HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE HALLOWEEN - FROM THE STAFF OF THE ALMADEN TIMES



Almaden valley since 1986 Almadentimes.com

Lemon Aid: Almaden Valley reaches out to Sonoma Co. fire victims

By Wanda Hillsbery Special to the Times

Imaden Supporting Sonoma County: that's what I hope people get when they see this," says Gigi Gobbett, who grew up in the Coffey Park area of Santa Rosa, a neighborhood that has been completely devastated by the wildfires north of the bay.

Although she lives in Almaden, Gobbett still owns her childhood home in Santa Rosa, which burnt to the ground during the first night of the fires. Her renters, a family of five, ran for safety at three in the morning, but they lost everything.

"The people who aren't impacted want to help. How could you not? My old neighborhood is entirely gone. People are dead," says Gobbert. Her sister has also been hard hit, having been evacu-

ated from her home six days ago, and not knowing when she can return.

In response to hearing about tragedies like Gigi's and worse, the Crossgates community in Almaden Valley came together on Saturday, October 14, to benefit the fire victims in Napa, Sonoma, and Mendocino County by selling lemonade and cookies.

Resident Michelle Takeuchi, who spearheaded the effort, spread the word through friends and Facebook. She was soon joined by a large group of volunteers offering "Lemon Aid."

The volunteers quickly set up lemonade stands on both sides of McAbee to catch cars going in both directions. Many drivers just pulled up and made donations, skipping the refreshments. Walkers stopped to chat and dogs sniffed at the treats lined up on



The volunteers quickly set up lemonade stands on both sides of McAbee to catch cars going in both directions, in order to raise funds to help fire victims.

the table. Twelve years ago, this same neighborhood raised \$2000 at their lemonade stands to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Resident Michaela Harrel who was manning the lemonade stand, said that when her mom told her about it, she wanted to heln

"This is about [feeling] heartache for our neighbors and stepping See LEMON AID, page 6



Tristan Foster's imagination comes to life in his screaminducing haunted house. *Photos by Lorraine Gabbert*

IT'S A SCREAM

Haunted house mixes charity fundraising with pure terror

By Lorraine Gabbert Senior Staff Writer

Inflatable ghosts and a towering figure reminiscent of the Legend of Sleepy Hollow greet visitors upon the front lawn, beckoning them inside. By the front door, a guest book sits ready...but as the writer begins to leave a message, a skeletal hand grabs theirs.

In the entryway, a gruesome butler and souls trapped within picture frames shriek, making the faint of heart consider turning back. Stepping through a sliding door to the covered patio brings those who dare face-to-face with a haunting girl on a swing and a tombstone topped with skulls...

This is all part of Almaden resident Tristan Foster's imagination come-to-life, in a scream-inducing haunted house. From a horrifying nursery to a terrifying torture chamber, scares await around every turn, transfixing the eye in their intricacy, while raising the hairs on one's neck.

Foster, a junior at Bellarmine College Prep, enjoys playing in See HAUNT, page 8



Cursed pirate treasure awaits greedy beholders in this spooky tableau from the haunted house.

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Lots of school parades and don't miss the School on October 27. Enjoy the season!



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Passionate musicians raised more than \$6000 for Rice University's Hurricane Relief Fund.



Almaden Music Program benefit concert raises funds for Houston Hurricane Harvey victims

By Sean Eastwood

Times Staff Writer
benefit concert for Houston
Hurricane Harvey victims
was recently held with
some of Almaden Valley's most
passionate and compassionate musicians.

Saint Anthony Catholic Church provided a beautiful venue for the fundraiser.

Donations for the one night exceeded \$3,000 for the people of Houston. Donations collected in recent weeks and pledged donations in support of this cause total more than \$6,000. The money has been sent directly to Rice University's Hurricane Relief Fund, where every dollar will help Hurricane Harvey victims in the Rice community rebuild their lives.

"I cannot fully express the extent my gratitude for your generosity and compassion, and I am sure that our friends in Houston will be thankful as well," said Ping Hsieh, President of the Leland Music Program. "Thank you to everyone for making this concert a success and a night to remember."

Almaden **Times**

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Valley Currents

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

Run, Turkey, Run 5K/10K event to be held on Thanksgiving morning

By Sean Eastwood *Times Staff Writer*

The annual Almaden Valley "Run, Turkey, Run" is a Thanksgiving tradition that draws people from all over California and beyond.

