

San Jose Women's Club celebrates its 130th anniversary at historic downtown clubhouse  
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Bay Area Ridge Trail adds 14.1 scenic miles; Calero County Park addition completes 427 miles of 550-mile route  
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# Evergreen Times

MAY 30 - JUNE 12, 2025 ■ VOL. 42, NO. 12

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## Evergreen Blood Drive to be held June 14th

The Evergreen Blood Drive, sponsored by St. Francis of Assisi Parish, and the Stanford Blood Center will be held on Saturday, June 14th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints gym located at 4977 San Felipe Rd.

The event is open to the public for all eligible donors. Each donor will get a voucher, good for two Giants Baseball tickets. There are several game dates to choose from.

You may sign up in advance to minimize waiting times. Walk-ins are on a first-come, first-served basis.

To learn about eligibility and sign up, visit: [https://sbcdonor.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/13879](https://sbcdonor.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/13879)

## Philharmonic Orchestra to perform Beethoven's 5th Symphony at final season concert June 7

By William Bellou  
*Publisher*

The San Jose Youth Symphony's Philharmonic Orchestra presents its 2024-25 Season Finale Concert on Saturday, June 7th, 2 p.m. at the California Theatre, 345 S. 1st Street in downtown San Jose.

This premier orchestra, under the artistic leadership of Music Director and Conductor Yair Samet, is made up of the most advanced students in the San Jose Youth Symphony.

The Final Season Concert will open the concert with George Gershwin's Funny Face Overture, from his musical, Funny Face, which featured Fred Astaire on Broadway, dancing for the first time in top hat and tails.

Featuring orchestra violinists as soloists — Saarthak Shankavaram and An-Po Chen — the orchestra will perform Sarasate's virtuosic Navarra for Two Violins and Orchestra, a work inspired by Sarasate's birthplace in the Navarre region of Spain.

The concert closes with the most well-known and dramatic works, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, a great musical experience for the whole family!

Saarthak Shankavaram, Associate Concertmaster of the Philharmonic Orchestra, is a junior at Prospect High School and has been playing violin since the age of 9. He has served as



An-Po Chen, Concertmaster of the Philharmonic Orchestra, and (right) Saarthak Shankavaram, Associate Concertmaster of the Philharmonic Orchestra.



Concertmaster of String and Chamber Orchestras at his high school since his freshman year and has been a member of the San Jose Youth Symphony for the past four years. He has also won first prize in both the Chamber Orchestra's Concerto Competition in 2021 and the Philharmonic Orchestra's Young Artist Competition in 2022.

An-Po Chen, Concertmaster of the Philharmonic Orchestra, has been with the San Jose Youth Symphony since 2022. Now a senior at Archbishop Mitty High School, An-Po is currently studying violin, conducting and chamber music at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music's Pre-College Academy. An avid chamber musician, his octet, which he led as 1st violinist, was named Ensemble Winner at Indiana University's 2024 Final Gala Concert. He also performed as a soloist

with the Philharmonic Orchestra as a winner of that orchestra's Young Artist Competition in 2022.

The San Jose Youth Symphony (SJYS) is one of the oldest and finest youth orchestras on the West Coast of the U.S. Founded over seven decades ago as part of the former San Jose Symphony, SJYS has a rich tradition of musical performance and education.

The musicians of SJYS, all school-age youth, are chosen from more than 650 applicants through our annual auditions. The SJYS comprises 13 distinct performing ensembles: two full orchestras, a chamber orchestra, two flute choirs, two string ensembles, as well as winds, brass, harp, saxophone, percussion, and jazz ensembles.

To order tickets, visit the SJYS website: <https://sjys.org/sjys-store>

## East Side Union High School District switches how trustees are elected

By Lorraine Gabbert  
*San José Spotlight*

San Jose school district is changing how its board members are elected and wants the public's help.

The East Side Union High School District has started redistricting its trustee voting areas as it switches from at-large elections. The district received a legal claim earlier

this year saying existing trustee areas violate the California Voting Rights Act by denying marginalized residents equal representation.

To better understand its distinct neighborhoods, the board of trustees will host meetings to gather community input on draft maps. Trustees will vote on a final map in August ahead of upcoming elections for three board seats in November. Changing the trustee areas won't affect school boundaries or services.

