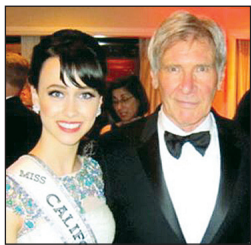


**LELAND SENIOR MEETS A GALACTIC SUPER STAR AT RECENT AVIATION AWARDS CEREMONY - PAGE 4**



**UNDER WATER: A \$1,300 BILL LEAVES PROPERTY OWNER AND NEIGHBORS PERPLEXED - PAGE 10**



**SPECIAL GIFT GIVEN TO CASTILLERO MUSIC PROGRAM TO HONOR CELLIST CORRY RANKIN - PAGE 22**



JAN. 29-FEB. 11, 2016 ■ VOL. 29, NO. 3

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# Almaden Times

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## A SIGN OF THE TIMES

A police photo shows the recent damage to the Almaden Valley Welcome sign. Inset: In a 2014 photo, representatives from Almaden service clubs were proud to be part of the creation of the Almaden Valley welcome sign.

### SIXTH GENERATION ALMADEN FAMILY Historic 'Baker Ranch' home sold for first time since built in 1889

By William Bellou  
Publisher

Almaden Valley is a better place thanks to the foresight of both seller and buyer of one of the most significant historical homes built in 1889 by Ruben Baker.

The Almaden landmark historic home, known as the Ruben Baker Ranch home located at 6468 Almaden Rd, is a one-of-a-kind home built with clear heart redwood featuring a unique water tower. The 2,826 sq. ft. home is situated on approximately 12,937 square ft.

See *BAKER RANCH*, page 18



The Almaden landmark historic home is a one-of-a-kind home built with clear heart redwood featuring a unique water tower.

### Vandalized 'Welcome' sign awaits repair, replacement; community offers support

By Lorraine Gabbert  
Senior Staff Writer

The Almaden community awoke on Jan. 16 to find their 'Welcome to Almaden Valley' sign vandalized.

The metal letters were removed from the sign, which is situated on Almaden Expressway, just south of Coleman. Emblems of the Almaden service clubs that had funded the project were also taken, and a week prior to the incident, the solar lighting system was stolen.

"Many members of the Almaden community have expressed outrage and offered their support to help repair the sign," says Ken Tavernier, past president

of Almaden Valley Rotary Club, who spearheaded its installation. "I suspect it was people stealing metal as nothing malicious was done to ruin the construction."

Councilmember Johnny Khamis says he is disgusted and disheartened by what the vandals did as the sign took years of planning and fundraising by the Almaden Valley Rotary Club, Almaden Super Lions, Kiwanis Club of Almaden Valley, San Jose Assistance League, City of San Jose, and County of Santa Clara. "I can't believe someone would abuse a welcome sign," he says.

Khamis asks that if anyone has any information on the crime, See *SIGN*, page 8

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



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## This Week:

### BUSINESS

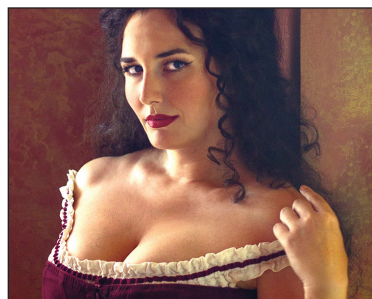
Almaden business updates: food and coffee options are plentiful: **PAGE 12**

### SCHOOLS

Students participate in Leland-Burnett Winter warm-up for upcoming 2016 Burnette Spring Invitational: **PAGE 21**

### LOCAL NEWS

Approval of investment to preserve Cambrian Park Carousel sign: **PAGE 24**



### ARTS

Opera San Jose to present Bizet's Carmen from Feb. 13 through 28: **PAGE 18**

### ALSO

Realtor Guide: **PAGE 26**  
Worship Guide: **PAGE 22**

## Almaden Times

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# Valley Currents

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

## Know Your Neighbor: Amish Shah

By Nirban Singh  
Times Staff Writer

*This feature explores and reflects the lives of different Almaden Valley residents with the goal of introducing interesting perspectives and views. It raises awareness and appreciation for our neighbors through unique insights that otherwise would have remained unknown.*

I first met Amish through his kids. I often used to shoot hoops or pass around a football with his sons.

The first time I was introduced to Amish, it seemed like he was worn out and had a long day. I remember thinking that he must have been a software programmer like many in the Silicon Valley working late, but that wasn't the case.

Although he was exhausted, he was still very friendly and greeted me with a smile. I've never had much of a conversation other than some small talk with Amish, but this interview introduced me to who Amish really is.

Nirban: How long have you lived in Almaden Valley?

Amish: We moved here in August of 2006...so almost nine and a half years.

Nirban: What do you do for a living?

Amish: I am an anesthesiologist and a physician.

Nirban: Why did you choose medicine, especially, anesthesiology?

Amish: My uncle was actually an anesthesiologist in India, so I knew about the field of anesthesiology from an early age. When I



Amish Shah

went to college, I majored in environmental toxicology and I learned about how drugs and chemicals from the environment affect the human body and taking it a step further; learning about the interactions of drugs and chemicals also on the human body fascinated me. So, that's how I ended up doing anesthesia.

Nirban: What do you find to be most challenging and interesting part of your job?

Amish: The most interesting is seeing the large variety of patients and their health problems. No one is exactly identical...so you have a huge variation which can be very challenging because no few cases or patients are alike. Each surgery as well as anesthetic is tailored for each individual person.

Nirban: If you had to give advice to someone aspiring to be going into medicine, what sort of advice would provide them with?

Amish: I would say start early and know that you want to go into

See NEIGHBOR, page 10



## Leland senior meets galactic superstar Ford

Miss California Teen, **Athena Crosby**, and Miss California, **Nadia Mejia**, chilled out with **Harrison Ford** at the 13th Annual Living Legends of Aviation Awards in Beverly Hills on Jan. 24. Crosby, a senior at Leland High School, said: "Not only did I get to meet 'Han Solo' but also I spoke with John Travolta, who accidentally stepped on my dress, and former California Governor, Pete Wilson" said Crosby. Travolta served as the host of the prestigious event. Ford is currently starring in "Star Wars: The Force Awakens," which has broken worldwide box office records.



## Mailbox

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

### Burglar invades local workshop

Dear Editor,

Our workshop in Almaden has been hit by a break & entry burglary (12/31) and a repeat attempt (1/12/16).

The first incident happened on 12/31 at 2:45 a.m. The burglar smashed through our doors with a large landscaping stone and entered the workshop. After less than 2 minutes inside he and his driver escaped in a waiting car, which we believe to be a 2003-04 Ford Mustang.

The second incident occurred yesterday 1/12 at 4:10am. A man tried to smash our front door with a large stone but was unable to enter



because the new glass panel did not break through.

We believe both incidents were carried out by

the same individual or group. The shoes of the 12/31/15 burglar are different from those worn by the 1/12/16 individual.

Both incidents were captured by our video security system. We have audio with the video as well as more pics.

A SJPD case file has been opened for the incidents, however with their limited resources I do not believe they can do much of anything. We would appreciate any help you can offer in getting the word out about these people who are doing this.

Kroman Watchworks is a service center for luxury and vintage watches and is located near Camden Ave and Almaden Expressway.

**Joshua A Kroman**  
Kroman Watchworks





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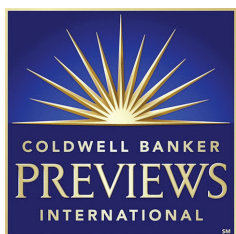
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Times **Local News**

# Silicon Valley luxury home sales soar 43 percent last month

Homes selling for more than \$1.5 million last month in Silicon Valley soared more than 43 percent last month compared to the year before according to a report issued by Coldwell Banker.

The new report was issued by South Bay's high end market fin-

ished off the year in strong fashion, according to a new report by Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. The figures are based on Multiple Listing Service data of all homes sold for more than \$1.5 million last month in Santa Clara County.

A total of 184 luxury properties

changed hands last month, up 43.7 percent from the 128 sales in December 2014. Last month's total was also up 12.8 percent from November's level of 163 sales.

Meanwhile, the median sale price of a luxury property last month climbed 5.4 percent from a year ago to reach \$2,019,000.

December's median was also up from November's level of \$1,917,000.

The upper end of the luxury market was the strongest segment last month with 98 sales over \$2 million, up from 58 a year ago and 77 the previous month. There were also 26 sales in excess of \$3

million, up from 24 sales at that level in December 2014.

"Silicon Valley's luxury housing market finished up 2015 on a roll with outstanding sales numbers and a solid increase in valuations," said Mike James, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. "We're starting to see signs that more listings may be coming on the market in the next few months, and that would be great news for buyers who are competing for the limited number of homes for sale."

