NO EARBUDS WHILE DRIVING: NEW LAWS FOR CALIFORNIANS ROLLED IN ON JANUARY 1, 2016 – PAGE 3



VILLAGES MEDICAL AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS HELP HUNDREDS OF VILLAGERS ANNUALLY – PAGE 14



'PIPPIN' PRODUCTION INCLUDES CIRCUS-INSPIRED ACROBATICS; RUN ENDS JANUARY 10 - PAGE 15

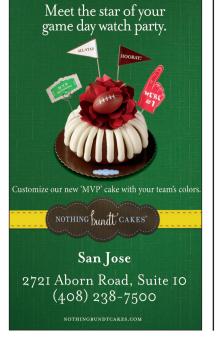


JAN. 8 – JAN. 21, 2016 ■ VOL. 33, NO. 2

Evergreen & Silver Creek valley • Evergreentimes.com

ALL-AMERICAN
HONORS

Molty Cuevas was recently crowned NGAA Division II Statistical Champion: 14 goals with 14 assists.



Taiko at Cedar Grove School direct link to improved language skills

By Charles Crosby Special to the Times

en years ago the first Taiko program in the District was introduced at Cedar Grove. Today, it's stronger than ever as a popular music program offered to every student during and after school.

Teacher Rebecca Shingai noted at the time that there was no music program at the school and also pointed to the documented link between music and math, as well as rhythm helping second language learners develop new language skills.

"As a special education teacher I See TAIKO, page 3



As long as the community continues to support it, the Taiko program should have a long life ahead.

Cuevas earns All-American Field Hockey honors for 2015

Crowned NCAA Division
II Statistical Champion:
14 goals with 14 assists

By William Bellou

Publisher

olly Cuevas has earned All-American honors for Field Hockey, and she also has been named NCAA Division II Statistical Champion in assists per game.

The announcement was made recently by the National Field Hockey Coaches' Association (NFHCA) and by the NCAA.

Cuevas is Captain of Adelphi University's field hockey team in New York where she is the offensive leader making 14 goals. The top player for the Northeast-10 Conference, Cuevas leads the Nation in assists for the second straight year, dishing out 14 over the course of 20 games.

"I was lucky enough to have a strong team and coaching staff behind me all four years at Adelphi," said Cuevas. "I truly could not have accomplished these athletic achievements without them. The program improves year after year; I can't wait to see what successes are ahead."

With her winning record, Cuevas was instrumental in helping Adelphi win its first See CUEVAS, page 17

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Times Local News

New laws for Californians rolled in on Jan. 1

By Sean Eastwood
Times Staff Writer

ere are some of the new California laws that are in effect for 2016:

SB 491 makes it illegal to wear earbuds or headsets in both ears while driving a vehicle or riding a bicycle.

Riders on electric skateboards must be 16 years or older, wear helmets and ride on roads with a speed limit of 35 mph or less.

Under AB 604, it is against the law to ride an electric skateboard while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

The state's emergency alert system, typically used as Amber Alerts in child-abduction cases, will be used to broadcast a "Yellow Alert" to find hitand-run drivers in incidents that result in death or major injuries.

SB 277 prohibits parents from seeking vaccine exemptions for their children because of religious or personal beliefs.

SB 358 allows female employees to allege pay discrimination based on the wages a company pays to other employees who do substantially similar work. The Fair Pay Act stipulates employers can justify higher wages for men only if the pay is based on seniority, a merit system, quantity or quality of production or any other "bona fide factor other than sex."

AB 775, otherwise known as the



SB 491 makes it illegal to wear earbuds in both ears while driving or riding a bicycle.

Reproductive FACT Act, will require pregnancy clinics to hand out or plainly post information about where women can obtain low-cost contraceptives, prenatal care and abortions.

The current law requiring slow-moving passenger vehicles to pull over safely to let traffic pass has been amended to apply to all vehicles. AB 208 will now also apply to bicycles.

Visit www.dmv.ca.gov for more information on new driving laws. For compete information on chaptered bills enacted in 2015, refer to the California Legislative Counsel website at: leginfo.legislature.ca.gov.

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Taiko

Continued from page 1

noticed that the RSP and SDC students were not always included in activities by other students based on 'perceptions'," she says. "Just because you can't do something doesn't mean you can't do anything. I wanted to develop a level playing field. I started out doing a short study using hand drums. 12 weeks of instruction for 30 minutes a week. The control group showed a time on task increase of 5 percent over the 12 weeks. The group that received instruction showed a 14.5 percent time on task increase. This translated into approximately 45 minutes per day increase in time spent on task within the classroom. All of these factors and a few more, contributed to the creation of this program.'

The goals of the Cedar Grove program have grown and evolved over the years, as the program became an integral part of the school's activities. Shingai notes, "It has become an avenue to increase confidence in the students as well as develop discipline, physical and auditory processing skills. We have also incorporated aspects of Asian cultures into the program. We have produced a Lunar New Year program for about the last eight years." She points out that the students have also played at the Cupertino Cherry Blossom Festival and perform yearly at the Northern California Taiko Exposition. They also performed as part of Mulan at the Morgan Hill community center performance theater this fall.

Although it's now a key part of the Cedar Grove culture, the program got its start from humble beginnings, kicking off after Shingai recycled \$600 worth of bottles. It was supposed to last eight weeks. A decade



on and the program is stronger than ever, supported by fundraisers and donations.

Currently every Cedar Grove student gets six weeks of lessons with three after school groups meeting weekly throughout the year. The group will host a workshop and performance later this year presented by Stanford Taiko, who will also join the Cedar Give group for their ten-year celebration May 21, 2016.

At this point it's hard to picture Cedar Grove without the Taiko program. As long as the community continues to support it, the program should have a long life ahead. In Taiko, the collective drummers come together as one drum, a terrific symbol of the way in which the program has united the school to help build students' confidence and self-esteem and to work together as one community.

Editor's note: Taiko is the Japanese word for drum though in this part of the world it has become synonymous with the art form of "kumidaiko", or ensemble drumming with Japanese drums. Performances typically consist of many components of technical rhythm, traditional clothing, and a specific kind of instrumentation. Some taiko groups accompany the drums with vocals, strings, or woodwind instruments.



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This Week:

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Evergreen Times

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Valley Currents

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

OP ED

Evergreen School District spending more money than it takes in

It is called deficit spending and many school districts across the United States fall into it.

In the opinion of this parent, it's an intoxicating-like, hypnotic-like, trance-like situation that often takes place over time in which monies can be borrowed up try to catch up with overspending of programs or services.

Deficit spending is often done with best of intentions and progressing on over time until unforeseen changes take place, not unlike our country itself which too is all wrapped up with big budget deficits, or not unlike the way families can use credit cards and can fall into the same type of situation of not having enough to pay full balances off. If one goes on line and searches perspectives, some districts in our U.S.A. actually do not consider deficit spending such a big deal.

A public information letter written by the Chief Financial Officer of The Evergreen School District dated Aug. 15, 2015 shows that sums of monies are in a deficit spending situation

(You, as the reader of this editorial, can decide by reading the letter by googling Evergreen School Districts Deficit Spending). The letter is addressed formally to the Superintendent and all Evergreen School Board Members.

In this parent's opinion, the letter speaks to this deficit issue rearing its head up and perhaps lasting more than just one school year unless it is battled back in some way with cutbacks or new revenues, or allowed to continue. In this opinion piece this opinion piece refers to deficit spending as "the monster" because it is thought that we need to fight it back and deal with it firmly with the strength of community involvement. However, it is also understood that others may have different opinions and are entitled to believe a view in



Evergreen Park playground renovation underway

The children's playground renovation currently underway at Evergreen Park on San Felipe Rd. is expected to be completed in March, 2016.

The basic layout of the play area will remain the same, but new equipment is being added, including: slides, swings, upgraded concrete retaining wall, and new footing materials (rubber and wood fiber).

The renovation project was approved June 22, 2015. Evergreen Times will continue to monitor the date of completion for the renovation.



opposition.

