

San Jose legendary community leader Frank Fiscalini dies at age of 101
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Election 2024
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Times

JAN. 5 – JAN. 18, 2024 ■ VOL. 37, NO. 1



A kitten that was brought to the San Jose Animal Care Center is seen in an enclosure on Aug. 26, 2022. File photo.

San Jose animal shelter deaths hit five-year high

By Jana Kadah
San José Spotlight

Advocates and San Jose officials can agree on one thing: the conditions in the city's animal shelter are harrowing.

That's how the situation for San Jose Animal Care and Services is described in an annual report for fiscal year 2022-23, which found that while the city is taking in less animals, more animals died this year than the last five years.

City officials say it's because they've prioritized taking in sick animals over healthy ones, making death more likely in the last year. Advocates argue the city is neglecting the animals and intentionally ignoring the concerns of volunteers and veterinarians. Officials discussed the report's findings at the city's Dec. 14 Neighborhood Services and Education committee meeting.

In the past year, 426 animals died and 1,072 ani-

mals were euthanized, according to the report. At its peak, the San Jose Animal Care Center had more than 900 animals—more than double its capacity. That's compounded by animals staying longer in the shelter, in part because it's harder to get residents to adopt sick pets.

Elizabeth Kather, division manager of the shelter, said the overpopulation of animals has made it difficult to constantly watch all of them. She said the team has been vigilant in flagging and caring for the most vulnerable dogs and cats, and there is always a treatment or pain management plan. Euthanized animals are dealing with severe chronic illnesses or are in an extraordinary amount of pain.

"We don't take those decisions lightly," Kather said at the meeting. "The ones that died in the kennel doesn't mean they were ignored or neglected, or treatment wasn't instituted. It just means that they succumb to

See *SHELTERS*, page 3

New California laws going into effect in 2024

Every year a new set of rules for all Californians are implemented starting midnight, January 1.

Many of California's new laws impact the workplace and make changes to the state's criminal justice system. From how much renters pay to secure a spot to how toys are organized inside of a store, hundreds of new laws are going into effect this year.

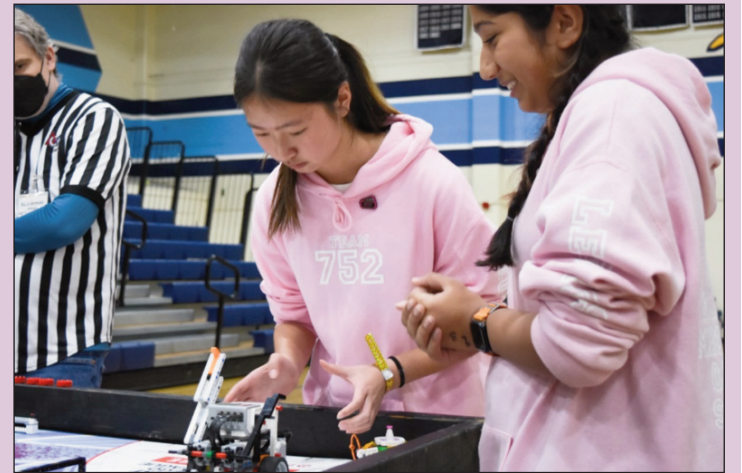
Here's a look at the most notable new laws.

Workers

New protections for those who use or have used cannabis off the clock: **SB 700** prohibits an employer from requesting information from an applicant's prior cannabis use. **AB 2188** prohibits employers from discriminating against a worker or applicant based on their use of cannabis off the job and away from the workplace. Those who work in building and construction trades and federal workers are exempt from this.

Minimum wage increases: California's minimum wage overall will increase to \$16 dollars an hour when the new year begins because of a state law that requires the minimum wage to adjust for inflation. Later this year, other job sectors will see even bigger bumps. In April, **AB 1228** will go into effect to raise the minimum wage of fast-food workers to \$20 an hour. In June, because of **SB 525**, some health care workers will begin seeing increases

See *LAWS*, page 4



The Lego Gagas from San Jose competed recently in First Lego League Quixilver Qualifier at Leland High School and advanced to the NorCal FLL Championship in 2024. (Courtesy photo)

Lego tournament qualifier held at Leland High School

Teams from across the country meet for the competition

By Sean Eastwood
Times staff writer

Lego (FLL) teams from eight Bay Area cities recently came to Leland High School to compete in the FLL Quixilver Qualifier.

The event, hosted by Leland's FIRST Robotics Competition Team FRC 604 Quixilver, attracted more than 130 students, their parents, and coaches.

Code Warriors from Fremont earned the first-place Champion's award, and the second-place Champion's award went to Robo Brain from San Jose. Both these teams earned an automatic spot at the upcoming NorCal FLL Championship in 2024, which will be held in Houston, Texas presented by BAE Systems April 17-20, 2024.

