leadership, these groups work together to provide high-quality, standards-based education programs for 2,500 children annually. Other programs she manages include Ski with a Ranger, Winter Trek and Kokanee Salmon Education, serving over 2,000 other forest visitors. In addition, Barney started a successful high school program - Generation Green of Lake Tahoe, providing volunteer and employment opportunities for diverse youth in the Lake Tahoe area. Due to the success of these programs, she expanded to the Eldorado National Forest.

"Joy's tireless energy, enthusiasm and creativity contribute greatly to the success of the conservation education program," said LTBMU Forest Supervisor Jeff Marsolais.



On their first day of work on an eight-week summer work program and transformation in 2013, Joy Barney (center) introduces Generation Green crew members to the importance of data collection in this continued restoration watershed assessment project, combining community service, academic achievement, environmental stewardship, and career exploration. Photo by Megan Dee



Joy Barney receives Gifford Pinchot Pacific Southwest Region and the National Interpreter and Conservation Educator of the Year Award for 2015. Photo by Lisa Herron. Below: Barney helps facilitate the Return to Echo Summit event in 2014, hosted by the Eldorado National Forest and Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit where Generation Green crew members met and were inspired by American athletes at Echo Summit for the 1968 Summer Olympics. The crew members were able to understand the importance of this newly designated historic landmark, while learning of the Civil Rights issues at that current time. Photo by Megan Dee



"She excels in creating partnerships that foster meaningful connections for students and has done a tremendous job developing engaging science programs that build opportunities for future employment.

In the process of all her work on the LTBMU, Barney has inspired others to do similar work.

"Joy has led me to my current passion and pursuit of my profession in conservation education," said Megan Dee, conservation education assistant for the LTBMU. "I would never have continued in the Forest Service without her extraordinary leadership and mentorship, which is also the case for many of the students she has worked with.

"She is an inspiration to all who work with her – partners, educators, students, parents, employees, and more. Joy and I both have consistently reminded successful Generation Green students that we aren't losing the students, but the world is gaining them. This is based on our high school model Generation Green post-graduation and post-youth summer internship. It is not just a summer job to the students; it can be life-transformational, and it is Joy who leads them to learning

how to achieve, thus creating future land stewards and advantageous citizens of society."

One of Barney's mentors – Jim Oftedal, the regional outreach and recruitment and workforce diversity program manager recalls Joy providing one of her students a bicycle to get to and from work. "She took a big sister approach," said Oftedal, who helped Barney start Generation Green on the LTBMU. "That student she helped is now a permanent employee with the Forest Service.

"Joy is a giver," said Oftedal. "The Generation Green program is more than a typical 40-hour work week. She really is a special woman. I can't say enough about her. She is a very humble person. She has a wonderful smile and I am happy for her. She deserves this award."

"If I was independently wealthy, I would still do this job," said Barney.

Barney has been married to her husband, Paul since 1991. They have an 18-year old daughter Jera who Barney says "has had to share me with my generation green students." When she does get some spare time, she and her husband like to go sailing in Monterey and up as far as Canada.

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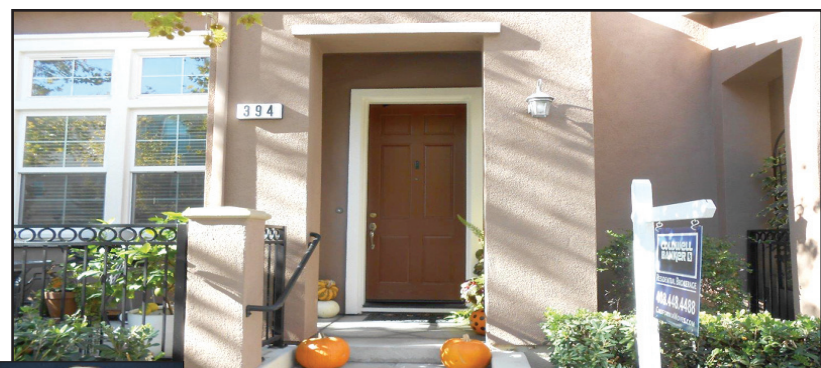
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The Goss Real Estate Group &  
Keller Williams Bay Area Estates,  
we want to wish you a safe and  
*Happy New Year!*

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WE ASSISTED WITH THEIR HOME PURCHASES AND SALES IN 2015!

