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Former California Assemblymember **Evan Low** is being fined by the State's Fair Political Practices Commission.

## Ex-Silicon Valley lawmaker fined for hiding payments to celebrity

By William Bellou  
Publisher

Former California Assemblymember Evan Low, who lost his bid for Congressional District 16 to former San Jose Mayor Sam Licardo, is being fined by the State's Fair Political Practices Commission.

The commission uncovered Low concealing hundreds of thousands of dollars in payments to celebrity Alec Baldwin for campaign appearances using a big tech advocacy group he founded.

Low has agreed to pay a \$106,000 fine for failing to keep timely reports and records about campaign payments. The commission has been investigating Low over Political Reform Act violations since 2020 after CalMatters reported on his nonprofit, the Foundation for California's Technology and Innovation Economy, which for years hosted events where tech lobbyists paid for access to state lawmakers.

The commission will meet April 10 to approve the settlement.

## Leland Science Fair 2025: A great success

By William Bellou  
Publisher

This year's Leland Science Fair, held recently at Leland High School, was a resounding success with more than 25 students from six schools across the Bay Area showcasing their projects.

Covering a wide range of scientific topics from cat behavior to the Robotic Super Fish, the science fair provided students an opportunity to



Volunteer from Leland Robotics Team 604 Quixilver **Ashton Ancheta** demonstrates a robot launching a ball to science fair participants.



Leland Science Club members, fair participants and organizers.

share their research, experimentation and findings with the local community.

Nainika Srinivasan, president of the Leland Science Club, emphasized the significance of the fair, stating, "Having a science fair is a great way for students to research a topic they're interested in and share what they learned through their experiments. Some students mentioned that they already have ideas for next year."

Students in grades 1-12 dedicated months to developing their projects before presenting them at the event. Volunteer judges provided valuable feedback, highlighting the strengths of each project and offering suggestions for improvement.

Parents and community members explored the exhibits, gaining insights into scientific research and even gathering inspiration for future participation.

One parent noted that the fair helped her understand the expectations for her son's potential

entry next year. The event serves as an excellent rehearsal opportunity for students preparing for the Synopsys Regional Science Fair.

Participants competed in both grade-level and school-level categories, with the top three winners in each category receiving ribbons. The first-place winners were awarded VEX robotics kits: in the elementary division, "Moon Phases, Many Faces!" by first grader Aarav Aggarwal from Williams Elementary, and in the middle school division, "Impact of Hydration on Heart Rate During Exercise," a project by Aarnav Rastogi, Rishaan Samuel, Aarav Pai, and Neelan Sundaralingam, seventh graders from Bret Harte Middle School.

Beyond the science fair, attendees enjoyed additional STEM activities. The Leland Robotics Team 604 Quixilver team showcased their robots in action, while younger students engaged in interactive stations, including making invisible

See *SCIENCE FAIR*, page 3

## Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors approve spaying, neutering pet service

By Sean Eastwood  
Times staff writer

Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a new spaying and neutering pet service last week.

Animal Services Center in San Martin will begin offering its spaying and neutering service to county pet owners seeking to snip their critters at lower prices than private veterinarians, starting July 1.



Two full-time veterinarians have been hired at the shelter for the first time in its history, and the rates being charged are significantly lower than the commercial industry.

The county will charge residents \$130 to spay or neuter a cat. The cost of spaying or neutering a dog — depending on size — ranges from \$265 to \$665. Rabbits will cost about \$395.

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Times Community News



Middle school division winners, from Bret Harte Middle School, with their poster. Left to right: **Nee-lan Sundaralingam, Aarav Pai, Aarnav Rastogi, Rishaan Samuel.**

Science Fair

*Continued from page 1*

ink, from lemon juice and candles, and oobleck, an interesting non-Newtonian fluid.

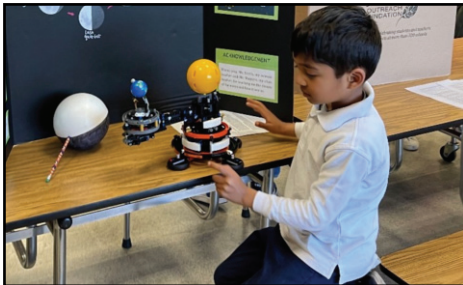
Reflecting on the broader mission of the Leland Science Club, Srinivasan shared, “We want to make science more accessible and encourage students to think critically, ask questions, and explore how science connects to the world around them.”

