

Downtown Ice returns to downtown San Jose holiday season with new operator  
**SEE PAGE 4**



**Puppy Love**  
San José Mayor and councilmembers call for audit of San José animal care and services – **SEE PAGE 10**

Holidays at the Ainsley House to open from Nov. 16 – Dec. 21  
**SEE PAGE 8**



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# Evergreen Times

OCT. 20 – NOV. 2, 2023 ■ VOL. 40, NO. 22

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## Groundbreaking community meeting held on development of Pleasant Hills golf course land

*Councilperson Domingo Candelas initiated a new more extensive community vision process for Pleasant Hills development*

**By Kevin Larsen**  
*Special to the Times*

The former 114-acre Pleasant Hills golf course, which closed 20 years ago, is now scheduled to be developed.

The once popular and beloved golf course is one of the largest sites for development in San Jose in the past 15 years.

Located on White Road across from Lake Cunningham Park between Tully Road and Story Road, the site is currently under the jurisdiction of Santa Clara County.

### 4,000 residents

The future development of this land could create 4,000 residences and more than 700,000 square feet of commercial space including a public park. The public is encouraged to submit ideas for other possible infrastructure.

The entire project requires several community meetings to gain input from the public regarding ongoing planning.

### Town Hall Meeting



San Jose City District 8 Councilmember Domingo Candelas did something unique by holding an early Town Hall meeting to provide an early preview of the important planning process. He set expectations for the entire community to know about the project so that important community input can take place.

The first meeting was held as an evening community event Thursday, October 12th at August Boeger Middle School. Candelas used Nextdoor.com, emails and other

ways of informing the public of this meeting to kick start the process of getting the public involved in the “future vision process.” The seats were full in the cafeteria with more than 100 residents attending.

### Dynamics of community engagement

The first kick-off meeting allowed District 8 residents to learn about the intricate development process. Usually when the city develops land a mailer is sent to certain homes and businesses that surround just

*See DEVELOPMENT, page 6*



## Annular Solar Eclipse from Strada Circolare Park in Evergreen Valley

**By Latha Krishan**  
*Special to the Times*

On a splendid Saturday morning, Evergreen residents gathered to witness the captivating annular solar eclipse at Strada Circolare Park, nestled near Fowler Creek Park in Evergreen.

Children could not believe that they were seeing the sun because it looked like the moon; and expressed their astonishment by uttering “wow, that’s so cool, can we stay for some more time, it’s orange and more!”

The little ones had so many questions that parents were busy explaining. Some looked at the crescent shadows cast by the sun shining through the tree leaves! Everyone enjoyed the exquisite alignment of the moon and the sun. It was exciting throughout the course of the eclipse.



*Solar Eclipse photo captured by Harshal*

## Councilman Domingo Candelas welcomes all to the annual Fall Family Festival at Lake Cunningham Regional Park

*Mark your calendar - free admission to Cunningham Regional Park and free parking too, Saturday, October 28th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m*

**By Bill Bellou**  
*Publisher*

“Get ready for family fun at our upcoming Fall Festival! It’s not just an event; it’s a celebration of community. Join us for family activities, free food, a pumpkin patch, and valuable resources from various com-

munity organizations. It’s the perfect way to embrace the season and connect with your neighbors,” states Councilman Domingo Candelas.

A great day to bring the family and it is all complimentary too!

The event is made possible by support from city departments, local organizations, businesses, and community volunteers.

Enjoy this day at the park alongside  
*See FALL FESTIVAL, page 5*

## Body found in pond at Evergreen Valley College

A body was discovered in a pond on the campus of Evergreen Valley College on Monday, Oct. 16 according to the school’s spokesperson.

Someone reported an object, thought to be a human body in the college’s pond just after 10:30 a.m. on Monday. A dive team with the Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Office recovered the object and verified it as a deceased person.