The reason this opinion piece is asked to be printed in our Evergreen Times newspaper is so that all stakeholders become better aware of the current situation and together with our school district leaders, we can work to make hard decisions on how our budgets are spent at district office levels and at school site council levels. Ideas welcomed, heard, weighed out, and acted upon in this new process may help how things will change in spending down, as our district battles the monster of deficit drain. Or with good ideas more revenue might be generated and spending up could occur too for our Silicon Valley is a place of innovations of grand ideas! Currently teachers want bigger salary increase than offered so labor negotiations are in process (take a look at the graphics of literature on district website regarding salaries expenditures). Salaries and benefits make up the gigantic chunk of the district yearly spending output.

The San Francisco school district passed a parcel tax that allows for a 20 year increase in teacher salaries and it could be that this too may need to be done for our Evergreen Community because of the skyrocketing cost of living (google: SF Teacher Salary Parcel Tax). Heightened teacher living expenses may mean our community could raise property taxes or parcel taxes to pay for continued high quality teaching professionals to live and work in our soaring rent community where often lower salaried people work full time but are referred to as the working poor. We may need to get teacher wages off the back of our limited school district budget by relying on other sources to fund teacher salary monies and this will allow a return to normalcy of teaching. But, how has our 18 school district gotten into a situation in which it has to spend more than it takes in. Some refer this situation as going in the hole. Why has Evergreen gone into deficit spending in year 2015 and how did this monster of deficit spending that has such an appetite, slowly sneak up on us all, ever so quietly?

This good question is perhaps best answered by our school district leaders and I know the Evergreen Times will welcome a response to this opinion piece by the school district. The situation of overspending is caused by many factors in my opinion that you, as a stakeholder, can personally discern by exploring and attending meetings. It is not just one simple factor, but instead, perhaps a bunch of them combined. It could be in this parent's opinion, lower projected student enrollment, the weight of high tier salaries and benefits, School Board approval of innovative programs and or assets, hiring and creation of new district office and teacher training positions, and on and on with lots of other things our district spends See SPENDING, page 16

ET THE EVERGREEN TIMES HEAR FROM YOU!

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

Correction: Denise Belisle filed her paperwork as a candidate for District 8 Councilmember in October for the upcoming election. The Times article indicated Belisle would enter the race in January, 2016. Belisle is the owner of Evergreen Coffee Company, located in the Evergreen Village Square.

Times Local News

How healthy are the county's children? You can help us find out

By Supervisor Dave Cortese

Special to the Times

Tust a few minutes of your time can help make Santa Clara County a healthier place for children.

Starting in late January 2016, you may receive a phone call from a survey conductor working for the County Public Health Department asking questions aimed at determining the health needs of the 414,000 children in the County. All the information you provide is confidential, and you will not be asked for any personal financial information. I'm inviting you to please participate in the survey.

The telephone survey, which will be conducted through

May 2016, is part of the Children's Health Assessment that I called for in my State of the County speech in January 2015. The assessment was approved by the Board of Supervisors in April 2015, and since then, our County Public Health workers have been compiling and updating existing data about the health of our younger population, from infant through age 18. In April 2016, more information will be gathered through focus groups and meetings with residents in neighborhoods across the County.

The information gathering efforts — in English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese — will give us a much better idea of how healthy our children are and what we need to do to better serve them. We'll learn what kind of access they have to health care, their economic stability, condition of their neighborhoods, their school environment and family culture. All those factors are impor-

tant to health.

We also can get a better understanding of how our diversity plays a role. Children under age 18 in Santa Clara County are 37%

Latino, 24% White (non-Latino), 31% Asian, 2% African American, and 6% mixed ethnicity. Sixty-three percent of children have at least one parent born outside the U.S., and 51% of families speak a language other than English at home.

All the information will be compiled into a report to go to the Board of Supervisors in September 2016 to serve as a foundation for community partners, leaders and others who serve children to determine where the needs are and how we can all improve the

health status of children in our County. The data can also help providers secure grants and other funding to help them continue to care for children.

The assessment will also build on the success of universal health care that the County established in 2000, becoming the first county in the nation to provide health insurance coverage for all children. Today, Santa Clara County has the highest percentage of insured children of any of the 52 counties in the state with more than 94 percent coverage.

The County has also conducted assessments of the health of the Latino, Vietnamese, African American and LGBTQ communities.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact my office a 408-299-5030 or email me at dave.cortese@bos.sccgov.org.





NEWS BRIEFS

Mattress recycling program begins

California is now the second state in the nation with a statewide recycling program for used mattresses and box springs.

The program, known as Bye Bye Mattress, allows California residents to drop-off used mattresses at participating collection sites and recycling facilities for free.

Residents can find their nearest participating collection site or recycling facility at www.byebyemattress.com.

Evacuation ordered by San Jose Fire Department

San Jose resident dropped off what he believed to be "gun powder and blasting caps" to San Jose Fire Department (SJFD) Station 11 located on Villages Parkway in Evergreen at 9:46 a.m. on

Tuesday, Dec. 29.

The SJFD followed their protocol and evacuated their building and areas within the perimeter, which included approximately 15 homes within Villages Golf and Country Club's Sonata Village. Residents were told they could assemble at the Villages' Clubhouse.

The items that were dropped off turned out to be common ammunition and were removed by the San Jose Police Department.

The all clear was given at 10:50 a.m. as the SJFD deemed the situation safe and allowed residents to return to their homes

San Jose Clean app

Want to do your part in keeping San José clean and graffiti free? Then download the San José Clean Mobile Phone App to get started! You can use it to report graffiti and will get feedback once it has been removed. The app is available for both iPhone and Android.











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There'd be no reason to feel blue if you had a bowl of these delicious-looking blueberries to devour, and we have December photo contest winner Julius Quirante to thank for this appetizing photograph.



December's runner-up is a photo titled "Like a Diamond in the Sky) by Devangi Vivrekar, who managed to capture the rays of the sun as they passed between a few leaves on the sun's daily trip across the sky.

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Times Local News

New golf rules announced for 2016

the R&A have the publication of the 2016 edition of the Rules of Golf that takes effect on January 1, 2016. The Rule Book is updated every 4

The new Rule Book is the culmination of the normal four-year review cycle and is a collaborative work by The R&A (The Royal and Ancient Golf Club) and the USGA that applies worldwide to all golfers.

Among the most significant of the changes in the 2016 edition of the Rules are the following:

Withdrawal of Rule on Ball Moving After Address

Rule 18-2b (Ball Moving After Address) has been withdrawn. This means that if a ball at rest moves after the player addresses it, the player is no longer automatically deemed to have caused the ball to move. A one-stroke penalty under Rule 18-2 will be applied only when the facts show that the player has caused the ball to move.

Limited Exception Disqualification Penalty for Submission of Incorrect Score Card - A new exception

has been introduced to Rule 6-6d (Wrong Score for Hole) to provide that a player is not disqualified for returning a lower score for a hole than actually taken as a result of failing to include penalty strokes that the player did not know were incurred before returning the score card. Instead, the player incurs the penalty under the Rule that was breached and must add an additional penalty of two strokes for the score card error. In all other cases in which a player returns a score for any hole lower than actually taken, the penalty will continue to be disqualification.

Modification of Penalty for a Single Impermissible Use of Artificial Devices or Equipment - The penalty for a player's first breach of Rule 14-3 (Artificial Devices, Unusual Equipment and Abnormal Use of Equipment) during the round has been reduced from disqualification to loss of hole in match play or two strokes in stroke play. The penalty for any subsequent breach of Rule 14-3 will continue to be disqualifica-

Prohibition on Anchoring the Club While Making a Stroke - As announced in May 2013, the new Rule 14-1b (Anchoring the Club) prohibits anchoring the club either "directly" or by use of an "anchor point" in making a stroke. The penalty is loss of hole in match play or two strokes in stroke play.