The success of the Leland Science Fair would not have been possible without the dedication of the Leland Science Club members, the support of Principal Harveen Bal, the guidance of club advisor Ms. Sarah Lofgren, and event supervisor Mr. Tibbs.

Ms. Meg Walsh is recognized for her contributions to the organization of the event. Their

effort helped create an engaging and rewarding experience for all participants.

The Leland Science Club hopes to continue to inspire young minds through fostering a love for discovery and innovation within the community.



Elementary division winner **Aarav Aggarwal**, from Williams Elementary, explains his project at the recently held Leland Science Fair.

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# San José Mineta International Airport to have new generation of Airport retail concessions

*SJ City Council approves \$16.9 million in capital investment bringing new retail concession opportunities to Terminals A & B*

Following a comprehensive Request for Proposal (RFP) process, San José City Council has approved the selection of two partners, Hudson and Paradies Lagardère, to manage a new retail concession program at San José Mineta International Airport (SJC) that will support 50+ local retailers.

The collective minimum capital investment of \$16.9 million will support a high-quality build-out featuring fresh new looks and integrate new technologies that will enhance the passenger experience, increase speed of service and drive sales.

Consisting of 12 retail concepts throughout Terminals A and B, the new partners will bring an updated product mix and a refreshed look and feel to the Airport's retail concessions, with new retail outlets opening as early as this year. The new program features a diverse mix of travel essentials, cafés and specialty retail, prioritizing high-quality products, local merchandise, technology and exceptional customer service. To ensure product freshness, all grab-and-go food will be locally sourced from with-

in Santa Clara County.

Prioritizing a keen sense of place—focusing on innovation, local flavors, small businesses and a curated product selection—the new program will include diverse offerings featuring established brands and local businesses, including an almost 50% increase in participation by Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprises. Both retail partners committed to support a high-quality build-out with new technology components that are designed to delight customers and drive incremental revenue.

"With thousands of visitors expected to pass through SJC for the Super Bowl, NCAA Men's Basketball, and World Cup games in 2026, now is the perfect time to enhance our airport's shops, cafes, and overall customer experience," said San José Mayor Matt Mahan. "By putting the spotlight on small businesses and local foods, we ensure that travelers from around the world experience the unique identity of San José from the moment they arrive."

"Thank you to the City Council for investing in the Airport and creating

new opportunities for passengers and Airport users to enjoy. SJC's new retail program will create a distinctive San José and Silicon Valley experience by offering visually appealing and welcoming concessions that capture the region's spirit and cultural richness," said San José City Manager Jennifer Maguire.

Hudson's program will showcase a diverse selection of local goods, including wines from renowned vineyards such as Eden Rift Vineyards (Hollister) and J. Lohr (San José); artisanal gifts from esteemed local makers including Alice Frost Designs and Lola x Kenneth Collaboration (San José) and culinary delights from local purveyors such as Mike & Niki's Honey Company (Campbell), Sweetdragon Baking Company (San José), Garlic World (Gilroy) and Lala's Jam Bar (Sonoma County), among many others.

Tech enthusiasts will be captivated by a unique Google shop-in-shop featuring cutting-edge electronics and the newest and most trendy products in an experiential display where travelers can try and play before buying, along with merchandise available only at SJC. SJC will be among the first airports in the nation to feature merchandise directly from Google. Additionally, Hudson will carry a curated selection of best-in-class global electronics brands, including Apple, Bose, Sony and other sought-after technology.



Plaza de San José rendering

Hudson's program will also include San José-based Nirvana Soul Café and all grab-and-go food products will be sourced locally from Eataly Silicon Valley. The overall concepts showcase the rich heritage of the San José region, drawing inspiration from iconic local names such as Santana Row and Willow Glen Market.

Paradies Lagardère's program will also reflect the unique character of the San José region by featuring an array of locally sourced goods, showcasing the work of artisans and makers such as Gooseberry Designs (Los Gatos) and The Capsmith (San José). Local gourmet offerings will include delectables from Nokki Farm (San José), Alice Stick Cookies (Los Altos), Ginger Lab (Santa Clara), Daybreak Coffee (San José) and Greenlee's Bakery (San José), among many others.

A highlight of the program will be a selection of licensed sports apparel for men, women and children.

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Times **Local News**

## Santa Clara County cuts Head Start education program

By Brandon Pho  
San José Spotlight

**S**anta Clara County teachers and local leaders are warning of chaos after mass layoffs have decimated a critical pre-school program for families living in poverty, known as Head Start.

