

EV technology improving among Tesla competitors, car experts say  
**SEE PAGE 7**



Santa Clara County puts sales tax measure on November ballot  
**SEE PAGE 6**



# Almaden Times

AUGUST 15-28, 2025 ■ VOL. 38, NO. 17

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Silicon Valley Congressman Sam Liccardo introduced a bill to create a new federal financing pathway for accessory dwelling units, or ADUs. Photo courtesy of ADU4Life Inc.

## Liccardo bill would create pathway to financing ADUs

By Joshua Picazo  
*Palo Alto Weekly  
San José Spotlight*

**R**ep. Sam Liccardo introduced a bill last week that would create a new federal financing pathway for accessory dwelling units, or ADUs, to address the nation's housing shortage.

The bill, H.R. 4479, also known as the SUPPLY Act, has 16 co-sponsors and was recently introduced on the House floor.

ADUs — sometimes referred to as backyard homes or granny units — are smaller units located

*See ADUs, page 7*



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## Is San Jose's mayor hitting the mark on his promises?

By Brandon Pho  
*San José Spotlight*

**S**an Jose Mayor Matt Mahan has set himself on a launchpad for higher office, from TV interviews in other cities to big policy promises that have chafed the left.

But the mayor's political future will rely on the state he leaves San Jose in — and whether he's fulfilled his promises to bring people indoors, clean up city streets and breath new economic life into California's third largest city.

Mahan, who declined to comment, has made



San Jose Mayor **Matt Mahan** (right) speaks with a homeless person in downtown for the point-in-time count on Jan. 22, 2025. Photo by Joyce Chu.



San Jose Mayor **Matt Mahan** at a City Council meeting on earlier this year. File photo.

national headlines by pushing to tie city leaders' pay raises to their performance, arrest homeless people who refuse shelter and prioritize public dollars for temporary shelter over permanent affordable housing.

San Jose isn't a strong mayor city where the mayor holds more power than the City Council, and it's difficult to credit the city's progress — or blame its problems — on just one of the council's 11 members. At the same time, Mahan has elevated his regional profile by going against Gov. Gavin Newsom and projecting a CEO-like approach to leading the city, even if his ideas

hinge on colleagues' support.

So how is San Jose doing after more than two years under Mahan's watch?

### Housing and homelessness

Mahan's mayoral campaign focused on "common sense" approaches to eliminating the city's most glaring crisis: homelessness.

His approach favoring temporary homeless shelter over permanent housing is bringing more people indoors, despite the city's unhoused population increasing since he took office.

There are 6,503 homeless residents in San Jose

*See MAYOR, page 4*

## Cars in the Park

### The largest annual antique & classic auto show in the West

"A Living History Day" at History San Jose Saturday September 13

**T**he largest annual antique and classic auto show in the West will take place Saturday, September 13 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The 25th annual Cars in the Park presented by the Santa Clara Valley Model T Ford Club and History San José will take place on Saturday, September 13, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event fills History Park (Kelley Park, 693 Phelan Ave, San José, CA) with 200 period-correct through 1949 vehicles, fire equipment, bicycles, and motorcycles of all makes.

**Requirements for entering an**

### antique or classic vehicle

There is no registration nor fee required to enter a vehicle. Just bring your antique vehicle to the gate at History Park. All vehicles permitted on the grounds of History Park, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. existed between the late 1800s through 1949 and are period-correct. No vehicle that doesn't meet these requirements will be allowed on the grounds of History Park during the show.

The featured vehicles this year are Race Cars and Speedsters through 1931.

Also located on the grounds will be the Early Day Gas Engine and Tractor Association. There will be antique crafts demonstrated and antique collectibles displayed. The Silicon Gulch Dixieland Band will provide music. Listen to The Tonic Trio Singers singing songs from the '20s and '30s. See toy trains operated, take a trolley ride and see black-

*See CARS, page 6*



The largest annual antique & classic auto show in the West will be featured at "A Living History Day" at History San Jose, Saturday, September 13, 2025.