David Rickman, Executive Director - Rules and Equipment Standards at The R&A said, "We continually look at ways we can improve and clarify the Rules

he United States Golf Association (USGA) and of Golf. The R&A and the USGA collaborate closely and we consult with our respective national and international advisory members to produce a code of Rules that is relevant to all golfers around the world."

Thomas Pagel, Senior Director of Rules of Golf at the USGA, said, "The objective with each four year cycle of the Rules is to monitor developments in the game and, when appropriate, to respond with changes that keep the best interests of the game in mind. The amendments for 2016 preserve and enhance the

essential principles of the Rules, while at the same time ensuring that they reflect the evolution of the game."

Additional Comments on the **Principal Changes**

Under Rule 18-2b, a player whose ball moved after address was automatically presumed to have caused the ball to move. In 2012, an Exception to Rule 18-2b was introduced to cover situations where it was known or virtually certain that the player had not caused the ball to move. but the application of that standard was not always clear. The withdrawal of Rule 18-2b means that there no longer will

be any presumption and that the same overall test in Rule 18-2 will apply to all actions by the player: if the facts show that the player's addressing of the ball or other actions caused the ball to move, the player will incur a one-stroke penalty.

The introduction of the new Exception under Rule 6-6d will maintain the importance of returning an accurate score card by penalizing the player two strokes for the score card error in addition to the penalty for the original underlying breach of the Rules. In all other cases where a player returns a score card with a score lower than actually taken on a hole, the player will continue to be disqualified.

In addition to the revised penalty for a player's first breach of Rule 14-3 during a round, a statement has been introduced at the beginning of Rule 14-3 to explain that the governing bodies are guided by the principle that "success should depend on the judgment, skills and abilities of the player" in determining whether use of any artificial device or item of equipment is in breach of the Rule.

The R&A and the USGA announced in 2013 that new Rule 14-1b prohibiting anchoring the club in making a stroke would take effect in the 2016 edition of the Rules. The Rule was adopted following an extensive review by both organizations.

Printed copies of the Rules of Golf, which are supported by Rolex, are now available from The R&A and USGA. Visit: www.randa.org.



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Times Feature

Full speed ahead in 2016

By Vice Mayor Rose Herrera

Special to the Times

The most important thing I can do in the last year of my service as your

the last year of my service as your council representative is go full speed ahead working hard to get things done for our community. That's my plan

our community. That's my plan – to finish the great work we started seven years ago when I took office and to complete as many projects as possible.

Over the past seven years we have successfully funded and completed the Tully/Yerba Buena/101 project, opened the Evergreen Library six days a week, funded and completed the Light rail phase one Pedestrian Walk Way and Lighting Project on Capitol Expressway, completed the new VTA Eastridge Transportation Center, saved funding for Lake

Cunningham Skate Park and opened a new fire station on Yerba Buena. And these are just some of the many accomplishments we have achieved together.

Our last year will be the grand finale with an opening of a fire station in a new fire house, a new Branch Library, completion of a segment in the Thompson Creek Trail, the opening of a new BMX Park at Lake Cunningham, moving forward on the Regional Ball field complex across from Eastridge with more retail, and completion of an art, lighting and landscaping at Evergreen Village square.

And to start the year off right, "Lighting up the New Year for Peace," will be the theme of a very special event next week on Friday, January 15th starting at 4:30 p.m. in the Evergreen Village Square. I've asked Councilmember Johnny Khamis, along with leaders from the Evergreen Faith Community, to join me in celebrating our community's unity and tolerance in 2016 as we turn on the new lights in the square.

After the terrorist attacks around the world, and closer to home in San Bernardino, I felt a need to bring our community together as San Joseans and Americans — to show our solidarity and support for all faith communities, celebrate our way of life, and our commitment to peace. Evergreen represents a cross section of America, with members of almost every faith, immigrants from many different countries and cultures living and working together. Please join us! To view a flyer of the event, go to: http://bit.ly/1SAAxJf

If you've driven past the new fire station on White Road and wondered when it will be opening the answer is soon. The Grand Opening and Dedication Celebration of the Relocated

Fire Station 21 on Saturday, January 23, 2016 from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. You're all invited to enjoy a BBQ lunch by Local 230 Firefighters and light refreshments courtesy of Nothing Bundt Cakes. Join us for a tour the station & a Fire Museum Rig and meet your local heroes. We'll be joined by Mayor Liccardo and other elected officials, as well as a chance to enjoy performances by local community groups. The new Fire Station 21is located at 2100 S. White Road.

In November 2002, San José voters approved Measure O, a \$159,000,000 bond

issue to improve San José public safety facilities. Over the past twelve years, the bonds have funded the renovation or relocation of 9 San José Fire Stations. The \$5,112,900 million relocation of Station 21 is funded by Measure O.



ing on needs and could house a truck company and battalion chief in addition to Engine 21. Evergreen has very few community meeting spaces. I advocated for the largest community rooms possible during the recent construction of fire stations. Holding community meetings at the fire station benefits the community and helps builds a relationship between fire fighters and residents. I hope you and your neighbors join me for the Fire Station 21

details go to: http://bit.ly/105Cp9M

As we start 2016 with a renewed sense of hope and possibilities, I want to wish you and your family a Happy New Year! These are just the January events, there are more to come. So it's full speed ahead with the projects that are currently in the pipeline and I hope to see you all at each one of the opening celebrations.

Grand Opening celebration. For more

Newsflash! Responding to my request, Mayor Sam Liccardo has agreed to hold this year's State of the City Address at my alma mater, Overfelt High School on Saturday, March 5, 2016. Stay tuned for more on this great honor for Evergreen.

If you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to email my office at district8@sanjoseca.gov.

I want to keep you informed! Sign up for the District 8 newsletter - go to www.sanjoseca. gov/district8.

Councilmember Johnny Khamis, along with leaders from the Evergreen Faith Community, to join me in celebrating our community's unity and tolerance in 2016 as we turn on the new lights in the square.



District 8
Report
By Rose Herrera
City Councilmember

//

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Times **News Briefs**

Evergreen Valley High School Soccer team takes Lovata Cup title

Evergreen Valley High School Cougars Soccer Team is off to a good start under new coach Matt Brauch, furnishing a 4-0-1 mark and a Lovato Cup title. The Cougars compete in the CCS (Central Coast Section).

The good work done by the team during the past three years, under the direction of head coach Demba Diallo, has paid off. Diallo has left to take the head job at

Heavy rains predicted through March

Vice Mayor Rose Herrera says it's wise to prepare for winter rains. Meteorologists are warning us that heavy rains are coming our way. "I recently met with the Santa Clara Valley Water District to see what the residents of Evergreen can do to prepare for potential flooding this winter," said Herrera. "With most of the heavy rains expected to occur between now and March, now is the time to begin preparing."

With climate scientists forecasting an El Niño that is among the strongest on record, the City of San Jose is taking action now to prepare for a wet winter. Residents and businesses can also take steps now to prepare for the rains, especially in light of the drought conditions that California has experienced over the last several years.

