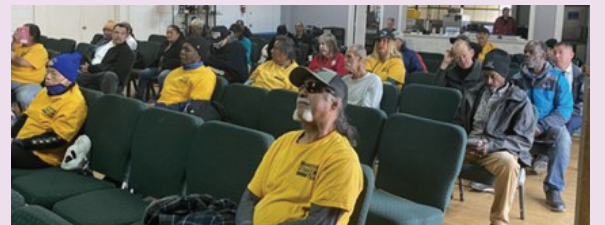


A scramble to prevent cuts to Santa Clara County's public hospitals has local business interests divided
SEE PAGE 4



Silicon Valley street cleaning crew is being abruptly swept away
SEE PAGE 8



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OCT. 10 - OCT. 23, 2025 ■ VOL. 38, NO. 21

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Red-light camera program created make San Jose's intersections safer

By William Bellou
Publisher

As traffic deaths continue to outpace homicides, San Jose city officials have rolled out the latest program to make the streets safer.

San Jose recently announced the installation of red-light cameras at four of its most hazardous locations as part of a year-long program that elected leaders hope will help achieve their goal of reducing traffic-related fatalities.

With one of the city's most dangerous streets in the backdrop, San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan recalled visiting with the family and attending the funeral of Esias Amaru Ramos-Berhane, an 11-year-old boy killed on his scooter last year in South San Jose.

"I promised them that it was with his memory that I would fight for safer streets for our city," Mahan said. "Today, I am remembering Esias, (and) as you know, I believe that public safety is the most fundamental responsibility of our government. I'm devastated that this city wasn't safe enough for Esias, but I hope that with the announcement today, this intersection and others like it will be safer for other San Jose children, children who simply want to hang out with their
See TRAFFIC, page 3

Measure A earns support of San Jose mayor, police and DA

By Brandon Pho
San José Spotlight

San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan, joined by county law enforcement and prosecutors, is backing a last-minute sales tax to protect Santa Clara County's public hospitals from massive federal cuts.

It comes after Mahan — along with the county's Deputy Sheriffs Association and Government Attorneys Association — initially cast doubt and uncertainty about his stance on Measure A, the county's proposed five-eighths cent sales tax increase on the Nov. 4 ballot. Now they're set to announce their support at a news conference later today. Meanwhile, the sheriff and prosecutor unions say they've fundraised a total of \$600,000 to date to campaign in favor of the ballot measure.

The measure would combat President Donald Trump's July approval of sweeping cuts to funds that feed the county's four public hos-



Santa Clara County's public safety unions are coming out in support of local leaders' proposed sales tax known as Measure A after casting initial doubts. County leaders say funds from the measure would help support the public hospital system. Photo by Brandon Pho.

pitals and 15 health clinics. But the proposal has opened a rift in Silicon Valley, with business interests either opposed or neutral on higher taxes and community groups urging against the loss of timely medical care for the region's poorest. Mahan questioned the county's choice to get into the hospital business after the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors approved the measure in August. Meanwhile, the public safety unions questioned

whether the tax measure would leave them to fend off their own county budget cuts without extra help.

Those qualms have apparently subsided after conversations with county leaders.

"Passing this temporary, stopgap measure means we don't have to choose between providing health care for San Jose families and prosecuting crime," Mahan said in a statement
See MEASURE A, page 3

San Jose police contract nets officers millions in pay raises

By Brandon Pho
San José Spotlight

San Jose officials have approved a 15.7% pay raise for police officers through 2029.

The San Jose City Council's unanimous decision last week will cost taxpayers roughly \$46 million in wage hikes for officers represented by the San Jose Police Officers' Association over the next three years, according to a city analysis. This total excludes unfunded pension liabilities. Officers will see a 7% raise this year, 5% next year and 3% in 2027-28, compounded over 39 months. The agreement will go through 2029-30. Officials want to use the city's salaries and benefits reserve to cover some of this year's costs during the upcoming midyear budget review.

"The increase in pay and benefits approved by the mayor and council is a demonstration of the vital importance police officers play in keeping San Jose residents safe, as well as a recognition of the sacrifices made by our rank and file," Steve Slack, police union president, told San José Spotlight.



The San Jose City Council has approved pay increases over the next three years for San Jose police officers. Photo by Brandon Pho.

Councilmembers voiced enthusiasm over the deal — arguing it will make San Jose more competitive in officer recruitment and help shore up a yearslong staffing shortage. But District 5 Councilmember Peter Ortiz balanced his optimism with the public safety realities of the East San Jose neighborhoods he represents.

