

**HUNDREDS ATTEND  
MINT & BASIL  
FUNDRAISER  
TO HELP NEEDY  
CHILDREN – P4**



**POLICE ARREST  
GANG CHARGED  
WITH ROBBERY,  
CARJACKING AND  
BURGLARY – P15**



**11TH ANNUAL  
SENIOR WINTER  
WALK AND  
RESOURCE FAIR  
FEBRUARY 23 – P20**



JAN. 26–FEB. 8, 2018 ■ VOL. 31, NO. 3

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# Almaden Times

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## 'Come Meet the Artists' Feb. 10 at TJ Martin, Jeffrey Fontana Parks

By William Bellou  
Publisher

“Come Meet the Artists” is a special event to meet six artists selected for the Beautility Project at the TJ Martin and Jeffrey Fontana Parks on Saturday, February 10.

Six artists will present their portfolios starting at 11 a.m. at the Almaden Community Center (Room 3) in order to obtain input from local residents before submitting each of their mural design proposals for painting the above ground concrete vaults tied to the underground water pipe system at both parks.

“The artists are looking forward to displaying their marvelous art and getting feedback from the public to garner artistic inspiration for their upcoming paintings of their assigned vaults; two for each artist,” said San Jose City Councilmember Johnny Khamis, District 10. Khamis and the City of San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs Public Art Program are major sponsors of the event.

“Fortunately, we found money exclusively dedicated for art in the park projects from the District 10 budget, and the City Public Art Department agreed to take responsibility for maintaining the park vault murals” said Michele Dexter, Council Aide for District 10.

Overseeing the Beautility Project is Michael Ogilvie, Public Art Director for the City of San Jose. Ogilvie’s office will be coordinating and presenting each artist’s mural designs at a public viewing during this year’s Heart of the Park event scheduled for May 19. Following input from the public, the Public Art Committee will give their final approval of each mural design.

Dexter said the murals are expected to be completed in October. A dedication ceremony is being planned for November.



Build-Day hosted at Orchard Supply Hardware on January 20 brought the “Pack” together to ensure everyone had a chance to build and race a car.

## Orchard hosts Pinewood Derby 'Build Day'

By Kevin Larsen  
Times Staff Writer

A group of enthusiastic Cub Scouts from Almaden put on a Pinewood Derby Build Day at Orchard Supply Hardware on Saturday Jan. 20.

Build-Day is presented for those that are not equipped or skilled enough to build their car on their own, ensuring everyone has a chance to build and race a car. Most Scouts take advantage of Build Day, but some choose to build their cars entirely at home.

Cub Scout Pack 281 is based in Almaden Valley and the group is comprised of 62 scouts. Each den has a unique name and is made up of different age groups of boys: Lion - Kindergarten, Tiger - 1st, Wolf - 2nd,

See DERBY, page 18

## Recent disasters lead city to step up emergency preparations

By Lorraine Gabbert  
Senior Staff Writer

Following the raging fires in Santa Rosa, Los Angeles and Santa Barbara, and the local flooding of Coyote Creek, the City of San Jose is stepping up its game in preparing for an emergency.

Leading the charge is Ray Riordan, Director of the San Jose Office of Emergency Management. Riordan was hired just 10 days after Coyote Creek flooded its banks in February, turning streets into rivers, communities upside down and costing more than \$100 million in damages. Many blamed the city for not having an emergency director and inadequately warning residents to evacuate their homes before the flood.

“Our recent experience with the flooding by Coyote Creek is an urgent reminder that we have much to do so that our city organization and the people of our community can be better prepared to



handle the immediate and long-term effects of a major emergency,” says San Jose Fire Chief Curtis Jacobson. “Although many hundreds of city employees have worked incredibly hard...to respond to the needs of our residents in flooded areas, we know

**On the Santa Rose fires:  
'As people tried to flee from their homes, fireballs fell from the sky the length of an arm and the width of a fist,' says Riordan. 'Cars couldn't start because of the smoke. We have the same geography, topography and landscape, hence the importance of mitigation.'**

— Ray Riordan, Director of the San Jose Office of Emergency Management

we must do better based on the lessons we’re learning now.”

Jacobson, who appointed Riordan, welcomed him aboard. “I’m looking forward to having Ray Riordan’s outstanding experience and leadership,” he said.

Riordan, who is Federal

Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) certified, has worked for more than 30 years in emergency management. He has been involved in presidential declarations, as well as earthquakes, floods and wildfires, including the Loma Prieta, Northridge and Sylmar earthquakes and the recent firestorm in Santa Rosa. He also gained operational experience managing public health emergencies and blackouts.

Born 10th of 12 children, with seven older sisters, Riordan says he never had a mother: he had eight. He credits his family life for preparing him for a career in emergency management by teaching him to manage rules and expectations and take directions.

During the recovery process following the Coyote Creek flood, Riordan worked closely with FEMA and also starting rebuilding San Jose’s emergency services office. “There were 243 action

See EMERGENCIES, page 16

**SEE OUR LISTINGS OF LOCAL REALTORS, CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING AND HOME IMPROVEMENT ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER**

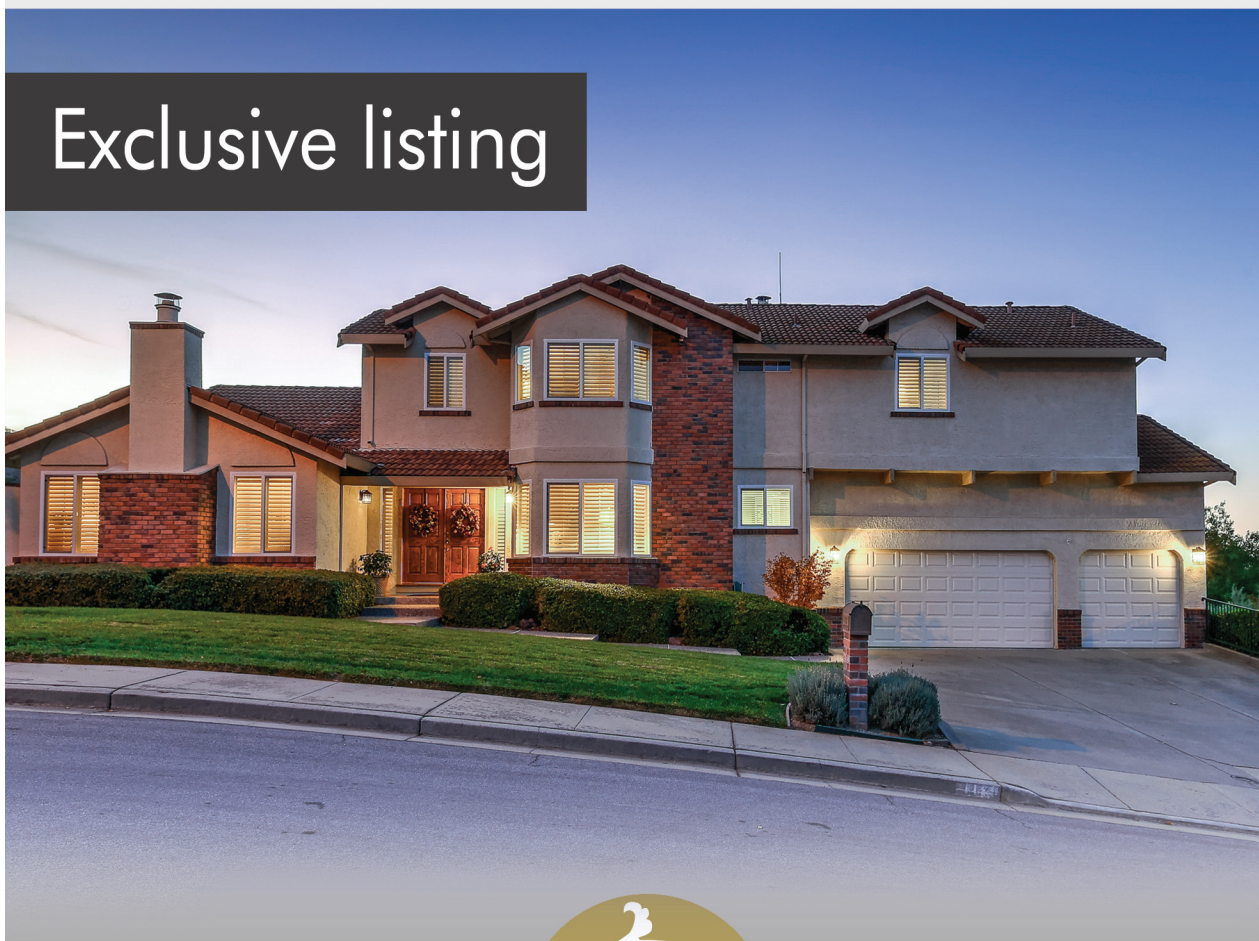


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## This Week:

### CITY

San Jose Unified  
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with bond refinancing:  
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Give the gift of finan-  
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Demon-ic drag racing  
school : **PAGE 8**

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## Almaden Times

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# Valley Currents

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

## Hundreds attend Mint & Basil fundraiser to help needy children

By Sean Eastwood  
Times staff writer

Mint & Basil Restaurant gave back to the community with a fundraiser for needy children called Dining for a Cause on Sunday, Jan. 21.

The noon time event supported children through the cooperation with the San Jose Vietnamese Racing Club with 100 percent of the restaurant food sales going to a non-profit fund.

“Our turn-out was fabulous for our fund raising event,” said Cindy Ho, owner of Mint & Basil. “We served more than 200 dish items during the three-hour noon time event.”

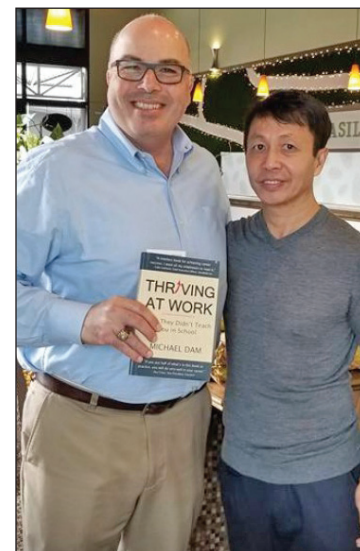
Michael Dam, the author of Thriving At Work: What They Didn't Teach You in School, signed free autographed books at the fundraising event. Dam's book is available on Amazon.com.

Mint & Basil specializes in Asian dishes from Vietnam, Thailand, and Malaysia. Most popular dishes are the Autumn Rolls, Rock 'n Roll “Beef”, Ginger Chicken, and Signature Curry.

Mint & Basil is located at the Almaden Ranch Shopping Center, 5130 Cherry Ave #30, San Jose, CA 95118. Phone number: 408.809.4910.



More than 200 patrons contributed to a fund raiser to help needy children with their purchase of fabulous 100 percent vegetarian dishes, such as Rock 'n Roll Beef, Ginger Chicken, and Eggplant. Pictured (l to r) are: **Luong Le**, SJ Vietnamese Racing Club, **Michelle Le**, **Quynh Nguyen**, **William Bellou**, publisher; **Johnny Khamis**, councilman; **Cindy Ho**, Mint & Basil owner; and **Michael Dam**, author.



Khamis and author Dam, with Dam's book 'Thriving at Work.'



## NEW SURVEY REVELATIONS

## Marijuana use could be jeopardizing safety on the roads

As California enters into a new era of legal use and sale of recreational marijuana, a new poll just released reveals Americans' perception of marijuana-impaired driving and the dangers involved.

The new survey of over 2,000 U.S. adults, conducted online by Harris Poll on behalf of the Property Casualty Insurers Association of America (PCI), reveals that more Americans consider using social media (99%) and texting (98%) on a cell phone to be dangerous while driving than being under the influence of marijuana (91%).

But while the vast majority of Americans (91%) believe driving under the influence of marijuana is dangerous and a similar percentage (87%) say those who do so are a hazard to others on the road, just two in five (40%) believe it is contributing to more motor vehicle crashes. The survey is especially timely

given the California Office of Traffic Safety's new “Drive High, Get a DUI” PSA campaign.

Distracted driving, which includes actions such as using a cell phone, talking to passengers, eating and adjusting the radio, tops the list as the number one perceived contributor (92%) to the increase in crashes across the country.

“Driving under the influence of marijuana is extremely dangerous,” said Robert Gordon, senior vice president, PCI. “In fact, driving under the influence of marijuana should be viewed with the same risks as drunk or distracted driving. When you're high, it can impair your judgment, motor coordination, and reaction time. We need more research, public awareness, and better public policy to reduce the dangers of marijuana-impaired driving and to make our roads less dangerous.”

Key takeaways:

- While the vast majority of Americans (91%) believe driving under the influence of marijuana is dangerous, just two in five (40%) believe it is contributing to more motor vehicle crashes.
- Only just 31% of parents have discussed the dangers of driving under the influence of marijuana with their child, which pales in comparison to parents who have discussed:
  - Wearing a seatbelt all/most of the time (67%)
  - Texting while driving (60%)
  - Speeding while driving (54%)
  - Talking on cell phone while driving (50%)
  - Using social media while driving (40%)

Twenty-nine states and the District of Columbia currently have laws legalizing marijuana in some form (medical and/or

See POT USE, page 6

## LET THE ALMADEN TIMES HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your letters to [editorial@timesmediainc.com](mailto:editorial@timesmediainc.com) or mail to: Almaden Times, Silicon Valley Business Center, 1900 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95124





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Times **Local News**

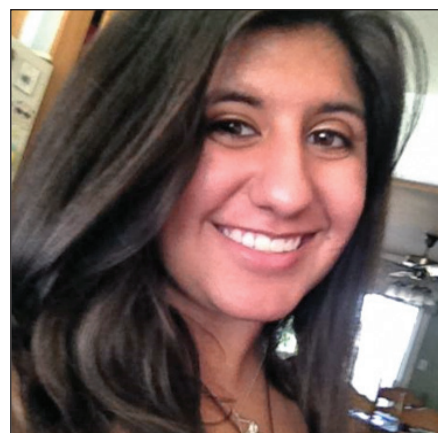
**2018 Almaden Valley Girls Softball  
Registration is OPEN NOW!  
AGES 4 to 14**

Almaden Valley Girls Softball League registration is now open to **GIRLS** ages 4-14 wanting to play Spring Recreational Softball. AVGSL is a non-profit, 100% volunteer run league. The main goal of AVGSL is to ensure that the players are in a fun, positive environment while learning and expanding their softball skills. AVGSL promotes a sense of belonging for everyone. We emphasize teamwork and the sense of individual success that contributes to team sports.

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If you have any questions please email us at [registrar@avgsl.org](mailto:registrar@avgsl.org)



Anamaria Falcone and Ryan McCahan

## Falcone and McCahan make Emerson College Dean's List

Anamaria Falcone and Ryan McCahan (pictured above) of Almaden Valley have been named to Emerson College's Dean's List.

Falcone graduated from Archbishop Mitty High School, and McCahan is a Leland High School graduate.

Emerson College, located in Boston, Massachusetts, educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts. The College has 3,750 undergraduates and 750 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Emerson is known for its study and internship programs in Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic.

## Baylor University names Almaden honor students

Almaden Valley residents Joyce Ahn, College of Arts and Sciences, Caroline Elizabeth Blach, College of Arts and Sciences, and Jillian Claire Hatcher, Hankamer School of Business, were named to the Baylor University Dean's Academic Honor Roll for the 2017 fall semester.