Rain barrels rebates are now available from the city of San Jose. The Barrels can collect a

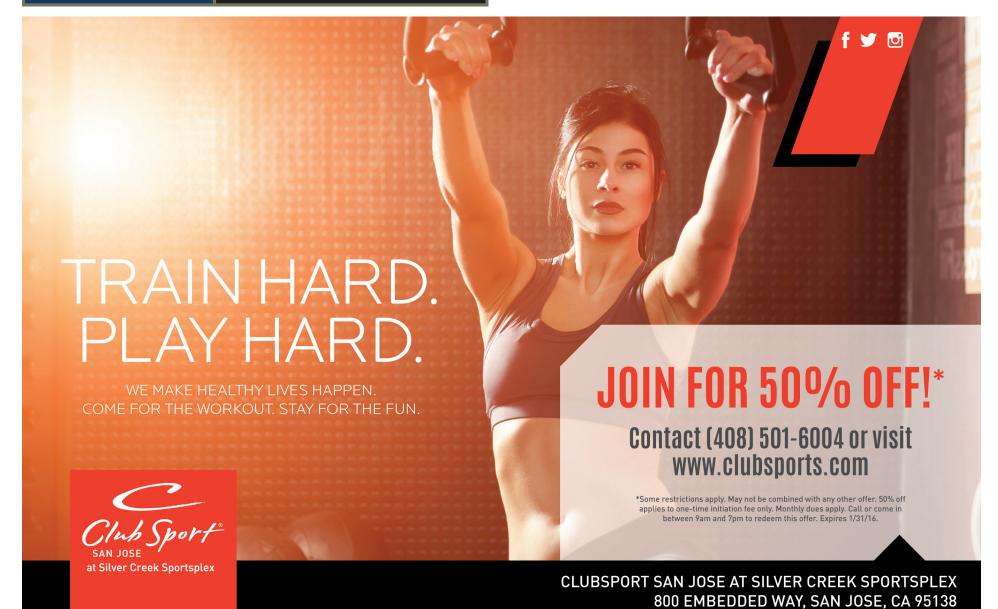
substantial amount of rainwater from hard surfaces, such as rooftops. A roof of only 1,000 square feet can capture 625 gallons of water for every 1 inch of rain. A \$50 rebate is available to customers of the City of San Jose's Municipal Water Service. Rain barrels can be purchased at your local hardware

Air Canada announces nonstop service to Vancouver

Mayor Liccardo announced new nonstop service on Air Canada between Vancouver International Airport (YVR) and Mineta San José International Airport (SJC). Joining the news conference at San José City Hall was Air Canada's Manager of Western Region Sales, Ginger Miller, who also announced the service will begin May 9, 2016, and tickets can be purchased at www.aircanada.com.

Register your security camera and help fight crime!

The San Jose Police Department wants your help in fighting crime by taking part in the Camera Registry Program (CRP). The CRP allows residents and business owners to register the locations of their video surveillance systems with SJPD. When a crime occurs, police will be able to identify the locations of nearby video cameras and enlist the assistance of the community to help officers collect video evidence and follow up on leads. If you have questions, contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 408-277-4133.



Times Community

Mayor and City Council appoint new independent Police Auditor

Mayor Liccardo announced that Walter Katz, who will begin his term on January 5, 2016, has been appointed as San Jose's fifth Independent Police Auditor (IPA). Under City Charter, the IPA is responsible for reviewing SJPD investigations of complaints against police officers, making recommendations regarding SJPD policies and procedures, and conducting public outreach to educate the community on the IPA's role.

PRNS Winter Leisure Class registration open

Make the most of the chilly holidays with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighbor-hood Services and register for a leisure class at your favorite community center. PRNS offers more than 800 classes and programs that include dance, music, health and fitness, gymnastics, theater and many more! Stop by your local community center today and pick up a Winter 2016 Community Center Brochure. Payment plans are available for some classes. For more information, please contact the PRNS customer service helpline at 408-793-5565.

Evergreen Business Assn.

Interested in joining a network of business owners and leaders? Connect and partner with others doing business in and around Evergreen Valley. Their monthly meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month to connect, learn, and grow your network in San Jose's fastest growing areas. For more information visit: meetup.com/Evergreen-Business-Association

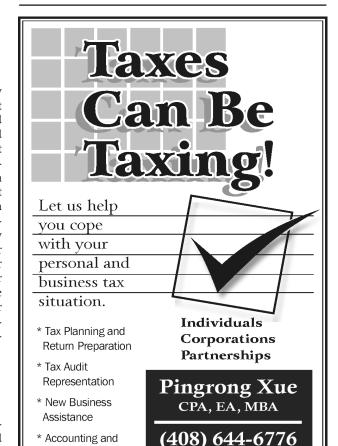
Great American Litter Pick Up

Save the date for the annual Great American Litter Pick up on Saturday, April 23rd, 2016. Celebrate Earth Day by doing your part in keeping San Jose clean and green. Look out for more information as the date

draws closer.

Join Reading Partners

Reading Partners is a literacy nonprofit that mobilizes community volunteers to provide one-on-one tutoring to struggling elementary student readers. Volunteer as a literacy tutor for as little as one hour per week and empower a child to succeed, make a lifelong impact, and change a child's life! No teaching experience is necessary and sessions are held at 25 Silicon Valley schools, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



ping@prxcpa.com



Bookkeeping

The 'King of Frozen Waffles': Part 1

By Terry Denevan
Special to the Times

In 1946 the destruction of the Eggo plant in San Jose, California, wasn't just a community disaster. To my family, it was very personal.

I remember that day, I was seven years old. Dad, along with my brother Dave and I, were visiting relatives in San Jose. That morning, as my grandmother prepared our breakfast, she said, "There's no more Eggo. The place burned down last night." My uncle and her son-in-law, Frank Dorsa, was a coowner, and the loss of the plant was a potentially cata-

strophic blow to his family's livelihood.

Right after breakfast my father, with Dave and me, drove over to the plant. Half a dozen red fire trucks were parked every which way. The morning air reeked of wet soot and charred debris was strewn about. The fire had been contained, but the street in front of the smoking building was still littered with the tangle of fire hoses. Puddled, blackened water was everywhere. Dozens of unopened sacks of Eggo potato chips littered the sidewalk and water-clogged gutter. Under a vivid blue sky and holding my father's hand, I could only stand and stare. The magnitude of the

event was impossible to comprehend.

Not long before my uncle passed away, my wife and I were invited for dinner at his Saratoga home. Frank and his wife Evelyn enjoyed company and made every visitor

feel at home. He enjoyed telling stories, but never tired of asking about and listening to guests describe their day, their family situations, and the facets of their varied lives. It seemed to me that Frank found people delightfully interesting.

After our meal, while my wife visited with our Aunt Evelyn, I saw the opportunity to engage my uncle in a one-on-one conversation. I asked

Frank about their Eggo business that he and his brothers had created during the Great Depression.

The year was 1932. Tony Dorsa, the youngest, along with Frank and Sam, started a business in their parents' basement on Oak Street. They experimented with various food products, eventually narrowing their line to mayonnaise, potato chips, and waffle-batter. Because eggs go into the making of both mayonnaise and waffle batter, family lore says that's why the brothers named their new company Eggo.

Stay tuned for more as the story continues in future issues of the Times!





Drive

Community Calendar

Upcoming New Seasons Market Evergreen Events

Fridays, 5-7pm: Wine Tasting & Cheese Pairings. Jan 8: Rutherford Ranch Winery. Jan 15: Storrs Winery. Jan 22: Cannonball Winery. Jan 29: Tiamo Wines . Complimentary.

Tues, Jan 12, 6:30-8:30pm, Juicing 101 Class. Learn the basics of making nutritious and delicious juices at home. Learn about the nutrition behind juicing, what produce to use, and how to make juicing fun, easy, and satisfying. Sample a variety of juices. \$5. Preregister at the Solutions Center or at: www.newseasonsmarket.com/e vents-tastings/

Wed, Jan 20, 3-4pm, Community Tea Party. Enjoy a relaxing cup of your favorite tea from a nice assortment and sample some tasty treats in the café

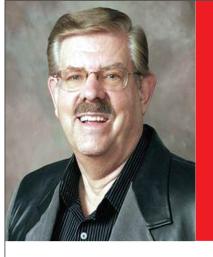


Juicing 101 classes are offered Jan. 12.

area. Meet up with friends, or make new friends, \$1.

Wed, Jan 20, 7-8:30pm, Losing Weight on a Gluten Free Diet. Join Health Coach Kim Rice, learn the benefits of a G-F diet, how to implement it and achieve and maintain a healthy body weight right for you. Free. Preregister at the Solutions Center or at: www.newseasonsmarket.com/events-tastings/ Mon, Jan 25 – Fri, Jan 29, 4-7pm: Around the World Seafood Tasting. Taste a different sustainable seafood recipe from a different country each day this week prepared by New Seasons staff. Learn how the award-winning FishWise labeling program works, what "sustainable seafood" means and how it benefits you and the environment. Free.