There are currently 550 FLL teams in NorCal, the fourth largest region in the U.S. and Canada. The

FLL season starts each August when a new challenge is released. The teams build and program robots using the Lego Education robotics kits that have motors, sensors and gyros.

Teams have an opportunity to enter their robots in up to 15 "missions" during the competition. In addition, team members worked on a research project based on the year's theme, "Masterpiece," showing how STEM and technology are used in the arts.

At each competition, teams meet with judges who evaluate their robots' design and programming, their research project and how the students demonstrated the six core values of the FLL program: discovery, innovation, impact, inclusion, teamwork and fun.

Leland's Quixilver team has several championships under its belt, most recently having been crowned last year as Carver Division Champions at the FLL World Championship in 2022.

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Please note: I have not and will not be verifying or investigating any information supplied by others.

Times **Community News****Shelters**

Continued from page 1
their illness or their injury, which is across the board in human medicine and animal medicine. It doesn't mean that they were suffering."

But more than a dozen volunteers and animal advocates criticized the city's handling of the shelter. Monica Rudiger, a retired veterinarian and shelter volunteer, said she's seen cats that still needed leg amputations, feeding tubes for starvation, blood transfusion for anemia and wounds that needed cleaning because they had maggots in them. She also said it was disingenuous for the city to say animals coming into the shelter are unhealthier and more untreatable than years prior, and rather it's the conditions that are making them worse.

"Unhealthy, defenseless sick and injured animals are not receiving adequate medical care and spend many weeks and often months without resolution of their issues," Rudiger said at the meeting. "The animals deserved better, and sadly, it's (been) the volunteers who recognized their state of poor health, not the medical staff."

Former volunteer Kathy Burden shared pictures with San José Spotlight that showed animal feces left in kennels with little to no cleaning supplies to take care of the filthy conditions.

"It was just a horrendous situation. It was horribly stressful. It was actually a danger to the public (because the dogs are so stressed)," Burden said. "And the smell, I wish I could record the smell (to show that) it was really bad."

Air Force Cadet Athena Chang of San Jose selected as Student of the Year

By **William Bellou**
Publisher

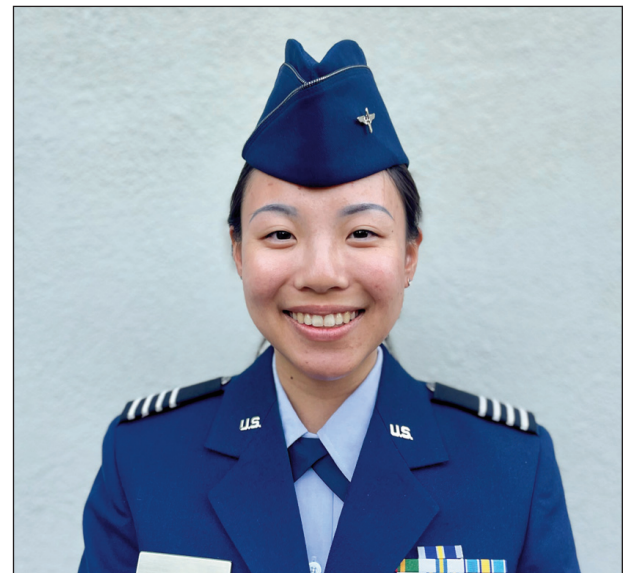
San Jose resident and Stanford University Air Force Cadet Athena Chang has been selected as a Student of the Year scholarship recipient for the Navy Federal Credit Union ROTC All-American Scholarship Program.

Chang, who double majors in mechanical engineering and computer science, serves as the senior vice president of Stanford Women in Business and works as a research assistant at Stanford's Gordian Knot Center for National Security Innovation.

During the Fall 2022 semester, Cadet Chang served as the Cadet Wing Commander, the highest student leadership position available to cadets at Stanford.

"I really think that a core part of leadership is being exposed to a lot of different experiences," Chang said. "Being able to understand people's differences will create a more empathetic environment. It shapes people's perspectives and challenges new ideas."

This scholarship program honors the best and bright-



est ROTC seniors across the nation and highlights rising senior ROTC students who best embody the pillars of the program: Leadership, Military Excellence, Scholarship and Service.

In addition to a \$6,500 scholarship, Cadet Chang was an honored guest at the Military Bowl on December 27 at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in Annapolis, Md. and featured on ESPN's broadcast of the game.

