

**LELAND ATHLETE  
READY TO RETURN TO  
THE COURT FOLLOWING  
BRAIN TUMOR  
TREATMENT- PAGE 4**



**CASTILLERO GIRLS  
BASKETBALL TEAM  
WINS CHAMPIONSHIP  
WITH UNDEFEATED  
SEASON - PAGE 8**



**COUNCILMEMBER  
KHAMIS KEEPS HIS  
EYES ON THE ROAD  
AT RECENT AVCA  
MEETING - PAGE 15**



JAN. 15–JAN. 28, 2016 ■ VOL. 29, NO. 2

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# Almaden Times

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## THE RANCH EXPANDS

"You want to have something different," says Derek K. Hunter, Jr. "That's why we started with Bass Pro." Photo by Lorraine Gabbert

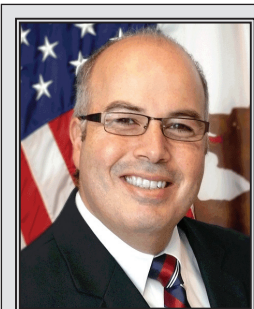
**LOCAL  
NEWS**

## Via Valiente site update from Councilmember Johnny Khamis

By Councilmember  
Johnny Khamis  
*Special to the Times*

One of the most commonly asked questions we receive from residents in the South part of Almaden Valley is, "What is happening with the former PW Shopping Center at the Via Valiente Plaza?"

Although the property owner has remodeled the plaza and, within the past year, has partnered with a Farmer's Market, she has yet to solidify any additional long-term tenants. You may have also noticed that *Unwined*, the wine tasting bar located next to Elements in the plaza, has closed. The owner relocated the



**District 10  
Report**  
Johnny Khamis,  
City Councilmember

business to Cupertino.

Like you, I am concerned about the long-term vacancies at Via Valiente Plaza. Since taking office in 2013, I have provided leads to the property owner from multiple parties who have expressed an interest in the former PW Supermarket space as well as from people who would like to purchase the entire center and have it fully occupied. I continue to encourage the owner to engage those interested in purchasing or occupying space; however, a representative for the owner has shared with my office that she is not interested in meeting with anyone to discuss sale of the property. I have also met with Kim

See VIA VALIENTE, page 6

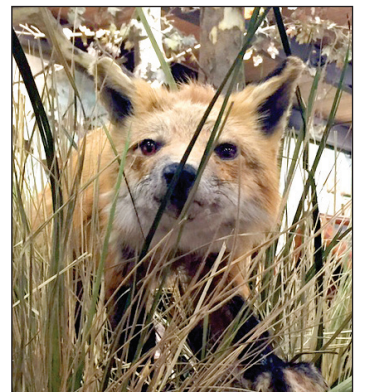
## The evolution of Almaden Ranch Shopping Center

By Lorraine Gabbert  
Senior Staff Writer

Almaden Ranch, the site of Bass Pro Shops, situated at Highway 85 and Almaden Expressway, will be expanding to include a hotel and additional stores and restaurants.

Derek K. Hunter Jr., President of Hunter Properties, described the evolution of the shopping center to residents at a recent Almaden Valley Community Association meeting. "You want to have something different. That's why we started with Bass Pro," he says. "This is the only

See RANCH, page 14



A stuffed and mounted fox peers through the reeds in a display at the Bass Pro Shops, located at the Almaden Ranch. Photo by Jeff Baham

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# This Week:

## SPORTS

Castillero Girls Basketball team wins championship: **PAGE 8**

## LOCAL NEWS

Cougar President's Week Sports Camp offered at Almaden Country School: **PAGE 10**

## LOCAL NEWS

Ten common threats in marital dissolution cases discussed: **PAGE 19**



## ↑ TRAVEL

Disneyland to close major attractions to begin building 'Star Wars Land': **PAGE 23**

## ALSO

Realtor Guide: **PAGE 22**

Worship Guide: **PAGE 16**

# Almaden Times

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# Valley Currents

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

## Leland basketball player ready to return to the court following brain tumor treatment

By William Bellou  
Publisher

It has been a difficult and emotional time for the Murtha family when Nick, a guard on the Leland High School basketball team, was diagnosed with a brain tumor last mid-July. But now, the athlete is expected to be back on the court after another week of work-out.



Nick Murtha

Although the prognosis was initially grim, good news came last August that the tumor was treatable and curable with an estimated five months of chemotherapy.

The family focused almost exclusively on getting Nick back to good health. He spent his senior year enduring radiation and chemotherapy treatments in an effort to fight against a very aggressive form of brain cancer.

Thanks to the contributions of friends and family and numerous Almaden residents through *YouCaring* compassionate crowdfunding website, nearly \$43,000 has been raised to



Nick Murtha makes a high leaping rebound in a past game against Leigh. Photo courtesy of YouCaring

help with the cost of treatment and hospitalization at Stanford.

The last day of treatment occurred on Thanksgiving Day, and on December 16, an MRI showed there was no regrowth of the tumor.

Nick told his friends that the doctors are optimistic that treatment is officially over and that he can return to playing active sports and get back to a normal life. Murtha was home-schooled during the period of treatment

"The Almaden community has been very supportive of Nick, especially the basketball team," and he will be out their very soon," said

Nick's friend James Kelbert.

Through the support of the Almaden community, the advancement in medical technology at Stanford, and prayer, Nick will again work and play and fulfill his plans and dreams for the future.

The Murtha family summed up their feelings writing last month online stating "Our family could not have made it through this difficult time without the love and support from everyone. We felt the power of everyone's positive thoughts and prayers through this whole process. We vow to pay it forward in our lives in whatever way we can."

## New soccer fields project partnership proposed by City of San Jose with Earthquakes and Guadalupe River Park Conservancy

The City of San Jose, San Jose Earthquakes and the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy are exploring a new partnership to develop a seven-field soccer project at the Guadalupe Gardens.

The proposed partnership would help meet the community's growing demand for recreational amenities and enhance the Downtown San Jose park.

While specific details of the project are still being worked out, the partners are currently envisioning a 44-acre project that would include:

- Four lighted artificial turf soccer fields dedicated for public use;
- Three soccer fields and an adjacent building that would be used for the Earthquakes' Soccer Academy and available for certain

community use and access;

- Enhancements to seven acres of public open space, including new trails, benches, trees and improved connectivity between the Heritage Rose Garden and Orchard and the rest of the park.