This year marks the sixth year for the 5k/10k walk/run benefiting the Bret Harte Middle School Booster Club which supports Bret Harte Middle School students thru its 20 athletic teams, lunch time clubs and the PE Department.

"Run, Turkey, Run is a convenient and financially family friendly event compared to other crowded and expensive races," said Rikki Quevedo, Race Co-

ordinato

The running route begins at the Leland High School Parking lot and proceeds along Camden Ave and the Alamitos Creek Trail.

Quevedo said the event is accepting new sponsors. If you have a business or have contact with a business that would be interested in supporting students with their business name and logo featured on the Runners T-Shirts, please contact Rikki Quevedo at runturkeyrun@ bretharteboosterclub.org or 408.613.6724.

For more info and for the registration link visit, the event online at sjusd.org/bretharte/clubs/booster-club-athletics



Event Directors **Karina Sanchez Valencia** (left) and **Rikki Quevedo** are pictured with District 10 Councilmember **Johnny Khamis** (right) at the 2016 Run, Turkey, Run event.

Almaden/Blossom Valley Chapter of National Charity League begins yearly kickoff with Mother/Daughter BBQ

By Sean Eastwood

Times Staff Writer

he Almaden - Blossom Valley Chapter of National Charity League (NCL, Inc.) kicked off its new year with a Mother/Daughter BBQ held at Sanborn County Park in Saratoga.

NCL, Inc. is a national non-profit organization comprised of mother and daughter members in Chapters across the United States. Their mission is to foster mother-daughter relationships in a philanthropic organization committed to the three pillars of their founda-



tion: community service, leadership development and cultural experiences. The vision of NCL, Inc. is to develop strong women leaders serving and impacting communities today and for generations to come.

I CK OFF

The annual "Kickoff Event" consists of mother and daughter games, a BBQ, and a philanthropy donation drive. This year the new and returning members collected much needed clothing, children books, stuffed animals, towels and hygiene products to benefit City Team Ministries and the Children's Discovery Museum.

The chapter currently serves more than 20 charities in the local community with help from its 300 mother and daughter members, in 7th through 12th grades.

The Annual NCL Membership Drive will soon be underway for mothers with daughters in 6th grade. For information about membership to the Almaden-Blossom Valley Chapter, visit almadenblossomvalley.nationalcharityleague.org or contact Renay Rosckes, VP Membership at renayr@me.com or the Co-Presidents of the Chapter, Dawn McCale mccale_nclabv@yahoo.com and Mariann McGee ncl@mcgeeclan.org

For more information on National Charity League, Inc. please visit nationalcharityleague.org.

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Times Local News



Kids from Crossgates and surrounding neighborhoods held up homemade signs proclaiming their support of fire victims and asking for donations.

Lemon Aid

Continued from page 1

up to make a difference," says Takeuchi. "Look at all these kids out here. We are showing them that they can do something. They can make a difference."

Firefighters from Fire Department 22, the Bose Lane station, even came by to show their support. They passed out stickers, which many of the kids proudly wore on their foreheads.

Throughout the two-hour event, kids from Crossgates and surrounding neighborhoods held up homemade signs proclaiming their support of fire victims and asking for donations. In response, cars honked, drivers waved and cheered, and many pulled over; some to have a nice cool glass of refreshment, but most just to donate and to share a little in what was happening.

"People are handing over twenty dollar bills and driving off. The kids are so excited," says Janice Felsoci, a teacher at Los Alamitos, who lives in the Crossgates "This is important," adds Felsoci's daughter, Madison, "and people want to help."

More than seven fires raged within Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino County for more than a week. Whole towns have been evacuated, at least 40 people have been killed and many more injured. Upwards of 222,700 acres of land has been burned, as well as 1,500 buildings, including homes, schools, businesses, and wineries.

But, they are not alone. Support is coming to the fire victims in many ways, including Lemon Aid. 'These amazing kids and parents came out and sold Lemon Aid for those who lost everything in the North Bay Fires," says Takeuchi on Facebook. "As I write this post from the comfort and security of my home, surrounded by my treasures, photos and 20 years of beautiful memories, I think of those who lost their homes and have to rebuild. I want them to know that we, as a community, are there for them. Our kiddos raised over \$1700 to help families who lost everything."