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Do you like horses? Do you and your horse need some new things to do and places to go? Do you like getting to know other people who like horses, too? Then perhaps you should check out San Martin Horsemen's Association. SMHA has been serving the community and horsemen for over 30 years. You have probably seen them in the 4th of July Parade in Morgan Hill, or perhaps at the Grand Nationals at the Cow Palace. Maybe you saw the fantastic 12 Man Ride the Quadrille unit put on for San Martin School's 100th Anniversary. Or maybe you've followed a horse trailer that says, "Please don't ride my tail." Where ever they go, they sure grab your attention. But there is a lot more going on behind the scenes, with many activities for youths and adults of all riding styles and disciplines. You don't even need to have a horse!

San Martin Horsemen's Association has been here to enlighten its members and the community about horse and rider safety, environmental issues, veterinary tips. It has also been there to support County and State Park & Recreation trail maintenance and actively support the 4-H and most equine activities in the area.

On the third Wednesday of every month, the Association has its General Meeting at a local restaurant at 7:00 PM. There is always a program of interest to the horse minded. They also have monthly pleasure rides at different locations like Dinosaur Point, Mt. Madonna, Henry Coe State Park and Salinas River Beach. There are ice cream social pleasure rides, and the Halloween Poker ride where horse and rider can come in costume and win prizes for their imagination and ingenuity. There are camping trips at Point Reyes and Jack Brooks.

The Association has sponsored CSHA sanctioned horse shows, CSHA sanctioned Trail Trials, Gymkhanas, a parade unit, a quadrille unit as well as team penning, roping and cutting clinics. These are great schooling opportunities for kids and adults alike. There is really something for everyone and their horse.

Visit <http://smhorse.org/membership/> to join today!

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Laws

Continued from page 1

to their minimum wage depending on the type of facility they work in, to eventually reach a \$25 minimum wage for the entire industry by 2033.

SB 497 - Makes it easier for employees to establish retaliation claims against their employer. This is known as the Equal Pay and Anti-Retaliation Act.

SB 616 - Requires employers to allow both hourly and salary workers to earn a minimum of five paid sick days a year.

Public Safety

New limits for gun buyers and carriers: Lawmakers and the governor this year passed two laws in response to mass shootings nationwide. **SB 2** places new limits on concealed carry firearm permit holders, while **AB 28** imposes an 11% tax on firearms and ammunition to help fund violence prevention programs.

SB 14 - Defines child sex trafficking as a serious felony under California law, meaning repeat offenders of this crime and other serious offenses could face up to life in prison

AB 701 - Enhances jail time for those trafficking more than a kilo of fentanyl.

SB 673 - Establishes the "Ebony Alert" for missing young Black women and children.

AB 360 - Prohibits "excited delirium" from being considered a medical diagnosis or valid cause of death, which has been used by coroners in other states, including Min-

nesota for the classification of the death of George Floyd.

AB 452 - Eliminates the statute of limitations, or time limit for the recovery of damages, for victims of childhood sexual assault that occurs on or after January 1.

AB 2282 - Enhances criminal penalties for those who use swastikas, nooses, desecrated crosses and other hate symbols on schools, cemeteries, religious institutions, businesses and other private and public spaces.

Housing

AB 12 - Starting in July, prohibits landlords from charging more than one month's rent for a security deposit.

SB 4 - Allows places of worship or independent higher education institutions to build a housing development project on their property "by right."

Health

Abortion and reproductive protections have been a priority for lawmakers and the governor since the Supreme Court of the United States struck down Roe v. Wade. With that, they passed **SB 345**, which sets legal protections for healthcare providers who mail abortion pills or gender-affirming prescriptions out of state. **SB 385** allows physician's assistants to do surgical abortions without the direct supervision of a doctor. For those mourning a reproductive loss, **SB 848** requires employers to provide five days of time off for workers who went through the loss, including a miscarriage, stillbirth, or unsuccessful embryo

transfer, insemination or adoption.

SB 43 - Makes it easier for counties to put those with severe mental illness into medical treatment or temporary psychiatric holds. The law expands who can be put into an involuntary hold to include those who are addicted to drugs or alcohol or who are unable to keep themselves safe.

Consumer

AB 1084 - Requires retailers to have a gender-neutral toy section.

SB 244 - The Right to Repair Act, which will require manufacturers of devices that cost more than \$50 to provide consumers and repair shops with parts, tools, or instructions to repair the device.

SB 478 - Hidden fees no longer. Starting in July, this will require websites to show the actual cost of a service or item upfront. This includes hotel or short-term rental stays, event tickets and food delivery services.

Miscellaneous

ONLINE PROTECTIONS: AB 587 requires social media companies to disclose how they address hate speech and disinformation. Tech companies are expected to provide reports to the state attorney general on how they address violations of user terms.

DAYLIGHTING CROSSWALKS: AB 413 prohibits stopping or parking a vehicle within 20 feet of an intersection or crosswalk clear of parked vehicles.