Head Start staff received pink slips around March 15 amid uncertainty as to whether the federal program under the Trump administration will reimburse the Santa Clara County Office of Education for the costs. The education office's top officials have publicly expressed confidence the grant funding will be renewed, but said they can't hire staff for the next school year without that guarantee.

Jennifer Gravem, a spokesperson for Interim Superintendent Charles Hinman's office, said the layoffs will not affect all Head Start workers, but didn't immediately have an answer as to how many workers have been put on ice. She said it's unclear when employees will be brought back if the Head Start grant gets awarded.

"It's very dependent on the federal government," Gravem told San José Spotlight. "We'll either receive immediate notification or in-time notification that the grant is reinstated, so people will be reinstated as we



The Santa Clara County Office of Education is laying off workers for a critical low-income pre-school program. File photo.

hear from the federal government."

Local education leaders and parents are in an uproar.

"The Head Start program gives children and families instruction on nutrition, how to self-advocate and puts them in touch with a lot of different resources — there's nothing else like it," Heather Burns, an early childhood special education teacher for the Sunnyvale School District and former Head Start employee, told San José Spotlight.

"You can't imagine the poverty (those families) face. Rents are so expensive. In the program, you will literally see entire families renting out one bedroom of an apartment."

Even if the program restarts, Burns said the uncertainty caused by layoffs could have consequences.

"(The) temporary layoff could cause them to leave the area, get new jobs," Burns said. "These are people who spent a lot of time in the area. They know very specific resources to the area, who to refer parents to for different concerns relating to poverty. It's a very important network that takes

time to develop."

Scores of Head Start teachers and staff pleaded for their jobs at the March 5 Santa Clara County Board of Education meeting. Elsa Gutierrez, an associate teacher at Head Start, said many workers have been with the program for 15 years.

"It's my calling — it's the calling of all my colleagues," Gutierrez said at the meeting. "We teach our children that they are important, valued and worth the world. Please don't have us turn our backs on them as you are thinking of doing the same to us."

It comes as the board on Wednesday will discuss applying for its five-year grant application to cover the program's costs through June 2026. The county's Head Start program also serves San Benito County and — if renewed — anticipates serving up to 1,207 children, 906 of whom are in preschool in addition to 201 infants and toddlers.

Dramatic federal spending cut proposals in Washington, D.C. coupled with a regional decline in school district enrollment is fueling one of the county's worst financial crises in recent history. Head Start cuts are just one of many, with other program cuts impacting migrant youth and students with multiple disabilities.

Susan Salop, a board member of the Sunnyvale Education Foundation who has a son in special education, said the Head Start cuts will leave the region's poorest families out to dry.

"Obviously this region is extremely expensive to live in — and this is a critical program for the people who need it most. I was

shocked, to say the least," Salop told San José Spotlight, adding that Head Start students with special needs normally don't get accepted by private daycares, nursery schools, or in-home providers.

The teachers union came out swinging against the layoffs earlier this month.

"It is unacceptable that the futures of our students and communities are disrupted again and again by unstable funding streams," Riju Krishna, president of the Association of County Educators, told San José Spotlight. "We need more consistent and robust funding so our communities can rely on that support and fund the education our students deserve. (We) will always advocate for what's best for all our students."