3122 Allen Way - Buyer - **SOLD**  
3713 Macbeth Drive - Seller - **SOLD**  
3761 Farm Hill Blvd - Seller - **SOLD**  
0 Catherine Street - Buyer - **SOLD**  
200 Madrona Road - Buyer - **SOLD**  
101 Dover Court - Seller - **SOLD**  
4857 W. 136th Street - Seller - **SOLD**  
3292 Kathleen Street - Buyer - **SOLD**  
631 Teatree Court - Buyer - **SOLD**  
45 E. Central Ave - Buyer - **SOLD**  
917 Apricot Avenue - Buyer - **SOLD**  
18375 Serra Avenida - Seller - **SOLD**  
14060 Jasper Street - Buyer - **SOLD**  
4601 Margery Drive - Seller - **SOLD**  
1423 Annapolis Way - Buyer - **SOLD**  
392 Springpark Circle - Buyer - **SOLD**  
1480 Samedra Street - Seller - **SOLD**  
4740 Falstaff Avenue - Buyer - **SOLD**  
3455 Bathgate Lane - Seller - **SOLD**  
1377 Sprucewood Drive - Buyer - **SOLD**

5311 Rimwood Drive - Buyer - **SOLD**  
1085 Tasman Drive - Buyer - **SOLD**  
4983 Sandy Lane - Buyer - **SOLD**  
9 Terfidia Lane - Seller - **SOLD**  
3212 Tenley Drive - Buyer - **SOLD**  
1141 Nicklaus Avenue - Seller - **SOLD**  
3713 Macbeth Drive - Buyer - **SOLD**  
2071 Alviso Adobe Court - Seller - **SOLD**  
5126 Narvaez Avenue - Buyer - **SOLD**  
819 Royal Palm Court - Seller - **SOLD**  
2845 Brittan Avenue - Buyer - **SOLD**  
1552 Gulf Avenue - Seller - **SOLD**  
2025 Flickinger Way - Seller - **SOLD**  
19400 Beardsley Road - Buyer - **SOLD**  
1151 Silver Maple Lane - Buyer - **SOLD**  
1590 Calle Stuarda - Seller - **SOLD**  
3121 Bay Road - Buyer - **SOLD**  
17411 Serene Drive - Seller - **SOLD**  
38541 Vancouver Cmn - Buyer - **SOLD**  
4221 Briarglen Drive - Seller - **SOLD**

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Times Features

# 'Pension poaching' scams targeting military veteran seniors, survivors

Attorney General Kamala D. Harris has issued a consumer alert regarding scams targeting California seniors who served in the military and their survivors.

"California's veterans have made extraordinary sacrifices to keep our nation safe and uphold our most sacred values and freedoms," said Attorney General Harris. "Sadly, many of our senior veterans are

being targeted by scam artists seeking to take advantage of them for a quick profit.

These reported "pension poaching" scams prey on veterans and target the financial assistance offered through the Veterans Administration Aid and Attendance Program, which provides pension benefits to financially disadvantaged wartime veterans and their survivors over 65 years of age.

Specifically, pension poaching scams involve unscrupulous insurance agents and their representatives posing as unpaid volunteers or accredited VA representatives who offer to help seniors apply for VA pension benefits. These insurance agents and their representatives lure seniors into buying an annuity or setting up an irrevocable trust to create a false appearance of financial hardship by attempting to conceal the senior's assets.

Insurance agents and their representatives charge high fees for these services, including undisclosed sales commissions that are paid to the purported volunteer. Targeted seniors may not be fully aware of the consequences of moving their assets into an annuity or irrevocable trust, such as strict withdrawal limitations leaving them without access to funds they may actually need for their care.