Superintendent Glenn Vander Zee said although the current

See TRUSTEES, page 3



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Dignity Memorial Day and the Memorial Day Committee commemorated fallen heroes at Oak Hill Memorial Park in San Jose on May 26.

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Times **Local News****Trustees***Continued from page 1*

board makeup reflects district demographics, redistricting will ensure this continues historically. He added it's essential to ensure the process is transparent and engages residents.

"It is a time for our public ... to define areas of representation that

maintain community voices to the highest level in choosing board trustees in the future," Vander Zee told San José Spotlight. "We encourage people to come to the meetings so they can understand what this process is and make sure they and their community voices are heard."

The next meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. on June 26 at Andrew P. Hill High School and July 15 at William C. Overfelt High School. The meetings will be available online.

Trustees approved changing the election system in April. Once the board approves the final map, it will go before the County Committee on School District Organization under the Santa Clara County Office of Education for final approval. Additional information and a questionnaire about communities of interest — people who share common social and economic interests — is available on the district's website.

The district has hired consulting firm Redistricting Partners—



East Side Union High School District Superintendent Glenn Vander Zee (left) wants community voices to inform the upcoming redistricting process as the district moves away from at-large elections. *Photo by Lorraine Gabbert.*

which strives to ensure the process is fair and protects communities — to handle the election system switch. During the first special board meeting on May 12 at William C. Overfelt High School, Redistricting Partners demographer Liz Stitt said U.S. Census data will be used in creating the maps.

"The most important aspect of redistricting is making sure the public is participating and en-

gaged," Stitt said at the meeting.

Chuck Cantrell, a local economist and vice chair of the San Jose Planning Commission, asked how the board will ensure marginalized communities are contacted and reflected in the mapping process.

"There is a significantly marginalized community ... that represents maybe 2% of the student population here. It's still important," Cantrell said at the meeting.

"I understand your district reflects your community ... but there's a specific group in the community that is not represented. I would implore you to do a much more active engagement processing that includes going to Black churches. I want to know there is a process to engage the most marginalized communities."

Vander Zee said he will follow up to ensure communities are able to express their voices and provide input.

Jack Hammer, president of East Side Teachers Association, expressed concern with board members influencing new district boundaries. Stitt said where trustees live isn't a consideration in drawing the maps but can be in the board choosing the final map. She said she prefers to use maps submitted by the community.

"We want this to be focused on communities and not incumbents," Stitt said.

**Summer events come to D8****By Domingo Candelas**

Summer is right around the corner, and with it — new opportunities to enjoy family-friendly fun in District 8!

First up, Music in the Square is back! This free summer concert series will feature a local band every Friday from June 6-August 29. Join us at the Evergreen Village Square from 6pm-8pm. Kicking us off is crowd-favorite Eastside Funk, you won't want to miss it!

If you can't make it to Evergreen Village Square, don't worry. District 8 will have 10 Viva Parks activations this summer!

These free events offer something for everyone, from movie nights under the stars to health and wellness resources, fun physical activities, and creative sessions like Paint the CitySJ. It's the perfect way to reconnect with nature and your community all summer long.

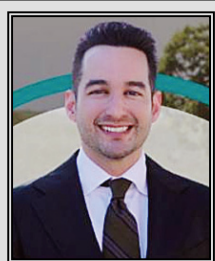
Additionally, Viva Calle is coming to our district on Sunday, June 8th! Ride your bike all the way from Lake Cunningham to the Berryessa Library! Come out to support local vendors, enjoy free activities, and build community with your neighbors.

Do you prefer a more relaxed pace? The San Jose Public Library invites readers of all ages to have fun this summer by reading, learning, and growing their knowledge in our annual Summer Learning program.

Last but not least, be sure to save the date for our upcoming Fourth of July Fireworks Show at Lake Cunningham! Follow our Instagram to receive the latest details as we get closer to the event.

Wishing you a safe and fun-filled summer ahead!

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**Council Report**  
Domingo Candelas,  
District 8 Councilmember

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Times News



## Women's Club celebrates its 130th anniversary

By William Bellou  
*Publisher*

The San Jose Woman's Club celebrated its 130th anniversary at its historic downtown clubhouse on May 22.