Baylor University is a private Christian university and a nationally ranked research institution. The Baylor campus

community totals more than 17,000 students from all 50 states and more than 80 countries to study a broad range of degrees among its 12 nationally recognized academic divisions.

## San Jose Unified saves taxpayers \$3.1M with bond refinancing

San Jose Unified School District successfully issued \$27.69 million of 2017 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, saving property owners within the district more than \$3.1 million over the remaining life of the bonds.

The savings is equal to approximately \$2.79 million in present value or 9.45 percent of bonds refunded.

Refunding bonds, which are similar in purpose to refinancing a home mortgage, pay off existing debt with funds borrowed at lower interest rates. The savings are then passed on to taxpayers in the form of lower property taxes.

The bonds were sold at 1.82 percent interest, considerably lower than the 4.90 percent average coupon of the refunded bonds. Strong investor demand for the district's highly-rated bonds resulted in over \$285 million in orders, far exceeding the \$27.69 million of bonds available. The strong demand provided an opportunity to further reduce yields during the pricing process.

"Timing for the refunding proved critical as municipal bond yields remain near historically low levels and many municipal issuers fear they will lose the ability to advance refund bonds on a tax-exempt basis," said Blake Boehm of KNN Public Finance, the district's municipal advisor.

## Pot use

*Continued from page 4* recreational) and according to the Highway Loss Data Institute collision rates are approximately three percent higher in three states that have approved the sale of marijuana for recreational use - Colorado, Oregon, and Washington.

While these laws allow for the use of marijuana, driving high is illegal. Evidence shows that marijuana use can impair critical abilities necessary for safe driving, such as divided attention, slow reaction time, lane tracking, and cognitive and executive functions.

The National Safety Council recently announced that we have seen the worst



two-year escalation in auto fatalities in more than 50 years. Marijuana-impaired driving is one of the many factors believed to be contributing to the recent increase in auto crash frequency, particularly as more states liberalize their marijuana laws.

"Parents need to discuss the dangers of driving under the influence of marijuana with their teenagers," Gordon continued. "As more states liberalize their marijuana laws, it is critical that the public become more aware of the dangers of driving high. And that awareness campaign should start at home, with conversations between parents and their children about safe driving."

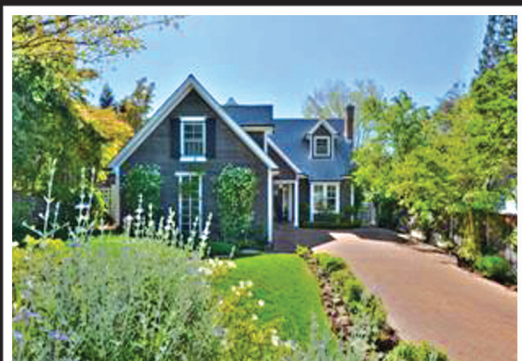
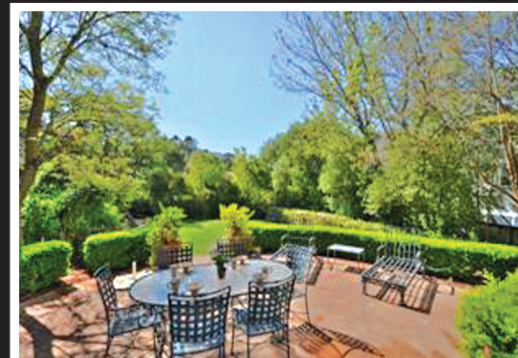
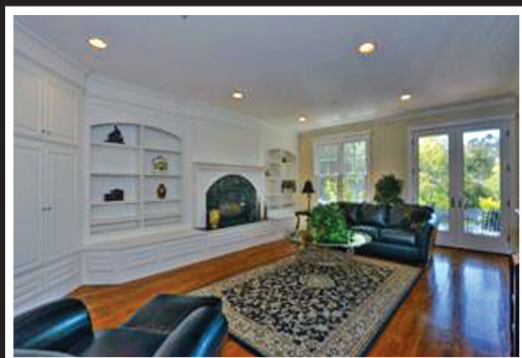


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## State of the City Celebration

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## Times Auto



The 2019 Ram 1500 features very different styling and the latest technology.

## The new 2019 Ram 1500 lighter, sleeker with new technology

By Sean Eastwood  
*Times staff writer*

The next-generation features of the Ram 1500 include a lighter, sleeker and more technologically advanced truck.

“The new 2019 Ram 1500 offers a mild hybrid system for its V6 and V8 engines, which means the electric motors add extra torque off the line, enable a fuel-saving stop-start feature and improve overall fuel efficiency,” said Bob Mann, General Sales Manager, South County Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep-Ram.

The new 1500 keeps its steel body – except for the aluminum tailgate – but uses lighter high-strength steel for its frame, plus some aluminum and composite chassis components that together reduce weight by over 200 pounds.

The ride has been enhanced with new frequency response dampers that soak up small bumps and keeps the truck’s body level in curves. The optional air suspension system can raise and lower the truck to increase ground clearance, ease entry and reduce aerodynamic drag.

“The cabin is much larger than before, offering the most storage space of any full-size pickup,” said Mann. “Some of that can be found under a reclining rear bench seat that floats over a flat floor that has a pop-out bin to secure small items. Up front, the center console has spaces for phones, tablets and large laptops and can be equipped with a wireless charging pad. Out back, the 1500’s signature RamBox waterproof bed side storage system (optional) now has better lighting and a 115-volt outlet inside.”

### Latest safety features

Active safety features include adaptive cruise control, lane keeping assist, automatic emergency braking and a self-steering parking system. A 360-

degree bird’s eye view camera system is also available to help out if you prefer to park yourself.

Pricing for the new Ram 1500 was not announced, but it will be offered in six trim levels, including the Rebel with its one-inch suspension lift, off-road suspension, skid plates, and locking rear differential that was designed to roll over anything that gets in its way.

For more information, contact Scott DePeralta or Adam Warduck at South County Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep; 455 Automall Drive, Gilroy, CA 95020; (888) 470-4578.



## Dodge launching Demon-ic drag racing school

Dodge has announced the launch of the “Dodge//SRT Bondurant Drag Racing School” at Wild Horse Pass Motorsports park in Chandler, Ariz., just outside Phoenix.

You now have three options, Buy one, 'borrow' one, or go to drag racing school. Demon owners get a free one-day course with their car purchase, but the program is also open to non-Demon owners for a price. You don’t have to use your own car at the school.

The instruction starts with the lesser R/T models and works its way up through 22 runs to the 840hp Demon, which features a drag racing style transmission brake that delivers the quickest times, but is tricky to use.





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1117 MOCKINGBIRD COURT, ALMADEN  
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7311 GLENVIEW DRIVE, ALMADEN  
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6578 JEREMIE DRIVE, ALMADEN  
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# Give the gift of financial literacy with money oriented board games

By Sean Eastwood  
Times staff writer

Teaching children and teenagers about money should never take a break, espe-

cially when you consider how important a strong financial education can be in preparing them for a successful life.

To keep your children and

teens actively engaged about money and finances during 2018, First Bank has put together a short list of board games that would make great birthday gifts while teaching your kids valuable money lessons.

**Monopoly** (suitable for ages 8 or older)

Objective: Become the player with the highest net worth by accumulating property and cash.

Financial lessons: Cash management, handling financial setbacks, taxes, investments, financial choices.

**The Game of Life** (suitable age 9 and older)

Objective: Through life choices, the player with the most money wins.

Financial lessons: Early investing, compound interest, loan payments, taxes, debt, managing net worth.