**SEE OUR LISTINGS OF LOCAL REALTORS, CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING AND HOME IMPROVEMENT ADVERTISEMENTS INSIDE THE BACK COVER**



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Photo by Valcohen Photography

# WWII Living History Day & Swing Dance

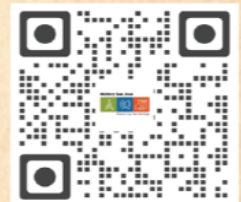
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**2pm-10pm!**

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Swing Dance

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Event Parking: \$10



**spiritof45bayarea**

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Meet and Greet

Spirit of '45 is a program of the Digital Clubhouse Network, a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization



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Mayor

*Continued from page 1*  
according to this year’s point-in-  
time count — up by 237 people  
from 2023. About 2,544 people  
have shelter, compared to 1,929 in  
2023.

San Jose reached a shelter uti-  
lization rate of 92% this year  
between January and March, just  
under the 95% target rate, accord-  
ing to the city’s homelessness dash-  
board.

The city is on track to meet  
Mahan’s goal of opening 1,400 new  
shelter beds before the end of the  
year — if you count approximatel-  
y 101 parking spaces for house-  
holds living in RVs. Just more than  
1,300 of those beds account for  
emergency interim housing and  
converted motels, according to  
Sarah Fields, spokesperson for the  
housing department.

Are San Jose voters rejecting  
mayor’s agenda?

Mahan has used this progress to  
justify efforts to crack down on  
homeless people living along pub-  
lic right-of-ways. He’s long argued  
“compassion without accountabil-  
ity” threatens to push homeles-  
sness efforts backward. His proposal  
to arrest homeless people who  
refuse shelter multiple times won



San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan during a City Council meeting. The city has no strong mayor policy, meaning all 11 votes on the council have equal weight. File photo.

council approval in June.

Mahan has also achieved his  
yearslong plan to reallocate the  
city’s largest source of funding for  
permanent affordable housing con-  
struction — set aside under the  
voter-approved Measure E —  
toward temporary shelters instead.

Councilmembers agreed to divert  
90% of Measure E funds toward  
temporary shelter last month.

The mayor’s methods have been  
criticized as criminalizing home-  
lessness and overlooking issues  
like wealth inequality.

“(Mahan’s) very much about  
optics versus results,” Todd Lang-  
ton, executive director of Agape Sil-  
icon Valley, told San José Spotlight.  
“Temporary solutions aren’t effec-  
tive for people if there isn’t enough

permanent affordable housing  
waiting for them. The cost of living  
is going up. Meanwhile he’s  
increased (encampment sweeps).  
That’s exacerbating the problem  
because people’s possessions get  
destroyed.”

In contrast, people who agree  
with the mayor’s approach say  
things appear to be on the right  
track. Among them is Monterey  
Corridor Business Association Pres-  
ident Shyam “Sean” Panchal.

Panchal lauded Mahan for pilot-  
ing a program cracking down on  
RV parking in his corridor that’s  
home to about 1,500 commercial  
and heavy industrial businesses.

“I think Mayor Mahan has done  
a fine job,” Panchal told San José  
Spotlight. The (RV program) has

been a good — maybe fantastic —  
start in that it’s created a bright  
glimmer of hope that we can return  
these streets back to their intend-  
ed use for business purposes.”

Public safety and government  
accountability

Mahan campaigned on making  
government more accountable to  
residents. But he’s been unsuc-  
cessful at achieving one of his more  
attention-grabbing proposals —  
tying pay raises to performance for  
councilmembers and department  
leaders. Mahan’s colleagues shot  
down the idea during June’s budg-  
et session.

One proposal Mahan has fulfilled  
is the creation of a city data dash-  
board. The dashboard scores San  
Jose’s progress on issues that  
include clean streets and public  
safety.