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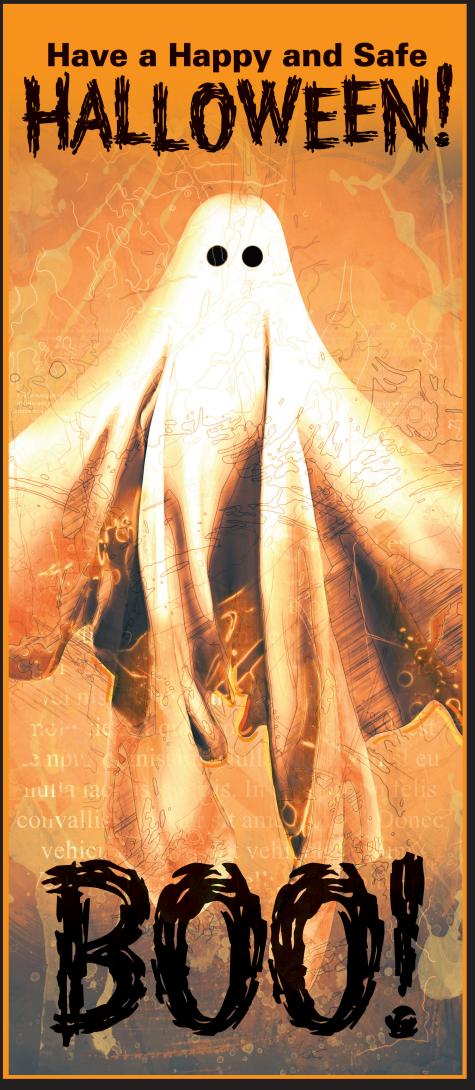
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Tackie Tones

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Times Local News



Haunt

Continued from page 1

school bands as a percussionist, but it's applying his craft as a theater technician that really excites him. He'd eventually like to work in film production and hopes to attend LMU or Chapman in this pursuit.

This is the fourth year he's hosted a haunted house and each year brings new surprises. More than 100 people came through last year alone. "As soon as the words out that it's up and running, people start knocking on the door," says his mother, Tricia

"I love putting things together, seeing how they work and creating one big experience," says

Foster. "It takes a lot of energy and time away from schoolwork, but when people walk through, it's so rewarding."

One little boy wrote him an illustrated thank you note delivered with a handmade bloody sword. "Thank you for letting us in your haunted house," he said. "It was so much fun and inspired me to love Halloween more.'

Many people braved the skeletal hand to leave notes in his guest book. "You have a gift child, don't let it go to waste," says a guest. "Awesome haunted house. You're so talented," says another. "Keep up the Spooktacular show," say others. "Thinking of going home and crying."

"As long as he's busy and doing what he loves, that's all you can

ask for," says his father, Mark Foster. "Not every kid's going to be a 300-pound football player or a 7-foot basketball player. You have to find what you like in this world...and he found it."

"It's crazy, challenging and awesome," says Foster.

"He works really hard at it," says Mark. "It's his passion."

His collection includes items he's purchased with birthday and work money, a large gargoyle from his aunt, china plates ordered from eBay resembling those in Disney's Haunted Mansion and gifts from friends. "Everyone knows how much he loves it," says Tricia.

Foster's best friend, Eddie Engler, dresses as a gorilla to frighten visitors. Engler's grandparents, Ed and Peggy Engler, aka Pops and Nannie, are also happy to lend a hand. Pops built the swing apparatus and skeletal hand and Nannie provides inspiration as well as handiwork and decorations. "They're pretty special," says Tricia. "It's amazing how much time they spent helping him. It makes Peggy happy. They were out there all day laughing. She's an amazing woman.

Foster appreciates the reactions he receives from young and old alike. "Everybody thinks it's crazy," he says. "My mom's friends were freaking out and hiding behind each other." Next year, he envisions having more friends dress up in costumes and interact with visitors.

The annual haunted house not only brings thrills and chills, but also helps support breast cancer research through donations Foster receives from visitors. He chose this charity as his mother had breast cancer four years ago and his family fundraises for the cause. Mark and Tricia sell pink breast cancer patches for \$10 and donate \$5 per patch through their family business, Summit Uniforms, which provides uniforms to law enforcement, fire rescue, etc., Police officers and firefighters are permitted to wear the patches during October as it's Breast Cancer Awareness month. Officers and firefighters from Campbell Police Department, Capitola Police Department, Los Gatos Police Department, San Jose Police Department, Santa Clara County Fire, Santa Clara County Sheriff and Sunnyvale Police and Fire sport the patches and support the cause. Last year, \$5,000 was raised and donated through these efforts.

