

WIZBOTICS ROBOTICS TEAM STRIVE FOR A GREENER, CLEANER, AND ZERO-TRASH FUTURE – PAGE 4



DISNEYLAND'S HAUNTED MANSION HAS A STRANGE AND SHADOWY PAST: – PAGE 12



OCT. 30–NOV. 12, 2015 ■ VOL. 32, NO. 22

Evergreen Times

SERVING EVERGREEN & SILVER CREEK VALLEY ■ EVERGREENTIMES.COM

Benioff Children's Hospital

WOOLY WARMTH

Mythri Ambatipudi, founder of Woolly Warmth of Evergreen Valley presents knitted and crocheted warm clothing to Ashley Goliti, Community Services Liaison for UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital. Inset: Ying Yue is one of the many volunteers that crochet clothing items for newborns through the Woolly Warmth organization in Evergreen Valley. Yue, an Evergreen Community Center Volunteer is pictured here with founder Ambatipudi.

NOTHING *handt* CAKES

A scary good treat.

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Silicon Valley Patent Trademark Office opens at SJ City Hall

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and many dignitaries celebrated the opening of the Silicon Valley Patent Trademark Office (Silicon Valley USPTO) located on the first and second floors of the Wing at San Jose's City Hall on Oct. 15.

Liccardo thanked former Mayor Chuck Reed and the Silicon Valley Leadership group for their leadership in the effort to bring a regional patent trademark office to San Jose. He also acknowledged the City Administration, San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce, Bay Area Council, San Jose State Univer-



Attending the Silicon Valley Regional Patent Office are former San Jose Mayor **Chuck Reed**, San Jose Vice Mayor **Rose Herrera**, Congresswoman **Anna Eshoo** and District 10 Councilmember **Johnny Khamis**.

sity, Work2Future, and several Silicon Valley companies for See *PATENT OFFICE*, page 3

Evergreen teen crochets cozy comforts for tiny tots

By William Bellou
Publisher

“A baby is God’s opinion that the world should go on.” This profound statement by the renowned American writer, Carl Sandburg, is the guiding statement of Woolly Warmth, a non-profit organization founded by Evergreen Valley teen Mythri Ambatipudi.

The organization provides beautiful handmade, knitted and crocheted warm clothing, such as caps, socks, sweaters and blankets, to the families of newborns to keep their little ones cozy, com-

fortable and healthy.

Mythri, 15, started Woolly Warmth in 2014 when she began making baby caps for El Camino Hospital in Mountain View, thus becoming the youngest volunteer to be making such contributions. Mythri sought to expand her organization when other local hospitals began accepting contributions. Due to her tireless efforts, Woolly Warmth has now grown to 40 volunteers.

Mythri learned the art of crocheting from her grandmother. During one of Mythri’s visits to India, she saw her grandmother

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SEE OUR LISTINGS OF EVERGREEN AREA MEETINGS, PLACES OF WORSHIP AND CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER

Times **Feature****Wooly***Continued from page 1*

knitting a sweater for one of her cousins. In order to keep the young grandchild busy, Mythri's grandma taught her to make simple stitches with a crochet needle. Over the next few years, Mythri perfected her skill and was soon gifting crocheted items to friends and family.

Her motivation to use her skill for a bigger cause came when her mother showed her some of the family's cherished possessions, the baby clothing presented by the staff of El Camino Hospital where Mythri was born.

"I realized how special such a gift is to the family of a newborn," said Mythri. "The birth of a baby is a momentous occasion for the entire family. However, such personalized gifts make the event even more memorable. They create a special bond between the family and the hospital staff that took care of the baby and the mother. Also, there are many families who cannot afford warm clothes for their newborn. Personalized gifts of baby caps, socks, blankets and sweaters take care of the immediate necessity and relieve the families of stress. I wanted to contribute to the happiness of all these families. This was the driving force behind my starting Wooly Warmth."

During the past year, Wooly Warmth has contributed crocheted baby clothes to local hospitals such as UCSF Benioff Children's hospital in San Francisco, Washington Hospital in Fremont, Good Samaritan Hospital in San Jose, El Camino Hospital in Mountain View and Lucille Packard Children's Hospital in Palo Alto.

The efforts of Wooly Warmth have



Mythri Ambatipudi, founder of Wooly Warmth displays some crocheted warm clothing, such as caps, socks, sweaters with **Angus Cochran**, Executive Director of the Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation.

been graciously recognized by all the hospitals. "For more than two decades, Lucille Packard Hospital has provided compassionate, family-centered, and evidence-based care for all," said Brian Perronne, Senior Vice President of Development and Administration at Lucille Packard Hospital. "The dedication of friends like you have made it possible for Packard Children's to achieve key milestones in pediatric and obstetric medicine, and we are grateful for your partnership."