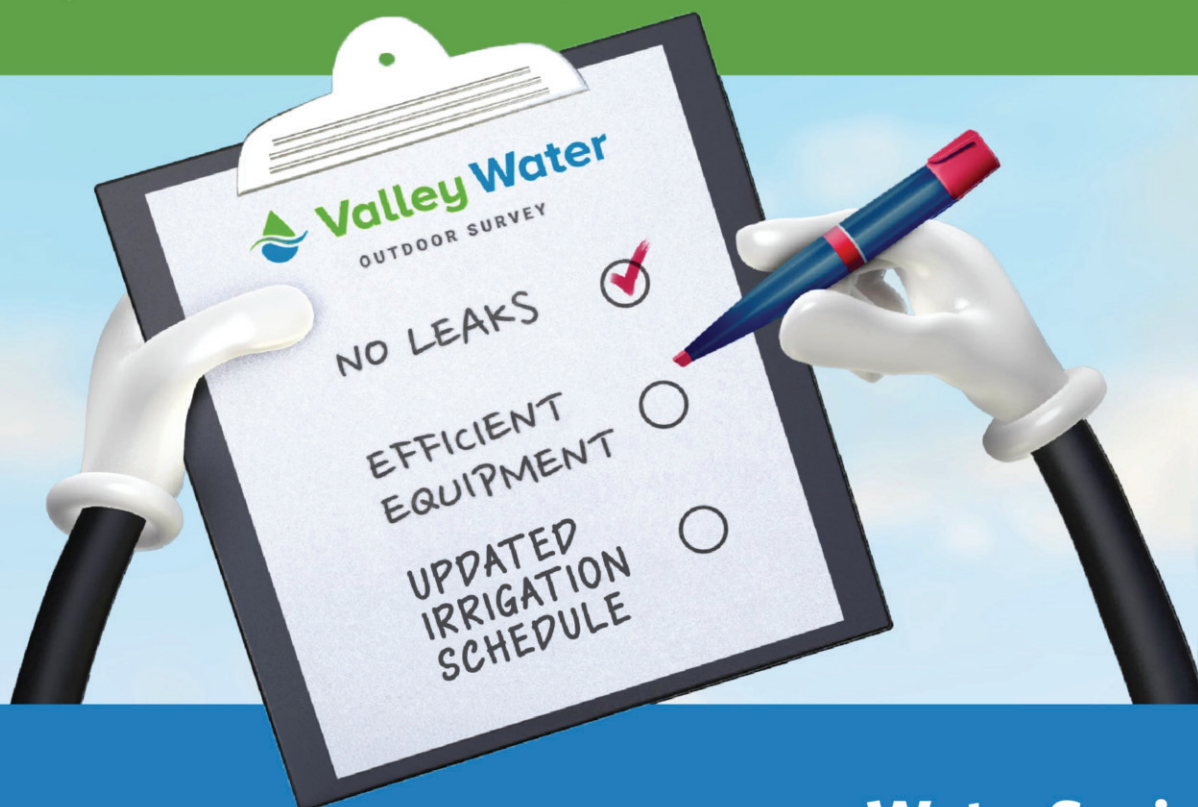
Krishna, at a March 5 board meeting, questioned why educators were first on the chopping block, despite controversy over the county education office's top-heavy administration.

A federal investigation last month also reported that more than \$135,370 earmarked for the Head Start program was misallocated to pay for non-Head Start staff and credit card purchases under former Superintendent Mary Ann Dewan. Hinman, Dewan's successor, argued the findings pointed to a pattern of mismanagement. Dewan at the time said the misspending was an error and that she corrected it immediately when brought to her attention.

Hinman, who was brought in to reshape district spending after the board fired

See *HEAD START*, page 6

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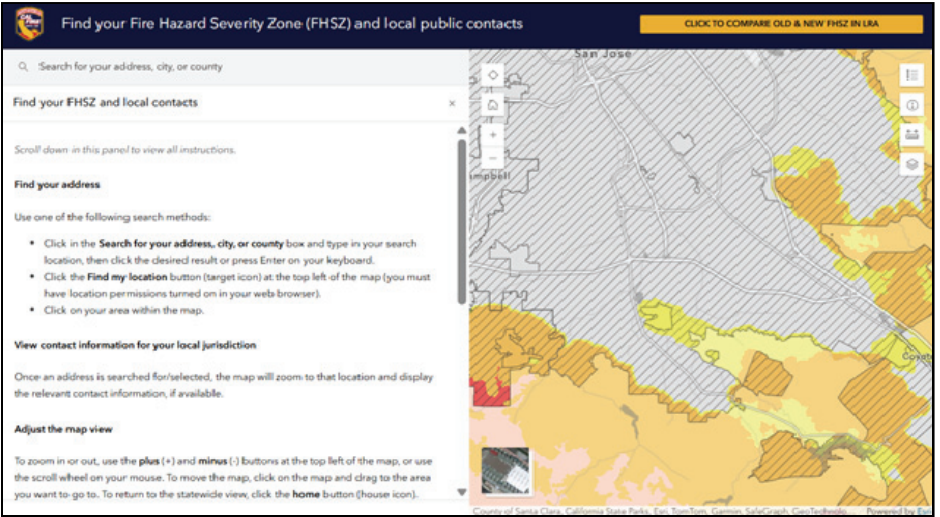
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Times **Local News**



**San Jose releases updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone map**

The City of San José has released an updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) map for its Local Response Area (LRA) following a statewide update by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE).