Although Halloween runs a close second, Christmas is the Foster's favorite holiday and the family enjoys delighting the neighbors with their decorations. During Christmastime, cars line up in front of their house nightly. The decorations are so impressive that during Christmas 2013, See HAUNT, page 10

OFAZKABAN

IN CONCERT

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An eerie dining table sets a grim mood in this room of the haunted house.

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Times Local News

Haunt

Continued from page 8
the family received a
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Whether Halloween or Christmas, Foster embodies the spirit of the season and is happy to bring it to life for one and all to enjoy.



Stepping through a sliding door to the covered patio brings those who dare face-to-face with a haunting girl on a swing, as envisioned by Almaden resident **Tristan Foster**.



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Times **News**

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Times **Community**



Local Keller Williams agents clear out a property devasted by Hurricane Harvey.

Keller Williams agents aid Harvey victims

gents from KW Bay Area Estates joined thousands of other KW agents from across the country, last month, to help out Hurricane Harvey victims - by

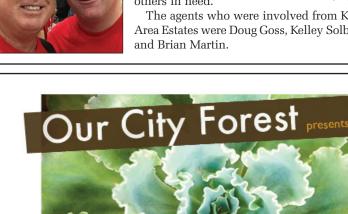
Apreparing meals for volunteers, delivering supplies and materials required in their efforts and 'de-mucking' hundreds of homes for victims of this unbelievable disaster," said Doug Goss, an agent with Keller Williams. Harvey was a destructive event, leaving countless people homeless, devastated or

affected in some way. These local agents were happy to travel across the country to help others in need.



Inset, left: Doug Goss and Keller Williams CEO John Davis; Doug Goss, Kelley Solberg and Nicki Banucci prepare to get to work.

The agents who were involved from Keller Williams Bay Area Estates were Doug Goss, Kelley Solberg, Nicki Banucci



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Times Feature



Some of the cast of "Rumors" pose on the set for a photo. The actors get an opportunity to channel this natural comedy through complex timing and dialogue.

Pioneer High School rolls out first play 'Rumors' directed by Ashley Coleman

By Jane Johnson

Special to The Times

A shley Coleman exclaims: "Joy that's what I want (the audience) to leave with....joy!"

She sits in her office at Pioneer High School, surrounded by memorabilia from over 30 years of staged drama productions, most by the previous director, Steve Dini.

Pioneer's new drama teacher is determined to make sure the school's drama program and all its productions are at least as good as what Steve Dini left behind. As she muses: "if it isn't broken, why fix it?"

Coleman has strong ties to Pioneer High School Drama. She was once a student and part of the program during the time the theater had burned to the ground and was replaced.

That's not to say she doesn't have her own ideas with which to grow the program. First, the entire performing arts department has undergone a complete staffing change, ushering in a new era for all areas of the performing arts.

Ashley sees a unique opportunity to form partnerships with her colleagues and a wonderful supportive work environment for teachers and students alike. In addition, she and Amy Hernandez from the Leadership class reconfigured students' seating arrangements demonstrating flexibility to work well with each other's needs.

The tone is set for a strong, collaborative extended performing arts team - harkening back to the days of Dini, Harris and Roberts. This may bring more positive change for all the groups as time goes on. Coleman has plans for other changes, too. She has returned to the former approach of

an autumn straight play versus a musical. This gives talented actors who may or may not have excellent voice or dance skills a platform to showcase their strong acting ability.

More than 70 students auditioned for 20 spots, split 10 to each of two casts, and it was the hardest decision she's yet had to make in trying to narrow down the field to the correct mix. Coleman is extremely proud of the casting and the actors themselves in that although there are two casts, she can honestly say both are equally amazing.

Coleman: "The Wiz"

Graduating and joining The Glue Factory production of "The Wiz", Coleman became an independent contractor working with Pioneer, Leland and Castillero Schools' drama and dance programs. She doublemajored in both child psychology and education at SJSU, and after teaching for a decade she learned she could blend her loves of drama, dance and teaching into one job. "Actors and directors are dreamers...so I quit my (previous) job, found a different opportunity at Pioneer and after interviewing for Dini's soon-to-be vacated position....it all worked out!" Nearly everyone who knows her believes she is the right person for this job as evidenced by the administrators, colleagues, students, parents and community's support. Ashley is dedicated to insuring excellence in all facets of the program and we're all excited to see the fruits of her labor.