Although a VA pension benefits application based on false financial need may be successful, those who receive this benefit may face significant financial and legal con-

**Specifically, pension poaching scams involve unscrupulous insurance agents and their representatives posing as unpaid volunteers or accredited VA representatives who offer to help seniors apply for VA pension benefits.**

sequences if the concealed funds are discovered, including repayment of benefit amounts received.

Seniors who receive other VA or government-sponsored benefits that require disclosure of funds held in annuities and irrevocable trusts are especially vulnerable to reversal of their VA pension benefit.

*Editor's note: If you are approached by someone offering to help you apply for VA pension benefits and you would incur any costs or fees in connection with the service being offered, contact your local VA to determine whether this assistance is reputable. Be wary of sharing personal information over the phone. VA representatives will tell you what you need to know and the advice is free. A directory of VA centers is available at [www.va.gov/directory/guide/vetcenter.asp](http://www.va.gov/directory/guide/vetcenter.asp).*

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## Happy New Year 2016!

Carol Camilli Montgomery is celebrating 15 years of selling real estate in the Bay Area.

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Sincerely,  
Carol Camilli-Montgomery  
408-209-7809



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Times **Community News**

# Major flood protection levee project gets critical go-ahead

The U.S. Army Corps Chief of Engineers signed a report recommending Congress authorize the first phase of the South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Project for construction.

The Santa Clara Valley Water District and State Coastal Conservancy have been working in partnership with the Army Corps for more than 10 years on this major flood risk management and ecosystem restoration project that will protect Santa Clara County communities ringing the southern part of the San Francisco Bay from tidal flooding and rising sea levels.

"Today's important signing brings us a step closer to protecting the lives, property and businesses of those who live along the southern part of the San Francisco Bay," said Santa Clara Valley Water District board chair Gary Kremen. "The support of U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein and U.S. Rep. Mike Honda and others have helped us come this far and will help us complete this important project."

The project includes construction of 4 miles of engineered levees, restoration of 2,900 acres of tidal marsh habitat, reduction of flood risk for about 5,500 people, protection of the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility that serves 1.4 million people as well as Silicon Valley businesses, and protection of State Route 237, a major Silicon Valley artery.

"Santa Clara County is an economic engine for the region, the state and the country," said Carl Guardino, CEO of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group. "Working together to invest in protecting the homes and businesses here means we can safeguard the people and the economy during potential disasters."

*Editor's note: The Santa Clara Valley Water District manages an integrated water resources system that includes the supply of clean, safe water, flood protection and stewardship of streams on behalf of Santa Clara County's nearly 1.9 million residents.*

**"Today's important signing brings us a step closer to protecting the lives, property and businesses of those who live along the southern part of the San Francisco Bay," said Santa Clara Valley Water District board chair Gary Kremen.**



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**CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC**  
6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120. Pastor, Rev. Dr. Michele Rogers Brigham. 408 268-0243  
www.AlmadenCongregational.org  
We are a welcoming Church engaged in progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local Invision Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco Night Ministry, Second Harvest Food Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End Poverty.  
Worship 9:00AM, Sunday School 10:00 AM Sundays. 1st Sundays in Worship: Holy Communion; 2nd Sunday in Worship: Folk Choir; 3rd Sundays at Coffee Hour: Round Table Disc.  
4th Sundays in Worship: Blessing of Birthdays/Anniversaries/other "joy" Occasions. Tuesday, AA Meetings, 8:15-9:15 PM. Wednesday, 9:30 AM., Women's Study Group

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
5351 Carter Ave., San Jose 95118 408.265.5837  
www.bibleroad.org  
We strive to be a group of Christians that love and honor God and Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We assemble each Sunday to encourage each other through singing, studying, praying and sharing in the Lord's supper. Simple—just like what one reads about in the New Testament. Bible class at 9:30 AM  
Worship at 10:30 AM  
Located in south San Jose near Kooser Rd. and Camden Ave. (behind the Almaden Valley Athletic Club). Come make new Christian friends!

