

The Cameron Family: *Jamie, Foong Ching, Emily and Alexander*

My family and I live together in a reasonably-sized, two story house along Marston Lane. As we live quite close to Don Callejon, my brother attends fourth grade there and I am a eighth grader at Peterson Middle School. My father is a software engineer at Google and my mother stays at home to look after her two children.

However, we have not always lived in America. Up until I was four years old, my family and I lived on the other side of the world, in Melbourne, Australia. I do not remember much of my life there, but my family decided to move because my dad got a job at Google. The reason my parents decided to live in Santa Clara as opposed to any other city or town was that the housing was cheaper and more affordable, and it was near a good school. When we first came here, Don Callejon had just finished being built, so I attended my first year there as a kindergartener.

At first, my family rented a house near the back of Safeway, but after a few years we bought a house a block away near Don Callejon, which is the house I currently live in. I attended Callejon for seven years, from kindergarten all the way to sixth grade. For my seventh grade year, however, my parents decided to switch me to a new school in Sunnyvale, which was Peterson Middle school.

I love living in Rivermark because of how close everything is. There are shops nearby, including Starbucks, Posh Bagel, and Cold Stone. There are also friendly neighbors and a great school within walking distance.

One of the fun events that Rivermark has to offer are the "Wednesday Play Dates." All the residents in Rivermark come together to enjoy food sold from food trucks. They relax on the field and talk to friends and meet new people.

Rivermark is a very safe environment. You will see kids out on their own on the streets or playing soccer on the field, without needing any parental supervision.

One of my favorite hobbies is writing. I absolutely love to write fantasy stories. So, to earn a little extra money, I decided to start teaching creative writing. Since last summer, I have tutored two third-grade girls who live in Rivermark as well. I also babysit occasionally with my friend, Jennifer. All these are possible because we live in a very close-knit community where we know our neighbors.

When the North Side library opens in August it will attract even more people to the neighborhood. The library will also provide activities such as magic shows and story reading, and library users can use the library community room for other events. All these will further promote the togetherness of the community.

Santa Clara is a wonderful city to live in, and I hope it will continue to grow. I would love to have more shopping malls nearby and restaurants within walking distance for everyone to enjoy.