Some key findings from this month's Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage luxury report:

The most expensive sale in Silicon Valley last month was a five-bedroom, six-bath approximately 6,000-square-foot home in Los Altos that sold for \$6.72 million;

San Jose boasted the most luxury sales with 30, followed by Palo Alto and Los Gatos with 27, Los Altos with 23, Cupertino with 18, and Saratoga and Sunnyvale with 17;

Homes sold in an average of 33 days on the market, down from 35.5 days a year ago but up from 26 days the previous month;

Sellers received an average of 103 percent of their asking price, down from 104 percent last year and the previous month.



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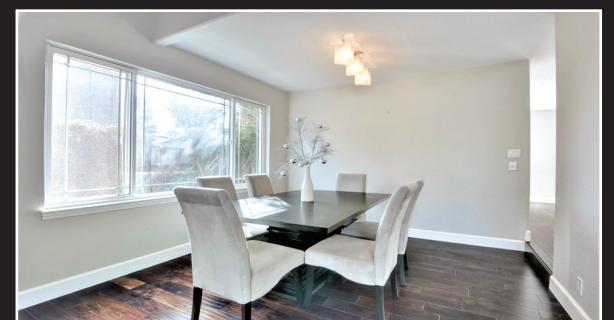
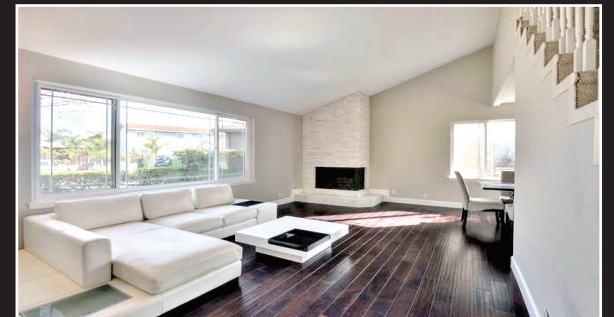
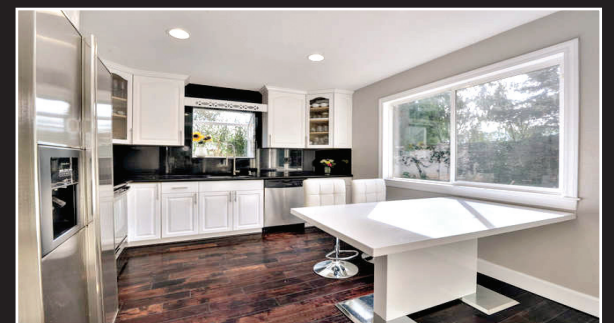




## 4969 Popejoy Court Beautiful Cambrian Home

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Happier times: In December 2014, community leaders celebrate the unveiling of the welcome sign. The community is encouraged to help fund the repair of the sign to bring back its original splendor.

## Sign

*Continued from page 1*

please contact the San Jose Police Department at: 311 or <http://www.sjpd.org/ReportingCrime/OnlineReport>.

The idea behind the welcome sign began more than 10 years ago with former Councilmembers Pat Dando and Nancy Pyle, who set aside funding for it. Tavernier picked up the torch and approached Khamis who was a great supporter of the project. Together, they navigated it through the city and county, having it signed off by officials. Next, Tavernier approached Almaden service clubs, which jumped onboard to help finance the project. He chose Pierce Signs to create the \$18,000, 7.5-foot-wide, 8-foot-tall sign, and soon received approval from the service clubs on its design.

On Dec. 19, 2014, the Almaden Valley welcome sign was unveiled during a ceremony attended by Khamis and representatives from the service clubs.

"It felt wonderful to have this symbol of the community," says Khamis. "I received many emails and letters about how beautiful the sign was and how well it represented Almaden. The sign brought a big sense of pride to the community and realtors even featured it in their photos."

However, some people were unhappy with it due to William Colin Gray's contribution. Gray, as Vice President of Acquisitions, JSM Enterprises, was instrumental in winning approval from the city to build 10 homes on the hill across from Almaden Lake Park, and had made financial contributions to the Rotary. "There was a group of people that didn't want to see anything we did, including the sign, succeed because of Colin's involvement," says Tavernier, "but he really helped us a lot."

Tavernier said he wants to repair the sign as soon as possible. "People like the sign and feel good about it," he says. "It builds a sense of community." Tavernier's seven-year-old son, Colton, is spurring him on. "He knew

how much work went into it," says Tavernier, "and he said to me, 'You're gonna fix it, right dad?' and that really helped."

On Saturday, Tavernier contacted Pierce Signs and is currently in the process of redesigning the welcome sign using lettering that will be less attractive to metal thieves. He hopes to have the sign restored within three to four weeks.

Tavernier estimates that they will need \$7,500 to repair the sign. Any money left over will go to the sign's maintenance as well as replacing the solar panel. He is asking for community support through [gofundme.com](http://gofundme.com) to help raise the funds to "make the sign once again a beautiful gateway to our community." To contribute, please see: <https://www.gofundme.com/3xkkhfbk>.

"The welcome sign will be even better than when we initially put it up because now we know how much it means to the community," says Tavernier.

## Build a backyard birdhouse at Feb 13 workshop

If you are an adult, you can trained in building birdhouses at a Feb. 13 workshop.

Mike Azevedo, county coordinator for Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society's Cavity Nester Recovery Program, will lead the workshop from 10 a.m. to noon at the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy.

Azevedo said he will address how the location of a bird house its design and size for a bird's habitat. He'll also share the efforts of the Audubon to restore bird populations through cavity nesting programs that establish special bird boxes throughout the wildlife corridors that run through San Jose.

The workshop will be held at the conservancy's Visitor and Education Center, 438 Coleman Ave. in San Jose. Fees are \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. Pre-registration is required and space is limited.

For more information, visit [grp.org](http://grp.org) or call (408) 298-7657.

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PAGE 4

## Willow Glen Times

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The Willow Glen Times is pleased to announce the launch of the Willow Glen Times' 'Wizobotics' program. The program is designed to educate and inspire the community about robotics, environmental science, and social responsibility. The program will be held at the Willow Glen Community Center, 1000 Willow Glen Road, San Jose, CA 95128. The program is free and open to all ages. For more information, please contact the Willow Glen Times at (408) 298-7657.

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### Renovations Before Selling

All property renovations are not created equal. Before you embark on an extensive remodel, how much work you may want to do depends on your home's value and the comparable properties in your neighborhood. It's important to spend your dollars wisely when preparing your property for sale.

A modern kitchen can be a top draw for buyers, but a complete overhaul of a dated kitchen could cost tens of thousands of dollars and likely not recovered in the sale. There are strategies to create a look and feel of a "new" kitchen without the expense.

Upgrading an older master bath can be worth the investment but with modest spending. It's always important to choose a design and décor that is stylistically neutral.

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# Under water: \$1,300 bill leaves property owner perplexed

By Lorraine Gabbert  
Senior Staff Writer

Former Almaden Feed & Fuel owner, Evelyn “Blondie” Barnd, was shocked when she opened her Nov. 10, 2015 bill from San Jose Water Company totaling \$1,304.17.

Barnd’s neighbor, Edward “Jim” Faltersack was equally surprised with his bill of \$1,080.42. By comparison, Barnd’s Sept. 11, 2015 bill was \$408.12 and Faltersack’s was \$102.19.

“I panicked. I thought there must be some mistake,” says Blondie, “but when I called them they said, ‘Well, that’s your bill.’”

Both residents are confounded as to these charges and embattled in a dispute with the water company. Barnd has lived at Mockingbird Hill Lane for about 37 years and Faltersack about 53. In all that time, they have never faced such high water bills.

“It’s awfully funny that in one billing period, we both have enormous raises in our rates on the same line and they can’t give us any explanation,” says Faltersack. “I called and asked if I didn’t pay this bill would they cut off my water, and they said, ‘Sorry, but yes, we will have to.’ It’s rather stressful.”

Barnd and Faltersack called and wrote the water company contesting their bills. “San Jose Water Company acted like we were a burden to them for asking about our bill,” says Barnd’s son, Ray Barnd, who lives on the premises.

At Barnd’s request, San Jose Water Company performed a meter check at her property on Nov. 25. “Our investigation has shown that the meter was read correctly and is functioning properly,” states the water company report. “We have no knowledge of how the water is used once it passes through the meter. While we may speculate on contributing factors to the customer’s usage, or try to assist further in understanding the customer’s consumption, we have no responsibility beyond the meter and the customer is

ultimately responsible for their facilities and the water consumed. Therefore, our conclusion is the bill is an accurate reflection of water used at the property, no error in billing occurs.”

“Gabe, the technician, said it ran through the meter and there wasn’t a leak,” says Ray, “and that we were stuck with it.” According to Ray, that day the meter was at 39.21 units. On Jan. 23, 2016, Ray did another reading showing 39.27, which is about 6 units x 750 gallons of water. “Last billing cycle showed we had used 147 units!” says Ray.