New Seasons Market Evergreen is located at: 5667 Silver Creek Valley Rd, San Jose. 408-513-8200. Visit them online at www.newseasonsmarket.com/ou r-stores/evergreen



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Times Feature

Villages Medical Auxiliary volunteers helps hundreds of Villagers annually

By Teddy Morse Special to the Times

he stats are in and they reveal that the Villages Medical Auxiliary (VMA) helped hundreds of residents living in the Villages Golf and Country Club last year.

The VMA is volunteer based and funding is dependent on financial donations from Villages' residents and their families, not from the Villages' Homeowners' assessments.

Professional Service Coordinator Jendayi Santana served 577 Villagers providing 1,635 services in 2015. The services included: referrals for alternate transportation, caregivers, housekeepers and assisted living facilities. Aid to families after the death of a loved one is also provided. Workshops on advance care planning, bone density screening, diabetes, blood pressure, and "The Lifelong Athlete" were organized by Santana.

"This is my fourth year with the VMA and it has been a rewarding experience," said Santana. "With our many volunteers, the VMA has developed all the tools needed to provide quality care to those who reach out to us in the Villages community," she said.

Santana has spent four years working with the VMA, and has been eight years with the NCPHS (Northern California Presbyterian Homes and Services). NCPHAS works closely with various non-profit agencies in the Bay Area. The organization provides activities to residents who choose to participate with health and education programs providing a connection to various local services.

VMA volunteers took blood pressures 475 times at the weekly free clinic; delivered and picked up medical equipment totaling 1,168 trips for the year; and more than 70 trips were made taking Village residents to the grocery store and pharmacy.

Trips to the doctor and dentist totaled 576 for the year. In addition, volunteers staffed two on-site Red Cross blood drives and two flu shot clinics.

The attendance at the VMA sponsored Caregivers and Grief group sessions averaged less than 10 participants a session, so there is plenty of room for Villagers to take advantage of these services. Parkinson's groups averaged 15 participants a session.

VMA's partner, Convalescent Home Ministry delivered 103 lap blankets made by Villagers to convalescent homes and rehabilitation centers. In addition to the blankets, other handmade items and bingo prizes were distributed.

Senior Resource Services, another VMA partner, provided professional counsels to 953 Villagers on topics such as insurance, taxes, and Medicare.



VMA history

The VMA traces its roots back to 1976 and is modeled after the auxiliaries found in hospitals. The first services offered were blood pressure and influenza vaccination clinics.

Through donations of money and equipment, the VMA gradually accumulated medical equipment to loan

to Villagers. Transportation to medical and dental appointments proved to be one of the most popular services.

In 1994 the VMA contracted for a full-time professional service coordinator to meet the ever growing needs of Villagers for a range of services from information and referral to long-term care planning. In 2014 the VMA established a partnership with Hospice of the Valley's Community Life Program to present programs such as advanced care planning workshops.

Critical roles in the VMA's outreach to Villagers and their families are partnerships with Senior Resources Services and Convalescent Home Ministry and support groups, including grief, and caregivers for memory and Parkinson's.

The VMA's programs and services are designed to help Village residents live independently in their own homes as long as possible.

'Pension poaching' scams targeting military veteran seniors, survivors

California Attorney General Kamala Harris has issued a consumer alert regarding scams targeting California seniors who served in the military, including 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 consequences 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.asn

Major flood protection levee project gets critical go-ahead

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. The first phase of the project has been approved.

The project 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.



Times **Feature**

OFF THE SHELF

Adult computer basics class offered at local library

By Amelia Vander Heide Special to the Times

dults interested in learning more about computers, or who want to improve their current skills, are encouraged to come to our Adult Computer Basics Class.

Taught by our long time tech mentor Sujata Dave, this class is designed for adults 18 and older who have limited to no experience working with computers. This course will cover topics such as setting up an e-mail account, using the Internet, and the Microsoft Office suite. This one-hour class will meet Tuesday mornings at 10:15 a.m. in the Tech Center starting Jan. 12, 2016. While not required, registration is encouraged; interested students may call the library at 408-808-3060 during open hours. Space is limited to 14 participants.

Magic Show

The Evergreen Library is excited to offer the following programs for the entire family. Join us on Saturday Jan 9, 2016 at 2 p.m. for the Pete G. Magic Show. The 60-minute show is filled with interactive magic for children of all ages.

Dr. King's Birthday Celebration

Celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by learning about his dreams of peace and equality. Children 5 and up will be able to add their own dreams to our "Community Dreams" collage, which will be displayed in the library after the event. The Dr. King's Birthday celebration will take place on Thursday Jan.14, 2016 at 5:30

Coding for teens offered

Teens and tweens visiting the library might be interested in the return of MathAndCoding to the Evergreen branch.

For this January session, instructors from MathAndCoding will be teaching HTML to students in grades 6 and up. No previous experience required, and 14 participants will be able to use library computers. MathAndCoding: HTML will begin its three-class program on Saturday, Jan. 9, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. Space is limited and registration is required. Interested students may register by visiting https://evergreenhtml.eventbrite.com/.

Additional Events

You can view Evergreen Branch Library's complete event listings and information on activities at library locations at other events.sjpl.org. Updates on library events are also available via our RSS feeds (sjpl.org/ updates) and our Facebook page (facebook.com/sanjoselibrary)

Parking

When the library parking lot is full, customers may find additional parking available at Grace Church on the other side of Aborn Road. We thank Grace Church for this generous offer that allows the library to better serve the Evergreen community.

Amelia Vander Heide is a librarian at the Evergreen Branch Library. Evergreen Library is located at 2635 Aborn Road, between Capitol Expressway and White Road. The library phone number is (408) 808-3060. Evergreen Branch Library is part of the San José Public Library System. For more information, visit the library website, sjpl.org.

RUBINSTEIN TO APPEAR AS CHARLEMAGNE

'Pippin' production to include circus-inspired acrobatics

Times Staff Writer

ohn Rubinstein, who played the starring role in Broadway's "Pippin" as a young man, returns to the stage in a revival of the musical, appearing now through January 10 at San Jose's Center for the Performing

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

"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-

Ticket prices are subject to change without notice. The performance schedule for the San Jose engagement of "Pippin" is as follows: 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 or PippinThe Musical.com.

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Times **Your Community**

Did you know our district

is exploring the building

of a new school? Will

the new school if the

in our current three

year plan is embraced?

Will we need to borrow

any additional monies?

Can we afford it?

some students move to

proposed plan to build it

Spending

Continued from page 4

decides to allocate the spending of monies upon. It is perhaps like a big ball of yarn with each strand representing an ongoing payment stream of monies. It is the opinion of this writer that all parents, homeowners, and other community members need to explore carefully what factors got our school district in its current deficit spending situation and come up with good ideas of how we can get out of it, for history has a firm way of repeating itself all over again. Input from parents is valuable and our community can easily access the website of our Evergreen School District to e mail the Superintendent and the five School Board Members for your stakeholder idea and or concern never should sit idly on the sidelines because studies show that if you remain quiet then no one will know what you think!