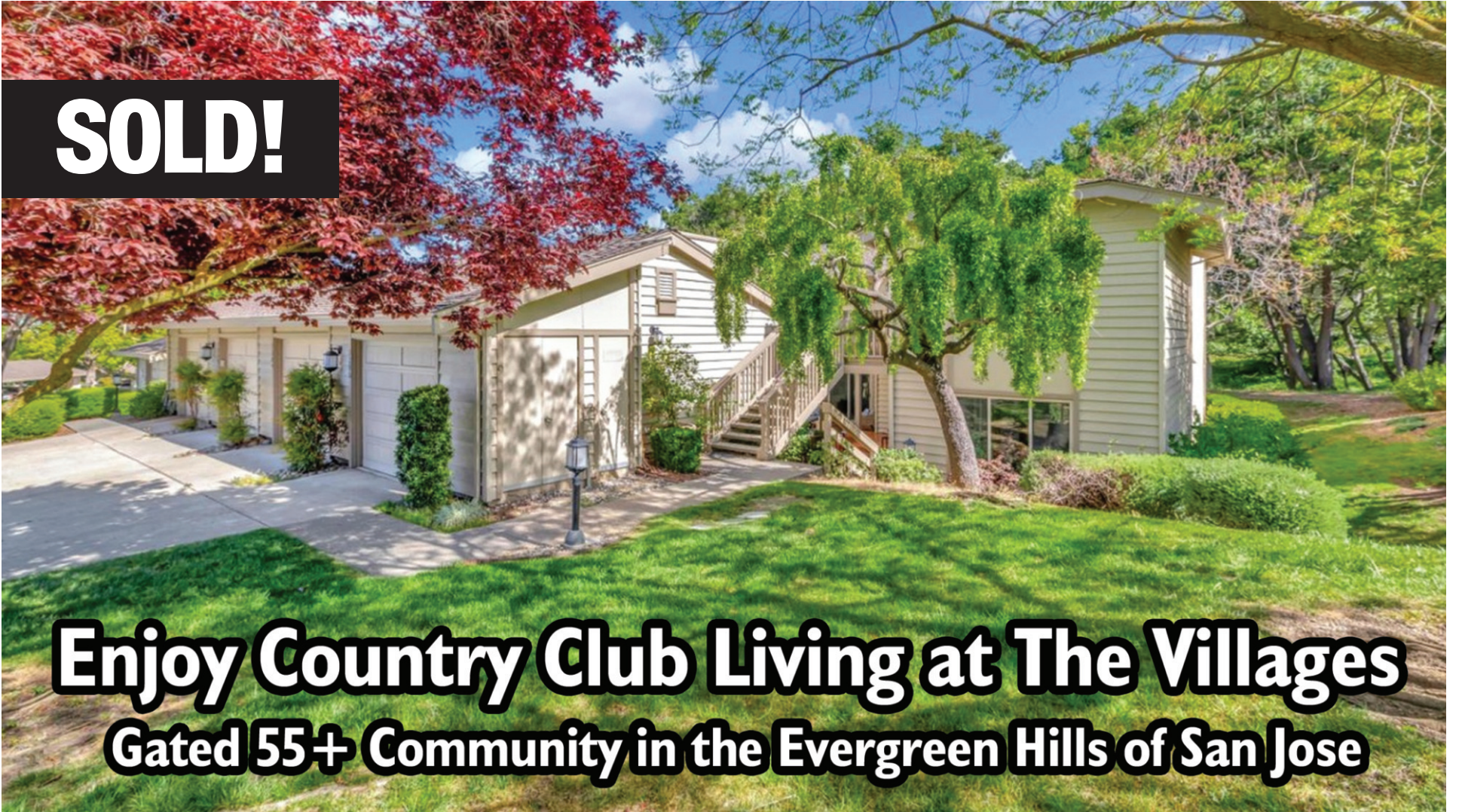
The Santa Clara County Office of the Medical Examiner-Coroner said the person had not yet been positively identified and that foul play was not suspected to have been a factor in the person’s death.