Ray also told Gabe that they had been experiencing rusty water, sand, and air in the lines, which Ray thought might be due to pipeline construction along Almaden Road. “When they put in the 18-inch main, they pumped all that water through it for hours and hours, and days and days,” says Ray. “I think it might be tied to us. I know we’ve always been consistent with our bill, and it’s never been anywhere near what it is now.”

Gabe assured him that this was highly doubtful as they lived uphill from the construction, although neighbor Faltersack had the same complaint. Ray requested a construction supervisor to investigate a possible connection between the pipeline construction and their water bill. Rather than a supervisor from the county or city, the San Jose Water Company sent out their own construction supervisor. “He was very direct and said it had nothing to do with that,” says Ray. Now the construction project between McKean and Almaden Road has recently restarted.

In an email, John Tang, Vice President of



(L-R) Ray Barnd, Jim Faltersack, and Blondie Barnd are horrified at their latest water bill.

Government Relations and Corporate Communications, San Jose Water Company says that theft of water or the consumer’s hobby farm might be possible explanations of the high bill. “We understand that the irrigation system to the farm has been turned off since receipt of the high bill,” Tang says.

Ray is surprised at these suggestions as to the cause of their high bill. “There is no farm,” he says. “We had two donkeys, and there was a separate meter that went to the barn, but there was a leak so we shut it off a year and a half to two years ago. We haven’t shut off any further water since then. Nothing was turned off and there is no farm.”

Barnd filed a complaint with the California Public Utilities Commission in December. “There has to be something wrong with the meter or pipeline,” she wrote. “The people on Mockingbird Hill Lane...most everyone’s bill is up over \$300.”

In a letter to San Jose Water Company, Faltersack said, “If 78,540 gallons of water had gone through my meter, I would have a small lake on my property, for the ground could only absorb so much. I don’t have a

garden. I don’t have a lawn. I don’t have an automatic watering system. I only have some evergreen shrubs that I occasionally water.”

“We had two technicians out,” says Faltersack, “and they said there was nothing wrong with the meter and nothing they can do about it.” Although the technician determined there was a small leak on Faltersack’s property on Dec. 25, he said that it was so small they probably couldn’t find it, and it wasn’t worth worrying about.

In response to their complaints, San Jose Water Company has granted a one-time courtesy adjustment of \$438.16 to Barnd and \$522.00 to Faltersack, leaving them to pay \$867.01 and \$558.42,

respectively.

“The amount they’re offering me as a reduction isn’t acceptable,” says Faltersack. “I’m willing to pay the amount of my previous bill, which was \$102, which was the highest bill I’ve had for a one-year period to resolve this.” After further back and forth, the San Jose Water Company alerted Faltersack that they would not reduce his bill further. They added the \$558.42 to his most recent bill which was only \$62.00.

Barnd has agreed to pay the \$867.01 in an installment plan, but she and Ray aren’t happy about it. “I want the money back that they’ve pretty much stolen from us,” he says. “I’d also like to see them treat people with more respect and consider that just maybe there is something going wrong here...but they don’t show any interest in doing that. They have very little to no compassion.”

“I’m hoping other people on Almaden Road who might have had the same problem will contact the water company and us,” says Barnd. She asks residents to mail her at: 19515 Mockingbird Lane, San Jose, CA 95120, or call Ray at: 408.639.9347.

## Neighbor

Continued from page 4

medicine for the right reason. It’s a long process, it’s a difficult process, and it’s a time consuming process. So, make sure this is something you really want to do... long hours, lots of studying. It’s not just a job...it’s a way of life actually. It’s not nine to five, it’s not clocking in and clocking out, the patients that you take care of essentially go home with you at the end of the day...in your mind at least because you’re going to be taking care of them the following day or next week when they come back.

Nirban: So now we’re going to shift gears a bit. What do you like to do in your free time?

Amish: I like to travel. My family and I go on vacations every year and one large summer vacation every year. It’s a great way to relax, it’s a great way to unwind, it’s a great way for the family to spend time with each other, and explore new culture and places.

Nirban: What do you like about Almaden Valley? Why?

Amish: I like the fact that it’s a quiet resi-

dential area. There are lots of different people, lots of different cultures... schools are good and Almaden people are friendly. One of the main reasons we moved here— this development actually had families with kids that were essentially the same age. We all came here, we all moved into the same area when the kids were just starting schooling in kindergarten or first grade. Having friends and neighbors who have gone through elementary school, middle school, and high school together is important. I think it’s good.

Nirban: How do you think Almaden Valley can improve?

Amish: I would love to see local businesses such as restaurants here on Almaden Expressway. One of the things is every time you just want to grab some food, you have to drive five to seven miles all the way to Blossom Hill just to get fast food or a quick bite or a restaurant or something. It would be great to have a couple restaurants here at the CVS shopping center or at the Safeway shopping center.

Nirban: What adjectives best describe you?

Amish: I think I am quiet, friendly, hard-working, and trustworthy.

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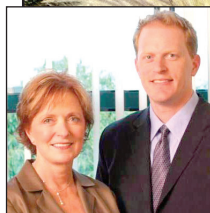
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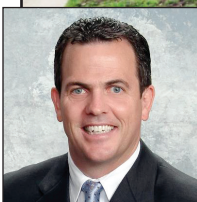
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# Almaden business updates: food and coffee options are plentiful in Valley

By Councilmember  
Johnny Khamis

Special to the Times

Almaden business update  
Mo's Restaurant & Via Valiente  
With Sonoma Chicken Coop  
gone, Mo's of Almaden will occu-

py its space at Old Almaden Plaza (corner of Almaden Expressway and McAbee). I've known one of the owners, Angelo Heropoulos, a District 10 resident, for quite some time. He is very excited to bring the family-friendly Mo's to Almaden.

Over the past few months, he has been busy renovating the restaurant. Like you, I am excited to see the changes while enjoying a good meal.

If you have visited Mo's in Campbell, then you may already

know that Mo's serves breakfast all day, as well as burgers and other wonderful meals. Angelo anticipates an opening sometime in late February / mid-March. We will get the word out when we hear the exact date, and we hope to see you at the grand opening!

## Almaden Oaks Plaza Welcomes Blvd. Coffee

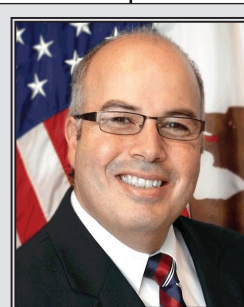
Great News! Blvd. Coffee will be moving into the space formerly occupied by the Almaden Roasting Co. According to owner, Umberto Olvera, this will be his second location with his first being in Los Gatos. Umberto is looking forward to opening in February after he renovates. Exact date for his Grand Opening will be on my website (sjd10). Blvd. Coffee offers signature coffees by the cup including Ganesha Espresso, Cappuccino, Mocha's (and more) as well as signature Crepes (gluten free on request), salads and more! 6109 Meridian Ave. 95120 blvdcoffee.com

## Almaden Ranch Update

Almaden Ranch (the new shopping area at the corner of Hwy. 85 and Almaden Expressway) welcomed the opening of Bass Pro Shops last year. In addition to a beautiful store, Bass Pro also features a bowling alley and restaurant.

I wanted to provide an update for you regarding the additional stores (as of today) that will be located at

Almaden Ranch. **City Sports, MOD Pizza, Habit Burger, European Wax Center, Panera Bread, Fractured Prune Doughnuts, Smok-Eaters Hot Wings, Starbucks and Verizon** are all expected to open within the next year. There is a plethora of retail space so expect more stores and restaurants to move in. I am happy to see the retail and other businesses here.



## District 10 Report

Johnny Khamis,  
City Councilmember

**Las Delicias del Mero, Mero!—A New Restaurant in Town**

Although District 10 residents will miss Lupe's Taqueria, the family-owned Mexican restaurant that served one of the best taco salads around, I am delighted to share that Lupe sold her business to a family friend, Hector Plascencia, who has recently opened with his own menu and a new name—Las Delicias del Mero, Mero! Mexican Grill.

Hector's menu includes fresh and healthy food, including grilled fresh fish (salmon, tilapia, octopus, and others), oysters on the half shell, salads, and more! Hector has been in the restaurant business for over 15 years and has other restaurants too!

Mention this article—Almaden Times—to receive a **FREE COKE!**

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## Crab feed and auction to be held at Leigh High School Feb 6

Leigh High School's Performing Arts Parents Association is hosting its annual all-you-can-eat crab feed Feb. 6. Price: \$50 per person.

The fresh Dungeness crab from Oregon and Washington will be complemented by various sides, salads and dessert. For those preferring fowl, chicken picatta will also be served. Leigh's jazz band and other student ensembles will perform.

This year's silent auction features \$25,000 worth of items up for bid, including tickets to sporting and other events, weekend getaways and vacation home stays.

Proceeds benefit performing arts programs at Leigh, including instrumental and choral ensembles, a technical theater program, drama showcases and the school's march-

ing band.