The City of San José is encouraging residents to review the map and submit comments during a 30-day public-review period.

You can submit comments now through April 25, 2025 by visiting the City of San Jose's Fire Hazard Severity Zones website: <https://shorturl.at/ZVeHH>

**BACKGROUND**

The State Fire Marshal has released updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps, designating areas within both the State Responsibility Area (SRA) and Local Responsibility Areas as Moderate, High, or Very High hazard severity zones. These updates are based on consistent, statewide criteria that assess the expected severity of fire hazards.

For more information, visit CAL FIRE's Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

**San Jose Mayor Mahan wants to clear homeless camps near freeways**

**By William Bellou**  
*Publisher*

San Jose has had some success in clearing homeless encampments along the city's waterways, and now, it wants to clear the unhoused living under freeways.

Mayor Matt Mahan wants to partner with Caltrans to accelerate sweeps near freeways through state legislation and a city pilot program.

Currently, Caltrans has jurisdiction for State freeways, highways and underpasses. So far, the agency's history of clearing people from freeway encampments has been slow to none.

Freeway onramps aren't campgrounds — living there is unsafe for everyone," Mahan said. "I'm supporting Senate Bill 569 which would give cities the ability to conduct



sweeps and do homeless outreach on Caltrans property."

If the measure is passed, the state would reimburse cities for sweeps.

**Head Start**

*Continued from page 5*

Dewan last October, assured the teachers' union on March 5 his office was scrutinizing executive staff.

"I can assure you we are top heavy and we are addressing that," Hinman said at the meeting. "There are some extremely high salaries. We're addressing that."

Hinman said this month's staff layoffs are making his fiscal right-sizing of the agency look "lopsided." But he said the office can't commit to tens of millions in contracts for programs like Head Start without certainty that the federal government will reimburse them.

"If we act and issue \$40 million in contracts and we're not issued that \$40 million by the federal government, we will go bankrupt," Hinman said. "I believe your jobs will come back — I really do. I believe we're going to get funded ... and when your jobs come back, which I believe they will, you'll see equity with management."

Board of Education President Maimona Afzal Berta said the fate of the county's most vulnerable preschool age children is in flux yet again over volatility in the federal government.

"The hope is that the Head Start layoff notices can be rescinded as soon as the (office of education) receives funding confirmation from the federal government," Berta told San José Spotlight.



# WATER WISE

## April showers – Scenery that empowers

By Matt Fraizer

As we embrace the arrival of the Spring Equinox, the landscape around us undergoes a remarkable transformation.

The daunting chill of winter melts away, giving way to a delightful warmth that signals the start of our cherished season for vibrant plantings.

This year, let's take a moment to celebrate the exquisite native flowers of Santa Clara County, embarking on a refreshing journey away from the commonplace twelve plants often promoted by landscape architects, who charge homeowners a significant amount for minimal effort. By shifting our focus to native flora, we not only enhance the beauty of our surroundings but also cultivate a deeper appreciation for the intricate and delicate ecosystems that support our environment.

### Collectors' Corner

During my time at Almaden Valley Nursery, we took pride in showcasing our Collectors' Corner, a true haven for California's extraordinary floral treasures. This magical corner welcomed visitors into a world where native plants thrive—each one telling a unique story of resilience and beauty. These captivating blooms are perfectly adapted to flourish in the clay-rich soils of Almaden Valley and its surrounding areas, transforming our gardens into sanctuaries that reflect the unique character of our local environment. Among these gems is the steadfast yarrow, a flower that seems to spring forth spontaneously

## Almaden resident Thomas Pelino earns Dean's List Honors at Emerson College

Thomas Pelino of Almaden Valley, who is majoring in Media Arts Production, earned Dean's List at Emerson College. Pelino will graduate in the 2027 class.



The requirement to make the Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester.

### About Emerson College

Emerson College is known for its dedication to the arts and communication, educating and inspiring storytellers and artists to impact and advance creative industries and media throughout the world.

throughout our valleys, gracing residences, country clubs, and golf courses alike with its charming presence. 'The yarrow we borrow'

The phrase "the yarrow we borrow" beautifully encapsulates our connection with this stunning perennial. Its vibrant, eye-catching blooms possess the power to transform any garden into a captivating masterpiece, infusing it with a burst of color and life that enchants all who encounter it. Beyond their undeniable beauty, these flowers play a vital role in our ecosystem,

drawing in migratory and native birds, enriching our natural surroundings, and supporting the health of local wildlife.