**Cashflow 101** (12 and older)

Objective: Move from the "rat race" and onto the "fast track" by amassing enough income producing assets to exceed your monthly expenses. Once on the fast track, your next goal is to

land on your dream space or reach \$50,000 in passive income to win the game.

Financial lessons: Investing basics, basic personal accounting, difference between assets and liabilities, learning how to read a financial statement.

**Charge Large** (age 14 and older)

Objective: Buy businesses and buildings with a mix of credit and cash and watch your credit-limits climb. To claim victory, you have to have zero debt.

Financial lessons: Re-sponsi-

ble credit card use, importance of saving and investing, interest payments, overspending.

**Payday**

Objective: Be the player who has the most cash and savings at the end of the game.

Financial lessons: Assess cash flow, totaling expenses, loan payments, bill paying, basics of budgeting, and the importance of emergency funds and savings contributions.

**Let the games begin**

In addition to the board games listed here, there are many others on the market that will provide your kids with hours of fun while teaching them some "real life" financial issues and money lessons. Get into the game and give the gift of literacy this season.

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## PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL Electronic Waste Collection Fundraiser

Help the City get rid of E-Waste the right way by diverting it from the landfills to a proper recycling process!

- Electronic discards are one of the fastest growing segments of our nation's waste stream.
- 56% of American households have functional e-products that they will no longer use.
- Less than 10% of e-waste is currently being properly dismantled or recycled.
- 70% of heavy metals, 40% of lead found in today's landfills come from e-waste.

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San Jose CA 95118

Money raised benefits the Pioneer High Education Foundation!

What is "E-waste"?

E-Waste is defined as any consumer electronic equipment that has reached its 'end-of-life,' 'end-of-usage,' whether in full or non-working condition.

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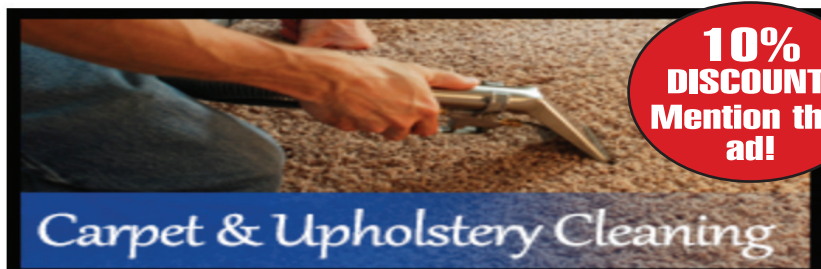
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## Police focus on improving school campus safety

By Sean Eastwood  
Times staff writer

The San Jose Police Department (SJPd) has been working with various school districts to establish principles and guidelines governing the relationship between the school districts and SJPd law enforcement on high school campuses.

San Jose Unified School district is among the districts participating with the police initiative for campus safety. SJPd are making it clear they are there to provide school safety, but they're not on campus to enforce school rules.

"Having officers doing the work of school administrators and enforcing school rules is a recipe for disaster and not the purpose of having law enforcement on campuses," said Eddie Garcia, SJ Police Chief. "This agreement ensures our officers are in schools to provide a safe place to learn and build positive relationships with students and staff."

As a precursor to this MOU, SJPd coordinated with the Juvenile Probation Department and the Santa Clara District Attorney's Office to create a diversion program designed to reduce the number of citations and arrests of students.

Some first-time low-level offenses like petty theft and vandalism will be eligible and provide juveniles with school-based services avoiding direct entry into the criminal justice system.

Chief Eddie Garcia said, "This diversion program helps address the low-level, non-violent youth offenders who are entering the juvenile justice system."

The new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department and the school districts in San Jose will better define each other's role. This MOU language has also been incorporated into the Department's Duty Manual as policy.

I'd like to thank Chief Garcia and Superintendents Funk, Andrew and Albarran for reaching this agreement," said Mayor Sam Liccardo. "We all agree that we can best keep our kids safe by focusing our officers' scarce time on crime, not student discipline."

"Developing this MOU was critical to

clearly delineate the work of the site administrator and the role of police officers on school campuses. Administrators investigate violations of Education Code. Police officers are there to protect staff and students from outside intruders, build relationships with students and support the school during an emergency situation," said Chris Funk East Side Union High School Superintendent.

The roles and duties of a San Jose police officer on a school campus are primarily those of a law enforcement officer of their primary employer, the City of San Jose. A San Jose police officer shall be responsible for carrying out all duties and responsibilities of an officer, as prescribed by state law, and shall always remain subject to the San Jose Police Department and the City of San Jose.

The four primary purposes for having police services on school campuses are:

- Maintain a safe and secure campus from intruders
- Preserve life and property in a manner which promotes community
- Develop positive relationships with students
- Support school district staff in the securing and transporting of prohibited confiscated items that are illegal to have on campus under California State Law

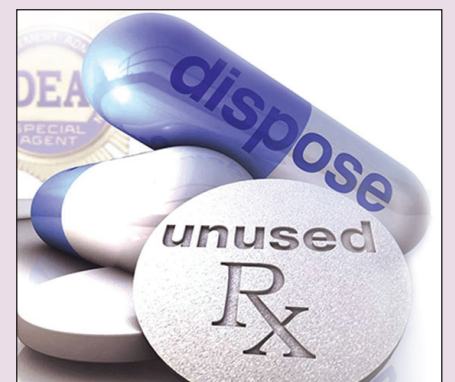
The primary understanding in this MOU is that the school districts agree that school officials will ensure that student disciplinary matters remain the responsibility of school staff and not the police officer. Enforcement of the code of student conduct is the responsibility of teachers, school staff, and school administrators. The police officer will refrain from being involved in the enforcement of disciplinary rules that do not constitute violations of criminal law, or are criminal violations eligible for diversion.

The San Jose Police Department's School Liaison Unit provides direct access to police services to the schools and provides programs that are designed to increase school safety. Some of the programs include presentations to school staff regarding legal updates, mandatory reporting laws, gang prevention, and sexual harassment.

## Wal-Mart offers a way to get rid of old meds safely for free

Wal-Mart is offering a new free product that allows consumers to safely and conveniently throw out what's left over of their medication. The product, DisposeRx, consists of a small packet that is dumped in a pill bottle with water and then shaken, turning the medication into a biodegradable gel.

Once turned into gel, leftover opioids can't be abused, according to DisposeRx Chief Executive John Holaday. DisposeRx has undergone "extensive" testing to check that premise, including trying out various household items that might be utilized, and "we can't find a way" to extract opioids, said Holaday.





Times **Local News**

## Police arrest gang charged with robbery, carjacking and burglary

By Sean Eastwood  
Times staff writer

Seven adults and five minors (15-17) have been arrested in a San Jose gang sweep for a series of robberies, carjackings, burglaries, and a shooting, according to the San Jose Police Department.

More than 50 officers conducted the "large-scale" operation last week targeting a violent criminal gang responsible for the crimes, police said. Officers also seized stolen property and weapons during the gang sweep.

Police say the crew was responsible for 30 robberies and carjackings in the city since the summer of 2017. During one of the robberies, the victim was assaulted and suffered a major head injury, authorities said. The gang used several stolen cars and guns during the crime spree.

Police served eight search and arrest warrants in San Jose and served one in Morgan Hill. Officers made multiple arrests and seized stolen property and weapons during the operation with collaboration from the San Jose Police Department's Robbery Unit, in conjunction with the Gang Investigations Unit (GIU), Covert Response Unit (CRU),

Special Operations and Patrol, and assistance from the Santa Clara County Regional Auto Theft Task Force (RATTF) and Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office Crime Strategies.

The adult gang members were booked into the Santa Clara County Jail and the juveniles were booked into Santa Clara County Juvenile Hall on multiple charges, including; robbery, carjacking, burglary, assault with a deadly weapon, resisting arrest, child endangerment, possession of a loaded firearm, possession of stolen property, possession of drugs, and gang enhancement.