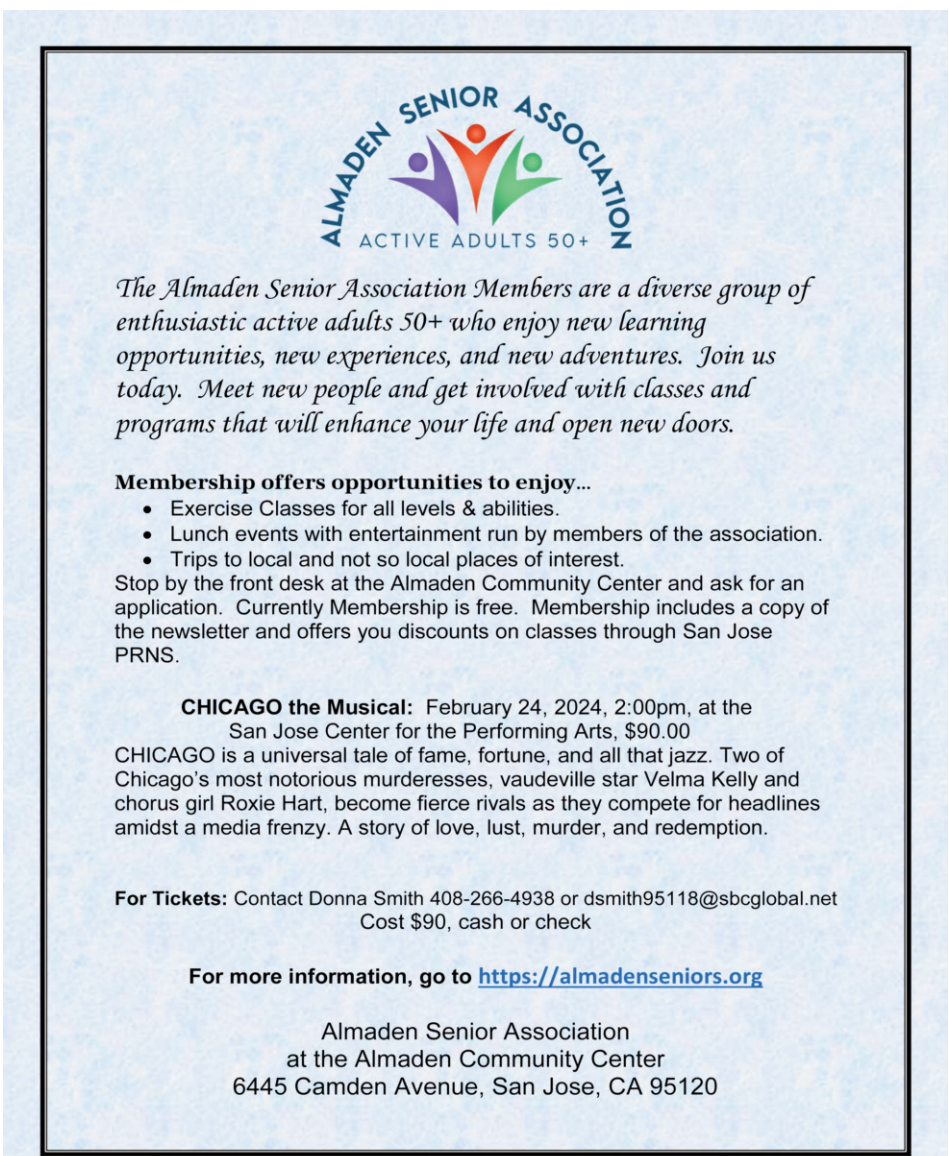
KEEP CRUISING: AB 436 keeps cities and counties from imposing cruising bans on city streets.



B

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Times **Local News**

San Jose legendary community leader Frank Fiscalini dies

Appointed superintendent of East Side Union High School District in 1956; Lead the effort to open 10 new schools through his retirement in 1982

Frank Fiscalini, a devoted family man and a San Jose community leader who served in many roles from school districts to City Hall, died Friday. He was 101.

Fiscalini passed away in his sleep early Friday morning, his daughter Lisa Hausle told San José Spotlight.

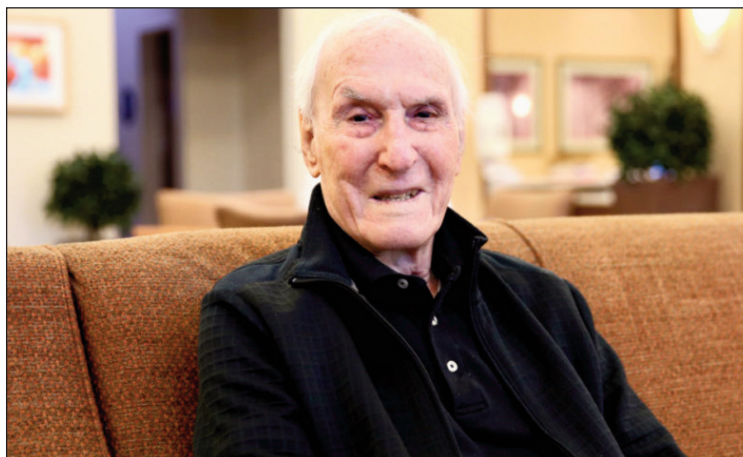
Although Fiscalini lived past the century mark, Hausle said his death was unexpected, coming just one day after he saw a doctor for a physical exam, and received good marks on his general health.