The club was born in December 1894 when nine women — described as “public spirited” in a 1929 newspaper article — gathered at the downtown studio of Fannie Estabrook.

Two of the big topics of discus-

sion in 1894 were women's suffrage and Prohibition. And there were definitely points of disagreement, according to historians.

The club and its members helped found the San Jose Day Nursery and were early supporters of the Sempervirens Club to save the redwoods in Big Basin.

Over the years, the club championed education and advancing women's rights. In 1939-40, the club sponsored the San Jose Junior Woman's Club for women under 40, and one of its first members was Betty Ann Chandler. At 107, the club's oldest and longest-serving member and still makes occasional appearances at events.

Today the club has 167 members — and that number has been trending upward since the COVID-19 pandemic, as the club continues to

host events for its members and rent out its Landmark Ballroom to other organizations.

## Google joins state in media assistance

Partnership will help industry, but some say funds fall short of goal

By William Bellou  
*Publisher*

Details regarding a hard-fought partnership between California and Google providing financial assistance toward the state's news media, an industry that shrunk dramatically in the digital age were revealed last week.

The creation of the California Civic Media Fund, a partnership between news media, Google and philanthropists, would dole out a mix of public and private funds to media outlets.

Critics, including a former state senator, say the agreement falls short of earlier proposals that would have forced Google and other tech giants to pay newspaper publishers for using their con-




tent or harvesting data.


Google's parent company Alphabet has agreed to contribute at least \$10 million for the project's first year and has also agreed to pitch in “additional matching dollars if more public, private or philanthropic money is raised,” Wicks' office said in a news release.

Alphabet says it will continue funding other programs, including the Google News Initiative. Last year, the company threatened to axe the program as lawmakers attempted to regulate the company.

The agreement is on pace to fall short of Google's pledge in August to contribute nearly \$173 million to the fund over five years, along with the AI accelerator. However, the company could contribute more in future years.

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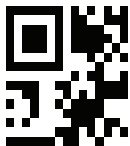
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Times **Feature**

# Report: 2024's States with the Best & Worst Early Education Systems

With early education shown to boost future earning potential but few states offering free preschool programs, the personal-finance website WalletHub just released its report on 2024's States with the Best & Worst Early Education Systems, as well as expert commentary. In order to determine the best early education systems in America, WalletHub com-



pared the 50 states and the District of Columbia across 12 key metrics. The data set ranges from the share of school districts that offer a state pre-K program to the number of pre-K quality benchmarks met and total reported spending per child enrolled in pre-K.

Quality of Early Education in California (1=Best; 25=Avg.):

- Overall Rank: 29th
- 18th – Share of 3- and 4-year-olds Enrolled in pre-K, pre-K Special Education and Head Start
- 1st – Income Requirement for State Pre-K Eligibility
- 1st – Total Reported Spending per Child Enrolled in Preschool
- 14th – Total State Head Start Program Spending per Child Enrolled in Preschool
- 1st – Monthly Child Care Co-Payment Fees as a Percent of Family Income

Note: With the exception of “Total Score,” all of the columns in the table above depict the relative rank of that state, where a rank of 1 represents the best conditions for that metric category.

For the full report, please visit: <https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-the-best-and-worst-early-education-systems/62668>

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Times **Local News**



**Bay Area Ridge Trail adds 14.1 scenic miles**

*Calero County Park addition completes 427 miles of 550-mile route*  
**By William Bellou**  
*Publisher*

It has been nearly 40 years that visionaries worked together to build a continuous 550-mile trail around the Bay Area’s ridgelines. To the delight of hikers, bicyclists and horseback riders that like to get away from the hustle and bustle of city strife, the Bay

Area Ridge Trail is a sanctuary for people who like to get away from their computer screens and enjoy taking a hike or bike ride. The iconic trail which takes in stunning views of the Golden Gate Bridge from the Marin Headlands, San Mateo County forests above Crystal Springs Reservoir, and Mt. Hamilton total about 427 miles — about three-quarters done. The new 14.1 miles is now open to the public for hiking, bicycling, and horseback riding. It runs from the Rancho San Vicente trailhead of Calero County Park in South San Jose to the Rancho Cañada del Oro Open Space Preserve in the meadows and rolling foothills between Los Gatos and Morgan Hill. A public dedication is planned for 10 a.m. on May 31 at the Rancho San Vicente trailhead.