According to the dashboard, 65%  
of residents who responded to sur-  
veys in the third quarter of fiscal  
year 2024-25 saw San Jose as a  
“very safe” or “somewhat safe” city  
compared to 63% of residents in  
the third quarter of fiscal year 2023-  
24. Positive responses to a similar  
street cleanliness perception sur-  
vey have also trended upward since  
2023. Meanwhile, the dashboard  
shows code enforcement blight  
caseloads have trended downward.

See MAYOR, page 6

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**Senior Safari is back this summer.**

Visitors ages 50 and up are invited to visit San Jose's iconic Happy Hollow Park & Zoo for free on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month from May to October. The next date is Thursday, August 28th. Get some fresh air and exercise as you enjoy free admission, free parking, early entry to the park, the zoo, animal meet and greets and much more. To get in free, you must arrive between 9 and 10 am.

**Casino Trip, Graton Casino, Sep 16, 2025:**

Come Join the Almaden Senior Association at **GRATON CASINO**

Travel by charter bus from the Almaden Community Center to Graton Casino for a day of gaming, food and fun. See the information below. Flyers with more information available at the Almaden Community Center or on <https://almadenseniors.org/activities/>.

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Depart Community Center: 8am

Return to Community Center: 6:30pm (estimated)

Price: \$50 per person. Cash or Check. As a bonus, you get \$20 in Slot play or \$15 Match play

Sign up MWF from 8 to 10am in the Almaden Community Center Lobby

For information call Rich at 408-219-8641 or Donna at 408-266-4938

**Almaden Senior Association**  
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## Times Local News

### Mayor

*Continued from page 4*

But customer satisfaction scores for graffiti removal, illegal dumping, junk pickup and abandoned vehicles decreased between the 2023-24 and 2024-25 fiscal years, according to the dashboard.

#### Economic development

Economic development is a critical issue for Mahan as a pro-business leader in a city often seen as divided between labor and business interests. Eliminating vacant storefronts and supporting new business openings and downtown activity are key to growing San Jose's tax base amid a structural budget deficit.

The number of residents who rate downtown San Jose as a vibrant place has hovered between 43% and 49% over the last two years — several percentage points below the city's target of 55%, according to the city dashboard.

That vibrancy will see its most critical test when nearby Santa Clara — which lacks its own downtown options for visitors — hosts the FIFA World Cup and Super Bowl in 2026. Economists found San Francisco came out on top with economic benefits during the 2016 Super Bowl, even though the event took place at Levi's Stadium in the South Bay. Mahan and other local leaders have vowed to change that this time around — and regional economic reports show San Jose rebounding in downtown foot traffic at a higher level than San

Francisco since the pandemic lockdowns.

Bob Staedler, a principal at San Jose-based land use and development consulting firm Silicon Valley Synergy, questions whether San Jose can compete with San Francisco for major fanfare events surrounding the games when the mayor of San Francisco is on the Bay Area Host Committee.

He also said permitting times are still lagging for small businesses due to large caseloads and spread-thin city workers. Applications can take as many as 13 weeks for city planning staff to review, according to city project review schedules.

"When you delay permits for an interminable amount of time, it really hurts the chances for success of that small businessperson," Staedler told San José Spotlight. "Timely permit approvals are the linchpin of a healthy economy."

Yet Staedler — a frequent and vocal Mahan critic — also recognizes his wins.

City officials recently announced a historic power delivery agreement with PG&E that sets the stage for infrastructure upgrades to host more data centers and two new high-voltage transmission lines to power an estimated 1.5 million homes.

"The PG&E memorandum is a big success for him — it's something he's been talking about before," Staedler said. "It's a huge milestone for the city in terms of growing in ways that are most profitable for the tax base."

**Zaileen Janmohamed**, president and CEO of the Bay Area Host Committee, holds a ceremonial football next to San Jose Mayor **Matt Mahan** and **Jed York**, CEO of the San Francisco 49ers, during a Super Bowl host cities hand-off event in New Orleans on Feb. 10, 2025. Photo courtesy of the Bay Area Host Committee.