For tickets and more information go to [leighpapa.org/crabfeed](http://leighpapa.org/crabfeed)

## Mardi Gras to be celebrated in Almaden Feb 20

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

The festivities begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 20th and will include traditional Cajun and Creole food and entertainment.

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

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

Editor's note: *The last issue of the Almaden Times erroneously listed the date of the Mardi Gras Luncheon as Feb 12. The correct date is Feb. 20.*



Times **Community News**

**Coldwell Banker collects 3,000 toys and 1,200 Coats for local families**

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage collected more than 3,000 toys and 1,200 coats over the recent holiday season to benefit families in need throughout the region.

The annual Toys for Tots and One Warm Coat holiday collection campaigns marked the 29th consecutive year that Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage has supported the efforts in partnership with the United States Marine Corps Reserve and several non-profit organizations throughout Northern California.

"We're thankful for the tremendous amount of community support we received for our Toys for Tots and One Warm Coat campaigns this past holiday season," said Mike James, president of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. "The holidays are a time for taking care of one another and giving to those in need. With the outpouring of generosity from our affiliated agents, clients and neighbors, we were able to help those who needed it most. We hope the toys and warm winter clothing we collected made their season a little brighter."

Nearly all of the 57 Northern California Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices participated in the Toys for Tots campaign and most offices also took part in the One Warm Coat drive.

**About Coldwell Banker Residential**

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage is

the largest residential real estate brokerage in Northern California. The company has 57 office locations and more than 3,900 affiliated sales associates throughout Northern California.

**Mayor Liccardo to deliver State of the City Address March 5 at Overfelt High**

Mayor Sam Liccardo is hosting this year's State of the City at Overfelt High School.

The Mayor's 2016 State of the City Address will outline key initiatives, budget priorities, and opportunities for residents to get engaged to make San José a better place to live, work, and play.

In addition, the City will present the Pride of San Jose Awards to exemplary City employees.

Each member of the City Council has chosen an individual or group from their district as a 2016 Community Honoree.

The event is open to the public and concludes with a Resource Fair with information about city services and city employment.

The date is Saturday, March 5, 2016. Doors open: 9:30 a.m.; State of the City Program: 10 a.m. Location: Overfelt High School, 1835 Cunningham Ave., San Jose.

Members of the public who wish to attend State of the City can register at [www.sjmayor.org](http://www.sjmayor.org) or by calling 408.535.4800. Registration for the State of the City Celebration will close on March 3.



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- St. Katharine Drexel*

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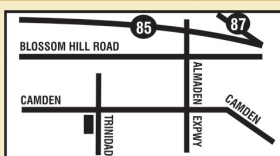
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As an experienced real estate professional and licensed contractor, with 24 years of sales and investing, Darren offers a Buyers Advantage Program providing clients an edge on offer strategies, and WISE home selling strategies achieving record sale prices. Using Master Certified Negotiation techniques, Darren helps his clients maximize equity whether buying or selling. When not working he is raising two kids, coaching Almaden Little League, running and biking. Clients say he is highly professional, organized, and demonstrates excellent knowledge in real estate.



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donjmitchell.com

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Terese has been a long time resident of Almaden Valley. She attended Leland High School and graduated from San Jose State University. A former teacher for San Jose Unified School District, she has intimate knowledge of the schools in Santa Clara County and is eager to share that with her clients. Excellent client care and professionalism are her top priorities. She strives to exceed her client's expectations throughout the entire real estate transaction.



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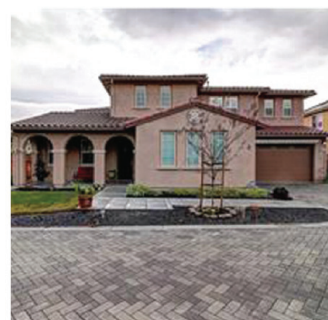
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# A special needs trust may help your relative or friend

By Donald J. DeVries  
Special to the Times

This week's question:

**W**e have a Down Syndrome son. We have read a little about a special needs trust for him, but are unsure how this really works. Can you shed some light on this topic? My husband and I have three other children and want to provide equally for all of our children.

**Tiffany T.**  
Almaden Valley

Dear Tiffany,

You are very wise, Tiffany, to be looking into a special needs trust for your son with special needs. Effective planning is essential for the benefit of your entire family. Of course, "special needs" is a term that covers many, many, types of disabilities.

Let's use an assumed name for your son with Down Syndrome, "Jack". You and your husband can provide for an equal share of your estate to pass on to Jack through a special needs trust, or "SNT" to use the common acronym.

This form of a gift is often very effective for gifting assets to a person with a disability, including Down Syndrome. In your situation, this would be called a "third party" SNT.

You and your husband would provide the money for the trust, not Jack. If the disabled person would provide the money it would be called a "first party" SNT, such as when pro-

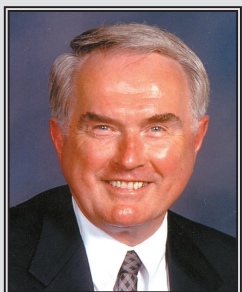
ceeds of a serious accident would be used to set up the SNT, often at the direction of a court as part of a settlement.

The special needs trust for Jack would allow the trustees for Jack to receive and hold the money without losing needs-based public benefits, such as SSI, since the money in the trust is not "countable" in qualifying for assistance.

However, there are many more benefits of a SNT, other than very properly preserving needs-based public benefits, such as long-term planning for his care, instead of being institutionalized, and planning for his education and other care so that Jack reaches his full potential. Sometimes parents are the only ones available to provide for such care of the disabled person.

One of the key steps in the process for a SNT is the actual preparation of the trust. This is a document that properly sets forth the funding of the trust, the management of the trust, and the disposition of the money after the person passes on, so that all trust assets are not consumed by state and federal agencies when the trust is terminated by the death of the disabled person.

Another critical step in the SNT process is



## Ask The Lawyer

Donald J. DeVries,  
Attorney at Law

For past articles,  
visit our web site at  
[www.almadenvalleylawyers.com](http://www.almadenvalleylawyers.com)

the formulation of a management team in the preparation and management of a SNT. This management team is crucial in the care of a disabled person such as Jack.

I have read where just a few years ago in 1983 the life expectancy of a person with Down Syndrome was 25, but now the statistical life expectancy with this disability is 50. One can readily see that good management is essential for the long term.

Other benefits of planning include the maximum preservation of needs-based public benefits so as to provide for lifetime financial support and medical care. It is also essential for a

person like Jack that he always have an advocate to preserve his rights, a safe and clean living arrangement, and assistance with finding employment.

Many parents in this situation will ask, "How much money should we transfer to the special needs trust?" There is no easy answer to this question, and it is essential that professional help be consulted to address this and many other issues.

Such professional help may well include investment and insurance advisors. You as parents will want to check out the Internet for a wealth of information that is available

for working with SNTs. You may also find that three companies in particular have created departments that are specifically designed to deal with financial planning for persons with disabilities: MassMutual Financial Group, Merrill Lynch & Co., and MetLife Inc.

Another important question will be the identity of the trustee(s) of the SNT for Jack. Parents often name themselves as the initial Co-trustees of the trust with the survivor to serve alone. This is perfectly OK in most situations. Then will come the important question of alternate or back-up trustee or Co-trustees for when the parents have passed on.

In short, there is a lot of work in creating and implementing a good special needs trust. You are to be commended in taking the first steps by looking into it and carefully thinking about it. Jack and your entire family will forever be grateful for this. Best wishes in your work.

**Donald J. DeVries**  
Almaden Valley

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

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## Baker Ranch

*Continued from page 1*

"The home has been in the sanctuary of six generations of the same Baker, Matteis and Miller family," said realtor Linda Salah. "The family asked me to find a family that would enjoy the home as much as the Baker and Miller family have over several generations.

Salah said there were many inquiries the day she put it on the market and everyone wanted to see the historic home. "A full price all cash offer was made the first two hours on the market sight unseen," said Salah. "We wanted whoever was going to buy this home to do their homework and understand the significance of this property. Several buyers who wanted to restore the home and have it become their family treasure and that is what my client was looking for. There were prospective buyers inquiring on turning the home into a bed and breakfast and even a restaurant with a bar. My clients were very excited about selecting the right buyer to restore the home to its original splendor and make it their family's home."

Ruben Baker was the great grandfather of the seller of the home, Janet Miller. "It is so exciting to see the restoration the new owners are planning for the property and that their family will be living in the home," said Miller. "Our family has so many wonderful memories in the home," said Miller.

"I remember so many Christmas family get-to-gathers in the home," she said. "We always had a very large tree covered in heavy

tinsel with real candles. I remember my father telling us about having a bucket nearby just in case the tree caught fire. I remember hearing stories of neighbor homes burning down due to the use of Christmas tree candles."