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- Keep batteries charged in your cameras.
- Consider lighting around your cameras.

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## Report: Unwind in 2024’s ‘Most Relaxed U.S. Cities’

In a world full of stress, which U.S. cities offer the ideal environment for some R&R?  
To mark National Relaxation Day on Aug. 15, LawnStarter ranked 2024’s “Most Relaxed Cities.”  
We compared the 500 biggest U.S. cities based on 8 categories. More specifically, we factored in housing affordability, the average length of a workday, depression

rates, and access to mental health providers, among 43 total stress-related metrics.  
Here are the top 10 (chill) cities in the ranking below.

Rank	City/State	Score
1	Newton, MA	67.64
2	Sunnyvale, CA	67.18
3	Santa Clara, CA	65.31
4	Milpitas, CA	65.10
5	Naperville, IL	64.89
6	Cambridge, MA	64.45
7	San Ramon, CA	64.33
8	Carmel, IN	64.16
9	Redwood City	63.99
10	San Mateo, CA	63.95



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Times **Local News****Want to watch the local high school game? Be aware of sports streaming scams**

You used to have to go to the stadium to root for your local high school athletic team or your favorite college or professional sports team. However, online streams now make it possible for people to watch games from the comfort of their living rooms.

Unfortunately, the scammers have followed. By sharing fake streaming links on social media, scammers aim to capture personal information, including credit card and Social Security numbers, as fans get tricked into logging in to watch their team play.

How this scam works

You want to watch the local high school's football game, or your niece's college softball team is playing in a tournament out of state. You search online to find a link where the game might be streamed, and sure enough, a fan has shared a link on social media where you can watch for free! It's almost time for the game to start, so you eagerly click the link. The next screen asks you to sign up for the streaming service, so you enter your name and email... and then you get asked for a credit card number and potentially more sensitive information. Are you seeing red flags yet?

These scammers infiltrate social media with links to fake streams. The posts often will tag the high schools, colleges, or professional teams involved to make the post appear legitimate. The scammers hope the would-be viewer inputs their information and pays to watch the event. The consumer doesn't get to watch the game because the scammer has not set up a stream.

Instead, whatever data they entered may be compromised.

As a new school year begins, BBB reminds consumers to do their research when looking to watch a high school, college, or professional sporting event online.

"Fans need to remain diligent in where and how they find the stream of a high school contest," Matt Troha, an Assistant Executive Director with the Illinois High School Association, told BBB. Troha said fake streaming links posted to social media lure unsuspecting fans.

"On [X] especially, take notice of account names and photos, which often seem random, and look at their follower and following numbers," Troha said. "Low follower counts indicate the account likely was just started. Look at the content of their posts as most are nothing but tweets to stream games."

Last year, state associations that oversee high school athletics in New Mexico, Indiana, and North Carolina issued warnings about the fake streams.

"If you want to watch a specific school's game online, check with the school to see if it has streaming options available," said Michelle L. Corey, president and CEO of the BBB office in St. Louis. "While many schools do offer live streaming now, there are others who do not."

BBB Scam Tracker has received reports of fake sports streaming links. One consumer shared, "The link was posted under a high school football post claiming we could watch the high school football games for free. Then it asked for credit card information in order to charge \$1. After putting in credit card information, I was not able to watch any football games...my trial was for 24 hours and if I didn't cancel, it would charge my credit card \$60 per month."

# BLOOD DRIVE

## Evergreen Community Blood Drive

Saturday, June 14

8:00am–2:00pm

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The Rev. Shelley Booth Denney, Rector  
Phone: 408-268-0243  
Web: [www.ecca-sj.org](http://www.ecca-sj.org)  
At the Episcopal Church in Almaden (ECA), we are joyful followers of Jesus Christ. Through worship, study, fellow-

ship and outreach, we strive to nurture and grow a strong faith community of believers, a family of all ages, where each member feels welcomed, loved, valued and empowered to serve. Children are especially welcomed and cherished as an important part of God's family.