"We have people boasting and ranking the headlines about being the safest big city in America — which is something we should be proud

of — and that may be true in some ZIP codes, but it's not the experience felt by some residents in the Foothill Division," Ortiz said at the meeting. "If anything, issues in our area are underreported. Our small businesses, pillars of our neighborhoods, are being hit (with burglaries) repeatedly."

On one hand, Ortiz said pay increases will attract Spanish and Vietnamese language officers who can actually reflect his district. But he said the city needs to invest more in youth intervention programs that will help curb gang violence and robberies in more meaningful ways.

"I was a former gang member. I was able to turn my life around thanks to intervention programs funded by this city — the Mexican American Community Services Agency, the clean slate program," Ortiz said. "There is no shortage of smart kids who are caught up in violence and gangs."

Approval of the agreement comes after the police union in recent months launched scathing rebukes against City Hall and San Jose Police
See RAISES, page 9

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Times **Community****Traffic***Continued from page 1*

friends, ride their scooters and feel safe in their neighborhood. "Traffic safety has become a priority in San Jose.

Nearly a decade ago, San Jose became a Vision Zero city, establishing a goal to eliminate traffic fatalities. The city's Vision Zero task force aimed to reduce fatal and severe injuries by 30% by 2030 and eliminate them by 2040.

Between 2020 and 2024, the city reported 273 traffic-related fatalities. This year, the city has recorded 26 deaths thus far, marking a 34% decrease from the same point last year.

"Behind our data points are real people: parents, children, friends, neighbors, grandparents, all whose lives were cut short," Vice Mayor Pam Foley said. "But the next five years could be very different."

The red light cameras will be deployed at the intersections of Leigh Avenue and Parkmoor Avenue, Monterey Road and Branham Lane, Keyes Street and S. Third Street, and South Bascom Avenue and Camden Avenue.

City officials highlighted the safety improvements that red-light cameras have made in other cities, citing Chicago's reduction in injury crashes at intersections with cam-

eras, which decreased by 39%, as well as a 56% decrease in "T-bone" crashes and a 52% decrease in overall crashes between 2005 and 2023.

District 2 resident Tuan Tu said that on his commute to Fremont, the introduction of red-light cameras had also made a noticeable difference.

"It got a lot better there and a lot of other intersections in that city," Tu said. "Having some in San Jose is an improvement for us."

The cameras will start with a 60-day warning period on Oct. 13.

Drivers will not receive citations until Dec. 12 at the earliest.

The red-light camera pilot is not the only safety measure the city could implement, as San Jose could soon add 33 speed-safety cameras along priority corridors.

City officials had initially planned to roll out that program this year, but the project faces financial hurdles as a result of the Trump administration withholding grant money initially intended for the program.

"We are asking the Trump administration to depoliticize public safety and the grants for safer roads, for our police department, for our airport — the types of grants we need to keep our city moving forward," Mahan said. "We are looking at alternative funding mechanisms that would not require federal funding."

Measure A*Continued from page 1*

shared by the public safety unions. "No community should have to make that choice, and by stepping up together we can ensure Santa Clara County residents don't."

District Attorney Jeff Rosen — who has historically clashed with the county for asking his department to make cuts while expanding the public hospital system — said Measure A will help stave off risks to his office.

"As district attorney, one of my top priorities has been vigorously — and fairly — prosecuting violent and property crime cases to help victims and hold perpetrators accountable," Rosen said in the statement. "My office has pioneered the use of community prosecutors to focus on quality-of-life crimes and keeping neighborhoods and small businesses safer. Now, budget cuts put our progress, and safety, at risk. Measure A will protect these efforts and that is why I urge everyone to vote Yes on Measure A."

Max Zarzana, president of the Government Attorneys Association which represents county prosecutors and public defend-

ers in labor talks, said his union supported Measure A from the beginning.

"But we still had questions for the county about how they would use this money — not just for hospitals but for all the necessary county services, including those which provide public safety," Zarzana told San José Spotlight. "But recently, the county has taken a lot of steps to assure all of us that yes, this is a general fund tax and will be spent on all services including to protect public safety."

For example, Zarzana said the county has agreed to unfreeze eight prosecutor positions in Rosen's office, freeing up the ability to fill them.

"We supported Measure A, questioned how the money will be spent, got our answer and now we still support it," Zarzana said.

A county official confirmed the conversations described by the public safety unions, but said no formal spending plan has been agreed upon.