The following items were seized as evidence:

- 7 firearms
- One carjacked vehicle was recovered
- \$2,000 in US Currency
- Ammunition
- Replica firearms
- Stun gun, pepper spray and knives
- Stolen property (laptops, tablets, keys and key fobs)

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Michael White or Detective Tedros Habib of the San Jose Police Department's Robbery Unit at 408-277-4166. Persons wishing to remain anonymous may either call the Crime Stoppers Tip Line, (408) 947-STOP (7867), or click the "Submit a Tip" link below. Persons providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect may be eligible for a cash reward from the Silicon Valley Crime Stoppers.



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Times **Cover Story****ALMADEN LAW GROUP**

Amy L. Horowitz Attorney at Law

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## Emergencies

Continued from page 1

items following the flood," he says.

One of the first things he did was relocate emergency services to the City Manager's office with a director in charge (it had become a division of the San Jose Fire Department in 2000 due to budget cuts). "Dave Sykes, the new San Jose City Manager, said the city will be relentless in its pursuit of emergency preparedness," says Riordan.

Today, the Office of Emergency Management handles integration between the police and fire departments and the community. It also identifies threats, risk management and carries out mitigation projects.

"In the flood situation, the water district and the city didn't collaborate well," says Riordan. "We changed the dynamics of how we plan, train and respond. In the past, each agency had its own plans with its own jurisdiction. Now we have a joint response plan."

Together, they are conducting a broad assessment of other waterways to assess flow levels and conditions. They also changed the capacity of Anderson Dam from 60 to 40 percent capacity to manage flood potential, the influx of water from storms and make a seismic retrofit less difficult.

Riordan says that his office faces many challenges, including being significantly underfunded and understaffed, with nine budgeted positions when they need 20 to be effective. "With 243 action items, we're pretty far behind and are short on resources," he says. "Our challenge is to look for grants and other funding."

Removing invasive plant species from waterways requires permitting by no less than 32 agencies and they are further hampered as their department can only work on city properties, while 25 private properties border Coyote Creek.

The Office of Emergency Management is also focusing on mitigation measures for earthquakes as Riordan believes they are the Bay Area's next greatest threat. He says that the Loma Prieta earthquake was significant to Watsonville, Santa Cruz, San Jose, San Francisco and Oakland due to the liquefaction of the region's alluvial soil. A concern of an earthquake on the Hayward Fault, which runs from Fremont north, is the severing of utility lines. Other California fault lines include the Calaveras Fault, which runs up I-680 to Dublin and meets the Haywood Fault in San Jose, and the San Andreas Fault, which led to the historic San Francisco earthquake of April 18, 1906.

Fire is another local concern. "This area's ripe for a fire," says Riordan. "During the Santa Rosa fires, when residents opened their doors, they couldn't shut them because of winds blowing 95 mph." In the hills, hurricane-force winds blew at 150 mph. "The windstorm that drove the fire created the real disaster," he says.

In Santa Rosa, a high-pressure system comes from the north across Nevada bringing up dry air. When it crosses the coastal mountains, a downdraft forced it to dive down. "As people tried to flee from their homes, fireballs fell from the sky the length of an arm and the width of a fist," says Riordan. "Cars couldn't start because of the

smoke. We have the same geography, topography and landscape, hence the importance of mitigation."

One Santa Rosa community outside Coffey Park hired firefighters to do mitigation there last year. Riordan credits their landscape efforts, removing vegetation and trees near the homes, with saving 50 of these 54 homes from the fire.

Riordan also considers floods a significant concern as last year there were 22 severe storms. "In 1868, California's governor was sworn in on a raft as the capital building was under water," he says. "We're seeing some climate change conditions now."

The Office of Emergency Management is partnering with new communication systems to notify the public of an emergency. Riordan recommends signing up at: [sccgov.org/sites/alertscc/Pages/home.aspx](http://sccgov.org/sites/alertscc/Pages/home.aspx) to receive emergency alerts. AlertSCC provides anyone who lives or works in Santa Clara County with emergency warnings and instructions sent directly to their cell phone, mobile device, email, or landline. Information may include evacuation areas, crimes affecting your neighborhood and post-disaster information about shelters, transportation, or supplies.

In July, in one broadcast, they reached three million people, informing them of cooling centers during the heatwave. Using a similar system, residents received hurricane warnings in Texas and tornado warnings in Oklahoma. During the firestorm in Southern California, they used it to warn people of the impending danger, but the Sonoma County sheriff chose not to use it during the Santa Rosa fires because he didn't want to incite a panic. Instead, they used portable long-range acoustical devices to inform people where they could find food, water, counseling and supplies.

To learn what potential hazards your neighborhood faces and how to mitigate them, see: [myhazards.caloes.ca.gov](http://myhazards.caloes.ca.gov) and type in your address. For lessening risks during earthquakes, the site recommends securing water heaters, tall furniture, electronics and kitchen appliances.

Riordan says that during a disaster, one of the greatest problems is having a supply of water. "Water pipes are not meant to bend 90 degrees during an earthquake," he says, "and plastic and metal breaks. The ability to distribute water is at risk." The emergency water plan includes rationing, modifying fire hydrants for public accessibility and delivering water to people and agriculture. For personal use, having a 10-day supply of water is essential.

Another concern during an emergency is having the things you need when you're evacuated, including a 10-day supply of medications. During the Santa Rosa fire, says Riordan, seniors in an independent living facility only took medication to last them 4 days but weren't permitted to return until 10 days later.

Riordan recommends having a telephone landline as they can communicate 9-1-1 calls, which would be especially useful if cell towers are destroyed.

The Office of Emergency Management is working to make a real difference in preparing for an emergency.

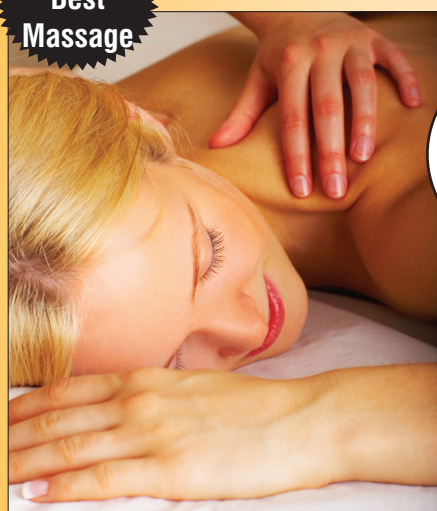
"With so much county land around us, I work with the county on almost a daily basis," says Riordan, "which wasn't done in the past." On Nov. 3, the Santa Clara

See *EMERGENCIES*, page 20

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Times **Feature****LEGAL ADVICE****Revocable living trusts: Should I have one?**

By **Steven R. Roeser, Esq.**  
*Special to the Times*

This week's question:

"I want to make sure I provide for my family when I am gone ... do I need to create a family trust, as my friends tell me?"

**Mike M.**  
*Los Gatos*

Dear Mike,

We all want to cover the bases when it comes to taking care of our families. If you do not have any document to govern your affairs after you die, such as a valid will or a trust, you will die "intestate," and your estate will be administered under California's intestate succession law. This is in all likelihood not what you have in mind for your estate administration! Please refer to my previous Almaden Valley Times article on the probate process in California.

To answer your question, in this writer's opinion, you should at the very least have a will. But most families do opt for a trust as a part of their estate plan for better control of administration, for starters. A will must go through the probate court process, whereas a trust can be administered outside of court, without probate court fees and costs, or the eyes of a demanding judge, and slow court timelines. Assets held in trust can be put under the watch of a trusted "trustee" instead of in the hands of a young beneficiary, until a certain age is reached, as another example of a potential benefit of a trust. A trust can delay payment of estate taxes that would otherwise be due in estates with over 11 million in play (surprisingly all too common now in Silicon Valley!).