“You just thought he was going to be here forever, which is impossible, of course,” Hausle told San José Spotlight. “But he kept telling us, ‘I think I’m going to make it to 110.’”

Fiscalini contracted COVID-19 last month and spent a couple of weeks in a rehabilitation center but returned to his senior living home feeling good last week, shortly after his 101st birthday. His daughter Jill Peters spent much of yesterday with him.

Hausle said her father’s passing is bittersweet, because he lived such a long and full life, and she and her siblings were lucky to have long lives of their own with him by their sides.

“It will be weird to not have him



Frank Fiscalini has been an educator, San Jose councilmember, vice mayor and so much more. He died on Dec. 8, 2023, at age 101. Photo by Joseph Geha.

around. But it was time for him to go join my mom,” Hausle said.

Born in San Bernardino as one of seven children to immigrant parents from Northern Italy, Fiscalini moved to the Bay Area in 1942 to attend Santa Clara University. His education was put on hold when

he enlisted and went on to serve in the military during World War II in the fight against the Nazis.

He later graduated from Santa Clara University, earned a master’s degree in education from Stanford University and a Doctor of Education Development and management

from University of Northern Colorado.

While Fiscalini was a beloved figure in his own family, his career as a powerful politician and educational leader also touched thousands of lives.

He was appointed superintendent of the then-fledgling East Side Union High School District in 1956, and he helped lead the effort to open 10 new schools through his retirement from the district in 1982. He at one point earned the nickname, the “Godfather of East Side politics,” according to Terry Christensen, a retired San Jose State professor of political science.

Fiscalini served as CEO of Alexian Brothers hospital system for five years and later helmed a massive restoration project of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph, a Roman Catholic church in downtown San Jose.

After losing a mayoral race to Susan Hammer in 1990—one of the closest in San Jose history—Fiscalini ran for and was elected to the San Jose City Council in 1992, where he served two terms.

Fiscalini was also a founding board member of Opera San Jose, and served on the boards and was a booster of various arts and education programs and centers in the city.

Hausle said her father’s legacy will be one of family, faith, and community service.

See FISCALINI, page 8

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IN MEMORY Ellen Sharon (Erdman) Stout

May 9, 1941 - Oct. 29, 2023
Teacher at Los Alamitos Elementary School

Ellen Stout passed away peacefully on October 29, 2023, at the age of 82. She was born to Ellen and Edward Erdman on May 9, 1941 in Mellen, WI. Married to Bill Stout for 54 years. Ellen was a teacher at Los Alamitos Elementary. She is survived by her husband, Bill Stout; her sons: Andrew, Daniel, and Thomas; 10 grandchildren; and her brother Ethan Erdman. Service will be held on January 13, 2024, at 3pm at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Los Gatos, CA. More details at: www.legacy.com

Times Local News



Symphony San Jose presents 'AUTOMATION' January 27 and 28

Yves Dhar performs with holographic A.I. counterpart

Symphony San Jose presents "AUTOMATION" Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m. and Jan. 28 at 2:30 p.m. at the California Theatre in downtown San Jose.

Automation is a cinematic concert that explores the conflicts and connections between man and machine.

Technology is part of our daily lives, but this program reminds us of the awesome power we have unleashed. Adams' piece depicts a ride in a terrific sports car quickly regretted.

Dukas' setting of the Goethe poem sees a young wizard meddling in things he doesn't understand; Schoenberg's new work includes a battle between cello soloist and hologram; and Strauss' epic tone poem was featured in the original A.I. gone wrong movie, 2001: A Space Odyssey.

Watch and listen as cellist Yves Dhar and his holographic A.I. counterpart interact on stage in a groundbreaking composition by Grammy-nominated, Emmy-

winning composer Adam Schoenberg that features cello, halldorophone, electronics, orchestra, and projected visuals.

Program:

- **The Sorcerer's Apprentice** was featured in Disney's 1940 film *Fantasia*. Mickey Mouse starred in the title role.

- The opening to **Also Sprach Zarathustra** was made famous in Stanley Kubrick's movie *2001: A Space Odyssey*. So much so that Elvis Presley began opening his concerts with the intro.