"Rumors"

Coleman chose to usher in her new era by staging a farcical comedy: "Rumors" - a Neil Simon play. "There are some students



Times Feature





In the CRYSTAL CAST (above left) and BMW CAST (above right), respectively, KEN GORMAN (M) is performed by **BLAKE BERTOLIN** and **TRAVIS HILL**; CHRIS GORMAN (F) is performed by **JASMINE BRIDGES** and **RENNE BOISSIER**; LENNY GANZ (M) is performed by **CASH JOHNSON** and **JOSH RADZINSKI**; CLAIRE GANZ (F) is performed by **CHRISTINA GLUSZCZAK** and **JESSICA VENTURA**; ERNIE CUSAK (M) is performed by **COLIN SMITH** and **JEFFERY PLAZA**; COOKIE CUSAK (F) is performed by **EMILY GUERRA** and **MEGAN HUNT**; GLENN COOPER (M) is performed by **IAN DO** and **JACK JOHNSON**; CASSIE COOPER (F) is performed by **HALLE THOMPSON** and **ANNALISE MARTELINO**; OFFICER WELCH is performed by **ZACH MORCATE** and **KAREN JOHNSON**; and OFFICER PUDNEY is performed by **JACOB MATTHEWS** and **MAXWELL MOISEFF**.



Nearly everyone who knows **Ashley Coleman** believes she is the right person for this job as evidenced by the administrators, colleagues, students, parents and community's support, including **Steve Dini**, here giving Coleman a welcoming hug.

in class who are naturally gifted at comedic timing, and facial expressions - they do very, very well with comedy - even when they're not acting!" These actors are showcased in both casts and get an opportunity to channel this natural comedy through complex timing and dialogue.

Coleman says: "If I can have audience members leave with their guts sore from laughing, and... feeling better than when (they) came in, and for 90 minutes to two hours out of their day they're not worried about work, or family, or responsibilities but they can just sit back and be taken away to a happy place - that's what I want the audience to take away from 'Rumors'."

Coleman remains committed to producing family-friendly shows where even the Principal, Herbert Espiritu, can bring his two little kids to any production without concern.

Ashley poses a challenge to her actors: that no one in the audience will be able to tell a seasoned and trained senior from a newcomer freshman or anyone in between. She expects the highest level of performances from all in these casts. See if, without trying to find out before the play, you can tell who's who.

"Rumors" runs through Saturday, October 21 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and just \$5 for students and seniors 62+ years old. Tickets are available in advance at www.phsdrama.ludus.com/index.php (credit card) or at the door starting at 6:30 p.m. each night (cash or check). For those who might long for a fall musical, mark your calendars for December 1 and 2 for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

When do gifts and favors cross into the realm of financial elder abuse?

By Steven R. Roeser, Esq. Special to the Times
This week's question:

"Dear Steve, I am concerned for my single elderly father and his mental and financial welfare. A new "friend" has entered his life in the form of a woman thirty-seven years his junior ... almost too young to be his child! While we have discouraged this friendship, it upsets him and he is very fond of her. He buys her meals and gifts frequently. I do not want him to be taken

advantage of in any manner that would surely cause him mental anguish in addition to potentially losing assets that he needs to meet his standard of living he worked hard to achieve. How do we know if or when financial elder abuse has occurred?"

William A.

Almaden Valley

Answer:

The situation you find yourself in is all too common, with many different dynamics involved in such situations. To be frank with you, sometimes the adult children simply do not like their elderly father hanging out with his new younger female friend, while others are worried about their own inheritance. Then you have the majority of adult children facing this scenario with nothing but love for their elderly single parent, with the sole pure intent being protection. Perhaps it is a relative protecting the elderly individual. However, in the end, the motive of the adult child investigating potential elder abuse is irrelevant from a legal perspective. The legal keys are the intent and conduct of the new friend and alleged perpetrator, and the evidence of the wrongful conduct vou can obtain.

First, let us take a look at the law surrounding financial elder abuse in California, and the requirements to prove financial elder abuse. California



Ask the Lawyer Steven R. Roeser, Esq Attorney at Law

Welfare and Institutions I Code § 15610.30 provides that "Financial abuse" of an elder or dependent adult occurs when a person or entity does any of the following: (i) takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains real or personal property of an elder (age 65 or older) or dependent adult for a wrongful use or with intent to defraud, or both; (ii) assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult for a

wrongful cause or with intent to defraud or both; or (iii) takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains, or assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining, real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult by undue influence, as defined in Section 1575 of the Civil Code."