Angus Cochran, Executive Director of Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation in Fremont, was extremely encouraging of Mythri's efforts. "On behalf of Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation, I would like to thank Wooly Warmth for their generous contribution of knit baby caps, socks and sweaters for our pediatric patients," said Cochran. Words of encouragement and acknowledgement from people such as Karen Kane-Foempe, Auxiliary Board President of Good Samaritan Hospital, and Mark R. Laret, CEO of UCSF Benioff

their organization. Ms. Carnahan informed Mythri that since the patients at St. Jude were young kids suffering from cancer, all caps would have to be made from 100 percent cotton yarn to suit their needs. It was a gratifying moment for Mythri when, at the end of July 2015, St. Jude acknowledged the receipt of twenty-five cotton crocheted children's hats.

"I would like to extend the contributions to hospitals all over the country and in time to hospitals outside the country too," said Mythri. "As a next step, I have also begun working with American Cancer Society and making caps for patients receiving chemotherapy. I hope that the colorful caps that I make bring peace to those in pain. I am also trying to increase the number of volunteers for Wooly Warmth."

Editor's note: If you would like to help Wooly Warmth with yarn supplies or cash donations, contact Mythri by email: president@woolywarmth.com. To read more about the positive, helpful efforts of Wooly Warmth and to see pictures of the handmade items, please visit woolywarmth.org.

Children's Hospital, have motivated Mythri to expand her efforts.

Mythri has been able to fund the cost of yarn and crochet supplies needed by Wooly Warmth from generous donations. Companies such as Yarnspirations.com and Red Heart have supported Mythri's efforts by shipping the organization yarn. Mythri has also used the monetary awards she won at science competitions to purchase supplies for Wooly Warmth.

In the summer of 2015, Mythri contacted Ms. Vilma Carnahan of St. Jude organization and expressed her wish to contribute to

OP ED**Mistaken identities can be troublesome**

By **Nirban Singh**
Times Staff Writer

Did you know that 70 percent of people cannot identify a Sikh man in a picture as a Sikh? Sikhs are often on the receiving end of fallacies as they are mostly believed to be Muslims.

An astounding 49 percent of Americans believe "Sikh" is a sect of Islam. The religion of Sikhism originated in Punjab (North India). Sikhs believe in the tenets of one God, equality, justice, and serving the community. In fact, some of their ideals have similar qualities to the beliefs of most Americans.

Observant Sikhs can be identified with their visible articles of faith which include beards, uncut hair, and turbans. After the 9/11 attacks, Sikhs have been subject to many mistaking their identities for something else.

Due to the image of Osama Bin Laden having a turban and beard, Sikhs have been mistaken for terrorists. 4 days

after 9/11, a Sikh man who was mistaken for an Arab due to the way he looked was shot and murdered at a gas station. Balbir Singh Sodhi, a hardworking man who immigrated to the U.S to live the "American Dream" had put enough money together to buy himself a gas station, yet his investment was short-lived due to this tragic incident. Mr. Sodhi will always be remembered for his legacy as a martyr for the Sikh community will stand forever. Sikhs have been the victims of malicious acts due to the lack of knowledge about Sikhs.

There have been reports of racial hatred against Sikhs all around the U.S. In 2012, a man opened fire in a Sikh temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin and killed six innocent worshippers while wounding four.

Sikhs are Americans just like every citizen of the United States of America. Sikhs are not terrorists and only preach peace and kindness to all.



Jagbir Nirban, a Sikh, has found himself on the receiving end of fallacies.

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EvergreenTimes PHOTO CONTEST

Grand Prize: \$150 worth of groceries!

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September's Winner!

The winning photo for September is by **Emilie Wu**. "My daughter, **Miranda**, likes to fuel her fun by eating freshly picked apples from Gizdich Ranch in Watsonville," Wu said. Congratulations, Emilie!

October's Theme: Back to Basics

ENTER TODAY!

OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES: **Deadline** –

Photos must be received before 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 31, 2015 and should be emailed

to: photocontest@timesmediainc.com.

PHOTO AND PHOTOGRAPHER ELIGIBILITY: Anyone may enter a photo in the contest. All ages are welcome. Photos should be no smaller than 800 by 600 pixels but no more than 2MB in file size. Images should be submitted in JPG (at high quality). No panoramas please. Image Modifications: Minor digital enhancement is permitted, but images that have been significantly modified or appear unnatural will be disqualified. Images must be in natural color. No watermarks, signatures, or copyright notices may be added to images. All winning images will be displayed with the photographer's name. Adding or replacing elements in an image is not allowed.

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