Panel discussion

A panel discussion will be held prior to the event, featuring none other than the Grammy-nominated and Emmy-winning composer Adam Schoenberg, and the brilliant Computer Science Professor Kathryn Leonard, who collaborated with him on this awe-inspiring piece.

This engaging panel discussion will delve deep into the captivating realm where artificial intelligence and music intersect. Join us as these experts unravel

the mysteries behind the creation of this remarkable composition, while shedding light on the cutting-edge advancements in A.I. that are revolutionizing the music industry.

Discover the fascinating process of how A.I. is introduced into musical composition, working in harmony with brilliant human composers like Adam Schoenberg. Gain insight into how algorithms and data-driven approaches are shaping the future of music, resulting in innovative and evocative compositions that captivate the minds and hearts of audiences.

This exclusive panel discussion is a rare opportunity to engage with the creative minds behind Automation, offering a deeper appreciation for the artistry and technical brilliance that will unfold during the concert.

To purchase tickets, visit: <https://www.tickets.symphonysanjose.org/Online/mapSelect.asp>

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Steinway Society - The Bay Area presents pianist Janice Carissa on February 18; live and live-streamed

By William Bellou
Publisher

Steinway Society – The Bay Area presents classical pianist Janice Carissa, a Gilmore Young Artist and winner of Salon de Virtuosi, February 18 at 2:30 pm at the Hammer Theater Center in San Jose.

To meet the needs of a diverse community of patrons, Steinway Society also offers a streaming option to watch the concert live and provide “unlimited listens” for 48 hours afterward.

Program notes and a complimentary recorded pre-concert lecture by classical music expert Dr. Gary Lemco are available for ticketholders at www.steinwaysociety.com.

FULL PROGRAM:

- Mendelssohn, Prelude and Fugue in E Minor, Op. 35 No. 1
- Schumann, Bunte Blätter, Op. 99
- 1. Stücklein I
- 2. Stücklein II
- 3. Stücklein III
- 4. Albumblätter I
- 5. Albumblätter II
- 6. Albumblätter III
- 7. Albumblätter IV
- 8. Albumblätter V
- 9. Novelle
- 10. Präludium
- 11. Marsch
- 12. Abendmusik
- 13. Scherzo
- 14. Geschwindmarsch

INTERMISSION

- Brahms, Piano Sonata No. 3 in F minor, Op.

5



Steinway Society – The Bay Area presents Indonesian-born classical pianist Janice Carissa on February 18. Photo by Chris McGuire.

- 1. Allegro maestoso
- 2. Andante espressivo
- 3. Scherzo. Allegro energico – Trio
- 4. Intermezzo
- 5. Finale. Allegro moderato ma rubato

A Gilmore Young Artist and winner of Salon de Virtuosi, Janice Carissa’s hands “convey a vivid story rather than a mere showpiece” (Chicago Classical Review). Carissa has garnered great acclaim at renowned concert halls, including the Sydney Opera House, Carnegie

Hall, United Nations, Kennedy Center, Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park and Louis Vuitton Foundation.

Carissa’s passion for chamber music has led her to performances with the Brooklyn Chamber Music Society and Jupiter Chamber Concert Series; and collaborations with Vadim Gluzman, Miriam Fried, Paul Neubauer, Lucy Shelton, Marcy Rosen, David Shifrin, Jennifer Cano, and Peter Wiley; and appearances at Marlboro, North Shore, Ravinia, Caramoor, and Kneisel Hall festivals.

Born in Indonesia, Carissa left in 2013 to study at the Curtis Institute of Music with Gary Graffman. She is currently pursuing her Master’s Degree at The Juilliard School with Robert McDonald.

Tickets: Single Tickets: \$45 to \$70, General Admission: \$70/\$60/\$50; Senior & student: \$65/\$55/\$45; Livestream online: \$25 per household / live + unlimited listens for 48 hours.

Purchase Tickets: <https://steinwaysociety.com> ; Box Office: 408.300.5635; Email: office@steinwaysociety.com

Editor’s note: Steinway Society - The Bay Area is a nonprofit organization based in Silicon Valley. Now in its 29th season, this dedicated group of musicians, pianists, teachers, and arts lovers promotes excellence in piano performance and music education. Each season, Steinway Society presents a series of classical piano concerts featuring international award-winning pianists, as well as an active school music program.



Fiscalini

Continued from page 6

“He was all about giving and doing for others, believing that you got the most back when you gave to others,” she said.

Fiscalini is survived by four children, 13 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. His wife of 64 years, Joan, preceded him in death in 2010.

Hausle said Fiscalini’s great grandkids were devastated to learn of his passing.

“To them, he wasn’t somebody who just sat in the corner. He had conversations with them about what they were doing in school and what they were learning,” Hausle said. “He had nicknames for them and was a very interactive great grandfather.”