**EAST VALLEY CHURCH**  
We are a Multicultural Christian Community committed to making Christ known to our Neighbors, Community and World.  
Sunday Schedule: Worship 10am, Sunday School for all ages 8:30am, Coffee and Conversation 9:30am  
Childcare is provided for all our Sunday Services. Uplifting music, Biblical teaching, ministries for Children, Youth, College & Career, Small Groups for all adults, Ministries to Men, Women, Seniors, Celebrate Recovery (Please see website for details and meeting times www.eastvalleychurch.com )  
Community-Life Pastor (Youth/College & Career) – Pastor Pat Boyd, Community Life Pastor (Small Groups/Christian Education) – Pastor Alvin Lin, Children's Ministry Director – Julie Garcia, Celebrate Recovery Leader – Anne Friend. We are located at 2827 Flint Ave (Between Tully & Norwood) San Jose, CA 95148, Phone 408-238-0231, e-mail info@eastvalleychurch.com We are associated with Converge Worldwide www.convergeworldwide.org

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN**  
6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. 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 10:30AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.

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

**FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN**  
Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.com Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a message that is relevant to real life, based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include

Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips. Come, Make a Difference and feel the difference God can make in your life!

**HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Faith.Knowledge.Community - this is our promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office. Information on Faith Formation for children and adults can be obtained by calling our Catechetical Office at 408-997-5115. Get in the loop with our 3sixty High School Youth Ministry by calling 408-997-5106. Holy Spirit School serves grades Pre-K through 8th, and is located at 1198 Redmond Avenue. You can reach the school office at 408-268-0794.

**SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in

Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call 1+(408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www.churchstanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.

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

Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM, 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth Mass  
St. Francis of Assisi Gathering Hall  
Sunday 9:00 AM, Sunday 11:00AM, Igbo Mass - Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM  
Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road: Sunday 9:30 AM  
The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium):  
Sunday 8:15 AM  
For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

**THE POINT CHURCH**  
www.ThePoint.Church  
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.

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

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<p><b>2016 DODGE DART SE 4 DOOR SEDAN W/6-SPEED AUTOMATIC, A/C, UCONNECT, BLUETOOTH, KEYLESS ENTRY &amp; MORE</b></p> <p>27 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM</p>  <p>MSRP ..... \$20,135          DEALER DISCOUNT ..... -\$3,886          SALE PRICE ..... \$16,249          CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC CONSUMER CASH ..... -\$1,250</p> <p><b>NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;"><b>\$14,999</b></p> <p>3 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE #625597, 625598, 625603</p>	<p><b>2015 DODGE JOURNEY AVP</b></p> <p>15 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM</p>  <p>MSRP ..... \$21,490          DEALER DISCOUNT ..... -\$2,991          SALE PRICE ..... \$18,499          CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BONUS CASH ..... -\$500          CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH ..... -\$2,000          CHRYSLER YEAR-END BONUS CASH ..... -\$500</p> <p><b>NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;"><b>\$15,999</b></p> <p>1 AT THIS NET PRICE #735290</p>	<p><b>2016 RAM PROMASTER CITY WAGON 4-DOOR, AUTOMATIC &amp; MORE!</b></p> <p>15 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM</p>  <p>MSRP ..... \$25,055          DEALER DISCOUNT ..... -\$5,758          SALE PRICE ..... \$19,297          RAM CALIF. 2015 BC CONSUMER CASH ..... -\$1,000          RAM UPEH REBATE* ..... -\$500</p> <p><b>NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES</b></p> <p style="font-size: 2em; color: red;"><b>\$17,777</b></p> <p>1 AT THIS NET PRICE #806258  <small>*PURCHASER MUST APPLY FOR BUSINESS USE THROUGH THE DEALERSHIP SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS.</small></p>
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 SALE PRICE ..... \$20,277  
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 CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC RETAIL BONUS CASH ..... -\$1,000  
 CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC BONUS CASH ..... -\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$17,777**

4 AT THIS NET PRICE #135604, 135603, 135600, 138121.

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Times Arts

## ‘Pippin’ production to include circus-inspired acrobatics

By Sean Eastwood  
Times Staff Writer

John Rubinstein, who played the starring role in Broadway’s “Pippin” as a young man, returns to the stage in a revival of the musical Jan. 5-10 at San Jose’s Center for the Performing Arts.

