

**GET HOPPING!
SECOND ANNUAL
EVERGREEN EGG
HUNT PLANNED FOR
MARCH 17 – P3**



**DREAMCYCLE'S
VISION: RECYCLE
UNUSED BIKES
AND THEN PASS
THEM ON – P4**



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WINTER WALK
FAIR – P15**



MARCH 16 – MARCH 29, 2018 ■ VOL. 35, NO. 7

Evergreen Times

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National Association of Composers in concert Sat., April 7

Featuring chamber music for clarinets, double bass and piano

Foothill Community Concert Series present NACUSAsf (the National Association of Composers, USA) in a concert of new music, Primavera Allegra, on Saturday, April 7 at 8:00 p.m. at Foothill Presbyterian Church, 5301 McKee Road, San Jose.

The concert will feature chamber works by composers Mark Alfenito, Anne Baldwin, Greg Bartholemew, Nancy Bloomer Deussen, Semyon Bokman, Sondra Clark, Kyle Hovatter, Karl Schmidt and Greg Steinke.

Admission is \$12 adult, children 12 and under are admitted free.

Tickets will be available at the door, or online at <http://www.foothillpc.org/fccs>.



Councilmember Sylvia Arenas addresses a crowd during the diversity in faith meeting held on March 9 at Gurdwara on the Hill.

Councilwoman Arenas holds diversity Faith Leader Panel

By Kevin Larsen
Times Staff Writer

Many faith leaders spoke with one another at a recent Faith Leaders Panel which was held at the Gurdwara on the Hill on March 9.

Windows were open wide and the warm breeze flowed into the well-lit space as Councilwoman Sylvia Arenas moderated a two hour event where speakers and faith leaders in the audience offered perspectives, thoughts and guidance in the discussion around the earlier requested topic of diversity. All faith leaders were invited.

"Interfaith meetings put different cultures together," said Seva Rajinder Singh Mangar of the Sikh Gurdwara. "When different groups work together it creates diversity and diversity is power. When we grow together we move our whole nation in the right direction to ensure all benefit together."

"I feel so peaceful. I feel a wonderful energy," said Arenas. She recalled how gracious the Sikhs were and it was her experience that for all who go into the prayer area, no matter if you do not understand the words,

"one can feel the love in the words themselves."

Assembly member Ash Kalra dignified the event by saying, "now more than ever we need to unite as a community. I am so proud to live in San Jose where our inter faith community supports one another and uplifts our neighborhoods." He also said, "I want to thank the Gurdwara for always opening its doors and going out to the community. I love our community, I live here in San Jose and when I am home, I feel a united community."

Sikh Gurdwara Community Liaison Jesse-Singh Powar said, "I believe that without any dialogue there are no solutions. One may think they have a solution but without dialogue it's only a one sided solution. Dialogue is the only way to resolve solutions in modern day battles that we all face. The world makes decisions instantly that impact many lives. We are all human beings. We are all One. In this fast life if we were to take time and think through and have dialogue we would have true peace on earth."

See DIVERSITY, page 21

A HOME BUILT WITH HEART



A child helps paint a home built for an underprivileged family.

'My uplifting experience in Tijuana'

By Trisha Parthasarathi
Times Staff Writer

In my recent trip to the impoverished border city Tijuana, Mexico, I was privileged to work with the non-profit DOXA in an unparalleled opportunity to construct a home for an underprivileged family.

Initially, when my travel group crossed the San Ysidro port of entry at the San Diego – Tijuana border, we immediately noticed the drastic change in demographics and lifestyle. This was no surprise to me; I was aware of how the city would look. We arrived at the orphanage where we would be staying for the following four days. Wasting no time, we began our work at the construction site the very same day.

Despite being winter, the See TIJUANA, page 20



The author worked long hours to help create the home.

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Harris Team Expands With New Agent

The Harris Team is proud to announce the addition of ASHLEY AQUILAR to our team of agents. Ashley has been with the Harris Team for over two years as an Assistant and Transaction Coordinator. Every Team member lives in the area so we are very familiar with all aspects of Evergreen.

Although new to the industry, as an agent, Ashley is no stranger to the world of Real Estate. Born in the Bay Area whose mother was in property management, Ashley naturally grew an interest in maintaining property grounds, listening to the needs and desires of clients and then delivering an overall great experience no matter how big or small the mission.

By joining the Harris team, Ashley gets to exercise all her beliefs in great customer service and providing top of the line service and satisfaction. She epitomizes integrity, hard work, and creative service in every detail of your real estate transaction.

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immense satisfaction making sure your needs as a client are taken as the highest priority while always aiming to exceed your expectations.

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Times **Local News**



Megan Vipond puts the finishing touches on her face-painting masterpiece.

Second Annual Evergreen Egg Hunt planned for March 17

Grab your basket and bring the family to the free Evergreen Egg Hunt this weekend.

The second annual community celebration is planned for Saturday, March 17 from noon to 2 p.m. Evergreen Valley United Methodist Church located at 3520 San Felipe Road.

"This was the first time we hosted this event," said Sofia De Leon of Evergreen, discussing last year's egg hunt. "The day

was really fun and really busy. It was a great way to gather people in the community."

There will be a bounce house, food, music, carnival games, art and of course, an exciting egg hunt, so don't forget your basket.

The Easter Bunny will make a special appearance as well.

For more information call (408) 238-7631.



Above: Emerson and Blythe show off their cute faces; left: Children line up to dye eggs; Below: Thousands of eggs will be hidden for the Evergreen Community Egg Hunt.



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This Week:**COMMUNITY**

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NEWS

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EvergreenTimes

Times Media, Inc. / (408) 494-7000

PUBLISHER / CEO: WILLIAM BELLOU
williamb@timesmediainc.com

SR. ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE: BRIGITTE JONES
brigitte@timesmediainc.com

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE: KEVIN LARSEN
kevin@timesmediainc.com

STAFF WRITERS: DIANE BLUM,
SUNAY SANGHANI, SEAN EASTWOOD,
KEVIN LARSEN, NIRBAN SINGH,
FRANK SHORTT

ART DIRECTOR: JEFF BAHAM
graphics@timesmediainc.com

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: SANDY BELLOU

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Valley Currents

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

Dreamcycle's vision: Recycle unused bikes and pass them on

By Frank Shortt
Times media writer

Evergreen community has a penchant for producing persons who know how to pick up the ball and run with it. Dreamcycle, a charitable organization since September 2017, is the brainchild of Nicholas Kenny. Along with co-founders, Bryan Kaing and Nicholas Harder, all three young men attend Evergreen Valley High School

Dreamcycle's vision is to recycle unused bikes in the community and pass them on to nearly 200 underprivileged families in the Bay Area. Bryan Kaing says, "we have successfully collected over 70 and have donated over 40 bikes since our inception. We refurbish the bikes by changing the tires, fixing the brakes, and replacing any other worn out parts to bring the bikes back up to speed."

"We had problems at first getting bike donations and funding. One hurdle was crossed as we organized a bake sale that allowed us to collect money and several bikes." Nicholas Harder said enthusiastically. Finding time to devote to Dreamcycle has become somewhat of a dilemma what with balancing sports, homework, and other interests of these busy youths. They hope to be able to spend more time on the project when



(l to r) Bryan Kaing, Nicholas Kenny, and Nicholas Harder.



warm weather prevails.

Kaing stated, "Our organization gives to numerous low-income individuals in our com-

munity. Some of these recipients are users of the Learning and Loving Center in Morgan Hill who helps immigrant women

and children with education and child care. We also support the Bill Wilson Center in downtown San Jose who helps the homeless and underprivileged in the area."

Kenny related, "The program got off to a great start when we gave a bike to a recovering alcoholic in Willow Glen who needed a dependable source of transportation to her new job. We were contacted by her mother's co-worker who learned about the Dreamcycle program."

Kaing and Kenny are bicyclists, and Kenny is active in track and field. Harder is more the computer type. All three are sons of immigrants who wish to give back to their adopted communities.

The young men's enthusiasm gushed forth as they talked of future plans. They plan to host a bike workshop in the near future (as they get enough bikes) where kids will be able to learn how to repair a bike of their choosing and then take the bike home.

The group needs a sponsor, however they have received substantial donations from family and friends. Ideally, they would appreciate a permanent sponsor to help grow their organization.

For more information visit www.dreamcycle.org, or call or text: 408-784-5484, or email: nicholas4165@outlook.com.