Miller said she remembered cutting apricots and canning peaches. "We had apricot, cherry, peach and prune trees on the property," said Miller. We also stored hundreds of gallons of water in the water tower, which the family called "the tank house." Water was pumped to the tower by a windmill. The family was always mindful of how precious water was to keep the orchards irrigated. "We also had a butcher shop at the bottom of the tank as we also had grazing cattle and a feedlot on the property."

Miller said the family owned a large portion of land in the Almaden Valley going south from Redmond Ave. and east from Winfield Blvd. area to the Almaden Country Club comprised of more than 300 acres.

"Our family owned more than hundred acres of vineyards near the Almaden Country Club," said Miller. "When the prohibition was initiated in 1920, the vineyards were eventually sold.

Salah said during the packing up of things, a copy of a newspaper dated 1898 was found, along with antique toys and other memorabilia.

Editor's note: Janet Miller is a very private person and this is the first time she has provided information about the home and her family to the public. The publisher appreciates Miller granting an exclusive interview to the AlmadenTimes.

## Opera San Jose to present Bizet's Carmen from Feb. 13 through 28

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

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

Tickets: Available by phone, online, and at the Opera San José Box Office, 2149 Paragon Dr., San José, CA 95131; \$51-\$151. Students 25 and younger (with current student ID) \$10; 408-437-4450; 408-437-4455 fax. California Theatre, 345 South 1st Street (between San Carlos and San Salvador), San Jose, CA. [operasj.org](http://operasj.org)



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## Historic "Baker Ranch" Home

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*3176 Napa Drive, San Jose*  
Sold for \$670,000



*14238 Lora Drive, Los Gatos*  
Sold for \$1,805,000



*15525 El Gato, Los Gatos*  
Sold for \$1,000,000



*1308 Shelby Creek Lane, San Jose*  
Represented the buyer \$730,000



*2019 Laurelei Ave, San Jose*  
Sold For \$860,000

If you are planning to place your home on the market or if you are looking to purchase a new home, browse my website at [www.LindaSalah.com](http://www.LindaSalah.com) for valuable information. I am passionate about what I do and love my neighborhood. Keeping with the latest trends that this market is giving us is how I strategize so that I can help my clients "selling or buying" in the best position possible. Preparing a home for the market requires skill, talent and knowledge of what a buyer is looking for. I believe what I bring to the table will help present your home at its best to achieve the highest price possible for you and your family. For a free non-hassle market analysis of your home call me at 408-234-2952.



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DEALER DISCOUNT .....	-\$4,091
SALE PRICE .....	\$14,499
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC CONSUMER CASH .....	-\$2,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH* .....	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC RETAIL BONUS CASH .....	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

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47 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM



MSRP .....	\$23,090
DEALER DISCOUNT .....	-\$4,091
SALE PRICE .....	\$18,999
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC CONSUMER CASH .....	-\$1,500
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC 2016 RETAIL BONUS CASH .....	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH* .....	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$15,999

3 AT THIS NET PRICE #203616, 256169, 256176  
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### Weather Report: It's time to buy a 4x4!

### 2016 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT 4X4 AUTOMATIC, 3-PIECE HARDTOP

MSRP .....

DEALER DISCOUNT .....



**SALE PRICE**

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

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**SALE PRICE**

## \$25,816

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### NEW 2015 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4X2

MSRP .....

DEALER DISCOUNT .....

SALE PRICE .....

CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC CONSUMER CASH .....

CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH\* .....



**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$28,999

1 AT THIS NET PRICE #219418

### 2016 JEEP CHEROKEE SPORT

46 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM



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

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$17,916

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### NEW 2015 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4 FULLY LOADED!

MSRP .....

DEALER DISCOUNT .....

SALE PRICE .....

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CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH .....



**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

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### 2016 DODGE DART SE 4 DOOR SEDAN W/6-SPEED AUTOMATIC, A/C, UCONNECT, BLUETOOTH, KEYLESS ENTRY & MORE

21 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM



MSRP .....	\$20,135
DEALER DISCOUNT .....	-\$3,967
SALE PRICE .....	\$16,166
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC CONSUMER CASH .....	-\$1,250

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$14,916

2 AT THIS NET PRICE #625597, 625603

### 2015 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE AUTOMATIC, USB PORT

MSRP .....

DEALER DISCOUNT .....

SALE PRICE .....

CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC CONSUMER CASH .....

CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC RETAIL CASH .....



**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$18,999

3 AT THIS NET PRICE #B36246, B40092, B34889

### 2016 CHRYSLER 200 LIMITED 9-SPEED AUTOMATIC, AUTOMATIC HEADLIGHTS

13 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM



MSRP .....	\$25,485
DEALER DISCOUNT .....	-\$4,069
SALE PRICE .....	\$21,416
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 BC CONSUMER CASH .....	-\$2,500
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2016 CA RETAIL CASH .....	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH* .....	-\$1,000

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$16,916

Hurry! 1 at this Net Price #149306  
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### 2015 DODGE CHARGER SE W/9-SPEED AUTOMATIC

43 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM



MSRP .....	\$29,985
DEALER DISCOUNT .....	-\$4,069
SALE PRICE .....	\$25,916
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC CONSUMER CASH .....	-\$1,500
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC RETAIL BONUS CASH .....	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER YEAR-END BONUS CASH .....	-\$500

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$22,916

5 AT THIS NET PRICE

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

6 OTHERS TO CHOOSE FROM



DEALER DISCOUNT OFF MSRP .....	\$6,416
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC CONSUMER CASH .....	-\$2,500
CHRYSLER CALIF. 2015 BC RETAIL CASH .....	-\$1,000


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

## \$9,916

1 TO CHOOSE AT THIS NET SAVINGS #797562

### 2015 RAM 1500 LARAMIE QUAD CAB

NET SAVINGS OFF MSRP AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES



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

**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

## \$12,016

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### 2016 RAM 1500 TRADESMAN/EXPRESS TRUCK AUTOMATIC

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES



MSRP .....	\$26,325
DEALER DISCOUNT .....	-\$4,499
SALE PRICE .....	\$21,826
RAM CALIF. 2016 BC CONSUMER CASH .....	-\$1,500
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH* .....	-\$500
RAM TRADE-IN CASH .....	-\$1,000
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**NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES**

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### 2016 RAM 1500 TRADESMAN QUAD CAB AUTOMATIC

NET PRICE AFTER DISCOUNTS AND REBATES



MSRP .....	\$32,410
DEALER DISCOUNT .....	-\$4,994
SALE PRICE .....	\$27,416
RAM CALIF. 2016 BC CONSUMER CASH .....	-\$1,000
RAM TRADE-IN BONUS CASH* .....	-\$1,000
RAM TRUCK RETAIL CASH .....	-\$1,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL CASH** .....	-\$500
RAM V6 BONUS CASH .....	-\$1,000

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Times **Features**



Left photo: Castellero and Burnett speech and debate students pictured (l to r): seated: Issa Awwad, standing Philip Kim, seated: Gloria Kim standing: Andruw Martinez, seated Trent Donaldson, behind Trent is Roma Ventura, Seated Becky O'Connor advisor, behind Becky is Lisa Weidlan, Burnett Speech and Debate teacher, and pictured far right is Ryan Jin. Right photo: Seated (l to r): Ryan Jin, Ryan Kang, Trent Donaldson, Becky O'Connor. Second row standing left to right: Alyssa Chen, HoHsin Wang, Audrey Chiang, Haley Pham, Katherine Horng, Issa Awwad, Philip Kim, Nicole Kim, Burnett students Nicole Hoang and Andruw Martinez, and the last person is Burnett Speech and Debate teacher Lisa Wiedlin. Photos by Wesley Luh and Allen Kim.

## Students participate in Leland-Burnett Winter warm-up for upcoming 2016 Burnette Spring Invitational

By William Bellou  
Publisher

Sixth through eighth grade students participated in the sixth annual Leland/Burnett Winter Warm-Up Speech Tournament at Burnett Middle School last month.

The tournament was held with two goals in mind: first, to provide students with the experience of speech and debate competition; and second, to prepare students for the larger, more advanced May 2016 Burnett Spring Invitational.

Leland and Burnett have worked together to bring speech and debate to middle school students since 2006.

Students competed in a number of speaking events at the tournament. In the Pet Peeve Speech event, students delivered speeches about the biggest nuisances in their lives and provided the audience with solutions.

Participants pitched their elec-

tions to real and fictional offices in the Campaign Speech event and instructed other students on performing particular tasks in the How-To Speech event.

For speakers who prefer acting, there was the Poetry and Prose Reading event, in which participants chose published selections to present, while students who prefer spontaneous drew abstract topics to give short Impromptu speeches.

Two hundred and sixty two entries from 15 local schools performed their speeches for more than 150 judges. These Leland High School Speech and Debate student judges provided valuable feedback to help participants improve their public speaking abilities.