Therefore, in a nutshell, financial elder abuse occurs when a person (1) takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains or retains; (2) the real or personal property; (3) of an elder or dependent adult; (4) for a wrongful use, or with intent to defraud, or both. A person is also liable for financial elder abuse if the "assist" another in doing any of the above. The 'wrongful use" may be demonstrated by showing that the person knew, or should have known, that this conduct was likely to be harmful to the elder. Winning or losing all comes down to the evidence supporting the wrongful conduct and wrongful taking of or retention of assets.

Of course, financial elder abuse is not limited to a new friend or companion. Home improvement contractors, service providers, and other seemingly legitimate businesses, as well as an army of morally and spiritually devoid predators, that we can all simply call ball people, can and do regularly commit elder abuse. After all, no one ever thought Eric Madoff was committing elder abuse in taking financial investments from the

elderly ... and it ended up being one of the biggest cases of fraud in U.S. history.

This writer's simple advice: Stay alert and stay involved. Your best protection is your relationship with the elderly person you seek to protect. If you genuinely care about them, visit them often, keep an eye on the people around them, help with their finances to monitor expenditures for anything suspicious (without taking any money!), and just stay involved. It will keep their trust with you and give you access to the information you need to determine whether the person is actually a threat. Open dialogue is best if possible, and in my experience this only works where there is genuine trust by the elderly person in the adult child or other person seeking to protect them. Where the alleged perpetrator is able to dig in roots and strengthen their position well beyond that of the adult child or other protector, sadly it is often too late ... the victim will turn a blind eye as they do not want to lose this person in their life nor believe there was any wrongful intent by their friend. The fight happens after the elderly person dies, with a multi-year lawsuit over the trust or will the children never saw, drafted under the influence of the perpetrator.

Again, proactivity in protecting your elderly loved one is your best approach. Keep them close. If you truly suspect something is wrong, consult with legal counsel.

Until next time \dots and have a great day!

Kindest Regards,

Steven R. Roeser, Esq.

You can reach Mr. Roeser with your questions by email at info@almadenvalleylawyers.com, with "Almaden Times" in the subject line, or by telephone at (650) 300-5778. Your real name will not be used. No attorney-client relationship is created by these articles, and any information in this article does not constitute legal advice and is not to be relied upon. For more information on our practice, please visit www.almadenvalleylawyers.com.

Times Sports



Valley Christian Quest Classic brings 13 marching bands together for competition

Thirteen Northern California high school marching bands competed in the Valley Christian Quest Classic held at Chabot College in Hayward, CA on Oct 7. The competition is sanctioned annually by the Western Band Association. Pictured is the 84 member Valley Christian Marching Band performing its routing called Electro Ekklesia.



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South Valley Family YMCA thanks all of the sponsors of the 16th Annual Charity Golf Classic. Your generosity helped us raise over \$55,000 that will be used to support youth in our community.

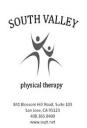
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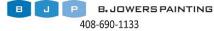
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For more information contact Rebecca Boylan at 408.513.3145 or rboylan@ymcasv.org

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Martinez of Almaden earns spot on 2017 Assumption College Field Hockey team

By William Bellou Publisher

ayley Martinez, of Almaden Valley has earned a coveted spot on the 2017 Assumption College Field Hockey team. Martinez, Class of 2018, is competing during the Greyhounds' fall season.

"Whether competing on the field, learning in the classroom, or serving our Assumption and Worcester communities, student athletes at Assumption are known to thrive," said Annie Lahey, Assumption College head field hockey coach. "This year's field hockey team maintains a strong core of veteran players which is enhanced as we welcomed a number of first-year play-



Hayley Martinez's dream job would be occupational therapist and her favorite TV show is Grey's Anatomy. Batman is her favorite superhero.

ers eager to compete at the collegiate level."

The Women's Field Hockey team is a member of the competitive Northeast10 Conference. Last season, the team finished with an overall record of 10-8 and advanced to the Northeast10 Conference Championship game last year. The Hounds were ranked fifth in the Conference preseason poll.

Fun facts about Hayley Martinez

Hayley's favorite athlete is Steph Curry and she would like to someday meet The Golden State Warriors. Her favorite sports memory is making it to the NE10 Championship during her sophomore year. Hayley's dream job is occupational therapist and her favorite TV show is Grey's Anatomy. Batman is her favorite superhero.

Founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption in Worcester, Mass., Assumption College is a Catholic liberal arts institution that offers undergraduate students 41 majors and 48 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, and professional studies; as well as master's and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programseach through an educational experience that is grounded in Catholic intellectual tradition.

For more information about Assumption College, please visit assumption.edu.

Times Feature

Blessing of the animals with fur, wings and fins

By William Bellou Publisher

ow would you describe your pet; loveable, playful and simply sweet?

Would you describe your pet at clever, skittish or just crazy?

We all love our animals no matter what their personality. At Saint Anthony Catholic Church, located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Rd, parishioners celebrated their precious pets with the annual "Blessing of the Animals" after recent weekend Masses.

The tradition, which honors the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4th, encourages parishioners to bring their pets to church, where the dogs, cats, birds, fish and other wonderful pets receive a special blessing.

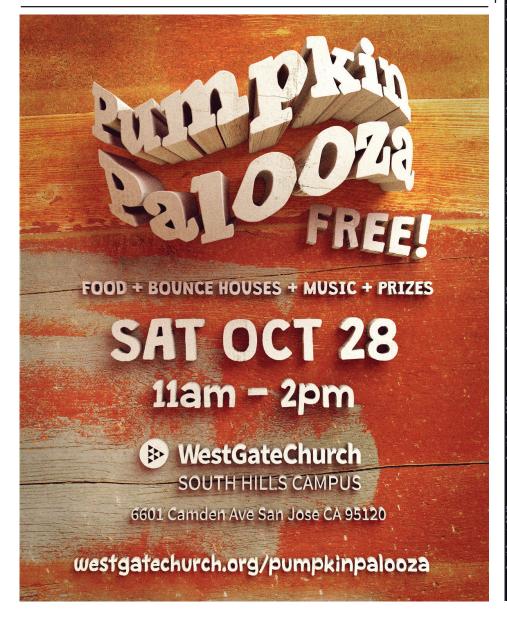
Saint Francis of Assisi (1182-1226) was from Italy and was a friar, deacon and preacher in the Roman Catholic Church. In 1209, he was given permission by Pope Innocent III to start a new order of priests, the Franciscans. Today the Franciscan's are an active order of religious men who work at colleges and universities, lead parishes and continue to work with the poor.

Just like Saint Francis saw the good in everyone, Saint Anthony Catholic Church parishioners also all see the good that our pets bring into our lives.



"Pets generate health benefits by encouraging exercise that can lower blood pressure," said one parishioner. "Having a pet that loves a tummy rub and that personalized attention, helps to de-stress and lessens our anxiety; especially for those that may feel isolated, animals can be that social connection.

Whether our dogs listen to us after a long and stressful day at work, or our cats snuggle up on our laps to comfort us, we are blessed to have animals in our lives.







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Times Local News

THIS WEEKEND

Community invited to help 'spruce up' Almaden on Saturday, October 21

By Sean Eastwood Times Staff Writer

Join your Almaden neighbors to spruce up Almaden by picking one of three projects planned for Saturday, October

The first project is the biggest, and needs 100 volunteers. The project involves spreading bark in the playground at Glenview Park which is attached to Williams Elementary School. The project is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. All tools and supplies will be provided by the Parks Department.

The Almaden Super Lion's Club is providing 20 volunteers, and we have reached out to many other clubs, groups, and residents. This is a great opportunity for students and Scouts to fulfill their Community Service hours.

The other two projects are painting the gray walls on Redmond Avenue and the wall on the south side of McAbee, both near Almaden Expressway, just past the shopping center. Ten volunteers are needed for each of these projects. Painting will start at 8 a.m. at both walls, and the project is expected to be completed at approximately 11 a.m.

The wall painting projects are sponsored by Orchard Supply Hardware who will be providing paintbrushes and supplies as well as volunteers for all three projects. Burnham Construction will provide all the prep-work for the walls and overseeing both painting projects.

Both Orchard Supply and Burnham Construction are generous supporters of "Beautify District 10."

To sign up for the Glenview Park project, contact Mollie at ParkVolunteer@sanjoseca.gov, or 408.595.3483. To sign up for the wall painting projects, contact Michele Dexter at the District 10 office at michele.dexter@sanjoseca.gov or 408.535.4978.

OUITE A PARTY

Total Wine celebrates 21st location opening in California

ast week the Almaden Ranch welcomed a new tenant, Total Wine & More.

On hand to host this Grand Opening was Regional Vice President, Iim Weiland.