### EVERGREEN ISLAMIC CENTER (EIC)

<http://www.eicsan-jose.org>  
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(408) 239-6668  
"As-Salaamu-Alaikum" the English meaning is "Peace be upon you".  
Q) What is Islam, who are Muslims, and what is the Quran?  
A) Islam is a faith and way of life. Islam began in the 7th century. People who follow Islam are known as Muslims. The Quran is the Divine book that guides Muslims to

practice Islam. "Hufazik Allah Waeayi-latak" the English meaning is "May Allah (swt) protect you and your family". Please visit our website to learn more.

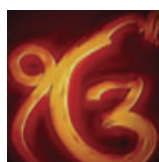


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2650 Aborn Rd at Kettmann, across from the Public Library. Serving Evergreen for over 55 years.  
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promise to our members. If you are looking for an active Christian faith community, we invite you to experience Holy Spirit Parish Community. All are welcome! We are located at 1200 Redmond Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120. Mass is celebrated at 8:30 a.m. Monday - Friday. Our weekend Mass schedule is Saturday 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Rite of Reconciliation is every Saturday at 4 p.m. or by appointment. Our Parish Office is open Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call 408-997-5100 for recorded information or 408-997-5101 to speak with someone in our parish office.



*God is One*  
**ੴ ਸਿਕ ਹੈ**  
**Rab Ik Hai**

**SAN JOSE  
GURDWARA**  
3636 Gurdwara Ave.  
San Jose, CA 95148

The word Sikh (see-kh) means "disciple" or "student." A Sikh is a practitioner of the faith founded in the 15th century by Guru Nanak in Punjab of old British India. A Guru who is a "teacher" or "enlightener" completes the relationship of teaching and learning. Sikhism is monotheistic and stresses the equality of all men and women. Sikhs believe in three basic principles; meditating on the name of God (praying), earning a living by honest means and sharing the fruits of one's labor with others. Currently there are close to one million Sikhs living in the USA and Canada and 25 million Sikhs living around the world. Sikhism is the 5th largest religion in the world. At the Gurdwara (House of God) in San Jose we welcome all. We pray daily for peace and prosperity for everybody in the world. Come to visit and enjoy Langer (food) in our kitchen which is open 365 days of the year and serves complementary vegetarian meals. We also encourage you to enter our history room

on site and walk the beautiful grounds. Learn more about us and community events we sponsor by visiting our website; <http://www.SanJose-Gurdwara.org>

### ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

5111 San Felipe Rd., San Jose, CA 95135  
408-223-1770  
[www.sfoasj.com](http://www.sfoasj.com)  
We invite you to join our community of faith located in the Evergreen area of San Jose. We are an inclusive diverse community striving to serve as Disciples of Jesus Christ in the footsteps of St. Francis, offering prayerful and joyful liturgies, evangelization, fellowship, and service opportunities to the community. We offer spiritual opportunities for all ages, including children's liturgy, dynamic E.C.H.O Jr. High, I.G.N.I.T.E. High School, & North Star Young Adult Ministries, along with small faith communities and opportunities to help the poor and marginalized of San Jose. Our Chapel, Gathering

Hall, Parish Office, Mission Center, Parish Gift Shop, and Memorial Garden are all located at 5111 San Felipe Rd. Please come join us in worship at any of the following times in our Chapel: Weekdays (M-Sa) at 8:30 AM; Saturdays at 4:00 PM (English) and 5:30 PM (Vietnamese); Sundays at 8:00 AM (English), 10:00 AM (English), 12:00 PM (English), 4:00 PM (Vietnamese), and 6:00 PM Youth Mass (English). The Villages Gated Community also features a Mass on Sundays at 8:15 AM at the Cribari Auditorium. For more information, please call or visit us at the Parish Office open M-F 9:00 AM -12:00 PM; 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Come join us and

share your presence with us so that together we may grow and share our gifts to help build God's Kingdom!



**thepoint.church**

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Spanish Service:  
11:00 AM  
Cambodian Service:  
11:00 AM  
Cantonese Service:  
11:00 AM  
Mandarin Service:  
11:00AM  
Youth Extreme Point (7th-12th grade):  
Every Saturday at 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM



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