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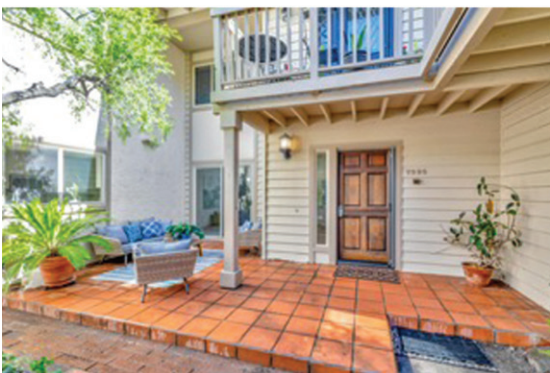


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# Valley Currents

cur|rent (adj.) Present, topical, timely, newsworthy. (n.) Movement in a definite direction, a flow.

## Downtown Ice returns to downtown San Jose holiday season with new operator

Outdoor ice skating will return to downtown San Jose's annual holiday celebration beginning Nov. 17.

Special Ice, which operates many rinks throughout the US, has agreed to produce and operate the downtown San Jose skating rink in the Circle of Palms Plaza this season, the San Jose Downtown Association announced Tuesday. The rink will operate from November through mid-January. Downtown Ice is supported by the City of San Jose.

"Downtown Ice is an iconic event that leaves a lasting impression," said Emery Lykins, president of Special Ice, based in Livermore. "We're excited to be a part of the rink's history, to contribute to this amazing city and hopefully usher



Downtown Ice will reopen this holiday season. *San Jose Downtown Association File Photo.*

in a revitalized future for the rink."

"I am thrilled to have our iconic ice rink back alongside all the many fun holiday-related activities in downtown San Jose that enrich families and people of all ages," said Alex Stettinski, San Jose Downtown Association CEO. "More and more, families are looking for things they can experience together. We're in good hands having the largest producer of seasonal ice rinks in the state on board with us."

"People enjoyed roller skating, but we heard loud and clear that families and friends from all parts of Northern and Central California missed their tradition of coming to skate at our ice rink," said Tricia Lee McNabb, who has managed rink operations since

1997.

"It's increasingly important that Downtown Ice keeps coming back, especially in the wake of Raging Waters' recent closing," McNabb.

Nearly a half million people come to downtown San Jose to enjoy Downtown Ice, Christmas in the Park holiday displays, Winter Wonderland amusement rides, plus performing arts, concerts, Sharks hockey, museums and galleries, restaurants and shopping from Halloween through mid-January.

Downtown Ice is located at 120 S. Market Street, in the Circle of Palms plaza. Construction of the rink begins Oct. 2. Details including tickets, dates, hours and sessions will become available at [sjdowntownice.com](http://sjdowntownice.com).

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Times **Local News**

## Fall Festival

Continued from page 1

neighbors and experience local entertainment, interactive children's activities, and light refreshments.

This Family Fall Festival will also host an informational resource fair where residents can gain beneficial services and learn about valuable opportunities offered by local non-profit, government, and community-based organizations.

Important information will also be available on the advocacy for Lake Cunningham and the critical environmental stewardship role everyone plays in maintaining open space accessibility. Learn more at the partner booths of Valley Water and the City of San Jose's Parks and Recreation Department.

### It is good to get the family out and meet new friends

This event is so important to our community. It allows us all to walk the park and meet new friends. Also, what a wonderful experience for children and all complementary too! Editor's Note; Parking available in Parking Lot B and Parking Lot C. (Sign-ins will be at the Cypress Pavilion picnic area)

Here are some key points regarding this complementary event.

\* **Free admission and parking** to Lake Cunningham Regional Park.

\* **Complimentary food** (including light



refreshments and local specialties); limited quantities to be provided on a first-come first-served basis.

\* **Lots of interactive booths** (from open space liaisons and municipal offices, to local neighborhood associations and non-profit service providers).

\* **Kids play areas** including inflatables, park games, and more!