To help our readers better understand what a trust is, following is an overview of the typical revocable trust estate plan structure that most families use in American estate planning.

A trust is a written agreement that creates a "trust" which holds assets for the benefit of "beneficiaries" and governs administration and ultimate distribution of assets held in the trust. The trustor creates the trust, and the named or appointed trustee has a fiduciary duty to hold the trust assets for the benefit of the beneficiaries. In a typical revocable trust, the husband and wife jointly create a revocable living trust, and each are trustors and co-trustees, and beneficiaries. Either can revoke the trust in whole or part, at will. Upon the death of the first spouse, the trust remains in effect and half of the assets, representing the community property portion belonging to the deceased spouse, becomes irrevocable. Its income is paid to the surviving spouse and upon the death of the surviving spouse,

the trust corpus usually goes to the children of the trustors. While the surviving spouse is alive, he or she has the right to invade even the principal of the deceased spouse's half of the trust, based on need. The surviving spouse's half remains revocable until his or her death, and the surviving spouse may do as he or she pleases with such portion of the trust assets.

Upon the death of the surviving spouse, his or her half transfers into the trust of the first to die, and all trust assets are distributed to the children (or potentially grandchildren).

As some assets of a decedent may inadvertently not be placed in the trust, a pour over will is created for each trustor, which pours any assets not initially placed into the trust, into the trust, so that all assets of the decedents are administered under the trust (and not in probate court!).

The key advantages of creating an estate plan that include a revocable living trust are: keeping the administration out of court (and hence having better and more efficient control of administration), avoiding probate court fees and costs, maintaining privacy in avoiding court pleadings of record that others can view regarding assets, distributions, etc., maintaining flexibility and protection of assets with respect to distribution and use of trust assets (for young or troubled beneficiaries, where a remarrying spouse is involved, etc.). Other benefits may apply to your family's situation.

The bottom line is an estate plan is a key aspect of providing for your family in the future, as every day is a blessing!

If you find yourself needing advice as to creating or discussing a living trust, or any estate planning matter, please feel free to contact me.

Until next time ...

Kindest Regards,

Steven R. Roeser, Esq.

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



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Times **Feature**

Derby

*Continued from page 1*  
Bear - 3rd, Webelos - 4th, and Arrow of Light - 5th. Cub Scouts range in age from 5-11. It was stated by Cub Scout leaders that, “When asked, Orchard Supply Hardware (OSH) on Blossom Hill Rd. was immediately enthusiastic about supporting our pack 281 with our Pinewood Derby Build Day.

OSH offered their location, hand tools, many supplies, and experts from OSH to operate the power tools they also provided. OSH went above and beyond to make this a great event.”

When they got to work it became loud with tools and drilling and sanding. It all took place in an open area in the warehouse. Lots of OSH helpers were there to assist with power tools and drill presses.

“We don’t do this for the publicity, we do this to help the local community,” says Michael Nagy OSH Store Manager.

“There are so many parents who grew up in tech and now they are learning home repair and power tool use along with many other skills,” said Nagy. “We are happy to help guide them and assist the parents and children with their projects. See you at the Pinewood Derby,”

Cub Scouts interviewed

Benjamin helped as a Cub Reporter and created and asked the following questions to a few of the participants. He said, “The thing I like most about being in Cub Scouts is spending time with my dad!”

Cub reporter Benjamin asked the following questions:

What do you like most about Pinewood Derby?

Which contest are you trying to win and

are you doing anything for it?  
**What do you like best about Cub Scouts? Here’s what they said:**  
**Stephen:** “We get to race it and make it and it’s really cool. I’m trying to win the ‘Coolest Car (category)’ and I’ve got a lot of Legos and knives on the side, and fire on the back. The thing I like most about Cub Scouts is the popcorn sale; if you make enough sales you can throw pies in the Cub Master faces.”

**Aidan:** “I like to make and race cars. I am trying to win ‘Most Creative’ and it will take a lot of time, sanding and design. The thing I like most about Cub Scouts is that you get to do a lot of fun things.”

**Dylan:** “I like how you can race cars and you’re super interactive with other people. I’m not prepared, but I am going for Best Creative Car or Fastest Car. What I like best about Cub Scouts is our campouts, because we can interact with nature and build s’mores and campfires.”

**Adam:** “It’s competitive and you get to race with other people. I am going for the Speedy Contest Car and I don’t know how I am preparing for it but just to be fast I am putting weights on it and stuff. The thing I like most about Cub Scouts is the campouts because you get to go outdoors and it’s a fun way to have fun.”

**Kai:** “The thing I like most about the Pine Wood Derby is winning! I am trying to win Faster Car and preparing the shape of my car. My secret is that I have a fin on the back, which puts pressure on the back wheels so the car will go faster; the air goes off the fin and pushes down on the wheels. Definitely the camp out is one of the things I like best about Cub Scouts. You get to be in the woods and far away

*See DERBY, next page*

LOCAL SPORTS

Boys Basketball (BVAL-ST STANDINGS)

TEAM	DIV	PF	PA	ALL	PF	PA
Branham	5-0	285	216	8-6	657	666
Independence	4-1	279	238	7-8	742	778
Pioneer	3-2	302	275	9-6	873	797
Silver Creek	3-2	275	255	7-8	810	800
Prospect	2-3	272	282	8-7	724	802
Oak Grove	1-3	176	209	4-9	582	662
Mt. Pleasant	1-4	254	275	5-10	662	791
Gunderson	0-4	161	254	1-13	558	947

(BVAL-MH STANDINGS)

Piedmont Hills	5-0	361	201	14-1	1002	606
Willow Glen	4-1	266	270	11-4	840	739
Evergreen Valley	3-2	292	290	10-4	806	728
Leigh	3-2	331	313	3-9	674	791
Leland	2-3	272	270	8-7	837	808
Westmont	2-3	291	304	6-9	831	807
Santa Teresa	1-4	263	302	7-7	766	775
Sobrato	0-5	179	305	6-6	605	692



YEAR OF THE DOG

Leland Bridge Night 2018

February 3, 2018; 5pm to 8pm

Leland High School Cafeteria

Celebrate Chinese New Year with Leland Bridge  
Enjoy Dinner, Live Performances, and Raffles!  
To Purchase Tickets, email [chief@lelandbridge.org](mailto:chief@lelandbridge.org)

晚會嘉賓：  
久違的台灣民歌手  
－王新蓮

Visit our website at [www.lelandbridge.org](http://www.lelandbridge.org) for more information.

Almaden Senior Day Trip to



Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Arrive at 7:45 am  
Depart 8:00 am from Almaden Community Center  
Return approximately 6:00 pm

Price \$35.00 per person  
Receive \$15.00 slot or table play  
with players card plus \$5.00 food

Sign up for this trip M, T, W, 9:30 am-11:30 am

For questions you may contact the event planners:

Sally, 408- 826-9619  
Bea, 408- 761-4002





Times **Feature**

## Derby

Continued from previous page from the city streets."

**Matt:** "The thing I like most is racing the cars. I am entering the Most Creative category and I am sanding the car. One thing I like most about Cub Scouts is you can play games like freeze tag."

**Ananda:** "I like it when you can build different designs. I am going after The Coolest Car award. I am going to add a spoiler, that's the thing that goes on the car to make it look cool. The thing I like most about Cub Scouts is we have fun activities like hiking."

**Pinewood Derby approaches**

The excitement builds, come along with the Almaden Times and read the next article on the actual day of the Pinewood Derby in the next installment.