The middle school students received certificates for very good, excellent, or superior performance in the tournament. Speakers who displayed outstanding personal character were further recognized

through nominations by their judges for the Director's Award.

A unique aspect of the Winter Warm-Up is that students' ranks are dependent on their own performances alone rather than how well they fare against others. Multiple students could receive

superior rankings in the same round. This structure aims to create a less competitive and more growth-oriented atmosphere for the new public speakers.

The annual tournament is hosted and organized by Burnett's and Leland High School's speech and

debate students, who register schools, manage judges, and tabulate ballots. Burnett administrators, parents, students, and volunteers also help ensure that the tournament runs smoothly throughout the day.

### TripAdvisor site releases survey data

The average American is budgeting \$8,400 for travel in 2016 and one-third of people planning to spend more than last year, according to TripAdvisor survey data.

The study examined the loyalty rewards programs operated by the 10 largest domestic airlines based on 23 key metrics, such as the average value of a mile, mile expiration policies and blackout dates.

#### Key Findings

- JetBlue Airways is the best airline rewards program for frequent fliers, while Delta Air Lines is the top choice for average and light travelers.

- The average airline earns a profit of 46.91% on the sale of miles to rewards program members, with Spirit (80.86%), Delta (65.96%) and Hawaiian (62.14%) making the most.

- Delta Air Lines and JetBlue Airways are the only two major airlines whose miles do not expire because of inactivity. At the opposite end of the spectrum, Spirit Airlines and Frontier Airlines miles expire after just 3 and 6 months of account inactivity, respectively.



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## Times Features

# Special gift presented to Castillero Middle School Orchestra Program in memory of Corry Rankin

By Rebecca O'Connor

Special to the Times

Master musicians become one with their instrument to produce the sounds that enlighten our hearts and minds. This can especially be said as true of a cellist. The musician rests the neck and fingerboard of the cello across their body. The instrument literally rests upon the sternum of the chest. The vibrations of the cello reverberate through the cellist, thus the cello, the performer, and the music become one. —Trudy Rankin.



Corry Rankin

Almaden's Castillero Middle School Orchestra Program has received a very special cello from Dr. Larry & Dr. Trudy Rankin of Florida, in memory of their son, aspiring cellist Corry Rankin.

The very special, generous gift from the Rankins is a "Sparks" cello (made by Tom Sparks of Indiana University), which was played by their son Corry while a student at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. Corry was in his twenties when he passed away.

The Rankins explained: "We are not the owners of the cello, but rather its custodian.

It must be played. It must continue to make music and it should be played by students."

The Rankins flew from Florida to San Jose last month and presented it to the Chamber Orchestra. The cello will be loaned each year to one of Castillero's top cellists, that are not only a fine musician in their own right, but has the potential to be exceptional with the access to a high level instrument.

The Rankins had to find a way to move through their grief. They chose to share Corry's spirit by donating his cello. He had purchased the cello from Tom Sparks, professor of string instrument technology at the University of Indiana, with whom he studied three years to become a luthier-maker of cellos.

Corry had played this cello for many years prior to building his own in 1999.

How Castillero's Orchestra Program was selected for the cello is a story of serendipity. Corry Rankin was a good friend with Dr. Ariana Kim. Dr. Kim visits Castillero each year as a guest clinician and performer with a Masters and Doctorate from the Julliard School of Music, New York City. Dr. Kim has just finished her first phase of her tenure



Cecilia Lucatero is the first recipient of the "Sparks" cello donated by the Rankin family in memory of their son Corry. Pictured are Dr. Trudy Rankin, Dr. Larry Rankin, Castillero Middle School Orchestra conductor Scott Krijnen, and Cecilia Lucatero.

track position as a professor of violin at Cornell University. She had a 72 hour window between concerts, the release of her new album, before departing on her sabbatical in Italy. She still found a way to fit in a flight into the Bay Area to come work with Castillero musicians. When the Rankins asked Dr. Kim, what program should the cello be donated, her first response was Castillero!

As a student at the San Francisco Conservatory, Corry had recorded the first of

three movements of Sonata for Cello and Piano, composed by Bernard Crane. Unfortunately, Corry died before the recording of all three movements were completed. Soon, after the recommendation of Castillero was made to the Rankins, they received in the mail, a CD with the remainder of the movements recorded. The cellist who had been selected by the San Francisco Conservatory to complete the recording of movements II and III was none other than  
*See CELLO, next page*



## CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ALMADEN VALLEY, UCC

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Sunday Schedule: Worship 10am, Sunday School for all ages 8:30am, Coffee and Conversation 9:30am  
Childcare is provided for all our Sunday Services. Uplifting music, Biblical teaching, ministries for Children, Youth, College & Career, Small Groups for all adults, Ministries to Men, Women, Seniors, Celebrate Recovery (Please see website for details and meeting times www.eastvalleychurch.com )  
Community-Life Pastor (Youth/College & Career) – Pastor Pat Boyd, Community Life Pastor (Small Groups/Christian Education) – Pastor Alvin Lin, Children's Ministry Director – Julie Garcia, Celebrate Recovery Leader – Anne Friend. We are located at 2827 Flint Ave (Between Tully & Norwood) San Jose, CA 95148, Phone 408-238-0231, e-mail info@eastvalleychurch.com We are associated with Converge Worldwide www.convergeworldwide.org

## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN ALMADEN

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

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

## EVERGREEN VALLEY CHURCH

Visit our Web Site at www.evcsj.com 2750 Yerba Buena Rd. San Jose, CA 95121. Phone: 408-274-7422. Saturday worship is at 5 pm. Sunday worship services at 9 am and 11 am.. Excellent contemporary Christian music and Bible-based teaching. Nursery care and Children's Sunday School programs at 9 am and 11 am. Junior High students meet at 9am and High School students meet at 11am. Nuevo Comienzo: Servicio en espanol, Domingo 4pm.

## FIRST CHURCH DOWNTOWN

Worshipping at 55 N. 7th Street, in downtown San Jose. (Horace Mann school) firstchurchdowntown.com Telephone: (408) 294-7254 x310. We are a community serving the Christ from the heart of the City, working to know Jesus and make Jesus known by serving, worshipping, and learning together. Worship services are at 10:00 AM at the Horace Mann Community Center (7th and Santa Clara Streets). Worship includes both contemporary and traditional music, a 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!

## 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.

## 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.

## ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

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

## THE POINT CHURCH

www.ThePoint.Church  
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.

**Worship listing advertisements are \$495 annually. Please call Brigitte at (408) 558-3623.**



## Times Features

## 2016 a busy year for Santa Clara County

By Supervisor Mike Wasserman  
*Special to the Times*

If I could take a selfie of this last year as the County Supervisor for District 1, it would be a very crowded picture!

2015 marks my fifth year on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and in the last 12 months I attended 750 meetings and events in San Jose, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, San Martin and Gilroy. It was an honor to be chosen as the 2015 Citizen of the Year from the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce and recipient of the 2015 Helping Hand Award from Community Solutions.

2016 promises to be another busy one with Presidential and local elections, several large development proposals going before the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), El Nino preparations, increasing homeless services, and maintaining our current health, safety and recreation services for all 1.9 million County residents.

**Keeping kids safe.** As co-chair of the Traffic Safe Communities Network, I co-hosted the Los Gatos Safe Routes to School Summit and kicked off the Las Animas Elementary School "Walk and Bike to School Week" in Gilroy. By encouraging healthier and safer environments for kids, we can help prevent traffic-related fatalities and injuries.

**Preserving open space.** We expanded regional open space with the purchase of 2,748 acres that link Coyote Lake Harvey Bear Ranch and Anderson Lake County Parks to each other. They also link to Henry Coe State Park, the largest recreational land holding in the California Park System, result-

ing in a potential future trail network linking these three parks.

**Housing the homelessness.** In one year, we lowered the number of homeless individuals in our County by 14 percent — from 7,631 to 6,556. Working with Destination: Home, we launched a new program called "All the Way Home" to house 700 local homeless veterans. Additionally, working with HomeFirst, we opened cold weather shelters early and added emergency shelter beds countywide so that homeless families and individuals will have a safe place to stay warm and dry.

**Reforming jail and custody operations.** Following the State moving inmates from prisons to local jails through "realignment" (AB109), we have been adjusting our Department of Correction operations which currently house over 3,600 inmates. We created a Blue Ribbon Commission to evaluate current custody operations and to recommend reforms.

**Preventing fraud and identity theft.** 150 people attended the Identity Theft and Fraud Prevention Seminars that I co-hosted with the District Attorney's Office in Almaden Valley and Morgan Hill. A representative from the District Attorney's office provided detailed information about how criminals target their victims as well as important tips for how to avoid becoming a victim. We plan to hold more seminars in 2016.

I look forward to another productive year on the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. As always, you can reach my office at (408) 299-5010, or you can email me at [district1@bos.sccgov.org](mailto:district1@bos.sccgov.org) with your comments and concerns.