OP ED

Arming teachers will do more harm than good

The killing of the 17 students and school staff in Florida in recent weeks has left all of us reeling and the debate over what is needed to stop future incidents is alive and well. Should we enhance mental health services? Should we enact stricter gun control laws? As we see things, the answer is yes...to both. One thing that absolutely should NOT be done is arming school personnel.

School personnel are in the business of teaching, supporting, and encouraging kids; sharp-shooting is not within their professional skill-set. During an emergency, teachers and school support staff need to be with their students protecting and directing them to the safest possible place, not abandoning them to retrieve a weapon, which presumably would be locked up in some central location.

We are deeply saddened that this is something as educators we even have to think about but we do. We cannot bury our heads in the sand and pretend school shootings don't happen or can't happen here. Each year we work with our excellent San Jose Police Department officers to review Run, Hide, Defend protocols and our staff and students participate in drills, just as they do for fire and earthquake.

But fundamentally, we reject the idea that bringing guns into our classrooms would

solve the issues we currently face. In fact we profoundly believe they would make the situation worse. While there is absolutely no research that shows this idea would do a single thing to reduce gun incidents in schools, we can meaningfully assert that bringing deadly weapons onto our campuses would increase the risk to our students and staff. Research shows {[link to Harvard Injury Control Research Center study](#)} that the presence of more guns increases the likelihood of gun deaths. When you factor in the low-success rate that even trained law enforcement professionals see when firing a weapon in a violent situation, how can teachers be expected to do even better, and ensure they don't hit something – or someone – they didn't mean to?

Just as law enforcement professionals have, educators from one end of the country to the other have rejected this absurd idea.

See ARMS, page 6

LET THE EVERGREEN TIMES HEAR FROM YOU!

Send your letters to editorial@timesmediainc.com or mail to:

Evergreen Times, Silicon Valley Business Center, 1900 Camden Ave., San Jose, CA 95124

Dollar Tree grand opening March 22

Dollar Tree will open its newest store located at the corner of Aborn and White Rd. at the former Save Mart Supermarket location on Thursday March 22.

Dollar Tree, a successful discount variety store, will be open seven days a week and offer a value and convenient shopping experience in its new 11,037 sq. ft. facility.

“Dollar Tree is pleased to invite customers to experience our great value and broad assortment of merchandise all priced at \$1 or less,” said Dollar Tree spokesperson, Kayleigh Painter. “Our customers can discover new treasures every week ranging from seasonal decor, household products, party and craft supplies, dinnerware, food, teaching and school necessities, health and beauty essentials, toys, books and much more.”

About Dollar Tree, Inc.

Dollar Tree, a Fortune 150 Company, now operates more than 14,700 stores across 48 states and five Canadian provinces. Stores operate under the brands of Dollar Tree, Family Dollar and Dollar Tree Canada.



Avoid these top five bathroom remodeling blunders

By Luke Caldwell
Zillow.com

While a bathroom might not be the first room a potential home buyer asks to see, it can make or break the sale. Here are five common mistakes rookie and seasoned flippers as well as homeowners make when renovating a bathroom.

Mistake 1: Ignoring proper spacing and layout

Bathrooms may seem straightforward, but a lack of spatial awareness in the renovation planning stages can lead to problems down the road.

Remember: Just because you can fit something into the bathroom design doesn't mean it can function within that space. Always keep function in the forefront of your mind and in your design.

For example, if you choose a shower with a door, your bathroom layout should leave plenty of room for it to fully open. No potential home buyer will want to squeeze out of a partially opened shower door every morning. Other considerations include providing enough space to comfortably get on and off the toilet, open cabinet doors, etc.

Spatial considerations also include making sure elements of the room are close enough together to function. For example, the toilet paper holder should be within a child's arm's reach of the toilet, and outlets should be easily accessible from the counter.

Mistake 2: Choosing the wrong materials

Because of the sink, toilet and shower, bathrooms deal with more moisture than any other room in the house. Homeowners also use many of the strongest cleaning products on bathroom surfaces. Both of these factors, if not taken into consideration, can lead to significant damage if you don't select the right materials for the job.

Go with materials that can stand up to harsh cleaners and are not highly susceptible to mold, warping or distortion. Avoid porous materials that will retain moisture and allow hidden mold to grow.

Mistake 3: Ignoring storage space

No one complains about having too much storage in the bathroom. When planning a bathroom remodel, incorporate plenty of storage space into the design.

Consider how many people will use the bathroom. Don't make the mistake of providing only enough bathroom storage space for one person in a 4-bedroom house.

Additionally, most people prefer a bit of privacy with bathroom storage, so a set of floating shelves, while helpful, will not be sufficient on its own.

Mistake 4: Forgetting about ventilation

Ventilation isn't a glamorous part of a bathroom renovation, but it is essential. Forgetting to work in enough ventilation can lead to mold, mildew and other costly problems in the future. It can also make a bathroom uncomfortable if it's not properly

ventilated during or after a shower.

If possible, work in a combination of natural and artificial ventilation sources. A well-placed window can go a long way, but it won't be very helpful during cold winter months, when a homeowner won't open it. Make sure to install a quality ventilation fan that can handle the size of the bathroom.

Mistake 5: Putting off lighting plans until the end

Many people think of lighting as a finishing touch to a renovation. While lighting is often installed later in the process, you should plan your lighting fixtures at the beginning of the renovation.

Bathrooms are often where people get ready for the day, which is why lighting is essential. Recessed lighting can create shadows on your face in the mirror, and the last thing you want when trying to sell a bathroom is unflattering lighting. Waiting until the end to address lighting can also lead to dark patches within the bathroom.

Depending on your preferred shower style, you may or may not need lighting above the shower or tub.

Similarly, no one wants to use the toilet in darkness. When drawing up your plans, consider what type of lighting will best accommodate your space and room design. Making adjustments in the planning stages will be much easier than making them at the end of a project.



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Times Feature



East Side Alliance announced its partnership with Landed, a company that helps educators buy homes by assisting with a down payment. The announcement held recently at Cedar Grove Elementary School (Evergreen School District) featured speaker **Marissa Hanson**, ESUHD Union President.

East Side Alliance Partners with Landed to help local teachers with housing

Teachers in the Evergreen School District struggling to afford the high cost of housing in Silicon Valley attended the launch of a new initiative that could help many purchase a home.

A special meeting was held at Cedar Grove Elementary School in Evergreen to announce that East Side Alliance (a coalition of eight San Jose school districts) has partnered with the company Landed.

Startup Landed, based in San Francisco, assists local teachers with their down payments totaling 10,000 educators in eight school districts, including Evergreen.

Whenever possible, Landed assists teachers by contributing to the down payment — with the teacher contributing a payment of 10 percent of the

home's value, and Landed matching the deposit.

Where does the money come from?

The money comes from investors, who get their 10 percent back when the teacher sells the home, plus 25 percent of any appreciation (or depreciation) in the home's value.

Landed says it's working with the East Side Alliance, a partnership of eight local school districts that serve 85,000 students. Teachers, administrators, and staff that have worked in the school district for at least two years is eligible to receive up to \$120,000 from Landed toward a down payment on a home.

For more information, visit: landed.com/get-landed or email: hi@landed.com

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Arms

Continued from page 4

These are the folks who know and understand what this would mean to their classrooms; these are the folks some are proposing take up arms in the classroom, and they are ones saying: No. They are ones saying: Let us do our jobs. Let us teach. If you want to invest in us, then invest in our classrooms. It's time we actually listened to the people at the center of this discussion.

Current proposals to arm as many as 20 percent of teachers across the country, would mean arming as many as 700,000 educators. It's remarkable to consider the costs and time that would go into this mammoth project, time and

resources that could be spent in America's classrooms, on supplies, on technology, on the actual purpose of our life's work — educating our children.

This entire topic is a distraction from the real issue of how to make our schools and our communities safer. Let's have that conversation, let's look toward real solutions and leave a non-starter like incentivizing our teachers to "pack heat" in the reject bin where it belongs.

Kathy Gomez
Superintendent, Evergreen School District

Brian Wheatley
President, Evergreen Teachers Union

Pauline Benton
President, California School Employees Association Chapter 432

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Times Local News

Spring season and allergies in pets

By Dr. Raj Singh, DVM
Special to the Times

Spring is the air and so are the allergies. Most pets experience allergies during the spring and summer; so I will try to help you understand allergies in pets.

What is an allergy?