This time, Rubinstein plays King Charlemagne, the stern and out-of-touch father of the young lad he originally played on Broadway. The show is directed by Tony Award-winner Diane Paulus of “Hair” fame.

“Pippin” tells the story of a young prince on a death-defying journey to find meaning in his existence. The new production is directed by Tony Award winner Diane Paulus (Hair).

“Pippin,” the most nominated Broadway show of 2013, won four 2013 Tony® Awards including Best Revival of a Musical, four Drama Desk Awards, seven Outer Critic Circle Awards, and the Drama League Award.

What makes the Broadway San Jose production special is the circus-themed acrobatics in which Pippin performs several acrobatics numbers that Rubinstein never performed in the original stage production. “I was never asked to do acrobatics, and I’m grateful for that because I know how hard it



is to do,” said Rubinstein. He said it’s a “rare and wonderful treat” to return to the show in which he made his Broadway debut.

“Pippin” will play at San Jose’s Center for the Performing Arts (255 Almaden Blvd.) for a limited engagement from January 5–10 2016. Tickets are available online at ticketmaster.com, in-person at the City National Civic Theatre Box Office (150 West San Carlos Street), or by calling 800-982-ARTS (2787).

Ticket prices are subject to change without notice. The performance schedule for the San Jose engagement of “Pippin” is as follows: Tuesday, January 5 at 7:30 p.m.; Wednesday, January 6 at 7:30 p.m.; Thursday, January 7 at 7:30 p.m.; Friday, January 8 at 8 p.m.; Saturday, January 9 at 2 & 8 p.m.; Sunday, January 10 at 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

For more information on the upcoming show in January 2016, visit [broadwaysanjose.com](http://broadwaysanjose.com) or [PippinTheMusical.com](http://PippinTheMusical.com).

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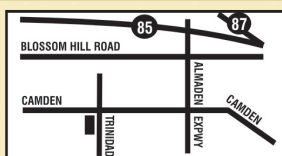
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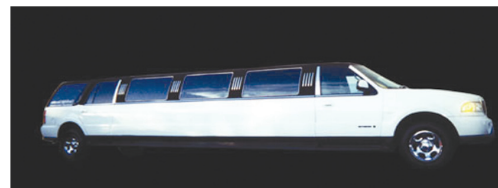
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# Living trusts: an out-of-state trustee may work in your situation

By Donald J. DeVries

*Special to the Times*

This week's question:

My wife and I are in the process of setting up our living trust. We would like to name our son, Jack, as Successor Trustee after we are gone, but he lives in Florida. We live here in Almaden. Can we list Jack as our Successor Trustee? (His sister may be very unhappy about that.)

Henry H.

Almaden Valley

Dear Henry:

You have emailed in a very good question, Henry. And I might add that this is a very important topic—the selection of a Successor Trustee after you and your wife are gone.

Since you have indicated that you and your wife live in Almaden, the “principal place of administration” of the trust is right here in Santa Clara County. Of course, you could move to another city which might well change things, but, for the time being, the “location” or “situs” of the trust is here.

Assuming that your son in Florida agrees to serve as Successor Trustee after you and your wife are gone, it seems to me that there is no problem with him serving as Successor Trustee.

California Probate Code §17003(a) states that: “By accepting the trusteeship of a trust having its principal place of administration in this state the trustee submits personally to the jurisdiction of the court under this division.”

And subsection (b) of the above section states that: “To the extent of their interests in the trust, all beneficiaries of a trust having its principal place of administration in this state are subject to the jurisdiction of the court under this division.”

Almaden Times readers can read the above provisions for themselves by heading to their computer and entering the quoted California Probate code provisions in their system.