### Cars

*Continued from page 1*  
smith demonstrations. Take a photo with an antique auto at the Associated Oil Company Service Station. Activities are provided for kids. Food will be available from food trucks. Ice cream is available at O'Brien's Ice Cream Parlor.

Dennis Mattish, author of six books on the history of auto racing in Northern and Central California will be on hand to give a presentation in the theater on racing in the Bay Area.

Mike Hennessy, owner of Hennessy Automotive and host of The Car Guy Channel



will be the announcer for the popular Model T Put-together event.

Please note there is NO alcohol and NO BBQs allowed inside the Park. Dogs on leashes are allowed. These are Park rules and must be followed.

#### Event activity schedule

12:00 Music by the Silicon Gulch Dixieland Band

1:00 Presentation: Bay Area Auto Racing

2:00 The Tonic Trio Singers

2:30 Model T Put-Together

3:30 Drawing for Door Prizes

#### Fees:

Adults: \$ 10, Seniors: \$ 8, Children (6 to 12) & HSJ members: \$5. Participants & Children under 6: Free. Adjacent City Parking: \$10.

## Santa Clara County puts sales tax measure on November ballot

By Brandon Pho  
*San José Spotlight*

**S**anta Clara County voters will be asked to approve a five-eighths cent sales tax increase to protect the public hospital system from shattering under federal spending cuts.

The Board of Supervisors on Thursday voted unanimously to add the proposed tax to the Nov. 4 special election ballot, which will also ask voters to decide on a replacement for former county Assessor Larry Stone. The decision comes just one day before the deadline to submit ballot measures to county election officials. County leaders said they will explore creating an oversight committee to hold spending of the tax dollars to account.

"Whether it's on a monthly basis or quarterly — it would be great to hear (updates) on a continuous basis so we can make sure we continue to build confidence in our community," District 1 Supervisor Sylvia Arenas said.

The draft proposal shows the tax would end April 1, 2031. County leaders estimate it will bring in roughly \$330 million annually. But it won't be enough to cover \$1.4 billion in losses in Northern California's largest public hospital system by 2030. The county is preparing for sweeping cuts to federal social safety net programs after the passage of President Donald Trump's "big beautiful bill."

County Executive James Williams said it wasn't easy to make this ask of voters.

"The magnitude here is extraordinary and it's going to call upon this county organization to do extraor-



The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors held a special meeting Aug. 7 to determine if they will place a sales tax measure on the Nov. 4 ballot. Photo by Brandon Pho.

dinary things, which we've done before in the past but cannot do alone," Williams said at the meeting.

Williams vowed the onus won't fall solely on taxpayers. He said further county spending cuts will need to happen to ensure the organization is doing its part to preserve its most critical services needed in the community.

"There is no way around that reality," Williams said.

The county is proposing a general sales tax, which requires a simple majority — more than 50 percent voter approval — to pass. Officials also weighed a special sales tax, which would restrict the spending of that money, better protecting hospital funds from a supervisor majority with different political priorities. But it's more difficult to pass since it requires a higher threshold of two-thirds voter approval, on top of the short runway to convince voters ahead of November.

District 4 Supervisor Susan Ellenberg said the county doesn't have time to sit around. The tax increase would take effect April 1, 2026, if approved — by which point the county will have already lost some revenue.

"We have the unique and weighty opportunity today to ask voters to determine how we are going  
*See TAX MEASURE, page 8*



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Camera Archive & Mapping

#### Helpful Tips:

- Know how to download your camera footage
- When mounting cameras, please be aware of places where people may have a reasonable expectation of privacy (examples: their backyard or interior of their home)
- Focus and mount your video on key points of entry or concern
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<https://www.sjpd.org/community/crime-prevention/security-camera-registration>





Which EV would you drive? Car experts say there are many more choices now. File photo

# Car experts: EV technology improving among Tesla competitors

By Sean Eastwood  
Times staff writer

Several car experts, some anonymous, have revealed which electric vehicles are making headway in competition with Tesla.

At the beginning of the year, InsideEVs' Andrei Nedelea broke down the best Tesla alternatives for consumers who are intrigued by the benefits of driving an EV. According to Nedelea, a competitive EV market may also pique the interest of drivers who already own an EV.