"San Jose is such a great city, being so near great Wine growing regions; Santa Cruz is just over the hill. That we felt was underserved quite frankly in the alcohol beverage business and we wanted to bring our brand to this community with great selection, great prices and most of all great service with a knowledgeable sales staff."

Total Wine & More has an extensive selection of domestic and imported wines, spirits, craft beers as well as a cigar Humidor in premises for sales of your regular choice or that special select cigar.

A family business started 26 years ago, by two brothers that has grown to 170+ stores and the largest independent retailer of wines, beers and spirits in America. Jim is proud to mention, "the beauty of being a family owned business allows us to partner with other wine families to showcase their life's



Above: Jim Weiland, Regional Vice President; below: Ernesto Bautista, Store Manager and Marc Harrington, District Manager



work through our passion for our guests and our heritage relationships"

A donation of \$20,703 made to the San Jose Museum of Art from the opening weekend sales.

Stop by to browse the aisles and take in one of the classes to help you better appreciate the varied offerings available at Total Wine & More, or visit www.totalwine.com for information



CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST

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

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC

6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120. Pastor, Rev. Marty Williams, 408 268 0243.

www.ccavucc.org.

We are a welcoming church with a 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 LifeMoves (formerly InnVision) Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco Night Ministry, Second Harvest Food Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End

Worship Sunday, 9:00 AM followed by fellowship and refreshments. 1st Sunday in Worship: Holy Communion

2nd Sunday in Worship: Folks Choir and Potluck Sunday. Tuesdays, AA Meetings, 8:15 - 9:15

Wednesdays, 9:30 AM, Women's Study Group.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

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

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Uplifting music, Biblical teaching, ministries for Children, Youth, College & Career, Small Groups for all adults. Ministries to Men. Women, Seniors, Celebrate Recovery (Please see website for details and meeting times www.eastvalleychurch.com) VBS: June 13th - 17th (5:45-8:30pm) & Sports Camp: July 18th - 22nd (9am -12:30pm) For more details or to register please visit our website

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

We are associated with Converge Worldwide www.convergeworldwide.org

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

6581 Camden Ave. San Jose. CA 95120. The Rev. Shellev 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 con-

EVERGREEN VALLEY CHURCH

Visit our Web Site at wwww.evcsi.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.

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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

GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN

www.GraceChurchSJ.Net See you on Facebook 2650 ABORN ROAD at Kettmann, across from Evergreen Public Library, Serving Evergreen for over 50 Years. John S Goldstein, Pastor Christian Worship every Sunday at 11.00 am Together let us build lives toward excellence! Music Institute

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

THE POINT CHURCH

www.ThePoint.Church 3695 Rose 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

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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6430 Bose Lane, San Jose, CA 95120

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

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

sisi.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, 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 the Parish Mission Center open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!

> Worship listing advertisements available. Call (408) 898-7534.

Rosicrucian Equptian Museum



Thursday November 2, 2017

12:00 pm-Come to the Almaden Community Center to carpool to the museum.

12:30 pm-Self guided tour of three floors of Egyptian artifacts. 2:00 pm-Visit the Planetarium for a 25 minute look at the stars. 300 pm- Take a Tomb Tour that simulates an Egyptian Tomb. 4:30 pm-Return to Almaden Community Center.

Cost: \$7.00 for geniors (55yrs +)



Sally will sign you up M.T.W. 9:30am-11:30am in the lobby of the Almaden Community Center.

Question s call- Sally- 408 826-9619 Richard- 408 219-8641

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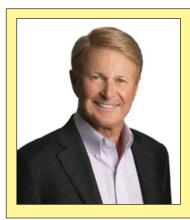
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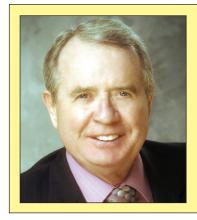
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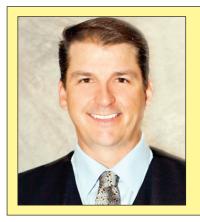
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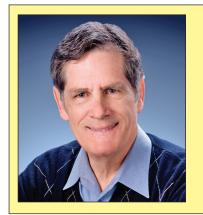
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Swan has been the #1 Agent in Almaden Valley each year since 2009 as measured by Dollars per Agent per Year. In addition, she is the only Almaden Valley specialist to ever have been nationally ranked and recognized by Wall Street Journal/RealTrends as being in the Top 250 Agents in the US.