- Parking and concessions; and

- Five additional acres of open space that could also be used for overflow parking on designated days to help ease parking and traffic in the surrounding area when there are major events.

"This proposal could help expand the number of much-needed fields for soccer-loving kids in

our community, while also advancing our vision of the Guadalupe River Park as a regional attraction that serves residents throughout our community," said San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo. "I

would like to thank City staff for their work on this effort, the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy for their support and input, and the Earthquakes for their willingness to contribute millions of dollars to create a destination soccer complex."

Preliminary estimates put the cost of the potential project at \$32-\$37 million. The City would allocate \$12 million from a voter-

approved parks bond that included funds for a new soccer complex. The Earthquakes have proposed covering the balance of the costs related to the public amenities and the entire cost of the project related to its Soccer Academy – a potential \$20+ million investment.

"We are proud to partner with the City of San Jose and the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy to explore this transformative project," said Earthquakes President Dave Kaval. "I would like to thank the City and the leaders of the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy for their vision and tremendous efforts on this project. We think that the project is a big boost for soccer in the area and it will also bring more attention and

See *SOC CER*, page 8



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Times Feature

# Via Valiente site update from Councilmember Johnny Khamis

Continued from page 1

Walesh, the Economic Development Director for the City of San Jose, and have asked that she provide assistance the owner may need in finding tenants for the vacant space.

Many community members have also asked me how they can help with finding a tenant for the vacant PW space. I share that is it important for all of us to patronize the

businesses that are located in the plaza, like CVS, Elements Restaurant, Round Table Pizza, Almaden Yoga, Tulip School, New Double Duck Chinese Food, and other businesses that may come to fill the current vacancies. Shopping at the businesses shows that neighbors will support the plaza.

I also want to take this opportunity to quash any rumors that you may have heard about opening the Via Valiente property to residential development. The City of San Jose went through its General Plan 2040 (GP2040) process over five years ago. A GP2040 Task Force was formed and included a representative from each Council District (the District 10 representative was Dave Fadness, a Vista park neighborhood advocate), various interest groups in San Jose, and a few Councilmembers. The Task Force was chaired by then-Councilmember Sam Liccardo and Shirley Lewis, a former Councilmember, and they met over the course of three years to carefully analyze San Jose's land use.

During this time, property owners brought forth properties they wanted the GP2040 Task Force to rezone from their current retail, commercial, or industrial designations to residential. However, the Task Force was charged with the responsibility of keeping San Jose's employment

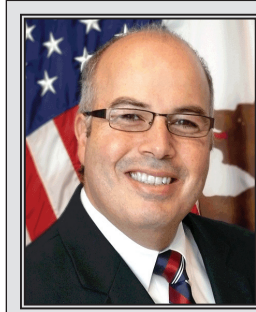
lands intact and, therefore, did not entertain conversions. Keeping employment lands intact through-out the City of San Jose was an approach collectively pursued by the GP 2040 Task Force and ratified by the full City Council.

I share this extensive background information with you so that you are aware that the Via Valiente Plaza will remain a retail and commercial center. Unfortunately, the City has no power to force owners to fill vacancies. Some residents have asked about the use of eminent do-main, which is when government takes land

away from a private property owner through a legal process. I would be very apprehensive about utilizing the blunt instrument of eminent domain against a business owner. However, I will be looking into other tools that might be employed by the City or the community if the center continues to remain vacant – for example, incentives to fill storefronts and penalties if storefronts remain unfilled.

Recently, the broker representing the Via Valiente owner informed me that they had thought they had found a grocer who was interest in moving into the former PW space. Unfortunately, the deal with the grocer fell through.

I will continue to keep the community updated with any new information that I receive regarding the Via Valiente Plaza.



**District 10 Report**  
Johnny Khamis, City Councilmember

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## Opera San Jose to present Carmen Feb. 13 - 28

Opera San Jose kicks off its 2016 season with Bizet's Carmen.

No man can resist Carmen's gypsy charms, and Don José, a naive soldier is easily seduced. He abandons his childhood sweetheart and deserts his military duties, yet loses Carmen's love to the glamorous toreador Escamillo. In the end, José can't endure his rage and desperation.

Carmen will be sung in French with English supertitles. Six performances are scheduled from Feb. 13 - 28 at the California Theatre, 345 South First Street in downtown San Jose. Tickets are on sale at the Opera San Jose Box Office, online at operasj.org, and by phone at (408) 437-4450. Performances are supported, in part, by a grant from the San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs.

Tickets: Available by phone, online, and at the Opera San Jose Box Office, 2149 Paragon Dr., San José, CA 95131; \$51-\$151.

Students 25 and younger (with current student ID) \$10; 408-437-4450; 408-437-4455 fax. California Theatre, 345 South 1st Street (between San Carlos and San Salvador), San Jose. Visit online at [www.operasj.org](http://www.operasj.org)

## Mardi Gras to be celebrated in Almaden Feb 12

The Almaden senior Association will be celebrating Mari Gras at the Almaden Community Center.

The festivities begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 12th and will include traditional Cajun and Creole food and entertainment.

Ticket sales begin Wed. Jan 27th and will continue through Friday Feb 12 on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays only 8:40-10.00 a.m. Prices: \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members.

Bring your appetite and be ready for some New Orleans style fun.

*Editor's note: While not observed nationally throughout the United States, a number of traditionally ethnic French cities and regions in the country have notable celebrations.*

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Castillero 6th-7th grade team celebrated their winning undefeated season culminating with the championship win. Pictured with championship trophy are: (l to r): Lorelei Graham (6th), Sherin Koul (7th), Kaci Bardel (7th), Paige Rosckes (7th), Sydney Shigemoto (6th), Beth Macintosch (7th), Emory Hansen (6th), Chloe Henriques (6th), Coach Stephanie Lacek, Isabella Peretti (6th), Jenny Mizota (7th), Coach Kris Peretti, Sydney Bourland (7th), Sydney Poole (7th), Erin Farnese (7th), and Gloria Kim (7th).

### Castillero Girls Basketball team wins championship

The 2015-2016 Castillero Middle School 6th/7th grade girls basketball team celebrated their undefeated season when the team won the school district championship.