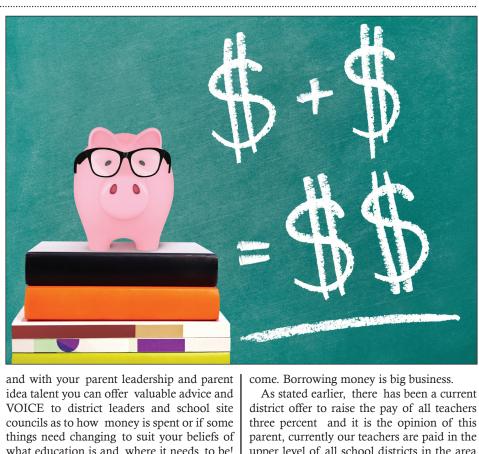
Why not get more involved as a stakeholder in shaping the future for parents and members of the community can attend the budget advisory committee meetings, school board meetings, school site council meetings, and parent advisory meetings and more. which are posted on the school district website monthly calendar. Also one can attend P.T.A. meetings to voice ideas and concerns. You can get networked in with conversations, e mails, and public speaking at school board meetings due to a new embraced philosophy Plan of Local Control and Accountability. Our California Department of Education has mandated all school districts must honor eight policies (see LCAP on district website). Parent, teacher and community involvement is one of the policies yearned for at all schools, prioritized, mission statement, brand, school board adopted and approved. Find out how much of your VOICE is utilized by engaging to ensure how, where and when monies are carefully spent by getting yourself carefully informed so your words carry weight and help the welfare of all stakeholders in our Evergreen School District for strong economically healthy school districts ensure quality levels of education for children which translate to higher home values, strong communities, and community wellbeing (now that is not to say our school district is not strong or economically unhealthy, only to say we need to explore if deficit spending is good etc.). Did you know our district is exploring the building of a new school? Will some students move to the new school if the proposed plan to build it in our current three year plan is embraced? Will we need to borrow any additional monies? Can we afford it? What's your view?

Parents now play a role in determining what monies are spent on and at what schools. We no longer leave all decision making up to administrators and district You can access the Evergreen School District Three Year Plan posted on the website. That plan may have needed more of your help in its development but its meetings were open to any public that wished to participate so you can check website to be informed of when meetings take place. Often parent input is open at school board meetings on such matters. It shows a plan of consideration for the district to build a new school. Can this be afforded while still keeping in place all 18 current schools? Maybe so, but will it cause any money to be borrowed to do this? What do the teachers say about this idea? Do you as a parent want another school to be built? Are we spending the monies in our district with enough buy-in discourse to ensure shared power decision making takes place by all stakeholders i.e. both parents and teachers, with proper transparency? At present it is stated by the Evergreen Chief Financial Officer in the August 2015 letter," In order to control deficit spending, the district must find additional revenues, or control the costs of increases." Thus, to speak of building a new school we need to know how much it will cost exactly for the expansion may have a reverberating spending effect on all other schools if we have to tighten our spending belt buckle. Will any elementary school children be shifted over to the new proposed elementary school site? What will become of any school if our district decides to close a school? How might it be utilized for the future? Have we communicated well? Perhaps we as a community need more information presented far in advance and perhaps all ingredients of information need to be unadulterated and put into a bowl with the entire community deciding if we want to bake the cake or put it aside for a later date till we can afford more high quality ingredients without any borrowing. Or, as stated earlier, some dignified people in our country do not see deficit spending as such a big deal. What do you think, what is your opinion? Since we are conserving expenditures is it fiscally prudent to entertain the notion of building a new school site? Does it make sense to you? The new school planned location is somewhere near Dove Hill Elementary School. If a new school opens next to Dove

Hill School in the future will there be enough students in the area to keep both schools open? Maybe it is a wonderful idea however maybe all information needs to be better expressed to all stakeholders on the district website, easy to read and in three languages. It is this author's suggestion that maybe our district might be improved by starting a new Innovative High School if we closed any school sites for by doing so, our school district enrollment would increase since we only

offer K-8 schools at present. Charter schools pop up all the time so we could make a new district charter like school too! At the end of this opinion piece I ask for your help in ensuring all of our future school board meetings be audio taped and posted on district website five days after each school board meeting so as to better inform all stakeholders in our community the going-ons in our school district. Let's all be vigilant and well informed by checking on what's going on by visiting the Evergreen School District website. If you walk up to speak at a future school board meeting during three minute public speaking time it would be wonderful to hear your words taped by audio and downloaded on a press and click attachment on the district website, and good for teacher VOICE too!

When you get involved, you can better explore why we are in deficit spending mode



For example, this parent attended several Budget Advisory meetings; submitted 25 ways our district can explore to cut back spending and e- mailed it to all Budget Advisory Committee Members, the Superintendent, School Board Members and others. Maybe some ideas will be embraced. Since School Board meetings are held once a month, this writer has suggested to our

School Board that all meetings be audio taped and posted on our district website so we can up our communication level and all can have a means to access to review and listen to public comments spoken at all school board meetings, because the written minutes of meetings are in compliance, but too vague and simplified and the gist of what each stakeholder earnestly speaks publically is, in this speaker's opinion, lost. It is similar to the old Greek times where a citizen could stand in a public square and speaks to the people, except in our

Silicon Valley, the advents of technologies now allows many other school districts to video tape and post on line their school board meetings with ease of access. Though Ed Code optional, our school district could join in with the other school district examples to keep up with this audio offering technology and ensure ways of developing more strong vibrant involvement from all stakeholders to craft the future of quality education for Evergreen School District during these cutback and or revenue exploring acquiring times. This opinion piece hopefully informs and stimulates all stakeholders (especially parents) of the kind need for thoughtful and talented skills in helping the school district with keen ideas and insights of attacking the current spending deficit situation monster in this parent's view, rearing its ugly head both in the present (2015) and with possibility of continuation in years to

district offer to raise the pay of all teachers three percent and it is the opinion of this parent, currently our teachers are paid in the upper level of all school districts in the area (see district website under newsroom and other public information). And, we are currently in deficit spending. How do we pay for increased salaries? In this writer's opinion, perhaps, just like the check cashing stores on the corners gladly let anyone borrow money by having them pay big for it later, perhaps the same economic situation holds true at different interest rates if any school district borrows money to also pay it back at later dates. Thus, such school district possible actions of borrowing, in some cases, in this parent's opinion might result in the possible situations of spending money to buy money, to use as other money with interest, till more money comes along. What are the ramifications of such situations if they were to occur? What is the forecast of possible means for revenue increases for our school district and others too for others are in deficit spending? What line items may be dollar cut? Will there be possible teacher cutbacks? Will any school close or be moved?

Let us let transparency of information and bring it all to light so things are out in the open and easy to understand and contemplate so that future steps are taken with stakeholder spotlight of deep simple to understand disclosure by use of district letters in three languages and in this writer's opinion deeper ways of gathering stakeholder participation. For example when this parent found out our district was currently in deficit spending, the idea and documentation of another school district using a new property tax or parcel tax to alleviate this situation in San Francisco was e mailed to district advisory groups and district leaders and others. Information is a form of power and if the community and district embraced a new property tax or parcel tax, it might end the frequent labor negotiations situations of salary negotiations between teachers and the Evergreen School District management (one can learn more by reading on line). What are vour opinions as a stakeholder in our community and do you plan to VOICE your valuable ideas and or concerns by accessing the Evergreen School District website and

See SPENDING, next page

Times Cover Story

Cuevas

Continued from page 1

Northeast-10 Conference regular season title and its second straight appearance in the NCAA Championship. She also is an Academic All American and was just accepted to the University's master's degree pro-

Silver Oak and Chaboya graduate

Cuevas is a graduate of Silver Oak Elementary School and Chaboya Middle School in Evergreen, where she was a star athlete dominating basketball, cross country and soccer.

"Molly Cuevas exhibited the same winning qualities as early as fifth grade," said Bill Laraway, Silver Oak Elementary Teacher. "She was a determined student who possessed the unique ability to set and achieve high academic and athletic goals," he said. "Through hard work and perseverance, Molly was able to overcome obstacles while remaining focused on what it took to succeed which separated her from so many other students. It's no wonder Molly has achieved such success as an adult."

This season, Cuevas became the Adelphi's Field Hockey all-time leader in points (130), assists (52) while ranking second in goals (39). She was one of five NE-10 players to land on the First Team, and the first ever Adelphi Rookie of the Year. She is a fourth time 1st team All Northeast 10 Conference player, and third time All American.

"Molly Cuevas is that one in a million student athlete that came through our doors at Adelphi University with a vision quest both academically and athletically," said Head Field Hockey Coach, Gloria O'Connor. "Her work ethic, leadership and genuine love of competition put her in a different category...one that many will try to emulate...however few will succeed."