### Enhancing the biodiversity of your garden

The yarrow is not just a decorative element; it serves as a beacon of hope and renewal, welcoming pollinators and beneficial insects that are crucial for a thriving garden. With a magnificent array of colors to choose



from—ranging from sunny yellows to deep reds and purples—each variety of yarrow offers unique elements that enhance both the aesthetic and biodiversity of your garden.

With two decades of experience in landscape water management and fifteen years in garden centers, I've come to truly appreciate the exquisite majesty of yarrow—perhaps even more so than the beloved mal-low I wrote about in previous articles. The dazzling varieties of yarrow, such as the vibrant paprika, reveal stunning hues that celebrate the spir-

it of spring, making them ideally suited for our lush valley. I find myself drawn to their resilience, as they thrive in various conditions and require minimal maintenance once established. Even during periods of little rainfall, these hardy plants remain steadfast, serving as a poignant reminder of the beauty found in simplicity while also making a positive contribution to our ecosystem.

### Reveling in the beauty of California native flowers

To "borrow the yarrow" is to revel in the beauty of California's native flowers, sharing their splendor with colleagues, family, and friends throughout the year. Each bloom becomes a conversation starter, an opportunity to discuss sustainability, pollinator health, and the importance of preserving our natural heritage for future generations. By choosing to plant these native species, we contribute to a collective effort that supports regional biodiversity and helps mitigate the impacts of climate change, ultimately fostering a health-

ier environment for all. As we step into this bountiful season, let's lay a solid foundation for our native flower gardens, wholeheartedly embracing the ever-giving yarrow and the rich tapestry of nature that envelops us.

### Now is the perfect moment to plant

In celebrating the splendor of yarrow, we are also contributing to a broader movement of conservation and environmental stewardship. Now is the perfect moment to plant, admire, and cherish these flourishing gifts from our valley and beyond! As you turn your attention to your gardens this spring, consider the many innovative ways you can incorporate yarrow and other native species, transforming your outdoor spaces into vibrant ecosystems that are both beautiful and beneficial. Let us nurture these plants and, in doing so, enrich our lives and the world around us. Embrace the joys of gardening; the time for action is now.

Let's make this season a vibrant tribute to the natural beauty that thrives all around us!



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Times **Feature**

# San Jose wants to send homeless people back to their families

By Joyce Chu  
San José Spotlight

San Jose is launching a program to relocate and reunify homeless people with their families as the city strives to end unsheltered homelessness.

Homeward Bound, a pilot program proposed by Mayor Matt Mahan, will send outreach workers to make contact with homeless individuals and pay for transportation costs to bus them out of the city. City officials have committed \$200,000 from the

2024-25 general fund and will invest up to \$1,000 per individual to help reunite them with families in the county or outside the area.

"It's going to take many different strategies, many different tools, and we have to acknowledge that folks who are out there did not all become homeless for the same reason and may not all need the exact same thing to get off of our streets," Mahan said at a news conference Tuesday.

Mahan wants to achieve "functional zero" — when the number of people exiting homelessness is greater than those becoming homeless — through short-term, temporary solutions such as tiny homes, safe parking and sleeping sites and shelters. Reuniting individuals with their families is another option for getting thousands of homeless people off the streets.

Roughly 15% of Santa Clara County's homeless population lived outside of the county or state before they became homeless, according to a 2023 census. There are roughly 10,000 homeless people in the county, with 6,340 in San Jose. Of the city's total homeless population, roughly 5,500 are unsheltered.

Other cities such as San Francisco have a relocation program that buses homeless people out of the city. Last year, former Mayor London Breed mandated city agencies offer relocation before giving shelter or other services.

San Jose Housing Director Erik Soliván said the city will apply a similar approach, but with some key differences. Relocation is voluntary and will be given as an option alongside housing and supportive services. Outreach workers will make contact with family members before reuniting them.

"Part of the lessons learned from San Francisco was we need to do (family) verification upfront. They tried to do it on the back end," Soliván told San José Spotlight. "Beyond that ... we're not putting any expectations on our outreach workers that they're going to continue management post landing (of people) at their destinations."

Homeless advocates such as Robert Aguirre question if the program is realistic. He said some unhoused people may be estranged from their families, who may not be capable of car-



**Kama Fletcher**, director of development for Neighborhood Hands, said some of their homeless clients want to be reunited with family. A San Jose program proposed by **Mayor Matt Mahan** (right) could make that happen. Photo by Joyce Chu.

ing for them. He said the program shifts away from what he'd like to see more of: permanent supportive housing.