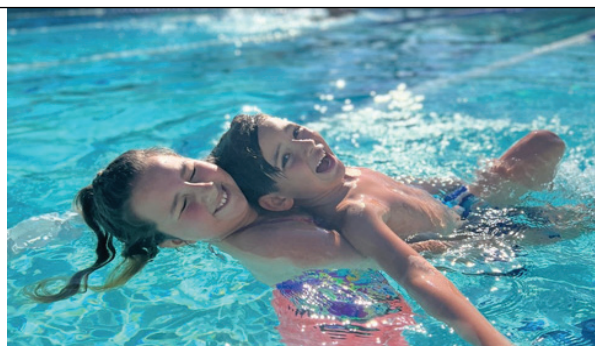
Mahan's office declined to comment on the announcement directly. Mahan has previously called on the county to invest more in San Jose's interim shelters. Congressman Sam Liccardo in August stated publicly that the city was negotiating its support

for Measure A in conversations with the county.

Meanwhile, business interests are split over the measure. The Silicon Valley GOP and the Silicon Valley Biz PAC — a political group that fundraises in support of pro-business candidates and endorsed Mahan's reelection in 2024 — have denounced the San Jose Chamber of Commerce's decision to remain neutral on the measure. The chamber in an email last week explained it heard compelling arguments on both sides of the tax question.

Reacting to the new endorsements, County Executive James Williams said Measure A needs all the support it can get.

"Federal budget cuts exceeding \$1 billion per year not only threaten the County's ability to provide life-saving care at our hospitals and health clinics but jeopardize the delivery of many critical services that are important to our community, including mental health treatment, homelessness prevention and public safety," Williams told San José Spotlight. "While we face very difficult budget decisions ahead, we will continue to take every conceivable action to preserve these critical services and protect the health and safety of our entire community."



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San Jose business groups conflicted over Measure A

By **Brandon Pho**
San José Spotlight

A scramble to prevent cuts to Santa Clara County's public hospitals has Silicon Valley business interests divided.

As county leaders — and now San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan — urge voters to approve a five-eighths cent sales tax hike to protect the region's critical services from federal cuts, anti-tax business groups have looked to the San Jose Chamber of Commerce as a leading voice of opposition. Instead, the chamber has taken a "neutral" stance on a measure that would bring tax rates in some cities above 10%, after chamber officials described "compelling" arguments on both sides.

The move "astonished" a range of local business leaders and owners, according to a widely circulated statement on Tuesday from Santa Clara County Republican Party Chair David Johnson.

"To stay silent on a regressive tax that will negatively impact the less fortunate — businesspeople and



The San Jose Chamber of Commerce has opted to stay out of the fight over Santa Clara County's sales tax measure on the November ballot. The tax is being pushed to help address revenue losses due to federal cuts. File photo.

residents alike — is a monumental dereliction of duty on the part of the Chamber," Johnson said in the statement.

Joining the outcry is Tracey Enfantino, chair of the Silicon Valley Business PAC, a political fundraising group set up to support pro-business candidates for local office, including San Jose's mayor.

"These businesses look to the Chamber to advocate for them — but today, the Chamber is not showing up. By ignoring more than 62,000 small and mid-sized businesses in San Jose alone, it has left them to fend for themselves," Enfantino said in the statement.

The chamber board voted last month to remain neutral on Measure A — unable to choose between the dueling realities that complicated their decision, according to CEO Leah Toeniskoetter.