The team was led by 7th grader Sydney Bourland who scored 146 points for the season. Coaches Kris Peretti and Stephanie Lacek credit the outstanding season to the depth of talent and teamwork of the entire team.

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### Leland Boys Basketball schedule updated

01/15/16	Friday	Piedmont Hills	Piedmont Hills	7:00 PM
01/20/16	Wednesday	Leigh	Leigh	7:00 PM
<b>01/22/16</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Santa Teresa</b>	<b>Leland</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
01/26/16	Tuesday	Willow Glen	Willow Glen	7:00 PM
<b>01/28/16</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Oak Grove</b>	<b>Leland</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>02/03/16</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Prospect</b>	<b>Leland</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
02/05/16	Friday	Gunderson	Gunderson	7:00 PM
<b>02/10/16</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Piedmont Hills</b>	<b>Leland</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
<b>02/12/16</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Leigh</b>	<b>Leland</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
02/17/16	Wednesday	Santa Teresa	Santa Teresa	7:00 PM
<b>02/19/16</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Willow Glen</b>	<b>Leland</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>

### Soccer

Continued from page 4

visitors to the beautiful Guadalupe River Park.

“As proud community stewards of Guadalupe River Park & Gardens, Guadalupe River Park Conservancy welcomes an opportunity to revisit the 2002 FAA-approved master plan to explore further development and activation opportunities,” said Leslee

Hamilton, Executive Director of the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy. “As San Jose’s population continues to grow, Guadalupe River Park & Garden will play an increasing role in the city’s quality of life. We look forward to participating in and adding value to this evaluation process.”

The City and its partners will be continuing discussions over project terms, details and related issues, and hope to develop a non-binding memorandum of understanding with the City Council’s consideration next month.

**SUPERVISORS APPROVE ORDINANCE TO DETERMINE ROAD BASE ON COUNTY HIGHWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS - PAGE 4**

**COUNTY REPORTS: EL NIÑO GOOD NEWS FOR BROOKSIDE SIDS NEWS FOR THE HOMELESS - PAGE 5**

**RELIEF TRAFFIC LIGHTS 'SYNCHUP' AT LINCOLN AVENUE AND WILLOW ST. - PAGE 6**

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

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

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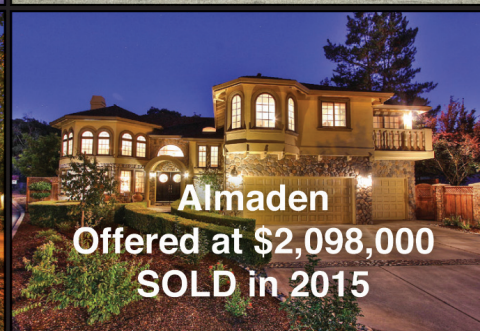
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## Times News

## Cougar President's Week Sports Camp offered at Almaden Country School

The Cougar President's Week Sports Camp will be held Monday, Feb. 15 - Friday, Feb. 19 from 9

a.m. – 3 p.m. for families that are in town and looking for a fun activity for their children to do.

The Cougar Sports Camp is a day camp offered to boys and girls in grades 1-6. The camp will be held on the ACS campus with the PE portable as the base. Each day will focus on a different sport with other fun games as well as arts and

crafts. Participants must bring a sack lunch and comfortable athletic shoes and clothing.

Families may register for individual days and there is a discount for signing up for the week. Pricing: \$310 for the entire week, or \$65 per day. Each camp day will include fun games as well as arts and crafts. Almaden Country School

Athletic Director Derek McIntyre and staff will teach the fundamentals of the each sport in a fun and safe environment.

**Camp Day activities include:**  
**Monday, Feb 15:** Soccer/Basketball/Capture the Flag; **Tuesday, Feb 16:** Volleyball/Flag Football/Floor Hockey; **Wednesday, Feb 17:**

Soccer/Basketball/Dodgeball; **Thursday, Feb 18:** Volleyball/Flag Football/Futsal; and **Friday, Feb 19:** Soccer/Basketball/Floor Hockey.

*If you have further questions, please contact Athletic Director Derek McIntyre at [dmcintyre@a-cs.org](mailto:dmcintyre@a-cs.org). You can stay up to date on all the latest Cougar scores and athletic information on Twitter: @Almaden School*

## Californians are preparing for severe El Nino flood risk

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has released new data on National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Policies, showing an increase of more than 20,000 new NFIP Policies written in California during the month of November 2015.

There is a 30 - 90 day period for new policies to be reported to FEMA and the latest available data, released today, shows an increase of 28,084 new flood insurance policies purchased last year from Aug. 31 - Nov. 30, 2015.

"Flooding is the most costly and devastating disaster we face as a nation," said FEMA Region 9 Administrator Robert Fenton. "The major increase in flood policies shows Californians are taking the threat seriously and taking powerful steps to protect their families and property. Those who may need and not have a flood policy should act today, as policies generally take 30 days to go into effect."

The 12 percent increase is the first of its kind in recent history. The previous reporting period showed that policies increased 3% from August 31 to October 31. During that timeframe, 7,181 new federal flood insurance policies were written in California.

"We are encouraged by the number of Californians that are becoming financially prepared for the flooding that is expected from El Nino," said Janet Ruiz, California Representative for the Insurance Information Institute. "It is crucial to protect our families and homes by preparing for

Flooding can happen anywhere, but certain areas are especially prone to serious flooding. Many areas in California are at increased flood risk from El Niño, as a direct result of wildfires and drought.

Editor's note: FEMA administers the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and works closely with more than 80 private insurance companies to offer flood insurance to homeowners, renters, and business owners. In order to qualify for flood insurance, the home or business must be in a community that has joined the NFIP and agreed to enforce sound floodplain management standards.

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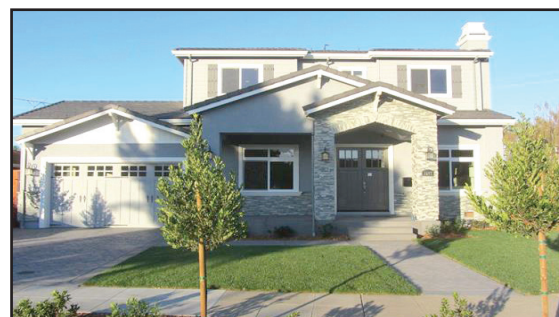
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Driven by integrity and a commitment to excellence, Derek prides himself on impacting the lives of those around him. He loves the opportunity to coach and consult with other top real estate professionals, excelling in leadership roles in real estate and professional associations.