\* **A wonderful Kid's Pumpkin Patch** with complimentary pumpkins while they last!



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## Times Local News

## Development

Continued from page 1  
the perimeter of a property.

In this case, Councilman Candelas pushed for a wide-open community meeting to better inform all residents about the process and to request that everyone have a say in what goes on. Also, the development is being developer driven rather than city driven so this is a unique process.

## Forefront of planning

"I want to emphasize the vital role of community input in shaping the future of what happens at this site. My main goal is to inform and engage our community to be at the forefront of this entire vision," Candelas said. "In April of this year, I successfully passed direction to City planning staff to ensure that this process puts the community first and do everything I can to continue to engage the residents and neighborhood that I was born and raised in."

## Key points from meeting

- Residents to be informed and

engaged in the process.

- Concerns are to be brought up by the community and not drowned out by outside interests.

- The purpose of the meeting is to lay out the community engagement process for the next year. Many residents spoke at the meeting.

- Environmental, social, and economic issues are to be reviewed with regard to this project.

- Workshops and discussions with the community will take place next year and beyond.

- San Jose City Deputy Director of Planning, Michael Brilliot, presented overview of planning process for this project.

- This surrounding area, including Evergreen, is an area that does not have many roads.

- The city's general plan determines how the property will be developed.

- For this site to be developed it needs a general planning process.

- The purpose of the City Planners is to help figure out, if this site is going to be redeveloped, what should it look like and how is it all

going to work? The residents will take part in this process with the developer and the city and others.

- Wide levels of engagement will need to take place.

- Guiding principles of the development will be established.

- The scope of the project will involve community input.

- This project also may tie into considerations with two other areas in time such as the possible closure of the Reid Hillview Airport and possible changes to Eastridge Shopping Center.

- Consideration as to what type of homes and light commercial uses will be implemented will be discussed. More than 15% of the homes will be affordable housing, but this percentage has not been established so the community may ask for a much higher percentage. This will be a balance of planning by developer and residents. The term affordable home may encompass homes that are of a value of a million dollars.

- City planning to have three community meetings with potentially four.



- The developer will be part of this process of design and working with the community.

- The city will use a consultant to facilitate the workshops.

- Engagement will be in multiple languages, English, Spanish and Vietnamese (and any other languages if requested by residents).

- A community-based organiza-

tion residing in San Jose will be selected to be involved in the community engagement process.

- One of the big gaps in housing development is to build housing for people with lower and moderate incomes.

- It is stated that all the houses will be "Way over one million dollars See DEVELOPMENT, next page

## OP ED

## Best Picnic by the Lake event in the history of San Jose

By Kevin Larsen

The entire event was a friendly good time get-together.

Our State Senator and his father served in government to help the people. If ever you get the chance to support this man by volunteering or vote, please do. Let me tell you why.

At Hellyer Park, on a potentially rainy last day in September, there was free parking and over 2,000 hamburgers and veggie-burgers were served by brave fire department souls at this truly wonderful annual Picnic by the Lake event. Sunshine prevailed.

## Multicultural theme

The multicultural theme worked because presentations were smart, and time flowed smoothly from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. due to the expert DJ playing soft hits to fill in the time gaps between stage presentations.

The toned-down stellar accomplishments of State Senator Dave Cortese spoke loudly. His office is number one in how it assists the people and helps with passing important laws and more. He's a man of the people and beloved by all for he and his wife Pattie are smart and unabashedly humble in their work doing the best they know how in walking with God and finding ways to help all people.

Hundreds ask Dave and wife Pattie to stop a moment to take a photo because they are loved in a genuine way. They exude leadership, class and dignity which helps lift up the status quo. Lord knows this kind of political leader is sorely yearned for in today's political times.

Passing laws in the legislature is tough gritty work and Dave does this with the strength of his wife and family and his office TEAM. He freely announces this at the microphone. Dave works his strength in politics because he likes the way he can enact positive change in reach-

ing people and helping others. He could have relaxed and let the family business coast him along, but his calling was to become a State Senator. You might also be surprised to learn all of the work of philanthropy that the Cortese family does and has done. They are extremely well respected by all!