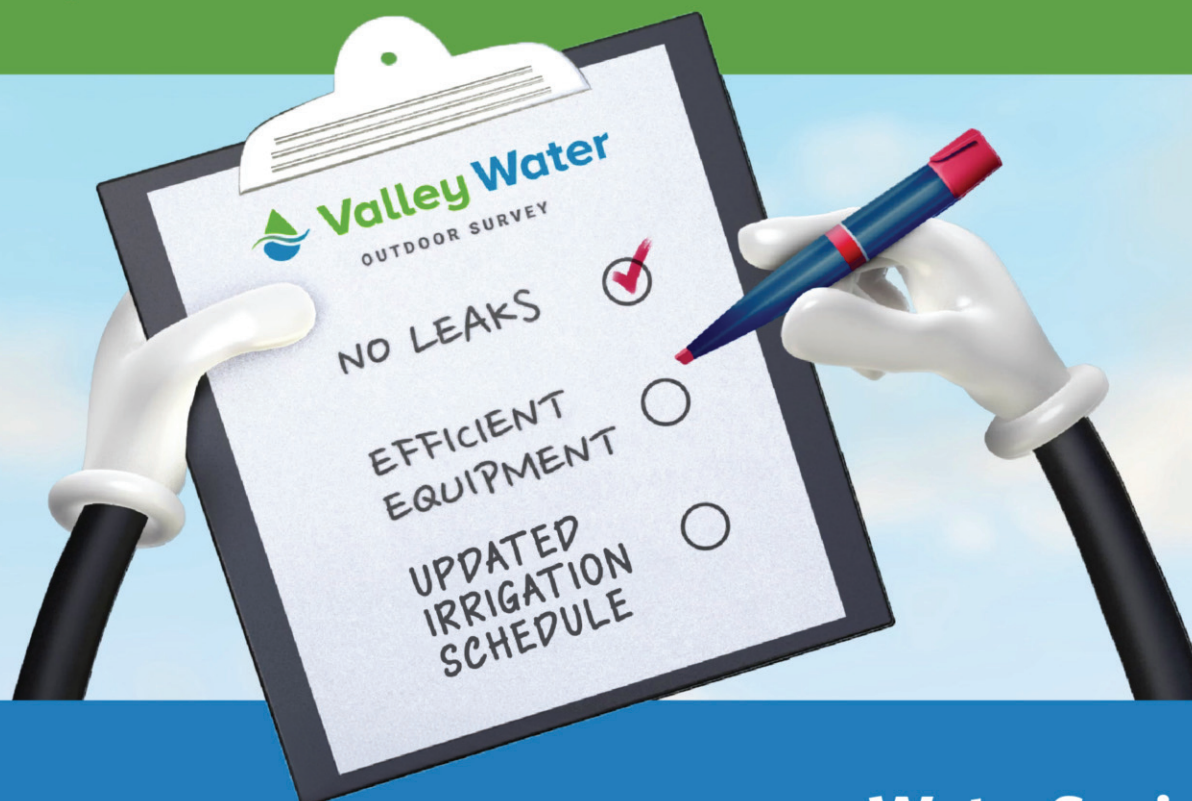
"We recognize that we are in an unprecedented moment across our country, and the repercussions of H.R. 1 created an untenable situation for our county," Toeniskoetter told San José Spotlight. "At the same time, many small business owners and workers rely on our county health care system, while others are concerned about the impact of higher costs. By remaining neutral, we acknowledge these competing realities and uphold our role as a trusted forum where every voice in our economy is respected."

Most recently on Thursday, the measure won formal endorsement from one of the region's largest business interests, the Silicon Valley Leadership Group. The organization called for business interests to have a seat on any oversight committee in charge of monitoring the spending of the new tax revenue. It also called for bi-annual public disclosures on spending.

Pat Waite, a board member and treasurer for the Silicon Valley Business Alliance, opposes Measure A. He said residents shouldn't have to dig through their pockets to pay for the county's choice to expand its hospital system last year. The county purchased Regional Medical Center to prevent the loss of trauma, heart attack

(Continued, next page)

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Times **Local News**

and stroke care in East San Jose.

At the same time, Waite said he wasn't surprised by the chamber's decision. He points to political disarray stemming from a 2020 racist political attack ad scandal under the organization's old moniker, Silicon Valley Organization. The organization changed its name, pledged to stop endorsing political candidates and went through a major leadership change. Toenisketter was named CEO in 2023, replacing Derrick Seaver who came onboard in 2021.

"Leah Toenisketter has been working hard to regain trust and has been focused on trying to rebuild the organization as a forum for businesses to connect and be successful — and has been avoiding engaging politically," Waite told San José Spotlight. "I think some day they may return to the political roots they used to have. But until the chamber feels comfortable helping businesses succeed at a fundamental level, not a political one, they're going to shy away from the controversial."

Bob Staedler, a local land use and development consultant, said there's already a push to return the chamber to its political roots.

"I think (this decision) had to do with trying to thread the needle of the greater Santa Clara County politics that a lot of the board members live in — and operate in businesswise," Staedler, principal of Silicon Valley Synergy, told San José Spotlight.

Staedler views Measure A more favorably and said the chamber should have

taken a definitive stance.

"I think the chamber sitting on the sidelines is not leadership. You should either say that health care is important for the county or you should say that a sales tax is going to hurt businesses," Staedler said. "I'm just surprised they came out neutral on it. It's a bit of a cop out."

The drama comes as the mayor of Santa Clara County's largest city — who has ascended Silicon Valley's ranks of power on a pro-business image — has come out in support of the measure. Initially, Mahan and a slate of local law enforcement leaders and prosecutors cast doubt about their stance on the measure.