Allergy is a condition in which pet's immune system overreacts to foreign things like fleas, pollen, grass, mold and certain foods etc. These foreign substances are known as allergens that can cause allergic reaction when inhaled or eaten. Just like people, pets may be sensitive to several types of allergens.

Signs of allergies in pets

The most common sign in pets with allergies is itchy skin. Other symptoms include:

- Scratching, biting and chewing at skin, back and feet.
- Rubbing body and face against things like walls.
- Excessive licking of paws and belly
- Hair loss around face, tail and ears
- Red, swollen ears and ear infections.
- Scooting/rubbing/dragging anal area

Why does my pet get allergies?

Most pets inherit allergies from their parents. Also after prolonged exposure to offending allergens your pet might start to experience signs of allergies like biting, chewing and scratching.

How to determine if my pet has allergies?

Your family vet will diagnose allergies based upon physical exam of your pet, symptoms, history and ruling in or out other causes of itching such as fleas,

mites, lice, dry skin, bacteria etc.

Your vet may also recommend other diagnostics such as blood tests, skin scrapes, or fungal culture, etc. to pinpoint the problem. Blood tests can determine what exactly your pet is allergic to.

How to treat allergies?

Keep in mind there is no cure for allergies but many different ways to control and treat allergies. For mild allergies like sneezing and coughing, avoiding the offending allergens like dust may be all that is needed to control allergies. If the pet has more severe symptoms like biting, chewing, scratching etc. then a veterinarian may prescribe medications like steroids, antihistamines, medicated shampoos, fish oil etc.

In some cases, your pet might be put on a special food or a custom diet to rule out food allergy.

Immunotherapy or allergy injections might be recommended by your vet to help

your pet tolerate allergies as prolonged use of steroids might cause serious side effects.

If your pet is allergic to grass or pollen then it might be a good idea to wipe him down with pet wipes after being outdoors. A new drug called Apoquel has shown promising results but the cost can be an issue for pet owners.

Conclusion: Allergies can be painful and uncomfortable for pets, so the goal of treatment is to keep your pet happy, healthy and itch free.

Pet owners with any questions or concerns should contact their family vet who can further guide them.

Editor's note: Questions for this column may be directed to Dr. Singh's email address: forpetvet@yahoo.com; or phone 408.270.4600; Aborn Pet Clinic, 3286 S White Rd, San Jose, CA 95148.



Your Pet and You
By Dr. Raj Singh
Veterinarian

Behind the Brush



Calling all makeup enthusiasts!

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PHOTO OP

Joining forces for education

TOGETHER - ALearn and Silicon Valley Education Foundation have joined forces, merging the two long-time organizations to create the region's largest education non-profit providing math intervention and college readiness programs for more than 5,000 underserved students this summer.

DID YOU KNOW?

John Snyder was a successful rancher in Santa Clara County who owned around 3000 acres?

John Snyder was one of the most successful ranchers in Santa Clara County. Born in 1828, Snyder traveled to California at the age of 21. He worked on farms and ranches until he bought a farm and large tract of land by Permanente Creek. His successful crops inspired neighbors to plant grain, and the section became famous for the quality and quantity of its grain output.



Snyder also owned vineyards and orchards and owned land from Mountain View down to Monterey County.



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Times **Local News**



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One of the most frequent complaints received by the San Jose City Council from their constituents is the poor appearance of our highways with all of the litter and debris along them.

The problem is a difficult concern for the city to address, since the highways are under the jurisdiction of the State of California and must be maintained by Caltrans.

One way to alleviate the problem is for residents to file a Maintenance Service Request (MSR) online at: www.csr.dot.ca.gov when you see litter, debris, or other maintenance issues on and along our highways.



California ranked first in honoring gun safety laws

California received an A for its gun safety laws, the highest score of any state according to Giffords Law Center.

Giffords Law Center released the latest edition of its Annual Gun Law Scorecard, which grades and ranks each state on the

strength of its gun laws.

California boasted the highest score nationwide due to the state's continued emphasis on background checks, prohibiting access to guns by hate crime offenders, and funding urban gun violence reduction programs, among other measures.

This comprehensive, 50-state analysis clearly shows how stronger gun laws like background checks help reduce gun death rates and save lives.

Of the 10 states with the lowest gun death rates, eight have some of the strongest gun laws in the country, receiving a B or better. All eight also have passed private-sale background checks. Those eight states are:

- California
- Massachusetts
- Rhode Island
- New York
- Hawaii
- Connecticut
- New Jersey
- Washington

The 10 states with the highest gun death rates have some of the weakest gun laws in the nation—with all 10 receiving an F the Gun Law Scorecard.

They are, in order of deadliness:

- Alaska
- Alabama
- Louisiana
- Mississippi
- Oklahoma
- Montana
- Missouri
- New Mexico
- Arkansas
- South Carolina

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The **Lam Research Heart and Soles Run**, founded and produced by the **Silicon Valley Leadership Group Foundation**, is a family oriented run/walk benefiting local youth exercise and nutrition programs.

Starting at the historic campus of Santa Clara University, the course features a loop through Avaya Stadium. All 6K/10K participants receive a jersey themed tech shirt, finisher medal and chip timing.

DATE: Saturday, March 24th

TIME: 8:00 am - 10:30 am

LOCATION: Santa Clara University

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Times **Local News****OFF THE SHELF****Travel Around the World in 2 Hours**

By Edith Sutterlin
Special to the Times

Around the World in 2 Hours is a series of cultural programs that takes place on the third Friday of every month at Village Square branch.

Celebrate Nowruz

On Friday, March 16, celebrate Nowruz, 3:30-5:30 p.m. and discover Iranian traditions which herald the beginning of Spring! Enjoy themed arts and crafts, games, and snacks! Come back Saturday, March 17, for the Village Square Friends of the Library book sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., supporting the Friends as they raise money to sponsor many of this branch's special events and programs.

Storytelling

On Tuesday March 27, 11 a.m., Village Square's spring theme continues as the Open Space Authority shares a storytelling program to introduce families to local places where you can go to see beautiful wildflowers and wildlife habitats after a wet winter.

Chiquy Boom party time

Evergreen Branch wants to remind everyone about our Chiquy Boom party time, Saturday, March 17, 11 a.m., for "Zumba and Family Games." We also invite everyone to a lively jazz concert program on Easter weekend. The Dave Rocha Jazz Trio will be presenting a "Children's Educational Jazz Show," Saturday, March 31, 1:30 p.m. Audience participation is a part of this entertaining show, so step lively and join us for a lively performance geared to elementary and middle school children that promises to be enjoyable for all. Musicians will demonstrate what role each instrument plays in the jazz band. Band members will demonstrate musical improvisation as they perform jazz tunes.

Spring Break Signups

Looking ahead to Spring Break? Signups are now open for Evergreen Branch's two special classes for tweens and teens (8-17 years old). One is Portrait Drawing, Wednesday, April 4, 1:30 -3 p.m. Our second class is Learning to Embroider. Learn six new stitches; draw a design, then create your own handmade felt bookmark, Thursday, April 5, 1:30 - 4



Dave Rocha, jazz musician

p.m. Space is limited, so sign up now. Village Square Branch will also have a Spring Break special class, an Introduction to Programming Workshop series for children in 3rd - 7th grades. Preregistration is required. Participants will need to bring their own laptops or ipads to learn HTML5, CSS, and JavaScript. Reserve your space now and attend all four sessions, Monday, April 2 -Thursday, April 5, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Virtual Reality

Virtual Reality events still take place weekly at Evergreen Branch on Aborn Road. Adults, drop in Tuesday mornings, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; Teens, stop by on Saturday afternoons, 3:30-5:30 p.m., to try out Evergreen's Oculus Rift headset and Touch controllers and immerse yourself in Virtual Reality worlds. You don't have to be a gamer or experienced in using VR. First time users can try out DreamDeck for two minutes. Marvel as you enter impossible places and magical worlds! After that, don't be surprised if you are hooked, then you may try several interactive, longer experiences or games! It can be fun watching others encounter new virtual worlds while you wait your turn, so definitely bring a friend!

Additional Events

View all library event listings online at events.sjpl.org. You can view all that is going on across the city, or limit to a particular branch location, such as "Evergreen" or "Village Square." Updates on library events are also available via our RSS feeds: sjpl.org/updates and our Facebook page: facebook.com/sanjoselibrary

Edith Sutterlin is a librarian at the Evergreen Branch Library, 2635 Aborn Road, between Capitol Expressway and White Road. (408) 808-3060. Village Square Branch Library is located at 4001 Evergreen Village Square. (408) 808-3093. Both are part of the San Jose Public Library System. For more information, visit the library website, sjpl.org.