Related provisions are also interesting, such as California Probate §17000 that provides: “Subject matter jurisdiction. (a) The superior court having jurisdiction over the

trust pursuant to this part has exclusive jurisdiction of proceedings concerning the internal affairs of trusts.”

And subsection (b) of §17000 states that the superior court having jurisdiction over the trust pursuant to this part has concurrent jurisdiction of the following:

Actions and proceedings to determine the existence of trusts.

Actions and proceedings by or against creditors or debtors of trusts.

Other actions and proceedings involving trustees and third persons.

So, Henry, it seems to me that you can see that you and your wife have every right to name your son as Successor Trustee of your family living trust after you and your wife are gone, even if he lives in Florida. Of course, he might have a problem in “moving” the trust to Florida, since Santa Clara County would have been the principal place of administration of the trust.

And it seems to me that even though his sister might be unhappy with him serving as Successor Trustee, there is not much she can do about it, all other things being normal. We are assuming that your son would be a good Successor Trustee, but merely being a non-resident of California is probably not a disqualifying factor.

By the way, if you have your computer on and are reviewing some of these provisions anyway, §17200 is very interesting when it talks about “Proceedings Concerning Trusts”. One can see a long list of various issues that are properly brought by trustees of trusts to the attention of the court.

And if you would like to see our Superior Court in action involving trusts, you could visit the Superior Court at 191 North First Street, San Jose, for yourself. Department 10, fourth floor, at present typically hears proceedings involving trusts most days of the week and the proceedings are open to the public.

That department may also be hearing other types of cases as well, such as probate cases, guardianships, conservatorships, and other types of cases. Although cases can be

**It seems to me that even though his sister might be unhappy with him serving as Successor Trustee, there is not much she can do about it, all other things being normal.**

a bit tedious at times, I think you will agree that we have an excellent system of justice.

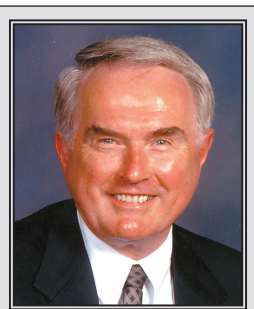
Thank you for your question, Henry, and

keep up the good work in getting that living trust done for you and your wife. Your family will appreciate it very much.

Donald J. DeVries

Almaden Valley

You can reach Mr. DeVries with your questions by email at [don@almadenvalleylawyers.com](mailto:don@almadenvalleylawyers.com), with “Almaden Times” in the subject line, fax at (408)268-6502, telephone at (408)268-9500, or mail at DeVries Law Office at 6475 Camden Avenue, Suite 200, San Jose, CA 95120. Your name will not be used. No attorney-client relationship is created by these articles.



## Ask The Lawyer

Donald J. DeVries,  
Attorney at Law

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## VTA January 2016 Fare Program Modifications

### When will Day Passes change?

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

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

### What is Clipper®?

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



### Where can I obtain a Clipper Card?

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

Riders may also purchase a Clipper card from:

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

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

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

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

### Where can I find out more information?

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



Times Feature

# Africa

*Continued from page 1*

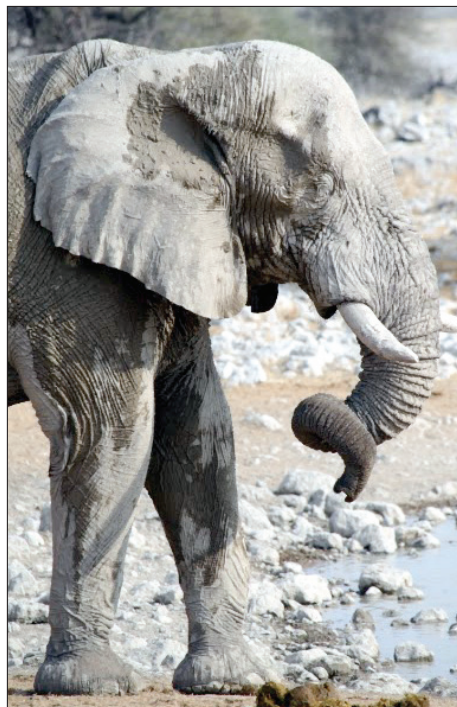
molded by a fierce love for animals, both domestic and wild. When she was younger, she would operate on her stuffed animals and dreamed of becoming a veterinarian. Her focus shifted during college when she realized that although many people want to become veterinarians, relatively few dedicate their lives to saving wildlife.