Mahan, who has fundamentally differed with county leaders on homelessness solutions, spoke critically of the county's investments into the public hospital system. Public safety unions, meanwhile, voiced concern that the measure would solely help the hospitals while leaving the offices of sheriff and district attorney to fend off budget cuts on their own. But those qualms apparently subsided after conversations with county leaders.

"Were I in the mayor's position I would feel compelled to support it too," Waite said. "The biggest issue facing the city in the minds of residents is homelessness, and one of the biggest things that needs to happen is to get services that people need to get over addiction and off the streets. The county is responsible for that. And the mayor needs the county."

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Music, History & Community Upcoming Events for October

Noon Thursday, October 2

***FREE* American Beethoven Society Noon Concert Series**

Verve Trio presents Beethoven's majestic Piano Trio in B-flat, Op. 97, "Archduke"
The Ira F. Brilliant Center for Beethoven Studies
MLK Jr. Library, Schiro Hall, 150 E. San Fernando St., San Jose

3 p.m. Sunday, October 5
San José Wind Symphony

in partnership with San José State University
Wind Ensemble present Common Threads
McAfee Performing Arts Center, 20300 Herri-
man Ave, Saratoga

7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 11
South Bay Guitar Society presents Duo Exaudi
St. Francis Episcopal Church, 1205 Pine Ave,
San Jose

3 p.m. Sunday, October 12
South Valley Symphony – Adventures Around the World

From Rossini's "La Cenerentola"
to Grofé's "Mississippi Suite" and more!
Guglielmo Winery, 480 E. Main Ave, Morgan Hill

3 p.m. Saturday, October 18
Winchester Orchestra – Myths and Monsters: A Halloween Concert

Featuring works of Bach, Mussorgsky, Stravinsky and more
Lincoln Glen Church,
2700 Booksin Ave,
San Jose

3 p.m. Sunday, October 19
TWO SVAC MEMBERS – POWER!

San Jose Metropolitan Band & San Francisco
Brass Band BANDthology
Hammer Theatre Center, 101 Paseo de San
Antonio, San Jose

Noon Friday, October 24
FREE - Noon Arts & Lectures
Restoring the 1891 First Unitarian Church of San Jose

Free architectural history presentation and Q&A
First Unitarian Sanctuary, 160 N. Third St., San Jose

7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 25
Nova Vista Symphony – From Formosa to Vienna

Featuring international violinist Richard Lin 林品任 in the Bay Area premiere
of Tyzen Hsiao's Violin Concerto in D
De Anza Visual & Performing Arts Center,
Cupertino

2:30 p.m. Sunday, October 26
Mission Chamber Orchestra – New Horizons

Featuring Ricardo Martinez, saxophone, performing Lee Actor's Saxophone Concerto
With guest performers from Piedmont Hills High School
Hammer Theatre, 101 Paseo de San Antonio,
San Jose

Noon Thursday, October 30
***FREE* American Beethoven Society Noon Concert Series**

Beethoven's Song Cycle
An die ferne Geliebte, op. 98
Featuring: Christine Brandes, soprano
Nicholas Mathew, fortepiano

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Times Local News

Silicon Valley street cleaning crew is swept away

By Joyce Chu
San José Spotlight

A flagship program that employed homeless people to clean the streets of San Jose and connect them to housing is abruptly ending.

Nonprofit Downtown Streets Team is ending operations Oct. 31, citing financial and political pressures that make it difficult to sustain the organization. The nonprofit formed 20 years ago in Palo Alto and expanded to 15 other cities in Northern California, including Sunnyvale and San Jose in 2011. Workers wearing bright yellow shirts help beautify neighborhoods affected by trash, waste and graffiti. Participants also attend peer groups and work with case managers to find housing.

CEO Julie Gardner said the financial and political environment has changed in the last few months, and shutting down the program is a "heartbreaking decision" being made only after exploring other paths forward.

"I wish I could report back a simple, single reason behind our closure, but the truth is it's the result of many factors," Gardner told San José Spotlight. "During this time, (Downtown Streets Team) lost several significant contracts and grants, creating a multimillion-dollar loss in overall funding. When combined with other factors, including rapidly rising operational costs, these losses made it impossible to continue running the organization in a financially sustainable way."

Downtown Streets Team received more than \$17 million in contributions in 2024, according to tax filings. In 2023, it had \$13.7 million in revenue, and its funding had been steadily increasing over the years. Gardner said she could not provide details on which grants and contracts have been lost or if the organization has a budget deficit



Homeless residents and people seeking employment opportunities at a Downtown Streets Team meeting in February 2025. File photo.

due to transition planning.