Nowruz traditional table

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Times Local News

The new world of social media

By Angela Copeland
Special to the Times

Social media used to be so fun. We could all stay connected with friends and family, for long periods of time and around the world.

It felt like social media was expanding our friend circles. For example, I have reconnected with friends that date back to kindergarten. Before the internet, this would have been much more difficult.

Fast forward to today. If you're like me, you may feel at a bit of a loss about the purpose of social media anymore. Sharing a photo of the wonderful food you ate last night feels insignificant. We've also learned that posting beautiful family photos or vacation pictures may come across as bragging. Many folks feel negative after seeing their friends doing so well – even if their online personas are a bit of a show.

If what we were posting is so insignificant, perhaps we should be posting about something important? There's so much to pick from in today's news. Is that what we should be posting about? Should we use our online voices to be heard?

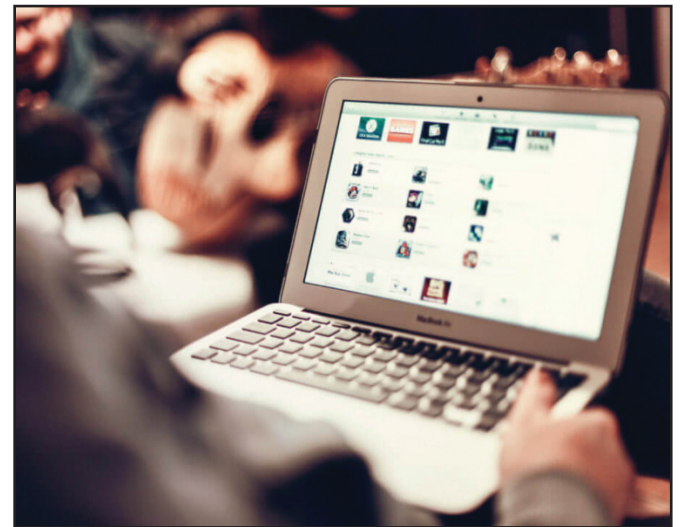
I'm honestly not sure. If you're like me, you can probably see the argument for both sides. On one hand, it's important to speak up for what's right. It's important to share your views and try to make a difference. On the other, I wonder how much social media is helping our cause, and how much it's alienating us from others.

Someone recently said to me, "Wow, I had no idea how many of my friends I don't like. When they start posting their

political views on Facebook and I don't agree with them, I know we can no longer be friends."

In a certain regard, this is sad. The more we divide ourselves by our beliefs, the less we are willing to talk through important ideas together. As children, we made friends based on who share the same hobbies, not who voted for the same person.

This recent string of bad news has left many people struggling to define the role of social media. When social media first started, it was a relatively positive experience filled with cats and babies and vaca-



tion photos. Now, it's all a bit different. At the end of the day, we each have to decide how we want to use our social media. Whether it's sharing family photos or discussing politics, the decision about what to share is a personal choice.

With that said, one thing is for sure. If you're looking for a new job, your future boss is likely looking at your social media. We may assume they are just looking at our resume, but it is rarely the case. They will Google your name, and will go straight for your social media profiles.

Managers are people too. They have unfair biases that come into play. When you decide what to share and how to use your voice, just remember – the world is watching.

Angela Copeland, a career coach and founder of Copeland Coaching, can be reached at copelandcoaching.com.

Get rid of your junk - it's easy!

Do you have old items you've been meaning to get rid of that don't fit in your garbage or recycling cart? Now they can be picked up for free!

San Jose residents can schedule free appointments to have large items (such as mattresses, sofas, refrigerators, tires, and more) picked up by their recycling collection company.

Call your recycling company to schedule your pick up:

- Single family homes in Evergreen Valley, call California Waste Solutions at 408.213.7800.

- Apartments and condos in all areas of San Jose, call GreenTeam of San Jose at 408. 282.4400.

Mayor Liccardo led the way in creating this new city program called BeautifySJ. He says, "Today we're going to empower

our community by reclaiming our public spaces."

The website for BeautifySJ states the mission statement of the program as follows; "We have the opportunity to reimagine San Jose—to take the pride that we feel in our city and reflect that in beautiful neighborhoods. With Beautify San Jose, we will make beautification a City Hall priority, and help residents report, volunteer, organize, and recognize to create a more beautiful San Jose."

The BeautifySJ website has nine additional areas of focus which can be of assistance to you in beautifying your neighborhood.

Visit sjenvironment.org/junkpickup for more information, frequently asked questions, and a list of eligible items.

Report illegal dumping: Download My San Jose or call 408.535.3500.

Visit sjenvironment.org/illegaldumping to learn more about the City's initiatives to combat illegal dumping.

For more information, visit: www.beautifysj.org

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Times Local News

Rotary Club of East Valley/Evergreen has had a lot of recent activity

By Charlie Wasser
Special to the Times

Rotary Club East/Evergreen has been quite active over the last few weeks.

We had our annual crab feed fundraiser on Feb. 17 which was a great success. Assembly Member Ash Kalra, a representative from Assembly Member Kansen Chu's office and Lance Motch, Vice President of the San Jose Giants baseball team made presentations to the attendees.

Both Kalra and Chu's representative gave the Rotary Club of East Valley/Evergreen a State Assembly commendation for the work being done in the community by the club. Definitely you should plan on attending next year's crab feed.

On February 22, the regular club meeting was the club level competition of the Rotary District 5170 speech contest. There were nine high school age students competing by giving a five minute talk with no notes to the Rotarians present; judged by independent judges. The winners now go on to compete against winners from other Rotary clubs in the Bay Area. Eventually, the final competition will take place with the final four students, with cash prizes awarded to the winners and for those competing.

On March 1, Commodore Russ Robinson of the South Bay Yacht Club, gave a very interesting look at the history

of the South Bay Yacht Club in Alviso. He had photographs of moving the club building and also flooding over the years. There were descriptions of the effect of human interface on the bay.

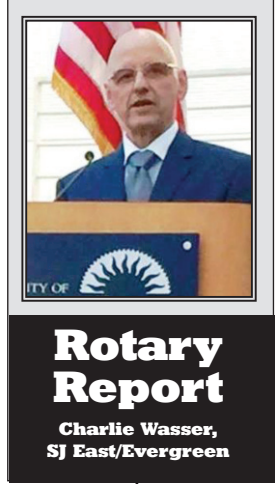
On March 8, San Jose City Council Member Johnny Khamis gave his take on the state of San Jose and what his ideas are for San Jose going forward.

Rotary International began an extra-large project to serve humanity that is the eradication of polio worldwide in 1985, when there were 350,000 new cases of polio every year. Since January 1, 2018, there have been only two cases in Afghanistan. On March 15, 2018, Rotary Past District

Governor Dwight Perry gave a talk about polio. The talk will discuss current status of polio and what is happening to end it expeditiously.

In case you have not been receiving our emails, seen us on Facebook, or somewhere else, please note we have moved our weekly meetings. We now meet at the San Jose Country Club, 15571 Alum Rock Ave, San Jose, CA 95127. We still meet on Thursdays and I dutifully still try to start the meeting at 12:15 pm. There is a \$20.00 fee to attend the meeting which includes some great food at the country club.

Feel free to contact me about attending one the meetings. Who knows, you may actually find yourself considering joining.



Evergreen Business Association network meets twice monthly

The Evergreen Business Association is a networking group for business owners who live and work in the Evergreen and nearby areas.

The purpose of the Evergreen Business Association is to develop and foster connections and to provide a forum for mem-

bers to share knowledge, promote growth opportunities, and encourage referrals.

The group meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 am at the Evergreen Village Square Library, 4035 Evergreen Village Square, San Jose.

On the fourth Friday of each month, the group meets at the Evergreen Coffee Company for an informal session at noon. Evergreen Coffee Company is also located at Evergreen Village Square.

For more information, please refer to our website at www.ebagroup.org

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Times News Briefs

'Art with a Heart', holds mesmerizing art and dance performance for a great cause on Sunday, March 25

By Sean Eastwood
Times staff writer

Empower and Excel, a San Jose youth volunteer organization, is proud to present "Art with a Heart."

The spectacular new show will have world renowned speed painter, Vilas Nayak, accompany by Indian Raga Fellow and acclaimed Bharatanatayam dancer Aarathy Sundar. This unique fusion/duet of Indian Classical dance and paint strokes will surely inspire and awe the audience.