Derek looks forward to helping agents utilize KW systems to maximize potential to take their businesses and client service to the highest levels.

Derek Sandoval

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## Change is Constant

At kw Bay Area Estates, we are continually evolving to improve our real estate services for our community; as individuals with continuing education, and as a company with expanded locations (in Silicon Valley and the Monterey Bay Area) and attracting the best local talent in the industry. If you are planning a change, contact a qualified agent at kw Bay Area Estates to help guide you.

Agents who are ready achieve greater for yourselves and your clients, contact Mark von Kaenel at (408) 560-9009 | markvk@kw.com, or Derek Sandoval at (408) 499-6775 | DerekSandoval@kw.com for a confidential meeting.



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101 Dover Court - Seller - **SOLD**

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1480 Samedra Street - Seller - **SOLD**

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1377 Sprucewood Drive - Buyer - **SOLD**

5311 Rimwood Drive - Buyer - **SOLD**

1085 Tasman Drive - Buyer - **SOLD**

4983 Sandy Lane - Buyer - **SOLD**

9 Terfidia Lane - Seller - **SOLD**

3212 Tenley Drive - Buyer - **SOLD**

1141 Nicklaus Avenue - Seller - **SOLD**

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5126 Narvaez Avenue - Buyer - **SOLD**

819 Royal Palm Court - Seller - **SOLD**

2845 Brittan Avenue - Buyer - **SOLD**

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1151 Silver Maple Lane - Buyer - **SOLD**

3121 Bay Road - Buyer - **SOLD**

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Times Features

# Ranch

Continued from page 1

one in the Bay Area, and a destination retailer. People go there to shop and to be entertained."

In October, Bass Pro Shops opened its doors in San Jose, totaling about 110,000 square feet and featuring 160,000 to 200,000 retail items, a restaurant, and an underwater-themed bowling alley. Owner John Morris started the company in Missouri with his Uncle Buck, selling their homemade fishing lures to customers of his father's store. Today, the company makes more than a billion dollars a year in sales and everything's made in the United States.

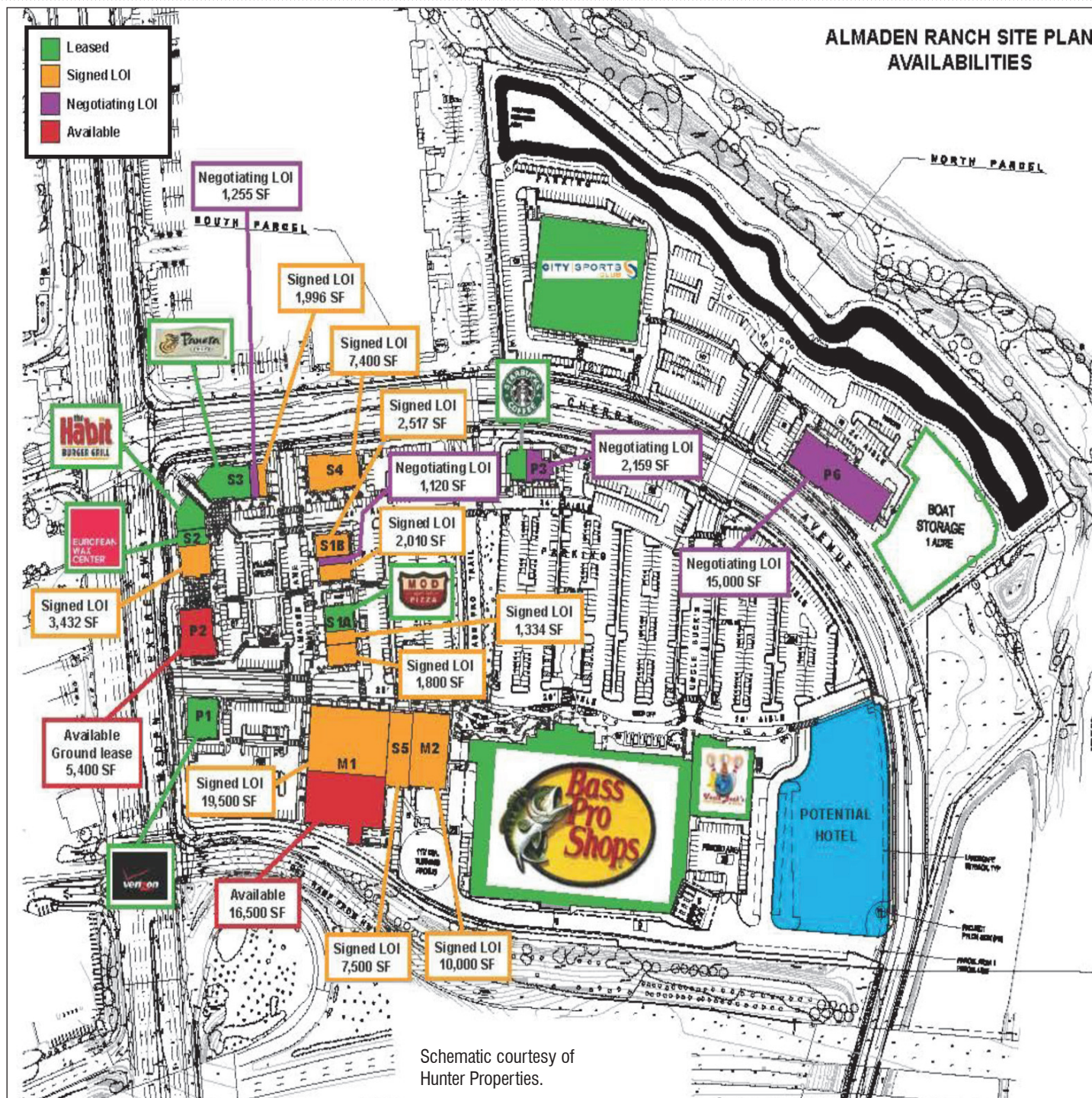
One resident shared his apprehension with the number of guns sold by Bass Pro Shops and entering the community. "You have a tenant that creates an environment that promotes safety and responsibility," says Hunter. "People enjoy outdoor sports and let's just hope everybody will be responsible. It's been a very well-received retailer."