Overall, the nonprofit has helped 2,211 people find housing and connected more than 2,100 people to jobs, according to data provided by Gardner. In San Jose, Downtown Streets Team helped 264 people secure housing and 361 obtain employment. The nonprofit has also removed more than 11.6 million gallons of trash and debris from the city.

"This is a tremendous loss for our city, not only for the unhoused residents who found stability through their programs, but also for our District 3 business corridors, which directly benefited from their work," Councilmember Anthony Tordillos, who represents downtown, told San José Spotlight. "The Downtown Streets Team has supported Alum Rock, East Village, Calle Willow and Luna Park in District 3 through weekly cleaning and outreach."

A Downtown Streets Team employee, who asked not to be named for privacy reasons, said the nonprofit stopped its employment program, Streets Team Enterprise, in June. The program provided homeless people with temporary work through contracts with organizations such as Caltrans, and was meant to be a pipeline for people to gain full-time employment.

"When Streets Team Enterprise closed, it was like foreshadowing for sure," the employee told San José Spotlight.

See SWEEPING, page 10

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IN MEMORY

Patricia Frances DeMarlo**September 30, 1940 – September 4, 2025***President of St. Christopher Church Over 50's Club*

"So, if you are reading my obituary don't worry. You are not alone, I am dead. I took my final trip on September 4, 2025, destination Heaven! I was born on September 30, 1940 to the late Frank and Josephine DeMarlo in San Francisco, CA. I was the second of two children and looked up to my older sister, Anna Rose DeMarlo."

Pat started kindergarten at Cupertino Elementary School, moved to San Jose to attend Horace Mann from 1st to 5th grade. Later she moved to Marysville, CA and graduated in the 8th grade from Notre Dame. Pat moved back to San Jose and graduated from Notre Dame High School, class of 1958. Attended San Jose State and graduated in 1962 with a BA in Elementary Education. She earned her Master of Arts Degree in Administration Education in 1983 from Santa Clara University.

Pat was hired by Cupertino Union School District as a 4th grade teacher. She taught 25 years at Serra School, Blue Hills and Collins then became a principal for four years at John Muir Elementary School, then went into district office and retired as Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources. After Pat retired from Cupertino, she went to Santa Clara University where she was the Director of Administration Education Master's Program for 10 years. She also was the Coordinator for the Student Teaching Program.

Pat was honored three times for the outstanding teacher award from the Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Young Teacher. Member of the Beta Sigma Phi where she was the president of Beta Sigma Phi San Jose City Council, President and Convention Chairperson of Northern California Council of BSP while receiving Woman of the Year Award. She was a member of Santa Clara University Catala Club where she held several board positions and chaired many fundraising events



to support undergraduate scholarships. She was a member of the St. Christophers Catholic Church, where she served as a member of the Ladies Guild and served on the board for several years as well as served as President of the St. Christopher's Over 50's Club.

Most of all she loved being with family and friends, playing cards and games with them. Pat loved the beach and Maui. She loved traveling and was lucky enough to have visited many places including Europe, Mexico, Japan, Caribbeans and the United States.

Pat's life was full with loving people and great times. Pat was known for her smile, laughter and humor. Family would like to express thanks to the caregivers that helped them during the difficult time.

Family and friends are invited to attend a Memorial Mass Saturday, October 11, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at St. Christopher Church, 2278 Booksin Avenue (At Curtner Avenue), San Jose.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Pat's name to go to Santa Clara University Catala Endowment Fund and/or St. Christopher's Over 50's Scholarship Fund.

Raises*Continued from page 1*

Department leadership over cuts to overtime pay and officer discipline.

In July, the union blasted City Manager Jennifer Maguire — tasked with absorbing the strain of a structural budget deficit — for making top-down cuts to overtime pay for SJPd's Bureau of Investigations. The union called the decision "sabotage" against major crimes investigations and "retaliation" against labor leaders for exercising their bargaining rights. The union also accused department leaders of incompetence and corruption over a deputy chief's altering of personnel records that led to the termination of an officer.

The deal shows the union and city are reconciling these issues, with changes to discipline procedures and a more systematic approach to reducing overtime through scheduling and operational changes. Certain 911 calls will also be delegated to non-police staff. The city will evaluate certain calls related to homelessness, mental health and quality of life, welfare checks and juvenile disturbances.

Maguire acknowledged the sweat and tears behind the vote.