## Pumpkin patch doesn't disappoint

Hundreds of pumpkins of all sizes were carried away by little ones in the farmer pumpkin patch. The multicolored gigantic bouncy house entertained too. Some kids soared so high in the air that it seemed as if they were performing a flying eagle off an Olympic diving board.

The backdrop of the event was the lazy not in a hurry lake surrounded by clean fresh air and spacious fields. You just can't have a picnic without a lake.

The thousands who came, gravitated to the hamburgers expertly prepared by the fire department men and women but to get there one needed to traverse through at least 50 information tables. It was a pamphlet paradise. The vast tables and canopies of nonprofit services were there to enlighten and improve the quality of life for visitors. The people behind the tables were so kind and offered great hospitality to any question given. After the event was over, it was clear that it was time to look forward to next year to look again at the vast booth information.

## The unruly handled with class by law enforcement

Brave law enforcement and secret security with their immaculate shirts, protected us and a few crazies were expertly corralled by those who have keen knowledge in ways to diffuse the scant few who have legal lit firecracker personalities. Maybe such incidents act as reminders for cognitive individual self-defense awareness.

## We're all family

What surprised me most was the good-natured people I encountered at the event.



Dave and Pattie Cortese

These are the same people who we occasionally get upset at when we drive but not on this day in the park for this day it was proclaimed that we are all family.

Such events remind us to get outside and have fun communing with nature and other people.

## More reflections

The day was vibrant from start to finish. This use of the expansive city park educated all of the

American multicultural tradition. Family and individuals should never be alone and instead welcomed.

My high school history teacher Mr. Bryant, once said, "We in America are not a melting pot of people instead America should be referred to as a tossed salad." I began at this event to understand that we are not a soup of races that boils down to one bland flavor, instead we are a multicultural tossed salad where each person contributes their unique proud cultural heritage to bring about the essence of our American family. This is what America is all about!

## Mental health is all about getting out and making new friends

The thing I learned is that if you plan and take the time to attend such events you might be lucky enough to meet new friends so it's good to get in the mix and toss yourself into the city and county events.

When the event concluded I reflected that perhaps the best thing about this day was what I did not see and hear. No horns, cars, construction, ad signs, arguing nor internet, instead, just nature combined with children laughter and welcoming music with merry performers from the cozy stage.

Parks offer meditational time as one walks. Usually the car takes us to the glass doors of any supermarket and we strive to park up front but at the park one must walk long open distances to get from one place to another. Today I happen to notice the ducks follow each other as they make perfect v-line mini waves from behind as they scooter away atop the lake. Some residents sit in benches and just watch

for hours.

It's a good thing nature is free for your visit to a city park surpasses any Meta Universe experience and no goggles are necessary either.

It's time to take a moment to thank this man and his family for their unselfish giving to our community.

Our state Senator and his TEAM brought our community together as a multicultural family which is why everyone loves the Cortese name.

Thanks Dave and Pattie.