O'Conner said Cuevas has broken just about every Field Hockey record at Adelphi. "I am pleased that Molly will earn her Masters while working aside with me to Coach our team next year," said O'Conner. "Her Parents, Manny and Jillian should be proud of the fine young woman that Molly has become!"



Molly Cuevas

First Team Roster

Anna Behm , Kutztown University Kiley Colucci, Assumption College Molly Cuevas, Adelphi University Kayla Denlinger, Kutztown University Jill Funkhouser, Limestone College Lauren Gerhart, Millersville University Olivia Hershey, Millersville University Emily Howell, East Stroudsburg University

Erika Kelly, Stonehill College Desiraye Mack, East Stroudsburg University Sarah Morse, Stonehill College Dayle Paustian, West Chester University Ally Rot,h East Stroudsburg University Krisina Scherer, West Chester University Alexis Versak, West Chester University Kristine Zubkus, Merrimack College



This season, Cuevas became the Adelphi's Field Hockey all-time leader in points (130) and assists (52) while ranking second in goals (39).



Spending

Continued from previous page

clicking e mail link to the Superintendent and School Board, perhaps your action of writing an e mail perhaps will speak louder than your spoken words, for the conversational talk can evaporate be misinterpreted or forgotten sometimes, especially if the person you are speaking with has strong or stubborn preconceived views. May God give us all strength to gently listen and weigh out each other's visions, for some ideas given can, when received, be unopened, repackaged, freeze dried and locked away perhaps not to be contemplated deeply or acted upon. We as a community can never have too much of deeply caring passionate public discourse and it needs to be nurtured and developed with easy to understand communication practices so that our community, as a whole shares power more deeply, which is the intent of LCAP (google). For example Parent Advisory meetings may need to be held in the evenings rather than 9:30 a.m. due to parent's work schedules and perhaps much more parent VOICE from low income parents

need to be gathered and heard from for all economic and cultural levels of our community. Everyone keep in mind, your common sense may not be common.

Perhaps our community needs your ideas of ending deficit spending and input on future developments of schools in our school district and we must ensure that all parties. all stakeholders, openly face this situation head on if it entails possible cutbacks for pulling back on things may affect learning school environments, maybe. We need to strive, with love and understanding to ensure buy-in from all stakeholders consisting of simple easy to understand, naked truths with regard to where and how district monies are spent and borrowed, the fees associated with borrowing and how possible cuts in spending may occur with jobs, programs, and projects. Spending must be easily understood and clearly displayed not unlike items neatly tagged and placed a top of a folding card table at a yard sale. We must all listen well as a caring community, agree sometimes or often to agree to disagree, and ensure parent and teacher input is reflective across entire school district on decision making power to fight and slay the deficit monster or vanquish the thing in a cave for occasional visits. Each school is not an island and if a new three year plan includes the exploration of building a new school, then parents and teachers in all schools need to share power with district leaders in deeply meaningful ways so our Evergreen Family School District agreed deep stakeholder buy-in to all move forward in unison. We must all be invited and know where the dance is held.

As a helpful request from this parent, I ask all to voice to Superintendent and Evergreen School Board Members your request by e mail (easy to look up on district website) for the recommendation and adoption of a new (would need to first be proposed by an individual) school board policy which is currently fully acceptable under State Law and done by other school districts in California, that all of Evergreen School District board meetings from this point in time forward, be audio taped and posted for easy downloading listening on our district website to offer more community involvement, transparency and stakeholder VOICE. The cost of audio taping will be minimal because it will only

involve the setting up of a microphone and posting (also the district office has recently hired a new lead technology person so this process can be part of the new job description duties for that individual) it will allow you, the stakeholder to LISTEN IN on the heartbeat of how our school district is moving forward in its decision making with school board member comments and passage of proposed change-making items that directly affect our wonderful community. You will get to listen to presentations in the privacy of your home or while driving your car at your own convenience. If you found this opinion piece valuable and insightful, Please e-mail this request via district website e mail to Superintendent and each School Board member that you request from this day forward all Evergreen School District board meetings be audio taped and posted on our district website five days after each public board meeting. Consider yourself invited to the dance!

Kevin Larsen Evergreen Valley Caring parent of child attending Evergreen School District

vergreen Areal Vicetings

Toastmasters Club A group dedicated to helping develop communication and leadership skills. The group meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 5:15 - 7 p.m. at HGST, a Western Digital Co. and the second and fourth Tuesdays from 12 - 1 p.m. at IBM. For more information, go to www.adlibmasters.o rg or call Lorraine Myers at 1(408) 717-5552 weekdays or 1(408) 238-4580

District 8 Community Roundtable

weekends

Thursday of every month from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Location: Evergreen Library. (For information, visit d8crt.org)

CalRTA-Area V-Div. 70 Retired

Teachers Organization. Meets bi-monthly at various eastside cafes also conducts a variety of holiday socials/activities and scholarship fundraisers Established in 1983! All teaching levels and others welcome. This organization supports the goals and purposes of the California Teachers' Retirement System. For more information call E. Paros at (408) 274-

Fast Side Union **High School District Board of Trustees**

1609 or email

al.net.

parosej@ sbcglob-

Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in the ESUHSD Education Center. 830 N. Capitol Ave. 347-5000. Check the web site for agendas and updates: www.esuhsd.org

The Evergreen Al-Anon meetings held at St. Francis of Assisi Church on Thursdays at 7 p.m. have been cancelled indefinitely due to lack of attendance.

The Evergreen Business Association is

intended to allow business owners and leaders in the Evergreen communi ty to meet, connect, and network with each other in this

San Jose We believe that doing business with local business serves evervone in the community. The group will meet each month on the third Thursday at the Evergreen Branch Library. The group invites owners and leaders of B2B and B2C businesses in the Evergreen area. There is no cost for membership. For more information please refer to our Meetup page here:

Evergreen-East **Valley Realtors Marketing Meeting** Meets each

http://www.meetup.

com/Evergreen-

Business-

Association

Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The EEVRMM invites realtors, brokers, lenders and related affiliates to its breakfast meeting. Market vour listings match buvers with sellers and share real estate success stories. Meetings are held at MegaByte Pizza Co., 5623 Silver Creek Valley Rd., San Jose, CA 95138. \$3 admission, coffee and pastries included. For more information, call David

Evergreen School District Board of Trustees

Castillo at 238-

Meetings are typically held on the second Thursday of every month, in the district boardroom at 3188 Quimby Road. For more information, call (408) 270-6800

Evergreen School District Parent Advisory Committee

The Parent Advisory Committee Meetings for 2015-16 will meet on the first Wednesday of the months of October, December, January, February, March and Mav. The meeting is held in the Evergreen School District boardroom, 3188 Quimby Road at 9:30 a.m.

The Evergreen Senior Advisory

Council meets the third Thursday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Get involved in helping plan events for seniors, volunteer ing for a good

to know your fellow seniors. For more information, call the Evergreen Community Center at (408) 270-2220.

Evergreen Valley Garden Club

Meets at the Evergreen Library on Aborn Road, San Jose the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Each meeting will feature a monthly gardening class FREE to the public. For further information contact Arvind Kumar at (408) 715-7020 or email chhaprahiya@yahoo com

Evergreen Valley High School Athletic Booster

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

Evergreen Valley High School Site Council

Meets the first Wednesday of every month on the EVHS campus in the administration building D, 3300 Quimby Rd.. San Jose. Confirm meetings by visiting the school's web site, http://ev.ca.campusgrid.net/ home and clicking on school site council in the left hand toolbar or

(408) 347-7000.

Evergreen Valley Service Organization For more informa-

tion, call (408) 274-

Falls Creek Neighborhood **Association**

Homeowners from the Madison and Pulte area developments are welcome and encouraged to attend future meetings. For more information go to the Web at http://groups.yahoo. com/ group/fallscreekneig

The Everareen **Community Center** offers a variety of

hbors or call Dave

Zenker at (408)

238-2591

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

Friends of **Evergreen Library** Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of

February, April. June, August, October and December from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in Group Study Room A at the Evergreen Branch Library, 2635 Aborn Road, San Jose, Visit their website at friendsofevergreenlibrary, org or call 408-808-3060 for more information.