"It does take a village and I really appreciate everyone keeping at that negotiation, because obviously, there were lots of issues to resolve and I think we all came out better for it," she said at the meeting.

Mayor Matt Mahan said the agreement acknowledges officers "who do some of the hardest, most essential and frankly most dangerous work in our community."

"It helps us stay competitive by offering incentives to attract experienced officers at a time where I think we all know recruitment for this role in particular is challenging," he said before the vote.

**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
- Exterior Mounting Location Options: Front door, rear door, side gate, driveway/front parking lot, second floor wide view and street view.
- Keep batteries charged in your cameras.
- Consider lighting around your cameras.

For assistance call the Crime Prevention Unit (408) 277-4133.

SAN JOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT
201 W. Mission St.
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Partner with the San Jose Police Department in fighting crime by registering your camera today.

HOW TO REGISTER

- Complete the registration form through sjpd.org or scan the QR code below.
- If a crime occurs in your community or place of business, SJPd will contact you for video footage.
- All information is confidential. Registration is voluntary and there is no cost associated with registration.



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

Duarte Poinsettias

Sit back and relax on a bus ride to see Poinsettias in Hughson, CA (near Modesto)
Lunch Included!

Tuesday December 2nd
Arrive Almaden Community Center (ACC) 7:30am
Depart ACC: 7:45am
Arrive Duarte Poinsettia Nursery around 10am

During your visit, you'll have the opportunity to tour their greenhouse, learn about their growing process, and find the perfect poinsettia for your home or as a thoughtful holiday gift. Whether you're a long-time customer or stopping by for the first time, their friendly staff will be happy to answer your questions and help you pick out just what you need.

Your self-guided tour promises a delightful and immersive experience for plant enthusiasts and holiday shoppers alike. As you explore the greenhouse, you'll discover an array of poinsettia varieties in full bloom like you have never seen before, each cultivated with care to ensure vibrant color and lasting freshness.

Look around the large warehouse of Poinsettia plants and decide if you would like to buy. They will label your purchase with your name & place them in the storage area of the bus to be transported home.

After we leave the nursery, we will travel a short distance to the Grizzly Rock Café where you will have a buffet lunch of tri-tip steak, chicken, vegetables, potatoes, salad, rolls and iced tea. Coffee, soda, beer, wine and dessert will be available to purchase, cash preferred.

We will return to Almaden Community Center around 4:30pm.

Tickets are on sale, 8am to 10am M/W/F in the Almaden Community Center lobby. Cost of the trip will be \$80.00. Cash or check (sorry no refunds). Almaden Senior Association trips are for Active Adults 50+.

For more information contact Rich Sanders at 408 219-8641

Times **Local News**



The Almaden Senior Association is a diverse group of enthusiastic active adults 50+ who enjoy new learning opportunities, new experiences, and new adventures. Join us today. Meet new people and get involved with classes and programs that will enhance your life and open new doors.

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 4th Thursday of each month from May to October. The LAST opportunity to take advantage of this great event is Thursday, October 23rd. 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.

Walt Disney Family Museum/Pier 39, Thursday, October 16, 2025:

Take a bus trip to the Walt Disney Family Museum, at the Presidio, San Francisco. Enjoy learning about the life of Walt Disney and his journey from birth to his first drawings, cartoons, films and the creation of Disneyland. Many static and interactive displays to see and enjoy. Then on to Pier 39 for lunch and shopping on your own before returning home. Depart ACC 8:15am. Return around 4:30pm. \$70 Cash or Check. Contact Rich at 408-219-8641 for more information.

Diwali event, Sunday October 26, 2025:

Celebrate Diwali, Festival of Lights with a menu of traditional Indian fare and entertainment of classical and modern dances. October 26, 2025, 12noon to 3pm. Tickets are on sale now, \$25 for members, \$28 for non-members. Contact Narender at 408-623-3106 or Bharat at 408-930-7244 for more information.

For these events and trips, sign up MWF from 8 to 10am in the Almaden Community Center Lobby. All events and trips are for those 50 years and over. Payments are cash or check only, sorry no refunds.

Almaden Senior Association
at the Almaden Community Center
6445 Camden Avenue, San Jose, CA 95120
<https://almadenseniors.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/almadenseniors>



Walt Disney Museum

Come enjoy a bus trip to the Walt Disney Family Museum in the Presidio in San Francisco. You will explore and learn about the life of Walt Disney and his journey to creating the Disney company. There are many exhibits to view taking you from his childhood to his first drawings and movies to feature films and the creation of Disneyland. There are many exhibits to see with several interactive displays to enjoy.