*Editor's note: It takes vast planning and orchestration to make an event such as this one come about. With monies well spent, time and love, please support these kind people, corporations and non-profit event partners for their help in contributing to the annual Picnic by the Lake event; This event would not have been possible if not for the hard work of Mario Lopez, Zachary Contini, Estefany Meza, Suzanne Wheaton, Natasha Waxman, Tara Sreerishan, Phuong Nguyen and all others from Senator Dave Cortese's Office, County Parks Director Don Rocha and all other Santa Clara County Parks workers, Santa Clara County Firefighters, Orrin Mahoney, with the Rotary District Foundation, Rotary Club of San Jose East/Evergreen, President Deepali Sinha, Nick Leon, Marianne Ezell, and the entire Rotary Club of San Jose East/Evergreen, Times Media; publishers of Almaden Times, Evergreen Times and Willow Glen Times. Gold Sponsors: San Jose Water, Google, California Nurses Association, AT&T, Applied Materials, Silicon Valley Community Foundation. Silver Sponsors: Trader Joe's, Nob Hill Foods, Valley Water, Silicon Valley Clean Energy, Santa Clara and San Benito Counties Building Trades Council, County Employee Management Association SEIU-UHW, Kaiser Permanente, Excite Credit Union, eBay, Office of Santa Clara County Supervisor Cindy Chavez, Safeway, Republic Services, SMW Local 104, Nor Cal Carpenters Union, ATU Local 265 and Teamsters Local 350. Also, special thanks to D.J. Bob Nguyen for spinning the greatest hits and the incomparable performances by MiFaSol Band, El Grito de la Cultura Academy, Folklorico Nacional Mexicano, Viet Steps, Pilipino Association of Workers and Immigrants (PAWIS), Kaisahan of San Jose, and Kuumba and all volunteers for the event!*



Times **Local News**

**Development**

Continued from previous page each." However, if some low-income residences are multistoried then perhaps prices will be lowered.

- The development will largely be market rates but also a mix of all income affordability.

- The City planner manager said the directive of the San Jose City Council is, "Don't just do what you have to, do more," for it's the philosophy of the City Council members in approving this project, meaning exceed bare requirements in all areas for the welfare of the general public.

- Construct multi-modal transportation improvements. There will be a lot of transportation improvements in the development and surrounding areas.

- The developer must fund a fiscal analysis of the development plan. This means, will this development be a net positive for the city or how will it impact the city finances. What will be the monetary impact for the city?

**Community meeting set for January**  
It was stated by San Jose City Deputy Director of Planning, Michael Brilliot, that the first community meeting for this project will most likely be held January of 2024.

The second community meeting to take place in April or May the third community meeting perhaps in June 2024 and the 4th community meeting is not set yet.

The strategy is for the San Jose Planning Department to go to the City Council with

**The first community meeting for this project will most likely be held January of 2024.**

whatever has been established with the planning for the project in August of 2024 and ask for the City Council to accept the recommendations for this process to begin.

The contractor will present a general plan for example where the streets go, an environmental impact report will be done and the 114-acre area will be annexed into the City of San Jose, meaning the land will be overseen by the city.

The city planning department anticipates the project will be developed in parallel with this process of the City Council approval and perhaps in 2025 the proposal may go before the City Council for approval to begin.

"It may be four to five years before the ground breaks," stated San Jose City Deputy Director of Planning, Michael Brilliot. "It may be a number of years before the entire project gets built up from start to finish.

*Editor's note: The meeting was videotaped and may be put up on Councilperson's Domingo Candelas' District 8 website and also on YouTube.*



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## Holidays at the Ainsley House Nov. 16 – Dec. 21

By William Bellou  
*Publisher*

The Ainsley House is getting ready to open this holiday season with Holiday events for the whole family, including Holiday

Teas & Tours, Holiday Boutique, Evening Open Houses, and Photos with Santa November 16 - December 21.

The Ainsley House, located in Campbell, CA, will be decorated with the theme Christmas Cravings. Discover how each room in the House is inspired by favorite Holiday cravings. You will find a gingerbread room, candy cane corner, a Christmas Spice spectacular, and more.

**Tours**

Tours through the Ainsley House will be unguided and self-paced. The Ainsley House and Boutique will be open Thursdays-Sundays, from 11 am-3 pm beginning Nov.

16; closed on Thanksgiving Day.

Tour admission is \$10 for adults (18-64), seniors (65+) \$8 youth age 7-17 \$6, Museum members are free. The Holiday Boutique is located in the Carriage House as well as in several rooms on the first floor of the Ainsley House.

In the Boutique you will find unique seasonal gifts, ornaments, jewelry, scarves, and much more. The Boutique will be open during public visiting hours.