"Although [Tesla's] EVs are still among the best, competing automakers have caught up and have even surpassed Tesla in some areas," Nedelea wrote. "Buying the best EV isn't as simple as just loading up the Tesla site and ordering one anymore."

For drivers interested in a Model 3, Nede-

lea recommends considering the BMW i4, which features a range of up to 307 miles on a single battery charge. The aerodynamic Hyundai Ioniq 6 and the upgraded Polestar 2 are other options to investigate.

For Model Y enthusiasts, Nedelea suggested considering the Hyundai Ioniq 5, Kia EV6, Ford Mustang Mach-E, Chevrolet Equinox EV, and Polestar 4.

Those interested in a Model S may appreciate the BMW i5, Audi A6 e-tron, and Lucid Air. Nedelea also listed pricier models such as the Porsche Taycan.

Meanwhile, automakers such as Rivian, Polestar, BMW, Kia, and Ford offer alternatives for consumers interested in a Model X or a Cybertruck. Nedelea provided a more detailed breakdown of the pros and cons, but regardless of the EV brand, there are undeniable perks to saying goodbye to a gas-powered vehicle, including reduced maintenance and energy costs.

A question to consider; are the environmental effect of the toxins released in the atmosphere created when manufacturing EV batteries offset by lower auto fueling costs.

# ADUs

Continued from page 1

on the same lot as a primary residence. They can include converted garages, basement apartments with private entrances, or newly built detached structures.

According to the Bipartisan Policy Center, nearly one in five new homes built in California in 2022 was an ADU. That year, the state issued almost 84,000 ADU permits.

"This bill will help homeowners who are struggling to get financing to get units like those built," Liccardo said during a press conference and ADU tour in Redwood City.

As it stands, according to the bill, most banks don't offer loans for ADUs. However, if passed, federal housing agencies could back these loans under the National Housing Act, making them less risky.

Rep. Andrew Garbarino, R-New York, a co-sponsor of the bill, emphasized the bipartisan appeal of the legislation.

"On Long Island, families work hard to create economic opportunities for themselves and their communities," he said in a press release. "This bipartisan bill gives families the chance to invest, grow equity and strengthen our local economy."

Liccardo said the bill is designed to help individual homeowners while addressing the broader issue of housing affordability.

"Millions of homeowners want to have back-

yard homes — maybe to rent out and provide a naturally affordable supply of housing," he said. "The big obstacle they all face is financing."

The Casita Coalition, a California-based nonprofit that advocates for ADUs, praised the proposal.

"We're thrilled that Representative Liccardo has introduced a bill that tackles one of the biggest remaining hurdles — access to practical, affordable ADU loans," said CEO Noereña Limón. "This is a smart, targeted solution that brings ADUs within reach for the people who need them most."

In Palo Alto, ADUs have become increasingly popular in recent years, thanks in large part to state laws that have relaxed development standards and streamlined the approval process for the backyard units. While the city has historically approved only a handful of ADU permits annually, that number has swelled to more than 120 in each of the last three years, according to city data.

In May, the council revised the zoning code to make it more consistent with the state regulations. Some council members also supported allowing property owners to sell ADUs as condominiums. Resident John Kelley, who often advocates for more housing, made a case at that meeting for further relaxing restrictions on backyard units.

"They've proven their worth to the community," Kelley told the council.

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OSC has opened a new program for women based upon equine interaction and equine-assisted-learning, designed to develop self-awareness and self-acceptance, confidence and resilience, and safe boundaries.

G.R.I.T. is for adult women led by OSC founder Landa Keirstead. The small group meets in 2 hour sessions, once per week for six-weeks

Contact One Step Closer for more information and to enroll  
[one.step.closer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:one.step.closer@sbcglobal.net) 408-778-3567



Times **Local News**

**Tax Measure**

*Continued from page 6*  
to serve our community and meet their needs over the next several years,” she said. “We cannot afford to sit back and tell ourselves it won’t be that bad, because believe me — it will.”