Empower and Excel was founded in 2015 by San Jose native Ayesha Charagula and Dr. Rajani Priya Ayilavarapu. It is a volunteer-powered non-profit organization committed to empower children and youth to give back to the community. The volunteers work locally with shelters, senior centers, children with special needs, Our City Forest and Sunday Friends.

Internationally, the organization is working with various charities in India to help children with special needs, to empower traffic victims, and to resource school libraries and classroom in the underserved communities. The proceeds from "Art with a Heart" will go toward bringing color to the lives of these under privileged children.

World renowned speed painting artist Vilas Nayak, is a self-taught artist from India who started painting at the age of 3. He left his lucrative corporate job in 2011 to pursue his passion for art. He was a finalist of India's Got Talent season 3 and winner of 'EC live quotient Most Innovative Act Award' 2012. His performances on Asia's Got Talent on AXN and Got Talent World Stage Live have caught attention of millions of art lovers across the world. He has performed in some of the most prestigious events like – United Nations General Assembly, Singapore President Star Charity show, Asia's Got Talent, Asian Achievers Awards in London, and NBA half time show for Legend Tim Duncan in 2017.

Watching him live in action always leave the spectators wonderstruck, in tandem with the beats of music, it takes him minutes to transform a blank canvas to a vibrant work of art. So, where does his speed come from?

His speed comes from months of practice and perseverance. On stage, he cannot erase any bit or redo parts, so he spends a lot of time on each portrait at home. It is like multiple rounds of mental preparation rehearsals. He wants to carry forward his work with paintings that bear social messages and reach out to more and more people globally.

Aarthy Sundar has

trained in the classical dance form, bharathanatyam, for the past 14 years, and has given numerous solo and group performances throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex, Boston and California, as well as in Delhi and Chennai, India. Over the years she has learned from many notable artists in the field, and is currently under the able tutelage of Dr. Janaki Rangarajan. She has gained much recognition for her dancing over the years, being named the Saptami Star in the statewide Saptami Arts and Culture competition, and being selected twice as a dance finalist in the prestigious Cleveland Tyagaraja Aradhana Festival. In 2016, she was chosen as one of the first dance fellows for the selective Indian Raga Fellowship, and was invited back for a second year as a creative director of dance in 2017. She has been recognized by publications like HuffPost, Feminism in India, and UN Free and Equal.

One of her most notable projects to date was Ekashree, a dance production she co-conceptualized and choreographed around the theme of women empowerment, where all ticket proceeds of the show were donated to a charity for abused women and children. She continues today to seek opportunities to use dance as a platform for social awareness and change. She is currently a graduate student at the University of Texas at Dallas studying to be a Speech-Language Pathologist.

"Art with a Heart" performance is only available for one night in the bay area on Sunday, March 25th. It will be held at San Jose State University Hammer Theater at 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San Jose CA, 95113. The performance will start at 5pm but the theater door will open at 4pm to show case works of our local young artists. Tickets (\$25-\$125) can be purchased by calling Hammer Theater Box office at 408-924-8501.



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Times News Briefs

Nearly a thousand attend 9th Annual Senior Winter Walk Resource Fair

By William Bellou
Publisher

The 9th annual Senior Winter Walk Resource Fair at Westfield Oakridge Mall was a great success with nearly 1,000 senior citizens, many from Evergreen Valley, participating in the recent event.

The Winter Walk takes place inside of the mall where guests receive one door prize drawing ticket at the end of each lap. Those bringing used eyeglasses to donate to the Lions Club received an extra ticket for the prize drawing.

The participants engaged in activities that promote fitness and a healthy lifestyle. Walkers received a free breakfast at the event, and many door prizes were awarded, including a diamond ring donated by Samuel Jewelers.

Staff from City Council Districts 10, 9, and 2 worked together to create a resource fair with more than 50 vendors participating in the two hour event, which targeted the senior citizen community. Vendors included activity clubs, health and wellness providers, and services offered by the City of San Jose and Santa Clara County.

“We have a great turnout for the Westfield Oakridge Winter Walk event, and it was a pleasure working with Councilman Sergio Jimenez to organize this great event for our seniors,” said Johnny Khamis, District 10 City Councilman. “The event just gets bigger and better each year.”

In addition to Johnny Khamis, City Councilman Sergio Jimenez, and Santa Clara County Supervisors Dave Cortese and Mike Wasserman also spoke to the exuberant crowd, which was followed by a 10 minute exercise routine. Michele Dexter from the District 10 office served as the event’s master of ceremonies.

Special guest this year was Elvis tribute artist, Rick Torres,



who sang several Elvis standards, passed out winning gifts, and kissed several fun-loving senior citizens while walking through the crowd.

This year’s sponsors included: Westfield Oakridge, Alameda Family, Kaiser Permanente, JSM Enterprises, Star One Credit Union, Almaden Times, and El Camino Hospital.



Kaiser Permanente Booth at Winter Walk.



Several hundred seniors participate in morning exercises just prior to the performance of Elvis tribute artist Rick Torres and the door prize drawing. Above right: The Lyons Club table at Winter Walk. Pictured (l to r) are: T.A. Hunter, Marty Schwartz, and Lois Ferber.



Our City Forests booth with Mandy Ford (left) and Nancy Solorio.

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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 10:45AM, Holy Communion service. Each Sunday service is followed by a coffee hour for friendship and conversation.

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

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

GRACE CHURCH OF EVERGREEN

www.GraceChurchSJ.net See you on Facebook 2650 ABORN ROAD at Kettmann, across from Evergreen Public Library. Serving Evergreen for over 50 Years. John S Goldstein, Pastor Christian Worship every

Sunday at 11.00 am Together let us build lives toward excellence! Music Institute (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 3695 Rose Terrasse Circle. San Jose CA 95148. Located at the top of Aborn Rd and Murillo Ave. Come be inspired and build your faith as we worship together this Sunday @ 10:30 AM. KidsPoint is our children's ministry, serving infants through 5th grade. It is a fun and safe experience for kids as they grow in their walk with God. ONE is our student ministry, serving 6th through 12th grades. We help lead students into a growing relationship with Jesus through conversations, fun and service. Because of the diversity of Evergreen we offer church services in 5 languages, each with their own auditorium and pastor. 10:30 AM English, Mandarin, Cantonese and Cambodian. Spanish at 1:00 PM.

SAINT ANTHONY CATHOLIC CHURCH

We invite you to become a part of our hospitable, intimate Catholic parish. We are a caring community, promoting spiritual growth, reaching out to people in need and where you get to know people by name. We offer children's religious education (CREATE); Youth Ministry (BLAST & X-STATIC); Scripture Study (day & evening); Senior's Group and many other adult ministries as well. Saint Anthony parish is located in Almaden Valley at 20101 McKean Road, San Jose, 95120. Our weekend Masses are at 4 p.m. on Saturday at our historic church at 21800 Bertram Road in New Almaden, CA 95042 and on Sunday at 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m. at the McKean Road location. Our Parish Office is open Monday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and Tuesday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, stop by the Parish Office or call 1+ (408) 997-4800, or visit our website at www.churchstanthony.com. Fr. Larry Hendel, Pastor.



God is One
ੴ ਸਿਕ 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 or 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!

For Worship listing ads, call 408.250.5242

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Times Notebook

SJYS's Philharmonic Orchestra presents its 2018 Spring Concert

The Philharmonic Orchestra performs work from Ponchielli, Tchaikovsky and Mendelssohn

The San Jose Youth Symphony's Philharmonic Orchestra, under the artistic leadership of Music Director and Conductor Yair Samet, presents its 2018 Spring Concert to be held on Saturday, March 17, 2018, at 4:00 pm at the California Theatre, 345 S. 1st Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

The program will open with Ponchielli's Dance of the Hours from La Gioconda and will conclude with Tchaikovsky's Capriccio Italien. This concert will also showcase winners from the 2017 Young Artists' Competition, proudly sponsored by the San Jose Symphony Foundation. Two outstanding young soloists will be featured: Michael Kong, violinist, performing Tchaikovsky's Souvenir d'un lieu cher; and Judy Wang, pianist, performing Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto No. 1 in G minor.

Michael Kong is a high school senior at Dr. TJ Owens Gilroy Early College Academy at Gavrilin College, and has been playing violin since age 8. He is now in his fifth season with the San Jose Youth Symphony and Associate Concertmaster of the Philharmonic Orchestra.