After securing Bass Pro Shops, the next challenge for Hunter Properties and partner Arcadia Development, says Hunter, was to determine the mix of the balance of tenants. They studied local demographics, existing retail and restaurants in the area, and determined what kind of stores fit the community.

Almaden Ranch will include a hotel similar to a Marriott Residence Inn, as well as City Sports, European Wax Center, Guitar Center, Total Wine & More, Ulta, and Verizon. Eateries include, Firehouse Subs, Fractured Prune Doughnuts, Habit Burger, MOD Pizza, Noodles & Company, Pancheros, Panera Bread, Smoke Eaters, Texas Roadhouse, Yalla, and a drive-thru Starbucks's.

"I like the center and the choice of stores," says a resident, "but two weeks ago I stopped at Walmart, and it took me an hour to get out of the parking lot. I think Almaden Ranch impacts the traffic in the area there."

"The timing of lights is one issue," says Hunter. "In that intersection, you need a police officer orchestrating traffic."



Schematic courtesy of Hunter Properties.

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Another resident complained of the traffic surrounding Bass Pro Shops. "I've seen traffic backed up from 85, down 87, and all the way to the Santa Teresa exit," he says. "The traffic's a mess. It wasn't like that before Bass went in there."

"It's a matter of mitigation. It's not a perfect science," says Hunter. "One of our delays in opening was putting in a longer median for safety by Rotten Robbie. I took a bare field and put a really successful shopping center in there, so I'm not minimizing the fact that we generate traffic, but we do what the city tells us to do."

"Before Bass Pro opened, it was worse. Ever since they opened that fourth lane off the off-ramp, it's been significantly better," says Councilmember Johnny Khamis. "I asked Caltrans to take away their right-hand emergency lane between the highway 87 on-ramp to highway 85 northbound and make it a designated exit lane for Almaden Expressway."

While some residents are concerned with the traffic the new businesses will bring, others are excited by the new eateries. Khamis says



"People enjoy outdoor sports and let's just hope everybody will be responsible. (Bass Pro Shop) been a very well-received retailer," said Hunter. Photo by Jeff Baham

that the new retailers will generate significant sales tax revenue for San Jose. "Growing our business tax base is critical to our long-term goal of improving our per-capita revenues," he says, "so that the City can adequately fund essential services and continue to restore services that improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods."

Times **Community News**

# Khamis keeps his eyes on the road

By Lorraine Gabbert  
Senior Staff Writer

Councilmember Johnny Khamis updated residents at a recent Almaden Valley Community Association meeting on a new sales tax that will be included on a future ballot and his desire to use the funds for paving.

On the 26th, the City Manager is going forward with a recommendation to the City Council for a new general ¼ cent sales tax, which would net about \$30 million per year. If approved, San Jose sales tax would increase from 8 ¾ to 9 percent. “I’m trying to move my colleagues’ minds to make it a dedicated, rather than a general tax,” says Khamis. “It requires eight votes to put any tax on the ballot.”

“The mayor is quoted in *The San Jose Business Journal* as being in favor of a general sales tax, which only needs 50 percent plus one vote, and can be used for anything,” says Khamis. “It can say on the ballot that it’s for police and pavement, and end up being used for golf courses and mansions. That’s why I oppose the mayor on this one.”

Instead, Khamis favors a dedicated sales tax that must be used for its declared purpose. For instance, if it says it’s going to be used for libraries or pavement, it’s only used for libraries or pavement. “It requires a 2/3rds majority, so it’s a little harder to pass,” he says, “but if we want our money to go where we



**Khamis favors a dedicated sales tax to raise funds for future paving.**

truly want it to go, that is the right path.”

Khamis noted that one of the things that requires additional taxes is paving, which is supported through DMV taxes, the gasoline tax, and the federal government. No money comes from the general fund.

As more people are driving hybrid/electric cars, which require no or less gas, less gasoline tax revenue is going to roads. “Paving gets \$2 to \$3 million less every year, so there’s a big gap in what we need for pavement that’s not being met,” says Khamis, “and the federal government has stalled on funding pavement costs. That’s why I’m supporting a pavement tax.”

City paving is currently underfunded by \$500 million according to Khamis. “\$30 million is a drop in the bucket,” he says, “but it’s a significant drop in the bucket. I’ve seen the City Council move to spend money in the wrong direction. If we’re going to tax people, let’s make sure the money’s going to the things on the ballot we’re saying it’s for.”



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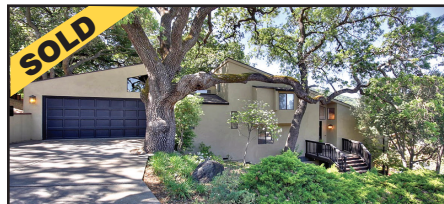
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6577 Little Falls Drive	4	3	2,120
6826 Lazy River Way	5	3	2,848
6704 Crystal Springs Dr	4	4	2,855
1707 Via Fortuna	4	3	2,099
6573 Camelia Drive	4	4	2,491
1245 Silverado Drive	4	3	2,770
6564 Camelia Drive	5	3	2,912

Address	Bed	Bath	Sq. Ft.
6569 Rolling Oaks Dr	4	3	2,450
6557 Crystal Springs Dr	4	3	2,848
6525 Crystal Springs Dr	4	3	2,700
6602 Whitbourne Dr	4	3	2,450
20110 Almaden Road	3	3	2,635
7056 Wooded Lake	4	3	2,907
22650 McKean Road	3	4	4,000

Address	Bed	Bath	Sq. Ft.
6577 Gillis Drive	4	3	2,415
1129 Valley Quail Cir	4	3	3,026
7217 Silver Lode Lane	5	3	3,700
1117 Casaba Creek Ct	5	4	3,200
6486 Oakcrest Drive	4	3	1,940
6771 Velvet Meadow Ct	4	3	2,090
1525 Cowper Ct	4	3	2,779



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

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN**  
6581 Camden Ave. San Jose, CA 95120. The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector. Phone:408-268-0243  
Web:www.eca-sj.org  
At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, loved, valued and empowered to serve. Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family. All junior high and senior high students are welcome to participate in

our Youth Groups. During the school year we have joint Sunday School with our sister church, the Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, UCC. The Episcopal Church in Almaden offers the following regular opportunities for worship: Sunday at 7:30AM and 10:30AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.

