

## Pizarro: Engineering center 'just the beginning'

By Sal Pizarro

San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed was feeling bullish on Silicon Valley's future at the Wednesday groundbreaking for a new building at Cadence Design Systems' campus in North San Jose.

The five-story, 208,000-square-foot building, which will be a state-of-the-art engineering center for the tech company, also marks the first project in the plan to further develop the North First Street area.

"This building, this groundbreaking, marks the end of the bust and the beginning of the next boom," Reed told an audience of hundreds that included Cadence CEO Mike Fister, San Jose City Council members, city planning and redevelopment staff and Cadence employees. "This building is just the beginning of what we'll see in North San Jose."

### It just might be the start of something big.

**BOWLING FOR DOLLARS:** At the groundbreaking event, Cadence officials also announced the beneficiary for this year's Stars & Strikes fundraiser: the **Women's Initiative**, a non-profit that helps lower-income women start their own businesses. Money raised by the campaign will be used to help the San Francisco-based group, which serves more than 2,000 people in Northern California, open a facility in Silicon Valley.

The main event for Stars & Strikes is a corporate bowling tournament, which will be held May 12 at 300 San Jose (formerly Oakridge Lanes) and will feature San Francisco 49ers players and coaches. Want to get involved? Call Cadence's Kathy Wheeler at (408) 428-5993 or e-mail [kwheeler@cadence.com](mailto:kwheeler@cadence.com).

**TASTE OF MEXICO:** There was a nice cross-section of San Jose's movers and shakers dining on fine Mexican cuisine at the City Hall Rotunda on Tuesday night.

The reception for the weeklong Mexico Gastronomic Festival, which ends tonight at the Fairmont Hotel's

Fountain restaurant, was hosted by Mexican Consul General Bruno Figueroa and attracted many pillars of the Latino community. Among them were philanthropists Carmen and Alcario Castellano, Spanish-language broadcaster Celina Rodriguez, attorney Fernando Zazueta and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Dennis King, as well as dozens of local politicians and community leaders.

The menu ranged from giant garlic shrimp and spiced pork to mango crepes and a sinful bread pudding. To wash it all down, members of the Hispanic Vintners Association were pouring a selection of red and white wines.

**MOVIE-TIE IN:** This year's Silicon Valley Reads selection, T.C. Boyle's "The Tortilla Curtain," deals with the impact of illegal immigration, and the program is also taking a look at the issue via another medium -- film.

Filmmaker John Carlos Frey will present three free programs over the next few days about the immigration crisis and the lives of undocumented Mexican workers.

Frey will show and discuss "The Invisible Mexicans of Deer Canyon," his documentary about undocumented Mexicans hidden in a wealthy San Diego neighborhood, at the Gilroy City Council chambers (7351 Rosanna St.) at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday. He'll do the same program at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Library in San Jose.

On Monday at 7 p.m., Frey will present "The Gatekeeper" at the Los Gatos Theatre (20 N. Santa Cruz Ave.). The two-hour drama, which has won 10 film festival awards, depicts the current unrest at the U.S.-Mexico border.

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