Her family will have a holiday cookie decorating party in his honor this weekend, a tradition started years ago by Joan and Frank.

“We are all decorating cookies for Baba on Sunday,” Hausle said.

Per Fiscalini’s wishes, his family is planning a private funeral service in the coming weeks. A larger memorial for others to pay their respects will be planned for later this year.

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ELECTION 2024

Here's who's running for San Jose City Council and mayor

By Jana Kadah

San José Spotlight

In about three months, San Jose residents will go to the ballot box to pick their next councilmembers and mayor. While the city's top seat is up for grabs, most of the money and focus will be on council races this election season.

Half of the San Jose City Council's seats—all the even-numbered districts—are up for election this cycle, as well as Mayor Matt Mahan's seat. Districts 2 and 6 are open seats, with current officeholders terming out, while Districts 4, 8 and 10 have incumbents running for reelection: David Cohen, Domingo Candelas and Arjun Batra, respectively. The primary is set for March 5, 2024.

With nearly half the 11-member council potentially changing, results could shift power back toward business interests or further strengthen labor's majority. San Jose is generally divided between two political powerhouses—the business lobby and labor unions—with labor-aligned leaders maintaining a majority in the last election.

Still, labor's political prowess will be noticeably absent in the mayor's race with no labor-backed candidate in the running.

The top two vote-getters in each race will head to a runoff in November, unless one candidate wins by more than 50% in March.

Here's a roundup of San Jose candidates running in the primary:

Mayor

Mahan, first elected to the council in 2020, won his bid to become the 66th mayor of San Jose in November 2022 after more than a year of campaigning.

Voters elected him to a two-year term, with a successful ballot measure moving the mayoral election from the gubernatorial cycle to the presidential cycle. That means Mahan has the opportunity to serve two more full four-year terms—for a total of 10 years.

The only competitor is Tyrone Wade, a former marriage and family crisis counselor who used to run a homeless shelter.

Wade wants to implement criminal justice reform, including community policing and a review of the San Jose Police Department's use of force policy. Wade's first priority would be to reform the child protective services system, he previously told San José Spotlight. He secured less than 3% of the vote in his first bid for mayor in 2018 and failed to qualify for the primary ballot in 2022.

District 2

With Councilmember Sergio Jimenez terming out, four candidates are vying to represent District 2, which stretches from the border of Morgan Hill up to a portion of South San Jose, ending at Sylvandale Avenue.

Babu Prasad, who works in the admitting department at Kaiser Permanente and runs several small businesses, was the first candidate to declare for the South San Jose seat in May. Prasad serves as president of the District 2 Leadership Council and president of the Hayes Neighborhood Association. His priorities are tackling homelessness, increasing public safety and supporting training



Residents cast ballots at the Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters on Nov. 8, 2022. File photo.

and pathways for local businesses.

Vanessa Sandoval, Jimenez's chief of staff, is also hoping to continue serving District 2. As a mobile home resident, Sandoval's chief concern is affordability—particularly for housing. She also wants to expand the police department, find police alternatives for some public safety calls and beef up environmental protections for open spaces like Coyote Valley.

Pamela Campos is the third candidate—and a native San Jose resident—to join the District 2 race. While Campos has not run for an elected position before, she is vice chair of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission's Policy Advisory Council. Her priorities are affordability, transportation, public safety, economic development and climate resilience.

Joe Lopez, retired deputy sheriff and a more conservative candidate in the race, is also running. He unsuccessfully challenged Jimenez in 2018, securing 22.8% of the vote. Lopez's goal is to make San Jose the safest city and wants to focus on cleaning up blight, addressing crime and reducing street homelessness. He also wants to balance the budget, as San Jose faces a looming deficit in the next couple of years. He won the Silicon Valley Biz PAC's endorsement.

District 4

Councilmember David Cohen is seeking re-election to represent North San Jose for another four years. He beat out incumbent Lan Diep in 2020, switching the council's business-majority to one that favored labor. But during his term, he voted for some policies contrary to the South Bay Labor Council's platform, and it cost him its endorsement. Instead, he won the Silicon Valley Biz PAC's endorsement.

The labor council is instead giving an open endorsement to both Cohen and his challenger Kansen Chu, a former councilmember and assemblymember. Chu told San José Spotlight his platform will focus on public safety, homelessness and housing and city parks and recreation services—including community centers and libraries offering programs for seniors and children.

District 6

Councilmember Dev Davis is terming out—and there are four candidates running to represent District 6, which encompasses Willow Glen, The Alameda and parts of downtown.

Lifelong San Jose resident Olivia Navarro—labor's pick for the seat—works as an insurance agent and political adviser for the LIUNA Local 270 union. She wants to prioritize public safety and finding solutions to the growing housing and homeless crisis through a working families lens—in addition to attracting high-paying jobs to bolster the region's economic development.