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

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

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

# 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 co-owner, and the loss of the plant was a potentially catastrophic 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!*



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- St. Katharine Drexel

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Loading gift bags for distribution to deserving teens are Gifts for Teens volunteers (l to r) top row - Lea Kammerer, Jan Giroux, Kathy Bechly; bottom row are: Gary King, Jeanne Carbone, Bob Benoit, Elaine Benoit, Kathy Heihn and Bob Heihn.

## 'Gifts for Teens' meets goal of providing gift bags to deserving teens in the South Bay

*Gifts for Teens*, a local non-profit, has good cause to celebrate as they met their goal of providing 1,384 gift bags to low income and homeless teens this past holiday season.

The gift bags were delivered to Sacred Heart Community Services, The Bill Wilson Center, Unity Cares, Advent, and Home First for distribution to their teen clients. The gift bags, filled with practical and fun

items, continue to be seen as an incentive to bring teens into the Agencies where they can access help and services.

From local high school clothing drives, knitting clubs, local businesses, and corporate donations, *Gifts for Teens* mobilized all the available resources and generous community volunteers to help fill gift bags for deserving teens.

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Donald J. DeVries ■ Attorney at Law

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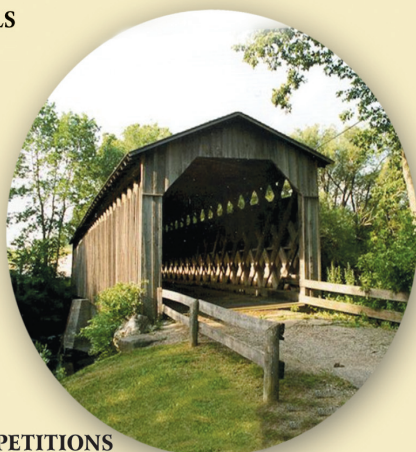
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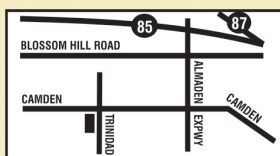
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# Ten common threats in marital dissolution cases discussed

By Donald J. DeVries

Special to the Times

This week's question:

My husband is constantly threatening me with certain things if I do not give in to his demands. How can I make him stop his childish behavior? Can I get a restraining order?

Katie K.

Almaden Valley

Dear Katie:

There are many instances where you can get a restraining order, but often mere threats are scary. I have heard some of the following in my years of law practice, not in any particular order:

"I will go to jail before I pay you a dime". O.K., fine, go directly to jail. If that's what he has decided, so be it. However, there are many ways to enforce support orders, such as wage assignments, contempt of court, taking the money out of his share of the community property, and others. Often, this is just a hollow threat.

"Why are you trying to take my money?" The truth is that each spouse is entitled to one-half of all community property.

"Unless you agree to such and such, you will never see the kids again." There are clear

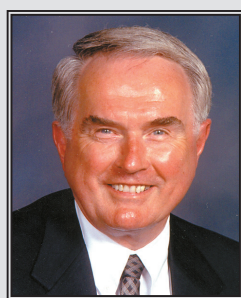
laws governing the custody and visitation between parents and their children. Threats like that are a waste of time.

"If you do not agree to my plan, the judge will order us to sell everything." Selling an asset is only the last resort. First comes an agreement for a buyout, trade of one asset for another, sharing an asset, or other means of settlement.

"I will tell them X about you; therefore, you will never get the children." "X" can be any number of things, such as having two glasses of wine a day, an affair, seeing an "analyst", or other issues. Chances are slim that "X" has anything to do with the best interests of the children.

"Your attorney is out to gouge you and is a dud. Let's just use one attorney, mine. And, besides, your attorney is really on my side." This is a divide and conquer tactic and one to be avoided at all cost.

"I will quit my job before I pay you a dime in spousal support or child support." Ask



## Ask The Lawyer

Donald J. DeVries,  
Attorney at Law

For past articles,  
visit our web site at  
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him to put that in writing or get a witness to him saying that, since if you can prove it, support could be ordered to remain at the same level. And, you could be favored with a court order for your attorneys' fees in that regard.

"When the judge sees my budget, he will not order half of what you want." First of all, the judge may be male or female. (Your husband may not be aware of this.) Secondly, almost everyone has too many expenses and not "excess" income to pay child or spousal support. And, in almost every case, the supported spouse will need more than he or she can obtain and the supporting spouse will be paying more than can be afforded.

"I will think about a reconciliation only if you sign this agreement." My comment to that threat is actually a question: why do you need the "agreement" if you are going to reconcile? And, one wonders why the "agreement" needs to be in favor of the party demanding it.

"Unless you play this my way, you will

never see a dime." California laws are clear about community property, separate property, custody, visitation and many other topics. Maybe the threatener is used to being in charge and this may change.

So, you can see, Katie, that there are many types of threats in your situation. Do not be intimidated into anything. Talk to your own attorney. Talk to your good friends. Do not panic and take it one step at a time.

Also, keep a good diary of all of these threats. Keep a record of the date, place, time, and other circumstances. Make your confidential record as soon after the event as possible and keep it to yourself. Of course, do not record any conversation without the other person's knowledge and consent.

I hope these thoughts have been helpful in your situation. Best wishes as the future unfolds.

Donald J. DeVries

Almaden Valley

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

## AUTO REVIEW

# Chrysler to revive minivan with new look, high tech Pacifica

By Sean Eastwood

Times Staff Writer

Will Chrysler's 2017 Pacifica make minivans popular again?

Chrysler invented the minivan 33 years ago, and now it's reinventing it with styling reminiscent of an SUV, high-tech features and a first-ever hybrid model.

Chrysler unveiled its new 2017 Chrysler Pacifica at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit this week.

The automaker surprised the industry by dropping Town & Country after 25 years as a mainstay in the Chrysler lineup, and is reviving the Pacifica name.