After your time at the Disney Museum we will take the bus to Pier 39 for lunch and shopping on your own before returning home.

This will be a day to explore, learn and eat with your fellow Almaden Seniors.

Date: Thursday October 16, 2025
Time: Arrive @ ACC 7:45am, depart 8:15am

Tour the Walt Disney Family Museum from 10am-12pm.
Depart Pier 39 at 3:00pm.

Returning to Almaden Community Center around 4:30pm.

Price :\$70.00 cash or check (Sorry no refunds)



Santa Clara County District Attorney **Jeff Rosen** speaks at a news conference in front of Kim Hung Jewelry in Evergreen. The store was robbed last month.

SJ Police ramps up retail theft fight; Small-business security cameras to be linked

By Sean Eastwood
Times staff writer

South Bay officials are launching a pilot program that provides technology for small businesses to connect their security cameras directly to the police department so that crimes can be monitored in real time in a move aimed at mitigating retail theft, they said at a recent news conference.

The announcement from the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office and the San Jose Police Department comes after a smash-and-grab robbery at Kim Hung Jewelry store on Aborn Road in Evergreen drew international attention.

Video of the robbery shows a car crashing into the storefront before more than a dozen masked figures enter and begin breaking the glass jewelry cases; one of the robbers violently shoves the 88-year-old elderly owner of the store to the ground.

Relatives of the store owner said he suffered a stroke after the robbery.

The new anti-theft program is funded by a \$100,000 grant provided by the District Attorney's Office and will allow about 200 businesses to be equipped with the new technology, Santa Clara County District Attorney Jeff Rosen announced.

"Organized retail theft gangs are terrorizing our community, and they're not just destroying store fronts and stealing jewelry," Rosen said at the press conference.

"They're destroying dreams, stealing livelihoods and making it difficult for mom-and-pop store owners to put food on the table for themselves and their children."

The grant will allow the small businesses to connect security cameras they already have installed to SJPd's real time intelligence center, which will then allow police to respond to incidents more quickly, Rosen said. The cameras will also allow officers to disseminate descriptions of suspects and their vehicles to responding officers, according to a news release.

The district attorney's office is contributing another \$50,000 to install concrete planters in front of small businesses who do not have security cameras or whose police departments do not have an existing network

connection, Rosen said. The planters will help block cars from driving through the front. The \$150,000 funding the program came from a consumer protection lawsuit against Google, according to a news release.

"This community — our community — watched in fear as a senior was assaulted," said San Jose Mayor Matt Mahan. "We're taking action to assure our community that they are not alone, and we are empowering them to help prevent these cases and ensure faster and more effective investigations."

Joseph added that SJPd is working diligently to bring the people suspected of robbing Kim Hung Jewelry to justice.

San Jose City Councilmember Bien Doan said that the jewelry store owner is "doing OK at this point." Santa Clara County Supervisor Otto Lee said that the robbery caused more than \$100,000 of loss for the store, not including medical bills or compensation for emotional suffering.

"Our work together is dedicated to protecting you from harm and ensuring that we feel safe within this community," Lee said. "We are proud to say that Santa Clara County is a safe community, but it only takes one crime, one incident for us to feel very shaken in our confidence."

Sweeping

Continued from page 8

Also ending is a volunteer-based program that saw homeless people cleaning up around the city while receiving a small regular stipend and participating in weekly group meetings, meant to foster community and encourage working toward life skills.

Downtown Streets Team has a beleaguered past, with allegations of a toxic workplace and sexual harassment from the former CEO, Eileen Richardson, and her son Chris Richardson, the former director of program operations. In 2021, the nonprofit also settled a class-action lawsuit for \$170,000 that six dozen former employees filed against it for wage theft.

Kama Fletcher, who previously worked as director of development for Downtown Streets Team, said one of the most impactful things about the program was the sense of community and dignity fostered among participants when they got praises from business owners and neighbors for cleaning the streets.

"It (created) a mind shift," Fletcher told San José Spotlight. "That's just gone now, all of that. No case manager, no meaningful daily activity, no stipend. It's like losing your job, losing your family, losing your income all at the same time."

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"As-Salaamu-Alaikum" the English meaning is "Peace be upon you".
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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.
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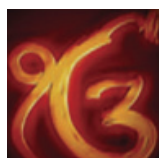


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God is One
ੴ ਇਕ ਹੈ
Rab Ik Hai

**SAN JOSE
GURDWARA**
3636 Gurdwara Ave.
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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>

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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!

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