Alex Shoor, executive director of Catalyze SV, an organization that works with residents and community leaders on transportation and housing solutions, said affordable housing and development will be one of his top priorities if elected. He has been a recognizable force in helping shape housing policy in the Bay Area and has served on the San Jose Housing and Community Development Commission for eight years.

Amatangelo "Angelo" Pasciuti recently moved to San Jose after 21 years of military service took him to 35 countries and is looking for another opportunity to serve. After retiring from the Marine Corps this year, he unsuccessfully sought a seat on the San Clemente City Council in May before moving back to his native South Bay in September. His campaign is focused on homelessness, housing affordability and public safety.

Michael Mulcahy, a native of San Jose, prominent Willow Glen real estate investor and former mayoral candidate, is also running. Through his family company SDS NexGen Partners, Mulcahy has invested in myriad properties along Lincoln Avenue in downtown Willow Glen to revamp the area. He said his priorities as a councilmember would be to provide better support for small businesses and entrepreneurs, hiring more police in an effort to boost public safety and reducing homelessness and blight. He is the pick of the Silicon Valley Biz PAC.

District 8

Councilmember Domingo Candelas is running to keep his District 8 seat after being appointed in January. Three others are look-

ing to take his spot.

Candelas, born and raised in District 8, said his priorities have been increasing the city's affordable housing stock, expanding public transit and providing more child care services. He's also added park upgrades to the list—a concern he heard about from residents in the last year. He secured the labor endorsement.

Sukhdev Bainiwal is an engineer, former city airport commissioner and longtime director on the board of the Sikh Gurdwara of San Jose. His top priorities are to address homelessness, affordability and economic vibrancy—winning him an endorsement from the Silicon Valley Biz PAC.

Tam Troung is a San Jose Police Department sergeant. He said the city's main issues—and his top priorities—are housing, homelessness and public safety. His main focus areas for the district are traffic-related fatalities and improving the road infrastructure, as well as economic development in vacant commercial centers.

Surinder "Suri" Kaur Dhaliwal, also known as Surinder Kaur Sagha, is a retired executive assistant for major tech companies and neighborhood mom who is hoping to curb city vices, like smoking and gambling, increase public safety and address unsheltered homelessness.

District 10

Councilmember Arjun Batra is running for District 10 after being appointed in January. Batra filled the open seat vacated by then-Councilmember Mahan when he won the mayoral election.

Batra is a retired Intel executive and software engineer who forayed into government a few years ago after working for former Mayor Sam Liccardo's office of technology and innovation. He is a more business-leaning voice on council—focused on increasing the city's housing stock, improving public transit and addressing public safety, particularly around schools.

San Jose Planning Commissioner George Casey is facing off against Batra once again after unsuccessfully applying for the council-appointed seat in January. Casey said his priorities are public safety and homelessness. He said housing is the remedy to many of San Jose's issues and wants to provide incentives such as down payment assistance or rent-to-own policies for police officers and city employees so they can live where they work.

Batra and Casey secured a dual endorsement from the Silicon Valley Biz PAC.

Former broadcast journalist turned communications director for Mountain View Lenka Wright is also eyeing the seat. If elected, her priorities will be public safety, quality of life and homelessness. She believes the solution to homelessness is a multi-pronged approach that combines affordable housing, as well as quick-fix, temporary solutions to alleviate what she says is a "humanitarian crisis." She has the support of the South Bay Labor Council.

Nooran Bayzaie, Batra's former legislative aide who was fired because of his intentions to run, has dropped out of the race.

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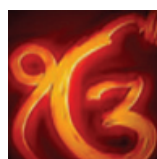


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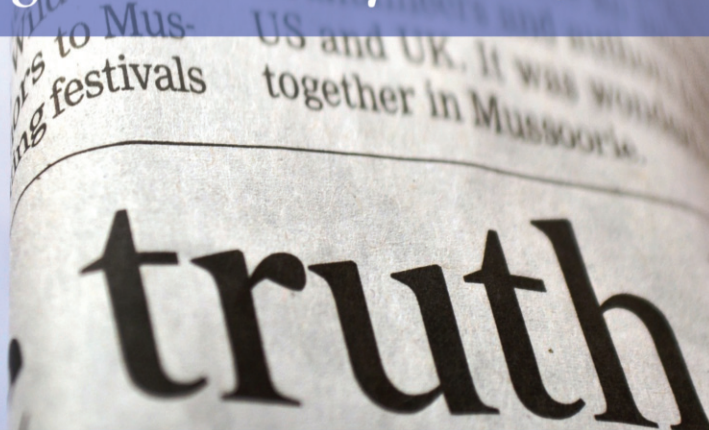
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