Judy Wang is also a high school senior, attending Irvington High School in Fremont, and has studied piano since age 6. She also plays oboe and is the principal second oboe of the Philharmonic Orchestra this season.

The San Jose Youth Symphony (SJYS) is one of the oldest and finest youth orchestras on the West Coast of the U.S. Founded over six decades ago as part of the former San Jose Symphony, SJYS has a rich tradition of musical performance and education.

The mission of SJYS is to give young people a foundation for life through orchestral music.

We create programs that assure young musicians achieve technical proficiency, musical knowledge and an emotional connection to music. We strive to make each performance for the community, uplifting, spirited and exciting.

The musicians of SJYS, all school-age youth, are chosen from more than 600 applicants through our annual auditions. The SJYS comprises 12 distinct performing ensembles: two full orchestras, a Chamber orchestra, two flute choirs, two string ensembles, as well as winds, harp, saxophone, percussion and jazz ensembles.

To Purchase Tickets, visit the SJYS store: sjys.org/product-category/tickets



Conductor Yair Samet



The San Jose Youth Symphony's Philharmonic Orchestra, under the artistic leadership of Music Director and Conductor Yair Samet, presents its 2018 Spring Concert to be held on Saturday, March 17, 2018,



Michael Kong



Judy Wang

HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE Symphony Silicon Valley announces fourth installment of the Harry Potter film concert series

Audiences are in for a treat in experiencing the next chapter of the Harry Potter Film Concert Series April 7-8.

Experience the Symphony Silicon Valley and the Symphony Silicon Valley Chorale performing every note from Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire while the film plays on a high definition 40-foot screen above the stage.

The Harry Potter Film Concert Series, which is another magical experience from J.K. Rowling's Wizarding World, kicked off in June 2016 with Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone and Symphony Silicon Valley is presenting the complete series of films through 2018.

In Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire, Harry Potter's name emerges from the

Goblet of Fire and he becomes a competitor in a grueling battle for glory among three wizarding schools – the Triwizard Tournament. Now Harry must confront a deadly dragon, fierce water demons and an enchanted maze only to find himself in a cruel grasp of He-Who-Must-Not-Be-Named. In this fourth film adaptation of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series, everything changes as Harry, Ron and Hermione leave childhood forever and take on challenges greater than anything they could have imagined.

This film concert series has been created by CineConcerts, in partnership with Warner Bros. Consumer Products, and will be conducted by its creator and Producer, Justin Freer. He explains, "The Harry Potter film series continues to be a once-in-a-lifetime cultural phenomenon that delights millions of fans around the world."

Performances on Saturday, April 7 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, April 8 at 1:30 p.m. Tickets: \$45 to \$95 can be purchased online at: www.symphonysiliconvalley.org or by phone: 408.286.2600 ext. 23, or in person: 325 So First Street, San Jose, CA 95113, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information on the Harry Potter Film Concert Series, visit: www.harrypotterinconcert.com.

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For more information please contact Info@sanjosesymphonicchoir.org, or call 408-995-3318.
www.sanjosesymphonicchoir.org

San Jose Symphonic Choir is supported, in part, by a Cultural Affairs Grant from the City of San Jose, and by the Peery Fund.

Times **Local News**



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IRS says it's looking for these red flags this tax season

By Sean Eastwood
Times staff writer

IRS agents are saying simple mistakes can warrant an audit from the Internal Revenue Service.

IRS software programs can randomly select the taxpayer and compare the return to other similar returns to detect any anomalies.

Here are red flags tax experts say you should avoid:

Are you generous?

One of the most common reasons for an audit is when the taxpayer is taking higher-than-average deductions in relation to his income, which can include charitable contributions, real estate interest or student loans interest.

The IRS has a sense of what's a fair amount of deductions based on income brackets. For example, if someone earned \$125,000 and claimed more than \$50,000 of charitable contributions, that could lead to IRS scrutiny. However, if you were

indeed generous, just make sure you have receipts in safe keeping in case of an audit.

Claiming a loss from a hobby

The IRS allows hobby deductions for expenses, up to the amount of income generated by that hobby. If you claim deductions for the expense greater than the amount earned, that can trigger a red flag.

Withdrawing from a retirement account early

Taking withdrawals from a retirement account prior to 59 ½ years old — when, for example, the taxpayer uses a portion of that money for a first-time home, qualified education expenses or emergency medical costs can trigger more scrutiny of your return.

A sudden avalanche of business expenses

Everyone wants to squeeze in as many potentially reimbursable expenses as they can for their returns this year. However, if someone submits a thick wad of restaurant and Uber receipts for business trips compared to previous years the IRS will notice.

The moral of this story, keep good records and keep them safe.

When to ask your boss for more money

By Angela Copeland
Special to the Times

Who wouldn't like to make more money?

If you've read my column before, you probably know that I'm an advocate of changing companies every three to five years (for many industries). On top of gaining extra experience, switching has the potential to bump up your pay considerably. But, there are often times when you need a raise at your current employer.

So, where do you start? If you want the best chance of landing a raise of more than two or three percent, do it at a time when your role has evolved quite a bit. This would be the case if your work has grown into a new area, has expanded significantly in scope, or has added management responsibilities. For example, if you were hired as an individual contributor and are now managing a team of seven, the scope of your job has changed.

It's easier to ask for more money if your job has changed significantly because you aren't asking for more money for your existing job. That may sound silly, especially if you're doing more than your peers. You may be smarter, saving more money, or getting more done. But, it's hard for a manager to justify paying you much more for any of these things.

When your job has changed, you're essentially asking for a fair amount of money for a new job. While you're making the case, it may also be a good time to request a new title and an updated job description. This way, you are officially taking your current position to the next

level.

Once you've decided you're ready to make a case for more, you'll want to find the perfect time. It may be during your annual performance evaluation. Or, you may want to lobby for more money at another time, in hopes that your manager won't be restricted by a certain pool of money.

Whenever you decide to do it, plan ahead. Request a meeting in advance, so your boss won't be caught off guard. Prepare your case in such a way that your manager can easily advocate for you. In other words, don't make it hard for your boss to give you more money. Do as much of the work for them as you can.

Consider preparing a presentation that shows how your job has changed. Highlight your accomplishments. Include any numeric results you can show, including how much you beat your goals, and how much revenue you saved the company. You put this much work into everything else you do at work. Why wouldn't you take the time to put it into your own presentation?

Remember this. Your boss may say no. It may be out of their control. Be careful not to come across in a way that may jeopardize your current job. And, if your company isn't willing to value you, be ready to begin looking for another one that will.

Angela Copeland, a career coach and founder of Copeland Coaching, can be reached at copelandcoaching.com.

If you want the best chance of landing a raise of more than two or three percent, do it at a time when your role has evolved quite a bit.

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JEEP CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH***: -\$500
JEEP CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH***: -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES: **\$11,999**

4 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

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37% NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP!

66 OTHER CHEROKEES TO CHOOSE FROM

MSRP: \$25,490
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JEEP CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**: -\$1,250
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH***: -\$500
JEEP CA BC BONUS CASH***: -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES: **\$15,777**

9 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

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DODGE CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**: -\$750
DODGE CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH***: -\$200

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES: **\$19,999**

5 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

2018 DODGE CHARGER

AUTOMATIC TEMPERATURE CONTROL, WIRELESS PHONE CONNECTIVITY, EXTERIOR PARKING REAR CAMERA, PARKING SENSORS & MORE!

37 OTHER CHARGERS TO CHOOSE FROM

24% NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP!

MSRP: \$30,090
DEALER DISCOUNT: -\$4,622
SALE PRICE: \$25,468
DODGE CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*: -\$1,500
DODGE CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**: -\$750
DODGE CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH***: -\$200

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES: **\$21,988**

4 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

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DEALER DISCOUNT: -\$8,187
SALE PRICE: \$22,398
CHRYSLER CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*: -\$3,750
CHRYSLER CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**: -\$500
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH***: -\$500
CHRYSLER CA 2017 RETAIL BONUS CASH***: -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES: **\$19,888**

9 2017's LEFT!

#1 IN THE COUNTRY FOR PACIFICA SALES** PER FCA SALES REPORT 2017.

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92 OTHER PACIFICA HYBRID TO CHOOSE FROM

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#1 PACIFICA HYBRID DEALER IN THE NATION** PER FCA SALES REPORT 2017.