The Pacifica ushers in a completely new look that hides its sliding doors and doesn't even appear to be a minivan at first glance. Inside, the materials, buttons, and switches are very high quality. Also available is a state-of-the-art rear-seat entertainment system.

The Pacifica is equipped with a redesigned 3.6-liter, V-6 Pentastar engine that produces 287 horsepower and 262 pound-feet of torque. The new engine is lighter with much greater fuel economy when combined with a nine-speed transmission.

The hybrid version will get up to 80 miles per gallon equivalent (MPGe) in city driving. The minivan will go up to 30 miles on electric power when fully charged. When the battery's energy is depleted, the Pacifica Hybrid becomes a part-time electric vehicle, like a conventional hybrid. This is possible due to



the extra room available to store batteries on the vehicle.

The Pacifica Hybrid's battery is located under the second-row floor, keeping the rear cargo area as roomy as ever and preserving the third-row Stow 'n Go seating and storage. When the battery is depleted the van becomes a part-time electric vehicle, like a conventional hybrid. The battery can be fully recharged in two hours using a 240-volt plug-in system.

A Chrysler spokesperson said that "We are not trying to say it's not a minivan, all we are trying to say is it's so new, so different and so much of a game changer in that segment."

The 2017 Chrysler Pacifica will be available in six models when it goes on sale this spring while the Pacifica Hybrid will come in two models when it arrives during the second half of 2016.

## Forecasts predict fourth straight yearly decline at the pump

Motorists will be rewarded at the pump this year, spending \$17 billion less compared to 2015 as the national yearly sags for a fourth straight year to \$2.28 a gallon, according to a fuel price forecast issued by GasBuddy.

The 'winter-blend' to 'summer blend' fuel transition mandated by EPA regulations will again deliver a consistent climb in retail gasoline prices this spring, but the 'compression' that has occurred since 2012 will likely yield a peak for 2016 that falls below the 2015 peak of \$2.82.

Diesel's yearly average price will be lower than gasoline for the first time since 2004. "Looking at the broad range of factors that impact crude oil, forecasting gasoline and market fundamentals are a delicate balance of art and science," says Patrick DeHaan, head petroleum analyst for GasBuddy.

"While past history is never a guaranteed indicator of future performance, it does offer clues that are instrumental to short-term and long-term forecasts." "For instance, we believe the global glut of oil and record level for U.S. crude oil inventory will maintain considerable pressure on benchmark crude prices.

Coupled with tepid demand from the world's largest economies, that suggest the overall trend of recent years should continue, and that means favorable outcomes for U.S. consumers," DeHaan added.

Additional components that have the potential to weigh on retail gasoline prices include federal and state tax changes, Middle East volatility, currency fluctua-



tions, refinery maintenance and/or unscheduled outages, weather events, and transportation snafus.

"While there are always some unforeseeable surprises, we're confident that when we reach the end of the 2016, the roller coaster ride will net savings over fuel purchases of last year, especially for savvy motorists who shop for the cheapest gasoline prices," said Gregg Laskoski, GasBuddy senior petroleum analyst.

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SALE PRICE	\$21,203
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC CONSUMER CASH	-\$2,500
CHRYSLER 2016 CA RETAIL CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH*	-\$1,000

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$16,916

2 AT THIS NET PRICE #149306, 149648  
\*MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL.

### 2016 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT

50 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$24,390
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$3,974
SALE PRICE	\$20,416
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC CONSUMER CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC RETAIL BONUS CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC BONUS CASH	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$17,916

HURRY! LAST ONE AT THIS NET PRICE #231157

### 2015 DODGE CHARGER SE W/9-SPEED AUTOMATIC

46 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$28,990
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$4,074
SALE PRICE	\$24,916
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC CONSUMER CASH	-\$1,500
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC RETAIL BONUS CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER YEAR-END BONUS CASH	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$21,916

1 AT THIS NET PRICE #886837

### 2015 DODGE CHALLENGER SXT

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

MSRP	\$27,990
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$2,074
SALE PRICE	\$25,916
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC CONSUMER CASH	-\$500
CHRYSLER SELECT RETAIL CASH	-\$1,500
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC BONUS CASH	-\$1,000

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$22,916

1 AT THIS NET PRICE VIN #851393

### 2015 RAM 1500 LARAMIE QUAD CAB

NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

MSRP	\$47,895
DEALER DISCOUNT OFF MSRP	-\$7,016
RAM CALIF. 2015 BC CONSUMER CASH	-\$2,500
RAM TRUCK RETAIL BONUS CASH	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH*	-\$500
RAM TRADE-IN BONUS CASH	-\$1,000

**NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$12,016

1 AT THIS NET SAVINGS #752567  
\*MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL.

### 2015 DODGE DURANGO AUTOMATIC FRONT & REAR A/C, W/8-SPEED

31 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$31,490
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$3,524
SALE PRICE	\$27,966
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH	-\$1,250

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$26,716

HURRY! LAST ONE AT THIS NET PRICE #155974

### 2015 CHRYSLER 300 S 4-DOOR SEDAN W/8-SPEED AUTOMATIC

9 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP	\$41,680
DEALER DISCOUNT OFF MSRP	-\$7,416
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC CONSUMER CASH	-\$2,500
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC RETAIL CASH	-\$1,000

**NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$10,916

1 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET SAVINGS #797562

### Weather Report: It's time to buy a 4x4!

### 2016 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SPORT 4X4 4-DOOR SUV

58 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

**SALE PRICE**

## \$25,816

HURRY ONE LEFT AT THIS SALE PRICE #145026

### 2015 JEEP WRANGLER RUBICON 4X4

DEALER DISCOUNT OFF MSRP

## \$6,016

1 AT THIS DISCOUNT VIN #742947

### 2015 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 4X4 4-DOOR SUV LOADED!

27 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

**NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$8,116

5 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET SAVINGS

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Times **Features**

## Easy ways to manage your whole home in zones

You've been taught from childhood to turn off the lights when you leave a room to save energy and money. Now, technology is allowing homeowners to apply those years of training to managing energy consumption – and comfort – on a room-by-room basis throughout the house.

This new approach to managing your home allows you to customize nearly every aspect of a room's environment independently from other parts of the house, in some cases, even when you're miles away. You can adjust lighting, music and even the temperature using the right technology-enabled devices.