Check-in Day (evening) is a time when cars are checked against the rules, adjusted if necessary, qualified, assigned their number, and then locked up securely until race day. Once "qualified" they get their number for Race Day!

On Race Day the competition begins and the scouts and family race their cars in many different heats. Also they use them to compete in many different side skill games such as "Go the Distance," and "Hit the Spot," and more.

Hats off to all the Cub Scouts and their families for making such things possible as children grow up.

**Pinewood Derby History**

According to Wikipedia the following facts are stated;

The first Pinewood Derby was run in 1953

Boy Scouts of America make it part of their official program

In 1980, the design of the block was changed from a cutout block, consistent with a 1940s style front-engine Indy 500 car, to a solid block. The tires were also changed from narrow, hard plastic, to wider "slicks."

In May 2005, the Boy Scouts of America registered Pinewood Derby as an official trademark.

**Construction**

"The Scout is given a block of wood made of pine, four plastic wheels, and four nails. The fin-

ished car must use all nine pieces, must not exceed a certain weight (usually five ounces, or 150 grams), must not exceed a certain width (usually 2-3/4 inches, or 7 cm) and length (usually 7 inches, or 17.8 cm) and must fit on the track used by that particular scout pack.

Blocks can be whittled with a hand knife, bandsaw, or Dremel carving tool for major shaping. Decals can be bought at scout shops or hobby shops. It is also possible to use standard model decals to replicate actual racing cars such as Richard Petty's 1970 Plymouth Superbird. The original style is based on open-wheel cars; however, fender or body kits are available, or wheels can simply be placed outboard of the body.

Other than the previous basic design rules, the Cub Scout is able to carve and decorate the car as he chooses. Many Cub Scouts also add weights to the final design to bring the car to the maximum allowable weight; coins and glued-in lead or steel pieces are common ways to add weight. Cars typically vary from unfinished blocks to whimsical objects, to accurate replicas of actual cars. Graphite is usually the only lubricant allowed, and it often helps to polish the provided nails.

The track usually has two to six lanes and slopes down to the ground, since the cars are powered by gravity. Tracks may be owned by the pack or rented. The race is run in heats, giving every car the chance to run on each lane. The racers can be grouped with others from the same rank (Tiger Cubs, Wolf Cubs, Bear Cubs, etc.), or can compete against the pack as a whole.

*Cub Scout pack 281 is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of San Jose.*



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DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$3,647
SALE PRICE	\$19,638
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JEEP CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,250
JEEP CA 2017 BONUS CASH**	-\$500
JEEP CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$13,888**

5 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

### 2018 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE AUTOMATIC, AIR, P/W, PL & MORE!

MSRP	\$26,490
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$3,701
SALE PRICE	\$22,789
JEEP CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,000
JEEP CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,250
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH**	-\$500
JEEP CA BC RETAIL TRADE ASSIST**	-\$1,000
JEEP CA BC CONQUEST RETAIL BONUS**	-\$1,000

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$14,999**

7 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

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### NEW 2017 CHRYSLER PACIFICA 3RD ROW SEATING!

MSRP	\$30,090
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$6,352
SALE PRICE	\$23,738
CHRYSLER CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,000
CHRYSLER CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$750
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH**	-\$500
CHRYSLER CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$18,988**

14 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

### 2018 CHRYSLER PACIFICA HYBRID 3RD ROW SEATING, PARKING SENSORS, WIRELESS PHONE CONNECTIVITY & MORE!

MSRP	\$30,090
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$6,352
SALE PRICE	\$23,738
CHRYSLER CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,000
CHRYSLER CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$750
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH**	-\$500
CHRYSLER CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$4,500**

5 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

### NEW 2017 FIAT 500X REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, HEATED DOOR MIRRORS, SPOILER & MORE!

MSRP	\$22,490
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$4,241
SALE PRICE	\$18,249
FIAT CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$2,750
FIAT CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$14,999**

1 AT THIS NET PRICE

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

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2 CHARGER SRT HELLCATS AT THIS DISCOUNT: #113137 155760

### 2018 JEEP COMPASS REAR PARKING CAMERA, PERIMETER/PROXIMITY LIGHTS, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY & MORE!

MSRP	\$27,425
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$2,921
SALE PRICE	\$24,504
JEEP CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$2,750
JEEP CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$750

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$15,888**

4 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

### NEW 2017 RAM PROMASTER CITY CARGO REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, WIRELESS CONNECTIVITY, PARKING SENSORS & MORE!

MSRP	\$24,105
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$4,627
SALE PRICE	\$19,478
RAM PROMASTER IN CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,250
RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH**	-\$2,000
RAM CA COMMERCIAL BONUS CASH**	-\$500
RAM CA 2017 BONUS CASH**	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$15,988**

10 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

### 2018 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN 3RD ROW SEATS, REAR PARKING CAMERA, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY & MORE! 8-PASSENGER

MSRP	\$27,090
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$4,102
SALE PRICE	\$22,988
DODGE CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,250
DODGE CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,000

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$16,988**

5 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

### NEW 2017 RAM 1500 AUTOMATIC & AIR

MSRP	\$30,490
DEALER DISCOUNT	-\$3,491
SALE PRICE	\$26,999
RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,250
RAM CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,250
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH**	-\$500
RAM CA 2017 BONUS CASH**	-\$500
RAM CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,000

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

**\$17,999**

5 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

### NEW 2017 RAM 1500 ECO-DIESEL CREW 4X4 NAV, AUTOMATIC TEMPERATURE CONTROL, PARKING SENSORS & MORE!

DEALER DISCOUNT OFF MSRP	-\$9,588
RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,250
RAM CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,250
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH**	-\$500
RAM CA 2017 BONUS CASH**	-\$1,000
RAM CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,000
RAM CA BC DIESEL RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,000

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

**\$17,588**

10 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET SAVINGS!

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

### NEW 2017 RAM 1500 CREW CAB AUTOMATIC, NAV, LEATHER, PARKING SENSORS & MORE!

DEALER DISCOUNT OFF MSRP	-\$9,588
RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*	-\$3,250
RAM CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,250
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH**	-\$500
RAM CA 2017 BONUS CASH**	-\$1,000
RAM LD VS RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,000
RAM CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH**	-\$1,000

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

**\$17,588**

10 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET SAVINGS!

\*RESIDENCY RESTRICTIONS APPLY \*\*FOR FICO SCORES BELOW 620, MUST FINANCE THROUGH CHRYSLER CAPITAL, SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

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Press day: February 7, 2018  
Deadline: February 4, 2018

## 11th Annual Senior Winter Walk and Resource Fair February 23

**Elvis Presley impersonator Rick Torres to perform**

By William Bellou  
Publisher

Get ready for the 11th Annual Senior Winter Walk and Resource Fair.

This year the Resource Fair takes place on Feb. 23 at the Macy's Court at Westfield Oakridge Mall. Registration opens at 8:30 a.m., and the event ends at 10:30 a.m.

San Jose City Council staff from Districts 10, 9, and 2 have worked together since 2008 to host a senior resource fair at Westfield Oakridge Mall where hundreds of seniors gather for a fun time of "shaking off the winter blues."

This year the master of ceremonies is premier Elvis Presley impersonator Rick Torres. He is both a licensed minister and one of the top-ranked Elvis impersonators nationwide.

Active adults over 50 will find valuable information from over fifty vendors including activity clubs, health and wellness providers, services offered by the City of San Jose and Santa Clara County, and other senior living resources.

After a short stage presenta-



tion and warm-up stretch, the walk through the mall will take place, where guests will have the opportunity to receive one door prize drawing ticket for every lap walked. The grand finale is the door prize drawing of gifts generously donated by the attending vendors.

Don't forget to bring your used eyeglasses to donate at the Lion's Club table and receive one extra drawing ticket.