## County Report

Mike Wasserman,  
County Supervisor

## Cello

*Continued from previous page*

Scott Krijnen, conductor of Castillero's six orchestras.

Castillero honored the gift at the Four Season's Concert performed January 16 at San Jose State University Concert Hall. Castillero Middle School conductor and cellist Scott Krijnen performed with pianist Keisuje Nakagoshi all three movements of the sonata.

Scott Krijnen: Conductor-Castillero and Redwood Middle School's Orchestra, Conductor-Cambrian Symphony, [cambriansymphony.weebly.com](http://cambriansymphony.weebly.com), Music Director for San Jose Dance Theater Ballet's Nutcracker, and *Summer in the City* at SJSU.

Dr. Kim recommended Castillero based upon the Orchestra program that has been developed over the past eleven years under the direction of Scot Krijnen. Three hundred and thirty students perform in one of Castillero's six orchestras. There are two sections of beginning orchestras with 100 combined students. Indigo is the next level of proficiency with two orchestras also with 120 students. The advanced orchestra, Avant, with 100 students along with the top level Chamber Orchestra comprised of forty-three musicians. Roughly eighty percent of the orchestra students select orchestra and twenty percent

are placed in the elective for first exposure to music.

Castillero's Orchestras are known throughout the music education community for their excellence. Mr. Krjnen has spent eleven years developing the program, and will be recognized for his efforts during the California All-State Music Educators Convention being held in San Jose in February. The CASMEC *Richard L. Levin Orchestra Award* will be given to Scott Krijnen. He will also be a presenter of rehearsal techniques during the convention.

Krijnen acknowledged that not all of his students will become musicians. He has a wider goal for teaching students at Castillero. "Not everyone will become a musician, but everyone may become a father, a mother, a doctor, or a lawyer and they will all become citizens," he said. "What we learn to do here is to bring out the best we can do individually and to bring out the best we can do as a group. We want to apply those skills beyond the classroom walls."

Krijnen continued: "We learn self-discipline and the value of not just work, but goal oriented endeavors that have meaning. We are liberated through that work. Through the art of discipline and self reliance, we are free to make our own choices and therefore make a bigger impact upon our communities."

That is the gift of a music education.

*Editor's note: Rebecca O'Connor is a U.S. History teacher, Castillero Middle School.*

## THREE-YEAR-OLD PREDICTION

### Obamacare economics may self-destruct, says head of AMAC

Three years ago the Association of Mature American Citizens predicted that Obamacare would crumble under its own weight and the events of recent months indicate that it will, unless the next president opts to repeal it, according to Dan Weber, president of the Association of Mature American Citizens.

"The big for-profit insurance companies are ready to opt out of the so-called Affordable Care Act and if they pull out of the scheme the smaller, remaining insurers might follow suit to avoid the increased risk. In addition, the ACA's healthcare co-ops, the critical alternative providers of Obamacare coverage, are in trouble with half of them under water, including the biggest of them all, New York State's Health Republic co-op. It went belly up in the fall at a cost to taxpayers of \$355 million."

Meanwhile, Weber noted, healthcare premium hikes are sky high and deductibles are way beyond affordable levels, even for households with good earnings. He referenced a recent report by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Urban Institute that even those with incomes as much as five times the federal poverty level are paying up to 21 percent of their earnings for Obamacare coverage.

"And then there is the issue of what is described in the ACA as 'risk corridors.' It is a provision whereby insurers get bailout

money if they incur losses as a result of Obamacare. The president wants to make up for some \$2.5 billion in losses claimed by insurers in 2014. It's anybody's guess how many more billions will be claimed for 2015 losses. Congress said 'no,' but the president insists that it is an 'obligation' and that it must be paid. It's unclear who will win the argument in the end, Congress or the president. But one thing is for sure, American taxpayers, as always, are the ones who are really at risk," the AMAC chief said.

Earlier this month Congress finally sent President Obama legislation that would have repealed the ACA. The president vetoed the bill.

"It appears that any further attempts to set the clock back to pre-Obamacare days will be futile, unless Republicans hold their Congressional majority and a Republican is elected to succeed President Obama in the fall. In the meantime, it appears that the economics of the health-care law may cause it to self-destruct, as predicted," Weber concluded.

#### ABOUT AMAC

*The Association of Mature American Citizens [http://www.amac.us] is a senior advocacy organization that takes its marching orders from its members. The Association acts and speaks on their behalf, protecting their interests and offering insight on how to best solve problems. For more information, visit: [www.amac.us](http://www.amac.us)*



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# Approval of investment to preserve Cambrian Park Carousel sign

By Santa Clara County Supervisor  
Ken Yeager

Special to the Times

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors this week unanimously approved the funds necessary to conduct an historic resource evaluation of the Cambrian Park Plaza revolving “Merry-Go-Round” sign, which is the next step toward recognizing this beloved icon as an historical landmark. Built in 1953, the colorful carousel sign has long been part of the community’s identity and heritage.

Many residents view the Cambrian Park Carousel as the heart of this well-established community, which is why I have led the effort to designate the site as an historic landmark. By recognizing the carousel’s historic value, we can ensure that it continues to turn as our valley evolves with time.

Earlier this year, new owners – the Texas-based Weingarten Realty Investors – purchased the Cambrian Park Plaza, and residents in the area were concerned that any redevelopment would place their local icon

in jeopardy. Shortly after taking ownership, Weingarten reached out to the surrounding neighborhood to hear the community’s perspective on future development at this central location. From their first meetings with nearby residents, Weingarten has pledged to preserve the treasured carousel.

Official historic designation, however, would ensure the landmark’s place at the center of the Cambrian park neighborhood, regardless of what changes may come. Given the dramatic extent to which the Santa Clara Valley has evolved over recent decades, many in the Cambrian community value the carousel as a comforting presence.

Based on the Board’s decision, the County will go forward with the historical designation process for the site. The landmark appears to meet all of the required criteria for an historical designation, but further study by qualified experts is required by county ordinance. For example, the site or object must be more than 50 years old with historical integrity, and embodies distinctive qualities of the region.



In order to determine whether the carousel meets these and other criteria, the County must hire a qualified consultant, determined by the State Office of Historic Preservation. The cost of evaluation is between \$8,000 and \$10,000, and the evaluation would take several months.

Once the evaluation is complete, the County Historical Heritage Commission will make a recommendation to the Board of

Supervisors. The Board will then have the opportunity to receive the historic resource study and grant historic designation by motion or resolution.

Designed by a local baker and commissioned by the shopping center’s original developer, Paul Schaeffer, the carousel depicts on its revolving “Merry-Go-Round” a young family on a pleasure outing. This whimsical sign embodies the distinctive characteristics of mid-century American design and offers fond reminders of the region’s pre-Silicon Valley era.

The Cambrian Park Plaza carousel has always served as the iconic feature of the 17-acre shopping center and the neighborhood at-large. For over 62 years, this cheerful display has reminded generations of Cambrian residents that they are home.

In a region that is constantly looking to the future, it is important that we honor the places where communities have gathered for generations. I look forward to achieving preservation for the treasured sign and the memories it holds.

## The ‘King of Frozen Waffles’: Part 2

By Terry Denevan

Special to the Times

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

Even during difficult years, the business did well. By 1938 the brothers had moved into their own plant on Julian Street near the northern edge of downtown San Jose.

At the time, in the Santa Clara Valley, there weren’t many places to eat out. Most of the area’s restaurants that served breakfast bought Eggo batter for making waffles. As a merchandising bonus, the company provided waffle houses with free use and maintenance of the waffle irons.

Brother Tony Dorsa had a high level of business prowess. Frank was good with his hands; he liked to design and build the manufacturing equipment. The third founding brother, Sam, was a genius at keeping all the trucks and other motorized equipment working. The differences among the brothers sometimes led to friction, but it was also their differences that made them a successful team.

That calamitous morning in 1946, Frank and his family were enjoying a vacation in Yosemite. Frank placed a routine call to his business and was unable to get through. It was from an AT&T telephone operator that Frank learned his business had gone up in flames during the preceding night. Recalling the loss, Frank shook his head slowly, hands clasped and elbows braced on his knees.

I was scarcely able to imagine what kind of setback this devastating event must have been for the family. I allowed him his moment of silent reflection. Then, trying to brighten the mood, I asked, “So what was the best thing that ever happened to the family business?” Frank looked up and grinned: “The fire.”

At the time of the fire, Frank had told me that a railroad spur made it possible for food products to be loaded and unloaded adjacent to the plant. His speculation was that hobos may have accidentally contributed to the start of the fire. No specific cause was ever

found.

The restaurant owners who served breakfast understood the temporary predicament. No one had waffle batter, and that was just the way it was. For them, it meant that their menus were short an item for a little while. Under a mutual understanding, competitors filled Eggo’s spaces on store shelves with their brands of mayonnaise and potato chips until the business got back on its feet.