The county’s losses will mostly come from federal cuts to Medicaid, the public health insurance program known as Medi-Cal in California. It is the largest federal revenue source for the county health system of four hospitals and 15 health clinics. But the county will also take blows from cuts to federal food assistance funding.

Santa Clara County runs two of the region’s three trauma centers and the only regional burn center of its kind in the Bay Area. The county hospitals are Silicon Valley’s largest and most accessible health care providers and the only option for working-class, uninsured patients.

One in four of the county’s nearly two million residents are Medi-Cal enrollees. Half of the county hospital system’s patients pay through Medi-Cal. The rest pay through a mix of other means and Medicare, a separate federal program serving patients 65 and older and patients of all ages with certain disabilities.

Community health and patient advocates welcomed the move. At the meeting, speakers took the podium to warn that public hospital cuts won’t just hurt the uninsured, as people who lose health coverage shift to emergency departments. County leaders have warned this cascading effect will drive up wait-times for largely compensated care and force health care providers to raise prices for

people with private commercial insurance.  
Dan Nelson, chair of Valley Medical Center’s Emergency Medicine Department, said his doctors already have more patients than resources.  
“On average, at VMC, we operate over 207% of our emergency department capacity,” Nelson said, adding it surges at times to more than 500%. “The reality is we’re operating beyond what the current system can sustain.”  
Nelson said the federal cuts threaten to push an already-strained system into “outright crisis.”  
Taxpayer advocates have vowed to campaign against the measure, arguing the sales tax will be regressive and hurt working-class county residents the hardest. The new ballot question comes at a confluence of tax dramas in Silicon Valley this year. The Silicon Valley Taxpayers Association sued Campbell earlier this year over a half-cent sales tax approved by 72 % of voters. Meanwhile, the exploration of a separate sales tax measure to fund public transit had VTA leaders in disarray in May.  
Former Saratoga Mayor Stan Bogosian decried the timing of the meeting — and the notice to residents.  
“I’m just incredulous that this meeting today is being held in the middle of the afternoon when most people are at work or in meetings, and I would like to ask that if you’re talking about something as important as a tax revenue measure, this be offered at a time when folks can actually participate,” Bogosian said.  
District 2 Supervisor Betty Duong said the situation has profoundly impacted the county’s trajectory for generations.  
“We will have to wean our business off federal funds so that our values are never held hostage ever again,” she said.



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Times **Local News**

# Happy August from History Park

By Bill Schroh, Jr.

President & CEO, History San José

Yesterday I had the privilege of giving a tour of History Park to a group of Japanese students from our sister city, Okayama, Japan. It was a lot of fun showing the students around History Park, telling the story of the Electric Light Tower, the Bank of Italy, and the Valley of Heart's Delight.

I made sure to include the important contributions Japanese Americans have made to the history of the Valley, including our new Preserve the Past: Help Move the Sakauye Farmhouse to History Park exhibit in the Pacific Hotel. I think the highlight of the tour was when I showed them the Santa Ana School House and made them enter using the gendered entrances to the school. This sparked a lot of questions regarding what school would be like in the 1870s in the U.S. I hadn't given a student tour of the park in a long time, but it was an honor to personally show these student ambassadors around. I love to talk about our Valley's history and they had so many great questions!

For those of you that didn't know we have a sister city, San Jose's sister city relation-

ship with Okayama, Japan, was established in 1957 and is one of the first sister city relationships in the country. This partnership, initiated by President Eisenhower's Sister Cities International program, fosters cultural and educational exchanges between cities around the world. The San Jose-Okayama Sister Cities organization works to strengthen this bond through various activities, programs and visits.