**The Campbell Museum**

Foundation's annual Holiday fundraiser: Holiday Teas and Tours will take place December 1, 2, 3, 8, See AINSLEY HOUSE, next page

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Times Feature

IN MEMORY

Patricia Lynn Love

12/12/1948 - 09/16/2023

Worked at Evergreen Valley College



Patricia Lynn Love (née Barthel) passed away peacefully at her home in San Jose on September 16, 2023, after battling cancer.

Lynn was born on December 12, 1948, in Biloxi, Mississippi, to George and Audrey ("Boots") Barthel. During her childhood, the family moved often throughout the U.S., owing to her father's career in the Air Force. In 1964 they settled in San Jose, where Lynn attended Cupertino High School. There she met her high school sweetheart, homecoming date, and future husband, Dan Love. Love attended San Jose State University, graduating in 1971 with a degree in English. Her love of words lasted a lifetime; no one could beat Lynn at Scrabble.

While her daughters were in grade school, Lynn spent countless hours volunteering in the classroom and after-school activities. She later worked at Evergreen Valley College, leaving this job when her parents

needed more care. Lynn will be remembered for her bright mind and sharp wit, for her perfectionism in all things, and for always putting family first. Her name suited her perfectly: Lynn Love was caring and kind, treating everyone with dignity and respect. She was a wonderfully supportive mother, and the heartbeat of many celebrations at the Love home, full of life, love, and delicious food.

Lynn is survived by her devoted husband of 52 years, Dan; her daughters, Carissa Hansford (Tom) and Amanda Sargent (Kevin); her beloved sister Bonnie and her brothers George and Paul; and five cherished grandchildren, Chloe, Avery, Ian, Makenna, and Kyle, as well as nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind many dear friends who will miss her tremendously, especially her closest friend, Alice. Lynn was preceded in death by her daughter Casey Danielle, her nephew Shane, and her parents.

Ainsley House

Continued from previous page

9, and 10. Seating will take place at 12pm. The tea menu includes finger sandwiches, champagne, a special Ainsley blend tea, and tasty treats in the Carriage House, followed by a self-guided tour of the Ainsley House. Admission is \$60/ General Public and \$55/ Museum Member.

Admission proceeds go toward supporting education programs and preservation efforts at the Campbell Historical Museum and Ainsley House. Reservations are required for the teas and can be made at www.campbellmuseums.com. Reservations for the Holiday Teas and Tours are open now.

Santa Claus will make a special appearance at the Ainsley House on Saturday, December 2 from 9 a.m.-12pm. He will greet families and kids in the Sunporch room of the Ainsley House surrounded by a decorated Holiday scene. Reservations to take photos with Santa will be 9a.m.- 10am, 10 a.m., 11a.m.and 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

While families wait to see Santa, there will be hot chocolate and holiday craft tables. Santa reservations can be

made at www.campbellmuseums.com and admission is \$10 per family.

One of the best ways to see the Ainsley House decorated for the Holidays is to attend one of two evening Open House events. The Open House events at the Ainsley House offer the public an opportunity to enjoy the holiday decorations at night, with live music in the Ainsley living room and light refreshments in the Carriage House. The Open House events take place 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 17 and Thursday, December 21, 2023. Admission is \$15, \$10 for Museum members; children 17 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased at the Carriage House the evening of each event.

Campbell Museum Foundation

The Campbell Museum Foundation, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, supports the Campbell Historical Museum & Ainsley House and by providing volunteers and financial assistance to support educational programs. The Foundation offers memberships featuring free admission to both museums, invitations to special events and openings, quarterly newsletter, and a discount at the museum stores.

For more info, visit www.campbellmuseums.org.

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Times **Community News**

**Six Evergreen Valley residents named to Stanislaus State Spring 2023 Dean's List**

**N**amed to the 2023 Stanislaus Dean's List are **Betsy Arreola Nunez, Casey Avila-Garcia, Evelyn Barragan Arguello, Maya Gomez, Alyssa Quezada, and Sarai Valencia.**

To qualify, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher and register for and earn a minimum of 12 units of credit of graded coursework at the University.