Within a few days of the fire, the brothers had set up shop under a huge tent.

Insurance covered all losses. From the insurance companies Eggo bought back the fire-damaged, but salvageable, production-line equipment for a fraction of its value. The balance of the insurance monies made it possible to modernize the plant. The result was a state-of-the-art factory—beautiful, bigger, and better in every imaginable way. For Eggo, greater efficiency led to growth and to continuous economic rewards.

In the postwar boom of the 1950s, the Dorsa brothers decided to branch further into the burgeoning retail market. Frank designed and built the machinery and production line for producing the frozen product that soon became famous as Eggo Waffles.

It was on another childhood visit to San Jose from our home in Long Beach, when I was about 14, that I saw the original Eggo Waffle production line in its final phase of development. Frank’s carousel-like device was waist high, some 30 feet across, and powered by a real merry-go-round motor.

Imagine dozens of restaurant waffle irons mounted on the carousel and bolted down. Roller skate wheels were attached to each lid. As the structure revolved, each waffle iron passed a stationary side bar and one by one the roller wheels traveled up the bar, slowly opening the lids. Batter was shot from a tube

onto the hot iron, and the lid gently closed. The speed of movement of the carousel was timed to correspond to the requisite cooking period. At the other end of the cycle, with the aid of the skate wheels, each waffle iron was reopened. Uniformed women wearing white aprons and hairnets removed the square waffles with table forks, flipping them onto an adjacent conveyor belt. Golden-brown waffles were then packaged and stacked on six-foot-high racks. Workers pushed filled racks into huge walk-in refrigerator rooms where the waffles were flash-frozen.

A new and larger plant was eventually built on Eggo Way near McKee Road and Highway 101 in San Jose. The company turned out thousands of waffles per hour and had the capacity to hold 40,000 cases of waffles in cold storage.

One day there was an unexpected visit by a representative of the County Department of Sanitation.

“I was always very busy,” Frank recalled, “but when someone from Sanitation arrived, we always gave visits and concerns our prompt attention. They had the authority to shut us down in the blink of an eye.”

On that particular day the inspector was a young woman of about five foot five inches, with dark brown hair, glasses, and a blue hard hat. A row of Paper Mate pens sprouted from her left shirt pocket. And of course she also had an official Santa Clara County Department of Sanitation clipboard.

The young woman asked for a tour of the entire plant.

“She was wet behind the ears,” Frank told me, “and I couldn’t wait to get rid of her. I had other work, important work, to do.”

In the middle of the production floor was a structure big enough to hold four 55-gallon containers. That day there were just two, each made of heavy-duty cardboard half an inch thick. The upper half of the 6-by-6-foot structure was made of a fly-proof mesh.



The Sanitation official leaned into the tiny structure and asked what was in the two containers. The two lids were removed. Both units were full and held tiny white granules.

Frank touched his index finger to his tongue and dipped the moistened tip into the nearer container. “This one is sugar, so that one has to be salt.”

Frank chuckled ruefully as he recounted what happened next. “The kid from the Department of Sanitation whipped out her little official pen and started writing on the official Department of Sanitation papers attached to her little official clipboard. I asked, ‘What’s the problem?’

“She told me—boy, did she tell me! ‘You can’t put your finger in your mouth and then into food containers for any reason, not even to determine which is sugar and which is salt.’

“For thousands of years cooks have used the finger-taste method to differentiate sugar from salt. We had always done it that way.”

Poor Uncle Frank got written up. He eventually got a copy of the young lady’s Department of Sanitation report, and it wasn’t complimentary. Frank soon found a better way to distinguish sugar from salt. “I attached labels to the containers,” he said.

The brothers’ Eggo food company was sold in 1966, and Frank retired a wealthy man. He continued to design, tinker, and build many of his ideas in his home workshop in Saratoga, California, for three decades thereafter.

In a lengthy obituary in the *San Jose Mercury News*, dated January 18, 1996, the paper’s Local & State headline read, “Frank Dorsa, 88, king of frozen waffles, dies.” The article recapped Frank Dorsa’s life long successful business adventure. That and a 2011 newspaper article helped me to fill in some of the unknowns about Frank. But it was my first-hand knowledge of the man and his stories that have always fascinated me.

Today, the distinctive red and gold Eggo Waffle logo is recognized across the United States, as well as in Canada and Mexico. The Dorsa brothers’ product, now manufactured by Kellogg, is enjoyed each morning by millions of people.



Times **School News**

# California to raise awareness about school choice

National School Choice Week begins today in California and across the country. There are 1,511 events planned to raise awareness about K-12 school choice, and 16,140 events nationwide.

The events in California, which are independently planned and independently funded, include everything from information sessions and open houses at schools to rallies, policy discussions, and movie screenings organized by community groups. On Monday, January 25, hundreds of supporters will rally for school choice at the capitol.

The mayors of Costa Mesa, El Cajon, Fullerton, Garden Grove, Hesperia, Indio, Laguna Niguel, Manteca, Milpitas, Mission Viejo, Moreno Valley, Oceanside, Redondo Beach, Roseville, Sacramento, San Ramon, Santa Clara, Santa Rosa, Temecula, Thousand Oaks, Tracy, Upland, Vacaville, Vallejo, and Victorville, along with county leaders from Amador, Los Angeles, Modoc, Placer, Rockland, Sacramento, Sonoma, and Stanislaus counties have issued official proclamations recognizing Jan. 24-30, 2016 as "School Choice Week."

"California parents have a variety of K-12 educational choices for their children," said Andrew R. Campanella, president of National School Choice Week. "National School Choice Week will shine a positive spotlight on these options so that more parents can learn about the opportunities available to their kids, while also giving

Californians a platform to raise awareness of the need for even greater education options for children."

With a goal of raising public awareness of effective education options for children, National School Choice Week will be the largest celebration of education options in US history.

National School Choice Week is an independent public awareness effort spotlighting effective education options for children, including traditional public schools, public charter schools, magnet schools, private schools, online learning, and homeschooling. The Week runs from Jan. 24-30, 2016. For more information, visit [www.schoolchoiceweek.com](http://www.schoolchoiceweek.com).

Times **Local Sports**

# Girls Competitive Soccer Players, '02, '03, '05, '06

Liverpool FC International Academy America - Bay Area (LFC IAA Bay Area), formerly PSA Royals, is officially affiliated with English Premier League club Liverpool FC. LFC IAA Bay Area has a history of success with its boys' academy and pre-academy programs and is expanding to include girls. Great program, small town feel. Professional and well trained coaches and LFC Youth Development Curriculum. LFC IAA Bay Area is seeking girls to round out '02, '03, '05, '06 teams for Spring 2016. Contact Girls Director of Coaching, Lewis Saxelby, [lewis@lfcabarea.com](mailto:lewis@lfcabarea.com). For more information, visit <https://www.lfcabarea.com>.

For more information, visit <https://www.lfcabarea.com>.

# Mustangs down the Dons

The Pioneer Mustangs downed the Del Mar Dons with a spray of 12 three-point baskets, providing resulting in a 71-46 victory in the Blossom Valley Athletic League's Santa Teresa Division.

The Mustang win gives Pioneer, Westmont, Evergreen Valley and Independence all sitting atop the division with identical 3-1 league records.

Ahead 35-27 at the half, Pioneer put the game away in the third quarter by grinding the Dons 23-5. Forwards Kent Stepan and Louie Coulumbe led the Mustangs with 14 points each.

## Leland Boys Varsity Basketball Updated Schedule

02/03/16	Wednesday	Prospect	Leland	7:00 PM
02/05/16	Friday	Gunderson	Gunderson	7:00 PM
02/10/16	Wednesday	Piedmont Hills	Leland	7:00 PM
02/12/16	Friday	Leigh	Leland	7:00 PM
02/17/16	Wednesday	Santa Teresa	Santa Teresa	7:00 PM
02/19/16	Friday	Willow Glen	Leland	7:00 PM



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**SUPERVISORS APPROVE ORDINANCE TO DETERMINE ROAD RAGE ON COUNTY HIGHWAYS AND EXPRESSWAYS.**

NOV. 1-10, 2015 ■ VOL. 11, NO. 1

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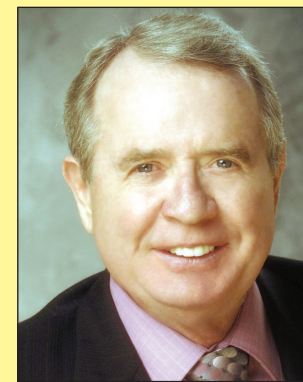
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**Notebook: AVWC open to prospective members**

The next Almaden Valley Women's Club meeting is open to prospective members. The date is Tuesday, Feb. 2 at 6:00 p.m. at the Fish Market, located at 1007 Blossom Hill Rd., San Jose. For more information, visit [www.almadenwomen.org](http://www.almadenwomen.org).

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