Helping animals runs in Mackenzie's family. Her mother, Pam, volunteers at an animal care center and fosters dogs for rescue groups. "If I can find a way to secure a home for a dog that really needs one, I feel fulfilled," she says. "Dogs and cats round out a human's life; they're an important part of the family."

Chris is a strong supporter of wildlife conservation. At a Wildlife Conservation Network Expo, he learned about the Cheetah Conservation Fund and met its founder, Dr. Laurie Marker, a Leland High School graduate. Hearing about Mackenzie, Marker encouraged Chris to have her apply for an internship, and it changed the course of her life.

Soon, Mackenzie was working with orphaned or injured cheetahs in captivity, and tracking those in the field. As she had experience with animal husbandry from working at a wildlife rescue center in San Luis Obispo, she helped care for 40 cheetahs in captivity, making sure the ones to be released were learning how to hunt.

"My favorite part of the trip was going out



Elephant populations have dwindled in Africa. Photo courtesy of Mackenie Mossing.

with radio telemetry equipment and tracking the wild cheetahs," she says. "You literally have a stick for protection between you and the cheetah. We would check their body condition to determine if the cheetah was hunting okay and getting water, and see if she made a den and had babies, and was interacting with other cheetahs and record the data. If they were thin, we'd bring them meat, or note if they killed an antelope."

She also compiled a spreadsheet covering 20 years of 'rewilded' cheetahs, including their territory range, kills during the rainy season, and both male and female interaction. "I wanted to learn as much as I could," she says, "and I'm proud of what I took from that experience. Ever since, I've been itching to go back. I just loved it there so much."

In October, Mackenzie attended the Wildlife Conservation Network Expo with her parents and met leading conservationists, including Dr. Iain Douglas-Hamilton, the founder of Save the Elephants, who encouraged her to apply for an internship. "The speeches the conservationists give about their work are so compelling you want to cry, or get excited, and just do something," she says.

"Mackenzie's always been an animal lover," says Pam. "We lived in England for seven years and bought our daughters two guinea pigs. At a year-old, Mackenzie was carrying them around, and caring for them, so I knew she had a passion for animals even then." Through the years, they've had dogs, cats, a turtle, hamsters, goldfish, and a horse. "Mackenzie always wanted animals to be a part of her life," says Pam, "and I've always encouraged it."

"I was the one who would convince my parents we needed another dog or cat," says Mackenzie. She currently has two kittens: Bo and Lennon, as well as Emma, an Australian Shepherd, and a red paint horse named Rascal.

At age 10, Mackenzie convinced her parents to let her lease Rascal. "Even on cold, stormy nights, she was determined to take care of the horse, cleaning out the stall, and

grooming him," says Chris. "With kids, you try things like piano lessons, but with that horse, I could see it was something she really wanted to do."

She ended up buying him, and has had him for 11 years. "He's 29 now, and not rideable, but I'm devoted to him," she says. "I pinch my money for grain or blankets; I care more about buying them than my own clothes. Horses teach you about responsibility and hard work, but it's all worthwhile. Rascal's been there for me during my hardest times in life, and I'm repaying the favor."

Mackenzie got her first taste of animal husbandry with Conservation Ambassadors. After they attended a Cal Poly Vet Club meeting with a beaver, fox, and other rescued animals, she knew she had to work with them. Mackenzie secured a summer internship with them and soon lived in their provided housing with kangaroos hopping around the yard. She spent her summer working 50 to 60 hours a week in 100 degree heat caring for about 200 animals, but she still enjoyed it. After the summer, she was hired as a staff member.