"It also is turning away from the real issue and the responsibility to house people," he previously told San José Spotlight.

Brenda Womack, who was formerly homeless and now lives with her daughter in Oregon, said reuniting with family members only works if you have a good relationship with them.

"That's the most important part," Womack told San José Spotlight. "I am with my family and I'd rather be with them."

Since it is a pilot program, Mahan said he doesn't yet know how much interest there will be in relocation.

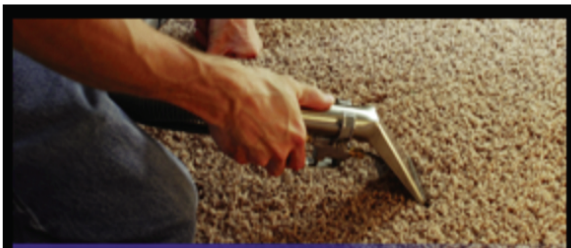
"Our goal is to offer them options," Mahan said. "But as you know, far too often, we can't offer someone housing or even shelter, because we just don't have it."

Kama Fletcher, director of development at nonprofit Neighborhood Hands, said this program is important to some of the homeless people they serve. A couple weeks ago, she spoke with a homeless person who slept outside during the heavy storms. He told Fletcher he needed to get to Novato where his partner's brother lives but couldn't afford the bus ticket.

"While the humanitarian crisis playing out on our streets is overwhelmingly due to a severe lack of affordable housing in San Jose — which is an issue we cannot ignore or downplay — it is also true that our unhoused neighbors face many barriers in their extremely unique journeys out of homelessness," Fletcher said.

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<https://www.sjpd.org/community/crime-prevention/security-camera-registration>



Times **Feature**

New Ballet presents 'Swan Lake', ballet's iconic love story

New Ballet, a popular institution that Silicon Valley, announces its production of Swan Lake will be performed May 17 and 18 at the Hammer Theatre Center.

“Swan Lake is a classical ballet that is a one-of-a-kind experience,” said New Ballet Founder/Director Dalia Rawson. “The production honors a timeless story, with physicality, intense emotions and beautiful music. I am thrilled to bring Swan Lake to the local community so audiences can experience the relevance of one of the most popular ballets of all time.”

Swan Lake is the most beloved of classical ballets. Featuring Tchai-kovsky’s iconic score performed live by the New Ballet Orchestra, a lake of glittering swans, a noble prince and a streamlined production with a running length of about two hours, this exciting production captures the magic of ballet’s most romantic love story.

Full length shows will be accompanied by a live orchestra, conducted by Thomas Shoebotham.

Select Premium Tickets in the Orchestra or Parterre section provide a unique experience including access to the Hammer Theatre Center’s exclusive lounge before the show and at intermission, with treats and beverages for all ages, as well as photo opportunities with dancers in costume.

**Performances**

Saturday, May 17: 2 p.m.

Saturday, May 17: 7 p.m. (LGBTQ+ show in partnership with PRIDE)

Sunday, May 18: 11 a.m. (My Very First Ballet)

Sunday, May 18: 2 p.m.

Note: My Very First Ballet: Swan Lake is a special shortened performance for families with toddlers and preschoolers. (Run time: one hour with no intermission).

\*New Ballet is also pleased to present a special LGBTQ+ performance in partnership with PRIDE on Friday, May



Brennan Wall with New Ballet dancers in Swan Lake. Photo credit: Bari Lee

17, 7pm.

Hammer Theatre Center is located at 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San Jose, CA 95113

TICKETS PRICES: \$25-\$111, Groups of 10 or more can receive a 10% discount by using code: SLGROUP To purchase tickets, visit: <https://newballet.com/spring>

**About New Ballet**

New Ballet is a 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation that was founded in 2016 by local dancer, choreographer, and ballet teacher Dalia Rawson. The Company is the Resident Ballet Company of the Hammer Theatre. Its performances are vibrant celebrations of dance and fun theatrical experiences for the whole family. Hailed by Metro Silicon Valley as “the leading ballet organization in the South Bay,” New Ballet celebrates the virtuosity of classical ballet and the cathartic power of the performing arts.

New Ballet’s programs are made possible in part by an operating grant from the City of San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs.