### Options to create ambiance

Nothing sets a mood quite like music. Your home audio system may be perfect when you're home alone, but when guests fill every room, a more custom approach is in order. For example, the volume may be louder to overcome the commotion of the kitchen, while a lower decibel provides a gentle backdrop to conversation in the living room. Where the kids are congregated, you can play a different soundtrack entirely.

Likewise, there are dozens of reasons to change the lighting from room to room. Kids shuffle from room to room and guests gravitate to different parts of the house, or you may simply want to give the appearance that someone is home when you're on the road. These are all good reasons to explore a system that lets you adjust your home's lighting from a single location.

### Zoned climate control

The approach to heating and cooling homes has evolved dramatically through the years as well. Now, the latest technology makes it possible to combine the advantages of cooling and heating systems with the benefits of more localized climate settings. Individualized zone control allows homeowners to save money while offering the flexibility to choose which rooms they want to cool and heat.



"Cooling or heating unused areas of your home means using less energy," said Mike Smith, senior marketing manager, residential, Mitsubishi Electric US, Inc. Cooling & Heating Division. "By creating zones, homeowners can feel confident that they are not only saving money, but living smarter and more comfortably."

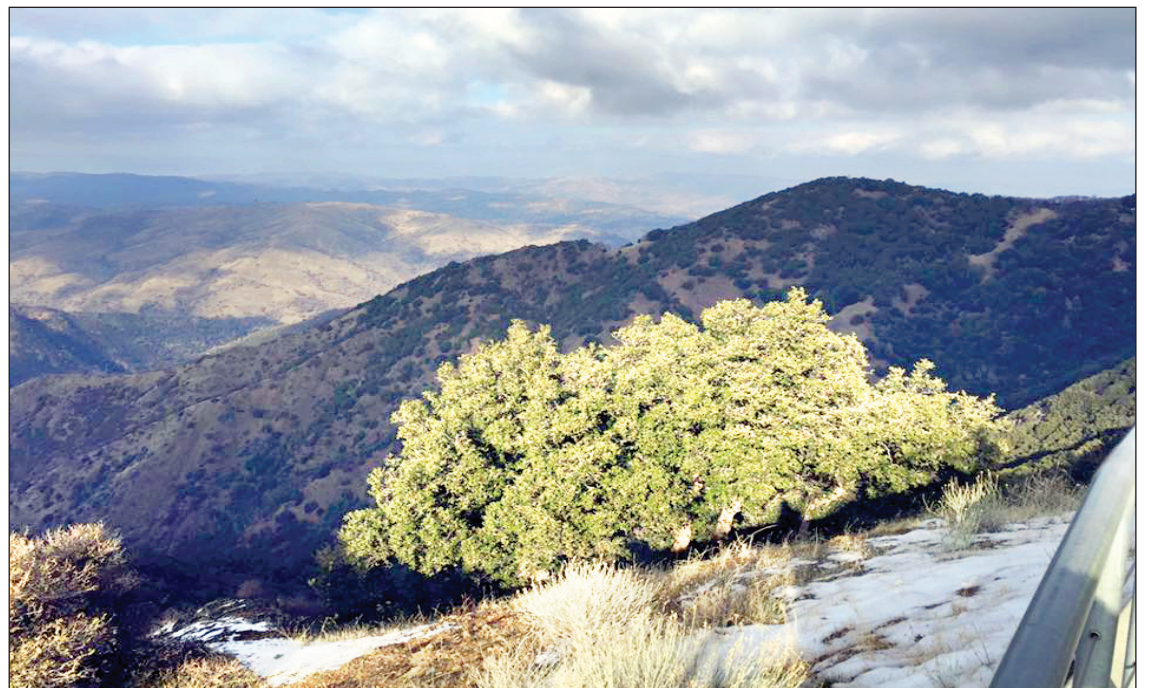
Options, such as Mitsubishi Electric's zoned Diamond Comfort System, create efficient, whole-home cooling and heating solutions, offering year-round comfort control room-by-room. The whisper-quiet units also feature an anti-allergen filtration system to reduce allergens, dust, pollen, viruses and bacteria in the home. Learn more at MitsubishiComfort.com.

### Remote management

One of the greatest advantages of the new zoned approach to home management is the ability to adjust each room remotely. Smartphones have taken that function to a whole new level, with apps that let homeowners control virtually any aspect of the home from a remote location, whether down the hall or across the country.

For example, the kumo cloud smart controls app integrates seamlessly with Mitsubishi Electric systems allowing the homeowner to control the temperature of each room in the house from anywhere. The tool takes pre-programmed thermostats to a whole new level with greater flexibility, such as the ability to boost the heat when you're home earlier than planned. Learn more about the app, which is also compatible with other devices, at MitsubishiComfort.com.

(Family Features)



## RESOLUTE CYCLING

### A trek up the mountain

Cyclists, including San Jose Mayor **Sam Liccardo**, made a New Year's Day trek up Mt. Hamilton. Above: the snowy view from Mt. Hamilton. Below: the intrepid crew. Photo: Shiloh Ballard, Silicon Valley Bike Coalition.





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Times **Features**

# Disneyland closes attractions to build 'Star Wars' land

For those of you that have seen the new Star Wars movie *The Force Awakens*, and want to experience piloting the Millennium Falcon, your wish may soon come true.

Disney is stepping up construction on its new "Star Wars" land in Anaheim. However, a few staple attractions at the park will be closing—temporarily and permanently—to make room for the special 14-acre extravaganza.

Currently, more than 14 percent of the Disneyland Park in Anaheim Park is closed.

**Permanent Closures:**

Big Thunder Ranch in Frontierland; Big Thunder Ranch

Barbecue; Big Thunder Ranch Petting Zoo; and Big Thunder Ranch Jamboree

**Temporary Closures:**

Fantasmic; The Mark Twain Riverboat; The Sailing Ship Columbia; The Pirate's Lair on Tom Sawyer Island; The Disneyland Railroad; and The Davy Crockett Explorer Canoes

Disney CEO Bob Iger announced the "Star Wars" expansion to more than 7,500 fans last year during the company's annual D23 Expo in August. Disney World in Orlando, Florida, is also slated to construct "Star Wars"-inspired lands, but official opening dates have not yet been set.

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# Happy New Year!

from **The Swan**

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## Have a Great 2016!



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