"Most of the animals came from illegal confiscations," she says, "like a monkey who was thrown away in a dumpster." They had a tiger, bears, mountain lions, birds of prey, including eagles with shattered wings, orphaned raccoons, servals, macaws, and reptiles. Mackenzie says she became close with the animals, and especially those used for education. "We went to schools and brought endangered species like lemurs with us. Our philosophy was that people are more

*See AFRICA, next page*

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Times **Features**



Mackenzie developed a passion for working with wild animals through her experience with Conservation Ambassadors. *Photo courtesy of Mackenie Mossing.*

## Africa

*Continued from previous page*

likely to want to protect animals they have personal connections with.”

Before working there, Mackenzie wanted to be a horse veterinarian. “Within a few months, I saw that there was a whole other world I hadn’t even explored,” she says, “and animals I didn’t know existed that needed help.” She learned how to care for animals in captivity, what their lives are like in the wild, and why people need to protect them. “It completely changed my career goals,” she says.

Recently, Mackenzie did an internship with Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley, caring for animals that are triaged and released like squirrels, possums and birds of prey. She also released squirrels and doves back into the areas they

were found.

“The world’s in desperate need of people who are willing to dedicate their lives to saving what remains of Earth’s wilderness... and our wildlife,” she says, “so that generations to come can also appreciate their beauty...before they’re lost forever.”

Mackenzie hopes to learn more about conservation research and education, reducing human/elephant conflict, and methods for battling poaching. “It will be nice to work with people who have the same interests I do,” she says.

“I hope she finds work that’s fulfilling,” says Pam, “and helps to save these creatures, which are on the verge of extinction.”

“It’s intrinsically satisfying doing something that makes your heart sing,” says Mackenzie. “In the end, you’ll feel the most rewarded by seeing the positive changes you can make in the world.”



At Cheetah Conservation Fund, Mackenzie worked with orphaned or injured cheetahs in captivity, and tracked those in the field. *Photo courtesy of Mackenie Mossing.*



Almaden Valley’s Castillero Middle School’s Choir and Dance performance was well received at St. Joseph’s Seasons of Hope Concert Series last month.

## Castillero’s Choir and Dance performance well received at St. Joseph’s concert series

Almaden Valley’s Castillero Middle School’s Choir and Dance performance was well received at St. Joseph’s Seasons of Hope Concert Series last month.

Participating in the event were 160 students from Castillero participated in this event, 130 from Concert Chorale, and 30 from Advanced Dance and Dance Infinita.

Castillero students raised more than \$3500 to help support the cathedral’s community outreach to the vulnerable and homeless. Each holiday season, the school helps those in need.

Concert Chorale was directed by Mr. David Finch, who has been the choir instructor at Castillero for 13 years, and the Advanced Dance and Dance Infinite

was directed by Michelle Crivello, who has been the dance instructor at Castillero for 23 years.

**Upcoming Events for Castillero Choir and Dance ensembles:**

A Rising Star performance will be held on February 12, 2016 at the Montgomery Theater. This is a fundraiser to help support Castillero’s choir and dance programs.

Vallejo Competition is scheduled on April 30, 2016 at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom. This is a choir competition for Mixed Chorus II with park performances by Advance Dance and Dance Infinita.

Music in the Parks LA Competition will be held May 13-15, 2016 in Anaheim at Disneyland and California Adventure featuring Castillero Choir and Dance competition.

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**Holy Spirit Parish to hold Mass on New Year's Day**

Holy Spirit Parish will hold Mass for Mary, Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation on Friday, Jan. 1st at 9 a.m. The Parish is located at: 1200 Redmond Ave., 408.997.5101 [www.holyspiritchurch.org](http://www.holyspiritchurch.org)

**Library hosts Holiday STEAM activities for kids**

Almaden Library hosted a science, technology, engineering, art and math with a holiday twist for kids ages 3 and older on Dec. 21.

STEAM projects included building paper holiday trees, making snowflake art and creating a unique holiday ornament with Strawbees drinking straw connectors.

Editor's note: STEAM education refers to the areas of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics.



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