Hidden Glen Community

To join a neighborhood discussion earoup, ao to: http://groups.yahoo. com/group/ HiddenGlenSanJose/

LeyVa Community **Action Team Association**

This group is bounded by Barberry Lane and Monrovia Drive, Capitol Expressway, Aborn Road, and South King Road. For meeting time and location, please contact the association at (408) 795-5855

Lions Club - San Jose East Valley This group meets Tuesday evenings

from 6 pm to 8 pm for a dinner meeting at Carrow's Restaurant, 1696 Tully Rd. near the corner of Tully Rd/King Road. For

more information, contact Lions Club member Bill Evans at (408) 274-4728

McLaughlin Corridor Neighborhood Assoc. Meets second Thursday at 7 p.m. at Tully Library.

Meadowfair Neighborhood **Association** Meets

365-1300.

the second Wednesday of oddnumbered months at 7 p.m. at Meadowfair Center, 2696 King Rd. For more information. call 539-2308.

Reid - Hillview **Airport Association** 3rd Wednesday of

every month at 7:30 p.m. Location: Hillview Airport Terminal. (For information, call (408) 251-4939 or visit rhvaa.org)

Rotary Club of San Jose East/Evergreen

Meets every Thursday from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. at the Ranch Golf Club. 4601 Hill Top View Lane. (408) 270-0557 See next page

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CAMPBELL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC

6581 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95120
Pastor, Rev. Dr. Michele Rogers Brigham 408 268-0243 www.AlmadenCongregational.

We are a welcoming Church engaged in progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local com munity. We are proud to be UCC. Open and affirming (0&A) and welcome mem-bers of the LGBT community. We support local Innvision 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 "iov" Occasions Tuesday, AA Meetings, 8:15-9:15 PM.

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

EAST VALLEY CHURCH

East Valley Church We are a Multicultural Christian Community committed to making Christ known to our Neighbors, Community Sunday Schedule: Breezeway

Café 9:15am, Worship 9:45am, Sunday School for all ages 11:15am Childcare is provided for all our Sunday Services. We will be opening our New Nurseries and Children's Building Soon! 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.eastvallevchurch.com) Community-Life Pastor (Youth/College & Career) – Pastor Patrick Boyd, 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 wor-ship: Sunday at 7:30AM and 10:30AM. Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversa-

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 espanol, 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 mes-

sage 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

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 call-ing 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 vour 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 ONF 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 lanquages, each with their own auditorium and pastor. 10:30 AM English, Mandarin, Cantonese and Cambodian. Spanish at 1:00 PM.

SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching 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 his toric 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.churchstantho-ny.com. Fr. Larry Hendel,

5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135 408-223-1562, www.stfrancisofassisi.com www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive serve as Disciples of Jesus fellowship, and service opportunities to the commu-High School and North Star with small faith communities Jose. Our Preschool is the ing quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations: St. Francis of Assisi Chanel Saturday 5:00PM, Sunday 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:30 PM 4:00 PM (Mass in Vietnamese), 6:00 PM Youth St. Francis of Assisi Gathering

Sunday 9:00 AM, Second Sunday of the month 12:30 PM

The Villages Gated Community (Cribari Auditorium) Sunday 8:15 AM

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Sunday11:00AM, Igbo Mass -

Mt. Hamilton Grange - 2840 Aborn Road Sunday 9:30 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 so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help

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cchesney @sbcglobal.net for further information, or check out the website at nttp://www.sanpedrosquares. freetoasthost.org.

Silver Creek (PTSA) Parent, Teacher, Student Association Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second

Tuesday in the Silver Creek High School Principal's Conference Room, 3434 Silver Creek Road. For more information, call 347-5830. Silver Creek School Site Council Meetings: Second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in room V-1.

Silver Oak Educational Partnership

The Silver Oak Educational Partnership is now called the Silver Oak Elementary PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). SOEPTO will not be meeting over summer. Meetings will resume in September. New meeting schedule will be posted in August.

SIR Branch 114 at the Villages

meets every first Tuesday of the month in the Villages' Clubhouse Fairway Room. The meeting agenda includes a noon luncheon for all SIR Branch 114 members and a 12:30 p.m. speake open to all Villagers and friends. For more information, call Lou Figone, SIR 114 BIG SIR at (408) 966-4175.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) Branch 114

Tully Ocala Capitol King Neighborhood Association 1st Monday of every other month from

6:30 - 8:00 n m Location: Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley - Smythe

West Evergreen Neighborhood Association

This group represents the area bounded approximately by Flanigan Drive, South King Road, Aborn Road, and Alvin Avenue. Meets the third Tuesday at O.B. Whaley Elementary School, 2655 Alvin Ave., 7 to 8 p.m. For more information,



www.hinmansgarage.com HinmansGarage@aol.com

(408) 274-0879

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Evergreen Area Meetings

Story Road Business Association

Meets third Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. at Prusch Park, South King Road at Story. For more information, call 238-5422

San Jose/Evergreen Community College District Roard

Normally meets second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Meetings in the District Office, Board

40 S. Market St San Jose, CA 95113.

San Pedro Squares Toastmasters Club Meets every Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 8:30

a.m. at Jimmy's Restaurant, 222 W. Capitol Expressway in San Jose. Contact Barbara at 373-2815, or email barbaram-





Eric Parker 408.202.9000

Eric Parker

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Nicki's goal is to integrate real estate knowledge, integrity, and professionalism into her business while working within a team to provide exceptional service to both buyers and sellers.

A resident of Silver Creek Valley Country Club since 1998 with her husband Dan and children then 6 and 3 years of age. Today daughter Cassie is a Pepperdine graduate and Daniel a Jr. in college. Nicki attributes much of her success to her passion for the place she calls home.

Her proven success has helped Nicki built an amazing network of clients, maintaining relationships that have become her advantage to a successful Real Estate career.

Eric Parker - 1991 selected by Shea Homes to begin presenting the homes and eparker@apr.com lifestyle of Silver Creek Valley Country Club to Silicon Valley and the world.

1992 opened SCVCC information pavilion selling Silver Creek's first homes and helping our first families move in October '92. From 1992 - '99 sold over 300 new homes in Silver Creek Valley Country Club.

1993 became a resident and member of Silver Creek Valley CC with wife Vallorrie and 1 year old son Ian

1999 -2004 Partner in Remax team with Eric & Ann that became #1 Western Region and #7 World Wide

2005 - '07 Elected to Board of Directors Silver Creek Valley Country Club.

2004 - Teamed with Nicki Brown and Alain Pinel Realtors, the bay area's leader in luxury home sales, to provide the best possible marketing and representation to sellers and buyers.

Alain Pinel Realtors is based on the principles of honesty, integrity and professionalism. We are known for our ability to innovate in a changing marketplace without compromising who we are. Celebrating over 20 years of excellence in Bay Area real estate, our market tenure gives our clients a marked advantage when buying or selling a property.

- We are the largest privately-owned and independent residential real estate company in California with nearly 1,400 agents networked in 32 well-appointed offices throughout the Bay Area.
- Voted Best Broker for Luxury Homes and Best Real Estate Company by the readers of the San Jose Mercury News and #1 Residential Real Estate Firm by Silicon Valley/San Jose Business Journal
- Founding member of Luxury Portfolio, luxury division of Leading Real Estate Co. of the World, 200 companies, 28 outside the U.S., our listings span 43 states and 24 countries. LuxuryPortfolio.com, receives 1.2 million visits per year, translated into 9 languages.
- Member LuxuryRealEstate.com a global network of 1,000 luxury brokers in 65 countries providing exposure to luxury homes around the world. Thousands of affluent buyers visit the site each day.

Together we distinguish ourselves by doing everything to a higher standard, because we are different — and we wouldn't have it any other way.



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