For more information about New Ballet visit: <https://newballet.com>.

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## IN MEMORY

# Charles Bruce Wilson

August 2, 1932 – March 18, 2025  
Almaden Valley

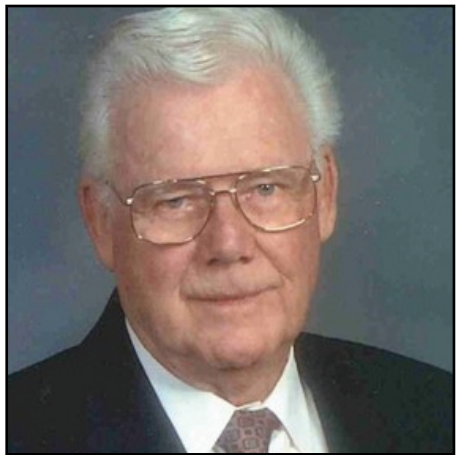
Charles Bruce Wilson passed away peacefully on March 18, 2025, at the age of 92. Charles will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

Charles was born on August 2, 1932 at Parks Victory Hospital to his parents Francis Brooks Wilson, Sr. and Dorothy Marion McKenzie Wilson Madigan. Siblings: Francis Brooks Wilson, Jr., Nancy Konkright Courtney, Mary Donohoe, Helen Smernes, all predeceased. Nieces and Nephews: Bruce Konkright, Carolyn Hancock (deceased), Patrick Konkright, Mary Ellen Moskowitz, Susan Blevins (deceased), Thomas Donohoe, Diane Williamson (deceased), Margaret Donohoe, Janice Magana (deceased), Jeanne Godwin, and Daniel (Nick) Smernes.

Bruce attended St. John's Catholic School, class of 1947. Napa Union High School, class of 1951. Chico State College, 1951-1953, 1956-1958. San Jose State University 1958-1962 with a BS degree in civil engineering in 1962, also MS degree in civil engineering in 1968.

Military Service: U.S. Army, July 1953-July 1955, Pfc Chemical Corps, served in Germany.

Career: Supervising Civil Engineer, Santa Clara Valley Water District 1962-1995, 32 years. A member of the American Society



of Civil Engineers. San Jose State University Alumni Association, Spartan Foundation, and a parishioner in the Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

President of Cobb Mountain Hunting Club for 30 years. Editor of ARDE-FACTS (Santa Clara Valley Water District retirement group newsletter), 10 years. Pioneer Award, Santa Clara Valley Water District.

Hobbies: 49er season ticket holder for 50 years, attended Super Bowl XVI in Detroit, and never missed a 49er home game in which Joe Montana started. He was a San Jose State Spartan football season ticket holder for 45 years.

Bruce enjoyed crossword puzzles, vegetable gardening, photography, memoir and essay writing, collector of movie DVDs, having morning coffee at Maple Leaf Donut Shop in Almaden Valley with his friends, and monthly lunch with professional colleagues from the Santa Clara Valley Water District.

A Funeral Mass was held on April 7. Memories and notes of sympathy may be shared at: [www.claffeyandrota.com](http://www.claffeyandrota.com).

## State of the City address to reflect and look ahead

By Matt Mahan

Each year, mayors across the nation deliver a "State of the City" address to reflect on recent efforts and look ahead to the future. This year, like last, our State of the City will be short on speeches and focused on service—and it wouldn't be the same without you there!

Please join us for State of the City on May 17th at Arena Green East Park (340 W St John St, San Jose). RSVP today!

We'll start bright and early at 10am to highlight a few community heroes and outline a vision for making San Jose the safe, clean and vibrant city we all deserve and can be proud of. We'll have a couple of exciting announcements and surprise guests during the hour-long program before we break out into service projects around the



**From the Mayor**  
**Matt Mahan**  
Mayor, San Jose



Guadalupe River Park area in Downtown. We'll paint, plant and pick up trash alongside our neighbors. There's nothing that brings people closer than a little hard work in pursuit of a better city for everyone – except maybe breaking bread together.

So after we complete our service projects, we'll reconvene to celebrate our impact with an afterparty picnic with music, free food trucks, and games and activities for everyone.

I hope you'll join us this year to celebrate our progress and chart a path forward together – it takes all of us!

Thank you for joining me in action.



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the Divine book that  
guides Muslims to

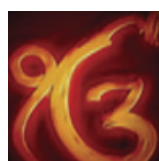
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