The Councilmembers are grateful to this year's Premier Sponsors: Almaden Times, Westfield Oakridge, Star One Credit Union, Alameda Family Funeral Services, Kaiser Permanente, JSM Enterprises, and El Camino Hospital. Their generous contributions make this fun and informative event possible.

For more information, contact Michele Dexter at [michele.dexter@sanjoseca.gov](mailto:michele.dexter@sanjoseca.gov) or at 408-535-4910.



### Comin' up roses

Volunteers from Saint Anthony's Catholic Church and Mollie Gruidl Tobias representing Adopt-a-Park, came out to Rose Park at the Almaden Winery community center to do maintenance in the Rose Garden on Saturday, January 20.

### Emergencies

*Continued from page 16*  
County Valley Water District and city council agreed to a plan. "In six months," he says, "we went from finger pointing to a common direction for the future."

Riordan says that working as a team and getting community feedback during a disaster is essential and was lacking during the Coyote Creek flood. As part of

the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), residents can take a 16 to 20 hour training course, including disaster medical aid, organization, search and rescue, home and neighborhood preparedness and response to terrorism.

"The flood taught the city a lot and about what it didn't know," says Riordan, "and they have to make changes. Understanding is one thing. Taking action is another."





### CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC

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

[www.ccavucc.org](http://www.ccavucc.org).

We are a welcoming church with a progressive approach to faith, worship and giving to our local community. We are proud to be UCC, Open and Affirming (O&A) and welcome members of the LGBT community. We support local LifeMoves (formerly InnVision) Shelter Feedings once a month, San Francisco Night Ministry, Second Harvest Food Bank, Church World Service, and Communities Responding to End Poverty.

Worship Sunday, 9:00 AM followed by fellowship and refreshments. 1st Sunday in Worship: Holy Communion 2nd Sunday in Worship: Folks Choir and Potluck Sunday.

Tuesdays, AA Meetings, 8:15 - 9:15 PM. Wednesdays, 9:30 AM, Women's Study Group.

### CHURCH OF CHRIST

5351 Carter Ave., San Jose 95118 408.265.5837

[www.bibleroad.org](http://www.bibleroad.org)

We strive to be a group of Christians that love and honor God and Jesus Christ in our daily lives. We assemble each Sunday to encourage each other through singing, studying, praying and sharing in the Lord's supper. Simple—just like what one reads about in the New Testament. Bible class at 9:30 AM Worship at 10:30 AM

Located in south San Jose near Kooser Rd. and Camden Ave. (behind the Almaden Valley Athletic Club). Come make new Christian friends!

### EAST VALLEY CHURCH

We are a Multicultural Christian Community committed to making Christ known to our Neighbors, Community and World. Sunday Schedule: Coffee and Conversation 9:15am Worship 9:45am, Sunday School for all ages 11:15am

Childcare is provided for all our Sunday Services. Our NEW Children's Building is Open! Uplifting music, Biblical teaching, ministries for Children, Youth, College & Career, Small Groups for all adults, Ministries to Men, Women, Seniors, Celebrate Recovery Please see website for details and meeting times [www.eastvalleychurch.com](http://www.eastvalleychurch.com) Pastor – Pastor Ron Johnson, Community-Life Pastor - Pastor Patrick Boyd, Children's Ministry Co-Directors – Alyssa Friend and Kristen Pearson

We are located at 2827 Flint Ave (Between Tully & Norwood) San Jose, CA 95148, Phone 408-238-0231, e-mail [info@eastvalleychurch.com](mailto:info@eastvalleychurch.com) We are associated with Converge Worldwide [www.convergeworldwide.org](http://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](http://www.eca-sj.org) At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellowship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, loved, valued and empowered to serve. Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family. All junior high and senior high students are welcome to participate in our Youth Groups. During the school year we have joint Sunday School with our sister church, the Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, UCC. The Episcopal Church in Almaden offers the following regular opportunities for worship: Sunday at 7:30AM and 10:45AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.

### EVERGREEN VALLEY CHURCH

Visit our Web Site at [www.evcsj.com](http://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](http://firstchurchdowntown.com) Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a message that is relevant to real life, based in the Bible, and meaningful to people of all ages and backgrounds. We work in our community to provide real assistance and long-term, life-saving solutions: food, housing, counseling, and spiritual direction. Our children's & families' ministries include Sunday classes, outdoor family activities such as bike rides and fishing trips. Come, Make a Difference and feel the difference God can make in your life!

### GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN

[www.GraceChurchSJ.net](http://www.GraceChurchSJ.net) See you on Facebook 2650 ABORN ROAD at Kettmann, across from Evergreen Public Library. Serving Evergreen for over 50 Years. John S Goldstein, Pastor Christian Worship

every Sunday at 11.00 am Together let us build lives toward excellence!

Music Institute (408)791 7772 After School lessons on Piano, Violin, Viola, Flute PreSchool, Age 2-6 years. Caring for your child with God's love and affection (408) 791 7772

### 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.

### THE POINT CHURCH

[www.ThePoint.Church](http://www.ThePoint.Church) 3695 Rose Terrace Circle. San Jose CA 95148. Located at the top of Aborn Rd and Murillo Ave. Come be inspired and build your faith as we worship together this Sunday @ 10:30 AM. KidsPoint is our children's ministry, serving infants through 5th grade. It is a fun and safe experience for kids as they grow in their walk with God. ONE is our student ministry, serving 6th through 12th grades. We help lead students into a growing relationship with Jesus through conversations, fun and service. Because of the diversity of Evergreen we offer church services in 5 languages, each with their own auditorium and pastor. 10:30 AM English, Mandarin, Cantonese and Cambodian. Spanish at 1:00 PM.

### SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on 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.churchsantanthony.com](http://www.churchsantanthony.com). Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.



*God is One*  
**ਬੈਕਿ ਹੈ**  
**Rab Ik Hai**

### SAN JOSE GURDWARA

3636 Gurdwara Ave. San Jose, CA 95148 The word Sikh (see-kh) means "disciple" or "student." A Sikh is a practitioner of the faith founded in the 15th century by Guru Nanak in Punjab of old British India. A Guru who is a "teacher" or "enlightener" completes the relationship of teaching and learning. Sikhism is monotheistic and stresses the equality of all men and women. Sikhs believe in three basic principles; meditating on the name of God (praying), earning a living by honest means and sharing the fruits of one's labor with others. Currently there are close to one million Sikhs living in the USA and Canada and 25 million Sikhs living around the world. Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world. At the Gurdwara (House of God) in San Jose we welcome all. We pray daily for peace and prosperity for everybody in the world. Come to visit and enjoy Langer (food) in our kitchen which is open 365 days of the year and serves complementary vegetarian meals. We also encourage you to enter our history room on site and walk the beautiful grounds. Learn more about us and community events we sponsor by visiting our website; <http://www.SanJoseGurdwara.org>

### ST. BASIL THE GREAT GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

6430 Bose Lane, San Jose, CA 95120 Church Office 408-268-3214 Clergy: Fr. Allan Boyd Experience our Lord Jesus Christ after the manner of the earliest Christians. All are welcome to our warm, multicultural Church community, where services are done primarily in English. What happens when you reunite created matter to its Creator? Come and see! Sunday worship: Orthros – 8:30 am Divine Liturgy – 9:30 am We also celebrate Liturgy on most feast days.

### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135 408-223-1562. [www.stfrancisofassisi.com](http://www.stfrancisofassisi.com) or [www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org](http://www.stfrancisofassisipreschool.org) We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies; evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O - Jr. High, IGNITE - High School and North Star -Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Preschool is the only Catholic Preschool offering quality family oriented service in the Evergreen and Silver Creek areas. Our Chapel, Gathering Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, Memorial Garden and Preschool are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us to worship at one of the following times and locations:

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



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