Stanislaus State College, founded in 1957, offers two campuses, one in Turlock and one in Stockton, 45 majors and 44 minors within four academic colleges - College of Business Administration, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Education, Kinesiology and Social Work, and College of Science.

**San José Mayor and councilmembers call for audit of San José animal care and services**

**S**an José's Animal Care Center (SJACS), which has experienced years of staffing challenges, is caring for a record number of animals amid a nationwide shelter crisis. Community concerns have been raised surrounding animal care and engagement with rescue partners and volunteers.

In response, San José Mayor Matt Mahan, Vice Mayor Rosemary Kamei, Councilmembers Bien Doan, Peter Ortiz and Omar Torres are calling for an objective and independent assessment of SJACS.

"Our animals can't speak for themselves – but luckily we have dedi-

cated staff, volunteers, rescue partners and advocates who speak for them," said Mayor Matt Mahan. "This audit will add another voice to the conversation – an independent voice to evaluate concerns, see how our shelter stacks up against industry standards, and make sure we are providing the best care possible while our animals wait for their forever home."

The goal of this audit is to understand where improvements can be made, and ideally result in what staff, volunteers, rescue groups and the community all want: the shelter to be the best that it can be, and provide the best care possible to the animals it serves.

"This audit will ensure that the public can have confidence in the services ACS provides and that we are able to respond to the present crisis judiciously," said Vice Mayor Rosemary Kamei.



**Choir tour to stop at Emmanuel Baptist**

**T**he African Children's Choir 2023 U.S. Tour, which will make more than 50 stops across the country, will perform in San Jose at Emmanuel Baptist Church (467 N. White Rd.), Friday, Nov. 24, 2023 at 7 p.m. The African Children's Choir is more than just a choir. It's part of a larger, international, Christian organization called Music for Life, which provides thousands of impoverished children throughout Africa with the education, discipleship, and leadership skills needed to rise above their conditions so they can bring positive, lasting change to their families, communities, and countries. For a full list of tour stops, visit <https://africanchildrenschoir.com/tour-dates>.

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**Safeway Holiday Ice Rink presented by Kaiser returns to San Francisco's Union Square**

*Opening Celebration to take place Wednesday, Nov. 1 at 5 p.m.*

**W**illy Bietak Productions announced the return of The Safeway Holiday Ice Rink in Union Square presented by Kaiser Permanente, open to the public daily from November 1, 2023, through January 15, 2024.

Set in San Francisco's iconic Union Square, The Safeway Holiday Ice Rink is the only outdoor ice rink in the City and is one of the Bay Area's favorite annual holiday traditions.

The season of outdoor skating and special on-ice events kicks off with an Opening Celebration on Wednesday, November 1 at 5 p.m. The Safeway Holiday Ice Rink's roster of events includes the return of the highly anticipated Drag Queens On Ice, Learn to Skate presented by Kaiser Permanente, Simba Saturdays presented by Disney's The Lion King, Flashback Fridays presented by 80s+, Silent Skate, and Polar Bear Skate. Tick-

ets are on sale now at [www.union-squareicerink.com](http://www.union-squareicerink.com).

"Kaiser Permanente is pleased to sponsor the San Francisco holiday ice rink, located in San Francisco's Union Square, once again. This beloved and popular holiday tradition is a fun way to keep families active during the fall and winter months," said Tarek Salaway, senior vice president and area manager for Kaiser Permanente's Golden Gate service area. "Skating can improve balance and strength and is a great workout for cardiovascular health. We hope to see you, your friends and family on the ice!"

The hours for the Safeway Holiday Ice Rink in Union Square presented by Kaiser Permanente are 10 a.m.–11 p.m. daily through January 15, 2024, with special extended hours December 18–29 (8:30 a.m. - 11 p.m.) on weekdays. The rink will close at 9:30 p.m. on December 31, 2023.

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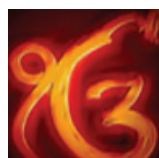
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