2018 RAM PROMASTER CITY

MSRP: \$25,190
DEALER DISCOUNT: -\$4,952
SALE PRICE: \$20,238
RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*: -\$2,000
RAM PROMASTER CONQUEST BONUS CASH***: -\$750
RAM ON-THE-JOB RETAIL BONUS CASH***: -\$500

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES: **\$16,988**

12 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

32% NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP!

5 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET PRICE

NEW 2017 RAM 1500 ECO-DIESEL CREW 4X4

NAV, AUTOMATIC TEMPERATURE CONTROL, PARKING SENSORS & MORE!

86 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM

3.0 ECO-DIESEL

DEALER DISCOUNT OFF MSRP: -\$8,588
RAM CA BC RETAIL CONSUMER CASH*: -\$5,750
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH***: -\$500
RAM CA NON-PRIME RETAIL BONUS CASH**: -\$1,250
RAM CA BC RETAIL BONUS CASH***: -\$2,000

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<p>2010 LEXUS RX 350</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, LEATHER</p> <p>VIN #409389 \$14,999</p>	<p>2016 KIA SORENTO L</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, CRUISE CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY</p> <p>VIN #095814 \$14,999</p>	
<p>2011 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED</p> <p>4WD...NAV...PANORAMIC ROOF...LEATHER, AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOORS LOCKS</p> <p>VIN #523430 \$16,999</p>	<p>2015 FORD MUSTANG ECOBOOST</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, CRUISE CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY</p> <p>VIN #339444 \$17,999</p>	<p>2017 CHRYSLER PACIFICA LX</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, CRUISE CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY, BLIND SPOT SENSORS</p> <p>VIN #521569 \$18,999</p>
<p>2014 GMC ACADIA SLT-1</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, CRUISE CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY, NAVIGATION</p> <p>VIN #324246 \$18,999</p>	<p>2014 TOYOTA TUNDRA V8...SR5...BACK-UP CAM</p> <p>VIN #148656 \$19,999</p>	
<p>2012 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, 4WD</p> <p>VIN #303653 \$17,999</p>	<p>2010 DODGE RAM 1500 LARAMIE</p> <p>RAM BOX...FULLY LOADED...4WD</p> <p>VIN #242918 \$22,999</p>	<p>2014 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, CRUISE CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY</p> <p>VIN #293816 \$24,999</p>
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<p>2007 DODGE RAM 1500 SLT MEGA CAB</p> <p>LIFTED...4WD...HEMI</p> <p>VIN #724902 PLEASE CALL</p>	<p>2009 DODGE RAM 2500 SLT</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, CRUISE CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY</p> <p>VIN #514212 PLEASE CALL</p>	<p>2016 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SPORT</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, KEYLESS ENTRY</p> <p>VIN #321215 PLEASE CALL</p>
<p>2005 JEEP WRANGLER RUBICON</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, LIFTED...WINCH</p> <p>VIN #340556 PLEASE CALL</p>	<p>2017 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 HIGH COUNTRY</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS, CRUISE CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY</p> <p>VIN #215568 PLEASE CALL</p>	

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Times Feature

The March rains came roaring

By Richard P. Santos

Special to the Times

After a dismally dry February, March has come in like a lion.

Rain and snow has fallen in the mountains surrounding Santa Clara Valley, and the forecast shows several more storms on their way. While unanticipated stream or storm drain blockages could always cause localized flooding during a rain-storm, we do not currently anticipate any creek flooding issues.

Santa Clara Valley Water District crews have worked all year to prepare our creeks for winter rains. We are dedicated to keeping residents and businesses safe through our flood protection programs.

In preparation for this series of storms, all five of our sandbag sites have been fully stocked. In addition, cities around the county operate an additional 18 sandbag sites.

Our maintenance staff stands ready

with heavy equipment to respond to reports of downed trees or large debris flows in locations where we have property rights. We are monitoring streams for blockages at key bridges and culverts. We need the public's help as our eyes and ears to alert us to obstructions in the creeks and to prevent flooding. To report issues in creeks, residents can call 408-630-2378 or submit a service request to Access Valley Water.

Our ten reservoirs have a combined storage of just 26 percent of their full capacity. This leaves a significant amount of storage space to capture the expected storm runoff. Therefore, we do not anticipate any possibility of our large reservoirs reaching capacity this week or next. The exception is the relatively small Vasona Reservoir in Los Gatos, which regularly reaches capacity during the rainy season.

Visit our website valleywater.org/flood-ready for flood safety tips, current reservoir levels and stream flows, and maps to free sandbag sites.

Richard P. Santos is chair of the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors. He can be reached at board@valleywater.org.



Water District

John L. Varela,
Director, District 1
SCVWD

Tijuana

Continued from page 1

Tijuana heat was relentless. As an athlete, I thought I was well-equipped to tackle the physically demanding work. However, I faced unprecedented soreness from working long hours. Although we only worked for four days, this experience helped me catch a glimpse of the working conditions for numerous laborers in Tijuana.

I met the family we were building the house for and other neighboring families. These people were very grateful, kind, and offered their assistance wherever they could. Carmen, a twenty-one year old married woman that I befriended stayed at home and tended to chores, because she had not received an education and didn't have a job.

I watched several children playing and racing on obstacle courses made of old car tires, sticks, and buckets alongside our construction site. They too did not have the privilege to attend school. A set of parents I met managed to live with their eight children in a small, two bedroom house. Every day I saw yet another aspect of my life I had never taken to be so precious. I had an education, my own bedroom, and my drawers are filled with clean clothes; all things these children may never get to experience.

Along with a reality check of how difficult it is to make a living in some parts of the world, I experienced Mexican culture and hospitality.

On the last day of construction when it came time to hand over the house key to the owners, with tears in their eyes they expressed their gratitude to our group.

Having lived in California my entire life, I hadn't realized how precious little things that I hadn't considered to be so valuable were to the families that resided in Tijuana. Many of us living in the United States do not realize the value of the resources and opportunities that are readily available to us. This experience only made me feel more grateful and blessed to be living in America. With that said, this trip reminds me of the bigger picture in life that had begun to be blurry to me. We often get lost in our world of technology and the commotion of our jobs, classes, peer pressure and so much more, but this trip tied all my loose ends and explained to me what I had been missing.

I hope this article serves as a reminder that adjusting the focus is in our hands.



The experience helped the author gain insight into daily life for workers in Tijuana.

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Times Feature

Diversity

Continued from page 1

Three speakers, Sameena Usman of CAIR, Minna Holopainen professor San Jose State University and Dr. Indermohan Singh of the San Jose Gurdwara of Sahib each helped with their wise words so that the faith leaders could select and possibly implement ideas and grow in what they know. Working together in the light of faith and focus magnifies their strength and nurtures diversity in our Valley. It was announced that since the first Faith Leader Panel Event that ten families with children in the Valley were helped to find a place to shelter and get the stronger opportunity to build their future. Of course a higher power helped.

Arenas continued, “To have the District 8 Faith Leaders Panels due to the fact that she believes, “slowly we are making changes and there are things we continue to need to work on.” Usman of CAIR said, “We have been experiencing so many different communities that have been experiencing a rise in hate.” She said, “We reach out to help people.” She also said her group “reaches out to make our ties to each other stronger. We elevate not just us but elevate each other.”

Holopainen focuses on teaching community skills that help all to leverage the value of diversity. “I teach people to engage with each other.” She said there are skills one can learn to help others and anyone can learn them and use them across all areas of gender, education, age, ethnicities and more, for diversity spans across many areas. It was said that it was very important for groups to come together to have these kinds of discussions and that such meetings build bridges and help people to know what needs to be mended.

Singh said, “The divine light of God is in everybody. We must not have hatred or bigotry. We must have inclusivity, equality and love for another.”

It was discussed how all faiths have the same profound parallel of beliefs that steer their direction and firmly make up the foundations of their religions. Similarities exist and instead of focusing on differences we can instead focus on similarities. We as individuals have many facets of our identities and are not one-dimensional. There is no flat representation of what people are.

It was said that all in our society need to develop deeper ways of getting to know each other besides just shaking hands and knowing names. If we can read and learn about the traditions of others we can gain deeper under-



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standing and that strength of diversity makes us all stronger. We must go beyond stereotypes, find commonality in all people, and this happens if one becomes a life-long learner.

If a person's mind body and soul is not working, that person can reach out to get services. It

was said that no one should be afraid to go to the county website and connect with departments that specialize in helping the general public.

Arenas kept the event moving along and offered insights on the important topic of diversity and the importance of our society

respecting and work together in our society from children to adults. She spoke about how discrimination is taken seriously and the city acts in helping to quickly handle any negative situations.