## Spirit of '45 Alive

Speaking of activities, programs and visits, History San José will be hosting two events to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the end of World War II. The first is our new exhibit coming to the Pasetta House: "V" for Victory in the Valley; World War II Stories from History San Jose's Collection. This exhibit brings the Home Front experience to life through the stories and artifacts of San Jose families that contributed to the war effort. The exhibit will open on Saturday, August 9th and run through October. On August 16th, along with our partner, the Bay Area Chapter of Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive, we will be hosting our annual 1940s Living History Day & Swing Dance. This event commemorates August 14, 1945, when President Harry S. Truman made his radio address from the White House announcing to the American public the end of World War II.

The annual Spirit of '45 day invites us to—as our partner's name suggests—Keep the Spirit of '45 Alive which means honoring



their legacy of the Greatest Generation with decency, fairness, tolerance, compassion and respect for our democratic values and institutions. As the telling of American History is under attack federally, I would like to leave you with a quote from Governor of Pennsylvania, Josh Shapiro:

"Protecting our history is about telling the

truth, even when it is uncomfortable. Because if we don't reckon with the reality of our past, we can't learn from it and move forward," wrote Shapiro. "The fight for freedom has defined the American story for centuries. Trying to rewrite that history is impossible — and it goes against the very values our nation stands for."

## History San José

Bill Schroh, Jr.  
President & CEO



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# Spirit of '45 Day

WWII living history event and 1940s Swing Dance at History park Aug. 16

By William Bellou  
*Publisher*

Take a trip back in time to the 1940s with live big band music, swing dancing, fashion and car shows, a WWII tent city, homecoming parade, food trucks and activities for the whole family at this year's Spirit of '45 Bay Area event celebrating the end of WWII Saturday, August 16 from 2 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Since this year marks the 80th Anniversary of the end of WWII, the Spirit of '45 Bay Area celebration will be a special one. On August 14, 1945, the day President Truman announced



A parade paying tribute to the end of World War II at last year's Spirit of '45 event at History Park in San Jose.



that the most destructive war in human history was over, spontaneous celebrations broke out around the world.

As the sun goes down, the victory celebration continues as History Park transforms into a USO-style swing dance under the glow of the Electric Light Tower. The sounds of a live big band will have you jump and jive to the music of the 1940s.

**Preservation of honor**

Since 2007 an alliance of organizations and individuals have been working together to preserve and honor the legacy of the men and women of America's WWII generation so that their values and achievements will continue to inspire future generations - especially the youth of our nation. The 14-acre History Park is home to the largest Spirit of '45 events in the Country, where it was founded.

**New Home Front gallery exhibit**

On Saturday, August 9th, "V" for Victory in the Valley: World War II Stories will open in the McKay Gallery in the Pasetta House at History

Park. The exhibit will be open for special extended hours from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. during Spirit of '45.

The new exhibit brings the Home Front experience to life through the stories of San José families that contributed to the war effort, such as Captain Samuel L. Washington's service as a Tuskegee Airman, Edith Smith a Civil Air Patrol Cadet, Marilynn Larson of the Pulpaneck Navy WAVES, and Kristena Nelson De Luz, a Dietician in the Army Medical Corps.

The exhibit displays all of their uniforms, along with artifacts from History San José's collection, including a Civil Defense helmet, a riveter (just like the Rosies used!), a Navy Ships cookie tin, a ration book, and an Army blanket with 187 patches from World War II service members. "V" for Victory in the Valley: World War II Stories will be on view through October on Saturdays and Sundays from 12 noon to 3:45 p.m.

To participate in the full slate of History San José's WWII commemorative activities, view the "V" for Victory in the Valley: World War II Stories exhibit during Spirit of '45 Living His-

tory Day on Saturday, August 16. The exhibit will be open for special extended hours from 2pm to 6pm during Spirit of '45.

Tickets are on sale now -- Veterans and Rosies receive free admission. To learn more about the event, and purchase tickets visit <https://tinyurl.com/scesw4nu>.



**Kristena Nelson De Luz** (above), a dietician in the Army Medical Corps, and Captain **Samuel L. Washington**, a Tuskegee Airman are part of the new Home Front exhibit at History Park.





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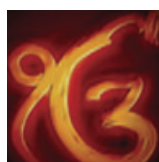


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