Important concepts were discussed that uplifted all such as the importance of organizing and reaching out to know our neighbors better where we live. Arenas is holding these faith leader panels to bring communities together so that action plans can be done to cover ongoing areas of need that the Faith Leaders discern are of key importance for her office and them to work together on.

The Councilwoman held this successful second Faith Leader Panel and plans to hold more. She is moving them around to different locations. It was collaboratively suggested that the next

panel will actively involve some kind of nurturing participation in some action where all the leaders work with their hands and mind to make something take place.

The meeting began with prayer by the Priest of the Gurdwara and closing invocation was done by Stacy King from the Church of Ladder Day Saints.

Surjit Singh Baner of the Gurdwara leadership said, “Interfaith events promote that we need to respect all religions and teach the message that God is one. We need to promote the brotherhood message to other communities and we welcome all to our Temple and Gurdwara.”

Editor's Note: Faith leaders are encouraged to contact the Councilwoman's office to be a part of the next District 8 Faith Leader Panel. Go to; district8@sanjoseca.gov phone; (408) 535-4908.

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Evergreen Area Meetings

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

District 8 Community Roundtable
1st Thursday of every month from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Location: Village Square library (For information, visit d8crt.org)

CalRTA-Area V-Div. 70 Retired Teachers Organization. Meets bi-monthly at various eastside cafes also conducts a variety of holiday socials/activities and scholarship fundraisers. Established in 1983! All teaching levels and others welcome. This organization supports the goals and purposes of the California Teachers' Retirement System. For more information call E. Paros at (408) 274-1609 or email parosej@sbcglobal.net.

East Side Union High School District Board of Trustees
Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in the ESUHS Education Center, 830 N. Capitol Ave. 347-5000. Check the web site for agendas and updates: www.esuhds.org

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

The Evergreen Business Association is a networking group for business owners who live and work in the Evergreen and nearby areas. The purpose of the Evergreen Business Association is to develop and foster connections and to provide a forum for members to share knowledge, promote growth opportunities, and encourage referrals. The group meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 am at the Evergreen Village Square Library, 4035 Evergreen Village Square, San Jose. We also meet at Evergreen Coffee Company on the 4th Friday of the month for a more informal session at noon. Evergreen Coffee Company is also located at Evergreen Village Square. For more information, please refer to our website at www.ebagroup.org.

Evergreen-East Valley Realtors Marketing Meeting
Meets each Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The EEVRMM invites realtors, brokers, lenders and related affiliates to its breakfast meeting. Market your listings, match buyers with sellers and share real estate success stories. Meetings are held at New Seasons 5667 Silver Creek Valley Rd San Jose Ca 95138. \$3 admission, coffee and pastries included. For more information, call David Castillo at 238-2000.

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

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

The Evergreen Senior Advisory Council meets the third Thursday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Get involved in helping plan events for seniors, volunteering for a good cause, and getting to know your fellow seniors. For more information, call the Evergreen Community Center at (408) 270-2220.

Evergreen Valley Garden Club
Meeting at the SUNRISE SENIOR LIVING CENTER, 4855 San Felipe Road (across from McDonalds). Meetings will be on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, from 7-8 PM. EVGC membership is \$20/year or \$30 for couples. During this time of transition, any membership fees paid now will be extended to cover all of 2018 as well. For further information, please feel free to contact Susie Henderson: susiehenderson@sbcglobal.net or 408-532-6602

Evergreen Valley High School Athletic Booster Club meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. in the school's administration office.

Evergreen Valley High School Site Council
Meets the first Wednesday of every month on the EVHS campus in the administration building D, 3300 Quimby Rd., San Jose. Confirm meetings by visiting the school's web site, <http://ev.ca.campusgrid.net/home> and clicking on school site council in the left hand toolbar or calling the school at (408) 347-7000.

Evergreen Valley Service Organization
For more information, call (408) 274-6756.

Falls Creek Neighborhood Association
Homeowners from the Madison and Pulte area developments are welcome and encouraged to attend future meetings. For more information go to the Web at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/fallscreekneighbors> or call Dave Zenker at (408) 238-2591.

The Evergreen Community Center offers a variety of classes and special events, for kids, adults, and seniors. For more information on our activities visit: www.sanjoseca.gov/prns. The Senior Nutrition

program serves a delicious and well balanced meal to seniors 60 and over every Monday – Friday at noon. The suggested donation is \$3 per person. Please make reservations at least one day in advance by calling (408) 270-1244. The center is located at 4860 San Felipe Road.

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

Hidden Glen Community
To join a neighborhood discussion egroup, go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/HiddenGlenSanJose/> The Kiwanis meet regularly every 4th Tuesday of the month at the Red Lobster (12:00 noon). For more information, please contact: President of Kiwanis East San Jose Mr. Bud Lomonaco, Phone: (408) 903-7526

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

Lions Club - San Jose East Valley
This group meets Tuesday evenings from 6 pm to 8 pm for a dinner meeting at Carrow's Restaurant, 1696 Tully Rd. near the corner of Tully Rd/King Road. For more information, contact Lions Club member Bill Evans at (408) 274-4728.

McLaughlin Corridor Neighborhood Assoc. Meets second Thursday at 7 p.m. at Tully Library. 365-1300.

Meadowfair Neighborhood Association meets the second Wednesday of odd-numbered months at 7 p.m. at Meadowfair Center, 2696 King Rd. For more information, call 539-2308.

Reid - Hillview Airport Association
3rd Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. Location: Hillview Airport Terminal. (For information, call (408) 251-4939 or visit rhvaa.org)

Rotary Club of San Jose East/Evergreen meets every Thursday from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. at the Ranch Golf Club, 4601 Hill Top View Lane. (408) 270-0557.

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

San Jose/Evergreen Community College District Board
Normally meets second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Meetings in the District Office, Board Room, 40 S. Market St.,

San Jose, CA 95113.
San Pedro Squares Toastmasters Club meets every Tuesday from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. at Jimmy's Restaurant, 222 W. Capitol Expressway in San Jose. Contact Barbara at 373-2815, or email bararamcchesney@sbcglobal.net for further information, or check out the website at <http://www.sanpedrosquares.freetoasthost.org>.

Silver Creek (PTSA) Parent, Teacher, Student Association
Meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday in the Silver Creek High School Principal's Conference

Room, 3434 Silver Creek Road. For more information, call 347-5830.

Silver Creek School Site Council Meetings: Second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in room V-1.

Silver Oak Educational Partnership
The Silver Oak Educational Partnership is now called the Silver Oak Elementary PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). New meeting schedule will be posted soon.

Tully Ocala Capitol King Neighborhood Association

1st Monday of every other month from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Location: Boys & Girls Clubs of Silicon Valley - Smythe Clubhouse

West Evergreen Neighborhood Association
This group represents the area bounded approximately by Flanigan Drive, South King Road, Aborn Road, and Alvin Avenue. Meets the third Tuesday at O.B. Whaley Elementary School, 2655 Alvin Ave., 7 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact the association at 535-8613.



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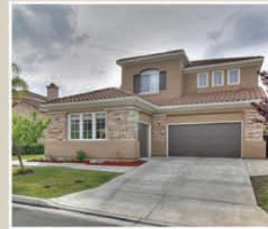
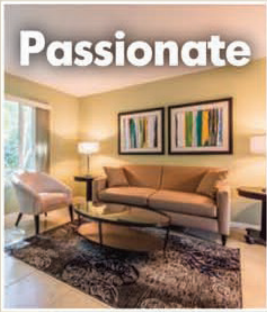
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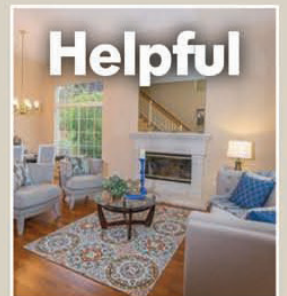
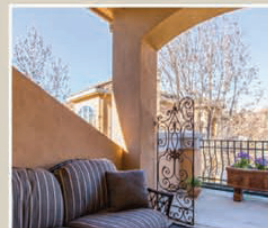
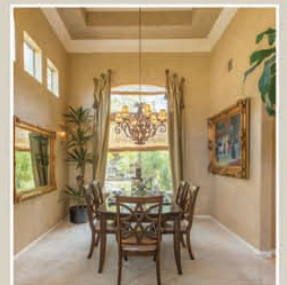
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